

THE RIVERSIDE PARISHES

All Saints Hurworth Newsletter June 2026

All Saints Hurworth, St John the Baptist Low Dinsdale and All Saints Girsby,

working with St George and St Lawrence, Middleton St George



Thought for the Month

If you were writing the story of your life, what would the current chapter be about? Growing up and making choices about the future? Building a successful career? Starting (or ending) a relationship? Struggling to make ends meet? Juggling responsibilities towards children, grandchildren, parents and siblings? Living every day to the full? Dealing with illness, loneliness or loss?

Often our lives find greater meaning when our story is part of a bigger story. That might simply be the story of your extended family: your role in handing things of value down to the next generation. Or it might be the story of your people preserving their identity, or the great struggle against poverty or injustice, or the quest for knowledge and progress, or the battle against environmental disaster. These bigger stories can make our lives feel more significant.

‘In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.’ It’s difficult to imagine a bigger story than this! The first book of the Bible, the Book of Genesis, begins with these words, and continues for around 10 pages with the big story of the world: creation, the flood, the growth of the nations, and so on. But it quickly zooms in on one specific couple, Abraham and Sarah, and on God’s dealings with them and with their descendants. We find stories of hope and disappointment, infertility and infidelity, envy and rivalry, promise and fulfilment, prosperity and reconciliation. It’s very messy, and it’s very personal.

My favourite thing about the Book of Genesis is the way it invites us to think about our lives as part of something bigger. We can’t help but identify with the main characters in the stories, with their very human lives. But we’re constantly reminded that their lives are part of God’s big purposes for the whole creation. And the same can be true of your life and of mine. (Come along to All Saints’ Church on Sundays at 11am over the summer to find out more!)

Rev Anthony Smith (Vicar)



LOVE YOUR CHURCHYARD

Discover nature on your doorstep

All Saints Church

13th June 2026

2pm–4pm

All ages and families welcome

(children under 12 years must be accompanied by
an adult)

Refreshments * Activities

Identify Trees and Flowers

Find Insects * Plant Seeds

Make a Butterfly Cafe

Come along and learn more about your local environment



Prayer for June 2026

Father,

Here we are in June – a beautiful month and a month when we remember a beautiful follower of Yours, Barnabas. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith and he encouraged Your people to remain true to You in what must have been dangerous times.

Lord, in these dangerous days, when so much seems alien and out of control, how we all need to be encouraged to be steadfast in our faith and in our lives.

How we need to remember that You are our faithful, sovereign Lord; that You never change; that in Jesus You have won the victory over sin and death. If we put our trust in Jesus, we are secure for all eternity.

Thank You for the example of Barnabas. Help us to be encouraged and to encourage others. May we enjoy June in all its beauty, knowing that nothing can separate us from You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Farmers, TikTok, and people kissing cows

Here is a story that you couldn't make up. There is a craze on TikTok of influencers interacting with cute cows, and they have attracted thousands of followers.

So now people are wandering onto farms in search of cute cows, to cuddle and kiss for the camera. Highland type cattle, with their 'floofy' adorable thick fringes and shaggy coats are especially targeted.


Except that the cows, however cute, do not know about TikTok. So, they do not welcome complete strangers who want to wrap their arms around their necks, or pull their tails about, to get "good online content".

One Yoga teacher entered a field and did handstands among bewildered cows, to create an interesting backdrop to a video.

A father slung his son up on top of a cow's back, and was surprised when the cow ran off with his son still on board.

30 people cornered one herd at sunset and used flashing cameras to take pictures and videos of the frightened animals.

The farmers are worried. As one said: "these people risk being trampled, charged or attacked. Cows are not domesticated animals. They are highly unpredictable creatures. They can kick *hard*. If you upset one, you will regret it – and you will never out-run it."



*SOMETIMES, IT TAKES
A VILLAGE TO HELP
SOMEONE BREAK
THEIR OWN BARRIERS*

The Hurworth Rogers Charitable Trust exists to help support Hurworth's people and community groups with grants. If you live in the village, you can find out more and apply for funding by sending your details to:

Trust Secretary, 2 West End, Hurworth

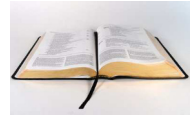
To support our work with a donation,
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Church Services in Hurworth,



Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby June 2026

Tues 2 nd	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 7 th	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
Tues 9 th	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 14 th	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	All Age Worship
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Girsby	11.15 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
Tues 16 th	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 21 st	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	All Age Worship
Tues 23 rd	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 28 th	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	4.00 ^{PM}	Patronal Festival Songs of Praise
Tues 30 th	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer

ZOOM WORSHIP

The 11.00 Services at All Saints Hurworth are available on Zoom. For joining instructions contact:
juliaclarke@aol.com



ALL SAINTS SUMMER FETE

Saturday 6th June
10.30am until 12.30pm
Hurworth Grange



All the usual stalls including Raffle, Tombola, Plants, Books, Cakes, Bric-a-brac, Toys, Jigsaws, Bran Tub, Tin Pan Alley, Home Produce, Games and lots of other attractions.

Entry by donation

Refreshments available

Spend time with family and friends old and new in the Grange

Our British bumblebees

Did you know we have about 270 kinds of bee in the UK, including 24 types of bumblebees? Here are just six of them:

Early Bumblebee: - Found throughout the UK. Rather small, with distinctive lemon-yellow bands on thorax and abdomen, and an orange tail. An important pollinator of our soft fruit.

Common Carder Bee: - One of our most common bees, and often still feeding in November. Fluffy, brown and orange, with sometimes darker bands on the abdomen.

Tree Bumblebee: - Found in England and Wales, and recently Southern Scotland. A fuzzy bee, with brown-orange hairs on its thorax, a black abdomen, and a white tail.

Red-tailed Bumblebee: - The female is very large, with a big red 'tail', while males are smaller.

Garden Bumblebee: - A scruffy-looking large bee, with a long tongue and face. It has yellow bands at the collar, rear of the thorax and at the first segment of the abdomen, and the tip of the tail is white.

Buff-tailed bumblebee: - The biggest of our bumblebees, with a yellow collar near the head and another on the abdomen. The queen has a buff-coloured 'tail', while the workers have white 'tails' and black hair on their faces.

Be kind to our bees. They are in steady decline across the UK.



Hurworth Beer Festival

Friday 26th to Sunday 28th June
at Rockcliffe Park Cricket Club



Rockcliffe Park
CC

Hurworth
Village Hall

Early bird discounted ticket release

Friday night

5pm to 11pm

'The one and only DJ Mac'

Entry charge £4

Early bird rate £3

Saturday

Mid-day to midnight

Rockcliffe Park 1st. X1 vs Sedgefield 1st. X1

'Channel 4 news team' band

World cup football England vs Panama

Entry charge £6

Early bird rate £5

Sunday

11am to 8pm

Seven-a-side cricket

tournament

Free Entry

Full weekend ticket

Entry charge £9

Early bird rate £7

To secure your early bird discount contact Bill Drumm on 07799 467817 or Richard Howell on 07930 038931 or email us at rockcliffeparkcricket@gmail.com



Parish Council News

The parish council held their Annual Meeting on Thursday, 7th May 2026

Sadly, two more councillors have left the council, during April, which includes Andrew Leigh who has been the Chairman for two years.

Andrew will be sadly missed, but he has a very busy life with a career that involves being away several days a week, he is involved in several other community organisations and he and his wife are bringing up a young family.

Dave Crisp has also left the council but will remain Chairman of the Hurworth Council Allotments Committee, to which he is extremely dedicated.

Cllr Angela Allan has become the Chair for 2026-27

Cllr Fiona Lennox will be Vice Chair

Other undertakings include - the Parish Plan and Rights of Way are being dealt with by Cllr Janine Forster.

Cllr Michael Feeny will take on the Youth roll and will integrate with the community youth groups.

Cllr Janine Forster is going to manage the trees and will be assisted by Cllr John Howard. Cllr Howard has undertaken to monitor and make the decisions on tree related issues.

The council will be launching a new web site very soon; this project is being undertaken by Cllr Angela Allan.

The Annual Assembly will be held on 28th May at Hurworth Grange; all residents are invited to attend and participate.

Hurworth Village Diary

June 26

Sat 6th **All Saints Summer Fair** **The Grange**
10.30 - 12.30 entry by donation

Enjoy a morning of summer fun with family & friends
Sat 20th **Sewing/Quilting Workshop** **Village Hall**
Book direct with Zoe Ballard on 07368 673672

Sun 21st **Armed Forces Day with Hurworth Big Band**
2.30pm - Collection for Help the Heros **Village Green**
Bring your chairs and tables and a picnic to enjoy with
family and friends.

Fri 26th to Sun 28th
Hurworth Beer Festival **Rockcliffe Park Cricket Club**
See separate advert on page 7

July 26

Sat 11th **Open Air Live Music Concert** **The Grange**
Dance the night away from 7pm to 11pm
Tickets £10 field, £20 marquee (tables for 10 or 20)
from the Grange Office/Bar 01325 720840

Time for a smile

Some of the great questions of life

- Why are buildings called buildings when they are finished? Shouldn't they be called built?
- Why is abbreviated such a long word?
- Why is it that when you tell a man there are 400 billion stars he will believe you, but when you tell him there's wet paint, he has to touch it?
- If your supermarket has been lowering prices every day, how come nothing is free yet?
- If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?
- If a firefighter fights fire and a crime fighter fights crime, what does a freedom fighter fight?
- Do you find it unnerving that what doctors do is called 'practice'?

Hurworth Churches Working Together



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Newsletter Information

This Newsletter is compiled and printed by members of All Saints Church Hurworth and distributed by a team of volunteers in the spirit of Christians Working Together in Hurworth and the surrounding villages.

Appropriate copy is always welcome as are offers to assist with the distribution to our growing community.

All copy for the Newsletter, including events, articles for publication, advertisement design or payment **MUST** be received by 10th of the previous month at the latest, or inclusion may not be possible

Advertising rates are as follows :-

Quarter page - 1 insertion £18, 5 (half year) £82.50 10 (1 year) £160

Half page insertions £35 each, £155 per half year

Editors Contact details :-

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Tel 01325 720835

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CONTACT DETAILS

Priest in Charge: Revd. Anthony Smith (01325 262122)

Email: Anthony.Smith@durham.anglican.org

**For Baptisms, Weddings in ASH, Dinsdale, Girsby & MSG,
and for Funerals, please contact Rev Anthony Smith**

Hurworth Church Wardens

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juliahclarke@aol.com

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denise.finch1957@gmail.com

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petesnowden@hotmail.co

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