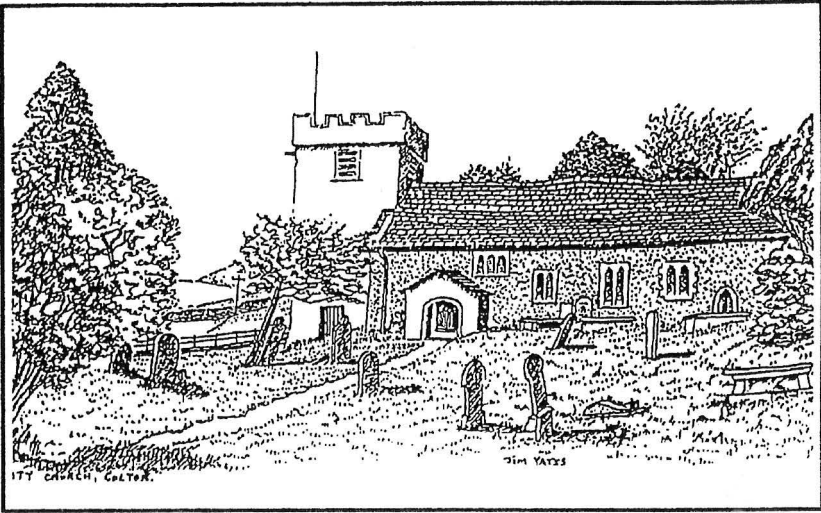




PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

Lowick Farm House
Lowick Green
ULVERSTON
LA12 8DX

December 2012

Dear Friends

“IN THE END ...”

A never-failing surprise for new members of our Scout Troop would come with the singing of a little ditty around the camp-fire:

“Oh, be kind to your web-footed friends,
For a duck may be somebody’s mother.
Oh, be kind to your friends in the swamp,
Where it’s always cold and damp.
Oh, you may think that this is the end,
Well – IT IS!”

Endings are always bound to have a certain abruptness. Some may come as expected – the end of a book or a film, the end of our working life on retirement, or, the end of the Calendar year – now fast approaching for 2012! But other endings are unexpected and unknown - the end of a favourite soap opera, or the end of a mystery tour. More seriously though, in this category, are the end of our individual human lives, and (confidently predicted at some time by every cosmologist!) the end of the age.

Every serious philosophy and ever plausible faith is bound to address this unknown certainty. The imagery of the Christian faith, based on the teachings (somewhat of a pre-occupation!) of the Lord Jesus Christ, has always centred on the so-called “four last things” – Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell.

So we come to the season of Advent, the traditional precursor to the joyful feast of the Incarnation at Christmastime, when we begin the Church’s

New Year by affirming the coming again, at the end of the age, of the Lord Jesus Christ to judge the living and the dead. As He Himself has affirmed, no-one except God the Father knows exactly when that is to be, and we ourselves cannot know whether we shall be among the living or among the dead, when the trumpet sounds! What we do know is that we are all called upon to prepare – to be ready – to “watch and pray” – and to be reconciled to Almighty God through the life-giving sacrifice of His Son;

“Born to raise the sons of earth

Born to give them second birth.!”

The Advent Season is meant as a time of preparation, with Christmas as a time of celebration and Epiphany as a time of proclamation of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. We are all invited to share in this again, with our service of Advent Carols (Sunday 2nd December), our Christmas Worship, and on into the New Year of God’s Grace 2013.

So, may we all be there “in the End”!!

With love, in Christ,

David Gregg



Mark in 2012

Week beginning December 2nd

Mark 16:1 – 8 The Resurrection

It may seem strange that we are thinking about the resurrection as we make plans to celebrate the birth of Jesus but the two are interwoven – without the birth there would have been no resurrection – without the resurrection we would probably not be celebrating Jesus’ birth. Those women in the passage were looking for Jesus and they were afraid. Are you afraid of looking for Jesus? Are you wanting to take those first steps in finding out more about him? Our local Christian churches welcome you to step inside and to find out that there is nothing to be afraid of in seeking him, there are no instant demands or catches, only a desire for others to know the joy of being a friend of Jesus.



It would be helpful to know if this simple breakdown of a book of the Bible has been of help to anyone, or made you think about the Christian faith. If so, please let us know.

Prayer themes for December: The villages we live in – our neighbours – peace in our lives – those who are lonely and people in financial difficulty at this season of celebration. That the love of Jesus may enter the hearts and lives of many people this Christmas.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- Sunday 16 December – Carol Service, Colton, 3:00pm.
- Sunday 23 December – Carol Service, Penny Bridge, 3:00pm.
- Monday 24 December – Family Event with Carols, Lowick, 3:00pm.
- Monday 24 December – Midnight Communion Penny Bridge, 11:30pm.
- Christmas Day – Family Communion, Colton, 10:30am.



COLTON CHRONICLES

The Church in Cumbria seems besotted with ‘Initiatives’; we have already discussed the ‘Deanery Mission Action Plan’ which, so far, has lacked any action other than words, and now we have been inflicted with a ‘Strategic Review of Church Buildings’, perhaps forgetting that a similar exercise was carried several years ago, and at some cost, without any discernible results.

The object of the current absurdity is “To encourage your church body, congregation and wider community to think about how you use and care for your buildings and how you encourage others to do likewise.” One wonders what we have been doing for the past 400 years. To make matters worse there are interminable meetings, if they can be called meetings.

They consist members sat in of rows and a table at the end, those behind the table talk at length; two plus hours later all go home with a minimum, if any, discussion. If the Diocese really wants to be proactive it should

organise seminars on how to run meetings. The word ‘chairman’ has been avoided as there are those who would dearly love to get on their high heels and protest despite the fact that the use of ‘man’ does not mean male but mankind. But then why spoil a good protest?

Signpost: Judy Redhead tells us that 2013 is the final year of our support for two Darlit children and that this support has been greatly appreciated; fortunately an impending financial crisis has been avoided. Our thanks to Judy for everything she has done to make this project so successful.

Carol Service: Will be held this year on **Sunday 16 December, 3:00pm.** Which means that, **‘Decorating the Church’** will take place on **Friday 14 December, 10:00am.**

“Being conscience of the financial state of the country the cost of this esteemed publication remains at £6. Please give to you distributor.”

Congratulations to our Archbishop of Canterbury elect, the Bishop of Durham, Justin Welby and how refreshing after years of being led by academics to have a man of the people.

“We are having a special service of thanksgiving for Joanna’s ministry on the **30 December at 10:30am in Colton Church** followed by a party and presentation – all are welcome to share with us. If anyone would like to make a donation towards the presentation please place it in an envelope marked Joanna’s Presentation and leave it at the Vicarage or with one of the parish contacts. [B Watson, (Colton), S Wood, (Lowick) and J Lancaster, (Penny Bridge)].”

The Editor.



PARISH NEWS

It has been made quite clear that not every village would welcome a ‘Speed Limit’ and in particular, Nibthwaite are again as the residents feel that, in their case, it is not necessary, and that the signs would be obtrusive. Quite so and please protect them from the ‘Twenty is Plenty’ monstrosities, which are not only costly but totally ineffective.

Our grateful thanks to those who have beavered away and stopped the ingress of water onto the carriageway by Old Hall Farm, as it will ease

many minds who were worried about the effect of the oncoming winter. Skating on four wheels is not to be encouraged.

We have been told that the AGM of the Bouth Village Hall is to be held on **Tuesday 27 November, 7:30pm**. This may be too late for some of you and a reminder that if any want to publicise an event we need the information by the 14th. Day of the previous month; we are boringly repeating this, but alas, some will never learn.

There is to be a Quiz Night in aid of St. Mary's Hospice on **Tuesday 18 December, 7:30pm Bouth Village Hall, £1.50** and bring you own drinks. Raffle prizes needed: contact Penny Lovegrove **T: 01229 861091**.

The Ulverston Choral Society's Christmas Concert, **Friday 21 December, Ulverston Parish Church, 7:30pm. £8** at the door or **T: 01229 861732**.

Carols on the Green: There will be the Annual singing of carols 'Round the Tree' on Bouth Village Green, **6:00pm, Tuesday, 24 December**. In 2010 there was more idle chatter than singing and in 2011 the chatter ceased but the singing was pathetic. 2012 – Must do better!

Christians Greenodd and District Planning Group: There will be an **Advent Carols and Tea** (with seasonal fare) on **Sunday 2 December at 3.00 p.m. in Lowick Community Hall**.

We are hoping that all local Christians, whatever their tradition, will join us for this Preparation for Christmas, which will include the dispatch of the "Posada" Travelling Crib.

Donald.



Bouth Womens Institute

Our Annual Meeting held on 14 November unanimously re-elected Elspeth Cooper as President and there was only amendment to the committee where Marion Hamer has replaced Alison Whytell as vice secretary.

Our **Annual Christmas Party** will be held on **Wednesday 12 December, 7:15pm** and the meal will be served **promptly at 7:30**. Cost this year will be **£8.00**. Guests will have their invitations by now and need to accept, **together** with the £8.00, at the latest by **Wednesday, 5 December**

Our next meeting, in the New Year, will be held on **Wednesday 10 January, 7:15pm, Village Hall**, when the 'Ghana Girls', Lynn Jowett & Bev McCarthy will be relating their experiences following their charity visit to Ghana.

Bouth W I is a lively and welcoming group which delights in having new people join. We have 23 members and an average attendance of 15 at our meetings where we have an exciting range. Next year we look forward to celebrating 70 years of existence.

Susie & Jane.



COLTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

New Councillor in West Ward: We are very pleased to welcome Katherine Patterson onto the Council as a member for west ward. She lives at High Ickenthaite Farm with her husband, Hamish, and their two children. Katherine has a BA degree in Public Relations and Masters degree in Public Relations Management. She has worked for various local organisations, such as YMCA National Centre at Lakeside, Furness Enterprise and, most recently, the Cumbria Wildlife Trust, doing PR and Events Management. She is Chair of Hawkshead Pre-School, and is a member of Hawkshead Esthwaite School PTA, the Hawkshead Agricultural Show Committee and the Bethacar Moor Commoners Association. In her spare time, Katherine enjoys walking, spending time with her family, and looking after their Belted Galloways, Fell Ponies, Gloucester Old Spots, runner ducks, geese and hens.

Colton Housing Needs Survey 2012 – Full Report: The Cumbria Rural Housing Trust has completed its full report from the housing survey conducted earlier this year. A link to the report and summary findings is available from our website. From the survey, 7 households were identified as being in affordable housing need within the next 5 years. These figures are down from 17 households identified in the 2007 survey. Reasons may be i) that some need had since been satisfied through the Satterthwaite School development, and ii) the survey also indicates that that some people have had to move away from the area in order to be able to afford somewhere to live. A further 5 households were identified as being in need of local housing (as opposed to 'affordable' housing) for example wanting

to downsize to smaller properties. A fuller analysis will be contained in our own winter newsletter.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 3 December in Rusland Reading Rooms at 7:30pm.** Everyone welcome.

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



News from Leven Valley Primary School

Leven Valley Primary School are having a busy term. Class one visited the Lifeboat Museum and raised £60 for the Lifeboats. All of Key Stage 2 took part in a cross country event at Cartmel racecourse involving all the primary schools on the Cartmel Peninsula. Their running was superb in very soggy conditions and the Girls Year3/4 team were winners! Well done to everyone and thanks are given to Cartmel Priory students and Mrs Hill for helping to organise the event. The children had constructed a third scale Tudor House in the school hall with an expert, learning skills such as thatching, making wattle and daub and bodging. The Tudor theme was continued for Children in Need Day, the children came to school in Tudor costume. There was an exhibition of artwork and the children taught art techniques to adults who visited the exhibition. There was a short drama display based on a Tudor theme.

After school activities this term are: a hoop games club run by Tom of Onside Coaching, Football training by Dan from Westmorland FA and guitar lessons taught by Fitz.

Mr Cooper has become very famous having been interviewed by BBC Radio Cumbria in a discussion about the use of calculators in schools, describing their use in Key Stage 2.

School welcomed the new school administrator: Mrs Clare who has arrived to take Mrs Errington's place, everyone wishes her every success in her new post at Leven valley.

Looking forward to Christmas Class 3 will be visiting the Lunch Club at St Anne's Church hall, Haverthwaite to entertain members on **Wednesday 5 December.** The children will be singing at Hollow Oak Nursing Home after school on **Wednesday 12 December.** Christmas dinner is on

Thursday 13 December. The Christmas Play is being performed twice on **Tuesday 18 December at 1:30pm and 6:00m.** The school term ends on **Thursday 20 December with Carols round the Tree at 1:00pm.** Sue S.



Penny Bridge Church Coffee Morning: Will be held on **Saturday 1 December, Greenodd Village Hall 10:00am - Noon.** The usual stalls, raffles, tombola and much more. A **£1** to get in includes coffee & treats.



Oxen Park Cinema Club

Midnight in Paris – now that’s a film worth watching. An Oscar winning film by Woody Allen – come to **Rusland on Tuesday 4 December for a 7:30pm** start.

Then *Coriolanus* on **Saturday 19 January** – please book as it’s a Supper Special at **Rusland.** This is a good telling of a Shakespeare tale. Ralph Fiennes and Vanessa Redgrave live up to their reputations but be warned – it is a bit dark and bloody at times.

On **Saturday 29 December** we have a children’s show at **Leven Valley Outback Hall** – the newly out *Arthur Christmas* – **3:45pm** only **£3** includes child care and a snack. Carol.



What is Christmas?

Christmas isn’t about toys
Christmas isn’t about money
Christmas is about giving food to the needy
Christmas is about loving your family
Christmas is to get time to spend with your family

What’s Christmas
Christmas is about the holiday
Christmas is about loving what you get
Christmas isn’t about sending cards

Christmas is about love

Jeffery McNutt.

Please note the service times and places are different from usual.

DIARY DATES

- 1 December Penny Bridge Church Coffee Morning, Greenodd Village hall, 10:00am >
- 2 December **Family Morning Worship, 10:30am.**
Advent Carols, Lowick Community Hall, 3:00pm.
- 3 December Parish Council meeting, Rusland Reading Rooms, 7:30pm.
- 4 December Cinema Club, Rusland Reading Rooms, 7:30pm.
- 9 December **Benefice Communion, Penny Bridge, 10:30am.**
- 12 December Bouth W I Christmas Party, 7:15pm.
- 14 December **Decorating the Church, 10:00am.**
- 16 December **Colton Carol Service, 3:00pm.**
- 18 December Quiz Night (St. Mary's Hospice), Bouth Village Hall, 7:30pm.
Leven Valley School, Play, 1:30 & 6:00pm.
- 20 December Leven Valley School, Carols Round the Tree, 1:00pm.
- 21 December Ulverston Choral Society, Concert, Ulverston Parish Church, 7:30pm.
- 23 December **Holy Communion, 9:30pm.**
- 24 December **Carols on the Green, Bouth, 6:00pm.**
Midnight Communion, Penny Bridge, 11:30pm
- 25 December **The Birth of Christ: Family Communion, Colton, 10:30am.**
- 29 December Cinema Club, Children's Film, Outback Hall, 3:45pm.
- 30 December **Benefice Communion & Farewell to Joanna, Colton, 10:30am.**

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