

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



Get to know the Vicar – Part Two

You may recall that in last month's newsletter, we celebrated the fifth anniversary of Benjamin coming to be our Vicar, and told some of the story of his life before he came to our parishes. Having quizzed him closely, it can now be revealed that he relaxes by reading, listening to music and visiting coffee shops. His favourite book is *Remains of the Day*, and he says that choosing his favourite poet rather depends on the weather! It could be George Herbert, R S Thomas or T S Eliot – and for those of us who hear his sermons, we know that he can draw inspiration from each of them. When it comes to favourite films, as the father of two small children, it is perhaps not surprising that currently this is *Paddington 2*!!

Having sung in choirs all his life, it seems natural that Benjamin would list his hobby as singing in a church choir. Let's hope he gets some opportunities to sing his favourite hymn, *All for Jesus*, where the second verse reminds us that Jesus will give us strength to serve, hour by hour – highly appropriate for a Vicar who can be "on call" at all times. Benjamin has a strong conviction to serve the local community, which finds voice in some innovative ways, not least his introduction of *God's Tent*, which uses a simple logo



The tent is pitched in a variety of locations on the third Sunday of each month at 3 pm and designed to appeal to those who want to worship in a different way. When asked if he could change one thing about the Church of England, he replied that he would like to see it being more open and willing to appreciate that there is a truly remarkable network of people doing small acts of kindness, making the world a better place day by day.

	SERVICES	
NOVEMBER	BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW	HAYDON BRIDGE
3 November All Saints	9.30 am – Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church 3.30 pm – Henshaw All Souls	11 am – Parish Eucharist 5 pm – All Souls
10 November Remembrance	10 am – Henshaw – Remembrance Service and 11 am at the War Memorial	10.15 am Remembrance Day Service
17 November 2 before Advent	9.30 am – Beltingham - Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist
	3 pm – God’s Tent – pitching to be confirmed	
24 November Christ the King	8.30 am – Haydon Bridge BCP Communion	
	10 am – Henshaw Celebration Service	
Saturday 30 November Advent Eve	3 pm Haydon Old Church – Advent Carol Service	
1 December Advent Sunday	9.30 am – Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am Parish Eucharist

From the Parish Registers

Funerals

Cynthia Wancke, on 4 October, interment at Beltingham cemetery following a service at Holy Cross, Haltwhistle

Peter Carruthers, on 14 October, a service at St Cuthbert's, Beltingham, followed by interment.

Remembrance Service on Sunday 10 November

This takes place at 10 am at All Hallows' Henshaw, ending in sufficient time for the congregation to make its way to the War Memorial at the other end of the village where, at 11 am, the names of those commemorated on the Memorial are read out and a short act of worship takes place. Wreaths are laid on behalf of organisations in the parish. Please join us to continue to give thanks for the lives of those from our parish who died in conflict.

Vicar's Letter

One of the responsibilities of the Church of England is that we have the responsibility for the burial, in our Churchyards, (where they remain open), of the mortal remains of those who have died. For me this means that I have responsibility, with our Church councils, for the burials of bodies and cremated remains that still take place at Haydon Old Church and Beltingham.

This is one of the great honours and responsibilities of my role. There is, of course, great solemnity and sadness that accompanies any funeral, and part of the role (and in fact legal obligation) of the Church is to be there to conduct the funeral of anyone who lives in the Parish if they ask for it. Along with this seriousness, there is also a great symbolism from the fact that our burial grounds have traditionally been around church buildings. When I think of this, I am reminded that one of the central insights of Christian faith is to remind us how close we live in that relationship between life and death: “in the midst of life we are in death” the ancient funeral anthem goes. Thankfully in our world of modern medicine and hygiene, this is not the reality that many of our forbears knew. But for those who have been struck by bereavement, this is a daily reality; that in the warp and weft of life, we cannot hide from the hard reality of death.

That reality is why, I think, the church has always kept those who have died close to us. They are not hidden from us, but remind us that even in life those we have loved but see no longer remain all around us. That is why on Sunday 3 November we will keep the feast of All Souls, remembering in our prayers and worship the names of those from our community who have died in the last year. Although this is always a very sad occasion, it is also one filled with hope because in the defining story of the resurrection, the central story of Christian faith, it was only by visiting the tomb to tend to the body of their dead friend Jesus that the first disciples discovered the great hope of our faith. That in Jesus, God had inverted that old truth and shown that, in him, true life comes when death itself is defeated.

Benjamin

CHURCH NEWS

All Souls Services

These will be held on **Sunday 3 November** at All Hallows' Henshaw at 3.30 pm and at St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge at 5 pm. Please let the Vicar (688196) know if you would like to have a loved one remembered.

Shepherds Dene in Winter

A further day of prayer and reflection, led by Rev'd Gill Alexander, is arranged for Tuesday 3 December, from 10 am to 3.30 pm. £22, to include tea/coffee on arrival, light lunch and afternoon tea with cake. Please contact Yvonne Hewitt to book a place, yhewitt@btinternet.com. Please speak to the Vicar if transport or cost is a problem for you.

Mothers' Union

On **Wednesday 27 November** at Henshaw – 'More than 40 years of Ministry' – The Very Rev. Michael Sadgrove.

On **Monday 2 December** at St Peter's Humshaugh – Deanery Advent Service.

CHURCH CONTACTS

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Curate: The Rev'd Gill Alexander Email g.alexander@btinternet.com

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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.

ROTA				
November	Church	Warden	Sidesmen	Flowers
3 November	Henshaw	A Storrie	P C'wood/ A Mills	L Scott/ M Wilkinson
10 November	Henshaw	A Storrie	D McKenna J Galbraith	“
17 November	Beltingham	W Green	H Rowlands/ D Palmer	A Galbraith/ G Jackson/ P Wilson
24 November	Henshaw	A Storrie	D Storrie/ Y Hewitt	“
1 December*	Henshaw	C Adams	L Scott/ S Walker	“

***No flowers during Advent**

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.

Highlights Rural Touring presents Northern Stage's adaptation of Sherlock Holmes' most infamous case 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'. This gothic classic is about a terrifying beast stalking the moors around the remote Baskerville Mansion. On Sunday 3 November at 7.30 pm at Bardon Mill Village Hall. Tickets from Geeta on 344424 or go to ticketsource.co.uk for ticket reservations.

Bardon Mill History Group – Monday 4 November

Visit to Victorian tunnels, Newcastle. Contact Steve Gibbon on 344383 or Stephen.gibbon@btopenworld.com for further information.

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. 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 11 November – AGM - at 7.30 pm at the Comrades Club followed by quiz and supper (which needs to be booked).

South Tyne Wildlife Group

On Tuesday 12 November – Genevieve Dalley ‘Invertebrates on the map; the legacy of the cold-blooded and spineless project’. 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 13 November, David Roe ‘The Unexpected Poet’; competition: a made-up limerick; stall: ‘bring and buy’; hostesses: Sheila Walker and Libby Scott. We have visitors so please bring a contribution for shared supper.

Tangram Theatre presents ‘Revelations’ at BM Village Hall on Thursday 21 November at 7.30 pm

James’ best friends told him they wanted his sperm to start a family. This is the story of how he gave it to them and the things we do for the people we love. It’s also about love, death, God and chicken nuggets. This is an epic show combining story, comedy and song. **Contains adult themes.** Tickets from Geeta on 344424 or www.ticketsource.co.uk

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

On Tuesday 26 November the film will be 'Edie'. Doors open 7 pm.
Call Joanna on 684376 for further information.

Variety Night at BM Village Hall on Saturday 30 November

A showcase of South Tynedale talent £5/£3 including Pie n Pea Supper/Sausage Roll. At 7 pm (doors open 6.45 pm). Tickets in advance at www.ticketsource.co.uk/ncdc/t-ykxxkrq and on the door.

Shaftoe Singers

Do you like to sing? If so you would be very welcome to join the Shaftoe Singers! We meet on Friday evenings at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church Hall at Haydon Bridge. There is no audition and we sing a wide variety of songs to suit every taste. If you are interested just come along on a Friday or speak to either Fred Brook (344091) or Hilda Rowlands (344750) for more information

DATES FOR THE DIARY

On **Monday 2nd December** at 7pm in the Village Hall, the second of the TED talks. Watch and discuss two short video presentations by experts on a range of topics. This time, 'Plastics - the problem and some solutions' - £3 at the door.

On **Sunday 8 December** the Greenhead Christmas Farmers Market - for further details look out for local posters.

Puzzle Corner

Solve these anagrams to find names of Books of the Bible (answers next month)

Seesign: hemwatt: usedox: visitclue: lastagain: asheepsin: ijeerham:
moodytenure: beshrew: ashoe.

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