

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



**Get to know the Vicar**

This month, we are celebrating the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Benjamin becoming our Vicar. To mark this period of service, here are some things you may not know about him! He is the youngest of four brothers, children of Richard, a university professor and Awena, a primary school teacher. Benjamin did well at school academically, but professes to have been hopeless at sport – although he did manage to be the first team scorer for the cricket team for four seasons! He was a cub, but never a boy scout, as by the age of 9, he was a chorister at Lancaster Priory, and has never stopped singing since.

Benjamin graduated from Exeter University with a degree in politics and theology, and undertook post-graduate studies in the History of Ideas in Cambridge and London, leading to the award of his PhD. He became a lecturer at Bristol University, and sang regularly in the choir at Bristol Cathedral, which is where he met Steph in 2005. He proposed to her on a hill top in the Yorkshire Dales, and they were married in Bristol Cathedral in 2009. Their two daughters, Elizabeth and Matilda, are regular attenders at our church services, and are at school in Henshaw.

Benjamin had felt the call to become ordained “off and on” through his whole life, but the point at which he took it forward with enthusiasm was in about 2006, undertaking his theological college training at University of Durham. He became a curate in Monkseaton, enjoying its closeness to the sea, but agrees that he much prefers the hills and wide open spaces of the Tyne Valley.

With many calls on his time, and with two parishes to look after, you might wonder if he has times for hobbies or relaxation – well, find out more next month!! And in the meantime, thank you Benjamin for your ministry in our parish.

	<b>SERVICES</b>	
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW</b>	<b>HAYDON BRIDGE</b>
<b>6 October Trinity 16</b>	<b>9.30 am – Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church</b>	<b>11 am – Parish Eucharist</b>
<b>13 October Trinity 17</b>	<b>9.30 am – Beltingham – Parish Eucharist</b>	<b>11 am – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church</b>
<b>20 October Trinity 18</b>	<b>9.30 am – Beltingham – Parish Eucharist</b>	<b>11 am – Parish Eucharist</b>
	<b>3 pm – God’s Tent – venue tbc</b>	
<b>27 October Bible Sunday</b>	<b>8.30 am – Henshaw – BPC Communion</b>	<b>10 am Celebration Service</b>
	<b>3 pm – Haydon Old Church – Evening Prayer</b>	
<b>3 November All Saints</b>	<b>9.30 am – Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church</b>	<b>11 am – Parish Eucharist</b>
<b>3 November All Souls</b>	<b>3.30 pm – Henshaw – All Souls Day Service</b>	<b>5 pm – All Souls Day Service</b>

**PLEASE NOTE**

**BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS ON SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER**

**From the Parish Registers**

**Funeral**

On 10 September, at All Hallows’ Henshaw, followed by burial at Beltingham, Winifred Ballantine.

**All Souls services** – there will be two All Souls services, one at All Hallows’, Henshaw at 3.30 pm on Sunday, 3 November, and the other at 5 pm at St Cuthbert’s, Haydon Bridge. If you wish to have a loved one remembered at either service, please let the Vicar or the Churchwardens know.

## **Vicar's Letter**

As you will have already read in this magazine I have now been Vicar here for five years which seems a remarkable thing as it only seems like yesterday that we were unpacking endless boxes and making the vicarage the happy home that it is for us today. As I look back over these five years there is a great deal to be thankful for – the growing confidence in our parishes, those who have come to faith through them, our widening role in community and school life, God's Tent, and much more – but I have also been reflecting a little on the sheer fact of being here for five years.

This is now the longest I have lived anywhere in my adult life, and the longest I have lived anywhere except for my childhood home of eighteen years. In the changeability of modern life, being able to say that somewhere is home for a good length of time is a great blessing, and in the life of the clergy and their families it is often even more so. So as we give thanks for this time of being in one place, it is also worth reflecting on the deep value of this.

In the life of the Church, and in our Parishes by the Wall, we very often start with the restlessness of faith, the journey, the pilgrimage of life we are all on, and this is a very valuable and powerful image and metaphor to use. But there is also another image or metaphor that we need to hold onto – that of stability. St Benedict, the father of western monasticism, focuses again and again in his *Rule* on the value of stability - that spiritual sustenance can come from the journey, but it can also come from the stability of knowing where our home is.

For me, this is a powerful insight for what the Church must be for those we are called to serve. We need to move where people are going, but we also need to be a point of stillness and stability in a changing world. That in the changing seasons of the life, something of the church remains unchanging. That is not that things in church never change (although sometimes it feels like that). Rather that the church can and should live out that call to be a place of stability in the world and in our lives. That place, to misquote St Augustine, where our restless hearts can find rest in the unchanging love of God.

**Benjamin**

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **Messy Church**

The arrangements for Messy Church have changed. It is now held after school at 3.30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month, so the next session is on Tuesday 8 October. Activities take place in and around school and then the children and parents make their way to All Hallows' Church for a short act of worship, followed by tea in the church room at about 4.30 pm. If you are able to join one of the teams to provide and serve the tea, please ring Sheila Walker on 322369 for further details.

### **Shaftoe Singers**

**The Shaftoe Singers** are performing at St John of Beverley RC Church in Haydon Bridge **at 7.30 pm on Friday 4 October**. Tickets are £5 and available on the door.

### **Mothers' Union**

**At 7 pm on Friday 11 October**, Diocesan Council at Kingston Park.  
**On Wednesday 23 October** at Henshaw – Holy Communion and Members Meeting (Rev Dr John Harrison).

### **People's Kitchen**

Thank you to everyone who donated splendid quantities of produce and toiletries for our harvest celebration. We have taken all the non-perishable items to the People's Kitchen in Newcastle and to the West Northumberland Food Bank. Don't forget that we regularly take donations to the Food Bank. We collect either in church in Henshaw or in the Village Shop.

### **Hardship Grants – 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). It can make small grants to the people of the Parish of Beltingham with Henshaw, on 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.

### **New Residents in the Parish**

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

### **CHURCH CONTACTS**

**Vicar:** The Rev'd Dr Benjamin Carter, The Vicarage, Station Yard, Haydon Bridge NE47 6LL Telephone 688196 Email [revbenjamincarter@gmail.com](mailto:revbenjamincarter@gmail.com)

**Curate:** The Rev'd Gill Alexander Email [g.alexander@btinternet.com](mailto:g.alexander@btinternet.com)

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### **ROTA**

<b>October</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Warden</b>	<b>Sidesmen</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
<b>6 October</b>	<b>Henshaw</b>	<b>A Storrie</b>	<b>H Rowlands J Galbraith</b>	<b>P Storey/ N Harding/ J Walters</b>
<b>13 October</b>	<b>Beltingham</b>	<b>W Green</b>	<b>D Storrie L Scott</b>	<b>C Thompson /D Furlong</b>
<b>20 October</b>	<b>Beltingham</b>	<b>A Galbraith</b>	<b>D Palmer/ S Walker</b>	<b>“</b>
<b>27 October</b>	<b>Henshaw</b>	<b>C Adams</b>		
<b>3 November</b>	<b>Henshaw</b>	<b>A Storrie</b>	<b>P C'wood/ A Mills</b>	<b>L Scott/ M Wilkinson</b>

## **Church Rotas**

Would you be interested in becoming a sidesman in church, welcoming people to our services? Or perhaps you would be prepared to do flowers and cleaning in the church? Or make and serve coffee? Or deliver newsletters? Or perhaps you would like to read a lesson or prepare and deliver intercessions? We are always pleased to welcome new recruits to any of these roles, so if you would like to know more or want to put your name forward, please contact one of the churchwardens, Anne Galbraith or Adrian Storrie. We are particularly looking for someone to help prepare the weekly pew sheets that are used in church.

## **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.

### **Cafe Scientifique - Tuesday 5 November - 7-9 pm BM Village Hall**

**Archaeology – Science or Humanity with Mike McGuire.** Mike's career and interests have spanned many aspects of science, technology, engineering and archaeology. He will share his thoughts and experiences of what distinguishes the "STEM" subjects from each other and from the Humanities. With examples and some anecdotes he will say where he thinks archaeology fits into this pattern and what this implies for the types of evidence valid in archaeology. **Tickets are £5 including tea/coffee and cake.** Tickets can be purchased by copying and pasting this link [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk). Search for Bardon Mill Events. A few tickets will be available at the village shop for those who don't have internet access.

### **Bardon Mill History Group – Monday 7 October at 2pm**

**Talk by Robert Forsythe 'Tynedale Heritage' at the Village Hall.**

Contact Steve Gibbon on 344383 or [Stephen.gibbon@btopenworld.com](mailto:Stephen.gibbon@btopenworld.com) for further information.

### **South Tyne Wildlife Group**

**On Tuesday 8 October – Steve Gater (Chairman of the Durham Wildlife Trust) "The Wonders of Upper Teasdale"** is the author of a book on the flora of this area. To be held at the Comrades Club, Central Place, Haltwhistle at 7.30 pm. Entry £3 per meeting.

### **Women's Institute at 7 pm in the Village Hall**

**On Wednesday 9 October, Dr Ray Lowery (ex comedy writer);** hostesses: Pauline Patrick, Sue McEwan; competition: A humorous photograph; stall 'bring and buy'.

### **Haltwhistle Garden Club**

**On Monday 14 October** at 7.30 pm at the Comrades Club **a talk by Karen Phillips**, Lecturer and Writer, Linnels Farm, Hexham, on 'Winter Vegetables'. There will be bulbs for sale.

### **Film & Food Night at the General Havelock (£10 for film & food)**

**On Tuesday 22 October – film to be confirmed. Doors open 7 pm. Call Joanna on 684376 for further information.**

### **DATE FOR THE DIARY**

### **Sunday 3 November at 7.30 pm at Bardon Mill Village Hall**

Highlights Rural Touring presents Northern Stage in 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'. Based on the Sherlock Holmes story about a terrifying beast stalking the moors around the remote Baskerville Mansion. Tickets from Geeta on 344424.

### **Apple Day**

Did you know that October 21<sup>st</sup> is Apple Day, celebrating the rich variety of apples – there are more than 7500 known apple cultivars. The apple originates in central Asia, where it still grows wild. In Ancient Greece, the apple was considered sacred to Aphrodite. To throw an apple at someone was to symbolically declare one's love. More prosaically, you may know the adage, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away", addressing the supposed health benefits of the fruit. This has been traced back to 19<sup>th</sup> century Wales, where the original phrase was "Eat an apple on going to bed, and you'll keep the doctor from earning his bread".

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