



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

Lowick Farm House
Lowick Green
ULVERSTON
LA12 8DX

March 2009

Dear friends

“FALLING SHORT”

As you read this, the season of Lent will be well underway – a time for self-examination and repentance, so a time for something on the more serious side!

At the end of my National Service, my C.O. gave me my discharge papers with the words, “Probably the best record of undetected crime I’ve ever handed out.”

I was the unit pay N.C.O., and some time previously we had had a real spate of things going wrong. The requisition to H.Q. for the Paymaster to authorize the withdrawal of cash for the weekly pay parade had failed to arrive, an important appointment was missed, returns had gone astray, and a vital letter seemed to have disappeared off the face of the earth!

Six months later, preparing for demob., I was clearing out my uniforms to hand in. I felt something unusual in the (hardly ever used) map pocket in the leg of my battledress. You’ve guessed it. It was the missing post! I quietly burned it in the coke stove! Next morning I went to say goodbye to the Colonel, and received my AB111. Little did he know just *how* true his parting shot *was*! (And it wasn’t *just* the post!)

“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23) Since God’s standard for us is perfection, it’s not hard to believe that *every* human being, since the fall of His first creatures, is tarnished with the stain of sin. Even my sister’s quip to ‘holier-than-thou’ posturers, “Oh! I used to be *conceited* before I got to be *perfect*.” won’t get us off the hook! But someone once pointed out that “falling short” is not relative but absolute. If you’re trying to jump across a ten-foot wide chasm it doesn’t make much difference if you just topple over the edge, or jump half-way across, or manage all but the last inch, you will still end up at the bottom. But,

wonderfully, as Paul goes on to write, “The wages of sin is death, but the *free gift* of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23) If we call on the Lord for forgiveness, because of what Jesus Christ has done *for* us, His promise is, “I will blot out your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like mist. I will remember your sins no more.” (Isaiah 44:22 and 43:25) Which must rate better than any “record of undetected crime”, don’t you think?

With my prayers that we may all experience a “good Lent”, and with love, in Christ,

Yours sincerely

David G.



COLTON CHRONICLES

The General Synod is, once again, to discuss the matter of Women Bishops and it must be a matter of sadness that there is still some hard opposition to the ordination of women, especially as if it were not for women priests, the Anglican Church would be in a mess.

It was interesting, if not altogether surprising, that recently Joanna declared herself a feminist which strangely coincides with the news that a nine year old American boy, Alec Greven, has written a best seller entitled ***How to Talk to Girls***. One of his nuggets of advice is, it is essential to remember that “girls win most of the arguments and have the most power”. Knowing that now, he says “will make things a lot easier later”. Oh! if we only had known.

It has not been a good time for Christians for a nurse was suspended for offering to pray for a patient and then a little girl was reprimanded at school for talking to a friend about God. Following which, her mother was also suspended for sending an email to friends asking for Christian support; the tragedy is that the School Governor who brought the email to the attention of Headteacher is also a member of the mother’s church.

As the Bishop of Bradford said “There is a certain political correctness which tends to target Christians especially, and forbid Christian expression.”

Senior Anglican figures have criticised misguided liberal thinking and political correct secularists, stating that Christians must ensure they are given the same rights by public bodies to express their “diversity” as ethnic minorities and followers of other religions.

A PCC meeting has been held but not a lot happened and it was all done and dusted in 35 minutes. The accounts for 2008 were approved and showed that we are still afloat but need to take care, especially as essential repairs are required to the church as well as a new boiler.

It was suggested that we should have some fund raising events to help and this has been passed to John Tarr and his group who are organising the Fête this year which, incidentally, is to be held on **Saturday 25 July**.

There has also been a Deanery Synod which lasted considerably longer and achieved very little more. The standing committee has recommended that the Deanery continue to employ 9 priests, which is likely to cost £421,000 in 2010; the good news is that in 2008 the Deanery was top of the Diocesan league and paid 98.29% of the Parish Share. Colton paid 100%.

A support fund has been set up to help poorer parishes and currently stands at £3,500. Colton has contributed handsomely.

There is a ‘Young Diocese Project’ and our Carolyn Dykes has been and is heavily involved and she gave the Synod an excellent presentation on what has been happening and what is to happen. Anybody that is interested can contact Carolyn Tel: 01229 861 509.

Some of you get the magazine later than others and so that there can be no excuse for not turning up, **Easter Sunday is 12 April**, and therefore **Decorating the Church** will take place on **Saturday 11 April, 10:00am. onwards**.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Despite the title this is a day of prayer for all and as such you are ALL invited to take part. This year the **Service** will be held on **Friday 6 March. Tottlebank Baptist Church, 2:00pm**. the speaker will be the Revd. Pauline West.

Donald.



LENT COURSE

In order to cater for all there are two Lent Courses this year, morning and evening. They will start on **Wednesday 4 March, 10:30am & 7:30pm**; the morning course will be in the **Church Hall** and although a venue for the evening has not as yet been decided it may well be **Barnside, Bouth**. It is essential to register: Joanna for the morning and the Vicar for the evening.



FLOWER ROTA

- 1 March Lent
- 15 March Lent
- 22 March Mothering Sunday
- 5 April Lent
- 11 April *Decorating the Church for Easter Day*
- 12 April Easter Day



COFFEE

- 1 March Sue Dean + Helpers



MOTHERS UNION

At our February meeting, held in Haverthwaite Church we began with prayers and a reading for St. Valentine's Day [ed. Did you know that there are at least three St Valentines and eight bodies buried in churches purporting to be the Saint].

Hilary Brooks & Christine Holden displayed some lovely examples of Ruskin Lace and gave us an insight into its origins. In the 19th.C locally grown flax was spun and woven into material, linen, and Marion Twelves from Skelwith Bridge developed a form of cut linen work, drawn thread and needle made lace which John Ruskin sponsored as a cottage industry unique to the Lake District. The industry gradually contracted but the craft came back to life through Adult Education Classes led by a Mrs. Raby and

on her retirement in 1970 by Elizabeth Pricket ; after she retired in 2006 classes continued to be held, now run by Elizabeth Edmondson. We enjoyed the afternoon and thank Hilary & Christine very much.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 10 March, Bouth Village Hall, 2:00pm**. Our speaker will be the indomitable the Revd. Joanna Henson on 'Life in Orkney'.

Mothering Sunday, 22 March is clearly special to the Mothers Union and this year we will be taking part in the service as well as the Readings and the Intercessions.

Mainly Wendy, with some help from her friends.



PARISH NEWS

It has been a quiet month in the parish although there are an increasing number travelling to foreign parts to ski. It is somewhat astounding that so many attach their unfit bodies to two planks of wood in an attempt to slide down hills of icy snow and forever after complain of pulled muscles and dodgy knees. It takes all sorts and, oddly, it is known as a leisure activity!

The report about Zella and Frank in the last issue was not altogether accurate, for although Zella was indeed going to send some information to us neither of us can remember what. What it was not, was anything to do with an additional grandchild, for they say that they are quite happy with the ones they've got; apologies to Zella, Frank and the family.

There was a casual mention of golf last month and strangely the origin of the word is unknown although there is a suspicion that it is an acronym – **Gentlemen Only Ladies Forbidden**, which is why perhaps the late John Updike was near the mark when he wrote “Golf appeals to the idiot in us and the child. Just how childlike golf players become is proven by their frequent inability to count past five.”

Many are unaware that grants for a wide range of community projects are available from the County Council via their Neighbourhood Forums. To find out more, contact: Sinead McCann, Tel: 015397 13448. Email: sinead.mccann@cumbriacc.gov.uk.

Allan Lovegrove, chairman of the Bouth Village Hall recently took advantage of their generosity and received a £1,000 towards replacing the

windows in the hall with double glazing. This is the first phase of the latest development which will be followed by the provision of a disabled toilet. Donald.



BOUTH WOMENS INSTITUTE

The heading had change because at one time we had news from Spark Bridge but sadly they have forsaken us; like Leven Valley School, which strangely only contacts us when it wants to advertise one of its events, but then, it is comforting to be useful.

At our February meeting it was reported that a ‘small something’ had been given to Neville Stark and Bryan Redhead for ‘services rendered’ – readers do not get alarmed - it was for music and accountancy expertise.

The Furness W I Reading Aloud competition is close approaching and Cathy Styles & Penny Lovegrove will be exercising their delightful vocal chords once again and ‘have another go’.

Our speaker was the one and only Robert Fletcher, his subject, not surprisingly, ‘A Wildlife Artist’, which he presented in his own inimitable fashion. ‘Fletch’ as many of us know him, kindly brought a car full of his wonderful pastel creations and entertained us with stories and practical demonstrations – an interesting and amusing evening. The next meeting is to be held on **Wednesday 11 March, Village Hall, 7:30pm** note **7:30** when the speaker will be Mr. S Lambert and his subject, “Kit Ridding Farm”. The competition ‘Antique Kitchen Equipment’.

A note for the future, plans are well afoot for the June ‘Trip Out’. Penny.



Strings in the Earth

Strings in the earth and air	There’s music along the river
Make music sweet;	For love wanders there
Strings by the river where	Pale flowers on his mantle
The willows meet.	Dark leaves on his hair.

All softly playing,
With head to the music bent,
And fingers straying
Upon an instrument.

James Joyce.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

This month's news is all about roads! We now have two additional salt bins: one at Rusland Cross and one just below Bent Hawes. These bins are provided for people to spread salt on the icy stretches of road nearby, as required.

Your Councillors have been touring the Parish armed with maps to locate i) salt bins and heaps [both existing and required], and ii) flooding trouble-spots. The former will be sent to Cumbria Highways as part of our campaign for better salt provision next winter. The latter will be given to our Highway Steward so that he can assess the problems and call upon the Area Highways Teams for major work, as necessary. We think the best approach is to draw up a list of flooding trouble-spots in priority order and lobby hard for resolutions to the worst one or two first. These concern severely blocked, damaged or inadequate beck culverts that cause deep floods or wash-out damage to roads, walls and property.

We have been sent notification of 'surface dressing' to be carried out on 3 roads in the Parish during the summer: Little Mill to Tottlebank Wood, Colton Hill and Cappy Lane, and Finsthwaite to Backbarrow. (Hooray!)

Our next meeting is our annual Parish Open Meeting followed by a Parish Council meeting on: **Monday 30th March, 7.30pm in Finsthwaite Village Hall.**

Tel: 01229 861408. Email: coltonpc@btinternet.com www.coltonparishcouncil.org.ukm
Mandy Lane, Clerk.



Rusland Valley Community Trust

A reminder that the Trust will be running a “Grafting Workshop” on **Sunday 15 March**. It start at **Whitestock Hall orchard, 10:35am** followed at **11:30am, Rusland Reading Room**.

Lunch (soup, pâté, cheese, French bread, tea/coffee) **12:45pm**, back to work **1:30 – 2:30pm** Tickets £7.50 includes lunch and root stock. From Giles Wingate-Saul Tel: 01229 860 300. The Dower House, Whitestock, Rusland , Ulverston, LA12 8LB.

Giles.



CINEMA CLUB

The end of the season is approaching fast with only three more films, all at **Rusland Reading Room.**

"Enchanted" **Saturday 21 March, 4:00pm.** A fairytale princess is sent to our world by an evil queen....!

"Counterfeiters" **Saturday 21 March, 7:30pm.** A Supper Special.

"Seachd: The Inaccessible Pinnacle" **Tuesday 7 April, 7:30pm.** This is the first Gaelic feature film; it is set in the Hebrides and full of ancient stories related by a grandfather of two children whose parents lost their lives in a climbing accident on Skye. Not to be missed.

Film is an incredible visual medium and if you have often thought of coming to see one of our films but, for whatever reason, have not, why not 'do it now'!

Carol.



St. MARY'S HOSPICE

The Leven Valley Support Group will be holding a

Fashion Show from Two by Two

Friday 27 March at 7:30pm.

Greenodd Village Hall

Tickets available at the door £5 including refreshments and there will be the inevitable Raffle. For those who wish to plan in advance tickets are also obtainable from Sylvia Chadwick Tel: 015395 31685 or Marian Wilson Tel: 015395 31779 and Eileen Wilkinson Tel: 015395 310440.



CHURCH

On Sunday 15 February the church was excruciating cold, and not for the first time. This is unfortunate as it does nothing to welcome members of the congregation whose numbers are falling, and no wonder. It has been suggested, in jest, that we sell the church for redevelopment and convert the Church Hall to a church. But then, who would want to live in a graveyard? However, as they say 'There is nowt as queer as folks'.

Services and Rotas for March

1st	First Sunday of Lent			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Communion	
Holy Trinity	Colton	10:30am	Morning Worship	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Morning Worship & Baptism	
Readings:	First Reading	Genesis	9: 8-17	
	Second Reading	1 Peter	3:18-22	
	Gospel	Mark	1: 9-15	
Readers:	Colton	H Brooks	E Fleming	D A Wroe
	Lowick	W Keegan	& A Naylor	
	Penny Bridge	D Lancaster	J Lancaster	C Styles
Sidesmen:	Colton	S King	& S Dean	
	Lowick	S Wood		
	Penny Bridge	N Lord	& R Atkinson	
8th	Second Sunday of Lent			
St Mary	Penny Bridge	10:30am	Benefice Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	Genesis	17:1-7, 15-16	
	Second Reading	Romans	4:13-25	
	Gospel	Mark	8:31-38	
Readers:		P Ashton	R Long	D Lancaster
Sidesmen:		C Line	& E Line	
	No service at Colton and Lowick			
15th	Third Sunday of Lent			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Communion	
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am	Communion	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Communion & Baptisms	
Readings:	First Reading	Exodus	20: 1-17	
	Second Reading	1 Corinthians	1:18-25	
	Gospel	John	2:13-22	
Readers:	Colton	R Smith	M Sanders	G Pickles
	Lowick	G Mitchell	& B Mitchell	
	Penny Bridge	E Wemyss	P Ashton	J Lancaster
Sidesmen:	Colton	M Sanders	& C Holden	
	Lowick	A Wood		
	Penny Bridge	A Greatorex	& W Greatorex	
22nd	Mothering Sunday			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Methodist Service	
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am	Communion	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Morning Worship	
Readings:	First Reading	Exodus	2: 1-10	
	Second Reading	Colossians	3:12-17	
	Gospel	John	19:25-27	
Readers:	Colton	W Smith	J Redhead	C Holden
	Lowick	G Jagar	& J Davis	
	Penny Bridge	Penny Bridge School		
Sidesmen:	Colton	B Watson	& S Dean	
	Lowick	G Mitchell		
	Penny Bridge	Penny Bridge School + R Long and D Lancaster		
29th	Fifth Sunday of Lent			
St Luke	Lowick	10:30am	Ecumenical Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	Jeremiah	31:18-34	
	Second Reading	Hebrews	5: 5-10	
	Gospel	John	12:20-33	
	No Service at Colton or Penny Bridge			

DIARY DATES

***A reminder that the Service on the first Sunday of every month starts at 10.30am**

- 1 March **First Sunday in Lent**
- 4 March Lent Course, 10:30am, Church Hall: 7:30pm. TBA.
- 6 March “Women’s World Day of Prayer” . Tottlebank Baptist Church, 2:00pm.
- 10 March Mothers Union, Bouth Village Hall, 2:00pm.
- 11 March Bouth W I, Village Hall, **7:30pm.**
- 15 March ‘Grafting Workshop’ Rusland, 10:35am.
- 17 March **Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland.**
- 19 March **Joseph of Nazareth.**
- 21 March Spring Equinox – Thomas Cranmer, Burned at the Stake, 1556.
Cinema Club, Rusland Reading Room, 4:00pm. & 7:30pm.
- 22 March **Mothering Sunday** – [Note: NOT Mothers Day !!]
- 25 March **The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary.**
- 27 March ‘Fashion Show’, Greenodd Village Hall, 7:30pm. In aid of St. Mary’s Hospice.
- 29 March British Summer Time, Clocks Forward. An hour less in bed.
- 31 March Parish Council OPEN Meeting, Finsthwaite Village Hall. 7:30pm.



Henry Turnbull

He planked down sixpence and he took his drink;
Then slowly picked the change up from the zinc,
And in his breeches-pocket buttoned tight
Two greasy pennies, which that very night
Were used by Betty Catchieside, called in
To lay him out, when she’d tied up his chin,
To keep his eyelids shut: and so he lies
With tuppence change till Doomsday on his eyes.

Wilfrid Gibson.



"Tradition is the living faith of the dead. Traditionalism is the dead faith of the living."

Jaroslav Pelikan.

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