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in a
NUTSHELL
news, views, ideas from your local church 2025 June / July

FREE family activities at the Gala!



A happy prizewinner in our 'coins in bucket' (actually a clean toilet) competition at the Gala in 2024.

Please drop by the St Andrew's United Church stand at Kirton Gala on Saturday 12 July! We'd LOVE to see you.

There will be FREE activities for anyone – such as making a bird-feeder from recycled materials, crafts and a couple of fun games.

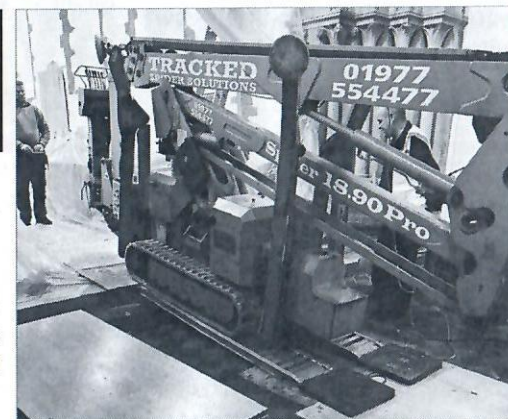
It could be that you are new to the town, we'd like to welcome you. Maybe you don't have a faith: that's OK, please just come and have fun.

We will have details of other activities at St Andrew's church, with free copies of our church colour magazine, details of services, and volunteers to ask about life events such as weddings or baptisms. Whatever the weather, whatever your values and beliefs, however you define yourself, we look forward to meeting you.

A cherry picker goes to church

Early on Sunday morning, 11 May, in the middle of the Churches Festival, we found that part of the ceiling to the right of the altar had fallen.

We were grateful for the speed with which an architect was able to assess the damage. He engaged a wonderful stonemason and his son for the work. So that our June weddings could go ahead without unsightly scaffolding, they brought in a cherry picker to enable them to reach the ceiling to make temporary repairs. Replastering is scheduled for July.



INSIDE

Sebastian's
PUZZLE
CORNER
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Spiders
like jigsaw
puzzles!
page s4

Thank you Margaret!

For over thirty years, Mrs Margaret Rands has been the Treasurer for St Andrew's – first when it was the Anglican parish church and later when the three local Churches (Anglican, Baptist and Methodist) joined to become St Andrew's United Church.

Now she has decided to put away her calculator (if she ever needed one) and hand over the books to someone else.

Margaret has a vast knowledge of the history of the church and kept meticulous records of all transactions. She could be relied upon to explain the basis for past decisions, relevant to present issues. We shall miss her wisdom and advice.

As well as being Treasurer, Margaret has been a Churchwarden. She could also be seen ringing the bells on a regular basis, having only recently stopped this activity that she loved. One church



member commented, 'There isn't really anything she hasn't turned her hand to.'

The church expressed its appreciation on Sunday 15 June, when Dr Frankish presented Margaret with vouchers for treats for herself and Michael, and two planters: gifts which are just a token of our grateful thanks. We are pleased, Margaret, that you are not leaving us completely but have agreed to continue as a member of the PCC and Trustees.

St Andrew's Big Lunch

What a spread! The Big Lunch has become a 'tradition' in St Andrew's United Church. About 30 people stayed behind in church after the morning service on Sunday 15 June, to spend time chatting over a wonderful meal. It was also great to welcome some old friends from nearby churches.

Thanks to a grant from the Lions, we were able to buy ham, but everything else was given by the Social Team and members of the congregation, whose culinary skills never fail to amaze.

Our chairs meant the church could be set out in 'café style', and we were grateful to all who carried tables from the church hall and set everything up on Saturday morning (and cleared away on Sunday). Thanks particularly must go to Jennifer Nix, the organising genius behind the arrangements. We look forward to next year!



To weed or not to weed?

I've never really understood the attraction. For me, it's a bit like watching paint dry!! I know that it's adored by large sections of the populace, but I'm afraid the need to engage with it looms over me like a dark cloud. As my son would say, 'I'd rather count grains of sand or wrestle an alligator!'

Of course, I'm talking about *all* gardening. Grass cutting, weeding, planting and cultivating, watering, weeding again, watering, weeding . . .

Guilty conscience

You get my drift! And it's that time of the year when I feel a nagging guilty conscience for not spending more time attending to the rear of my house, allegedly known as my garden!

It doesn't help that it's so big (it came with the job and the house!!!) and, after several weeks of neglect, it's looking pretty sorry for itself. I blame a busy working life. That fends off most of the keen gardeners out there, horrified when they see it. It's a great excuse to hide behind.

But it's so dull!

But truth is – I just find gardening dull!! Forgive me, gardeners of this

esteemed manor!!! To me, gardening is a bit like dusting and house cleaning – should be done once a year and then the benefit enjoyed for the remainder! As it is, as soon as one's back is turned, the weeds (or the dust in the house) return. It's as though you might as well not have bothered!!

Breakdown

Life can be like that. There are some things that we just have to attend to regularly. We are worse off if we don't. Many of us neglect our health, physical or mental, but when we break down we discover that it would have been better to look after ourselves earlier rather than wait for things to go wrong. These 'weeds' in our lives can so easily overtake us!

When we consider how much God cares for us, then we are left realising



that we also need to take good care of ourselves. Jesus said in John's gospel 'I am the vine, and my father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.' This verse depicts God's care and nurture beautifully, when we put our trust in him and ask for his help in our lives.

God desires that we bear fruit! When we *do* ask him to help us in our lives, we can say with the prophet Isaiah, 'The Lord will guide me always. He will satisfy my needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen my frame. I will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.'

(Isaiah 58.11)

David is Rector of the South Manlake Group of Churches, to which St Andrew's United Church, Kilton, belongs. See p8.



Spiders like jigsaw puzzles!

Hallo there!

Did you know that spiders are very good at jigsaw puzzles? Well, of course we are! After all, many spiders have more than two eyes and we all have eight legs, so we can spot matching patterns and move the pieces around really quickly.

I was sitting quietly in my Kozy Korna the other day, doing a puzzle, when my friend Cedric dropped in.

'Hi, Sebastian!' he said. 'What are you so busy with?' Well, I thought it was pretty obvious but, being polite, I said, 'I'm doing a jigsaw puzzle. Look - it's got a picture of a church on it. It's quite difficult fitting it together, because it's a stone-built church and most of the pieces are grey.'

'I'll help!' said Cedric - and he started moving the pieces around, trying to fit them into spaces I'd already tried.

Now, I don't know about you, but I get really annoyed when people start interfering with something I've started and am getting on with quite well. But, again, I had to be polite and let him help.

After a while, he looked at the picture and then at the missing pieces. 'You know,' he said, 'this is a bit like the Bible.' 'What????' I said. (Cedric is always saying things that don't seem to mean anything.) 'Well,' he replied, 'look at the puzzle pieces.



This 252 piece Spider Jigsaw Puzzle and other animal puzzles can be found at Etsy.

They're all different, but you have to fit them together to get the whole picture.

'Somewhere in the Bible that chap who wrote all the letters to the followers of Jesus (he meant Saint Paul) talked about Christians being different, but needing to work together, each with their own gifts.* That's like this jigsaw puzzle.

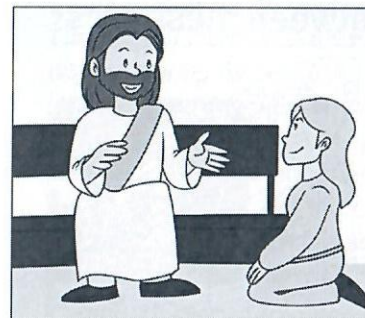
'All the people in God's family are different, but they need to fit in with one another so that they can spread the Good News about Jesus. If one of them decides not to get along with everybody else, or just goes off and does their own thing, then the family finds it more difficult to get on with God's work.'

I thought Cedric had got very serious, but I thought about what he had said. It's true - we need everyone to use their gifts in God's family, so that God's Kingdom can grow. We are just like those jigsaw pieces.

Your friend, *Sebastian*

* Romans 12: 1-8

The family at Bethany that Jesus loved



When Jesus visited Jerusalem he stayed in the village of Bethany, just a short journey from the city, in the home of his friends Martha, Mary and their brother Lazarus. Jesus loved this family.

Martha was the practical sister. She saw to the arrangements when Jesus and his friends came to stay. She organised the meals and the rooms.

Martha gets cross

On one occasion, Mary was so interested in hearing Jesus teach that she sat at his feet, listening. She forgot about the preparations for the meal. Martha was cross and said, 'Lord, I'm really busy, please tell my sister to come and help with the work in the kitchen.'



Jesus's answer

But Jesus was very kind, and told Martha not to be worried: the meal was important, but maybe it could wait, because learning about God and his Kingdom while he, Jesus, was with them was important too. Mary was right! Read the story in Luke 10 verses 38-42

Three fun-filled days!

St Andrew's Holiday Club 2025

'Time Travellers'

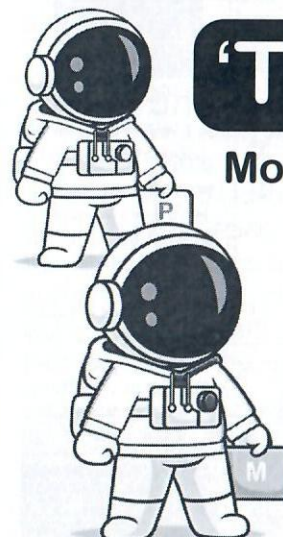
Mon. 21 - Wed. 23 July : 10am - 1pm

And 'Family Get Together' with refreshments
Wednesday 23 July, 6.30pm for about 1 hour

For children aged 4-11

Donation of £1 (min) per family per session
(including drink and mid-morning snack)

Booking helpful but not essential
Booking forms and further details
from Jane Sheard: 01652 648846
or janesheard.82@btinternet.com



Join Sebastian this summer at St Andrew's United Church
Holiday Club 21-23 July & the Treasure Hunt on 27 August!



Sebastian's Puzzle Corner for all ages

Step Ladder

Climb from HILL to WORK changing just one letter at a time, without disturbing the order of the remaining letters. We have provided clues for the steps, but not in the correct order.

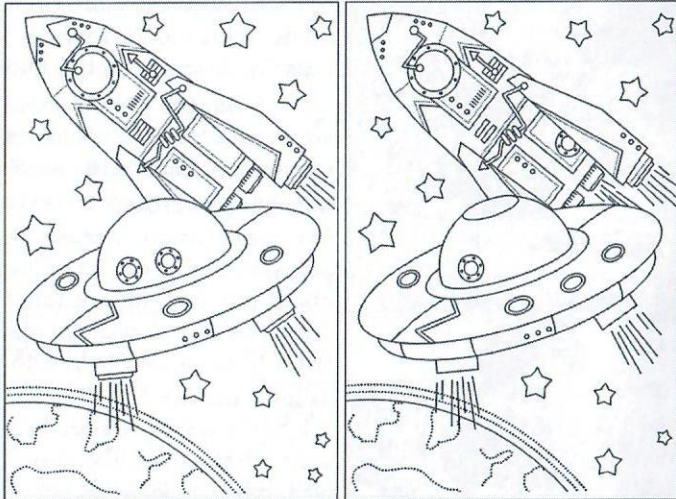
WORK

CLUES

- Male deer
- Something said
- Large room for meetings
- Opposite of 'easy'
- Stop
- In a hospital

HILL

Find 12 differences between these pics!

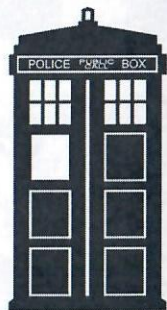


MARY & MARTHA WORD SEARCH

W D Y L E A R N I N G H P F E E T S
K L A Z A R U S U L O R D G L T E I
P R E P A R A T I O N S V F M X E S
E H Q C V F M A R T H A P Y H G J T
B W L I S T E N I N G R O U K D E E
W N O D H H F F D V Y L B U S Y S R
O M K R K K G D I S C I P L E S U K
R A K H R V K N X J O U R N E Y S P
K R G I V I R P M B K M E A L V D D
E Y N R H A E J R W S J H O M E P T
N Q W Q C A G D U L B R O T H E R P
S K I T C H E N T E A C H H V Q B J

Find these words in the puzzle box. Words are hidden → and ↓ ↘

BROTHER	JESUS	LISTENING	PREPARATIONS
BUSY	JOURNEY	LORD	SISTER
DISCIPLES	KITCHEN	MARTHA	TEACH
FEET	LAZARUS	MARY	WORK
HOME	LEARNING	MEAL	WORRIED



The Tardis

A Time Traveller's ultimate choice!

Who uses the Tardis? Here are two clues:

Q. What do you call a Time Travelling cow?
A. Dr Moo

Q. Why did the Dalek apply for a job in pest control?
A. He liked the job description:

'Exterminate! Exterminate!'

A solution to the Step Ladder can be found on page s8.

Brownies count on nature

In May 1st Kirton in Lindsey Brownies took part in a Churches Count on Nature event organised by the charity Caring for God's Acre. Many of our churchyards



and burial grounds have been a green space at the heart of a community for hundreds of years, so the opportunity for nature to thrive almost unnoticed within these environments is incredible.

Caring for God's Acre has been encouraging all to celebrate our fantastic churchyards during the second week in June for several years. This year the Brownies decided to join in. We spent an hour in the churchyard of St Andrews undertaking a 'bug hunt' and a tree trail. Who knew you could measure the height of a tree with the help of a friend, by looking upside down through your legs?



We were supported by the iNaturalist App which enables users to take a picture of a creature, plant or tree. Then the app offers suggestions about what you have seen –

and these images can be uploaded to create a record of the nature found in a specific location.

The Brownies really enjoyed finding bugs and plants to check using this app. We logged ladybirds, both native and invasive species, glossy blue/black beetles, shield bugs and ants, daisies, sorrel, herb Robert, catchweed (or sticky bud), alkanets, comfrey and plantains under the yew and lime trees.



We would love more people and groups to get involved and enjoy the nature and wildlife in our churchyards and log what you find. So keep your eyes peeled for a Caring for God's Acre event between 6 & 13 June next year at a churchyard near you.

Michelle Clarke-Edwards, Brownie leader

'Love in a Cup' Community Café

Every Thursday, 2-5pm:
St Andrew's United Church Halls



Treasure Hunt
Wednesday 27 August
starting 2pm - 2.30pm outside the Town Hall
Ending with teas at the Church Hall from 3.15pm. For more details and info about lifts see our Church website & Facebook





Your local churches

St Andrew's United Church, Kirton in Lindsey

www.standrewsunitedchurch.org.uk

St Radegund's Church, Grayingham

www.achurchnearyou.com/grayingham-st-radegund



Ministry Contacts: July 2025 - KIRTON

- ☎ 01724 647789 The Revd David Swannack (Anglican Vicar)
- ☎ 07395 453246 The Revd Robert Roberts (Methodist Minister)
- ☎ 01652 648846 The Revd Preb Dr Michael Sheard (Anglican, retired)
- ☎ 01652 649365 Dr Pat Frankish (Baptist Deacon; Anglican Lay Reader)

Ministry Contact: July 2025 - GRAYINGHAM

- ☎ 07738 356048 The Revd Charles Thody (Anglican Priest in Charge)

Other enquiries

Church Council Secretary, Kirton, 01652 648846

Church hall bookings, Kirton, 01652 648573

Church Warden, Kirton, Dr Pat Frankish, 01652 649365

Church Council Secretary, Grayingham, 01652 640157

Church Warden, Grayingham, Mr Clive Marshall, 01652 648125

SAFEGUARDING (Kirton) 01652 640740

SAFEGUARDING (Gray'm) 01652 640157

Baptism bookings (Kirton) – 07776 487791

Wedding bookings (Kirton) – 01652 648846

Funerals (Kirton) – 01652 648573

Worship in our buildings in July/August 2025

- St Andrew's United Church, Kirton,
11am Sunday; 9.30 every Wednesday
- St Radegund's, Grayingham,
9.30 1st Sun HC; other Sundays 9am

Please visit our websites/Facebook or phone one of the contact numbers above for other information about our churches and activities.

Join us for Worship on Zoom: every Sunday at 9.30am

* To join – on computer, tablet or phone –
contact heather.bunker@btinternet.com

St Andrew's United Church 4th SUNDAY every month, FAMILY SERVICE 11am

PUZZLE ANSWERS (p 56)

Step Ladder

Sebastian's solution:

HILL, HALL, HALT, HART,
HARD, WARD, WORD,
WORK.

Who uses the Tardis?

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Doctor

Doctor Who?

Oh, I see. You
know this one.



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of the editorial group

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CLEATHAM HALL NEWS

Celebrating the Summer at Cleatham Hall

Celebrating Family and Friends, Birthdays and Anniversaries.

The Summer has arrived and the gardens and grounds provide a perfect outlook to enjoy a relaxing meal. So, if there are just 2 or 52 of you, contact us by email or phone to book your own personal celebration.

Ask about our great Dine and Stay deals.

Join us to enjoy our main summer event, "An evening with the Moggies" including pie and pies on the 15th August. Only £15 per person. Rooms available to stay.

The Restaurant is open daily from Wednesday to Sunday.

Try our Sunday Lunch, or weekday Lunch time Table d'hôte menu with 2 courses for £20, including our popular fisherman's pie available Wednesday to Friday. Start the day with our mid-week Brunch with a choice of continental and cooked breakfast. Or relax with an Afternoon Tea with friends.

Brunch served from 9 – 11am, Lunch served from 12 to 3pm, Afternoon Teas from 1 to 4pm
Dinners from 6 to 8.30 pm.

See our website at www.cleathamhall.com/events for our menus and pricing
To book call: 01652 649402 or email: enquiry@cleathamhall.com

Restaurant Opening Times:

Wed - Sat: 12pm - 8:30pm

Sunday Lunch
12pm - 4pm



Cleatham Hall, Cleatham, North Lincolnshire, DN21 4JS

www.cleathamhall.com

Tel: 01652 649402

Email: enquiry@cleathamhall.com