

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



“A Frog he would a Wooing Go”

Did you learn the folk song of the title when you were at school? Or possibly you may have learnt The Wraggle Taggle Gypsies. These songs were collected by someone we think of in a different connection, as the author of the words of well known hymns, including Onward Christian Soldiers and Now the Day is Over – Reverend Sabine Baring Gould. He was a most extraordinary man, who spent most of his childhood travelling round Europe and becoming fluent in five languages. He wanted to become a Vicar, but his father persuaded him to become a teacher instead. However, after seven years teaching, where he was noted for his various eccentricities, he took Holy Orders in 1864 and became a curate in West Yorkshire. There he met a mill worker’s daughter, Grace, with whom he fell in love. Grace was regarded as a poor match for him, but his Vicar sent her to York to learn middle class manners before they could become engaged. Their marriage lasted 48 years and the couple had 15 children. On one occasion, at a parish fair in his vicarage garden, he came across a small child and asked her “whose little girl are you?” only to be told by the sobbing child, “Daddy, I am one of yours”.

Baring Gould inherited the family estates in Devon after the death of his father, and became Vicar there from 1881 until his death in 1924. He spent much of the last forty years of his life going around Devon and Cornwall, persuading rural dwellers and farm workers to sing to him. This produced one of the most important collections of English folksong, resulting in a number of books of songs, including English Folk Songs for Schools, from which our title song comes. He did modify some of the words of the songs, which were regarded as too rude for the time. Among his other eccentric passions was an obsession with folklore of the moors, to the extent that he wrote a seminal work on werewolves, which is still consulted by werewolf hunters today.

	SERVICES	
SEPTEMBER	BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW	HAYDON BRIDGE
1 September Translation of Cuthbert	10 am Haydon Bridge – Patronal Eucharist	
8 September Trinity 12	9.30 am - Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church
15 September Holy Cross	9.30 am - Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am – Parish Eucharist
	3 pm – God’s Tent – to be confirmed	
22 September Trinity 14	8.30 am – BPC Communion – Haydon Bridge	
	10 am – Henshaw Harvest Celebration Service	
29 September Michael & All Angels	9.30 am – Henshaw – BCP Mattins	11 am – BCP Communion
		5 pm - Haydon Old Church – Evening Prayer/Harvest
6 October Trinity 16	9.30 am – Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am – Parish Eucharist

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms at St Cuthbert’s Beltingham

Saturday 6 July – Evelina Alice Bell

Sunday 21 July – Frankie Pick

Sunday 4 August – Darcy Toyin Anne Roberts

Sunday 18 August – Austin Inglis Dodds

Marriages

Saturday 13 July at St Cuthbert’s Beltingham: a service of blessing of the marriage of Paul Wood and Christina D’Cruz.

Saturday 20 July at All Hallows’ Henshaw: the marriage of Richard Bell and Lynsay Allison.

Saturday 27 July at St Cuthbert’s Beltingham: the marriage of Fiona MacAllister and Christopher Linton.

The Vicar's Letter

I do not think I will ever get out of the habit of feeling that this time of year is when things really get started. Years in education both at school and university have made my life work around the rhythm of the academic year much more naturally than the calendar year. This has only been strengthened by our children moving into school age; where holidays, preparations, and life itself revolves around the pattern of the school year.

For this reason, I have always found it easier to make this the point in the year when I try to begin afresh rather than in the winter. I am not sure if I am ever any more successful in these new ventures in September rather than January, but somehow for me it always feels a more natural change.

However, as we move into autumn and the trees begin to shed their leaves, this change can sometimes be better understood not as “what shall I take up” but “what shall I put down”. We live in a world which is increasingly busy and full of opportunities. So much so that we sometimes fail to focus on the importance of putting some of these things down so that we can be the best versions of ourselves at this time of change.

This pattern of putting things down is especially apt as we think, at the beginning of this month, about St Cuthbert. Cuthbert, that greatest of the Anglo-Saxon Saints. Cuthbert, in life, was not only a missionary but also Bishop of Hexham and then Lindisfarne. But his greatest act was, at the end of his life, to put down these high offices and retreat to the solitude of his hermitage on the Inner Farne. To know what parts of his life he needed to give up so that he could devote the best part of himself to God.

After his death, as Cuthbert's community and relics moved through these areas, settling for a time on the site of St Cuthbert's Beltingham before finding their way to Durham, it was this part of Cuthbert – the man of prayer and solitude – that was remembered and venerated. Cuthbert's act of giving things up was a counter intuitive thing to do

then as now. However, it remains one from which we can still draw inspiration at the beginning of this new academic year as we ask ourselves: “what can I give up?”

Benjamin

CHURCH NEWS

Mothers’ Union

On **Wednesday 25 September** at Henshaw – ‘How We Work’ – The Great North Air Ambulance.

PCC Meeting

The next meeting will be on **26 September** at 7.30 pm at Henshaw.

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela

One of our Benefice churchwardens, Gill Valentine from Haydon Bridge, has just walked the ancient pilgrimage route through northern Spain - all 500 miles of it – in 35 days. She was raising money to enable the Parishes by the Wall to fund community initiatives in the Tyne Valley linked to promoting the positive mental health and wellbeing of young people. Gill’s aim was to raise £1,000 and she is well on the way to reaching her target. If you would like to contribute, you can do so online at www.gofundme.com/buen-camino-gilly.

Thank you to all who helped at the annual coffee morning at Haltwhistle Methodist Church at the end of July. The splendid efforts of our volunteer helpers raised just over £1,000 for the parish churches.

West Northumberland Food Bank

You may have read that the Food Bank was heavily used over the school summer holidays. Please don’t forget that you can bring donated items to Henshaw Church or to the shop at Bardon Mill. Items such as cleaning products are also welcome, as are toiletries.

Education Sunday 8 September is dedicated as Education Sunday in the Church Diary. This is a useful prompt to remember all our young

people embarking on their university careers or starting school. We wish them well for the new term.

Messy Church Lowther Trip

The Annual Messy Church outing was a great success as usual. A coach of 15 adults and 23 children went to Lowther Castle to the huge tree house playground. The weather was glorious and nearly all the children slept on the coach on the way back. The cost was generously covered by the Leek Club, the Parochial Church Council and private donations.

Prayer Walk

On a perfect summer's evening a number of parishioners enjoyed a prayer walk from Bardon Mill station up to St Cuthbert's, Beltingham. Along the way we listened to reflections on the theme of colour in nature. We sang a hymn around the yew tree in the church grounds and then assembled for evening prayer. All in all it was a most tranquil and enjoyable evening.

People's Kitchen

We hope to support the People's Kitchen at our Harvest Festival. Non-perishable items will be taken to their depot. Perishable items will be available to parishioners for a donation to the work of the People's Kitchen.

CHURCH CONTACTS

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ROTA				
Sept	Church	Warden	Sidesmen	Flowers
8 September	Beltingham	W Green	H Rowlands L Scott	A Brunton/ D Hartley/P Collingwood
15 Sept	Beltingham	A Galbraith	L Slater D Palmer	“
22 Sept	Henshaw	A Storrie	P Collingwood D McKenna	P Storey/ N Harding/ J Walters
29 Sept	Henshaw	C Adams	Y Hewitt/ A Mills	“
6 October	Henshaw	A Storrie	H Rowlands J Galbraith	“

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.

Bardon Mill Scarecrows

The scarecrows are back throughout the village! Maps and voting forms can be obtained from the Village Shop for £1.

Cafe Scientifique - Tuesday 3 September - 7-9 pm BM Village Hall

Healthy Ageing with Dr Spencer Boyle. An interactive talk on what activities and exercise can help throughout life. **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. A few tickets will be available at the village shop for those who don't have internet access.

Haltwhistle Garden Club

On **Monday 9 September** a visit to Isobel Shaw's garden at Cambo.

South Tyne Wildlife Group

On **Tuesday 10 September**, Bill Burlton – ‘Galapagos, The Enchanted Isles’. Covering the geological history, the impact of man, the unique wildlife and Darwin and his Galapagos finches. **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 11 September** WI Sports Day Fun with Board Games. Hostesses: Isobel Ferrol, Sheila Oughton. Competition: Old Sports Item. Stall: Bring and Buy.

On **Thursday 12 September** at 7.30 pm at Gilsland Village Hall, Nick Owens will talk on "**Climate Change in our Area**".

Recycling Mobile Phones

In September 2005 the following note appeared in the Parish Newsletter:

“Mobile Phones: there are an estimated 90 million handsets, plus their batteries, unaccounted for in the UK and even taking into account those which have already entered the waste stream there are tens of millions of phones available for recycling. Approximately 18 million handsets were issued in the UK alone in 2004. Waste from mobile phone products is a subject of rising concern around the world. While this is a small amount of the overall waste produced in industrialised countries, it is growing much faster than the waste stream as a whole. Moreover, phones contain many toxic substances, including arsenic, antimony, beryllium, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, zinc and flame retardants, which can be released into the air and groundwater when burned in incinerators or disposed of in landfills, creating threats to human health and the environment.”

Given that this situation is likely to be very much worse now, in 2019, and given that 80% of a mobile phone can be recycled, here are some suggestions about what to do with unwanted mobile phones. You could try selling on line, on ebay or Gumtree, you could give your phone away, e.g. to Freecycle, you could pass your phone on to a charity – many accept them as they are a valuable way for the charity to raise money – or, if you take them to the recycling plant, put them in ‘small electrical’ where the recycling process should retrieve the useful and valuable parts of them. Don’t forget to remove your personal data before you do any of these things.

DATE FOR THE DIARY

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 for further information

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.

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