

# Schools newsletter

July 2013

Dear Colleagues

## The Whirligig of Time (Twelfth Night – Act V, Scene 1)

As we near the end of a very busy year for all of us, I need to tell you that despite our almost unrealistically youthful appearance (which is often remarked on), age like a stealthy figure in the shadows is creeping up on some key members of your Joint Education Team. First out of the blocks are Brian Hedley and Mike Davison. Both have decided that they will retire from their Assistant Director posts at Christmas, which will leave some rather important gaps in our capacity at a time when the workload set by Mr Gove is expanding very rapidly. There will be opportunities later in the year to pay tribute to the huge contribution which both have made to the Dioceses, to our work and to your schools, and indeed I am hoping that both may be willing to continue to contribute to our work in the capacity of part-time consultants or project managers.

Meanwhile, we are of course turning our minds to succession planning and to inviting applications to fill the Assistant Director vacancies which Mike's and Brian's retirements will create. You as Head Teachers know better than anyone that these are absolutely vital senior posts and we will be looking for very special applicants with highly successful senior leadership experience who may have ambitions to share their accumulated expertise, experience and wisdom on a wider scale across Church of England schools in both Dioceses. My purpose in mentioning this now is to give you early notice of an opportunity which doesn't come around very often to ask yourself whether this career development opportunity might be of interest to you. If you think it might, I would be very happy to have an informal conversation with you, ideally in the next week or two. This would naturally be without any commitment on either side and would serve purely to explore what might be possible and of course for me to deal with any questions which you might wish to put to me in relation to your particular circumstances. We plan to advertise very early in September.

If you wish to pursue such a conversation, please do not hesitate to contact my PA, Susie Taylor on telephone 0191 270 4163, or email [susie.taylor@drmnewcanglican.org](mailto:susie.taylor@drmnewcanglican.org) to arrange either a meeting or possibly a telephone conversation, which as I say would be entirely confidential.

So much for our news. For you and your colleagues we salute your endeavours and commitment throughout this frantic school year and wish you a well-deserved long holiday conducive to rest, relaxation and re-charging of batteries. With every good wish and blessing.

Yours very sincerely

Jeremy Fitt



# Joint Education Team News

## Leavers' Services, June 2013

Six services were held at Durham and Newcastle Cathedrals. The theme of 'Go Make a Difference' challenged pupils to take what they had learnt from their time in First and Primary schools into the next phase of their education. Feedback so far received from schools has been very positive.

## Primary RE Conference, July 9th 2013

The event takes place at the Marriott Hotel, Metrocentre. Over 165 delegates will join Lisa Fenton (Blackburn Diocese) for the launch of the new Diocesan RE Syllabus. The syllabus has been produced in consultation with schools from Durham and Newcastle who have also trialed some of the materials.

## NCSL Church School Leadership 2012-2013

Colleagues from schools in both Dioceses will complete the course on 12th July with the presentation of certificates. The course has covered topics such as The Distinctiveness of a Church School and Spiritual Leadership. Colleagues have had the opportunity to take part in a placement in another church school. The NCSL have given the Roman Catholic and Anglican Dioceses funds to run the course again in 2013/2014.

## Advance Warning

### Inter Faith Conference - 'Passing on the Faiths', 7th October 2013

Please see advertisement and conference details on Pages 7 and 8 of this newsletter.

### Primary School Training Event - 'Why Narnia', 7th November 2013

Run by Chris Hudson of Barnabas in Schools, this half day training session will be held on the 50th Anniversary of C.S. Lewis' death and uses the Narnia stories to link RE, Literacy and PSHCE. Intended firstly as sheer entertainment, Narnia tales such as 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' explore Christian responses to larger questions about reality and fantasy, awe and wonder and the nature of good and evil.

### Secondary RE Conference, 3rd December 2013

This full day conference will be advertised fully in September.

## BACS/Cheque payments to the Diocese

We kindly urge all schools when paying their Partnering Agreement this year, making any payments for conferences/training events or for governors contributions towards projects, to please ensure that payments are made to the correct bank account as specified on the invoice. Thank you.



## Head Teacher Movements Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle

Name of School	Local Authority	Outgoing Head Teacher	New Head Teacher if Appointment Known	Start Date
<b>Recent and Ongoing Appointments</b>				
Holy Trinity Rosehill CE Primary School, Stockton	Stockton	Stuart Jones	Rachel Orr (not Gillian, as referred to in the last newsletter!)	Sep-13
Dr Thomlinson CE Middle School, Rothbury	Northumberland	Heather Cape	Liam Murtagh	Sep-13
St Michael's CE First School, Alnwick	Northumberland	Debbie Boughen	Ongoing	TBC

## Students go MAD at Cathedral Ceremonies



Keith Blundy / Aegies Associates

Chester-le-Street CofE Junior School students (L-R) Aaron Trotter, Jackson Ward, Eve Southern and Sophie Rowland, all age 11, look to a great future at secondary school where they can continue to go MAD

Mike Davison, Assistant Director for Education for the Joint Education Boards of Durham and Newcastle Dioceses, said: "It's tremendous, it's an exciting event and the numbers go up each year. They leave with a lovely buzz remembering their time in primary and first schools and looking forward to going on into secondary education."

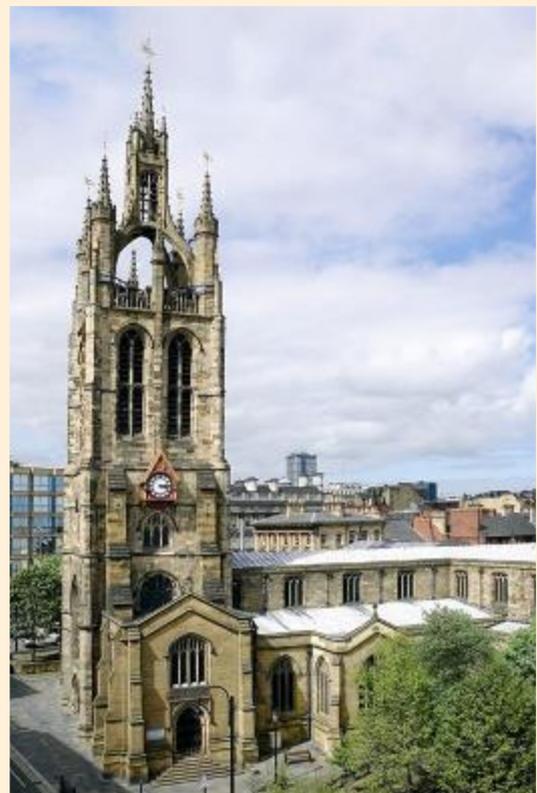


**GO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Nearly three thousand children from North East Church of England and community schools marked their leaving school with special services at Durham Cathedral and the Cathedral Church of St Nicholas in Newcastle Upon Tyne.

A total of 2,700 children marked the occasion in Durham Cathedral on 10th June and in Newcastle St Nicholas Cathedral on 17th June, with a total of six services held over the two weeks.

The services reflected the importance of their leaving school and helps prepare them for the next stage in their lives. The theme of the services was Go MAD, urging the young people to Go Make a Difference to the world around them.



The Cathedral Church of St Nicholas, venue for the Newcastle Leavers' Service

## Coming soon - Brand new Topic Boxes and Bags for RE



You asked for Topic Boxes for RE - so we've created them for September! We've almost finished World Christianity, Prayer and the Northern Saints and more are in the pipeline. Each one has been developed with teachers and trialed in schools to ensure that they meet your needs and will support the new Diocesan Syllabus



**Religious Resources** north east  
your religious learning resources centre

We'll be bringing some of these unique new resources to the launch of the syllabus on the 9th of July but keep an eye on our website because we'll be adding new sets over the summer. Why miss out when you could be ahead? Visit: [www.resourcescentreonline.co.uk](http://www.resourcescentreonline.co.uk)

## 'My North East' Exhibition

The Great North Festival company is inviting students, young people and school children to take part in a 'My North East' project, asking them to create a written or visual display of how they would like to see the region develop in the future.

This could be through painting, sculpture or music which in some way expresses a vision of the North East the artist would like to see. Some ideas might emerge from the different festivals this year; the June Festival of the North East, the Lindisfarne Gospels Network (Jul-Sept) and the British Science Festival (Sept 7th-12th)

The work will be displayed in an exhibition in St Nicholas' Cathedral in the final week of the festival from November 24th to December 1st. GNF hopes that Crisis Skylight, which is organizing a similar 'My Tyneside' project for the Festival of the North East, will join in the exhibition.



Preparations will start in earnest in September and GNF will be happy to meet with schools and art departments once the new school year has started. For more information about the 'My North East' Exhibition and to contact GNF, please visit: [www.greatnorthfestival.com](http://www.greatnorthfestival.com)

## Secretary of State for Education calls for continuing partnership with C of E

Education Secretary Michael Gove has praised the standards and popularity of church schools and urged a continuing partnership. The Education Secretary was taking part in a seminar at Lambeth Palace on 'Church of England: Education and our Future' hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.



From left to right: Rt. Hon. Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education; Most Reverend Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Rt. Rev. John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford

Archbishop Justin said, "The Church of England was at the beginning of national education in this country and continues to be crucial to its flourishing. Today, Bishops and Diocesan Boards of Education chairs have worked together to develop a vision for the future of church schools which will continue our mission of transforming every part of our society. It is obviously true that good schools help produce an educated workforce. But the Christian vision is a far greater one. It is about setting a framework for children as they learn, which enables them to be confident when faced with the vast challenges that our rapidly changing culture brings to us".

The seminar, attended by bishops, Diocesan Board of Education chairs and other church education leaders from across the country, marked the launch of a new document; 'A

Diocesan Board of Education for the Future'. A pdf version of this document can be viewed here: <http://www.churchofengland.org/media/1794108/cofe%20dbe%20future%20-%20final%20version.pdf>

Professor David Ford, Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge University, gave a presentation on the importance of RE in Church of England schools. In a statement released in advance of the seminar, Michael Gove said: "We would not have so many great state schools in this country without the Church of England. I know the Church does a wonderful job helping to raise educational standards and in providing a safe and loving environment for hundreds of thousands of children. However, there is much more we can do together. I want the Church to recover the spirit which infused its educational mission in Victorian time and support more new schools – especially academies and free schools – to bring educational excellence to the nation's poorest children".

The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd John Pritchard, Chair of the Board of Education and National Society, said "I was delighted to hear the Secretary of State's enthusiasm and admiration for church schools today. He reminded us that his own two children attend one of our schools and he applauded the Church for being prepared to work in places where others fear to tread. At the same time he set us a challenge to raise our game. This echoes our own determination to make a real step change in the way we serve our communities, working to the highest standards. I was so pleased to hear his public commitment to re-opening the conversation with the Churches of the future of RE and his recognition of its importance within the curriculum".

### Key facts on church schools:

- Approximately 1 million children attend C of E schools
- About 15 million people alive today went to one
- 25% (4484) of all primary and middle schools are C of E
- 193 (6.25%) secondary schools are C of E
- With more than 50 sponsored and 217 converter academies, the Church is the biggest provider in England
- 564 independent schools declare themselves to be C of E

For more information go to:

<http://www.churchofengland.org/education/church-schools-academies.aspx>



The Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham  
Committee for Inter-Faith & Ethnic Relations (CIFER)  
with the Joint Education Team



# **‘Passing on the Faiths’ Faith & Education Conference**

**9.30am - 4.00pm**

**Monday 7th October 2013**

**Marriott Hotel, Metrocentre, Gateshead, NE11 9XF**

**Cost = £40 per person (£20 concessions)**

**‘The aim of the conference is to explore the value and challenges of the contemporary multi-faith context in which the Faiths are “passed on” to young people in varying ways and settings’**

## **Keynote Speakers:**

**The Revd Garry Neave**

Church of England’s National Adviser in Further Education

**Dr Jonathan Miles-Watson**

Lecturer in the Study of Religion, Durham University

**Imam Mohammed Roziur Rahman**

Shah Jalal Mosque, Newcastle upon Tyne

## **Conference Chair:**

**The Revd Canon Steven Harvey**

Canon for Education, St Nicholas’ Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne

**To book, contact Josie Pinnegar**

**Tel: 0191 270 4142**

**Email: [j.pinnegar@newcastle.anglican.org](mailto:j.pinnegar@newcastle.anglican.org)**



The Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham  
 Committee for Inter-Faith & Ethnic Relations (CIFER)  
 with the Joint Education Team



**‘Passing on the Faiths’: Faith & Education Conference**  
**Monday 7th October 2013**

The programme is expected to be as follows:

9.30am	Arrival, Registration & Coffee
10.00am	Conference Chair’s Welcome
10.10am	1st Keynote Speaker - The Revd Garry Neave
11.00am	Coffee Break & Table Discussion
11.20am	2nd Keynote Speaker - Dr Jonathan Miles-Watson
12.05pm	Short Presentation - Director of North-East Religious Resources Centre
12.15pm	Presentation - Cleadon C of E Primary School
12.35pm	Lunch Break
1.20pm	3rd Keynote Speaker - Imam Mohammed Roziur Rahman
2.00pm	Workshops
2.45pm	Workshops
3.30pm	Panel Discussion with Chair & Keynote Speakers
4.00pm	End

There will be two opportunities to participate in workshops. The following are expected to be offered:

1. Ian Ramsey C of E Secondary School, Stockton
2. Hindu Education
3. Further Education Chaplaincy
4. Jewish/Hebrew Education
5. North-East Religious Resources Centre
6. Sikh Education
7. Islamic/Qur’anic Education

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**‘Passing on the Faiths’: Faith & Education Conference 2013**

Name: ..... Tel: .....

Address: .....

Email: .....

Workshop Choices: 1. ....

2. ....

Cost = £40 per person (£20 concessions)

Please send your completed booking form and a cheque payable to Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance to  
 Josie Pinnegar - Church House, St John’s Terrace, Percy Main, North Shields, NE29 6HS



## WELCOME TO DURHAM CATHEDRAL

Durham Cathedral forms part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is famous as the Shrine of St Cuthbert and the resting place of the Venerable Bede set in breathtaking Romanesque architecture. The Cathedral is a living place for Christian worship and welcomes visitors from all around the world and the communities of North East England. There are regular guided tours and self guided tour leaflets are available. The Cathedral Tower is open to those able to climb its 325 steps and the Claustal buildings are the most complete set of monastic buildings remaining in England.

The Chapter of Durham is committed to free entry for all to Durham Cathedral. When you visit please donate as generously as you can so that free entry can remain. Admission applies to the Cathedral Tower and for tours of the Cathedral.

The Cathedral continues to be busy with a wide range of services, concerts and events. This summer many are inspired by the Lindisfarne Gospels as we celebrate its display on the Durham World Heritage Site in Palace Green Library, part of Durham University. This famous Anglo-Saxon manuscript, written in honour of St Cuthbert, is on loan from the British Library; the Cathedral is one of the exhibition partners along with Durham University and Durham County Council. The whole region is celebrating its visit – information about the exhibition and a region wide programme of events can be found on [www.lindisfarnegospels.com](http://www.lindisfarnegospels.com)

At the Cathedral many of the events rejoice in the Gospels meaning as a living Christian book and range from Gospels Aloud, daily readings from the Gospels; the commissioning of new music to be sung in worship; a series of talks

picking up on themes around the Lindisfarne Gospels; and concerts, dance and theatrical performances culminating in a performance of the St Cuthbert Oratorio by composer Will Todd. A highlight is Jewels of the North, a spectacular festival of flowers and design celebrating innovation in North East England; inspired by the Lindisfarne Gospels and subsequent periods of creativity.

We look forward to welcoming you over the coming months.



Look out for special family events in both the Cathedral and on the Cathedral's Woodlands and Riverbanks. They are marked with a special Family Fun symbol. Printed guides for family trails are available for purchase and children who can enjoy climbing the Cathedral Tower. Pre-booked family tours can be arranged by contacting [education@durhamcathedral.co.uk](mailto:education@durhamcathedral.co.uk)

To download the full Summer 2013 Events Guide visit:  
[http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/pdf/events\\_guide\\_summer\\_2013.pdf](http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/pdf/events_guide_summer_2013.pdf)

*Above:* Durham Cathedral from Prebends' Bridge taken by the Dean of Durham

## New guide to the North East's historic churches

'Spirit in Stone' is the title of a new guide covering over 120 historic churches across the North East, produced by Inspired North East on behalf of the Diocesan Tourism Task Group.

The guide has been prepared to coincide with the return of the Lindisfarne Gospels which are on display in Durham this summer. The aim is to encourage visitors to discover more of the rich Christian heritage that is to be found in our churches.

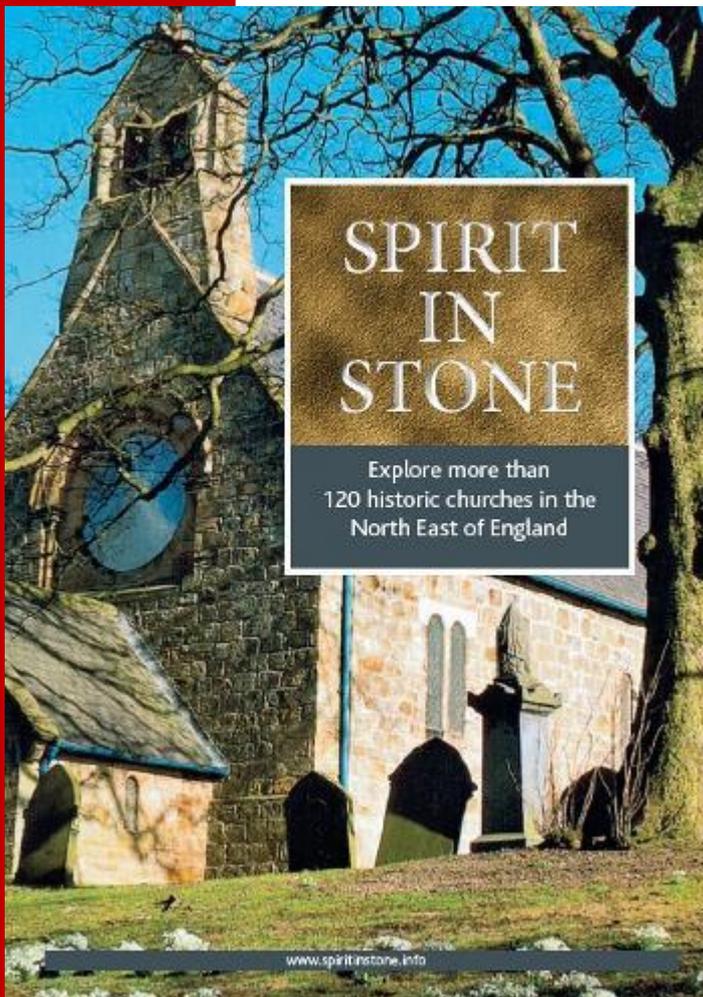
The North East of England has been a focus of pilgrimage since at least the fifth century. In their time, the monastic communities of Cuthbert, Aidan, Bede and other Christian pioneers of North East England drew people from across Europe for spiritual nurture, learning, recording and creativity. This has been a foundational shaping force in the North East's physical and cultural heritage, and continues to make an impact on England's national identity.

These are not just well-loved old buildings, they are of interest in so many ways: art and architecture, social and political history, battlefields and churchyards, saints and heroes, stories of local communities, family history, and so on – and of course they are also of profound spiritual significance as places of worship, prayer and family events. These are beautiful places which bear witness to history and culture and sense of place.

'Spirit in Stone' is being distributed through tourism and visitor outlets as well as churches across the region. You should be able to pick up a copy from the Cathedrals in Newcastle and Durham, Hexham Abbey, Bessie Surtees House in Newcastle (English Heritage), Tourist Information Centres in Newcastle, Hexham and Alnwick and from Church House in North Shields or Carter House in Durham.

To download the 'Spirit in Stone' guide and for more in-depth information on all the featured churches, downloadable trails and more, please visit the Inspired North East website: <http://www.inspirednortheast.org.uk/useful-information> and follow the link to the Spirit in Stone page.

The new 'Spirit in Stone' Guide produced by Inspired North East



# Rhema

Theatre Company  
Resources for Schools



## New Starts Drama Day

"It's that time... Things are about change...  
Can I do it?..."

New starts and new challenges can be a big deal; whether it's changing class/teacher, moving up to secondary school, joining a new club or even meeting a new brother or sister! "Yes, I can!"



SUMMER TERM  
2013

Through the amazing story of Moses, Rhema Theatre Company's New Starts Drama Day explores how we can take on new beginnings and challenges with confidence.

The day begins with an exciting performance assembly for the whole school, in which we join Moses as he takes on a huge series of challenges, in order to lead his people to a new beginning. It is then followed by our fun yet thought provoking interactive drama workshops – suitable for both Key Stage 1 and 2 - exploring how we can take on new starts with confidence

### Key Citizenship Curriculum Links:

- Preparing for change
- Making real choices and decisions
- Facing new challenges positively

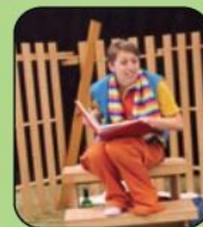
"Extremely engaging... good, accessible and gave the children a lot to think about... Esther was great and really engaged the children throughout the day"  
Christ Church CE Primary

We are an action-packed resource for Primary Education in the UK. Each of our productions or workshops have been designed to work in conjunction with the Key Stages 1&2 Citizenship, PSHE & RE Curricula and SEAL.

We have a variety of fantastic, action-packed productions and workshops on offer for your school this summer!

### Performance Details

<b>Who for?</b>	<b>Performance:</b> Whole School
	<b>Workshops:</b> Groups of up to 35 pupils in Key Stage 1 or 2.
<b>Where?</b>	School hall (or similar size space)
<b>How long?</b>	Approx. 45 mins with each class.



**TO BOOK** or for more information, please phone Hannah on 07972 285438 or visit our website [www.rhemaschools.org](http://www.rhemaschools.org)

"A brilliant assembly – very engaging and the children participated well... material was engaging and appropriate for the year groups. We were very pleased with the content of the workshops and assembly... very engaging and interactive. We would use Rhema again!" Mrs E.A. Crayton, Branton St Wilfred's Primary School



"Hannah is to be commended. Her sincerity and engagement with the children is exceptional"  
Sue Timmins, Summerville School, Pendlebury



"Definitely the best theatre group we have had in school. It was funny, thought provoking and gave the children a really strong message. Excellent!!! Thanks again – we loved every minute of it. We will be booking again very soon!" L Tonge, Lordsgate Township CE School



**PRICES FOR ALL PRODUCTS RANGE FROM £250 - £380**  
please phone the office for details



c/o Altrincham Baptist Church, Hale Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 2EW  
Registered Charity No. 1105601  
Co. No. 5182261

Rhema  
Theatre Company

## 20% off NEW STARTS DRAMA DAY

Rhema Theatre Company are delighted to offer you 20% off our fantastic **New Starts Drama Day** and all other bookings\* with us this term and until October 2013.

\*Other Drama Days offered by Rhema Theatre Company: *RE Days, Citizenship Days* - see attached brochure!

Rhema Theatre Company are excited to offer this brand new drama day for Summer term 2013.

With over 11 years worth of experience in primary schools and highly qualified actor facilitators, our **New Starts Drama Day** is a perfect addition to your Citizenship curriculum.

### COSTS

£350 full day - **NOW £280**  
£250 half day - **NOW £200**

For more information or to book call us on: 07972285438 or email: [hannah@rhematheatre.org](mailto:hannah@rhematheatre.org)