

Contacts and Sunday Service Pattern

THE MINISTER

The Revd Nick Mark
156 Lowry Hill Road
CARLISLE
CA3 0ER
Telephone: 01228 526162
Email: nmark@keme.co.uk

THE KNOWE CHURCH

BEWCASTLE
Services: 1.45pm on the first Sunday in the month
Contact: Mrs Doreen Telford
Telephone: 016977 48248

BRAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

13 MAIN STREET
BRAMPTON
Services: 9.30am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month
Contact: Mrs Barbara Laird
Telephone: 016977 2376

ST. GEORGE'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

WEST WALLS
CARLISLE
CA3 8UF
www.urccarlisle.org
Services: 11.00am every Sunday
Contact: Mrs Rosalind Fearon
Telephone: 016973 44892
Email: rosrayfearon@talktalk.net

When there is a fifth Sunday in the month
the Service is for the whole Pastorate
Usually at 11.00am at St George's
(Check the North Cumbria Pastorate Services list)

From the Minister

Dear Friends,

Our services in February focus in our lectionary on Paul's letters and in particular on Corinthians. On the 3rd of February the chosen passage is 1 Corinthians 13. I think it is fascinating to see how the Holy Spirit catches the right moment to remind us of things that are vital in our lives. What the world really needs now is to reflect on that word Love. There seems so much hate in our world. The prevalence of knife crimes in our cities and the vilification of politicians who don't agree with our point of view. Then there is the panic ensuing over refugees arriving in dinghies on our southern beaches. I wonder how we would feel if we were living in a country like Iran where freedom is non-existent unless you toe the line!

The earthly life of Christ and his sacrifice for us is an amazing demonstration of God's pure love. It sums up for me why I work on matters ecumenical because working together demonstrating God's love can and should persuade people that strife and isolation and hatred cannot bring about the kind of society we dream of. So much valuable time is wasted on furthering hate and even vengeance.

There is also the perception among some people sadly that to demonstrate love is weak and feeble when the opposite is the case. As 1 Corinthians 13 makes clear love is the strongest element. God never gives up on our divided world and working through so many different people to achieve harmony.

In February it is hoped to see throughout all the churches I serve greater progress on Mission Community development because the harmony that occurred in the period of Advent and over Christmas demonstrated that working together is not just enjoyable but it brings results. All the Churches I served in during that time showed greatly increased attendances. The week of prayer for Christian Unity in January continued and built up on that theme. The challenge for us in this year is to maintain those attendances and to reach out to yet more people.

God grants us many opportunities and it is apparent that one of the major side effects of all the complications of Brexit is that many people are looking for something that can give them assurance and confidence. Cumbria is better equipped than many Counties to offer through its churches a positive unity to help people realise that it is through our Faith we have a positive purpose in life and a purpose that wants to engage with humanity in a meaningful way.

The Churches I serve are very much alert to these issues and it is good to see the Pastorate's involvement in the Passion Play preparations which is not just for those of us living in Carlisle but is aimed at all of the folk the North Cumbria Pastorate serves.

Last but not least I remind everyone our Pastorate Council meets on the 23rd of February and one of the key agenda items is future events that all the churches can be involved in or want support from the other churches on. Please let your elder know of any such ideas so that they can be mentioned at the meeting.

Lastly a personal note. Janet and I would like to thank you for all your kind Christmas Greetings.

With every Blessing
Nick Mark

Bridge

Please note that material for the
March issue of Bridge
should be in the hands of the editor by
Sunday 10th February
Articles may be handed or sent by post,
telephone or email to
Peter Day, 30 Naworth Drive
CARLISLE, Cumbria, CA3 0DD
Telephone: 01228 818392
Email: deeptray@btinternet.com

From the Churches

Bewcastle

Grateful thanks are expressed to Barbara Smith for hosting our Epiphany Communion service in January at her Studio. Our next service on the 3rd of February will also be at the Studio at 1.45pm.

We sadly record here the death of Penny who was a tutor to the Reiver Arts Group and who was knocked down by a vehicle at the pedestrian crossing outside Brampton URC. Our thoughts are very much with her family and friends and her work with Reiver Arts will be long remembered.

Although it is early to announce it, our Area President Sarah will be leading our service on the First Sunday in September.

If you have any matters that need to be raised at the Pastorate Council Meeting on February 23rd please let either Doreen or myself know.

Nick Mark



Brampton

Services at Brampton in February

Our services at 9.30am on Sunday 10th February and Sunday 24th February will be led by our Minister, the Revd Nick Mark.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service

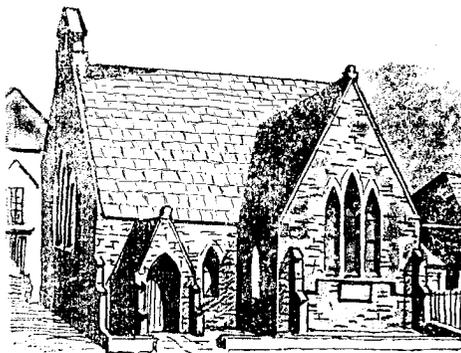
Friday 1st March. The 2019 service, prepared by the women of Slovenia with the theme "Come - Everything is Ready", will take place this year at 2.00pm. The venue will be given out in church notices. All very welcome.

Lent Lunches

Will be held in Brampton Methodist Church Hall each Wednesday in Lent from 12 noon to 1.00pm beginning on Ash Wednesday, the 6th of March. Themes and order of Speakers will be given out in church notices.

News of the Fellowship

Our Congratulations to Meghan and Paul Troughton on the birth of their second child on 5th January. A son, Jack Andrew, a brother for Maggie. Also Congratulations



go to Grandparents Margaret and Brian Holland and Great-grandparents Florence Scott and John Salton.

Brampton Duty Rota for February

Stewarding: Mrs Barbara Laird and Mr John Salton
We won't be having a flower rota until the Spring.

In our thoughts and prayers

We remember those who are not so well, those who are anxious at this time, and those not able to get out and about so easily.

Shirley Brown

Carlisle

St George's Services

Feb	3rd	11.00am	(Worship Group)
Feb	10th	11.00am	(NM)
Feb	17th	11.00am	(Betty Jagger)
Feb	24th	11.00am	Communion (NM)
Mar	3rd	11.00am	(Revd Iain Mackenzie) Followed by a Soup & Sandwich Lunch

Communion Duty

Feb 24th

Preparation

Moira Wales

Serving

John Ware

Moira Wales

Readers

Feb	3rd	Trevor Irwin
Feb	10th	Maureen Bewley
Feb	17th	Olive Cronie
Feb	24th	Pamela Martin
Mar	3rd	Elizabeth Mackenzie

Duty Rota

	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Steward</u>	
Feb	3rd	Trevor Irwin	Deborah Usher
Feb	10th	Moira Wales	Kathleen Harris
Feb	17th	Olive Cronie	Valerie Barlow
Feb	24th	Marjorie Lawson	Pamela Martin
Mar	3rd	Ian Moonie	Jessie Overs

Flowers

Feb	3rd	Vacant
Feb	10th	Vacant
Feb	17th	Moira Wales
Feb	24th	Lorna Scott
Mar	3rd	Connie Humphrey

Saturday Coffee Morning

Feb	2nd	Elizabeth & Iain Mackenzie
Feb	9th	Kathleen Harris, Moira Wales, Kathy Craig
Feb	16th	NO COFFEE MORNING
Feb	23rd	Jessie & Michael Overs
Mar	2nd	Roalind Fearon & Mavis Hall

March Edition Magazine Photocopying and Collation

Week commencing	Monday 18th February
	Kathleen & John Harris

From St George's Secretary

News of members

We were all saddened to hear of the passing of Ronald Anderson on the last day of 2018. His was a 'life well-lived' and each one of us will treasure memories of his kindness and unique sense of humour. Ron's devotion to his wife Betty and their family was

obvious to all who knew him. Many from St George's joined with the family for the funeral which was a true team-effort, with Nick Mark conducting the service, Iain Mackenzie giving the eulogy and Ron and Betty's elder, Ian Moonie, reading the scripture. We will remember Betty at this time when so much has changed for her, but she is still held in our love and prayers and in God's everlasting arms.

There are others who need our prayers at this time: we remember especially Kathleen and Tony Wiseman, Alan and Jennifer Burgess, David and Maureen Bewley, Muriel Drinkall and Margaret Graham.

Future events

At the elders' meeting we decided not to organize anything ourselves specifically for Lent, but there will be many ecumenical events which we hope the church will support such as the 'Bishop's walk' on 13th March and the Passion Play in the City Centre on 13th April. We are also invited to attend Lent services in the Cathedral every Wednesday, 12.30 - 1.30pm, commencing 13th March. There will be a communion service and very brief sermon given by one of the city centre clergy followed by a soup lunch at Canon Michael Manley's house.

If you receive this Bridge in time, please consider going to 'Caring for our Common Home' a conference at Keswick School on environmental issues from a faith perspective with two keynote speakers, Professors Keith Ward and Peter Scott. It is on Saturday 2nd February 9am to 4.30pm, further details from Nick or Rosalind.

Christmas Cards 2018 *(Valerie Barlow)*

The amount of £37 was collected for "postage" of Christmas cards. Thanks to everyone for their support of this scheme, in aid of church funds.

Soup & Sandwich Lunch - Sunday, 3 March *(Valerie Barlow)*

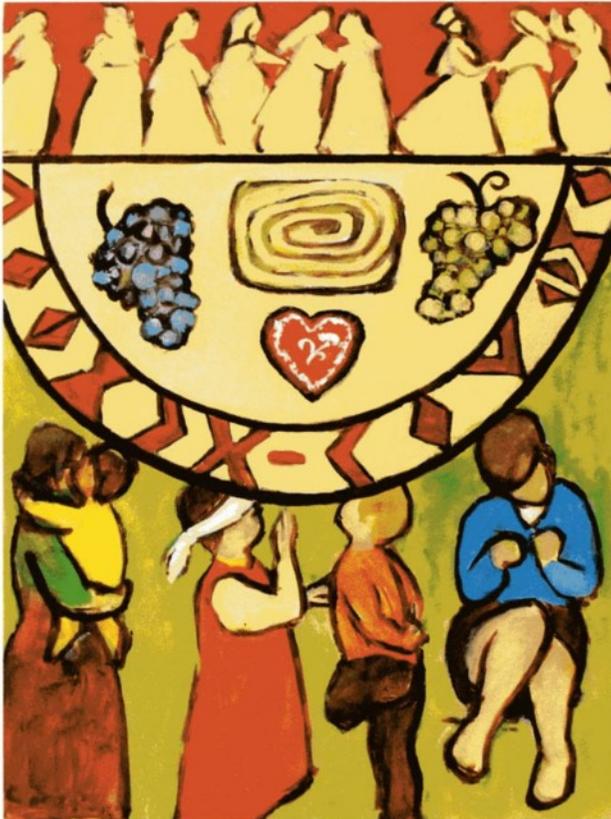
Please make a note that there will be a Soup and Sandwich lunch after the Service on Sunday, 3rd March. More details later.

Rosalind Fearon

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)



1st March 2019 at 2.30pm
At St George's United Reformed Church
ALL WELCOME

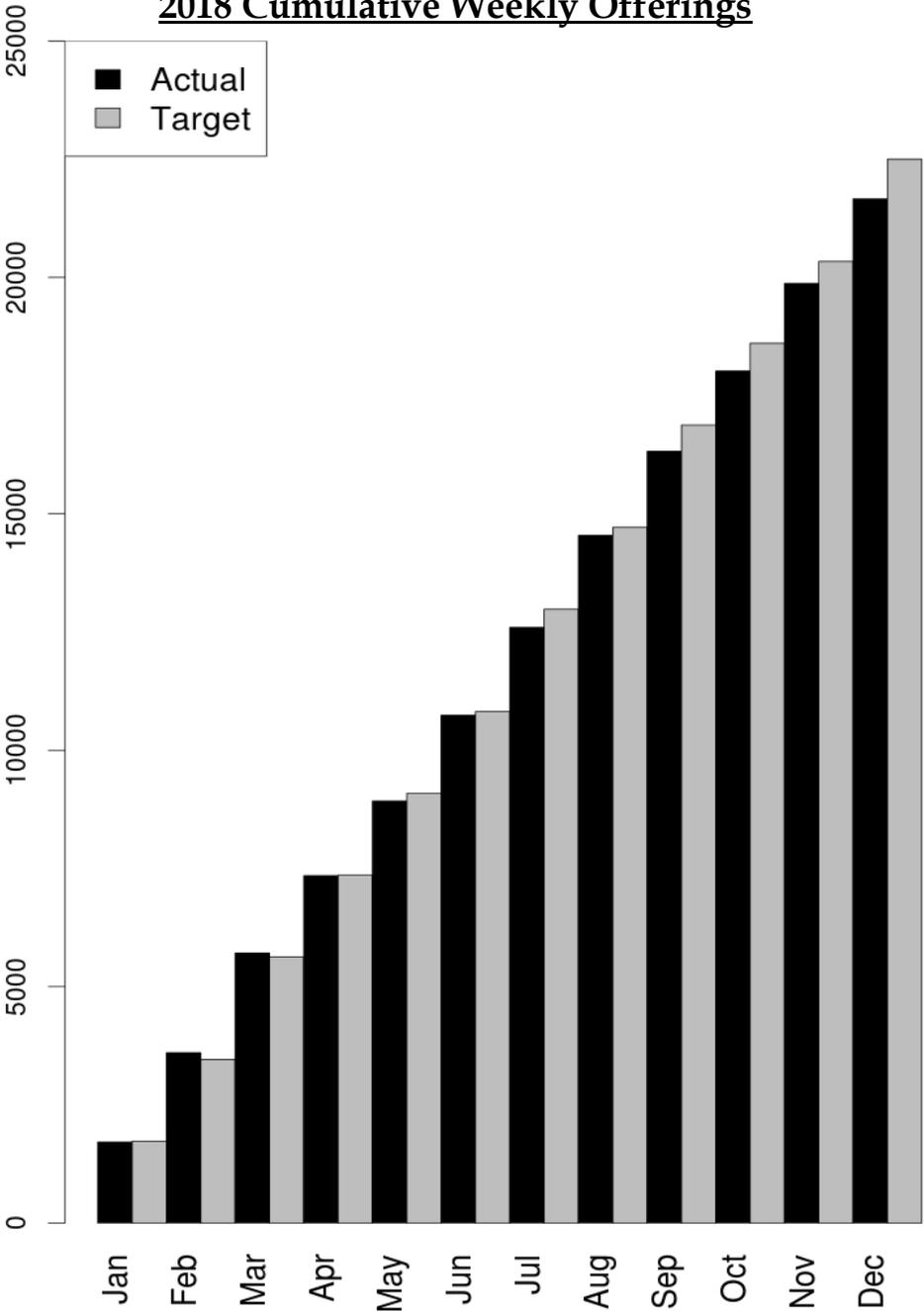


Come – Everything is Ready!

SLOVENIA

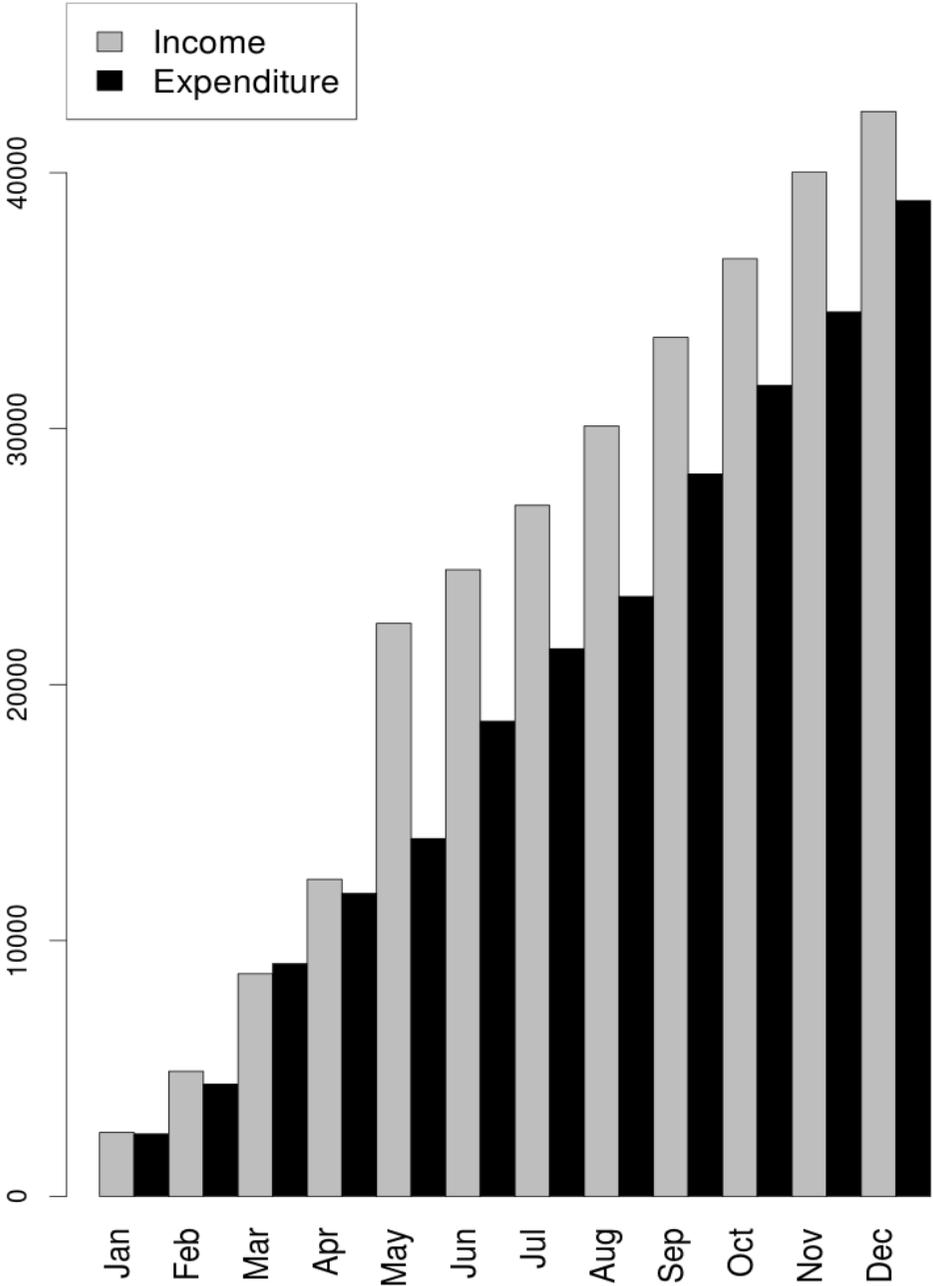
St George's URC Carlisle

2018 Cumulative Weekly Offerings



St George's URC Carlisle

2018 Cumulative Total Income/Expenditure



Ronald Anderson Obituary

Ronald Andrew Anderson was born on the 22nd of January 1927 in Edinburgh. He was the middle child of the three his parents were blessed with. His brother Norman predeceased him but his sister Marjorie survives him.

Ron's Father was the Rector (principal) of Leith Academy. He had a strict upbringing and attended the Royal High School Edinburgh. When it came to choice of further education Ron was pointed in the direction of either dentistry or Veterinary surgeon. In the end he chose the Veterinary path attending The Royal Dick as it is familiarly called or The Royal School of Veterinary studies in Edinburgh.

Ron was to meet Betty at a dance in Edinburgh. She was a keen Gilbert and Sullivan participant and her troupe were enjoying a night out after a successful series of performances. By this time Ron was a successful young vet working in a private practice at York and so Betty and Ron's courtship involved railway stations with Ron in York, Betty in Edinburgh or at her home in Motherwell. Ron moved to another practice in Norfolk after marriage. Then in 1968 came a major change with the family moving to Carlisle and Ron changing career path in that he decided to change from private practice to being a Ministry Veterinary surgeon. He was based at Eden House near the Civic Centre. As Betty succinctly puts it he moved from dealing with small animals to larger ones. His expertise was with cows and he had the challenging task of dealing with Brucellosis and later the very distressing outbreaks of Foot and Mouth.

Church life was important to Ronald and he was a Deacon in Scarborough and later became one of the Managers at St George's Carlisle.

Family meant a great deal to Ron and he and Betty were blessed with two children Christine and Graham. When Christine and Graham found other halves Ron and Betty were to be blessed with three grandchildren, Morag, Matthew and Simon. Both Ron and Betty have always been interested in the progress of their family.

Outside of family Ron has always had a rather unique sense of humour which he himself admitted was not always appreciated by work colleagues or friends and family! That sense of humour helped him bear his recent suffering really bravely.

Apart from Service to the Church Ron had a real appreciation of and interest in Classical Music and he was a keen Philatelist.

Ron was a real humanitarian. Visiting him was no chore because he had strong views about the way the world was going. He was particularly concerned about the increasing gulf between rich and poor. His daughter Christine described him as someone who thought outside the box.

He and Betty were a great help to our current minister when it was decided to put on a Burns supper and Ron's address to the ladies will long be remembered!

Ron Also helped the WRVS with Meals on wheels and was delivering until he was well into his eighties.

Nick Mark

Commitment for Life

Prayer Partners

February

*Trees felling
Ground exposing
Rains falling
Mud forming
Shacks slipping
Desperation creeping
Hope fading
Help coming
Faith acting
Future clearing
Hope rising.*



St George's Christmas Quiz Answers

There were only 30 quizzes sold and a mere 9 returned. The winner was Mrs M Johnston from Bolton Low Houses winning the prize of £5. The answers were as follows:

General Knowledge

1. There are 365 days in a year, what number day is Christmas Day? **Answer: 359**
2. According to the poem "The Night before Christmas" how many reindeer did Santa have to pull the sleigh? **Answer: 8**
3. A foreign city has donated a huge Christmas tree to the people of Britain every year since 1947, which is always displayed in Trafalgar Square, which City and Country is it? **Answer: Oslo, Norway**
4. If you were born on Christmas Day, what's your star sign? **Answer: Capricorn**
5. What's the name of the ballet traditionally performed around Christmas each year? **Answer: The Nutcracker**
6. What is the last day of Christmas called? **Answer: Twelfth Night**
7. What took place on Christmas Day 1864, in London's Hyde Park? **Answer: First ever organised Christmas Day swim**
8. Which monarch made the first ever Royal Christmas Broadcast? **Answer: George V**
9. Which famous US musician gave a concert in Berlin on Christmas Day in 1989 to celebrate the fall of the Berlin Wall, and what was played? **Answer: Leonard Bernstein, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony**
10. In which season of the year does Christmas Island celebrate Christmas? **Answer: Summer**

Carol & Song Anagrams

11. MAN WEARY AGAIN (4,2,1,6) **Answer: Away In A Manger**
12. LATCH ELK SHED (4,3,5) **Answer: Deck The Halls**
13. GET HER NEW SKI (2,5,5) **Answer: We Three Kings**
14. SIR ACTS HUMBLE (4,9) **Answer: Blue Christmas**
15. TOLD JOEY THROW (3,2,3,5) **Answer: Joy To The World**
16. ACTOR SIMS THERE (1,9,4) **Answer: O Christmas Tree**
17. WILT DONNER WANDER (6,10)
Answer: Winter Wonderland
18. TWO LISTEN (3,2,4) **Answer: Let It Snow**
19. ACKNOWLEDGE SONG IS (4,4,9)
Answer: Good King Wenceslas
20. HARDY SYMBOLIC (5,3,5) **Answer: Mary's Boy Child**

Deborah Usher

St George's Women's Guild

4th February at 2.00pm

Jim Dykes - Mary's Meals

4th March at 2.00pm

John & Diane Findlay

Film show of the first Great Fair in Carlisle

1st April at 2.00pm

Martin & Jean Nichol

Cathedral Lodge Antiques

2nd May (Thursday) at 2.00pm

P.C. Diane Irving

Dog Handler

Elizabeth Mackenzie

Commitment for Life

Bangladesh

Growing confidence for first-time tea gardeners

“I had never been seen as an income earner”, says Sumaiya Shimu, a member of the Small Tea Growers Group from the village of Berajot. Shimu lives with her husband and children. They have a small plot of land, but it wasn’t providing a good income for the family.

In 2015, Shimu joined a Christian Aid and Traidcraft project that offered to train women to grow tea on small plots; it helped them with saplings and an initial investment to prepare the land. Shimu was hesitant at first - nobody in her family had any experience of growing tea - but as her saplings grew well, she began to see results. The first time Shimu harvested the tea, she sold the leaves for 700 Taka (around £6) - enough to encourage her to keep going.



Sumaiya Shimu and her family outside her home

From small shoots to a profitable business

Now Shimu's tea business is properly up and running. From April to September last year, she sold 48,000 Taka of tea leaves (around £410), as well as cultivating and selling saplings which are worth more. The business makes a yearly profit of around £2,500 - it's been enough to buy another small plot of land, raise chickens and cows, and repair her house.

Before, Shimu's family could never afford to celebrate festivals like Eid and New Year, but this year they celebrated together as a family. Shimu says: "Now I feel proud of my success."

In future, Shimu plans to build a house in brick and wants to expand her tea garden. She also wants to buy two cows and save money for her children's higher education.



From tea to university

Asiya Khatun proves that Shimu's story isn't a one-off. Asiya was only eight years old when her mother died and, as the eldest child, responsibility for her siblings fell on her. After she finished school, she got married and carried on trying to support her family, but having enough was always a struggle.

"I look into my garden and I feel like this is my heaven. I have a long way to go and many dreams to fulfil."

Asiya received saplings, a small investment and training to get started. "Without that training, nothing was possible", she said. "Training made me capable of making this tea garden."

The garden is thriving. Asiya harvested over £1,000 of leaves last year and has also started selling saplings and rearing cattle and goats. She has become a role model in the village and encourages other women to start working in the tea business.

The money is paying for her sons' university education. She is hoping that her youngest child will get into a good university in Dhaka.

There's real pride in Asiya's voice as she reflects on what she has achieved. "My life has changed since I started working in my garden. I poured my heart and soul into producing tea. I never thought I would get such a chance in my life to prove my capacity."



Asiya Khatun tending her tea plants

CULTURE BAZAAR

Coming Soon - 16th & 17th February
at Richard Rose Central Academy, Carlisle

North Cumbria Pastorate Services

The Knowe Church, Bewcastle

Feb 3rd 1.45pm (NM) At Barbara Smith's Studio
Mar 3rd 1.45pm (NM)

Brampton URC, Main Street, Brampton

Feb 10th 9.30am (NM)
Feb 24th 9.30am (NM)

St George's URC, West Walls, Carlisle

Feb 3rd 11.00am (Worship Group)
Feb 10th 11.00am (NM)
Feb 17th 11.00am (Betty Jagger)
Feb 24th 11.00am Communion (NM)
Mar 3rd 11.00am (Revd Iain Mackenzie) Followed by a
Soup & Sandwich Lunch

Dates for your Diary

February

2nd 9.00am Caring for our Common Home
4th 2.00pm St George's Women's Guild (programme: page 15)
12th 12.00pm City Centre Mission Community Meeting
at the Salvation Army Citadel
16th NO COFFEE MORNING at St George's
16th and 17th Culture Bazaar at Richard Rose Central Academy
25th 9.00am St George's Elders Meeting
27th 9.30am Coffee Morning in Brampton URC

March

1st 2.00pm World Day of Prayer Brampton. Venue TBA
1st 2.30pm World Day of Prayer Carlisle (see page 9)
4th 2.00pm St George's Women's Guild (programme: page 15)
6th 12.00pm Lent Lunches start Brampton Methodist Church Hall
13th Bishop's Walk (see page 8)
13th 12.30pm First weekly Lent Service in Cathedral

April

13th Passion Play in City Centre

