

THE PARISH OF BELTINGHAM WITH HENSHAW

Parish Newsletter July/August 2019

Whither the weather?

As we approach St Swithin's day on 15 July, when the old wives' tale has it that if it rains on that day, it will rain for the next forty days, you might ask, well, what is new?? We have had quite a poor June but according to Paul Simons, who writes the weather column in *The Times*, it hardly compares to 75 years ago. The D-Day invasion of June 6 1944 was almost blown off course by stormy weather and then conditions grew worse. Vast amounts of supplies had to be shipped to Normandy for the Allied forces. However, a furious storm blew up from 19 to 22 June, which destroyed about 800 landing craft and ships. Supplies were landed using two Mulberry harbours, which were enormous floating structures built from prefabricated caissons, towed across the Channel and assembled on the coast of Normandy. They were built to withstand force 6 gales, but the weather of 19 to 22 June gusted to force 8, destroying one harbour and damaging the one at Gold beach but it was repaired.

You can still see some of the remains of the giant caissons at Arromanches in Normandy, but some of them were put to good use after the war ended, first to reinforce the harbour at Portland in Dorset, and then, when the Netherlands was devastated by a catastrophic North Sea storm surge in January 1953, many of the caissons were shipped from Portland to repair Dutch flood defences. This is not a bad record of their use, as they were originally designed to work for only three months!

During TV coverage of the recent ceremonies to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, you may have caught sight of some of the caissons still poking up through the waves. And you may also have seen the splendid statue unveiled at Vers sur Mer to commemorate the British D-Day heroes. When we remember the events of 1944, perhaps we shouldn't complain too much about our recent spell of poor weather.

	SERVICES		
JULY/AUGUST	BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW	HAYDON BRIDGE	
7 July Trinity 3	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am Parish Eucharist	
14 July Trinity 4	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	
21 July Trinity 5	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist	
	3 pm God’s Tent – pitching to be confirmed		
28 July Trinity 6	8.30 am Henshaw – BCP Eucharist		
	10 am Haydon Bridge - Celebration Service		
	5 pm Haydon Old Church – Evening Prayer		
4 August Trinity 7	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist	
11 August Trinity 8	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist	
18 August Trinity 9	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist	
25 August Trinity 10	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist 5 pm Evening Prayer – Haydon Old Church	
1 September Trinity 11	8.30 am Henshaw – BCP Eucharist		
	10.00 am Haydon Bridge – Celebration Service		

From the Parish Registers

Baptism

On 2 June at All Hallows' Henshaw - Poppy Watson.

Thy Kingdom Come

From Ascension Day (30 May) to Pentecost (9 June), our church at Henshaw was open each day for Morning Prayer at 9.15am and for Evening Prayer at 5.15pm to take part in a global event to create a wave

of prayer. Each day saw a steady attendance at both services, and it created a calm and quiet time, with directed readings and psalms, to join in this great wave.

The Vicar's Letter

For me, as the summer months spread out in front of us one of the great treats is finding time to watch, or more likely, listen to the wealth of sport which surrounds us. Whether it is Wimbledon, which will just getting underway as you read this letter, or the cricket moving from the World Cup to the Ashes, or the British Open, or the Tour de France, or the British Grand Prix. All these sporting riches to enjoy, and we aren't even in a year with a major summer Football tournament, a British and Irish Lions tour, or Olympic games.

When we watch sport we rightly marvel at individual brilliance. But I get more enjoyment out of watching great team sports, where the training and discipline of eleven or thirteen or fifteen individuals creates something which is greater than the sum of its parts. We see that particularly when a team of supposedly inferior players triumphs over a collection of more talented individuals who do not know how to be a team.

St Paul, when writing to the Church in Rome, recognised the value that comes when we are greater than the sum of our parts. Talking to the earliest Christians, just learning what it meant to be a community following Jesus Christ, Paul reminds them that they need to grow into being greater than the sum of their parts. Using the image of a body, he says:

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

As with a great sporting team, the Church – the body of Christ – is called to learn to respect and rejoice in all the differing gifts we have to share one with another. This is a challenging task and one which the Church of today very often fails at. But we keep trying, like a great sports team, to be greater than the sum of our parts. And as we live in a more complex, seemingly more divided nation, we could do worse than remember the wisdom of the sports team and the wisdom of the body of Christ; that we will grow and flourish together as we learn to rejoice in the gifts and abilities of all and become greater than the sum of our parts.

Your Vicar,

Benjamin

CHURCH NEWS

God's Tent

During one week in June our Vicar has been taking God's Tent to schools in the Tyne Valley. This gives the children a space to reflect and pray and is a new, fun way of teaching about the church and faith. You may have seen the photo on the front page of the Hexham Courant when the Tent visited Henshaw School. The Tent is pitched once a month on a Sunday afternoon in various locations, winter and summer, and has generated considerable interest from other churches.

Archdeacon's Inspection

Once every three years the Archdeacon inspects our churches, to ensure that they are being well maintained, that our finances and Church Registers are in order, and that all our processes are being efficiently carried out. Our next inspection is on July 17th.

PCC Meeting

The next meeting will be on **25 July** at 7.30 pm at Henshaw.

Parish Coffee Morning at Haltwhistle Methodist Hall

This annual event, which is an important fundraiser for our churches, is on **Saturday 20 July from 9.30 am**. If you have bric a brac, books or produce to donate, you can bring it to the Methodist Hall between 3 pm and 4 pm on Friday 19 July, or telephone Libby 344582, or Anne 344702 for collection. Please come and support the event - there will be a raffle and tombola - contributions for these gratefully received.

Mothers' Union

On **Wednesday 24 July** at **Henshaw – Update on Action & Outreach** – Mrs Linda Benneworth. On **Friday 9 August** at **Hexham Abbey – Mary Sumner Day** – Deanery Afternoon.

The MU are holding a pie and peas supper, followed by a quiz night run by Rev'd Dr John Harrison who is the chaplain to the local MU branch. It will be on **Saturday 27 July** at **6.30 pm for 7 pm** in Bardon Mill Village Hall. **Cost £5 for MU Deanery funds.**

Way of Cuthbert weekend

Look out on the weekly church notice sheets for information about services and activities on **Saturday 31 August**, for our Way of

Cuthbert celebrations at our churches dedicated to the Saint in Beltingham and Haydon Bridge.

CHURCH CONTACTS

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ROTA				
July/August	Church	Warden	Sidesmen	Flowers
7 July	Henshaw	A Storrie	J Galbraith/ H Rowlands	L Scott
14 July	Beltingham	W Green	P Collingw'd/ D Palmer	A Galbraith /M Wilkinson
21 July	Beltingham	A Galbraith	J Hayward /D Palmer	“
28 July	Henshaw	C Adams		F Wancke/ L Slater
4 August	Henshaw	A Storrie	Y Hewitt/ D McKenna	“
11 August	Beltingham	W Green	J Hayward/ A Mills	A Galbraith/ G Jackson/ P Wilson

18 August	Beltingham	A Galbraith	D Storrie/ L Slater	“
25 August	Henshaw	C Adams	J Galbraith /S Walker	A Galbraith
1 September	Henshaw	A Storrie		“

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.

Haltwhistle Gardening Club

On **Monday 8th July** there will be a visit to Harperley Hall Farm nursery and garden. **No meeting in August.**

WI

On **Wednesday 10th July** a visit to "Inspired Pots" Hexham. Wine and refreshments. On **Wednesday 14th August** the Summer Outing to Barnard Castle followed by afternoon tea. Transport provided for both.

Verge Walks

This is the sixth year of our verge walks. As a result of our campaigning and surveying, routine herbicide treatments along the length of the A69 have been suspended and Northumberland is, this year, protecting two local verges to conserve the floral diversity. Our first walk is on **Tuesday 16 July** at 7pm – we meet at the west end of **Haresby Lonnen**, north of Thorngrifton (grid ref: 790661) and then on **Tuesday 13 August** at 7 pm – **meet at Cawfields car park**, we are going to look at **Markham** (grid ref: 714666). Please join us for one or both of these short walks (2 miles there and back max) to survey wild flowers on or near road verges. Just turn up, there is no need to book. We'll be on paths and/or tarmac and we aim to finish by 9 pm. Any queries, please get in touch with Lesley Silvera, 01434 607988. Ring Libby on 344582 if you need a lift.

Cafe Scientifique - Tuesday 2 July - 7-9 pm BM Village Hall

Dr Sam Whitehouse – a look at how biological probes, Dual-Activity Retinoids and light-based photo-therapies are being used to address a range of health issues. Sam is currently CEO of Lighttox Ltd and has a background in chemistry and molecular biology. **Tickets are £5**

including tea/coffee and cake. Buy tickets 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 without internet access.

South Tyne Sustainability

Plastics

The BBC's '*War on Plastic with Hugh and Anita*' is a real call to arms and well worth catching on iPlayer if you've missed it. They've highlighted the UK's broken recycling system which dumps mountains of 'recyclable' plastic waste in Malaysia and the disconnect between multinational companies' sustainability promises and their practices. The series has also included lots of suggestions for steps we can all take to reduce our consumption of single use plastic – taking our own containers to deli counters, making our own vinegar based bathroom cleaning liquid, and wiping wet-wipes off our shopping lists are just some of the ideas. During July STS members will be noting which Haltwhistle shops and takeaways offer alternatives to plastic and polystyrene point-of-sale packaging – do get in touch to let us know which of your favourite shops are joining the war on plastic. We also plan to start signing cafes and other businesses up to the National Refill scheme as part of a coordinated 'Water Refill along the Wall' initiative.

Energy

Research into the practicality of extracting heat from water deep underground in abandoned mines is being led by Dr. Charlotte Adams at Durham University. The STS Energy group is keen to find out if this is a technology that could be employed by any of the new developments currently being considered for Haltwhistle. The Ethical Consumer website, <https://www.ethicalconsumer.org>, lays out the choices across all aspects of daily living and allows you to use your cash to support sustainable practices whilst, in many cases, spending less.

Haltwhistle Art Group

On Saturday 23 August – a Summer Exhibition - Haltwhistle Methodist Hall from 9.30am-3pm. Cards, pictures and crafts to buy. Tombola and refreshments during the afternoon.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Bardon Mill History Group On **Monday 2 September** – a walk up Haltwhistle Burn to look at the industrial archaeology. More details from Steve Gibbon on 344383 or stephen.gibbon@btopenworld.com

Cafe Scientifique – **3 September 7-9 BMVH** – Healthy Ageing with Dr Spencer Boyle. An interactive talk on what activities and exercise can help throughout life. Tickets www.ticketsource.co.uk.

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>