

# NEWS ON

# THE Park



**BI-Monthly  
Magazine**

**Issue No. 77**

**August  
September  
2019**



**Burn Park  
Methodist Church**

**Donations  
for Charity  
please**

Burn Park Road, Sunderland, SR2 7JH  
<http://burnparkmethodistchurch.weebly.com/>

Dear Friends,

*I wonder if you remember the words of this song:*

**“Summer time and the living is easy...”**

*You can tell that the summer holidays are here when the adverts on the TV urge us to throw off our jumpers and embrace the sun. Images of smiling, radiant, bronzed and bikini-clad models, flightily skipping along yellow sandy beaches with perfectly styled ‘tousled hair’ flowing come at us from all angles, all designed to stir us to action.*

*If like me, you strain hopefully for even a glimpse of any background figures resembling your average ‘Brit on holiday’, you are bound to be sadly disappointed. I don’t know if you have noticed but there is never a red, shiny face to be seen, nor the agony painful sunburnt shoulders, which I certainly experience. No, instead, there for all to see, and pay for, are promises which guarantee to provide ‘This Summer’s Ultimate Body, Hair, Skin and Tan Plan’ and the commands to ‘Shape up for summer – the countdown to beach gorgeous starts here!’ shout loud and clear.*

*Yes friends, the pressure is on but, fortunately, help is always at hand; it seems that the resolutions to be out with the old and in with the new are everywhere and inescapable. Diets of fruit, vegetables and water promise to transform drab complexions to shimmering, glowing and flawless skin. Various bottles of self-tanning oil give that natural Mediterranean sun-kissed glow to equip every inch of skin for public exposure whilst ‘20 fast, no gym, fat burners’ ensure that every muscle is lean and worthy of stylish swimwear.*

**Oh...Summer time and the living is...NOT easy! In fact it sounds...impossible.**

*Fortunately for us, summer need not only be about appearances. I don’t know about you, but I for one would certainly require a holiday after all of the preparations that are obviously deemed necessary! Summer, we hope, should come as an invaluable time of rest and recovery for us. We have been designed to need rest and simply cannot function well without it. We should follow the divine example and work in order to rest, not rest in order to have the strength to work.*

*‘By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all of his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.’ (Genesis 2:2–3 niv)*

**So, here is an invitation to us all: to let this summer be a time of refreshment, of rest and of refocusing. God declared a state of not working to be blessed; he blessed the seventh day.**

*For those of us who feel alienated by the TV adverts, here is the good news. We can ‘shape up for summer’. We may not feel that we match up to the model ‘beach-look’, but we can prepare ourselves for something infinitely more important.*

*Why not take time alone with God, to read his word, pray and re-align your life with his will. We may feel spiritually flabby. Has the muscle of faith been left unused for too long? We can ask ourselves if our spiritual muscles have been worthy of the new life and salvation that we have been given by God? Find rest in him and he will equip you with all that you need for whatever challenges lie beyond your summer.*

*And here’s a challenge, why not just for the summer, disconnect from social media and the internet, and instead connect with God, our spouse, our family and our friends. We may just find ourselves humming “Summer time and the living is easy”*

God bless,

*Rosemary X*

# August September



**Summer suns are glowing  
Over land and sea;  
Happy light is flowing bountiful and free.  
Everything rejoices in the mellow rays;  
All earth's thousand voices  
Swell the psalm of praise.**

*William W How*

# Celebrations

## Wedding Anniversaries

**August**

28<sup>th</sup> Suzy & Phil Wake

**September**

None known

## Wedding

The wedding of Clare Whitfield and Manuele Fella will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> September here at Burn Park.



## Birthdays

**August**

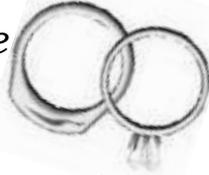
22<sup>nd</sup> Melvyn Morgan

25<sup>th</sup> Nick Thompson

**September**

None known

**September**



Can we celebrate your special day too? All you have to do is fill in the form and place them in the gold box at the back of the Church; spare forms to fill in are on the side of the box.



## Marriage Advice

*Let your love be stronger than your hate or anger.*

*Learn the wisdom of compromise, for it is better to bend a little than to break.*

*Believe the best rather than the worst.*

*People have a way of living up or down to your opinion of them.*

*Remember that true friendship is the basis for any lasting relationship. The person you choose to marry is deserving of the courtesies and kindnesses you bestow on your friends.*

*Please hand this down to your children and your children's children: the more things change, the more they are the same.*

*Jane Wells (1886)*

# Time for Reflection

## God Said NO!

I asked God to take away my habit. God said, "No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up."

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, "No. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary."

I asked God to grant me patience. God said, "No. Patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned."

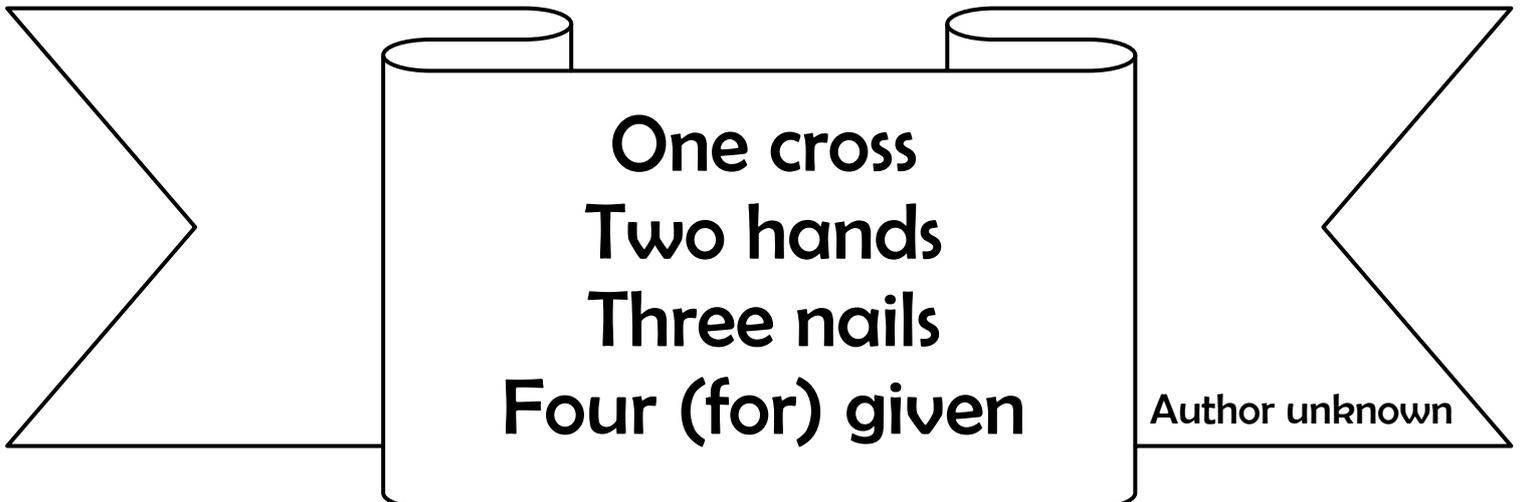
I asked God to give me happiness. God said, "No. I give you blessings; happiness is up to you."

I asked God to spare me pain. God said, "No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me."

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, "No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful."

I asked God for all things so that I might enjoy life. God said, "No. I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things."

I asked God to help me love others, as much as He loves me. God said, "Aha! Finally, you have the idea!"



# Poetry Corner

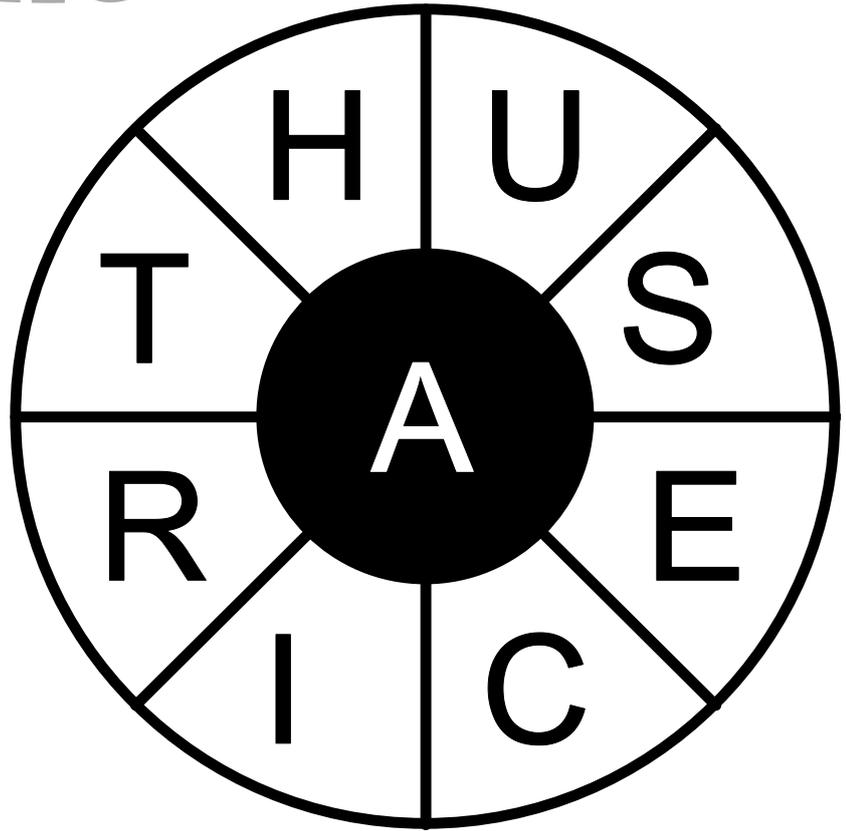
## Moment by Moment with Him

*Sometimes we so easily forget,  
How unpredictable our lives may be,  
We make plans for our tomorrows and our futures,  
Not realizing they could change instantly,  
Then one day, you wake up, and it happens,  
Something occurs that's not at all like you've planned,  
Your life has now taken a new direction,  
And it may be difficult for you to understand.  
God never promised that we'd never have struggles,  
That there would always be sunshine and not rain,  
But He said He'd never leave nor forsake us,  
And with His presence we will forever be sustained.  
When God takes us from the height of the mountain,  
And then places us in the valley of despair,  
It's here we can learn total dependence,  
Upon the One who will always be there.  
Oftentimes it's only through the midst of the trials,  
We see God works in ways we'd never have dreamed,  
He accomplishes so much beyond our understanding,  
And now things may not be at all what they'd seemed.  
We may not know why God allowed such a hardship,  
We must learn to trust in the One who knows best,  
For our future is seen by Him only,  
And in Him we can confidently rest.  
So when the unexpected may arise in our lifetime,  
And the way God is leading seems dim,  
May we face it not ONE DAY at a time,  
But instead, MOMENT BY MOMENT with Him.*

*By Linda Wolovich*

## Word Puzzles

Using only the letters in the large circle, you need to find as many words as possible, none of which may be plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. Each word must be of three letters or more, all must contain the central letter, and letters can only be used once in every word. How many can you find? There is a nine-letter word using every letter in the large circle; can you find it? The answer to the nine-letter word can be found on page 12



N	A	L	W	O	A	K	Y	U	W	T	R	M	A	I	T
S															P
U															H
N															O
O	A verse from Proverbs is hidden in this														A
R	shape. To find it, you need to start at the														F
B	correct letter and then read every second														G
U	letter, going in a clockwise direction.														O
C															E
T															L
U															N
R															I
Y	E	T	W	E	S	I	N	D	A	S	E	R	L	E	T

# Letter to Mary

16<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Hi Everyone,

What a lovely summer we are having so far. I know we've had a lot of rain lately, but I'm a gardener and I've welcomed the rain. The barrels of plants round the church have come on great, I hope they'll last till after the 28<sup>th</sup> September. Our Clare and Manuele are getting married at 1 p.m. at our church. Just another 10 weeks to go. Then we'll be going through to the Wheatsheaf at Chester le Street for their reception.

Last Saturday they had a fund raising day for Prostate Cancer and we were all there to support the music groups, singers and bands that played. The whole day finished with a fire eater performance. Everyone had an entertaining day.

Our Amelia is having her photo story of the 1<sup>st</sup> Year infants school with all her classmates today. I was lucky enough to see our Annabel's when it was her turn. The music accompanying it was beautiful and there were a few lumps in our throats. This time Rob is coming with me. Hope we're not late, we're going by bus.

This week we had our last meal at lunch club till September 3<sup>rd</sup> and Melvyn put on a lovely meal of mince and crispy top dumplings, potatoes, cauliflower, carrots and peas. This was followed by rice with peaches or prunes. It was delicious. Melvyn, thank you very much for all your hard work over the past year. Next week will be the Summer Club for 5 mornings. Then there will be a talent show to raise money for young Hannah who is going with the Girl Guides to Poland. The show will be on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7.15 in the church. So that gives us more reasons for us to clean and tidy the church. The dust is always a problem because it is falling all the time. But with a bit of luck, some extra help and a lot of prayers it will look presentable again.

Well I'm looking forward to a lie in till 9 o'clock in the morning, before we go to Washington tomorrow afternoon.

See you all soon,

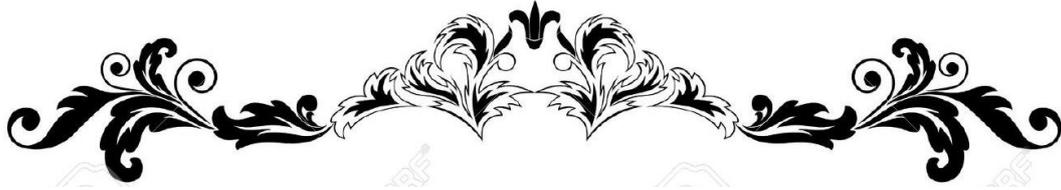
Bye for now,

Lots of Love,

*June*

xxxx

# Words of Wisdom



You cannot comprehend  
the deepest love God has for you  
until you realise  
that He has that same love  
for the person or people  
you most despise.



## 10 SECOND SERMONS:

He who runs from God in the  
morning will scarcely find Him  
the rest of the day.

John Bunyan

**Just because I disagree with  
you does not mean I hate you.  
We need to relearn that  
in our society.**

# Prayer Time



Prayer is God's initiative, a gift which enables us to be attentive to the presence of God in our lives and in the world. It is also a means of expressing what we believe about God and can prompt us to act to change the world as we respond to God's love.

As Methodists, we are encouraged to 'Pray Without Ceasing', but how do you pray? There are all sorts of interesting approaches to prayer; some ideas can be found on the Methodist Church's website: [methodist.org.uk/our-faith/prayer/creative-prayer/](http://methodist.org.uk/our-faith/prayer/creative-prayer/)

For those without access to the internet, I have a short summary here of some of the ideas:

-  Prayer places sacred spaces – like our prayer corner here in Church – set up with activities or just a space for people to relax and meditate.
-  Labyrinth of prayer – like we have done on Good Friday or for Christian Aid week – where the participants are encouraged to make their way around various prayer or meditation stations on a journey of faith.
-  Dice Prayer – roll a dice to inspire a prayer by using the number rolled to decide what to pray for. For example:
  1. Prayer for everyone in the group.
  2. Prayer for something special.
  3. Prayer of thanks.
  4. Prayer for our friends/church.
  5. Prayer for the world
  6. Prayer for peace
-  Text or email prayer groups: people commit themselves to pray at a particular time and text each other as a reminder; or one of the group texts the others with a prayer or Bible text for reflection.
-  Prayer Wall or Tree: set it up in church, low enough for even children to reach. Encourage people to pin prayers onto the board; have a different theme each week? Shape your note paper to reflect your theme, e.g. hand shapes for thanksgiving; fish shapes for prayers about mission; leaf shapes for creation. Have plenty of pens and pencils available for people to use.
-  Portable prayer list: Use small cards or post-it notes to maintain a portable prayer list: write a name or topic on each one, fasten the pack with a rubber band, and keep it in your pocket. When walking, waiting, or using public transport, work your way through as many cards as you have time for. The pack will grow over time as you add new people and topics. To keep it

manageable, put an "expiry date" on some or all of the cards (you can always add them back in later).

🙏 Fasting: a traditional approach to prayer when time spent fasting, normally a period without food, in which the time is used for prayer instead of eating. Fasting is about adopting a less 'cluttered' approach to life, when time to think about where God's call is leading us becomes our focus. Lent is a time when some Christians choose to fast, not always giving up food - but finding special ways to spend more time consciously in God's presence. What about giving up watching television for a week and using the time to pray?

🙏 Active prayer: a prayer walk or pilgrimage where at points along the way particular prayers can be said. This could be in an urban or rural setting. Encourage people to talk along the way, but have a silent section - perhaps the last leg of the walk - to allow quiet contemplation and create space to listen to God's prompting as well as talk. Variations on this theme could include a narrow boat journey, a horse ride, a bike ride, or for those less energetic, a walk around a local park.



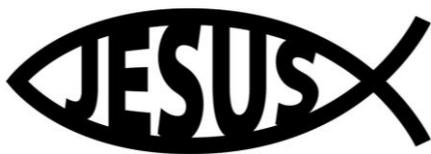
However we pray, let us remember to balance our prayers so that we remember to thank God for everything He gives us, and not just keep asking for things.



Don't pray when it rains if you don't pray when the sun shines.  
Satchel Paige.

# Pause for Thought ..

*Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?  
Or stay at home in comfort to criticise and knock?  
Do you take an active part to help the work along?  
Or are you merely satisfied just simply to belong?  
Think it over, members, you know right from wrong.  
Are you an active member, or do you just belong?*



## Consumer Church

Church is seen as a dispenser of religious goods and services. People come to church to be “fed”, to have their needs met through quality programs, and to have the professionals teach their children about God.

**I go to church**

## Missional Church

A body of people sent on mission who gather in community for worship, community encouragement and teaching from the Word in addition to what they are self-feeding themselves throughout the week.

**I am the church**

**Is different from**



The answer to the nine letter word is Eucharist

# Action For Children.



*This July marked the 150<sup>th</sup> year since Action for Children (formerly known as NCH, and before that as National Children's Homes) was founded by Rev. Thomas Bowman Stephenson when he gave a home, hope and love to children deprived of a safe and happy childhood. Over the years, this developed into small housing groups with a house mother and drop-in centres for after school activities. Today, they work tirelessly to make sure children get the best start in in life, have safe and loving homes, and receive the support they need to thrive as adults. It is thanks to the supporters in the local churches that this legacy of kindness continues today. They are still a thriving charity of the Methodist Church and so I would like to ask that you consider giving a donation in the envelopes on the end of the pews to help this work. We missed Action for Children Sunday on 14<sup>th</sup> July, so the envelopes will be there till the end of August. If you pay tax, please fill in the slip and they can claim the tax back; every little helps!*

*Many members give a yearly donation, or have a lantern box to collect on a more regular basis; if you would consider doing this, then please just have a word with me and I will organise it.*

*Thank you for all you have done in the past and please pray that this good work may continue into the future.*

*With love,  
Kathleen Carter  
(Action for Children organiser)*



## Now for some funnies ...

The other day, I bought a dog from a blacksmith. As soon as I got it home, it made a bolt for the door!

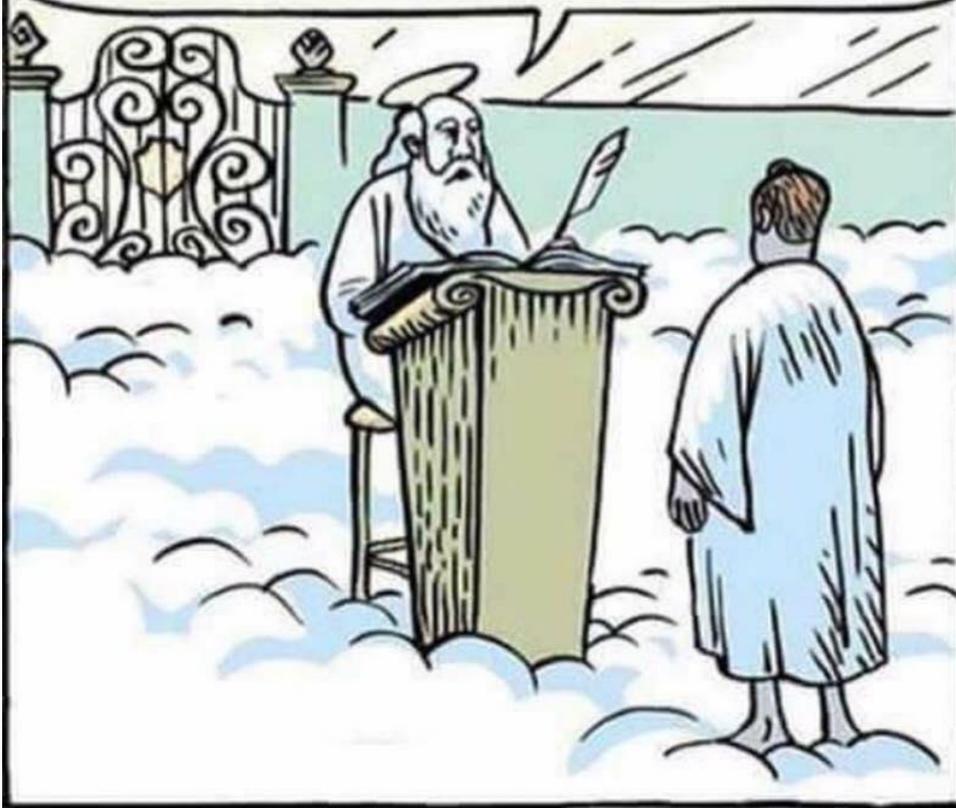


Can someone please give me a quote for a lightning conductor for my house? Mind, I don't want them to charge the earth!



I spilled 'Spot' remover on my dog. Now he's disappeared.

"I'm sorry, but because you hit "like" on Facebook posts, does not qualify you to enter heaven. You actually have to believe in Jesus Christ as Savior, and follow Him."



The first time I met my wife, I told her I wanted to make her mine. She wasn't happy though when I bought her a Davy lamp and a pick axe!



My friend David had his ID stolen the other day. He is now known as Dav!



The teacher asked Jane to name a subject beginning with "M" that she was bad at. She replied "Spelling!"



The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve, It was an apple! But it had very limited memory capacity; just one byte. Then everything crashed!



I haven't had a bath for a month... Mostly because having a bath for a month would turn me into a giant prune!



I always thought that copper nitrate was what policemen got paid for overtime.



Father O'Malley was driving down the road when got stopped for speeding. The traffic police officer smelled alcohol on the priest's breath and then saw an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car.

He said, "Father, have you been drinking?"

"Only water", replied Father O'Malley.

The policeman asked, "Then how come I can smell wine?"

The priest looked at the bottle and said, "Good Lord! He's done it again."



# Diary Dates

## Preachers at Burn Park for August and September:

August		September	
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Nick Thompson	1 <sup>st</sup>	No service at Burn Park: Circuit Service at <b>10:45</b> at St. John's
11 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Valerie Boyd	8 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Rosemary Nash <i>Sacrament</i>
18 <sup>th</sup>	United service at Ewesley Road, led by Rev Rosemary Nash	15 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Nick Thompson
25 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Rosemary Nash <i>The Church AGM will follow the service.</i>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rev Robert Kasema
		29 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Maureen Simpson

## Important Dates to note around and about:

Sat 3 Aug: 7:15 p.m.: Burn Park: "A Showcase of Talent": Park Productions: £3

Wed 7, 14, 21 & 28 Aug: Castletown Methodist: "Wonderful Summer Wednesdays": Coffee morning from 9 a.m., Bible Study from 11:30 a.m., lunch from 12:30 p.m. each week



Sun 1 Sep: 10:45 a.m.: St. John's: Circuit Service to welcome Rev Robert Kasema: preacher Rev Stephen Lindridge (chair of Newcastle District)

Thu 19 Sep: 2 p.m.: John Carter's house: Bible Study

Fri 20 Sep 7:15 p.m. & Sat 21 Sep 3:30 p.m.: Burn Park: Park Productions: "Let's Face the Music of Irving Berlin": see poster for ticket details. Pre-book for reduced rates

Sat 21 Sep: 10 – 11:30 a.m.: Burn Park: monthly Coffee Morning

*For more details about these and other events,  
please see your weekly printed notices or posters on the notice board  
If you have any notices to be published, or articles for the next  
magazine, please contact Suzy Wake  
at Church, tel: **5226257**, by e-mail on [WaSus654@aol.com](mailto:WaSus654@aol.com),  
or at 119, Tunstall Rd, by 9 p.m. Thursday.*



# BURN PARK CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Burn Park Methodist Church exists to worship God,  
and make the Love of Jesus known,  
in our welcome, outreach, and care for all.



Minister: Rev. Rosemary Nash: Tel: 0191 5652221

93, Dunelm, SR2 7QX: revnash@hotmail.com

Circuit Safeguarding Officer: Margaret Brown 0191 5285069

brown1792003@yahoo.co.uk

Regional Child Protection Officer: Carolyn Godfrey tel: 07534346374

email ne.methodist.safeguarding@gmail.com

To book rooms for an event, please contact Melvyn Morgan on Tel: 5251930.



## Regular Events at this Church:

### Sunday

10:30 a.m.	Morning Worship & Sunday Club
11 a.m.	Mustard Seed Church led by Pastor Sunday Raji
1 p.m. - 3 pm	Deeper Life Church Worship
6 p.m.	Churches Together Drop-In for Homeless people

### Monday

10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Drop-in Lunch
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Ladybirds (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of month)

### Tuesday

11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Club
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Park Productions

### Wednesday

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Deeper Life Church Bible Study
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### Thursday

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Coffee@Burn Park
1 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Stroke Club
2 p.m.	Bible Study (3 <sup>rd</sup> week of month)
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Beavers, Cubs, & Scouts

### Friday

9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Toddlers Group
4 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Ballet Classes

### Saturday

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Coffee Mornings (3 <sup>rd</sup> week of month)
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