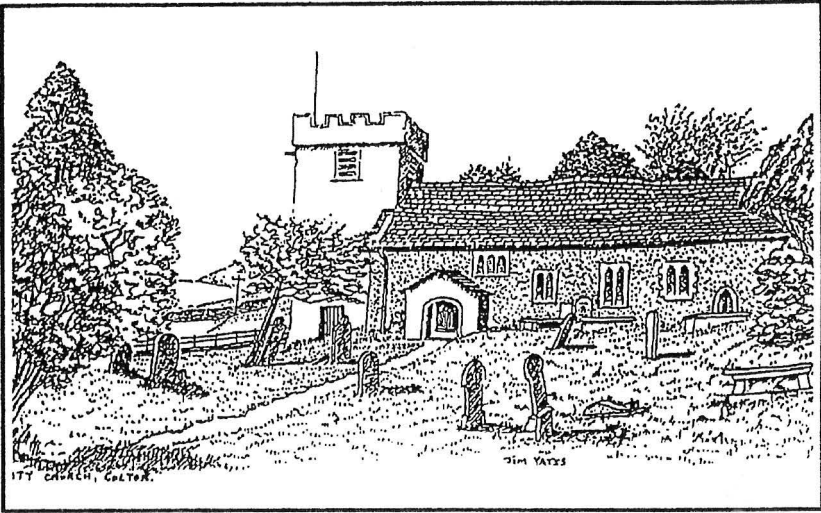




PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

The Vicarage
Penny Bridge
ULVERSTON
LA12 7RQ

June 2004

Dear Friends

From Survival to Revival

During Lent we heard a lot about the *From Survival to Revival* Programme set out for the Anglican Churches of the Diocese.

After the discussion meetings during Lent the parishes of our Diocese are to draw up a vision of where their revival lies. (Note this is not about survival). It lies with each of you as you discern your personal God; what he means to you; what he gives to you; how he cares about you; how he loves you and what he did for you during that painful death on the cross of Jesus, his Son.

But what do we do in return for God. Each in their own way will either reject him; or believe in him and want to worship him and express the joy of a living relationship with their God; or, in fact, like most people, be somewhere in between those two positions.

During the next six months a series of leaflets, produced by the Diocese, will be delivered with the parish magazine. These leaflets will cover the same topics as the Lent Course and are designed to help us think through our faith and where God fits into our lives and the lives of those around us. Please read them and if you want to explore a theme further guidance is given on the leaflet but I would suggest talking to a Parochial Church Council Member, or myself.

The areas cover Discipleship, Worship, Ministry, Mission, Youth and Giving.

If there are to be churches, especially in the countryside, we need to look at these areas in prayer. (Note that a report to be issued next week shows that attendance at Anglican churches in the countryside has fallen by over a third

in the last ten years and by a half in some). With that in mind, some may say that a small decline, or none is good but we are called to help the Kingdom grow and not be static.

God calls, God cares – but do we?

Called to Serve?

On a different note Joanna Henson, reader in the benefice, has felt that wonderful sense of God in her life drawing her to serve the Lord she loves.

After completing her Reader training she has been encouraged to test her vocation and to see if she might be considered for ordination.

Christian Aid

The final total for the various events and door to door collections is not known yet but will be in the next magazine. (*Ed. See Colton Chronicles*)

I would like to thank the many people who have been involved in the *Soup and Cheese Lunch* and the *Door to Door Collection*, as well as thanking all who gave to support the work of Christian Aid.

The *Soup and Cheese Lunch* was a good opportunity for many to meet up, enjoy lunch and support a worthy cause. I cannot tell you which but the soup I had was excellent.

One point I would make is that comment was passed that some would not give to Christian Aid because only 5 pence (5%) in the pound goes to the needy. The figure is in fact over 80 pence (80%) minimum which helps those in need. Some charities may have excessive running costs but Christian Aid is not one of them.

Yours sincerely

Gary Wemyss

Vicar

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COLTON CHRONICLES

Something has to be done, as the Vicar keeps pinching my lines and I have not as yet got the temerity to execute my editorial rights but the time cannot be far off. My informed informant tells me that the **Christian Aid Lunch** raised £750 & the **Boxes** £79. Well done everybody.

It was a good social occasion and it was particularly good to see a frock of Vicars. Not only Gary but Doreen, clearly in good heart and Derek Tinsley with much loved wife Hilary who was as sharp witted as ever, as I know to my cost but probably well deserved. Her caring persona was as evident as ever but having said that I might have to duck the next time I meet her.

Those of you who pay their dues either by Covenant or Direct Debit will have received a lovely letter from Gordon Pickles who we have to thank for all the work he does in gathering in much needed funds. Gordon is a very polite person and understandably chary of being associated with the way in which this editor uses the English language. What follows are my words not his.

Paying by these methods is simple, effective and beneficial to the Church but how many of you have been paying the same amount for some years? The parish Share which Colton has to pay to the Diocese has gone up by well over 5% year by year and this means that we have to look to investments to balance the books. True, we are better off than many churches but we still need you to give more! Please look at your Covenants and Direct Debits and those who can, revise them UPWARDS. Remember the story of the widow's mite.

Somebody said that Benefice Services are held on the Sunday when you stay in bed and it is true that overall attendance's are lower for these services. Our Worship is now varied and interesting with different people taking services, all bringing their individual 'thing' and giving us plenty to think about.

It would be nice to see more people in church for it is not a scary place – just peaceful and friendly and so often a haven for a troubled mind.

A Deanery Synod was held recently when we heard of the work of the Deanery Chapter, a meeting our Clerics in what could be described today as Professional Development. Finance as always raised its unattractive head and it seems that we spend too much time at Synod on this subject. 'Survival & Revival' was very much to the fore with an address by the Rural Dean and in a report of the Diocesan Synod.

David Mills account of the General Synod was succinct and to the point. The Synod is to be reduced in numbers as currently it is larger than parliament and not as democratic and surprise, surprise the future synod legislation will be in 'gender-neutral language'.

It is sad to report that our Rural Dean Canon the Revd. Anthony Clegg is leaving us to become Vicar Designate and the Rural Dean of Appleby. Anthony has lead the deanery with wisdom, care, perception and firmly down the road he believed we should be. He is a master of delegation and it is through his efforts that the deanery is now a more cohesive and pro-active body than it has been in the past. He will be a hard act to follow and we wish him and wife Judith all the best in their new environment.

Donald



FLOWER ROTA

Well there isn't one really as 6 June is **Trinity Sunday** and our **Patronal Festival** and the flowers from that Sunday should last for a week or two, especially as the temperature of the church is habitually cool.



Coffee Rota

6 June Mrs. Sue Smith & Mrs. Hilary Brooks



MOTHERS UNION

We joined with the Leven Valley MU branch for our April meeting. Mrs. Watson started the meeting with a short service of prayer and readings, before introducing the speakers. Canon Ellis and his wife Barbara gave a beautiful slide show on Hong Kong, where they had lived and worked over thirty years ago, and had returned after they retired to help out, when the vicar from their old parish went on holiday a few years ago.

They were able to show us the many changes they had noted, mostly for the better, and had been delighted to find children of the children they had baptised attending the church services.

Their slides showed us a different way of life, in high-rise buildings, which dwarfed even the steeple of the cathedral, with very little greenery or room for wildlife.

In June we are going to visit Ostley House, in Barrow and then the Candle Factory for tea, details will be arranged at the May meeting.

Margaret

PARISH NEWS

News is very hard to come by these days, which would lead you to think that life in rural Cumbria is dull, which it isn't although at the moment it could be described as not very exciting. The nearest we can get is the refurbishment of Bouth Village Hall is now complete and we are grateful to the ladies of the WI for their spring clean.

Two cottages in the village are also being refurbished and we are pleased to tell you that Betty Hall will be leaving the Old School House and moving closer to the centre. The spectre of holiday cottages is never far away.

Sadly, very sadly Mrs. Marjorie Croasdell died, peacefully on Thursday 13 May. Mrs Croasdell was a tireless worker for Colton Church over many years, a staunch member of the Mothers Union and a Founder member of Bouth WI. She lived in Bouth for most of her long life and was an active member of the community and she will be much missed. Our prayers and condolences go out to sons John & Neil and the family.

Donald



WOMENS INSTITUTE

BOUTH

At our May meeting Mrs. Barbara Storey gave an instructive and enchanting talk and demonstration on the art of 'Quilling'. What you may ask is quilling? Well, according to the OED it was originally, in the 18th. Century, "ribbon or lace pleated into small cylindrical rolls resembling a row of quills" but later it has come to mean, "the art of making ornamental filigree from tightly rolled columns of paper". It might seem simple but simple it ain't.

If anyone has ever received a card from Barbara they will appreciate what a wonderful and delicate effect can be conjured up from this art form.

The **June** meeting will be held on the 9th. at 5.50pm and will be short and sharp as the carriages for our **Annual Outing** will leave at 6.15pm. This is the occasion when friends and even husbands are invited.

Seemingly half the WI and Ed.

'She'd taak a banty cock into layan' an egg'

I dare not translate. Ed.

SPARKBRIDGE & LOWICK

It was the turn of Sparkbridge & Lowick WI to host the High Furness WI Group meeting this year, and true to our unfortunate form the booked speaker was unable to come as he had broken his foot, however thanks must go to Mrs. Jean Lancaster our Group Convener, who managed to find a replacement speaker at short notice.

Chef Nick Martin, from the Regents Hotel, Ambleside, stepped in to the breach and with his culinary skills and witty humour had the WI ladies drooling. Lemon sole, leeks and mushroom parcels, wrapped in paper and cooked in the oven, and goats cheese filo parcels, all so simple yet mouth watering. Nick had also brought some sliced home made buns, which he had spread with the Goats cheese mixture, and served warm to everyone, delicious!

The evening was rounded off by the sumptuous buffet made by Sparkbridge & Lowick ladies, we may be few in number, but we can still put on a good spread.

There was a good attendance plus two visitors from Holland at our April meeting when Richard Scott spoke on “Wildlife of Morecambe Bay”. Richard used to work at Merelwood, when they were commissioned to do a survey on Morecambe Bay.

He brought along some slides, which showed the way the sands and certain plants moved around the coast, and the effect these had on not just the wildlife, but also the sheep, which were kept on some parts of the sands. When asked, what he thought the effect of a bridge across the Bay might have, Richard told the meeting a bridge across the Bay had been thought of before, the studies had not been very advantageous and it had been deemed unfeasible.

He felt a bridge across the Duddon would be a better project and it was interesting to note that our Dutch visitors could see similarities between the Bay and the reclaimed land in Holland.

The speaker for our meeting on **June 22nd** is the Public Safety Officer and we welcome all ladies to come and join us - **Lowick Church Hall, 7.30pm.**

Margaret



SCHOOL NEWS

CARTMEL PRIORY

In the past behaviour has been a problem but not any more. As part of Government strategy all secondary schools must have a behavioural audit and this has just taken place at Cartmel.

The result was most favourable and the inspector commented that it was the best of the 80 schools so far inspected in Cumbria.

The school has once again been awarded a **Sportsmark Gold Award**, which is an award made to the top 95 schools in the country. Regrettably this is not reflected in the results of the various school team matches where most were lost.

After much debate and consultation the school uniform is being amended and Trends of Barrow will be the new supplier. Understandably this decision is not universally popular and it looks like being a question of ‘watch this space’.

Donald



LEVEN VALLEY

We are in the season of tests again, but things seem to be going well. Our Year 6 children are going to visit their new schools, and our new little ones are starting to come here so the life of a school moves on.

We have had some more decoration done in school – the toilets and Class Three cloakroom are now bright and cheerful, and Class One’s room will be done at Spring Bank.

Thanks to tireless fund raising by our PTA, we have ordered new tables and chairs for our Junior children. Again this will help to keep our school looking at its best.

We are having both cricket and basketball lessons at the moment, with qualified coaches. These are a great success, and it is nice for the children (and staff) to work with other professionals.

Our next big event is an **“Out and About”** couple of weeks at the end of the summer term. More details later.

Susan.

CONGRATULATIONS

A little note from Joanna

I am sure that by now there isn't a single person in the parish who has not heard my news - but if you didn't, here it is. The Selectors at the Bishops' Selection Conference held in May recommended to Bishop Graham that I should go forward for training as an Ordinand, and he has most wonderfully accepted their recommendation. So I am to start training soon

A very big thank you to all of you who sustained me with your love and prayers. You know how very nervous I was before hand, but I felt wonderfully supported all the way through the Conference itself - even to the extent of getting to sleep both nights, despite the fact that the house was right by the main North/South railway line near Stafford and the house shook to its foundations every time a train went by during the day!

It will be an exciting year ahead - not just for me but for all of us in the three parishes. I really believe that God is requiring great things of us and we are being gifted with the skills and tools to do the job.

With love and prayers

Joanna

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"O taste and see, how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him."

CINEMA CLUB

A successful and interesting year finished with us winning a 'Certificate Of Commendation' at the Film Society Of The Year awards ceremony. We were also short listed for best Web Site so don't forget to have a look now and again at www.oxenparkcinemaclub.org.uk .

Details about next year's films, the AGM in August and summer films for teenagers will be posted round the parish/valley and on the web site. Any ideas or comments can be sent to Carol McNeill at Oxen Park.

Carol



DIARY DATES

- 6 June **Trinity Sunday, Colton's Patronal Festival – Family Service – 10.30am.**
- 9 June Bouth W I Annual Outing – Village Hall – **5.50/6.15pm.**
- 10 June **Corpus Christi**
- 11 June **Barnabas, Apostle.**
- 13 June Benefice Communion – **Colton – 10.30am.**
- 20 June Holy Communion – **9.30am.**
- 22 June Sparkbridge & Lowick W I – Lowick Church Hall – **7.30pm.**
- 24 June **Birth of John the Baptist.**
- 26 June **Ember Day**
- 27 June Holy Communion – **9.30am.**
- 29 June **Peter & Paul, Apostles.**
- 4 July Colton House Summer Fair – **in the afternoon.**



Colton House Summer Fair is on Sunday 4 July in the afternoon. Be there please as they always support us at our garden party.

Joanna.



COLTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 13th April at The Rusland Reading Room. Mr Chris Potts was co-opted on to the council until the elections in June. This followed the resignation of Mr David Dunford, who has served the council and the community with great energy, enthusiasm and hard work for over 12 years. The chairman, Mr Bobbie Dobson, is also stepping down at the June election, after many years of dedicated service. He will be greatly missed.

Judith.

The next parish Council Meeting was held on 17 May but that was betwixt and between but we hope to report next month. Ed.



Services and Rotas for June

6th	Trinity Sunday			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Communion	
Holy Trinity	Colton	10:30am	Morning Worship	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	Proverbs	8:1-4, 22-31	
	Second Reading	Romans	5: 1-5	
	Gospel	John	16:12-15	
Readers:	Colton	W Smith	B Johnson	R Henson
	Lowick	A Naylor	& W Keegan	
	Penny Bridge	J Lambton	E Wemyss	G Wemyss
Sidesmen:	Colton	M Sanders	& A MacIver	
	Lowick	E Phizacklea		
	Penny Bridge	R Long	& T Long	
13th	First Sunday after Trinity			
Holy Trinity	Colton	10:30am	Benefice Communion Service	
Readings:	First Reading	1 Kings	21:1-10, 15-21a	
	Second Reading	Galatians	2:15-21	
	Gospel	Luke	7:36-8:3	
Readers:		J Davis	J Lancaster	I Pirnie
Sidesmen:		To be arranged		
	No service at Lowick or Penny Bridge			
20th	Second Sunday after Trinity			
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am	Extended Communion	
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Communion	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	1 Kings	19:1-4, 8-15a	
	Second Reading	Galatians	3:23-29	
	Gospel	Luke	8:26-39	
Readers:	Colton	J Tarr	A MacIver	C Holden
	Lowick	G Mitchell		& F Inman
	Penny Bridge	C Styles	S Walker	D Lancaster
Sidesmen:	Colton	To be arranged		
	Lowick	A Wood		
	Penny Bridge	S James	& N Lord	
27th	Third Sunday after Trinity			
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am	Communion	
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Methodist Service	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	2 Kings	2:1-2, 6-14	
	Second Reading	Galatians	5:1, 13-25	
	Gospel	Luke	9:51-62	
Readers:	Colton	P MacIver	J Redhead	D Wroe
	Lowick	G Jager	& J Thomas	
	Penny Bridge	R Atkinson	S James	J Lambton
Sidesmen:	Colton	To be arranged		
	Lowick	F Inman		
	Penny Bridge	A Greatorex	& W Greatorex	
Chancel Guild	Penny Bridge	C Line		