

April 2023

THE HEAD THAT
ONCE WAS
CROWNED WITH THORNS

IS CROWNED
WITH GLORY
NOW

THOMAS KELLY



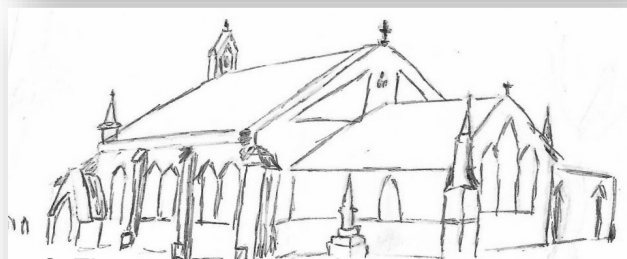
Parish Church of All Saints, Lanchester

Trinity

*The Parish magazine of :
All Saints' Parish Church Lanchester,
St John's Church Burnhope,
and St Thomas' Church Harelaw and Annfield Plain*



St. John's Church, Burnhope



St Thomas' Church Harelaw

I am
the resurrection
and the life.
Those who believe
in me,
even though
they die, will live,
and everyone
who lives and
believes in me
will never die.

50p monthly or £5 per year

Parish Church of LANCHESTER & BURNHOPE

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SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS', LANCHESTER

8am Every Sunday Eucharist (Traditional Language)

10.30am Principal Service

(Eucharist or Service of the Word)

6.00 pm Evensong Monthly every second Sunday

Wednesdays 9.45 am Holy Communion

HOLY BAPTISM & WEDDINGS -

by arrangement with the Vicar

SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S, BURNHOPE

1st and 3rd Sunday 9.15 am Said Eucharist

2nd Sunday and any 5th Sunday joint (All Saints)

4th Sunday 9.15am Service of the word

Café Church at The Community Centre every second
Tuesday of the month

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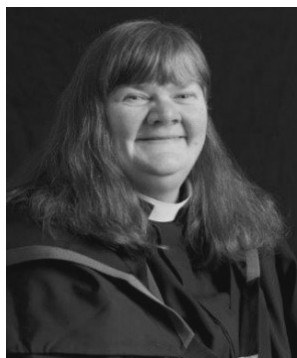
Contributions to
the Church
Magazine are
always welcome.



Copy sent by E-mail,

To robmatthews48@hotmail.com

The copy deadline for the
May issue is
Sunday 23rd April



Some years ago I was invited to spend a morning at Durham Cathedral before the busyness of Holy Week. It was a morning of prayer, with two addresses on the Passion narratives in the Gospels from a noted professor of the University Theology department, something to give us a pause before going back to the preparations for Easter.

After the first talk we dispersed into the Cathedral proper for some quiet time, and I did what I usually do –I went to talk to Saint Cuthbert in his shrine behind the High Altar. The cathedral itself was bustling, and there was a large group of children gathered in the Nave, but that, I thought, was unremarkable; another end of term school trip.

Until the sound of their singing pierced the peace of Cuthbert's shrine.

They weren't singing hymns –or choral pieces, or anything classical.

As I prayed by the saint's tomb, they were singing Flanders and Swann; the strains of 'Mud, mud, glorious mud' floated through the air.....

At first it seemed out of place; but then it made me smile as I remembered the address I'd just listened to. We'd been thinking about Jesus' instruction to his disciples to stay alert and watch for God's coming;

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.' (*Mark 13:32-37*).

In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus asked the disciples to keep awake and pray with him –and every one of them went to sleep. When Peter was charged with being one of Jesus' disciples he denied Jesus three times – three times failing to watch out for the coming of God, failing to realise that his denial of Jesus was a time when God was moving in his life. And Pilate and the religious authorities see in Jesus not true kingship, but a rabble-rouser to be disposed of as quickly as possible. All opportunities missed to see God at work in the world.

I'd been seeking God in the silence of the Saint's shrine; but when I heard the children singing together I realised it was there that God was, in the joy of childish voices joined in a silly song. God was there, in the everyday and the mundane.

It's easy to encounter God in the roller coaster of Holy Week, in the sorrows of the Stations of the Cross and the starkness of stripping the altars on Maundy Thursday. God feels ever present on Good Friday, and in the waiting through Holy Saturday and the exaltation of Easter morning.

But it's afterwards that we need to be alert.

God is never absent; and as Peter and the disciples found out, often to be found in the ordinary, in the mud and mess of everyday life, in the familiar faces and places around us every day.

So as we wait for Pentecost, and as we move into ordinary time, watch out for God's movement in your lives. Watch out when you're tired, when you're hungry, when you can't be bothered, when God seems to have deserted you –because you may just be missing the signs.....

And keep awake!

With every blessing for a holy and joyful Easter,

Lesley

A quote from St Clement of Alexandria, who in the second century wrote:

'Christ has turned all our sunsets into dawns!'

For, because Jesus lives, we need not fear death as the end of our lives approaches.

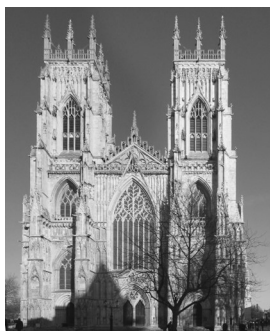
For Jesus said: "I am the Resurrection and the life... whosoever liveth and believers in me shall never die." (John 1.26)

Paul explained: 'Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept....' I Corinthians 15:21



“All you who pass by....”

For Good Friday last year, the morning service at York Minster was offered online for everyone to see, anywhere in the world. It's the most solemn day of the year. Hymns, readings, prayers: all focussed on Christ's death and its benefits for humanity, for all time.



A hundred or so people were in the congregation, alongside choir and clergy. Towards the end, the Archbishop of York carried a large replica cross from the back of the cathedral to a stand at the front. People were invited to come forward in silence, to venerate the cross, in the way they chose. Many came and knelt, or stood to pray, or touch the wood in memory of Christ's suffering and death.

While this was going on, the entrance doors remained open, and scores of visitors wandered round that great building. A number stopped briefly to look at what was going on; some appeared bemused. One man wearing a baseball cap lifted his video camera for a few seconds to record a snapshot of what was happening, then moved on. A teenager ran from one side of the Minster to the other and then disappeared out of sight.

It was an extraordinary mixture of reverence and irreverence. Should the doors have been closed while the service was taking place? Then one remembered this was a commemoration of the actual Crucifixion, which was also witnessed by a cross-section of the human race. A handful of disciples, mainly women, were nearby; others perhaps observing from a distance. Curious onlookers stared. Some just passed by. Telling verses from the Old Testament are often recalled on Good Friday:

“Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look around and see. Is any suffering like my suffering that was inflicted on me, that the Lord brought on me in the day of his fierce anger?”

This was the day when Christ pronounced absolution on us for our ignorance, saying “Father, forgive them for they don't know what they are doing”. When we hear this, we feel both ashamed and revived, for we know this is what it cost Him to allow us another go at living as we should.

Source The Parish Pump

Have a drink. Have two drinks!

Drinking is really good for you. Drinking water, that is. Recent research has found that people who drink a good amount of water are less likely to develop chronic conditions, or to show signs of advanced ageing.



The key seems to be in your serum sodium levels, which go up when your fluid intake goes down. Adults with high serum sodium levels are more likely to develop chronic illness, and also more likely to die younger.

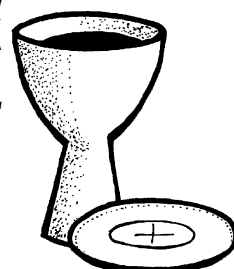
"The results suggest that proper hydration may slow down ageing and prolong a disease-free life," said one scientist.

The study was published in a recent issue of the eBioMedicine journal. According to NHS England, people should have six to eight drinks a day, which can include water, lower-fat milks, tea and coffee.

Source The Parish Pump

Home Communion

If you are unable to come to church and wish to receive Home Communion, please contact Revd Stephen (01207 529166) who will be pleased to make the arrangements for you.



Lanchester Burnhope Harelaw and Annfield Plain

Recently Deceased

Mary Ellen Gayles
Margaret Mawson

Norman Holmes
Colin Wilkinson

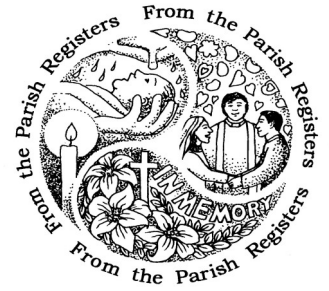
Funerals

17th March

Linda Blackburn

29th March

Jean Pallister



'May they rest in peace and rise in glory'

Weddings

18th March

Joanne Elizabeth Burnham King and Stefan Allen Hird



May God's blessing be upon you in your new life together

National Stop Snoring Week 18th to 22nd April

Do you love and also live with someone who snores? Then you will know how difficult it can be at times. Snoring can put great strain on the health and relationship of both partners.



For this reason, the British Snoring & Sleep Apnoea Association (BSSAA) runs the National Stop Snoring Week, to encourage people to seek help with their problem. It warns that: 'snoring will not go away – it will only get worse if not addressed.'

Sadly, snoring affects a large portion of the adult population. It can range from gentle vibrations to whistles to very loud growling. The noise of snoring is well known to be one that cannot be tolerated for long without disrupting sleep.

Long-term snoring can even be an indicator of a potentially serious sleep disorder known as obstructive sleep apnoea, which is found in 4% to 10% of adults.

So if someone in your home snores, you may find the following websites helpful:

The British Snoring & Sleep Apnoea Association (B.S.S.A.A.) : <https://britishsnoring.co.uk>
Mayo Clinic: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/snoring/>
NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/snoring/>

Happy Birthday, Cadbury Crème Egg

Cadbury Crème Eggs celebrate their 60th birthday this Spring. They have a lot to celebrate: the Crème Egg is the best-selling confectionery item between New Year's Day and Easter in the UK, with annual sales of more than 200 million eggs, worth about £55 million.

Cadbury Crème Eggs were first created by the British chocolatier Fry's in 1963, before being renamed by Cadbury in 1971.



Coronation Lunch

Chapter House

12.-2pm

Thursday 4th May

**Salmon or Ham, Salad, New Potatoes
Eton Mess**

**Ticket only event £8
All proceeds to Church Funds**

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Mothers' Union Lanchester



We are looking forward to our next meeting on April 11th when Cath and Harry Gilbert are giving a talk entitled Land of Ice and Fire. They will be showing slides to illustrate their talk.

Our meeting on May 9th will be a musical afternoon with Julie and William who have played for us before and we look forward to a very pleasant afternoon

Eileen Matthews

Mothers' Union Burnhope



Our Meeting was held on Monday the 6th March. Mrs Park conducted our afternoon Service. 24 toilet bags have been given to Mrs Waite for Durham University Hospital.

Mr Eric Gaskill gave his talk on 'Old Words'. Which we found extremely interesting and very amusing.

Muriel Molloy

Fresh batches of Chutney

Tomato Chutney, Freshly made
Apple Chutney & Beetroot and Ginger
chutney all available

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or Jen on 520498

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and spectacle cases
(lightweight for ladies' hand-
bags)

Some with cross body strap
some with belt strap
or for handbag
£2.50

All proceeds to Church Funds
Ring Margaret on 521214

Our Church Clock

We are very proud of our Church Clock at All Saints. It is very much part of the village, and when it is showing the wrong time or not chiming, village residents are quick to notice and report. Peter Jackson has been for the last 18 years our expert and has seen to the timekeeping and changing the clock for the beginning and end of British Summertime for all that time. He has now decided to give up this duty and will at this Equinox hand over the baton. The Wardens will obviously ensure this duty is maintained but would like to hear from anyone who may have an interest in Church Clocks, who would be willing to carry on with this task. Not restricted to existing members of our Church family, perhaps you may know of anyone who may take this on. We intend to put this request into the Village Voice as we wondered whether that someone in the wider area may be interested. Should you know of anyone or if it is you, please speak to the Wardens.



The Churchwardens

Church Flowers in April

9th April J Osborne
M Burt (Easter Flowers)
A Hunter (Easter Flowers)
O Walker

16th April J Wilkinson
F Hunter

23rd April J Jobling
C Morcom

30th April P Reed
M Walters



Julian Prayer Meetings **2pm in the Chapter** **House**

April 3rd

May 1st (Bank Holiday to
be confirmed)

June 5th

July 3rd

August 7th (to be confirmed)



100 Club News



We have now collected money for the 100 club and a double draw was made on March 19th by Sue and Olga.

February Draw

All £5 142, 16, 162, 135, 72, 108

March Draw

All £5 125, 86, 34, 60, 157, 2

Sue Smith and Olga Walker

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who donated, supported and bought raffle tickets for the Easter raffle. To date we have raised £140 towards Church funds. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday, 6 April at the coffee morning in Burnhope Community Centre, 10.00am – 12noon. So still time for a flutter!

We will be manning a Chocolate Tombola Stall at Burnhope Community Centre's Easter Funday on 10 April, 2.00 – 4.00pm. This should be a great day with both indoor and outdoor activities to suit everyone.

Donations of anything chocolatey would be much appreciated.

Pauline Hall

Coffee Morning

**In aid of
Church Funds**



10.45am

Wednesday April 19th

Raffle

Coffee and Scones/Biscuits

Church Wives

Easter almost here, it is hard to believe.

So many blessings for us to receive.

Colour in our gardens, longer days to enjoy,

Services in church, hearts and minds to employ.

April 6th is the date of Maundy Thursday this year,

And in church we will meet the service to share.

Easter Sunday Services lovely hymns are sung,

'And Church Bells throughout the land are rung.

'JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN is the message they bring

JESUS CHRIST IS ALIVE is the message we sing.

After Easter, on April 27th Mr. Graham Soult we will meet,

'The History of Woolworths' is his brief.

.A very interesting subject to which we all can relate,

I think you should make that a special date

Every year when the great Christian Festival of Easter comes I find myself pondering Just how deep is my love for our Lord and my unworthiness has become quite an issue with me. I found this little homily one day amongst all my numerous 'cuttings' and I am keeping it beside me this Easter.

What Would He Say?

If He should come today

And find my plans so full

Of future plans, however fair,

In which my Saviour has no share

What would He say?

If He should come today

And find my love so cold.

My Faith so very dim weak and dim

I had not even looked for Him.

What would He say?

If He should come today

And find I had not told

One soul about my Heavenly Friend,

Whose blessings all my way attend.

What would He say?

If He should come today,

Would I be glad quite glad?

Remembering He had died for all.

And none through me had heard His call.

What would I say?

Thank You

I think most of you know that I have been rather ill recently and I have received tremendous support from so many people in our church and community. I want to thank you all for your kindness and generosity. I am now in the middle of my treatment and though, it is tough, I am getting through it.

Brenda Craddock

Open The Book



We continue to take Open the Book to our primary schools in the area. The latest stories were The boy in the temple, and Down through the roof. The photograph is the boy in the temple story.

Jane Makepeace

Hedgehogs need your help this Spring

During the winter when hedgehogs hibernate, their heart rate drops from around 190 beats per minute to just about 20. They breathe only once every few minutes. So, to rouse themselves from that depth of torpor and get back into normal life takes a huge surge of energy.

Which is where you can come in. Hedgehogs are hungry in the Spring. Very hungry. Most of them will have slept until mid-March, and so will now be awake - but starving.

So why not put out some shallow dishes of meaty cat or dog food or cat biscuits and water?



You can even buy or make special hedgehog feeders.

Hedgehogs have always been popular, but they are now sadly classed as 'vulnerable to extinction'. Numbers have been plummeting, and now there are less than one million left in the UK.

"With their coat of prickles and inquisitive nose, alongside a penchant for snuffling around our back gardens snaffling up slugs and earthworms, hedgehogs are a childhood memory of delight," said one scientist. "Sadly, hedgehogs might be banished to memories alone and lost as a source of wonder for our children and grandchildren."

Source The Parish Pump

First flight over Everest

It was 90 years ago, on 3rd April 1933, that the first flight over Mount Everest took place. British pilots the Marquis of Clydesdale and Donald McIntyre flew two biplanes over the summit.



The two Scots were financed by the striking and rather eccentric Lady Houston, who started life as a chorus girl but through judicious liaisons and marriages became one of the richest women in England - and one of the most generous, using much of her money for philanthropic projects, especially in the area of aviation.

The flight was organised by Major L V Stewart Blacker, who had retired from the Royal Flying Corps and was working as an arms manufacturer. He convinced the Royal Geographical Society it would be scientifically useful.

The three-hour excursion certainly provided valuable information concerning pilots at high altitude. Lord Clydesdale flew a modified Westland PV-3 biplane, accompanied by Blacker. Following them in a Westland PV-6 were McIntyre and photographer S R Bonnett. Both planes had open cabins.

At one point, Bonnett felt faint and found a fracture in his oxygen line, which he was able to repair without losing consciousness. In high winds, both planes soared a hundred feet over the summit.

Lord Clydesdale was awarded the Air Force Cross for his leadership of the expedition, and the footage shot by Bonnett was used to create the Academy Award-winning documentary *Wings Over Everest*, now available on YouTube.

The Marquis's grandson repeated the flight in 2013 to celebrate its 80th anniversary. But commercial aircraft are now banned from flying over Everest.

The two pilots had to make a second flight (against orders) to obtain the promised photographs - but those pictures were used 20 years later to help guide climbers Hillary and Tenzing to the summit.

Source The Parish Pump

Pauline's Meditation



As we've recently had the (Women's) World Day of Prayer I thought it would be appropriate to write about a wonderful woman well known in Scotland - and Serbia - but not England

Elsie Inglis (Shown here with some of her team) was born in India in 1864, the sixth of eight children. She was fortunate in that she had quite unusual parents in that age who thought that a girl's education was just as important as a boy's, and who also had a deep Christian faith on which they built their lives. Her parents encouraged her interest in medicine, and in 1887 she enrolled at the recently founded Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women. However only two years later she resigned her place in support of two other students, Grace and Georgina Cadell, who had been expelled. Determined to qualify she enlisted her father's help to found the Edinburgh College of Medicine for Women, overseen by the Scottish Association for the Medical Education of Women. She qualified in 1892, with Triple Qualification becoming a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. As one of Scotland's first female doctors, Elsie was particularly struck by the low standard of care and lack of specialisation regarding the needs of female patients. Women were an afterthought to many doctors. She regarded improvements in this area as an immediate priority. She took a post at the pioneering New Hospital for Women in London, before moving to The Rotunda in Dublin, a leading maternity hospital.

After gaining valuable experience in these world-leading hospitals, Elsie returned home to Edinburgh where she opened a medical practice, as well as a maternity hospital for poor women and a midwifery resource centre. She often waived fees owed by her patients and on occasion paid for her patients to recuperate by the sea, having particular care for child polio victims. When WWI broke out, Elsie saw her skills as being hugely important to the war effort. Contrary to prevailing gender stereotypes, where women were expected to take a back seat. Elsie, a strong campaigner during the suffragist movement, saw this opportunity to help both causes. Helping the war effort would not only help soldiers in need, but also demonstrate the true capabilities of women. Elsie formed the Scottish Women's Hospital (SWH) raising the money to fund uniforms, and equipment through her contacts in the suffragist movement. She approached the Royal Army Medical Corps in London offering a ready-made unit, staffed by qualified female staff, all keen to do their part for the war effort. Her help was refused. She was famously told by the War Office, "my good lady, go home and sit still". Elsie said, "We get these expert women doctors, nurses and ambulance workers organised. We send units wherever they are wanted. The need is there and too terrible to allow any haggling about who does the work". Undeterred by the War Office rejection, Elsie, began offering the services of the SWH to other allied forces. France and other allied countries warmly welcomed her and her courageous women colleagues.

Of the more than 1500 personnel that served with the SWH, only 20 were men. Women were doctors and surgeons, ambulance drivers, orderlies and cooks. Their work began in Calais, providing support to Belgian soldiers. However, the ever-growing need for medical support across Europe quickly saw this number increase. An incredible 17 hospitals across Europe were set up by this amazing woman. In France she established a hospital at a former Cistercian Monastery, Royaumont Abbey, (100 beds which grew to 600, so great was the need, particularly after the dreadful Battle of the Somme) and more in Greece, Corsica, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Russia. Further satellite and field hospitals and dressing stations stretched across all areas affected by conflict, often on the front lines and were stationed on both the eastern and western fronts. No matter how bad the arena of war, Elsie's units were on hand to offer vital medical care and support. This really emphasises the fact that there were so many women like Elsie who could make a real impact on the on-going war - that women were an under-appreciated resource at every level of society. Elsie herself spent most of her war years in Serbia. She developed a strong affinity with the Serbian people who she called 'her beloved Serbs'. She was in Serbia when it was invaded in 1915 and was at one point held as a prisoner of war. She was repatriated, and immediately began raising funds to establish a hospital in Russia before returning to Ukraine. Elsie and her team of just six other doctors, only one a surgeon, not only provided medical care to the Serbs, but also to the invading armies. At Braila in Rumania, when German and Bulgarian troops took the city with huge casualties, they treated 11,000 wounded soldiers and sailors. A letter in tribute to Elsie in the name of "The Russian Citizen Soldiers" was written at Easter and movingly "express(es) our sincere gratitude for all the care and attention bestowed on us, and we bow low before the tireless and wonderful work of yourself and your personnel, which we see every day directed towards the good of the soldiers allied to your country". When Russia's involvement in the war ended, thousands of Serbs faced certain death. Elsie successfully petitioned for support to help the troops return home. Today she is affectionately known throughout the country as 'The Serbian Mother from Scotland'. What most didn't know was that, whilst enduring the brutality of war, Elsie was also fighting a battle of her own with cancer. She set aside her own suffering to help ease the suffering of others, and with her army of women, saved countless numbers of allied - and other - lives. She returned to Britain in November 1917, very ill, dying just a day after getting back to England, on 26th November 1917, with her sisters at her bedside at the Station Hotel, Newcastle upon Tyne. She was 53. Elsie's body was taken to Edinburgh where she lay in state in St Giles cathedral. Her funeral was attended by both British and Serbian royalty, and hundreds lined the streets as her body was taken for interment at the Dean Cemetery. A memorial fountain was erected in Elsie's memory in Mladenovac, Serbia, commemorating her work for the country, and a number of plaques and memorials established throughout Scotland. I think though, that what would have pleased her most was the building of the Elsie Inglis Memorial Maternity Hospital in 1925. Many Edinburgh children were born there during the 20th century - though not so happy that it was sadly closed by the NHS in 1988 and sold off. Elsie would have wanted her legacy to be one in which others were cared for. In 2020 Serbia's first palliative care hospital was named after her. Her spirit lives on. Elsie's story is one of incredible selflessness and determination in the face of overwhelming odds. She and her valiant team showed women's true capabilities and worth, and in doing so helped improve standards of care for women in hospitals, furthered the cause of women's suffrage and brought vital medical aid to thousands on the battlefields of Europe. At a time when the very word "woman" is under threat this is a reminder that God created women as beings with courage, compassion, determination and love.

"I cannot think of anything more calculating to bring home to men the fact that women can help intelligently in any kind of work. So much of our work is done where they cannot see it. They'll see every bit of this". - Elsie Inglis

Pauline Meek

My dear Nephew Darren
You agonised recently over your ecumenical service: who should be invited? Who should preach? What about the order of service? If you had attended our recent combined churches' choir festival, your own dilemmas would have seemed a little less acute.



At the pre-meeting, there was heated discussion about whether those choirs who normally wore robes would be comfortable standing among those who didn't. The more aesthetically sensitive worried whether St Agatha's pea green cassocks may clash with our red ones. Intending to be helpful, but phrasing it rather badly, someone suggested that the normally robed choirs should wear nothing. Colonel Wainwright was a little too quick to chuckle.

I began to wonder if a prize was to be awarded to the person who raised the greatest number of concerns: Should the choirs stay separate? Would the tenors be next to the altos or the basses? Where would extra seating be placed? Would the heating be on for the rehearsal? Then came what you would call the 'elephant in the room': of all the choirmasters, *who would conduct and who play the organ?* Tension mounted, and expressions grew grim. But before the committee started to dig trenches in my carpet and position howitzers under the desk, I briefly left the room, turned off all the electricity and claimed we'd had a power cut. This is a useful device for truculent committees; sadly, it can be used only rarely. Come the day, an uneasy truce lasted while everyone adopted the traditional solution to disagreement within congregations, and simply did exactly what they wanted. Some were robed, some were not, some choirs congealed in their own huddles, while others joyfully sat next to people from other churches – mainly so they could point out their neighbour's wrong notes. Some sang in the right key, some sang in the wrong key, some sang what sounded like quite different songs altogether. The service ended with one choir thinking that the organist had played too loudly, while another choir thought that the conductor wasn't up to much.

Everyone agreed afterwards that we must do it again, while firmly stating that if their own choirmaster didn't conduct next year, they wouldn't be there. Thankfully, one fundamental thing on the day united them: they all said that our church was too cold, and they all went down to the pub afterwards to warm up.
Your loving uncle, Eustace.

Source The Parish Pump

Editor: *The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'... If you would like a copy of the published booklet of Uncle Eustace's letters, please email: enquiries@parishpump.co.uk*

From the Wardens

As ever the wardens continue to support Lesley as she manages to balance her work in the two parishes (and beyond).

We are continuing the warm space initiative in all Churches with limited take up which appears to be similar to other Churches and warm space initiatives in the village. This initiative will finish after Easter. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who volunteered to help at the sessions at All Saints and at the Community Centre Burnhope.

We have now received an estimate for fully cleaning the heating system (which dates from 1992) using Maggnaclean Professional 2 Filter and flushing each radiator individually and removing all sediment from the system introducing a chemical inhibitor for the systems protection. All the existing radiator valves will be replaced by lock-shield valve sets due to the intermittent operation of the existing TRVs

We have also received an estimate for a replacement boiler Baxi Duotech 33kW Combi boiler with a 7 year warranty to serve the Chapter House, and a thermostat which the system has never had, other than the individual radiator TRVs. PCC have agreed to this work being undertaken.

Because of current regulations we are unable to connect the flue to a new boiler as the system is at present. The most practical solution is to bring the flue through the wall above the door then turn 90 degrees upwards terminating on the roof. The boiler condensate line will discharge into the current waste system in the toilet cupboard. We shall need a faculty for this work and this is being addressed.

We would also wish to thank Eric and Hazel Gaskill for their gift of two new flags in commemoration of their diamond wedding and send our congratulations to them both.

For The Wardens
Rob Matthews

Sea of Galilee

A vicar planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land was shaken when he found it would cost him £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. He protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. "That might be true," replied the travel agent, "but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord Himself walked."



"Well," said the vicar, "at £50 an hour for a boat, I am not surprised!"



LANCHESTER E.P (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



It is incredible that we are already half way through March and living in hope that the weather will soon start to improve! We have had a very busy month in school. This is the half-term when our children really start to make huge steps of progress academically which is always so satisfying for children, teachers and parents alike! Our day-to-day teaching in school is the bread and butter of school life and the children do work so hard.

We have had three substantial international visits in the last month. The 24 children who visited Dubai had a wonderful week and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. They were great ambassadors for the school and were a pleasure to be with. A week later, we took 27 children and 16 parents skiing in France, returning yesterday. Again, this group were just superb – their stamina, resilience and perseverance was second to none with every single child skiing competently by the end of the week. The only slight hitch to the week was our journey home when the airport was evacuated just as we were checking in our cases. The children once again, showed a superb attitude just taking it all in their stride, setting up camp in the car park and making the most of the sunshine! We arrived back late, but relieved to make it home! Less than 24 hours later, 4 of our Year 5 girls left for an Erasmus+ trip to Athens where they are now. We have our three final Erasmus+ visits left next half-term to Brussels, Madrid and Istanbul. These are such brilliant opportunities that they will hopefully never forget!

I am also very pleased to inform you that I am now a fully registered SIAMS (Statutory Inspector of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspector. The governing body agreed about two years ago that I could access the training and I must admit that it is the best professional development I think I have ever had. It has been hard work but exceptionally rewarding. Following the training, I had my shadow inspection in inner city Manchester in November, followed by my sign-off inspection in Cumbria in January. I will have my first proper inspection as a solo inspector at the end of April, and then have to get to grips with a new framework when it is introduced in September!

We are looking forward to holding our Easter Service in church on Tuesday 28th at 1.30pm for our Key Stage 2 children. The Early Years and Key Stage 1 children will hold their own Easter services in school. It is hard to believe that it is almost Easter already! We break up on Friday 31st March for two weeks after which we embark on the testing season for our children.

I am sure you will have read or heard about our school being successful in being part of the Schools Rebuilding Programme. We are thrilled with this but have no idea whether this will be a complete re-build or a major refurbishment. We also have no idea when this work will start but hope to have more idea before the summer break.

Thank you all again for your continued support for our school and children.

Mrs Jane Davis

Head Teacher, Lanchester Endowed Parochial (Controlled) Primary School

Why is it getting harder to see your GP

Ever wonder how many other patients your local GP now cares for? Recent figures show that could be up to as many as 3,000 other people. Amid worsening staff shortages, the number of fully qualified GPs has fallen from 29,320 in 2016 to 27,372 last year, as more and more doctors are opting to reduce their hours, or go for early retirement. And to make matters worse, the number of registered patients has grown from 58 million to 62.2 million in that time, according to the House of Commons Library. The Liberal Democrats, who commissioned the research, have recently warned that the falling numbers of GPs “is creating a perfect storm” that means for many people, it feels almost impossible to see your GP when you need to. “This ever-worsening GP shortage is having a terrible human cost, as people face delayed or missed diagnoses, and A&Es fill up with desperate patients looking for treatment.”

Source The Parish Pump

Dates for your Diary April 2023

Sun 2nd (Palm Sunday) 8.00 Eucharist All Saints
9.00 am Eucharist of the Palms St Thomas
10.30 am Eucharist of the Palms All Saints (Joint Service)

Mon 3rd (Holy Week) 10.00am Reflection St Thomas
2.00pm Julian Prayer meeting in the Chapter House
7.00pm Reflection All Saints

Tues 4th 10.00am Reflection St Thomas
11am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House
7.00pm Reflection All Saints

Wed 5th 9.45 am Eucharist All Saints
10.00am Reflection St Thomas
3.30-5.30 Warm Space Burnhope Community Centre
7.00pm Reflection All Saints

Thurs 6th (Maundy Thursday) 10.00am Reflection St Thomas
10.00-12noon Coffee morning Burnhope Community Ctr
3.30-5.30 Warm Space All Saints
7.00pm Eucharist and stripping of the Altar at All Saints
Followed by the watch

Fri 7th (Good Friday) 10.00 am Stations of the Cross St Thomas
11.00am Stations of the Cross at St John's
2.00 pm Good Friday Liturgy at All Saints

Sat 8th 8.00 pm Vigil and first Mass of Easter All Saints

Sun 9th (Easter Day Alleluia He is Risen) No 8.00 am Eucharist
9.00am Celebration Eucharist for Easter Day St Thomas
Followed by Parish breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt.
10.30 am Celebration Eucharist for Easter Day
All Saints with St Johns

Mon 10th 2.00 –4.00 Burnhope Community Centre Easter Funday

Tues 11th 11am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House
2.00 pm Mothers' Union at All Saints "Land of Ice and Fire" Talk with slides Cath and Harry Gilbert
6.00pm Café Church at Burnhope Community Centre

Wed 10th No Midweek Eucharist at All Saints

Sun 16th 8.00 am Eucharist All Saints
9.15 am Eucharist St John's
9.45.am Service of the Word St Thomas
10.00 am Service of the Word All Saints
3.00 pm Messy Easter All Saints with Egg Hunt

Tues 18th 11am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House

Wed 19th 9.45 Eucharist All Saints
10.45-12 Coffee morning in the Chapter House
7.00 pm PCC in the Chapter House

Thur 20th 9.00 am Morning Prayer St Thomas
11.00am Holy Communion at Lynwood House

Sun 23rd 8.00am Eucharist All Saints
9.15 am Service of the Word St John's
9.45 am Eucharist at St Thomas
10.30 am Eucharist at All Saints

Tues 25th 11am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House

Wed 26th 10.00am Eucharist All Saints
3.00pm Fundraising meeting in Chapter House

Thur 27th 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Thomas
7.00 pm Church Wives "History of Woolworths" talk
by Graham Soult

Sun 30th 8.00 Eucharist at All Saints
10.00am Joint Eucharist for ALL three Churches at
St Johns Burnhope

Ode to a pill

Little pill here in my hand,
 I wonder how you understand,
 Just what to do or where to go
 To stop the aches that hurt me so.
 With your covering lies relief,
 Your work alone is unbelief,
 You sink in regions there below
 As down my throat you quickly go!
 But what I wonder little pill
 How do you know where I am ill?
 And just how do you really know
 Exactly where you have to go?
 I've got a headache, that is true
 My broken ribs need attention too.
 So how can anything so small
 End my aches in no time at all?
 Do you work alone or hire a crew
 To do the good things that you do?
 I am counting on you mighty and strong
 To get there where you belong.
 Don't let me down and please don't shirk
 To do your undercover work.
 So down my throat, be on your way
 To end my aches another day.
 Don't take a wrong turn is my plea
 I can't take another till after three!

Sent by Anne Whiteley

THINK FOOD BANK

As a church we are committed to supporting the Food Bank in

Consett

(There are now 29 Food Banks operating in the Durham Diocese)

Please don't forget those who depend on the foodbank at this difficult time. Lanchester All Saints is **open** for you to leave donations at present and we have liaised with the Foodbank in Consett to see how we can help. Lanchester donated over a ton of food in the year before lockdown, and many people would struggle without that generosity of spirit. As it is difficult to collect food for the food bank we have spoken to them and they are happy for us to circulate their bank account details if anyone wants to make money donations on line.

Sort code 40-52-40

Account number 00022928

Cheques for Consett foodbank should be made payable to Consett Food 4U, and posted to Durham Christian Partnership, Unit 7/9, First Avenue, Drum Industrial Estate, Chester-le-Street, County Durham DH2 1AG (0191 303 8623 / 07758 400128)

And from St Thomas



HARELAW AND ANNFIELD PLAIN

READER

Pauline Meek, 32 Harewood Close, Whickham
(0191) 6602457

SERVICES AT ST THOMAS', HARELAW AND ANNFIELD PLAIN

First and Third & any 5th Sunday services

9:45 a.m. Service of the Word

Second and Fourth Sundays

9:45 a.m. Parish Eucharist

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PCC TREASURER, Open the Book Co-ordinator,
Safeguarding and Children's Society Boxes
Jane Makepeace jane.makepeace100@gmail.com

PCC HON SECRETARY

Donald Elsom, 53 Hamsterley Gardens,
Annfield Plain 234904

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Anne Whiteley, 12 Villa Real Road, Consett 590914

GIFT AID

Robert Gair valleygair@aol.com

ORGANIST

Bill Gray, Lanchester

MOTHERS' UNION BRANCH LEADER

HARELAW AND ANNFIELD PLAIN

Jean Williams, 10 Kirkfield Gardens, Catchgate
281603

MU SECRETARY

Anne Whiteley, 12 Villa Real Road, Consett 590914

MU TREASURER

Jean Morecroft, 13 Victoria Terrace, Annfield Plain
233273

Violets?

When my husband was six years old, he thought the creed included the line: "He suffered under a bunch of violets." It took him years before he realised that he should have been saying: "under Pontius Pilate."

The Garden of Life

Plant 3 rows of peas

Peas of mind

Peas of heart

Peas and quiet

Plant 5 rows of lettuce

Lettuce be kind

Lettuce be patient

Lettuce be faithful

Lettuce love one another

Lettuce pray

Plant 4 rows of squash

Squash gossip

Squash indifference

Squash selfishness

Squash prejudice

Plant 4 rows of thyme

Thyme for family

Thyme for friends

Thyme for each other

Thyme for ourselves

Plant 3 rows of turnips

Turnip for meetings

Turnip for appointments

Turnip to help a friend in need

When sown with care, watered with patience and cultivated with love, your garden of life will reap great rewards.

Submitted by Anne Wheatley

John 12

The tomb was a cave

and Lazarus asleep:

Jesus walked in the light

on a pathway of tears

carrying God's glory

He lifted His eyes,

called into the darkness:

Lazarus rose and came out

Jesus keeps on calling

into the darkness:

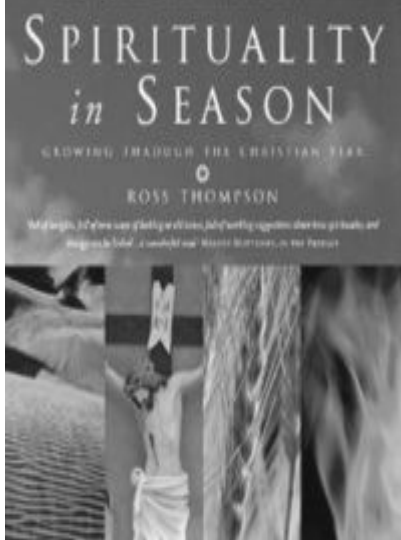
different names

different caves

by Tim Lenton



Book Reviews



Spirituality in Season: growing through the Christian Year
By Ross Thompson,
Canterbury Press,
£16.99

We make Lent a special time for renewal, but much less has been written on the other seasons of the year. This resource explores the traditions that have shaped each season, the lectionary readings, and the liturgies observed across the ecumenical spectrum.

**Lighting the Beacons
Kindling the Flame of
Faith in our Hearts**
By Jill Duff, SPCK,
£12.99

Highlighting stories from contemporary culture, Scripture and the writings of the saints, this book seeks to encourage those who are curious about the Christian faith, those who feel discouraged and those aspiring to be giants of faith and part of a transformed society.

It would be a good gift for those who yearn to be transformed by God. With study guides at the end of each chapter, it is also an ideal book for group discussion.

Prayer Tip for the Month

Think about anything in your past that troubles you. Give it to Jesus and let him transform it.



Smile Lines



*Among their demands were bourbon
biscuits, double fees for weddings, and
Sundays off*

Easter Prayer 2023

Thank you, Father, that you raised Jesus from the dead on that first Easter Day and that He is alive now and forever. Thank you that whoever believes in Him and turns away from selfish living and towards you can be forgiven through His name. Thank you that Jesus is the same today as He was then and will always be.

Thank you for the Bible – your inspired, unchanging, and living Word to guide us. Help us to hold fast to Your teaching and not to be led astray. Your Word is truth. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, Lord, that we might be Your faithful, fruitful Resurrection People.

In the name of our living Lord, Jesus.

Amen.



By Daphne Kitching



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