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

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

THE PARISH OF BELTINGHAM WITH HENSHAW Parish Newsletter – March 2018

“Woodbine Willie”, Priest and Poet

During this period of commemoration of the First World War, we should not forget the role played by Army Chaplains or Padres. One such was Geoffrey Kennedy, affectionately known as Woodbine Willie. He earned his nickname because of his habit of giving Woodbine cigarettes along with spiritual aid to injured and dying soldiers. He was one of nine children of a Vicar in Leeds. He served as a Curate in Rugby and then as a Vicar in Worcester. At the outbreak of war, he volunteered as a Chaplain to the army on the Western Front. He won the Military Cross at Messines Ridge, for which his citation read: “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He showed the greatest courage and disregard for his own safety in attending to the wounded under heavy fire. He searched shell holes for our own and enemy wounded, assisting them to the dressing station, and his cheerfulness and endurance had a splendid effect upon all ranks in the front line trenches, which he constantly visited.”

After the war, he served as a Vicar in London, but then moved to work for the Industrial Christian Fellowship, for whom he went on speaking tours across Britain. On one such tour, in Liverpool, he took ill and died there, at the age of 45. The Dean of Westminster refused him burial in Westminster Abbey, because he said Kennedy was a “socialist”. The irony of this was that Kennedy had distrusted most politicians and refused to join any political party. He is commemorated in the Church of England with a Feast Day on 8 March. The plaque above is displayed in Worcester Cathedral and is shown here by kind permission of their Dean and Chapter.

SERVICES		
MARCH	BELTINGHAM/ HENSHAW	HAYDON BRIDGE
4 March Lent 3	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church
11 March Mothering Sunday	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am Parish Eucharist
18 March Passion Sunday	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist
	3pm God’s Tent – venue to be confirmed	
25 March Palm Sunday	8.30 am Henshaw – BCP Communion 10 am Henshaw – Celebration Service	
	5 pm Haydon Old Church – Evening Prayer	
27 March Holy Tuesday	6 pm Henshaw - Eucharist	
28 March Holy Wednesday	10 am Henshaw - Eucharist	
29 March Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm Haydon Bridge – Eucharist and Stripping	
30 March Good Friday	10.45 am Haydon Bridge Act of Witness, gathering at the War Memorial	
	12 Noon - Henshaw, The First Hour	
	2 pm Haydon Bridge, The Last Hour	
31 March Holy Saturday	10.30 am Henshaw – Messy Church	
1 April Easter Day	6.30 am Haydon Old Church – The Liturgy of Easter	
	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	
	11 am Haydon Bridge – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	

Vicar: The Reverend Dr Benjamin Carter

As many people noticed last month Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, fell on 14th February, Valentine’s Day. As if that were not strange enough, it also means that the great day of Easter, which falls at the end of this time of Lent and through which we are living, falls on April 1 - April Fools’ Day. We are, as we walk through the weeks of Lent this year, bookended by love and foolishness. This could be seen as a coincidence and accident of the calendar which moves Easter around each year, depending on when the first Sunday falls following the first ecclesiastical full moon that occurs on or after the day of the vernal equinox (in case you were wondering)! This means that from time to time these calendrical coincidences will occur. A couple of years ago this happened when Good Friday fell on March 25th, the Feast of the Assumption – nine months before Christmas – so that the conception and death of Jesus were marked on the same day. As a child I remember a year when Good Friday fell on April 1st and my father was very clear with me that Good Friday trumped April Fools’ Day, and it was not a day to be playing silly jokes on my brothers. But there seems to be an even greater power to this bookending of love and foolishness that we find this year. Some will, no doubt, point to this seeming contradiction - the commercialism of Valentine’s Day clashing with the austerity of Ash Wednesday, just as the profundity of Easter does not lie easily with the silliness of April Fools’ Day. But there is a foolishness to Easter which we should not miss. Through the days of Holy Week, which we will walk through at the end of this month, we will remember how Jesus was tricked by those he thought were his friends, put on trial on made up charges, put to death like a criminal. But it was through this that God showed us his love in Jesus in the power of the resurrection. It was through this act of love that, as St Paul tells us, “*God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong* (1 Cor 1:37)”. The story of Easter, the promise of Easter, is that God shows his love for us through overcoming the weakness, the selfishness and the foolish things of this world. It might be a coincidence of our calendar, but the story of Easter really is one of foolishness that ends in love.

CHURCH NEWS

Have you checked out our new website recently? You will find us at www.parishesbythewall.org.uk and will see on the news page some of the recent activities written up with photographs. There are links to face book and twitter accounts and photographs of the MU lunch and the children's activities at Messy Church and in God's Tent.

Donations for the Newsletter

Several people have asked if they could make a donation towards the cost of producing the newsletter. If you wish to do so please either give it to the person delivering your newsletter or leave with Michael in the Bardon Mill Village Shop. Thank you.

Postage for Newsletter

If you receive this newsletter by post, payment for postage is now due. Please send £6 to Keith Brunton, Whitegates, Henshaw, Bardon Mill NE47 7EP.

Diocesan Link Newspaper

Publication dates for Link do not fit with delivery of the newsletter in March and April. Copies of Link will be available at both churches if you wish to pick one up.

Mothers' Union

On 9 March - Women's World Day of Prayer at 2 pm in the Methodist Church at Haydon Bridge, followed by refreshments. Our 'Make a Mother's Day' Coffee Morning will be held in Haydon Bridge Community Centre on Saturday 10 March from 10-12 pm. The stalls will include home produce, cakes, books, bric a brac and a raffle – entrance is a bargain at £1!



Next pitching on Sunday 18 March – venue to be confirmed.

The events take place at 3 pm on certain Sundays. The idea is to develop activities for the 7 to 11 age group. The children come with a parent. Each event culminates in an act of worship.

DATE FOR THE DIARY

On Thursday 10 May at 6 pm (Ascension Day) there will be a Service at St Cuthbert's Beltingham, conducted by the Very Rev'd Michael Sadgrove, followed by a fundraising supper at the Old Vicarage. Tickets for the supper are £15 from Anne Galbraith on 344702.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Vicar

The Rev'd Dr Benjamin Carter, The Vicarage, Station Yard, Haydon Bridge NE47 6LL

Telephone 688196 Email revbenjaminarter@gmail.com

Curate

Ms Gill Alexander Email g.alexander@btinternet.com

Churchwardens

Mrs Anne Galbraith, The Old Vicarage, Beltingham, B Mill NE47 7BZ
Telephone 344702 Email galbraithanne55@gmail.com

Mr Adrian Storrie, Barcombe Grove, Westwood, B Mill NE47 7JF
Telephone 344494 Email adetree@btinternet.com

Newsletter Editors

Mrs Libby Scott, Tel 344582 Email libby13scott@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs Sally Gill, Tel 344467 Email sallyagill@aol.com

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 Churchwardens). The Trust can make small grants to people in the Parish of Beltingham with Henshaw on grounds of hardship. If you know 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.

Henshaw School News - the children have some exciting activities in the run up to Easter. We have started the Easter story by looking at Holy Week. The children had an assembly with Reverend Benjamin on Wednesday 21 February. There will be a Celebration Assembly in All Hallows' Church on Friday 2 March and Stephanie Carter is holding choir practises every Tuesday after school in preparation for Easter Church services. Henshaw will be joining Greenhead school on Wednesday 28 March for an Easter Celebration at Greenhead Church. Parents and grandparents are very welcome. Both schools will also be holding an Easter Fayre on 29 March in Henshaw School, from 2 pm to 3.15 pm. Everyone is welcome to come to this event.

VILLAGE NEWS

Cafe Scientifique Tuesday 6 March (7-9pm) at B Mill Village Hall
'Geoengineering the Climate: Do two wrongs make a right?' by Nick Owens. Tickets £5 including refreshments. Buy tickets at www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/449719 or reserve tickets at maureen.matters@gmail.com Booking is strongly advised.

Haltwhistle Garden Club

On Monday 12 March, Kate Norris 'Growing and using British flowers' and a demonstration on bouquet making at 7 pm at the Comrades Club.

South Tyne Wildlife Group, Comrades Club, Haltwhistle

On Tuesday 13 March - Gary Kidd – 'Langkawi, Malaysia - Where the Coral Reef meets the Rain Forest' at 7.30 pm at the Comrades Club
£3 – all welcome.

Womens' Institute

Wednesday 14 March – Sarah Reay 'The Half Shilling Curate';
Hostesses: Mary Reed and Carol Elliott; Competition: The Oldest Coin;
Stall: Gift Bag Bring and Buy. **We will have visitors from Lowgate and Allendale.**

Highlights Rural Touring Scheme

Luca Silvestrini's Protein - May Contain Food, May Contain You
On Saturday 17 March at 7.30 pm at Bardon Mill Village Hall.

This is a witty food-themed piece of dance and musical theatre in which the Village Hall is transformed into a restaurant. Expect a playful mix of dances, songs and humorous monologues with food tasting and the baking of a scrumptious sticky ginger pudding for all to share!

Tickets from Geeta on 344424 or geetabannister@googlemail.com.

Hexham Debates – Saturday 24 March from 11-12.30 pm

Tom Mills, Lecturer, Aston University – 'Whom does the BBC Serve?' How far has the BBC lived up to its reputation for independence and impartiality? Debate held at St Mary's Centre, Hencotes – admission free (retiring collection).

South Tyne Cinema Circuit at the General Havelock on Tuesday 27 March from 7 pm – 'Film & Food Night' a surprise film with an Indian theme. Booking is necessary - £8.50 for meal and film.

Contact Joanna on 684376 for details.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

At Bardon Mill Village Hall on Friday 11 May at 7.30 pm 'Gone Cuckoo' with Malcolm Green, story-teller.

And on Wednesday 30 May at 2 pm 'The Giant Jam Sandwich' (for 3-7 year olds and their families).

Tickets from Geeta on 344424 or geetabannister@googlemail.com.

HALTWHISTLE PLANT FESTIVAL

On Saturday 19 May from 9.30 am until 3.30 pm at the Leisure Centre, Haltwhistle. The usual treats of plants, crafts and food.
Enquiries to Libby on 344582.

ROTAS				
March	Church	Warden	Sidesmen	Flowers
4 March	Beltingham	W Green	L Slater/ D Palmer	P Storey/ N Harding/ J Walters
11 March	Henshaw	C Adams	L Scott/ Y Hewitt	C Wancke/ /L Slater F Wancke
18 March	Beltingham	A Galbraith	S Walker/ D McKenna	“
25 March	Henshaw	A Storrie	J Galbraith/ H Rowlands	A Galbraith
30 March	Henshaw	C Adams	D Palmer/ L Slater	
1 April	Beltingham	W Green	J Hayward/ D Storrie	Group effort