



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

Lowick Farm House
Lowick Green
ULVERSTON
LA12 8DX

December 2013

Dear Friends

During my National Service I was a clerk in the Medical Corps. About the most tedious job that I can remember was having to trawl through *all* the records in our office over a four-day period, with two fellow clerks, because the Staff-Sergeant (Company Chief Clerk) had had a tip-off from a mate at HQ that we were due for a “surprise” visit from the Officer-in-charge of Records. Actually our records were in pretty good nick, but we *did* uncover about half-a-dozen minor errors, which we duly put into Staff’s in tray as instructed.

The day before our big ‘gasp, shock, horror’ “surprise visit” was due, I had occasion to re-visit one of the blemished files, and found to my surprise that it had been put away *uncorrected*. Out of curiosity, I looked at the others, and found that they had *all* been put back without emendation; thinking that there had been some ghastly slip-up, after our days of sweat and tears, I took them to the Chief Clerk. His cool response was, “Oh, yes. Don’t worry about *them*. He’ll find those, and think he’s done a good day’s work. If they *weren’t* there, he might feel that he had to ransack the place – and then he might unearth something *really* serious!”

As we know from the recent history of Care Homes, there is all the difference in the world between inspections which are pre-arranged and those which are unexpected. Here, in this period of “Advent”, we are reminded of a key belief of our Christian creed, that one day, when He is least expected, the Lord Jesus Christ will “come again, to judge the living and the dead”. He said quite clearly that no-one knows *when* that day will be, except His Father in Heaven. But it will be, “as in the days of Noah”, a time of complete normality. Furthermore, He is recorded as saying, “... so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in a field Two women will be grinding at the mill (etc,)”. Yet, two verses later it is, “...if the householder had known in what part of the *night* the thief was

coming ...!” So when *are* we to expect the Lord’s return – daytime or night time? Well the simple answer is that it will depend upon where in the round world we are living at the time! When it is midnight in London it is 4 p.m. in Los Angeles and 5 a.m. in Mumbai! But His message is the same for all – “Watch therefore” and “Be prepared”. His first coming, which we shall celebrate at Christmas time, has opened up the way for those who follow Him and trust in Him, to anticipate His second coming with joyful hope, and not with dread foreboding. May this be *your* expectation during this Advent and this Christmas Season!

With love, in Christ,

David Gregg



COLTON CHRONICLES

Advent a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the **Nativity of Jesus** which begins on **Sunday 1 December. 10:30am** with a **Benefice Service** at **Penny Bridge** when **Bishop Robert** will be the Celebrant and preacher. We will be joined by congregations from Coniston, Torver & Broughton.

By tradition, the church should remain undecorated until Christmas Day but usually it is, until the **Carol Service**, which should be as near as Christmas as possible.

This year it will be held on **Sunday 22 December, 3:00pm**, which means the church will be decorated on **Saturday 21, 10:00am**. Incidentally this is the day of the Winter Solstice, the shortest day.

Ministry Strategy: We are fortunate to have Bishops that listen, as having taking into consideration the comments made throughout the County on the various proposals for the strategy, they proposed a new motion to the last Diocesan Synod, the main bones of which were:-

“Requests the Deaneries, in dialogue with parishes, the Bishop and ecumenical partners, to explore the implications of the Strategy, including the shape of possible Mission Communities, and to report back to Archdeaconry and Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committees.”

In a nutshell this is telling the Deaneries to stop and think as to how their proposals will affect parishes, churches and the people. In this Deanery the current proposals ignore not only all these things but the geography and topography of Furness. We hope for better things to come.

All this has come about due to the decreasing number of those coming forward for ordination and sadly, in these hardened times, the inability of some parishes to fund full time priests.

Food Bank: You will all recall the pastoral letter in last month's magazine with details of what is needed. Well, our Vicar has now made it easier for us to help, as there are green plastic boxes in the three Churches where you all can bring your contributions.

On a more minor matter please make sure that you have paid (£6) for your magazine. Sorry to nag!

Donald.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- Sunday 22 December – Carol Service, Colton, 3:00pm.
- Sunday 22 December – Carol Service, Lowick, 3:00pm.
- Tuesday 24 December – Family Event with Carols, Colton, 3:00pm.
- Tuesday 24 December – Midnight Communion, Lowick, 11:30pm.
- Christmas Day – Ecumenical Communion, Penny Bridge, 10:30am.



PARISH NEWS

“CAROLS ROUND THE TREE – 24 December, Bouth Village Green, 6:00pm”

A smart toe board has been fixed to ‘The Fence’ and it was interesting to see that the ‘workers’ started at the farthest point from the White Hart and worked towards it? Perhaps this was not surprising as, going by the number of ‘workers’ present, it was clearly a social occasion.

Being the unassuming man that he is Neville (Stark) was overwhelmed by number of cards and congratulations he received on the occasion of his 90th. birthday and has asked us to say thank you to you all.

A very warm, if somewhat belated welcome to James and Katya Pell, who now reside in Yew Tree Cottage, Bouth. Joy upon Joy they have been blessed with a baby girl, Tabatha Daisy Cora born on 17th. October and, who remarkably, is the first baby to be born in Bouth this century. You may not yet know, Katya & James, but you have come to live in a remarkable hamlet: if ever you need help – just ask!

Sadness and Joy at Old Hall Farm; sadness as big Ben the Shire horse has been in a veterinary hospital with what was thought to be colic but turned out to be ulcers. Joy as Ben, Troy and George have been joined by Sky a three year old Shire mare. If she is anything like the female of species in this parish no doubt she will soon be bossing the boys.

Windermere Reflections: Is a 3 year partnership program supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund running until August 2014. Its prime purpose is the maintenance, improvement and protection of the Windermere Catchment Area: currently they have 19 projects underway designed to bring long term benefits to the area.

The catchment area also includes Stickle Tarn, Easedale Tarn, Grasmere, Rydal Water, Elter Water and Esthwaite Water. The team along with their delivery partners have a program of wide ranging activities and they would be delighted to welcome support where you can learn new skills by enrolling on FREE courses and/or taking part in various activities. Contact Debbie Binch **T:** 015394 34401 or debbie.binch@windermere-reflections.org.uk
Website: www.windermere-reflections.org.uk

In a similar vein there is another initiative – **Rusland Horizons**, dealing with the same type of problems, but nearer home and includes Coniston Water. There will be opportunities for members of the community to get involved and these will be advertised widely. Colin Barr & Giles Wingate-Saul are the leaders of this initiative.

Donald.



* You would not normally expect words of wisdom from a young professional footballer, but 20 year old Ravel Morrison a Mancunian who plays for West Ham tweeted “The number of followers you have doesn’t make you any better than anyone else, Hitler had millions, Jesus had 12!” *



BOUTH WOMENS INSTITUTE

The ladies having recovered from their Anniversary celebrations held their A G M the following week which was equally exciting but tinged with some regret as Elspeth Cooper, President for over ten years has stepped down with effusive and well deserved thanks. Her successor is the intrepid Linda Perkins, another lady who doesn't take no for an answer.

Other new and welcome appointments are Sue Dean as Treasurer, Alison Whytell & Hazel Coates as members of the committee. At the same time we say farewell to Sylvia Chadwick & Kay Croasdale. Susan Smith remains as Secretary and Jane Chaloner, Press Secretary.

The **Christmas Party** will be held on **Wednesday 11 December, 7:00 for 7:30pm**. The Hall will be **decorated** on the same day at **10:30am** help is needed **especially, Men!**

'From' Susan Smith.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Highways: After some pleading from the Clerk, the local County Highways team has repaired two collapsed culverts at Colton: 1) 'Vicarage Corner' where there was a constant deluge of water across the road and 2) on the back road to Snows near Riddingside Farm where the water had washed away much of the tarmac.

The team has also been repairing potholes, and has tried to rod the notorious drain at Bouth Road Ends that keeps clogging up; a gully-sucker and jetter is being sent to clear the whole drain. Whilst we know that the local team is doing its very best in the face of dwindling resources, the question remains that all our roads are deteriorating markedly with very little routine maintenance being done.

Needless to say, Colton is not the only parish dismayed at the state of the roads. We will be attending a meeting shortly between South Lakeland parishes and both the Highways Manager (Nick Raymond) and the County Cabinet Member for Highways (Keith Little).

Meanwhile our temporary Lengthsman, Archie Workman, is doing great works around the Parish; clearing drains where he can, and cutting back

verges. He removed from the drain below Lin Bridge a huge length of matted earth which he christened the 'Rusland Slug'!

* If you need Archie to visit your patch, please contact the Clerk. *

Community Grants: We understand that Neighbourhood Forums will no longer be making grants. Instead grants would be decided by a 'Community Grants and Engagement Review' which would include three representatives from Parish Councils in the NF area; one of these representatives will be from Colton.

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday 3 December, 7:30pm** in **Rusland Reading Rooms.**

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



LEVEN VALLEY C of E SCHOOL

All the juniors who took part in the cross country at Cartmel Race Course and everyone tried really hard joining in with everything. Both girls' teams did exceptionally well and finished second overall - congratulations!

Well done as well to both of the boys' teams who finished fourth - a great achievement! Thanks are given to all of the adults who helped with transport (and those that put the shelter up and down!) A huge thank is given to Mrs Hill & the pupils from Cartmel Priory School for organising & running the event.

A very reflective Remembrance Service was held in school on Monday 11th November organized and led by all the children.

Class 3 have been working in Science to investigate the most effective PE activity to warm up, we may all benefit from finding out the result.

As usual the Children in Need appeal was supported by the school. Everyone turned up in spotty-themed clothing bringing cakes and some money to participate in games. Amount raised will be announced in the next magazine.

Sue Sanderson.



"To make children capable of honesty is the beginning of education." Ruskin.

OXEN PARK CINEMA CLUB

The new **Carthouse Community Cinema** is finished and open at last. It looks stunning – a mixture of cinema and living room – it is completely sound proofed and will seat around 35 people in comfort.

You can buy a drink from The Manor and bring it over – how civilised is that! Our programme still includes films at Rusland and Backbarrow as we are committed to showing films to as wide an audience as possible.

Booking is essential if you would like to come to a film at The Carthouse. Our opening nights included premiers of our new film of the Backbarrow Blue Works with Ron Mein starring (as always). Many local people will have worked there or be related to someone who worked there and would enjoy a viewing. It will be on sale and there will be more chances to watch it through the year.

We are holding our annual **Coffee Morning, Thursday 5 December, The Coro, Ulverston**, As usual it would lovely to see any of you there but in the meantime if you have any 'collectables' (slightly classier version of bric-a-brac!), jewellery or little things for a tombola, we would be very grateful. Contact Jane Chaloner (Haybridge) or Carol McNeill (Oxen Park) and we would love to see you there if you can make it. *Carol.*

Ed. Congratulations on your coverage on BBC North West Tonight.



ST. MARY'S HOSPICE

Leven Valley Support Group: The Flower Decoration Demonstration in October was a great success and a reminded us how flowers mark our emotional feelings and are presented when we want to celebrate, offered as a greeting, as a thank you or as in our case a delightful fundraiser for the Hospice.

The evening started with a visit to the ever changing car display in the Car Museum by courtesy of Les Micklethwaite followed by a magical exhibition of flower arrangements by Liz Harrison, of Dodd's Flowers. The flowers were auctioned off as was a wonderful Christmas cake donated by Andrew Southcott Catering; Andrew kindly waived his fee and the amount raised was £875.00. Thank you all for your support. *Dorothy Crabtree,*

DIARY DATES

*** SERVICE TIMES: See page 4 & the Rota***

- 1 December **Advent Sunday – Community Communion with Bishop Robert Penny Bridge, 10:30am.**
- 3 December Parish Council Meeting, Rusland Reading Rooms, 7:30pm.
- 5 December P C C Church Hall, 7:30pm.
Cinema Club Coffee Morning, Coronation Hall.
- 8 December **Holy Communion, Colton, 9:30am.**
- 11 December Bouth W I Christmas Party, Village Hall, 7:00 for 7:30pm.
Decorating Hall, 10:30am. **Men** needed!
- 15 December **Holy Communion, Colton, 9:30am.**
- 21 December **Decorating the Church for Christmas 10:00am**
Winter Solstice. Shortest Day. It can only get better.
- 22 December **Carol Service, Colton, 3:00pm.**
Carol Service, Lowick, 3:00pm.
- 24 December **Family Event with Carols, Colton, 3:00pm.**
“Carols Round the Tree”, Bouth Village Green, 6:00pm.
Midnight Communion, Lowick, 11:30pm.
- 25 December Christmas Day, Ecumenical Communion, Penny Bridge, 10:30pm.**
- 26 December **St. Stephen.**
- 27 December **John, Apostle.**
- 28 December **Holy Innocents.**
- 30 December **Benefice Communion, Penny Bridge, 10:30am.**



Leven Valley Support Group continued: There were Spooky goings on at the Lakeland Motor Museum over a four day period which led to a wonderful surprise for the support group. Staff at the motor museum dressed up for Halloween and did a raffle and spooky activities for the children which led to a magnificent amount of £475.00 being raised!!

The group were delighted to receive this generous donation for the hospice and many thanks go to the museum for their continued support.

D C.

