



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

The Vicarage
Penny Bridge
ULVERSTON
LA12 7RQ

October 2021

Dear Friends

THE MEANING OF LIFE

“When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’”
John 11.20-26

Those words of Jesus, *“I am the Resurrection and the life etc.”* are used at nearly every Christian funeral service. But you will notice in the quote above, that there is another sentence that Jesus adds to that statement which is missed out at funerals. This sentence, the last sentence, is actually a question Jesus asks Martha, *“Do you believe this?”*

I think that this question is the most important part of Jesus’ reply to Martha. The reason being that this question is the question that sums up – in my opinion, anyway – the meaning of life. Not that I think that life is some test that we must pass, or that life is a question or series of questions that we might get wrong. No, life is not a test but there is a simple question in life that we must all face, *“Do you believe this?”* – no wrong answer, just a simple “yes” or “no”.

Mary and Martha’s brother Lazarus, their only brother, and probably their only support and security in that culture, had died, had been taken from them. So, no wonder when Martha comes out to meet Jesus, she says, *“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died?”*. The disappointment

in her voice must have been palpable, the disappointment must have been written on her face.

As most of you will know, just over 3 months ago, my much-loved wife, Anne, suddenly and unexpectedly died. So, I can identify with Martha's statement, the "if only", the "why" hidden in her words to Jesus. And I am figuring that you too will have faced similar disappointment at some point. To which Jesus replies, "*I am the resurrection and the life...Do you believe this?*" The crucial question, the meaning of life, "Do you believe this?". Each of us will need, at some point in our life, to answer that question. There is no wrong answer, but there must be an answer.

Blessings in Christ,



COLTON CHRONICLES

Despite many things getting back to normal there is still no increase in the number of services at Colton and indeed we have far less than any other church in the Benefice; for example, in December, we only have one, the Carol Service, scheduled whilst there are five at Coniston. The PCC at their latest meeting were most displeased and find the situation unacceptable wondering why!

On a more cheerful note, we have now received the legacy of £5654.39 from our dear Doreen Harrison, who led us so wonderfully over those many difficult years. It will be well spent.



The receipts from the Fête have continued to come in in dribs and drabs with the total now well over £2,000, a record. What made this possible was the sterling work of Susan King who all but wore her phone out asking cajoling and instructing so many to turn up and work on the day. Susan – A **BIG THANK YOU!**



The Harvest Supper is in doubt due to the lack of ‘customers’ but there is still time to save. If you would like to come and enjoy, please contact Mrs. Sue Dean **E:** suedean@btinternet.com **T:** 01229 861 425 by **1 Oct.**

However, the Harvest Service is going ahead on **Friday 8 October, 7:00pm** and, as usual the church will be decorated on the morning at **10:00am, helpers would be appreciated.** Also, as usual, we need contributions but and it is a big but, nothing organic just tins etc which will be sent to the Food Bank.



Giles Wingate-Saul - Sadly, Giles passed away on Tuesday 7th September. He will be greatly missed by his friends and neighbours, and for his involvement in our community. Lucinda and Rupert have arranged a Thanksgiving Service at Rusland Church for Saturday 9th October at 2.30pm, followed by refreshments in the Reading Rooms. Please come - you will be very welcome.

Note: Whilst Giles worshipped at Rusland he was a very good friend of Colton and attended our services; we will miss the ‘power’ of his singing.



PARISH NEWS

Bouth Village Green: Last month we told you of the improvements but lacked the details.

The safety surfacing work was funded by grants of £6400 from FCC Communities Foundation and £1500 from The Hadfield Trust. Bouth Village Green Committee are extremely grateful to both organisations for providing funding as it would not have been possible to go ahead without their support.

FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community projects through the Landfill Communities Fund. The Hadfield Trust provides grants to organisations in located in Cumbria to support community projects.



Village Hall: It has been a busy few months for the Development Committee. Planning has been approved for the proposed Hall extension, and the Hall is now on the Land Registry.

An application for a grant from the Walney Community Fund (Bay Wind Farm) has been made and the committee is awaiting a decision

The COVID risk assessment has been updated, increasing the Hall capacity from 18 to 30 people. We are not sure how long it will be before we are back at full capacity, but now there is at least space to have a family party!



People: We like to report happenings in the Parish but cannot do so unless we are informed. Contact details on the bottom of the inside front cover page.

We do hear that that here are those who are not too well and to whom we send our prayers and best wishes, especially to Frank Slater of |Oxen Park.

Regrettably we have to report the death of Mike Shannon of Bouth, a quiet man. We send our condolences and prayers to his wife Margaret and the family.

On a more cheerful note congratulations to Jane Patton who has just celebrated a significant birthday and also to husband Steve who has celebrated a more significant birthday. We wish them both well



The White Hart: For those of you who don't know the pub is now closed on Mondays & Tuesdays and for some reason all the Charity Boxes have disappeared so nowhere to get rid of our spare change.



Diversity: In our rural landscape we are used to seeing cattle, sheep, horses and crops, but locally that has changed. We now have people, cars, vans, tents and toilets. Hardly an improvement and to some extent the Planning Authorities must take some share of the blame apparently being obsessed with diversity ignoring the effect on the landscape.



BOUTH W I

September's speaker from the North West Aire Ambulance unfortunately cancelled, so the members enjoyed a post summer catch up instead.

Members are looking forward to the October speaker; Diane Matthews whose talk "A year in the life of the High Sheriff" should most interesting. If another women in the community fancy giving the WI a try "or a try again" please feel free to pop along to the **Village Hall, 13 October, 7.15pm**



RUSLAND HORIZONS NEWS

Rusland Horizons Photography Competition: The deadline for the 2022 Calendar Photography Competition has been extended to noon, Wednesday, 13th October. This year's theme is "Rusland Woodlands". Trawl through your collection for shots of different seasons or get out with your camera now, as autumn approaches.

For the rules and more details go to - www.ruslandhorizons.org/articles/photographic-competition-2021.aspx or go the main website and search 'photography'.

Giles Wingate Saul: Very early on in 2011, Giles joined the Partnership that created Rusland Horizons and he subsequently served as Vice-chair and Secretary until the end of the lottery-funded Rusland Horizons, predecessor to the Trust. His energy and commitment were unflinching and his legal skills as an ex-QC were invaluable.

Loving the Rusland valley as he did, he was equally attached to a number of other local initiatives, not least St Paul's Church, the Rusland Show and also the Rusland Valley Community Trust which he founded and supported financially.

Rusland Horizons Update: The team have had some downtime during August and the early part of September as everyone is occupied with other things and the team also needed a rest.

The emphasis now is upon raising money through funding applications so that we can take forward our work on Woodland preservation and conservation and the introduction of those for whom the outdoors is

unknown, to the wonders of nature. We will tell you more about our plans in the coming weeks.

We look forward to seeing you again in person and to your continuing support of, and involvement with, our activities.

Meanwhile, you might be interested in the following summary of what we were up to during the period of the pandemic. Although seriously constrained, we managed to achieve quite a lot:

Our Ruland's Atlantic Rainforest project was shortlisted in an international competition for funding. While we didn't win, the interest this bid generated for RHT (Rusland Horizons Trust), both locally and further afield, has been really valuable for our work in woodlands.

Just before the summer break, we ran an "Eden North" project, in conjunction with Furness College and University of Central Lancashire, to enable disadvantaged students to experience the outdoors and become more familiar with the natural world. The feedback from the students has been heart-warmingly positive. We are planning more of these, subject to funding.

There have been workshops and events to suit all tastes – Walling, Woodland Maintenance, Ancient Tree Identification, a Dawn Chorus Walk, Wildflower Guided Walks, Bracken and Rhodie Bashing, and Moth and Butterfly Strolls.

Facebook followers have been able to read regular posts in our Rusland Horizons and Wild about Rusland Groups. Of particular interest have been the weekly series of posts on Wildflowers, Bird song, Mammals, Wet Woodland Wednesdays and more, all of which can still be read in Facebook.

We recorded the words, thoughts and images of the community during lockdown in our short Living History project. Well worth a visit to our website to see.

Our first calendar competition was a great success in several respects – we discovered how many excellent photographers we had within our midst; we are reminded daily, throughout the year, of the beautiful places within the Rusland Valley; we sold out and, as a result, gathered some necessary

income for the Trust. The deadline for entries to the 2022 competition is not far off. Get clicking!

With the help of many willing volunteers, we have monitored and maintained the many Dormouse boxes scattered around the valley. We continue to live in hope of a sighting!

Volunteers have also been critical to the feasibility study regarding the possible reintroduction of pine marten, led by the University of Cumbria Boom project. They have carried out surveys and helped set camera traps in the woods.

Acorns were collected by many and the resultant seedlings are thriving, soon to be planted out.

Add to the above, more Dreaming of Rusland drawings from Eleanor Chaney, a podcast featuring our Chairman, Marion Brown, and the owners of Great Lindeth Woods, great demand for the Greenwood Trail Walks maps and a number of other activities. Our 'dormant' period has, in fact, been pretty busy. www.ruslandhorizons.org and hello@ruslandhorizontrust.org.



Citizens Advice Bureau

I'm a single parent and lost my job during the pandemic. My local Citizens Advice helped me apply for Universal Credit which has been really helpful to cover some of the income I've lost. But I'm very worried about my children, especially buying their school uniforms and shoes, now they are growing so fast! Is there any support out there until I can find another job?

If you're on a low income or employed, you might be able to get help with some of the costs of sending your child to school, including school meals, transport and uniform. It's always worth talking to your local education authority to see what support is available.

Free school meals

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically get free school meals. If you have older children you can apply for free school meals if you get certain benefits. In your case as you're on Universal Credit and you

applied after 1 April 2018 you would be eligible if you earn less than £7,400 a year without benefits. You can see the full list of eligibility requirements on the Citizens Advice website. To apply for free school meals you need to contact your local authority, you can check the details at Gov.uk by typing your postcode in.

Transport

If your children are aged between five to 16, your local education authority might offer free or lower cost transport if you don't live near school or your child's unable to walk there. You need to apply to your local education authority for help.

Uniforms and other costs

Your local education authority might also be able to help with some other costs, like uniforms, music lessons or trips and activities. There may also be local charitable schemes to help with these costs. It's worth checking with the school to see if it knows of any. If you live in South Lakeland, contact South Lakes Citizens Advice as they may be able to help with sourcing grants. Schools can sometimes also advise on finding second-hand uniforms.

What's next

If your child is staying in education after year 11, you must tell HMRC's Child Benefit Office if you want to continue receiving child benefit and any extra support for children within means-tested benefits. When your child turns 16, HMRC will send you a letter asking whether your child will stay in education or training. You must reply to this letter to keep getting Child Benefit.

Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice on any aspect of debt, consumer problems, benefits, housing, employment or any other problems.

South Lakes Citizens Advice, your local charity, is here for you.

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How to access:

- ***Call 015394 46464 - this is being staffed from 9:30 – 2pm***

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● **Colton Church Readers & Prayer Leaders**

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Month October 2021

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Date / Service	Readers Names	Lessons	Prayer Leaders
8 October	Farmers Harvest		
Farmers Harvest			
7:00 pm <i>PAM</i>			

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24 October	Last Sunday of Trinity			
Holy Communion	Rachel Tarr	Hebrews	7:23-28	Judy Redhead
9:30am <i>VICAR</i>	John Tarr	Mark	10:46-52	

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31 October	All Saints			
Morning Worship	Sue Lydon	Revelation	21: 1-6a	Rachel Tarr
9:30am <i>Donald</i>	Susan Smith	John	11:32-44	

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OXEN PARK CINEMA CLUB

Back in business and our forthcoming films are:-

“*Nomaland*” **Tuesday 5 October & Sunday 10 October**

“*2040*” **Sunday 17 October**

“*Parasite*” **Tuesday 19 October & Sunday 24 October**

All at 7:30pm

Note: Please check the details on our website and to book, contact Carol McNeill at crimcneill@gmail.com

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Orienteering: If you fancy it, it is perfect sport for active families living in the S. Lakes. There are lots of opportunities for families and beginners this autumn – check out Lakeland Orienteering website or contact Carol McNeill in Oxen Park. (See above)

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If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with wornout tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch;
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run—
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

Rudyard Kipling

Dan/pmag 326

