



## **Woodland Trust, Tree of the Year Competition**

We are delighted to learn that the yew tree behind St Cuthbert's Church at Beltingham has been shortlisted in the Woodland Trust's Tree of the Year Competition, along with 9 other trees. You can vote for our tree at the Woodland Trust website –[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) Please register your vote if you love our tree – it would be good if you could also spread this good news, and get others to vote too.

### **Worship in our Parish**

Over the time since our churches were allowed to re-open for worship, we have adopted a pattern of alternating between St Cuthbert's in Haydon Bridge and All Hallows' in Henshaw, at 10.30 am each Sunday, usually for a Eucharist. This has been in addition to the streamed 9am service on Facebook, with hymns and reflection. We have also continued to stream morning and evening prayer at 9 am and 6 pm each day.

As we have the confidence to develop our pattern of worship, it is now planned that on the week when there is no Eucharist at All Hallows', Henshaw, we will have a service of Said Morning Prayer at 10.30 am, with the church remaining open until 12 noon for those who wish to come for private prayer.

The Vicar envisages that this pattern will continue at least in the immediate future, but he is anxious to obtain views about the needs and wishes of our parishioners, and to that end, you will receive news from him of a survey that he would like you to respond to. This will assist him in making any further proposals to the PCC for developments to our pattern of worship and support for our parishioners.

To help you plan, therefore, here is a list of the dates for September for live services in **All Hallows', Henshaw**. None of the services are currently taking

place in St Cuthbert's in Beltingham, as we have maintained that to be available for use for small weddings and funerals.

Sunday, 6 September at 10.30 am 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Morning Prayer

Sunday 13 September at 10.30 am, 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Benefice Eucharist

Sunday 20 September at 10.30 am, 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Morning Prayer

Sunday 27 September at 10.30 am, 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Benefice Eucharist

Sunday 4 October at 10.30 am, 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Morning Prayer

## **From the Parish Registers**

On 26 September, a graveside service and burial of Dorothy Furlong.

### **The remarkable life of Isaac Merritt Singer**

Have you ever been the proud owner of a Singer sewing machine? If it similar to the one pictured here, then as you treadled, did you ever wonder about its inventor? He was Isaac Singer, born in 1811 in Pittstown, New York into a very poor family. He ran away from home at the age of 12, and spent the next 20 years as a strolling player who had a flair for gadgetry and inventions. He patented the Singer sewing machine in 1851, and over the next 20 years, it made him a great fortune. Others had patented sewing machines before him, but his success was based on the practicality of his machine, the ease with which it could be adapted to home use, and most importantly, it was sold on an instalment payment basis – an early example of hire purchase.

Isaac led a really fascinating life, not least fathering at least 24 children with different wives and mistresses – and he remembered them all with substantial legacies in his will. He fled America for Paris in the 1850's, when various scandals were threatening the business. There he met and married his second wife, Isabella, the mother of six of his children.

When the Prussian army was bearing down on Paris in 1870, Isaac and Isabella moved to England, and settled in Paignton in Devon. There, Isaac commissioned a new house, Oldway Mansion, designed in the French Renaissance style, with 110 rooms, a maze, a parterre and a large theatre. At his death in 1875, the house

was unfinished, but his sons Parish and Washington completed the construction. Sadly, it is now on the Most Endangered List of the Victorian Society.

Isaac's funeral was most elaborate, with 80 horse drawn carriages and 2000 mourners. He is buried in Torquay in a marble tomb.

## **Wash your hands – a poem by Keith Brunton**

I'm locked down and I'm shielded, to the scientists I've yielded'  
and on my face I'm going to wear a mask.  
At government insistence I'm observing social distance.  
That really isn't very much to ask.

But I'm feeling a temptation to have done with isolation  
and invite the neighbours in for a drink.  
To avoid any trouble I will call us a bubble,  
Would that be a good idea, d'you think?

They say that we are winning, but I think they may be spinning  
the numbers, the predictions and the graphs.  
But the pubs are serving booze and they've opened up the zoos  
so it must be good news for giraffes.

The church bells are still not ringing, doors are open but no singing,  
and I would not take a holiday in Spain  
Keep your faith and keep your nerve, your sense of humour and your verve.  
Keep some loo rolls in reserve  
God willing it will all come right again.

The poetry gene clearly runs deep in Keith's family – here is a poem by his 8 year old grandson, Robbie.

### **I didn't know I'd miss**

I didn't know I'd miss-  
Battered fish fillet on Fridays  
and the smell of quorn hot dog in the lunch hall.

I didn't know I'd miss-  
Mrs Lewis's lovely smile  
and Miss Harvey saying furious!

I didn't know I'd miss-  
Pretending to skate on the frosty playground  
and building dens in the stick area.

I didn't know I'd miss-  
sneaking next to Tommy B in class  
And hoping Mrs Lewis wouldn't notice

I didn't know I'd miss-  
awards assembly  
and Mr Bridle's funny stories

I didn't know I'd miss-  
Sheltering from the sun next to year three classroom  
And swinging my feet on the exercise machine

I didn't know I'd miss-  
the adults at Replay  
and racing Oliver to get our favourite toy first.

I didn't know I'd miss-  
walking through the woods to school everyday  
but I do NOT miss the mud!