



**Big Day Out at Warwick Castle – May 2017
St Andrews Roundhay URC**

We had an early start for our families and church members for our coach trip to Feast and Festivals Warwick Castle. The weather during our 2 hour 50 minute journey was very mixed but fortunately it was dry when we arrived. Taking our picnics, we all set off to explore the large field where all the activities, crafts and workshops were on offer and a large stage with guest speakers and entertainment. The weather was a little wet during the day and unfortunately not very good for the service, although the atmosphere was wonderful seeing everyone join together in an open-air act of worship.

The castle was wonderful and great to explore, not only for the younger members of our group.

Everyone was very tired on the journey home but said what a wonderful time they had. The highlight for many was the open-air service.

It was not until a few months later that we realised the jester on the stage was to become our new Minister. This made his appointment to us even more exciting.

If there was a negative side to the day it would be that we spent nearly 6 hrs traveling, but we understand when it is a national event that is always going to be the case for some churches.

We look forward to seeing what is being planned for next year.

This was the second national event we have attended, and would certainly be interested in supporting other events. We have also been involved in the Yorkshire Synod days out and are looking forward to the Big Churches Together @ The Yorkshire Sculpture park on Saturday 9 June.