

**THE PARISH OF BELTINGHAM
WITH HENSHAW
Parish Newsletter May 2019**



The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was held on Sunday 14th April following the Palm Sunday morning service. It is an important meeting for the whole church, providing the opportunity for parishioners and those who worship regularly to ask questions about all aspects of church life, to elect the Churchwardens and also those whom they wish to be on the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Reports at the meeting include a report from our Vicar, Rev'd Dr Benjamin Carter, Financial Statements and Accounts, reports from the Churchwardens about the fabric and contents of the buildings, Mothers Union, membership of the Electoral Roll, now increased from 65 to 93, and a report about the work of Hexham Deanery.

The Vicar's report centred on the progress made in our priority areas of Prayer, Invitation and Communication. There have many opportunities throughout the year for growth in prayer with lay led prayer walks and days of quiet prayer and reflection led by our curate Rev'd Gill Alexander. God's Tent has gone from strength to strength. Messy Church and Storybook Church provide further opportunities for children and families.

The church finances are in a steady state, thanks to regular givers, collections at services, fund raising events, and the recovery of Gift Aid. This has enabled us to make donations to a number of local worthy causes. Costs of running the churches inevitably rise, and we too can face unexpected bills, such as the repair of the lightning conductors at both churches, at a cost of over £1000. The **daily** cost of running the churches is £119.

Dorothy McKenna has taken over as Treasurer from Mary Jo Fleming who was thanked for long and faithful service. Andrew Price and Hilda Rowlands were elected to the PCC. Pauline Storey was elected as Deanery Synod representative and joins Nigel Collingwood in this important role. Anne Galbraith and Adrian Storrie were re-elected as Churchwardens.

The activities of the Church are quite diverse, if there is any aspect of Church life you would like more information about please do not hesitate to make

contact with the Vicar or one of the Churchwardens, or check on our website, www.parishesbythewall.org.uk.

	SERVICES	
MAY	BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW	HAYDON BRIDGE
5 May 3 of Easter	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am - Parish Eucharist
12 May 4 of Easter	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church
19 May 5 of Easter	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist
	3 pm God’s Tent - TBA	
Saturday 25 May	11 am Messy Church - Henshaw	
26 May 6 of Easter	8.30 am Henshaw – BCP Communion	
	10 am – Haydon Bridge – Celebration Service	
	5 pm – Haydon Old Church – Evening Worship	
Thursday 30 May Ascension Day	6 pm – Beltingham - Eucharist	
2 June 7 Easter	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am Parish Eucharist

Deanery Pilgrimage

The Deanery is planning another two-day pilgrimage which will complete the first circumnavigation of the deanery churches. The route is being finalised but we are planning Greenhead to Warden over the two days, Friday 14 and Saturday 15 June. The walk will call at each church where there will be linked exhibitions of a Christian Aid project. If you would like to know more please contact David on 01434 608882 or by email r.david.ratcliff@gmail.com

The Vicar's Letter

There is always something of an anti-climax after Easter. After the long slow build up of Lent, and then a ratcheting up of the drama of Holy Week, the days after Easter can seem like nothing is happening. Part of that is circumstance. After the busiest week of the year for the Church (and don't believe it's Christmas, Holy Week is much more tiring) all those involved with the day to day life of the Church take a well-earned rest. The second is that, after the tight narrative of Holy Week and Good Friday, the story we follow becomes looser. We do not hear a day by day account of Jesus after Easter; rather we hear a series of vignettes. Some of these are located at a specific time – the Emmaus Road on the afternoon of the first Easter, the appearance to Thomas a week later – but some remain snap shots of the life-changing experience of the first apostles witnessing to the reality of the resurrection. There are several explanations for this change. In John's Gospel we are told that Jesus "did many other signs in the presence of his disciples" but that only a few are chosen "so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God" (John 20: 30-31). Later in John's Gospel we are given another reason: "there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written" (John 21:25). This last reason for this change in style points us to the deeper truth we find in Easter season. In Holy Week we follow an historic narrative which helps us know who Jesus Christ truly was. In the Easter story we see how Jesus Christ changes the reality of the world we live in now. By overcoming death, by showing that the worst thing is never the last thing, God in Jesus shows us all a new way to live. This is not a story we look back to, but a reality that God invites us into. So over the coming week, we will reflect on this reality in our worship, culminating in our service on Ascension Day on Thursday 30 May. But more than this, this time of year, through all the tiredness, we remember that we are Easter people, and that through Jesus, God invites each one of us to be one of those stories which are too numerous to be written in all the books in the world.

Happy Easter!

Benjamin

CHURCH NEWS

Mothers' Union

On **22 May** at **Henshaw 'Muloa'** with Mrs Sheila Walker.

Regular Giving

As we approach a new financial year, you may wish to review your annual giving to the church, and to revise it in accordance with the general cost of living. This would be much appreciated.

New Residents in the Parish

If you are aware of new residents moving into the Parish, please let one of the Wardens know, as the Vicar would be pleased to send a welcome letter and leaflet about the parish.

Northumberland Day Celebrations

On **26 May from 2-5 pm** in St Cuthbert's Church grounds (check Haydon Bridge Matters for further details).

Ascension Day Supper – Thursday 30 May

Following the Ascension Day service at 6 pm in St Cuthbert's, Beltingham, when we will be welcoming Bishop Mark Bryant as our preacher, there will be a fundraising supper (£15 per person) in aid of the Church at the Old Vicarage. Please speak to Anne Galbraith (344702) to reserve a place.

Bowes Lyon Trust

The Trust, created by the Will of the Hon Francis Bowes Lyon in 1948 is administered by Trustees, currently the Vicar and the Churchwardens. The Trust can make small grants to people in the Parish of Beltingham with Henshaw on the grounds of hardship. If you know of anyone who could benefit from such a grant please speak to Nigel Collingwood, Secretary to the Trust on 344119. All applications are treated in confidence.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

PCC Meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 6 June** at 7.30 pm

Parish Coffee Morning at Haltwhistle Methodist Hall

On **Saturday 20 July** from 9.30 am – raffle and tombola prizes gratefully received. Stalls will include bric a brac, books and produce. Ring Libby 344582 if you require storage.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Vicar: The Rev'd Dr Benjamin Carter, The Vicarage, Station Yard, Haydon Bridge NE47 6LL Telephone 688196 Email revbenjaminarter@gmail.com

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ROTA

May	Church	Warden	Sidesmen	Flowers
5 May	Henshaw	C Adams	S Walker/ D McKenna	P Storey/ N Harding/ J Walters
12 May	Beltingham	W Green	L Scott/ D Palmer	A Galbraith/ G Jackson/ P Wilson
19 May	Beltingham	A Galbraith	P Collingwood/ D Storrie	“
26 May	Henshaw	A Storrie		A Brunton D Hartley P Coll/wood
30 May	Beltingham	A Galbraith	Y Hewitt D Palmer	A Galbraith
2 June	Henshaw	C Adams	J Galbraith L Scott	A Brunton D Hartley P Coll/wood

VILLAGE NEWS

Monthly Lunch at the Bowes Hotel from 12 for 12.30 pm

The monthly lunch is on the first Friday of each month and no booking is required. Come along and enjoy the company.

£3 – all welcome.

Cafe Scientifique - Tuesday 7 May - 7-9 pm BM Village Hall

Adventures in Tea Chemistry by Dr Iain Cloughley – how modern scientific methods have contributed to the economy of Central Africa and Malawi. **Tickets are £5 including tea/coffee and cake.** Tickets can be purchased by copying and pasting this link www.ticketsource.co.uk. Search for Bardon Mill Events. As previously, a few tickets will be available at the village shop for those who don't have internet access.

Women's Institute at 7 pm in the Village Hall

On Wednesday 8 May – Annual Meeting and Resolutions. WIA – to be arranged. Hostesses: The Committee.

Highlights presents – on Sunday 12 May at 7.30 pm

Finding the Will Theatre Co - 'Naming the View' – it is a modern day reimagining of Catherine (of Taming of the Shrew) after 30 years of marriage. Tickets £7.50 from 344424 or www.ticketsource.co.uk

Haltwhistle Gardening Club at 7.30 pm the Comrades Club

On Monday 13 May – Plant Swop - bring plants/seeds to exchange.

All welcome – visitors £3.

South Tyne Sustainability

Plastics – we have identified two initial projects to work on:

- Firstly, in conjunction with groups to the east and west of us, we would like to encourage businesses along and around Hadrian's Wall to join the national water bottle refill campaign and discourage the use and sale of single use water bottles.
- Secondly, we plan to audit the packaging used in Haltwhistle's shops. Do our take-aways use cardboard or polystyrene boxes? Do loose vegetable suppliers offer customers paper or plastic bags? Where plastic is used are alternatives available and are the businesses receptive to requests to switch?

The next meeting to take these two ideas forward is on **Wednesday 15 May at 7.30 pm in the Old Booking Hall at Haltwhistle Station**. Do come along if you are concerned about plastics in our environment and would like to get involved in either aspect of this project.

Energy – a second meeting to discuss potential energy projects will take place on **Tuesday 21 May at 7.30 pm in the Old Booking Hall at Haltwhistle Station** – all welcome.

Get in Touch

If you have any questions or comments and to receive our monthly e-newsletter please contact sue@mossperal.com or ring 016977 47359.

Haltwhistle Annual Plant Festival on Saturday 18 May at the Leisure Centre from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm (Entry £1)

There will be a huge selection of interesting plants from 18 different nurseries. Bring your spare seeds along to swop. Second-hand books, crafts and good food. Visit the seed swop stall and stop for a chat about current projects and the programme for this year's verge walks with Lesley Silvera.

Bardon Mill History Group

Walk and Talk at Nenthead Mines on Wednesday 29 May. Contact Steve Gibbon on 344383 or Stephen.gibbon@btopenworld.com for further information.

Food & Film Night at the General Havelock

On **Tuesday 28 May** 'Without a Trace' (1983) USA – child abduction thriller with Kate Nelligan and Judd Hirsch (£10 for food and film). Doors open 7 pm. Call Joanna on 684376 for further information.

Charles Wesley

Many of our favourite hymns in church were written by Charles Wesley. He was the younger brother of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church, and in his lifetime, he composed more than 6000 hymns. So, we should think of him when next we sing Love Divine all loves excelling, or Rejoice the Lord is King, or Hark the Herald Angels sing.

Thanks to all our local sponsors

We are very grateful to the following firms and organisations who have agreed to be sponsors of our revised Church newsletter. This will allow us to distribute a larger newsletter more widely.

Michael Smith, Bardon Mill Village Stores, 07756 790108

Colin Caygill Events, Antique Fairs,

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(Calls in Bardon Mill on Tuesday mornings)

John Lester, Roofer and Builder, 344504

HB Pharmacy, Church Street, Haydon Bridge, 684354

Errington Reay Pottery, Bardon Mill, 344245

General Havelock Inn, Haydon Bridge 684376

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Kevin Jewitt, Electrician, Hexham, 606399

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If you would like to become one of our sponsors, or make a donation to support the publication of this newsletter, please contact Anne Galbraith on 344702 or galbraithanne55@gmail.com

The Parishes by the Wall website – covering Haydon Bridge and Beltingham with Henshaw <https://parishesbythewall.org.uk>