

Buxton United Reformed Church
Hardwick Square East



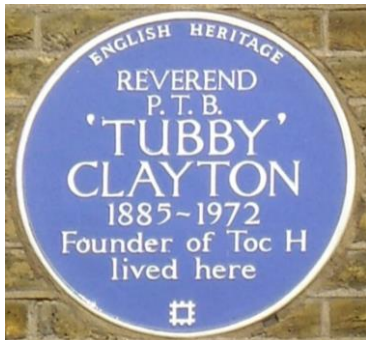
Headwaters Covenant Church

March 2026

I wonder if you have ever been to the Tower of London and explored the surrounding outdoor area such as All Hallows-by-the-Tower Church – often referred to as Toc H Church. It was called that because the **Rev. Philip Thomas Byard Clayton, commonly known as Tubby Clayton**, was the Vicar of All Hallows-by-the-Tower from 1922 to 1962 and the founder of the Christian movement Toc H.



(I think I need to write about Toc H in a future magazine.)



The reason why I am asking whether you have explored the area and church is because I learnt something about what Tubby Clayton did the other day that I thought was worth sharing with you and may make you smile. Together with B R Leftwich they published

Pageant of Tower Hill which outlined a scheme to improve Tower Hill. That led to the establishment later the same year of the Tower Hill Improvement Trust. The Trust still exists today but since 2006 it has been called the Tower Hill Trust.

It was one of the Trust's earliest actions that I wanted to tell you about. They created an artificial beach at Tower Hill at a time when trips to the seaside were a luxury for East End families. More than 1,500 barge-loads of sand were brought in to create a beach between the Tower

Wharf and the River Thames. Can you imagine it? The beach was opened to the public on 23 July 1934; George V decreeing that the beach was to be used by the children of London who should have "free access forever." There were even rowing boats for hire. The beach was always closed at high tide and was closed for the duration of the Second World War. It was re-opened in 1946 but, due to river pollution, it closed in 1971. If you have ever been to the Tower Millennium Pier, part of it is located on the site of the former beach.

My next minister I want to talk to you about is the **Rev Jessie Jackson** who died on 17th February this year. He came to the fore-front of the Civil Rights Movement the day after Dr Martin Luther King was assassinated in 1968. He did many things in his life time including supporting Barack Obama to stand as President and was reduced to tears at his eventual victory in 2008.

One of the special things Jessie Jackson was known for was his mantras and rhymes quoted during his rallies. His favorite being: -

"Respect me, protect me, never neglect me.

I am somebody."

And here are a few of his many others for you to consider: -

"Leadership has a harder job to do than just choosing sides. It must bring sides together."

Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up.

"When everyone is included, everyone wins."

You may not be responsible for being down, but you must be responsible for getting up.

If you don't know what tomorrow holds, you need to know who holds tomorrow!

If you try you may fail, if you don't try, you're guaranteed to fail.

Both tears and sweat are salty, but they render a different result. Tears will get you sympathy; sweat will get you change.

A man must be willing to die for justice. Death is an inescapable reality and men die daily, but good deeds live forever.

And lastly



“The white, the Hispanic, the black, the Arab, the Jew, the woman, the Native American, the small farmer, the businessperson, the environmentalist, the peace activist, the young, the old, the lesbian, the gay and the disabled make up the American quilt.”



My last news item is from Australia and is about a wonderful young man, Austin Appelbee, who on 3rd February 2026 swam for hours to get help for his family after they were swept out to sea.

Austin Appelbee didn't know if his mother Joanne, brother Beau and sister Grace were still alive when he finally reached the shore four hours after he left them in the water clinging to two paddleboards. He started to make the journey back to land in his kayak not realising it was badly damaged so he had to ditch it along with his life jacket which was impeding his swimming.

Throughout the next four hours, it was prayer, Christian songs and "happy thoughts" which kept the "really scared" 13-year-old going.

"I was thinking about mum, Beau and Grace. I was also thinking about my friends and my girlfriend - I have a really good bunch of friends," he said.

Getting back to the shore was one thing but he still needed to walk another 2 km to get to his mother's phone to ask for help.

The call sparked a huge search.

Austin - who had passed out after making the call - was taken to hospital where he called his father, bawling his eyes out. He still didn't know if his mum and brother and sister were alive.

*"It was prayer,
Christian
songs and
happy
thoughts"
which Austin
said kept him
going.*

Then, minutes later, he got a call to say they had been found. Everyone - doctors and police officers - were jumping up and down with joy.



Naturaliste Volunteer Marine Rescue Group's commander Paul Bresland described the efforts of the teenager as "superhuman".

Meanwhile, Insp James Bradley said Austin's actions "cannot be praised highly enough - his determination and courage ultimately saved the lives of his mother and siblings."

Now I call that a wonderful young man!

Information taken from BBC.



Alison Darby's
Thanksgiving Service

Lastly, we had a wonderful, joyful service to celebrate Alison Darby's life on Saturday 14th February.

About 55 folk came from all different sections of the community and some travelled long distances to share with our church family the celebration. The Rev. Steve Fisher returned to lead the service with folk taking an active part and six splendid hymns and "yes" the singing was just great once people got familiar with the YouTube music pace!

A big thanks needs to be given to all those who



arranged the celebration, those taking an active part in the service and those who arranged the lovely flowers for the communion table, made splendid cakes, gave out tea and cleared everything away. It was very good team work.

I have received e-mails from folk saying how much they appreciated it.

So,

Thank you church family!

Eileen Blane

The following is an extract from an e-mail from Alison’s sister, Anne Mumby, that I thought you would like to read.

“Thank you all for the hard work in arranging the celebration of life service. I was very moved by the reflections you sent me. I learned lots more about Alison and her life in Buxton and her strong faith.

I was pleased for Alison that there was such a strong turnout and that she was appreciated by so many.

I would like to thank everyone who helped at the service.

Yours Anne”

Eileen Blane

Buxton URC Sunday services

1 st March	10:30am	Mark Houghton – Communion
8 th March	10:30am	Mark Houghton
15 th March	10:30am	BBC Songs of Praise
22 nd March	10:30am	To be arranged
29 th March	10:30am	The journey to the cross – Eileen Blane
5 th April	10:30am	Easter Sunday – Eileen Blane



Please pray:-

For the Saturday Coffee Mornings on 7th March and 4th April

For our Elder's and Leaders and others as they plan, prepare and lead our worship each Sunday.

For the visit by Geoffrey Clarke, the URC East Midland Synod Moderator on March 31st, that God will bless our time together and that it will be an enjoyable and valuable evening.

That during this time of Lent, both individually and together as a church, our trust in Christ will be refreshed and that we may draw closer to him, for He is our strength and our Saviour.

It is now over 4 years since Russia invaded Ukraine on 24th February 2022. Let us continue to pray for a cease fire that will lead the way to a peace agreement.

Debbie Delight writes:

Mum is in Buxton!

Thanks for all the prayers for my mum Ada Harrison . Since August last year mum has had 2 long hospital stays and been 3 months in a care home in Blackpool. So, bye-bye to the lovely carers at Blackpool.



Now she is at the Pavillion Care Centre on St John's Road. Mum is quite tired and understandably not settled in her new care home as everything is new, her room is smaller than the one in Blackpool and it does not have a toilet which is important to her. When an en-suite room becomes available, she will be given first choice.

Please pray she finds some other residents that she can have a good chat and laugh with as friendships are very important to her.

Dates to Remember

Rev Geoffrey Clarke, the URC East Midland Synod Moderator will be visiting Buxton URC at 7pm on Tuesday 31st March.

The format for the evening is likely to be an informal Bible study session coupled with communion and a time to chat informally with Geoffrey so we can get to know him and vice versa.

This date has now been confirmed
so please leave the date open for his visit

Elders and Leaders Meeting:- To be arranged

Contributions for the magazine

Thank you everyone who has contributed to this magazine.

We really do appreciate your contributions so please keep them coming.

Contributions please for the next magazine to

Eileen and Peter Blane by 23rd March 2026.

To ensure your magazine is as informative as possible please keep us up-to-date with news and events.



We are producing only a limited number of printed magazines.

An electronic version is available to read on the church's website: www.buxtonurc.org.uk



Waste Not Want Not
At Buxton United Reformed Church.

Please join with us for
free coffee, cake and company

On Saturdays 7th March and 4th April
Between 10am and 12midday in the church

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BUXTON ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT



Lent Lunches



will take place on; 4th March, 11th March &
18th March at Bath Road Parish Centre ;
Serving time 12pm to 1.30pm.

There is no charge for soup, bread, tea and
coffee also cakes, - donations are invited
and will be given to a chosen charity.

We have a good team coming up, but if
you would be able to help with a
contribution of soup, help on any of the
days, muscle power for lifting tables, we
would be very pleased to hear from you!

Either

Email; aileen.warneford@btinternet.com

or tel. 07803 549462



Buxton United Reformed Church

Website: www.buxtonurc.org.uk

Minister for the North and West Derbyshire Resource Area
(which includes Buxton URC): **Rev. Caroline Andrews**

[We warmly welcome everyone who wishes to join us for
Sunday worship](#)

Details of services, including times, can be found inside this magazine
and on our website.

*We offer a sincere, loving welcome to all in Christian
Worship.*

Activities for young people

- **Rainbows:** for girls aged 5-7 Tues. 5 - 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale (Tel. 07967205209)
- **Brownies:** for girls aged 7-10 Tues. 6 - 7:30pm
Leader: Cath Sterndale (Tel. 07973670595)
- **Guides:** for girls aged 10 to 14 Tues. 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale (Tel. 07967205209)