



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

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PASTORAL LETTER

The Vicarage
Penny Bridge
ULVERSTON
LA12 7RQ

December 2003

Dear friends

Advent Hope?

Two things have made me a little concerned about life and the over fifties, at least since I turned fifty.

Firstly, I have been reading a book by Bill Bryson called *Notes from a Big Country*. It is a series of short articles about the American way of life written for an English Newspaper. In it his wife remarks, "You're always complaining in that column." He replies, "But the world needs righting.....Besides, complaining is what I do." She responds, "Complaining is all you do."

Secondly, I watched part of a series on television called "*Grumpy Old Men*." That is exactly what the men who were interviewed did - complain - grump, if you prefer it.

As I watched more and more complaints about other people and their dress sense, manners, driving habits, etc., I constantly thought *that could be me speaking*. For Bill Bryson you could in some ways put Gary Wemyss.

That out of the way let me share one of my biggest complaints with you. Celebrating Christmas in November and early December. Each year I complain to Elizabeth about the Christmas decorations that appear in September, the Christmas Carols sung in November and the church ignoring Advent as the season which prepares us for Christmas.

The Advent season has been cut back from six weeks to four weeks before Christmas through the centuries but still we seem to ignore the message of Advent. A promise of hope that is to come - the birth of a Saviour who is Christ the Lord.

The idea is that each week as we move through Advent our hope grows so that on Christmas Day we can sing about a Saviour who is born today. Unfortunately for some it is time to be buying those Easter Eggs that have been put on display before December is out.

The Advent Carol Service on the 30th of November gives, or has given, (depending on when you receive this magazine) an opportunity to listen to the promise of God that he would send a hope for all. As Christians we will celebrate the birth of Christ on Christmas Day when I hope many will share in one of our services.

May Christ, the Son of God born of Mary, be with you and your families over this coming Christmas.

Yours, very sincerely

Gary Wemyss



Gary Wemyss, Vicar.

COLTON CHRONICLES

Well, it is a change for the Vicar to have a beef instead of the editor, but Advent has always been contentious and I can never quite understand why this period in our calendar is so solemn as we look forward to that most wonderful and glorious celebration, the Birth of Christ. However we must not forget that Advent is also the time of preparing for the second coming and as such is a thoughtful and pensive time.

There was a Joint PCC recently, which can best be described as a corporate evening of contemplation when the past was reviewed and the future reflected upon. Your views on Colton and the new benefice would be welcome although from past experience expecting views on anything connected with the church is like 'Waiting for Godot'.

Sad to say that there will not be a Christmas 'do' this year for, as usual, everybody sits back and expects somebody else to do the organizing and this

year the 'old hands' are deserving of a rest. Apart from the wonderful social atmosphere, the church funds will be £300 or so lighter.

The church will be decorated for Christmas and the willing or not so willing will foregather at **10.00am. on Saturday 13 December**, all being well. If you are lucky you might even get a glass (plastic cup actually) of sherry and a mince pie. Do not forget if it is the first pie, have a wish. It may be a touch heathen but it is traditional.

Our **Traditional Carol Service** will be held on **Sunday 14 December at 4.00pm. There will NOT be a morning service at Colton !** There is a Service of Holy Communion at 10.30am.at Penny Bridge and a Christingle at 5.30pm. at Lowick on that Sunday.

No flowers in Advent but there will be coffee on 7 December after church
Margaret Campbell and Barbara Watson willing.

Donald



MOTHERS UNION

The November Meeting began with a short service led by Enrolling Member Mrs. Watson, followed by an informative talk on the work of "The Lions" by two of the members of the Barrow and Furness branch of this Charity. The Lions is one of the largest charities worldwide, and its members are looked on as family. The main function of The Lions is to help people in difficult circumstances, both locally and abroad.

The Barrow branch had been instrumental in furnishing a hospital operating theatre, by dismantling items from Roose Hospital and sending them to Rumania, all the work and transport being carried out by members free of charge. Locally they help by providing equipment such as wheelchairs for needy people, and to helping out with food parcels for those in need.

Mrs. Hannah Wilson volunteered to carry the Banner at the **Diocesan Triennial Service in Kendal on 15th November**

We are hosting the **Deanery Advent Service** this year on **Friday December 5th at 2.00pm in Satterthwaite Church**; arrangements have been made to provide refreshments. We invite everybody to join us at this service and all are welcome, including gentlemen.

Margaret

JUBILEE WINDOW

The Book of Donors, which lists the 138 families or individuals who contributed to the cost of the new stained glass window, has now been completed.

The Book is displayed on the old lectern at the rear of the Church under the Jubilee Window itself. A separate diagram showing the notional numbering of the window panes accompanies the book.

Ian



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

There will be Midnight Communion Services at both Colton and Penny Bridge at 11.30pm on Wednesday 24 December. There will be a Family Communion Service at Lowick at 10.30am. on Christmas morning.

PARISH NEWS

There seems to be a plethora of news this month, which will, if the past is anything to go by, be (yes, it is a split infinitive) a wonderful breeding ground for mistakes.

Congratulations to Doris and Ken Lomas of Oxen Park on celebrating 50 Golden Years of marriage on Friday 7 November, as the whole of Cumbria knows, courtesy of Radio Cumbria.

Congratulations to Hannah Redhead and Andy John on their marriage on the 15 November. We wish them much love and a successful and happy partnership for many years to come.

Congratulations to Sharon Price and Tony Wood of Abbots Reading Farm on the birth of a son Jake on 13 October. A Bouncing 9lbs 2ozs. We are also pleased to tell you of an ecstatic grandmother Carol Wood and no doubt Derek is a bit chuffed as well, he is the quiet one of the family!

More congratulations, this time to Sarah and Ian Young of Bouth, on the birth of a son, who came into our world a bit earlier than he should, and also to Grandparents Millie and George Young. We do not have any details as yet.

There has been a spate of illnesses in the parish of late, some like to be mentioned and some do not. Whoever you are we all wish you a return to health and the strength to bear your burdens. Our thoughts, prayers and every blessing are with you.

Zella has sent a cheque for £250 to the NSPCC, the proceeds from her Coffee Morning held at the beginning of November.

The old but cynical comment of never believing anything you hear came perilously close to being true. An injustice has been done and we are only too happy to put matters right. High Cottage, Bouth, has been purchased not altogether as a holiday home and not exactly by off comers from southern parts. Marion and David Hamer are the proud new owners and whilst living in London have roots in the north.

Marion is a Scot from Lanark and David a Lancastrian from Bury and who sadly supports their football team. Whilst resident in London they expect to spend as much time as possible up here and, if all goes well, will move permanently in a couple of years or so. It appears they like the 'splendid hospitality of the White Hart' amongst other things, it must be said.

Bouth Village Hall will be holding their **Annual Bingo Evening on Thursday 18 December in the Hall. Eyes Down 7.30pm.** Please donate raffle prizes etc generously and to May Lambert.

Judy/Donald



WOMENS INSTITUTE

BOUTH

At our Annual Meeting in November Elspeth Cooper was re-elected as President, Susan Smith as Secretary and as Rowena Thornthwaite is off to pastures new, Debbie Perry as Treasurer.

At our successful Diamond Celebration at Clarence House, Dalton our guests were past President Joan Sankey, Federation Chairman, Sheila Parkinson and Secretary Dorothy Rawson. Unfortunately other Past Presidents were unable to attend.

The rehearsals for the **Christmas Party** are coming along well [your editor was somewhat taken aback when the word choreographer was mentioned – can't wait!] **The Party is on Wednesday 10 December – 7.00 for 7.15pm.**

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 14 January at 7.15pm.** when Mr Crawley will talk on 'Woodland Ways'. It is an open meeting when even the chaps are invited.

Judy/Hilary.

SPARKBRIDGE & LOWICK

A beautiful leather upholstered chair had to remain in the Hall porch at the October meeting as it was too large to get through the door in to the main room. The speaker for the evening, Mrs. Cook had brought the chair and other items including a beautiful inlaid wood occasional table, as finished products she had made to demonstrate her craft as an upholsterer.

Mrs. Cook told members how she had become interested in Upholstering firstly as a hobby and then progressing to training towards a certificate, to finishing up with her own business, and to teaching. She had brought along tools and materials and demonstrated on how to upholster a stool. Mrs. Atherton gave the vote of thanks and while members enjoyed the customary cup of tea, they all admired the chair, many of them trying it out for comfort.

The **November meeting on the Tuesday 24th; will be the AGM** and this is our final meeting for the year, December is our holiday month, and after the **Christmas Dinner, booked at The Manor, Oxenpark for Tuesday 2nd December.** Our next meeting will be on **January 27th 2004 at 7-30pm in Lowick Church Hall**, when Fred Barns will tell the members how to grow roses.

Margaret.



CHRISTMAS GIFT

Dark days, long nights,
Yes, December's here
And Christmas day
Is drawing near

Presents to buy,
Cards to send,
Where does it start?
Where does it end?

Oh, the worry,
Oh, the haste
What does Auntie Daisy need?
What is cousin David's taste?

Stop a moment, stop and think
Of what you need to know today –
Love's the first thing
To give away.

Jean Sly

PANTOMIME

The staff, foresters and local community in Grizedale have written, produced and are presenting **'The Grizedale Christmas Pantomime'** in traditional style. It has the splendid title **'Wolfen' it Down in the Forest'**.

Barrow based artist, John Hall, has mentored the cast in script-writing and acting, whilst Phil Gregg, also from Barrow, has directed the production. The Grizedale Saturday morning Art Club led by Anji Archer was involved in making the props.

There will be two performances on **Sunday 14 December at 2.00pm. & 7.00pm. at Grizedale Theatre. Tickets Adults £3 & Children £1.**

For tickets ring **Audrey ☎ 01229 860 291.**



KENDAL COLLEGE

The College is putting on new Computer Courses to be held in **Greenodd Village Hall**. The courses include two modules of the new Clait Certificate; *'core module'* & *'word processing module'*.

The full certificate comprises 5 sections but each section can be certificated individually. [Ed. the original said modules but I fail to see how you can have a module within a module and certainly not according to the OED].

The cost is **£30** but there are entitlements to free or reduced fees. The course will be held on **Thursday mornings 9.30 to 12.30** starting on **15 January 2004** and will last for 8 weeks.

For enrolment and further information please call **Barbara Copeland ☎ 015398 147 52** or **Karen Shaw ☎ 015398 147 51.**



Women's Degrees

A tangled web indeed we weave
When Adam grants degrees to Eve:
And much I doubt, had Eve first had 'em,
If she'd had done as much for Adam.

The author A D Godley died in 1925. One wonders what he would have made of our modern world.

SCHOOL NEWS

CARTMEL PRIORY

The floods have subsided and the re-furbishment work should be completed by the end of term, **19 December**, which also means the Headteacher will be back in his den and at last everyone will know where he is.

Congratulations to our Public Speaking Team – Melissa Gray, Rotha Satterthwaite and Amy Worth who won the Rotary ‘Youth Speaks’ competition in November. Bearing in mind that they are fifth formers (old money) they were up against sixth formers from five other Cumbrian Schools. Thanks and congratulations are also due to Judith Casey, Head of English who tutored the winning team.

Donald.



LEVEN VALLEY

Our OFSTED inspection has been and gone and we are pleased that the good work of the School has been recognised, especially in our excellent report form the Church inspectors. Thank you to all who sent us good wishes, helped in any way and particularly to the children, who rose to the occasion beautifully.

It has been a busy time with football and netball matches and a visit to the new planetarium at the Manchester Science Museum by our Juniors. The half term disco organised by the PTA was very successful. Thank you!

Our **Annual Kristingle Fair** will be held on **Sunday 7 December at 2.30pm**. Our **Christmas Concert**, which this year is on the theme of the Nativity, will take place on **Friday 12 December** and there will be two performances. The **matinee at 2.15pm**. and the **evening performance at 6.00pm**.

We shall also be holding an end of term celebration, which will show the work we have done for Christmas. **Wednesday 17 December at 2.30pm**. You are welcome to join us for any of these events.

Susan Holohan.



‘It is a good thing for an uneducated man to read books of quotations’.

Winston Churchill.

DIARY DATES

- 30 November **Advent Sunday** –Joint Holy Communion – 10.30am – Lowick.
Advent Carol Service, for the Group – 6.30pm – Colton
- 1 December **Andrew the Apostle**
- 5 December M U Deanery Advent Service – Satterthwaite – 2.00pm
- 7 December Family Service – 10.30am - Coffee etc. afterwards.
Leven Valley School – Kristingle Fair – 2.30pm
- 10 December Bouth W I Party – Village Hall – 7.00/7.15pm
- 12 December Leven Valley School Concert – 2.15pm & 6.00pm
- 13 December *Decorating the Church – 10.30am*
- 14 December Carol Service – 4.00pm – No Morning Service at Colton.
Grizedale Pantomime – Grizedale Theatre – 2.00pm & 7.00pm
- 17 December Leven Valley School – End of term celebration – 2.30pm
- 18 December Bouth Village Hall Bingo – 7.30pm – Village Hall.
- 19 December End of Term.
- 21 December Holy Communion, 9.30am. *Carol Service – 4.00pm – Penny Bridge*
- 24 December **First Christmas Communion at Colton & Penny Bridge at 11.30pm**
- 25 December The Birth of Christ † Christmas Day † Family Communion at Lowick at 10.30am.**
- 26 December **Stephen, Deacon.**
- 27 December **John, Apostle an Evangelist.**
- 28 December **Holy Innocents.** *Benefice Ecumenical Communion at Colton at 10.30am*
- 1 January New Years Day
- 4 January Family Service – 10.30am.- Coffee etc in hall afterwards.



A heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed, whether on time or not, and to you the patient readers for your understanding of my mistakes and occasional untimely comments. A Happy Christmas & a Good and Fruitful New Year.

Donald.

