

THE SECOND PETER MIDDLEMISS MEMORIAL LECTURE

## The Revd Dr Pete Phillips

Director of the CODEC Research Centre  
for Digital Theology at Durham University

# ‘Human Flourishing in a Digital Age?’

Thursday 18th October 2017

Berwick Guildhall

(refreshments available from 7.00)

With a background in New Testament teaching and research, Pete Phillips moved to St John's College, Durham in 2008, taking up the challenge to foster and develop, part-time, a cutting edge digital theology research programme at CODEC – exploring Biblical Literacy, Preaching, and Communication in a Digital Age.

Peter Middlemiss was, among other things, a Reader in the Church of England and a churchwarden at Berwick Parish Church. Two of his passions were the development of people's theology and lay discipleship.

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# NORHAM DEANERY NEWSLETTER JULY 2017

From the Area Dean

Dear Friends,

I'm grateful to Ian Corsie for producing this newsletter, which describes some of the good things that are happening in Norham Deanery over the next few months.

In particular, I'd like to encourage you to attend the deanery-wide Bishops in Mission event on 6th September (see enclosed flyer), the Lay Ministry Training Day on 6th October (see enclosed leaflet), and the Peter Middlemiss Memorial Lecture on 18th October (details on back page).

I'm on holiday and sabbatical from the middle of July until the end of October this year, and I look forward to hearing all about what's happened in the deanery while I've been away. I'm very grateful to the Revd Dennis Handley, who has kindly agreed to be the Acting Area Dean during my absence.

I'd like to say a warm welcome to the Revd Diana Macnaughton, who's due to be licensed as the Associate priest for Tweedmouth, Spittal and Scremerston on 16th July, and a fond farewell to the Revd Matthew Knox and family, who are due to move to pastures new within the next few months. I wish both of them well in their future life and ministry.

With best wishes,

*Rob Kelsey*

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## DEANERY DIARY

- Thurs **6 Sep** at 7 for 7.30: Deanery-wide event in Spittal Church opening the 'Bishops in Mission' weekend
- Sat **6 Oct** from 10 till 2: Deanery-wide Lay Worship Training Day Berwick Parish Church Hall
- Sun **14 Oct** at 6: Deanery Confirmation Service Berwick Parish Church
- Thurs **18 Oct** at 7 for 7.30: Peter Middlemiss Memorial Lecture in Berwick Guildhall
- Mon **29 Oct** at 7 for 7.30: Deanery Finance Meeting in Spittal Parish Church
- Thurs **22 Nov** at 7 for 7.30: Deanery Synod meeting in Tweedmouth Church Hall

## **BISHOPS IN MISSION WEEKEND 6 TO 9 SEPTEMBER**

Over the first weekend in September, the Diocese of Newcastle will be the focus for 'Bishops in Mission'. This is an initiative of our Archbishop John Sentamu, who has commissioned his northern bishops to 'Go out and spread the word'. The weekend of activities begins with a Commissioning Service on Holy Island the afternoon of Thursday 6 Sep for all the bishops involved in our diocese.

The Bishop assigned to Norham Deanery is Bishop Alison White, Bishop of Hull. She is very familiar to many as the wife of our former Assistant Bishop Frank White; for her work at Shepherds Dene, the Diocesan retreat house; and as Diocesan adviser for spirituality and spiritual direction. Bishop Alison will be joined for some of the weekend events by Bishop Methla, Bishop of Botswana (Newcastle's 'link' diocese); and also by the Vicar of Beverley Minster, Jonathan Baker.

Most of the weekend activities will be in the individual parishes of the Deanery, but there will be one event open to anybody from the Deanery: a discussion with Bishop Alison on 'How then should we live?' exploring the meaning of mission. This will be at 7.30 in Spittal Church, with refreshments available from 7.00. A flyer advertising this event is enclosed with this newsletter. Please consider coming along to make this a lively and challenging discussion — and encourage others to join us, whether regular worshippers at our churches or not.

## **PETER MIDDLEMISS MEMORIAL LECTURE**

The second of these public lectures in memory of Peter Middlemiss was due to be held last October: Dr Pete Phillips was to talk on 'Human Flourishing in a Digital Age'. Unfortunately he was taken ill just before the lecture and it had to be cancelled. This lecture has now been rearranged for Thursday 18 Oct in Berwick Guildhall. See the back of this newsletter for more details.

## **LAY MINISTRY TRAINING**

The second year of the Deanery's programme of training for those wishing to be more involved in lay ministry is well under way. The training itself, and the fruits emerging from it, are both the source of great encouragement. The Diocese has been very supportive in resourcing the training and it has been a great help to have John Vilaseca to co-ordinate the sessions. There are 6 in this year's group (2 from Tweedmouth, 1 each from Lowick, Norham, Ford and Branxton).

One of the very successful features of last year's training was the Open Day for anybody wishing to learn more about reading the lessons, leading intercessions and leading worship. This is being repeated again this year on Sat 6 Oct 10 am to 2 pm in Berwick Parish Church Hall. Please consider coming along to this and encourage others to join you. See the enclosed leaflet for registration details.

## **DEANERY WEBSITE**

The Deanery has been fortunate over the past years that Alan Cater has looked after the Deanery website <https://www.norhamdeanery.org.uk/>. He is standing down from this task and we are looking for somebody with the right skills to take over the management of it. It is not an onerous task and there is a small amount of funding in the Deanery account to pay any essential expenses involved. If you know of anybody willing and able to take this on, please contact Ian Corsie on 01289 387257 or [ian@corsie.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:ian@corsie.eclipse.co.uk).