

Pastor Roy Writes...

Dear Friends,

You would think that we are all 'Olympic-ed' out by this time. What began with the Olympic Torch moving across the whole nation including islands, remote lighthouses, isolated communities then moving on to the Games themselves, to be followed hard on its heels by the Paralympics, it would be reasonable to say enough is enough!

Yet, nothing could be further from the truth. The success of Team GB in all the various sports has raised the level of consciousness of athletics and other varied sports in the minds of the populace. For a few days we celebrated these heroes who impressed with their humility, their agility, their dedication and passion.

We wait to see what follows. What legacy will remain? I read an article in an American magazine that said that the Games were set in one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. The result was that most people cheered on Team GB but were able, with ease, to cheer along athletes representing other nations as well. There was a great sense of Unity in the various arenas.

It has always been understood since the day the Gospels and the letters of Paul were written and adopted by the Church as Scripture, that Unity was the great desire of Jesus Christ. In fact it is his one prayer that is yet to be answered where we read in John 17, Jesus praying, speaking of the Church, *'that they will be one as We are one'*

Far too often in the history of the Church, as seen in this country, it has been divided. We do not cheer the other. We rarely support another church, never mind denomination. The day is coming fast when churches and denominations are going to have to work and worship much more closely together for the sake of this nation.

Maybe we could take as our example, the Olympic audiences!

Roy and Christine

Worship Diary

Normal Sunday Services are held at 11.00 am. Once a month, there is an evening service, including prayers for healing. A short mid-week service is held on Thursdays at 10.30 am.

*Special services between now and the next issue of **St John's News** (all at St John's except where indicated):*

October Harvest Thanksgiving
Date to be confirmed

Sun 11 November Armistice Day

10:45 am Open Air Service at Market Place, including 2 minute silence at 11:00 am.

11:30 am Morning Worship in St John's

*Times and places for these services still to be confirmed.
Please refer to local press and/or St John's website for updated details.*

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* **Sacrament of Holy Communion** *
* will be held on Sunday, 2 December 2012. *
*

St John's Guild

The new session of the Guild starts on Wednesday, 10 October.

We look forward to seeing you then.

For information about The Guild,
contact Helen Wyper (773286)

www.carluke-stjohns.org.uk/guild

Lupus Coffee Morning

10:00 am until 2:00 pm

Saturday 13 October

in St Johns Church Hall

to raise funds for Lupus UK.

There will be tea, coffee, home baking and hot filled rolls along
with various stalls.

Please come along and support Lupus UK

www.lupusuk.org.uk



Boys' Brigade

On Friday 11 May, our Company, in the presence of parents and friends held the last evening of the session. The night started with an opening service, then followed drill, PT and games with some of the parents taking part. After this the boys were presented with the badges they have gained throughout the session.

Anchor boys

Aaron Henderson - 2nd year service badge, 2nd year activity badge

Greg Allan - 3rd service badge, 3rd year activity badge

Michael Taylor - 3rd year service badge, 3rd year activity badge

Both Greg and Michael were promoted to the Junior Section.

Junior section

Alex Park - 1st year service badge, target badge, bronze activity badge.

Andrew Jamieson - 1st year service badge, target badge, bronze activity badge.

Luke Scroggie - 1st year service badge.

Ryan Sloan - 4th year service badge, target badge, bronze activity badge.

Mathew Gillon - 5th year service badge, silver activity badge

Jamie Stevenson - 5th year service badge, silver activity badge.

Company Section

Aaron Ramage - 3rd year service badge, level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills, compass badge.

Aaron Lindsay - 3rd year service badge level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills, compass badge

David Henderson - 3rd year service badge, level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills, compass badge.

Jamie Macadam - 3rd year service badge, level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills, compass badge

Adam Pollock - 7th years service badge, level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills

James Gillon - 7th year service badge, level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills, compass badge

Callum Sloan - 7th year service badge, level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills

Michael Stevenson - 7th year service badge, level 1 community, level 1 recreation, level 1 skills, compass badge.

A short closing service followed by tea, coffee and cakes concluded the evening.

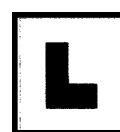
The new session of the 3rd Carluke BB Company began with enrolment on Friday 7 September. All boys from primary 1 upwards are most welcome.

Richard Allan (captain)



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DRIVE WELL WITH REV L

On Your Marks!

This year the Joint Churches Holiday Club was held in St John's Church Halls from 30 July to 3 August. It was based on Scripture Union's Resource *On Your Marks*, a *Global Games sports theme* which covered significant events in the life of Jesus from St Marks Gospel. Each day the children, from starting P1 to those going into S1, and who were in groups, met Jesus as he called his disciples, demonstrated his healing power, showed his authority and revealed himself as the Son of God.

The aims were to explain who Jesus was and what he came to do as he lived on earth, to give the children the opportunity to respond to Jesus, and to hear what it means to be a Christian, as they talked with more adult Christians and to create a fun programme where children would feel welcome and valued. The activities of art and craft, DVD, song, games, quizzes, drama, aerobics, Bible stories and creative prayer helped the children explore the daily theme to discover and begin to experience what it is like to be a member of the team that has Jesus as leader.

Of the 139 children who registered, approximately 50 had no church connection. The other children came from the various churches in the town and beyond. The daily average attendance was 104 and there was a total of 45 helpers to make *On Your Marks* such an enjoyable, meaningful and successful week.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped in any way to make this all possible.

Here are some most encouraging comments made by some of the young leaders and helpers:-

I always really enjoy the holiday club and its whole atmosphere. Due to it being the Olympics and doing activities around that and the drama the children were really involved and enthusiastic. Looking forward to next year!

Jennifer

Holiday Club 2012

I have really enjoyed leading a group this year. The challenge of teaching younger children had been rewarding and enjoyable too.

Megan

This is my first time at holiday club and I have really enjoyed myself. Working with the children is a great experience and really good fun. I'm definitely coming back.

Natalie

This is my second year doing the holiday club and I have thoroughly enjoyed myself. It's great for the children to come along and have fun.

Kaitlin

I've really enjoyed helping at the holiday club this year. The children have been brilliant with a great turn out and as always great activities and well organised. Can't wait for next year!

Laura

Again this year I have had great fun helping at the holiday club. A great turn out from the children and a brilliant time had by all.

Katie

Had a really good time again at the holiday club! There was great turnout from the children and they all seemed to really enjoy themselves yet again.

Cara-Lynn

This has been my 4th year at holiday club and it's been just as great as ever! All the children seemed to really enjoy themselves and have fun and were enthusiastic. Roll on next year!

Caitlin

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first time at holiday club. The whole idea of "On your Marks" and the Olympic theme was really fun to do with the kids and they got involved with the drama and all activities. I look forward to coming back next year and doing it all again!

Lauren

I've really enjoyed working with everyone at On your Marks and the kids really enjoyed it.

Hannah

Another great holiday club - enjoyed by both the children and the leaders. The amount of children present was fantastic. I have had a great week.

Carolyn

My first holiday club as a leader was great fun. It was made fun by the leaders and the turn out of children every day. Can't wait till next year!

Callum

First time helping at the holiday club, brilliant fun for children and leaders. You could see how much fun the children were having and how they all got along. Can't wait till next year!

Fraser

The holiday club was fantastic, just like every year. I had a good laugh and made new friends. The children were all ready and willing to do almost anything which was excellent. Great turn out and hope for the best next year.

Sarah

Holiday club was great as usual! It was great to see such high numbers every day and to see the group become closer as the week went on. It was encouraging to see the team work strengthen between the children.

Fraser

Holiday club reached the high expectations set in previous years - thoroughly enjoyed myself again. Really good turnout again this year. I'm sure next year will be even better.

Graham

Holiday club was great as usual, really overwhelmed with the number of children we have received. The best part was getting all the children involved with the games etc. another excellent year. Well done everyone!

Amy

Great fun as usual, and really impressed with the number and engagement of the older (P7/S1) kids. Well done to everyone involved in the organisation etc. We pulled off another excellent year!

Fraser

Another fantastic year at holiday club. Next year happy to work with any age group but I would rather not be a group leader. It would maybe be better to have one big week-long craft because I felt we were a little pushed for time with a new one every day. Can't wait for next year.

Robert

Had great fun this week. I really enjoyed working with the kids and teaching them about jeus. My favourite part was the aerobics class.

John

We have all had a great week performing "Ready Steady Enders Street". The kids responded brilliantly to the drama as always.

The Drama Team

Yet again another brilliant year. Kids enjoyed it and so did we.

David

That's us put on another 3lbs from eating all the broken biscuits. It's always a pleasure serving such a happy team.

Juice and biscuit girls, Marion and Shona



THE BACK PAGE

By Pastor Roy

I read recently of an American lady minister who left the ministry because she no longer believed in God, declaring herself an Atheist at the Atheists Coming Out Convention. Her speech got on to the Internet, the result was that her church and community shunned her.

In a reported article she said, "I miss the music, some of the hymns, I still catch myself singing them, I mean, they're beautiful pieces of music."

Every denomination throughout the last centuries have had their own hymn book or selection they sing from. I would hesitate to even begin to guess at how many hymns have been written.

Then I was reminded of Steve Martin's comic tune *Atheists Don't Have No Songs*. At the New Orleans Jazz Festival, Martin waved a single sheet of paper and told the audience, "This is the entire atheist hymnal, right here." Among the song's more memorable lines:

*Romantics play 'Claire de Lune.'
Born-again sing, 'He is risen.'
But no one ever wrote a tune
for godless existentialism.*

However he is wrong. John Lennon wrote just such a tune in 1971. Sung again during the closing ceremony of the Olympic Games, Lennon's tune for *Imagine* is indeed inspiring. But Lennon's text posits an existence with

nothing to live or die for.

With no countries, no possessions, no heaven or hell, no religion, Lennon promised, the world would live as one. Not likely. Perhaps Steve Martin was right to ignore the song. It was at that moment, I shut off my viewing of the closing ceremony.

That kind of world I could not 'imagine' - or even desire!