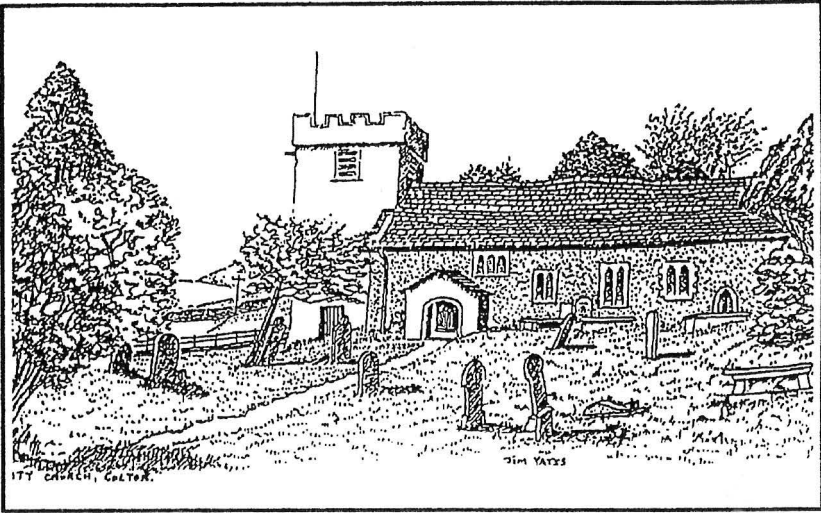




PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

Woodside Cottage
Colton
ULVERSTON
LA12 8HE

May 2013

Dear Friends

We have heard the word “fair” quite a lot lately in relation to the changes that have been made to the tax, benefit and welfare systems and I have a feeling that the use of this word creates a lot of aggravation as people ask “fair for who?” (or should it be “for whom?”?)

Any parent will tell you that endeavouring to be fair to one’s children is of paramount importance when trying to keep the peace sharing out anything good or bad. “It’s not fair” is bound to be the response to any perceived inequality in what is handed out, be it slices of cake or sanctions. But sooner or later our children learn the hard lesson that life is rarely fair. So what is this fairness we hear so much about if it is so illusive and unobtainable?

Does Christianity have anything to contribute to this issue?

Turning to the Gospels we find that, indeed, Jesus had a great deal to tell us about fairness in the parables that he told to try and help us understand how God behaves towards us and how we should behave towards one another.

This is not the time or place to tell you about all of them so I shall just jog your memories about three so that you get the flavour of what I am trying to say.

The first is the parable of the labourers who all received the same pay regardless of what time of that day they had started work.

The second is the story of the Prodigal Father and the son who returned. Do you remember how jealous his stay-at-home brother was of all the fuss that was made?

The last story about the unforgiving servant who was let off a huge debt by his master yet went mercilessly after someone else who owed him a fraction of the debt that had been wiped out for him.

I can't leave you without mentioning what John said when he was asked by a by-stander what he needed to do to be baptised and John answered "If you have two coats, give one away," "Do the same with your food."

All these things tell us about God's love for us and what he expects of us in the way we behave towards one another. The key word here is not FAIRNESS but LOVE and GENEROSITY. If we are truly loving and compassionate we will want to demonstrate our love and compassion by supporting those in our society who are struggling to make ends meet so that they are properly supported; and it should be a two way process – the love that is demonstrated by one group of people would be returned by those who receive it and efforts would be made to return that love by a commitment not abuse it or take it for granted Surely that sort of reciprocity would be so much more acceptable and we would no longer hear those complaints of "It's not fair".

With love and prayers from your sister-in-Christ

Joanna



FLOWER ROTA

5 May Mrs. Charlotte Sharphouse
12 May The Watson Family
19 May The Watson Family
26 May Mrs. Margaret Sanders



PHILIPPIANS 2013 PART 3

Week beginning May 5th

Philippians 2:5 - 11 Jesus Christ the Servant

Jesus showed a caring for all including those who did not fit into society – the tax collectors and sinners. Do we show a similar caring for others? How can we learn to care about others more than we care about ourselves – or at least as equals – whoever they are? Do we look at ways of serving people rather than looking for status and privilege?

Week beginning May 12th

Philippians 2:12 – 18 Go Forward: God is at Work

Do we think that the generation we live in is perverse and crooked? Do our actions in society make us “shine like stars”? Could it be said about us that we are blameless and innocent? Do we do all things without murmuring or arguing? Do we feel that God is at work in our lives?

Week beginning May 19th

Philippians 2:19 – 30 Fellow Workers

Do we always seek after our own interests and never the interests of others around us? Do we believe that belief in Jesus and prayer can sometimes heal? Do we pray when ill or we are feeling any kind of pain, hurt and upset? Do we pray for those who upset and hurt us by what they do or say?

Week beginning May 26th

Philippians 3:1 – 11 The Old or New Way

Paul urges his readers and listeners to put away the old ways and follow the new. Do we cling to the past – those “good old days” – when everything was “perfect”? Should the church become more “modern” or should it hold on to the past?



Colton Chronicles

It will come as no surprise that the APCM came and went, as it usually does, without any ‘outside’ input and all remains as before. The words of John Tarr, last month, when referring to the Fête are equally applicable to the running of our Church! “As always the organisation falls to the valiant few who by their nature do not complain (much) but are getting fewer and older! We are in great need of new blood and new ideas.”

Money, or the lack of it, is also a concern as our expenditure continues to outstrip income and this should concern all who expect the church to be there for their needs but do little or nothing to support its survival.

Those who have been in the Church Hall will have noticed a transformation brought about by newly refurbished curtains on attractive black metal poles replacing the ghastly plastic rails. Our grateful thanks to Sue & Roderick Smith for all their work and for donating what had to be

donated. Roderick also has other skills, especially with a paint brush and a can of Hammerite resulting in the Church gates looking very smart.

A reminder that the **Church Fête** is to be held this year, on **Saturday 27 July**. As always the organisation falls to the valiant few who by their nature do not complain (much) but are getting fewer and older! We are in great need of new blood and new ideas if it is to continue. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any PCC member if you or anyone else you know, think you can help in any way, erecting the tent, manning a stall, making cakes etc. Please do not be shy!

Contact John Tarr **T:** 01229 586 174. Email: john.tarr@hotmail.co.uk

Week in week out the faithful few walk up to the lectern, read the lessons and lead intercessions; as in other aspects of our church the emphasis is on the word 'few'. It would be helpful, indeed a delight to have one or two more volunteers; it is not a difficult task, apart from the odd unpronounceable names, and can be quite a pleasurable task.

If anybody is interested please contact Donald Wroe **T:** 01229 861 275. Or Email: dwroe@mymail.uk.net.

Donald.



MOTHERS UNION

For reasons we know not of we are bereft of news from the Mothers Union, which is a shame as it forms an important part of the Anglican Church.

What we can tell you is that the Diocesan Outing to Newcastle is on **Monday 13 May** and on **Tuesday 14 May** there will be a Service at **Colton** when the Induction of new members and Team leader will take place.

Donald.



PARISH NEWS

Our commiserations to Barbara Watson who has just lost her father; Barbara has had a tough time of late; we hold her in our prayers, praying for better things to come.

Congratulations to a wonderful lady on her 80th. Birthday – Margaret Sanders, who is an example to us all as she works quietly without fuss, but

very effectively, raising funds both for our Church and charities with her green fingers and dances. **Happy Birthday!**

The *BBC (Bouth Bikers) are having a 'Steve Memorial Bike Run' on **Sunday 28 April**, starting early afternoon from the White Hart and touring some local hostelrys before ending back at the village pub. Riders will be seeking sponsorship to raise funds for the Hospice. Further details from Roger Coates **T: 861 462.**

* The BBC consists of gentleman no longer in the springtime of their youth who don Lycra, climb aboard expensive looking cycles and tour the parish in order to 'keep fit'. Unsurprisingly their routs always seem to pass Inns and they are not averse to stopping at frequent intervals to chat to any available pedestrian.

Comment, understandably, has been made as to whether the Parish News was the correct vehicle to air the planning transgression piece last month; the answer, as all good answers are, is a question. Where else other than in the Parish News could such an item be aired? Furthermore it has brought some little relief to the 'victims'.

Recently a certain editor had a letter published in a national newspaper and whose address was printed as Bouth, Lancashire. This has brought great joy to some, including an unknown man from Blackpool who phoned with effusive congratulations, and much mirth to others. All we can say about the second group is that they have no sense of history.

Those who know Mr. Mein are aware of his many talents; bingo caller, comedian, raconteur and more seriously as local and knowledgeable historian. Congratulations to Ronnie for his work in establishing the proper resting place of the historic parish marker on the A590 near Backbarrow.

Donald.



Bouth Womens Institute

The April meeting was an open one allowing others than members to join us especially with a good turnout from the men folk. We were entertained with a wonderfully photographed and atmospheric slide show entitled the Duddon Panorama.

Peter Gillet took us, with unbelievable skill, up the Duddon Valley and onto all the fells and tops we had seen from Askam. I believe we covered

40 'Wainwrights' without ever leaving our seats. It was terrific and brought back many memories for so many.

Later in the week we had our Annual Spring Walk which was its regular success with around 70 walkers and more for the usual delicious tea. Even the weather behaved, cloudy but dry, for all but the end and a breeze to keep the walkers cool. The only thing missing was the bluebells.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 8 May, 7:15pm** when we will be learning all about 'Hawkshead Relish'. New members are always welcome - we meet once a month in Bouth Village Hall at 7:15pm. and have a lot of fun. For details please contact Mrs Susan Smith, tel. 861370. *Jane.*



Oxen Park Cinema Club

The Oxen Park Cinema Club is a small charity run through a committee of local residents from the surrounding parishes. It is a mobile community film society showing films in local village halls and has a film making unit and workshop which makes films about local people and places. It is a member of the British Federation of Film Societies

It is currently applying for funding to open a community cinema in Oxen Park and needs support not only for this project but to help the club thrive and for the showing of films, which costs around £120 a time.

This can be done by becoming a member or by sponsoring a film where a £25 contribution means your name or business will be acknowledged on our posters, on our website and on film.

You can also advertise in the annual program, again for £25. You can also bring along a Raffle prize to any of our films and importantly come along and enjoy the films.

Contact Carol McNeil T 01229 861 507. Email: carolmcneill@tiscali.co.uk



Language: The comment last month on the deterioration of the use of our English language has sparked a little interest and we are thankful for this and any other contribution. Even the BBC has fallen into bad ways, for instead of the normal 'going to' you now hear and frequently – 'gunna.' Any comment on that violation of our language is unprintable.

Colton Parish Council News

Library Service: You will know that the County Library Service has been under review, following budget cuts. Cumbria Libraries staff met with Councillors at Finsthwaite Village Hall during Finsthwaite's monthly 'book-swap' session to discuss how village halls could be used as hubs. A proposed option to use the Hall as a drop-off location for books was not viable because the books couldn't be secured. Other options are currently being considered, including internet ordering and/or delivery of selected books for specific projects.

Policing: At the recent Neighbourhood Forum meeting, the area community policing priority changed from illegal off-road issues to road traffic matters such as drink-driving, speeding, seat-belts and mobile phone use whilst driving. PC Baldwin assured the Council that illegal off-roading and poaching would still receive police attention. He reported that crime in Colton Parish remained generally low, although there had been two reports of heating oil theft in the last few weeks. An attempted robbery at Greenodd service station was an isolated incident and the two offenders have been caught and remanded.

Green Roads: Repairs to the two 'pilot project' green roads in Colton Parish (the U5064 Nibthwaite to Ickenthwaite road and the U5213 Oxen Park to Ickenthwaite road) will begin very soon, following consultations with local farmers, landowners and commoners. The U5064 is the priority for surface repair, being in severe need (some areas are eroded down to pure bedrock), with drainage works to be carried out on both routes, subject to funding limits. Kankku, an off-roading tourist business, had been in correspondence with Tim Farron MP and Highways asking for information on road closures, expressing its priorities and indicating that it might be prepared to contribute. The Council is appreciative of the County Area Highways Engineer, Keith Masser, for pressing on with this project and securing funding.

Our next meetings are the Parish Open Meeting following by the Annual Parish Council meeting on **Tuesday 7 May Bouth Village Hall at 7:30pm**. Everyone is welcome.

Mandy Lane (Clerk) – 01229 861408 – coltonnpc@btinternet.com – www.coltonparishcouncil.org.uk

School News

Cartmel Priory

The last term flew past and seemed even shorter than the 11 school weeks it actually was.

Charitable activities included raising funds for Children in Need and Children of Chernobyl and there were the usual wide range of extra-curricular activities including sporting fixtures, the South Lakes Music Festival, John Muir Award activities to name a few.

Term finished on Thursday 28 March and the Easter Service led by the Reverend Nick Devenish was as usual held in the Priory, the senior students, Year 7, some of our musicians and the choir making lovely contributions to the service.

Dr. Paul.



Leven Valley

Children at Leven Valley Primary School led the Act of Worship for their Easter Service at St Anne's Church, Haverthwaite on Maundy Thursday. They presented the story of Easter to a congregation of parents, governors, friends and relatives, using their own writing and prayers. Refreshments were served in the hall by members of St Anne's Social committee and parents.

On Good Friday Easter Craft activities were available to all the children in Haverthwaite Church Hall. Over twenty children and parents attended the event which involved making Easter cards, Easter Gardens, Easter baskets, eating buns with Easter eggs on and drinking lots of orange juice and coffee. The children then attended a short act of worship in church. *Sue S.*



Leven Valley Support Group

The Fashion Show we held on 12 April 'Around the World' was arranged by Mrs. Janey Benefield and her daughter Rachel Weaver of 'Two by Two' the fashion boutique in Ulverston was tremendous success.

The event attracted over 170 who enjoyed an array of fashions from around the world and who were treated to a small bag of homemade chocolates. A huge total of £1542 was raised for St. Mary's Hospice. *Dot C.*

DIARY DATES

*** SERVICE TIMES: ALL at 9:30am.***

- 1 May **Philip & Paul Apostles**
- 5 May **Family Morning Worship, 9:30am.**
- 6 May May Day.
- 7 May Colton Parish Council Meeting, Bouth Village Hall, 7:30pm.
- 8 May V E Day Europe 1945.
Bouth W I, Village Hall, 7:15pm.
- 9 May **Ascension Day.**
- 12 May **Holy Communion, 9:30am.**
- 13 May Mothers Union Outing.
- 14 May **Mathias, Apostle.**
Mothers Union, Service, Colton, 2:00pm.
- 19 May **Pentecost (Whit Sunday to most of us.)**
Holy Communion, 9:30am.
- 24 May John & Charles Wesley, evangelists and hymn writers, 1791 & 1788.
- 26 May **Trinity Sunday, Colton's Patronal Festival.**
Holy Communion, 9:30am.
- 29 May Restoration of the Monarchy, 1660. Oak Apple Day
- 31 May **Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth.**



COME IN

As I came to the edge of the woods,
Thrush music – hark!
Now if it was dusk outside,
Inside it was dark.

Too dark in the woods for a bird
By sleight of wing
To better its perch for the night
Though it still could sing.

The last of the light of the sun
That had died in the west
Still lived for one song more
In a thrush's breast.

Far in the pillared dark
Thrush music went –
Almost like a call to come in
To the dark and lament.

But no, I was out for stars:
I would not come in.
I meant not even if asked,
And I hadn't been.

Robert Frost
daw/may13/pmag163

