THE BELL

Benefice of East Lonsdale Life:

April and May 2017



Leck, Melling, Tatham, Tatham Fells, Tunstall, Wray

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

The team of clergy and lay-people who run our Services at the six churches are:

Revd Mark Cannon (Priest in Charge) Tel: 015242 21030 Revd Canon Norman and Dr Ann Dawson Tel: 015242 62936

Amma Judith OCMM Tel: 03330 119 563

Sister Sue OCMM (Revd Canon Dr Sue Williams) Tel: 03330 119 563

Peter Osborne Tel: 015242 61029 Mary Winter Tel: 015242 21784

For further details please go to the Benefice website 'Benefice of East Lonsdale' http://eastlonsdalebenefice.wordpress.com

CHURCH CONTACTS

WRAY HOLY TRINITY	Judith Wrigley Ann Anderson	Tel: 015242 21120 Tel: 015242 21173
TATHAM ST JAMES THE LESS	Phyllis Holt	Tel: 015242 21443
TATHAM FELLS GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH	Carole Butcher John Wilson	Tel: 015242 63095 Tel: 03330 062 270
TUNSTALL ST JOHN THE BAPTIST	Sue Hunter	Tel: 015242 72540
MELLING ST WILFRID	JAC Beeson	Tel: 015242 21638
LECK ST PETER	Joan Withers	Tel: 01539 724201

This issue has been sponsored By The Church of the Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells

Sponsorship: if you wish to sponsor an issue as an individual, in memory of someone, or as a business please call Carole on 015242 63095, the cost will be £55

Copy date for the June and July 2017 edition Sunday 14th May

DIARY OF A LUNE VALLEY VICAR by Mark Cannon

Time for a referendum

Sunday: Here I am in a church on a normal Sunday morning – with a congregation of 12. It costs £40 per week to heat and another £40 to insure. The cost of vicars/nuns etc. is roughly £110. There is always a chance that sooner or later a bit of the roof will drop off or a hole will open up in the floor. You might spend an average of £60 per week on repairs and maintenance. Grass in the churchyard needs to be cut, so we can add a few bob for that as well. Add on a fiver for candles, wafers, wine and a supply of lemon drizzle for t'Vicar and, well, you do the 'math'. £12,000 per church is what we need. There is a bit of income, we have a good few weddings this year and, fortunately for the bride and groom, the fees are capped, so we do not have an opportunity to bump it up a bit. And, anyway, it is only the pretty churches which benefit.

The miracle is that small groups of volunteers in each village do so much to keep them going and, anyway, the Church has its answer ... a meeting.

Monday: it must be church council night. This one attracts more people than actually come to church on Sundays and we discuss, amongst other things, lights, embroidery, headstones, charities, new Bishops, catering and loos. The discussions about loos in church are brought to a close and I cannot be the only council member who stifles a snorting laugh when the Chair says 'Everyone admired my little stool.'* This is what happens when a meeting goes into the third hour.

Thursday: Another meeting and another discussion about finances. This one has chocolate biscuits but, as we are in the first week of Lent, only two members dive in and stuff their faces. The rest of us tut silently and feel an extra boost of virtue. As soon as we do this, we realise that we are suffering from pride so have received no benefit from abstaining; should have eaten them in the first place. This meeting comes up with a somewhat surprising idea for keeping us solvent (like the meeting which toyed with freelance Vicars along the 'Uber' model of business). This time it was proposed that we look at closing one or two of our six churches ... that will make the next few meetings very interesting; suggestions on a postcard please.

* embroidery-related agenda item

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

St Peter's, Leck

At the time of writing it is a little difficult to be enthusiastic about spring as it is a damp and what I call a 'November Day' however as the snowdrops fade for another year we have lots of daffodils and crocus to cheer us and also more daylight. I am sure by Eastertide we will be having more sunshine as we celebrate it late this year.

A few of us from Leck attended the very enjoyable and informative Women's World Day of Prayer service at Tunstall on March 3rd. We were especially proud of the pupils of Leck CE School who introduced us to the theme of the service – 'Am I Being Unfair to You?' prepared by women from the Philippines – with some lovely readings and beautiful singing. They were 'word perfect' as ever, so many thanks to them and their teachers; it was a real pleasure to have them join this annual service.

Still with St Peter's School, their Easter Service will be in Church on Tuesday 4th April at 6.30pm. I am sure this will be a joyous occasion so please come along and share it with them.

On Saturday 1st April (and, no, this isn't a joke!) we are having a coffee morning in Church from 10.30am until noon. This is a 'first' for us, so please could as many folks as possible come along, bring your children and help support our fundraising efforts. We know it is Lent but that won't deter the supply of yummy cakes and biscuits! There will also be the obligatory raffle. All donations are for much needed Church funds. We are keen to contribute towards the provision of a Children's/Youth Worker for the Benefice and hope to raise some funds and awareness of the project on the day.

We have a Wedding on Saturday 8th April between Richard Burrow and Beth Moore. We offer them our prayers for a long and happy marriage, an enjoyable day and we hope they are blessed with sunshine too.

The Easter Day Service is at Leck this year so we look forward to as many people as possible joining us at 11am on this very special day in the Church's year.

Ann Shuttleworth/Joan Withers

St James the Less, Tatham

February is not the favourite month of many people, cheered perhaps by the first snowdrops, but now it has gone and we have daffodils, lambs and shorter nights to cheer us up.

February did provide two happy occasions with large attendances, one for the wedding of Alexandra Bromley and one for the visit of The Levens Choir who gave us a delightful Sunday afternoon of church music followed by tea and cake thanks to The Friends.

The Church was full again on 3rd March for the funeral of Elizabeth (Liz) Quine. This was a testimony to the affection and respect with which she was held by all who knew her. She did much unseen work on behalf of St James' Church, The Friends and the Benefice. Her untimely death after a long, brave fight is especially sad. Her last journey in a horse-drawn hearse was so very appropriate.

We look forward to our involvement at Wray Fair, including catering on Sunday 23rd April; help at both is always welcome.

Hopefully, by the time you read this you will be able to enjoy a special 'cuppa' from the new brew point.

To end on a different note, we are using a modern version of the Communion Service on the fourth Sunday at 11am for an experimental period; comments please.

John Holt

St Wilfrid's, Melling

There is nothing to report from the Parish Registers this time. We do have a Christening that is imminent but I will save the excitement of reporting on that until after the event. In the meantime, please see my article on page 8. This appeared in the last Melling Chronicle with some impact and it was suggested that I should submit it for The Bell.

Good Shepherd Church, Tatham Fells

Our 'Messy Church with Christingle' service was held on Sunday 5th February at 11am. Eight children and their families attended, enjoying quality time crafting and quiet time with prayers and singing the Christingle song. This was followed by delicious bacon butties organised by Gillian Middleton.

I bring some very sad news in my report. The funeral of our friend Kate McDonald took place on Thursday 2nd March. The Church and The Old School were full to overflowing with friends and family who came to pay their respects. Kate was a much loved member of our community and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her. We send our deepest condolences to Roger and family.

The Lent Lunch at Fourstones House on Thursday 9th March was very well attended. Donations were for The Salvation Army. At the time of going to press two more Lent lunches are scheduled in our part of the Benefice and we are looking forward to our Mothering Sunday Service with the children and families from Tatham Fells School

Carole Butcher

Holy Trinity, Wray

March has been a busy month for us at Holy Trinity including a coffee morning to raise money to help the homeless shelter on Edward Street, Lancaster. This is a charity now supported by the Benefice. Our first baptism of the year was held in March. Luke Ryan Anderson (grandson of Ann and Alf) aged nine months flew over with his parents from their home in Slovakia to be baptised in our church. This was held during our service with the congregation to support.

This year our Messy Church and our Mothering Sunday service will be held together at the end of March, with cakes afterwards instead of our usual bacon butties.

Looking at our calendar for April we are going to be busy again. We have our usual afternoon congregation led Evening Prayer Service on the 2nd at 2.30pm. We will also be holding one of the Lent Lunches in church on 6th April from 12 noon to 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for soup, cheese and excellent company.

On the 14th April, Good Friday, Mary will be holding her Children's Workshop in Wray Institute from 10.00am to 1.15pm. All young people are ensured a very good time. On the 20th we will be holding our Annual General Meeting in church at 3.30pm. All church members are welcome and we hope that many will be able to attend.

Then it will be Scarecrow Week! Our refreshment day in the Institute is on Friday 28th when it will be 'all hands on deck' for us all. On Sunday 30th April at the end of Scarecrow Week will be our Songs of Praise service at 2.30pm. This is always beautifully organised by Mary and we encourage visitors who are walking around the scarecrows to join us. Members of the congregation are invited to choose favourite hymns and say why these appeal.

Ann Anderson/Judith Wrigley

St John the Baptist, Tunstall

It is with great sadness that we have to report three funerals in the last few weeks. Stanley Beaumont, John Lawrence Gillibrand and Joe Towers, all of whom have been involved in our community and will be missed by family and friends. We have also had two congregation led services, one planned and one unplanned. These involved many of our congregation; a special thank you goes to Revd Peter Woodman who was playing the piano and stepped in to celebrate communion. On 3rd March it was the Women's World Day of Prayer which welcomed all the Churches in the Benefice. We had a good turn out with a bright welcome of exotic flowers and colours thanks to Jean Dalkin. The service was introduced by the children from Leck School who told us about the Philippines and sang the introductory song, which was repeated throughout the service. Our thanks go to Mrs Wheatley, Mrs Makinson and Years 5 and 6 for making this such a lovely service. Our thanks also go to Peter Entwistle for playing the music on the piano which lent itself to the mood of the service. After the service we had a wonderful afternoon tea provided by the good ladies of Tunstall, for which a big thank you. Our Lent Lunch was held on Friday 10th March and we raised £65 to go towards the organ fund, so thank you to all who supported this.

In April and May we look forward to two weddings, both brides in our Parish, Olivia Gillibrand and Alexa Banks Lyon; we hope for sunshine. **Sue Hunter**

CALENDAR OF SERVICES FOR APRIL AND MAY 2017 AND FIRST SUNDAY IN JUNE BCP = Book of Common Prayer

BCP = Book of Common Prayer				
APRIL Sunday 2 nd 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 2.30pm	Fifth Sunday of Lent Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Service Morning Service Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer (BCP)	Tatham Melling Tatham Fells Leck Wray	Norman and Ann Mark Mark Sue and Judith Congregation	
Sunday 9 th 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 2.15pm	Palm Sunday Holy Communion Morning Service Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer (BCP)	Wray Tatham Tunstall Tatham Fells	Mark Peter Sue Norman and Ann	
Thursday 13 th 7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion	Wray	Mark and Sue	
	Good Friday Service Devotional Hour	Wray Institute Tunstall Wray Tatham Fells	Mary Sue Mark Norman and Ann	
9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Easter Day Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Sung Eucharist	Wray Tatham Fells Tatham Melling Leck	Norman and Ann Mark Mark Norman and Ann Sue	
Sunday 23 rd 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am	Second Sunday of Easter Morning Service Morning Service Sung Eucharist	Wray Tatham Fells Tunstall	Mark Norman and Ann Sue	
Sunday 30 th 11.00am 2.30pm	Third Sunday of Easter Benefice Communion Songs of Praise	Melling Wray	Mark Mary	
MAY Sunday 7 th 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 2.30pm	Fourth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Service 'Messy Church' Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer (BCP)	Tatham Melling Tatham Fells Leck Wray	Sue and Judith Mark Mark Norman and Ann Congregation	

9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.30pm	Fifth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion Morning Service 'Messy Church' Evening Prayer (BCP)	Wray Tatham Tunstall Tatham Fells	Sue and Judith Norman and Ann Mark Peter
Sunday 21st	Sixth Sunday of Easter Rogation Sunday		
8.00am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Service Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Service	Wray Wray Tatham Fells Melling Leck	Mark Mark Norman and Ann Norman and Ann Mark
Thursday 25 th 10.30am	Ascension Day Holy Communion followed by a light lunch of soup and sandwiches	St Joseph's House, Tunstall	Sue and Judith
Sunday 28 th 9.30am 9.30am	Sunday after Ascension Morning Service Service celebrating the lives of John and Charles Wesley	Wray Tatham Fells	Mark Ann
11.00am 11.00am JUNE	Holy Communion Morning Service	Tatham Tunstall	Sue and Judith Mark
Sunday 4th 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 2.30pm	Feast of Pentecost Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Service Holy Communion Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer (BCP)	(Whit Sunday) Tatham Melling Tatham Fells Leck Wray	Mark Norman and Ann Mark Sue Congregation

DAILY SERVICES apart from Mondays at St Joseph's House of Prayer Tuesday-Saturday AM7.00; 7.30; 8.00; PM12.45; 5.00; Sunday AM7.00; 7.20; PM12.45; 5.00

FROM THE REGISTERS

Wedding, Tatham
Daniel Dugmore and Alexandra Bromley

Funeral and Burial, Tatham Fells
Kathryn Mary McDonald

Funeral, TathamElizabeth Susan Quine (Liz)

Burial, Leck
Dorothy Lawson

Baptism, Wray
Luke Ryan Anderson
Funeral and Burial, Tunstall
Stanley Beaumont

Joe Towers

Funeral, Tunstall

John Lawrence Gillibrand

SMART METERS, RATS AND CHURCH FUNDS by JAC Beeson



How smart exactly *is* a smart meter? I found myself asking this question after a second visit by the 'gas man' to St Wilfrid's last month. On his first visit, before Christmas, our old gas meter was removed and a new 'smart' one put in its place. Unfortunately it turned that the new meter did not work so the original one had to be put back into place and a second attempt would be needed at some point in the future. The same gas man came again in January to fit a new smart meter. Except when he arrived he explained that it was not a 'smart' meter but a standard meter which could be attached to a smart box. So now our old standard meter has been replaced by a new standard meter and a smart box and there remains the prospect of another visit to replace both with a new smart meter.

I worry about the waste of time and effort for a marginal saving that this sort of thing achieves.

It also worries me that we have ongoing problems with rats in the churchyard. Despite cutting back the vegetation to deny what can only be described as rat runs, we find that although there is no source of food within the church or churchyard, every year we need to call out the Pest Control people from Lancaster City Council. This now seems to happen so often that we have each other's mobile phone numbers. I am assured that there must be a source of food nearby otherwise we wouldn't have the problem. Each 'treatment' has to be paid for and consequently we are appealing for those near the church to ensure that sources of food are secured against the robbing rodents.

Along with inclement weather and tax returns, January brings another unwelcome event in our calendar; the calculation of the St Wilfrid's financial position. Last year was not one of the best financially and again we find ourselves still owing part of our Parish Share at the year end. This is not something new and we spend the first part of the year paying what is still owed from the previous year but the shortfall is getting worse. Whilst it is true that the 3 churches in the parish have the money between them, St Wilfrid's is 'light in the pot' and rumbling noises from elements in our fellow churches in Tunstall and Leck are another source of worry to me. Fortunately we are one parish, kind to our neighbours and recalling Jesus's parable of the workers (Matthew Chapter 20), we know that we can expect good treatment and support from all our colleagues in the other churches. Our priority has been ensuring that the word of God is heard in the community and fund raising has been a secondary concern but undoubtedly in future we will need to focus a bit more on meeting our financial obligations.

That said, today, in his sermon the vicar focused on another tract from Matthew's Gospel where the futility of worry is emphasised. Much refreshed by this I now know that I can follow a Christian path and not worry about smart meters, rats or indeed church funds ... but that doesn't mean that I can become complacent!

TATHAM FELLS AND MELLING SCHOOLS OUR NEW EXECUTIVE HEAD TEACHER, MRS FIONA IP

At the beginning of January we welcomed our new Executive Headteacher, Mrs Fiona Ip to two of our schools in the Benefice. Mrs Ip was the Headteacher of Abbeysted School for 11 years prior to her appointment and loved her time there in a small family environment where every individual matters. She is delighted she has found two similar schools to be part of and is settling in well. **Carole Butcher**

THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE LESS, TATHAM



Members of the Friends of St James the Less Church were devastated by the loss of two of its most valued members; Liz Quine, who was both Treasurer and Trustee of our organisation, and Kate McDonald a member of our Events Committee. Both died in February within a few days of each other and both following lengthy illnesses. We offer our heartfelt commiserations to the families of both Liz and Kate.

The Friends held their first event of the calendar year on February 26th when some 40 members of the Levens Choir performed their programme of 'Music in Quiet Places' under the baton of musical director, Ian Jones. The wonderful acoustics of St. James the Less Church provided a perfect setting for virtuoso performances of some of the world's greatest choral pieces.

The Church was packed for the occasion and thanks are due to the many friends and neighbours who attended. We would also like to record our thanks to the hard working members of our Events Committee who, together with Veda Gardner, generously provided a magnificent afternoon tea and cakes once again. This ensured that everyone went home 'well fed'.

The sad loss of Kate and Liz led the Friends to postpone the AGM, originally scheduled for Monday 13th March. This will now be held in St. James the Less Church on Monday May 8th starting at 7.00pm. The AGM will be followed by a regular meeting of the Friends and there will be refreshments between the two meetings kindly provided by way of a Jacob's Join by our members. Everyone is welcome!

Children's Society

We have now sent a total of £421 to the Children's Society from the Carol Service at Tatham Fells and the Christingle Services at Melling and Wray. The Society have now received £1,000,000 from such services countrywide this year, which will help their work with vulnerable youngsters to continue and develop. Many thanks to all who donated towards our contribution.

Ann Dawson

FACTS ABOUT THE CURLEW FOR KIDS LATIN NAME - Numenius arquata



The curlew is the largest European wading bird, instantly recognisable on winter estuaries or summer moors by its long, down-curved bill. Its plumage (feathers) are mainly grey brown with streaked and spotted underparts and a pale belly. It has long legs and evocative call – 'cur-lew' and a bubbling song. Curlews can be seen around the whole of the UK coastline with the largest concentrations found at Morecambe Bay, the Solway Firth, the Wash, and the Dee, Severn and Humber estuaries. The greatest breeding numbers are found in North Wales, the Pennines, the Southern Uplands and eastern Highlands of Scotland, and the Northern Isles.

Curlews eat worms, shellfish and shrimps.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN WRAY CHURCH

Due to a combination of school holidays and the use of the church for Wray Fair, both Joyful Noise and After-School Club have had to be cancelled for April.

May dates will be:

Joyful Noise: Thursday May 4th at 2.00pm

After-School Club: Friday May 12th - after school until 4.45pm

EVENTS AND INFORMATION

ST PETER'S CHURCH, LECK

COFFEE MORNING ON SATURDAY 1ST APRIL 10.30AM - 12 NOON

YUMMY CAKES AND BISCUITS ON OFFER

Do come along and support us

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WRAY

LENT LUNCH
THURSDAY 6TH APRIL
12 NOON - 1.30PM
Everyone welcome to join us
for soup/cheese/fellowship
Contact: Leisel Fox
015242 63486 for information
Proceeds for charity

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP IN WRAY INSTITUTE

On Good Friday 14th April 10.00am - 1.15 pm

THEME: THE TREE OF LIFE

Stories, Crafts, Songs and more
Any child attending primary school
is most welcome
Please note this workshop
is not suitable for pre-schoolers
Please sign up by Sunday April 9th
Contact: Mary Winter 21784

FARM COMMUNITY NETWORK

A HELPLINE IS OPEN

FROM 7AM - 11PM EVERY DAY

TEL: 0300 111 999

ORDER OF THE COMPANIONS OF MARTHA AND MARY St Joseph's House of Prayer Tel: 03330 119 563

OPEN HOUSE Saturday 8th April 2pm to 5pm Saturday 13th May 2pm-5pm Tea, cake and chat

CRAFT AND CONTEMPLATION DAY Saturday 27th May 10.30am-3.30pm

A time to be quietly creative in the presence of God no experience necessary! As a simple lunch is provided, please let the Sisters know if you decide to come along, thanks TATHAM FELLS VILLAGE SOCIETY

BLUEBELL WALK

MIDDLETON WOOD,

TATHAM FELLS

MAY 20™ 2.00PM-4.30PM

Meet in the car park at

The Old School

(Signed from Wray and Bentham)

CREAM TEA IN THE OLD SCHOOL
TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC
IN THE WOODS AT 3PM
Admission by donation
towards the upkeep of
The Old School

CONTACT: Anne and Richard Wilson Tel: 015242 63399

ADVERTISING

B & W FUNERALS

39 Main Street, Ingleton, Carnforth, LA6 3EH Funeral Director James G Macdonald

> Tel: 015242 41293 Home: 015242 61370 Mobile: 07758 002260

BRIDGE HOUSE FARM TEAROOMS

Wray, Lancaster, LA2 8QP Open Tuesday-Sunday 10am – 5pm Closed on Mondays Farmers and Artisan Market every fourth Saturday

Reservations Tel: 015242 22496

Lune Valley Physiotherapy

Specialist experience working with scarring and tightness from surgery, injury and radiotherapy, and with people who have or have had cancer.

Leah Dalby MSCP 07934 785 797

email: <u>leahthephysio@gmail.com</u> www.leahthephysio.co.uk

KAREN'S KITCHEN Outside Catering

All your catering needs
can now be taken care of.
Whether you're planning a party,
special celebration, just want your
freezer stocking or help with baking
when life is hectic we can help.
For more details, prices and menus contact

Tel: 07816 850 391
email: karenskitchen41@gmail.com
41 Wennington Road, Wray,
Lancaster

TUFFETT

Bespoke footstools in any size or fabric

Individually made with beautiful hand turned legs in solid oak, beech or mahogany. You can supply your fabric or I can find one for you.

Contact: Sue Marsden 07836 500 091 www.tuffett.co.uk

RT HARRISON & SON

Traditional dry stone walling

also mortar stone walling, flag laying and stone facing. All tasks considered, including wall gapping on a small scale, or larger projects

Call 07792 901 822 or 015242 21156 FOR FREE ESTIMATES

FEET FIRST MOBILE CHIROPODIST

For the professional treatment of foot problems call Karen Salisbury
Tel: 07508 477 207

email: feetfirst@live.co.uk
Fully registered and insured

YOUTH WORKER WANTED

The Benefice of East Lonsdale is looking for A PART-TIME CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORKER

to cover all six churches. The position will be paid and is expected to be approximately 10 hours per week. For more information or to submit an application please contact

Revd Mark Cannon (015242 21030)

mhcannon@fsmail.net
OR Mary Winter (015242 21784)
maryswinter@gmail.com

CLOSING DATE 21st APRIL