



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

Woodside Cottage
Colton
ULVERSTON

March 2003

Dear friends and Neighbours

This is the time of the year when we start to see the promise of new things. The hedgerows are about to green up; as I write, there are one or two lambs to be seen in the fields and we even have had the odd day when the sun shines with real invigorating warmth on our backs, as we go about our daily business.

All these new things and yet, not new things.

The spring and lambing time have come to these valleys without fail for centuries; and they have come about whatever has been happening in the wider world around us, be it great wars, natural disasters or economic misfortune.

At the moment (late February) we are still on the brink of war with Iraq but I hope you will find some solace in the evidence of God's steadfast, unstinting and eternal goodness to us that lies around us.

Lent is approaching fast and it is a good time in which to reflect on God's greatest gift to us, that of His Son, Jesus.

Most people associate Lent with a time of sacrifice, of giving something up, even if they do not profess to be Christians. However, have you ever thought of doing something extra during Lent? Just for a change!

In anticipation of our new links with Egton & Lowick there will be a series of mid-week services to be held on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. throughout Lent in each of the churches in turn, starting at Penny Bridge on 5 March.

They will not be lengthy and certainly will not contain a sermon, as such! They will, however take the form of a Eucharist or a Devotional Service of the Word. It can be good for us to take a spiritual break in the middle of our busy weekday lives, so why not try it!

You can be sure of a warm welcome.

With love and prayers

Joanna

Joanna Henson, Lay Reader



COLTON CHRONICLES

The Church Commissioners gavel has come down with a resounding bang and they have approved the original Pastoral Measures for the Valley churches. This will, no doubt, please some and cause quiet despair in others but it is a democratic decision, or rather what passes for democracy in the Church of England. Hypothetically, there could be a further delay as an appeal to Her Majesty in Council is possible, though highly unlikely.

Our PCC clearly have got impatient with the delay and saw fit to pass a resolution stating it was ‘dismayed and frustrated by this further delay in providing a stable and sustainable future for the ministry of our church.’ They do not, apparently believe in democracy either, although they did take a vote on the issue, which was passed, but not unanimously. Bit of a waste of time really.

Having said that there was nothing else of any moment to report other than the magazine would be a week later this month. But you already know that.

An interesting booklet, *‘Called to Account’*, the case for an audit of the state of the failing of the Church of England has been published and makes fascinating reading, even if you do not agree with the views expressed. The ISBN No. is 0 907631 99 1.

A Minister of our present Government stated, recently, ‘that political correctness was a nonsense.’ The diocese of Birmingham clearly do not agree with him as it is proposing a motion to be discussed at the next General

Synod calling for titles such as chairman to be replaced by “gender neutral” terms.

They believe that “man” is a reflection of a patriarchal, male-dominated culture. They should come to Colton where all self-respecting chaps keep their heads below the parapet. On the serious side it is sad that apart from having nothing better to do such people are unaware of basic English.

The Oxford English Dictionary (based on Historical Principals) shows that ‘man’ is of German origin and means ‘a human being’. Whilst it is also used in a gender sense this is but a small part of its overall use.

The Council of Bishops is not too pleased either and is moving heaven and earth, so as to speak, to ensure the motion does not see the light of day at the Synod.



“VALEDICTION”

*In this exile people call old age
I live between nostalgia and rage,
This is the land of fools and fear.
Thanks be. I'm lucky to be here*

Dannie Abse.

Praise be, Carlisle has moved at last and we have got the go-ahead for the **Jubilee Window**. All we need now is the money but as an Irish priest said
‘We’ve got the money, the only small problem is, it is in your pockets.’

JUBILEE WINDOW: We are now starting.

**Leaflets will be delivered to your house –
please read what they have to say about
this IMPORTANT project**



**Following the installation of the Window
there will be a Concert in the church and a
party.**



Many of you must have watched the television programme charting the progress of a young townie priest attempting to endear himself to a rural community in Wiltshire. Another cleric, not so young and anything but trendy wrote a review for a Yorkshire paper; here are some extracts:

‘this will come as a nasty shock to our trendy young clergyman, he himself is the new stereotype. He is the very model of the stereotypical modern clergyman right down to his tattoos.’

‘The man is a walking, talking cliché of today’s parson right down to his perpetual silly grin and his knee jerk repudiation of the past.’

‘The problem with the new stereotyped modern clergyman is that his way of running the parish has resulted in the biggest desertion of the pews ever.’

FLOWER ROTA

It being Lent there are no flowers and so there is no Flower Rota, you will just have to use your imagination.

COFFEE ROTA

As this magazine is at least a week late due to your editor traipsing the globe you will have had you coffee and biscuits and I hope you enjoyed them. This does give us the opportunity to say ‘thank you’ to the those ladies who month in and month out make the coffee, serve it and wash up afterwards.



MOTHERS UNION

The theme of the Mothers Union is working on at the moment is “Empowering and Enabling” and this year we are dwelling on “The Light of Christ” which we need in order to empower and enable.

Mrs Anne Emmett used this theme in her talk at Haverthwaite at their February meeting, she chose the light and heat of candles to illustrate her talk, and went on to show how she translated the theme into her hobby, by painting three candles on a square of silk.

We begin our programme for 2003 at Satterthwaite, on Wednesday 5 March at 2.00pm. when a representative from the Blind Society will be giving a talk.

On Friday 7 March, also at 2.00pm., there will be a service for the “Women’s Day of Prayer” in the Friends Meeting House, Colthouse, near Hawkshead.

Tuesday 25 March is Lady Day and a service at 2.00pm at Colton is planned.



‘The Flit Gun’

*My Mother had a flit gun,
It was not devoid of charm,
A bit of Flit,
Shot out of it,
The rest shot up her arm.*

Pam Ayres

PARISH NEWS

Either there is nothing happening in the parish or else people are being very secretive. The information reaching this long-suffering editor is as scarce as hens' teeth, and what we have got isn't good.

We send our very best wishes to Tizzie Teasdale, Jack Burns and Ted Boon with the sincere hope they will all soon return to better health. Our thoughts also go out to Jim Saunders and his family as Jim is more than a little poorly in Australia having being taken ill whilst on a 'once in a life time cruise'.

Joanna mentioned in her letter that there would be mid-week services during Lent at the three churches of the New Benefice. The programme for the services, which will all be held at 7.30pm are:

- 5 March Penny Bridge
- 12 March Lowick
- 19 March Colton



Mothering Sunday, this year falls on the 30 March, the fifth Sunday when so many of the congregation appear to think that it is a day off and our church stands all but empty. Well! This year the service will be a family service incorporating Mothering Sunday. If you want your daffodils, turn up.

The derivation of the word Mothering and the significance of the day is obscure but what is not is that we want your Christian Aid Boxes brought to church on that Sunday, not any old Sunday but that Sunday. And whilst we are about it a reminder that there will be a Christian Aid Lunch in May and the details will be in next month's issue.

I knew there was something else, apart from the fact that I am in desperate need of a coffee, Mrs Sally Pirnie after many years of service has decided to resign as a Foundation Governor at Leven Valley School at the end of the summer term. In thanking Sally for her work on behalf of the church and the school I am sure she will agree that it is a very rewarding job, particularly if you can ignore the ever increasing pieces of paper and regulations that the government issue as a matter of course. A big waste paper basket helps.

If any kind soul would like to volunteer to replace Sally, please get in touch with any of the people listed on the front page of this illustrious journal.



WOMENS INSTITUTE

BOUTH

Our February meeting was a delight for, as the speaker couldn't attend, we did our own thing, putting the world to rights, solving everybody's problems but our own and planning a brave new world. The United Nations could learn a thing or two from the W I.

This month we are having an OPEN MEETING and we know the speaker will turn up as it is our own Desmond Dalton who will be talking on Local History. Desmond lives next to President Elspeth and has no chance of getting away.

The date is **12 March, time 7.15pm in the Bouth Village Hall** and it is an OPEN meeting when everyone will be welcome and that includes the fellas.



SPARKBRIDGE & LOWICK

A little bit of sunshine, in the form of a vase of colourful artificial daises, greeted members on a very cold January evening. Mrs Campbell welcomed Sarah Atkinson, who spoke on Herbal Remedies. Members found this talk quite intriguing; the thought of using and eating nettles, and dandelions was alien to our palates, and using a cream with chickweed to alleviate an itchy skin seemed unbelievable.

The competition for an unusual candle, was won by Mrs P Goyder with daughter Liz taking second.

The next meeting will be held on **25 March at 7.30pm. in Lowick Sunday School** when the speaker will be Angela James from the Disabled Society. We welcome any ladies who would like to join us.



'I slept and dreamed that life was beauty; I woke and found that life was duty.'

SCHOOL NEWS

CARTMEL

In September it is intended to make changes to the school day. There will be 4 1hr. sessions in the morning with a break and one period after lunch. This will provide wider choice of options for year 10 and will cut down movement between lessons. Research has shown that an intensive morning followed by a shorter afternoon is beneficial to students and staff.

The school is now at the final planning stage for the bid for the Rural Academy. The bid, which will be submitted in early April, if successful, will be of great benefit to all nine schools both academically and financially.



LEVEN VALLEY

Our three students from St. Martin's College at Ambleside have settled in well and are giving us new ideas as well as a little precious non-contact time.

Class 2 were pleased to make the Christingles for the special service at St. Mary's. We have been studying the Victorians and pretended to be factory workers and discovered that our wages were better today than 130 years ago.

We shall be holding our Easter service on **Wednesday 9 April at St. Anne's church at 2.45pm.**

It is with mixed feelings that the school says goodbye to Mrs Lorraine Hodgson and we are sorry to lose her from our team but wish her and her family joy with their expected second child.



CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL

The CCC is getting all democratic and would like your ideas on how to improve services and to hear YOUR concerns. Whilst the church believes we are in High Furness the Council thinks us Low Furness. There will be meetings in St. Mary's School Ulverston, 6 to 7.00pm. and at 7.30pm. on 19 March and also on 20 March 10.00am. to 12 noon at the Coronation Hall. For details contact Debbie Binch on 01539 773180 or Dianne Whitehead on 01229 894103.

DIARY DATES

- 2 March Family Service – 9.30am. Coffee in Hall afterwards.
- 5 March **Ash Wednesday** - M U Meeting Satterthwaite – 2.00pm.
Service - Penny Bridge - 7.30pm.
- 7 March M U - ‘Womens Day of Prayer’ Service – Friends Meeting House
Colthouse, Hawkshead – 2.00pm.
- 9 March Holy Communion – 9.30am.
- 12 March Bouth W I – Bouth Village Hall – 7.15pm.
Service – Lowick – 7.30pm.
- 16 March Holy Communion – 11.15am.
- 17 March **St. Patrick.**
- 19 March **Joseph of Nazereth** - Service – Colton – 7.30pm.
- 23 March Holy Communion – 11.15am.
- 25 March **The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary.**
Lady day – M U Service – Colton – 2.00pm.
Sparkbridge & Lowick W I – Lowick Sunday School – 7.30pm.
- 30 March Mothering Sunday Service + Christian Aid Boxes – 9.30am.
Spring Forward 1 hour – British Summer Time arrives.
- 31 March John Donne, Poet and Priest.



‘The one charm of the past is that it is the past. But women never know when the curtain has fallen. They always want a sixth act, and as soon as the interest of the play is entirely over they propose to continue it. If they were allowed their own way, every comedy would have a tragic ending, and every tragedy would culminate in farce.’

The Picture of Dorian Gray - Oscar Wilde

