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Bridge News: April 2013

- **Bridge Prayer Breakfast:** Saturday 6th April – **8am** at the United Reformed Church – let's hope the snow has finally departed by then!
- **FoodStop:** as the Redcar Trussell Trust foodbank has got going properly we have seen a reduction in the number of referrals from Redcar, which is good news. This leaves us free to focus on our more local area. Although March was a slightly quieter month for FoodStop, changes in the welfare provision and the “bedroom tax” mean that we do anticipate difficult times ahead for the poorer people in our community and FoodStop remains a much needed and valued service. We've also been able to provide support in terms of “furniture recycling” so do let us know if you have an item of furniture to give away (I dream about fridge freezers these days, we've recycled so many!)
- **Kemplah:** our Easter lunch will be on Wednesday 3rd April; thank you to everyone who has so generously donated towards our guests' Easter treats. We've had another sad bereavement this month, taking us to 5 since Christmas, but March saw 7 new guests join us, so it's a lovely atmosphere at the moment. One little request: if anyone has any *small* dinner plates taking up room in their cupboards, we could perhaps take them off your hands – many of our guests don't have big appetites and we don't like putting small meals on large dinner plates!
- **New Work with children and schools:** in the run up to Easter we have been trialling 2 new projects with children and young people - the first runs in Sleights Court as an 'after school' club during term-time, Tuesdays from 3.30 to 4.45pm with games, craft and fun; and the second is work within primary schools supporting the RE/Citizenship programme and we are exploring similar work within Laurence Jackson.
- **Costa coffee:** the next Costa night will be on Tuesday 16th April from 6.45/7pm: Our usual mix of chat, music and with a short talk – in March we had some new musical talents involved and it was lovely to see so many young Christians sharing in leading the worship and discussions. Special thanks to Lindsey for stepping in at short notice when the planned speaker fell ill.
- **Guiz Kidz and TGI Sunday:** Sunday 21st April from 10am – 11.45am at the Methodist church.
- **Beer Festival tombola: Friday 5th April** at St.Nicholas Parish Hall 11am till 11pm with a break from 4-6pm. We've had some lovely prizes donated so far but still need about another 50 small ones – chocolates, toiletries, candles, perhaps some “male-orientated” gifts would be handy! One or two more larger prizes such as bottles of wine, boxes of chocolates would also be gratefully received.
- **US team visit:** in late May/June we are delighted that the Get Well Rd team will be returning for a second visit. They will be here from the 31st May to June 8th and we still need a couple more host homes for this time – most meals are provided by the Bridge so it shouldn't be too much of a burden for anyone.

God bless, *Shona, Jenny, Hannah and Lindsey*

