



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

**The Rectory
Hampsfell Road
Grange over Sands
LA11 6BE**

April 2003

Dear friends

April brings Holy Week and Easter, Jesus' last days and His resurrection.

Most of us have shared in someone's 'last days' – someone close to us; and felt for him or her from a distance, and felt helpless. We have known the empty, painful, aching feeling that follows – just as the disciples did. He or she is no longer there, but you are. You go on turning towards them, wanting to share things but they are no longer there, no longer accessible. What would she have said about.....? Wouldn't he have found that funny?

Some people report receiving assurance of some sort, others have the occasional experience of closeness, both of which are difficult to find words for.

Some people say that the disciples received some form of telepathy/telegram from the 'other side' such that they knew a new hope in life, They themselves say that they received far more. They claim that they saw Jesus, talked with Him, shared breakfast with Him, but in a new glory and significance.

Their grief was banished; they felt Him still with them in a way that was much closer than when He was limited to His earthly body. The New Testament trumpets out through the centuries that He is not dead, but alive – for them and for us.

The past has gone; the new future comes to us.

That applies to you at Colton, Satterthwaite and Rusland. The Pastoral Scheme comes into effect – a new life begins. That is exciting and challenging. Grasp it!

It is so easy to get locked into the past; recently, there has been criticism of the young clergyman and his approach, on the BBC2 programme 'A Country Parish', going hand in hand with criticism of the approach of the Anglican church to the fall in numbers of those going to church.

The latter must be addressed in our faithful following of Christ; but our churches were never as 'full' as the picture that some have painted implies. High days etc, perhaps.

Some blame the new translations of the Bible and the so-called relegating of the BCP. If Thomas Cranmer had lived, he intended the Prayer Book should be revised regularly, it had been too long before his wonderful attempts.

I repeat, it is so easy to get locked into the past, entombed by it, feel guilty about it. God does new things, opens tombs, enlivens us for today and tomorrow. He is risen and goes before us. Things pass away, and we constantly lose things that we love, but new things come to us.

God comes to us and surprises us. We cannot hold on to the past, our hands would not then be free to grasp what is on offer to us from the God who makes all things new

I wish you every blessing in you new life, life in His service and love.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Clegg, Rural Dean

COLTON CHRONICLES

Lent is a period of reflection, even for, or perhaps especially for editors of Parish magazines. To misquote Abraham Lincoln “You can please all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you cannot please all of the people all of the time.”

The purpose, or as is fashionable these days, the mission, is to inform people, sometimes in a light-hearted way, of what is going on in the church both locally and countrywide and in the parish. Occasionally, and one hopes that it is occasionally, the written word disconcerts some readers but this is entirely unintentional. This piece, in particular, has been cited as more than mildly irritating to some but rest assured it is not a personal tract and every effort will be made to ensure that it does not become one.

The last issue was an example, but now the dust has settled, as it has on our Pastoral Scheme and as our Rural Dean has written ‘a new life begins.’ An attempt has been made to contact the Church Commissioners to find out what the programme is likely to be but as yet there has not been a response. It would be nice to think that our new United Benefice would be finally

approved and be a glorious Easter present. The only trouble is, the Queen is a trifle busy, and she has to sign whatever has to be signed.

It is pleasing to report that we had a constructive PCC, time being spent on planning the way forward in order to build on the word 'united' rather than just have a loose collection of three disparate parishes. A small group has been formed to discuss/negotiate with Penny Bridge and Lowick on service times and also to look at the form of our worship.

It is everybody's church and the PCC needs your input; if you do not bother it is no use complaining later. To help, please come along to the **Annual Parish Church Meeting in the Church Hall, 7.30pm. on the 14th. April.** You will not be hijacked into doing something you do not want to do although you may well be asked.

A **reminder** that the Lent services will on **2nd. April at Lowick - 9th. April at Colton, both at 7.30pm. and there will be a service of Devotion at Colton on Good Friday at 2.00pm.** There may be short addresses but no sermons!

Donald

The Colton, Rusland & Satterthwaite Christian Aid committee held their Annual Meeting on the 4th. March and discussed arrangements for the yearly **Soup and Cheese Lunch to be held on Wednesday 14th. May from 12 noon to 2.00pm. at Rusland Parish Room.**

Judy tells us that **each year** since 1990 the Christian Aid Group has raised around £1200 from the C A Boxes, collected twice yearly, from the Lunch and from extra 'do's held from time to time for other 'world disaster funds'. The event will have the usual PLANT, CAKE & PRODUCE, 'BRING & BUY' AND BOOK STALLS. Not forgetting the odd RAFFLE. This year admission will be £4, a slight increase. We do hope we have a fine day, a great success and a very happy gathering.

Judy

It takes a fair bit of money to keep our church going and we are fortunate that this small community is as generous as it is with its giving but costs continue to rise and things wear out. We are also fortunate to have a good Treasurer in Bonzo who is fearsome in his protection of our finances; he has

been known to make Gordon Brown look like a spendthrift. But those of us who know how hard he works on our behalf are grateful for his efforts.

However the purse strings have to be loosened now and then and this looks like an expensive year as a powerful vacuum cleaner has already been purchased and we need a new mower and strimmer. To this end we thank May Lambert for her kind donation of the collection at Tommy's funeral; Tommy as many of you know looked after the churchyard for many years and kept woodland paths clear around Bouth.

New regulations also require us to replace our ageing oil tank although a new tank will hardly make the church any warmer but it will be environmentally more friendly.

Donald



“Where so many hours have been spent in convincing myself that I am right, is there not some reason to fear I may be wrong?”

Jane Austen

FLOWER ROTA

Whilst the church is serene in its emptiness we look forward to the loveliness of the Easter flowers and there will be a gathering at church on **Saturday after Good Friday, the 19th. April at 10.00am** to arrange and decorate with flowers. Help is always welcome even from men although, perhaps they might get in the way. The flowers are expected to last for the following two Sundays.

Wendy/Donald



COFFEE ROTA

As the Mothering day Service on **Sunday the 30th. March at 9.30am.** will be a family service we shall be having coffee in the hall afterwards. May Lambert and Margaret Sanders have kindly volunteered for duty. They will also be doing the honours the next week at the normal family Service. Many thanks.



MOTHERS UNION

Our first meeting of 2003 was held at Satterthwaite. After a short service led by Mrs. Campbell, the Secretary for the Furness and South Cumbria Blind Association gave a talk on their work, and showed some of the aids available to people who are registered blind

A few of our members attended the Women's World Day of Prayer Service at Hawkshead at the Quakers Meeting House, and felt this was the ideal place for this years theme of "Holy Spirit, Fill Us."

Our next meeting is in **Bouth Village Hall, on Wednesday April 2nd at 2.00pm**, when Canon Ellis is coming to talk on his missionary work. We welcome **ANY** ladies to come and join us.

Margaret



A mother may hope that that her daughter will get a better husband than she did, but she knows her son will never get as good a wife as his father did!



PARISH NEWS

The funeral of James Owen Saunders held on Thursday 13th. March was quite an occasion; Jim was known by many, many people from miles around who turned out to pay their respects at Colton Church. So many in fact that they were packed in and standing at the back.

His family requested Country & Western music be played, which was very uplifting on such a sad day. Jim was one of a very large local family and had lived and worked around Colton all his life. We offer our sincere condolences to his wife, Muriel, his three children and all his grandchildren.

Judy



Our thoughts and prayers are with Ted Boon, Kath and the family in their hour of need and with Stan Woods, Doreen and their family. Our prayers are also with any others in the parish who are not so well at this time.

We were pleased to see Teisy in church after a short spell in hospital and it was also good to see Jack Burns, who has had more than his fair share of ill health. Our thoughts go as well to Fran Cornthwaite of Old Hall Farm who also had a short spell in hospital but is now recovering well.

There may be others in the parish who are not well and those who do not, understandably, wish to be mentioned. Whoever and wherever you are we wish you well and pray for you.

A warm welcome back to Hilary & Noel Brooks from their stay in Australia and we are grateful that you have brought some good weather with you. We hope to see you in church ere long.

Judy/Donald



ALLELUIA

It is 9.50am. on Monday 17 March and I have just received a 'phone call from the Church Commissioners. They have spoken to the staff of the Privy Council and the new Pastoral Scheme is scheduled to come into being on 1 April 2003.



WOMENS INSTITUTE

BOUTH

Our March meeting was a real treat and as this year is the **60th. Anniversary of Bouth W I**; it was then very appropriate that Desmond Dalton spoke about local history, as apparently a local person also spoke on the same subject at our first meeting in November 1943.

The talk took the format of a 'celebrity' interview with Birkett Cooper a very acceptable 'Parky'. Desmond described life as he remembered when Bouth was very different during his early life and during the war years when Bouth had its very own 'Dad's Army' and a 'Bouth Athletic' football team.

This was an open meeting and a packed house was well entertained by Desmond's stories told with wry humour and very amusing use of words and colloquial expressions. Being born here, as have generations of his family Des is one of the few real locals.

We will, as usual, be having our **'Spring Walk'** which will be held this year on **Saturday 3rd. May** starting at **Bouth Village Hall at 1.00pm**. Our Anniversary Celebration will be held in November but in the meantime our next meeting is on **9th. April. Village Hall, 7.15pm**. when Mrs A Scargill will be giving her talk – 'Fawltly Towers' part two.

Judy



SPARKBRIDGE & LOWICK

Unfortunately the speaker booked for our February meeting was ill at the last minute, however Mr. Frank Inman came to the rescue with his slides and talk on Beatrice Potter. Frank's enthusiasm in his voluntary work for the National Trust at "Hilltop", the home of Beatrice Potter, showed in his wonderful slides, and members were kept spellbound by his talk. All promising to visit in the near future.

On **April 22nd** we see the return of Richard Scott, who is going to talk on "The wildlife of Morecambe Bay".

Ladies please come and join us for enjoyable company and interesting talks.



SCHOOL NEWS

Cartmel Priory –Work has started on the Design Communications Block and if all goes well it should be ready for the next academic year. The bid for the Rural Academy is now in and we should know the result after Easter.

Leven Valley – Our **Easter Service** will be held on **9th. April at St. Anne's church at 2.45pm**.

Satterthwaite & Rusland – We have started what has become a wonderful **Play Group** which is held every **Friday 1.30 to 3.15pm**.



NEARLY FORGOTTEN NEWS

It is the scraps of paper given in odd places that get misplaced. Roderick Smith tells us that a small broad leafed tree, *Amelanchier canadensis* (snowy

mespilus) donated by May Lambert, in remembrance of Tommy, has been planted in Bouth Village Green, replacing a Cherry that died last year.

Someone, probably Kath Broom, tells us that Lowick & District Agricultural Society requires a **Show Secretary** for the **General Administration of Lowick Show**. Please contact **Mrs Charlotte Thexton, Sayles Farm, Lowick Bridge, LA12 8BZ. Tel: 01229 885 230.**



*A rose once grew where all could see,
Sheltered beside a garden wall,
And, as the days passed swiftly by,
It spread its branches, straight and tall.
One day, a beam of light shone through
A crevice that had opened wide –
The rose bent gently towards its warmth
Then passed beyond to the other side.
Now you who deeply feel its loss,
Be comforted – the rose blooms there –
Its beauty even greater now,
Nurtured by God's own loving care.*

Anon

DIARY DATES

- 30 March Mothering Sunday – Family Service – 9.30am. Coffee afterwards.
British Summer Time begins – Clocks 1hr. FORWARD.
- 2 April Service – Lowick – 7.30pm.
- 6 April Family Service – 9.30am. – Coffee afterwards.
- 9 April Service – Colton – 7.30pm.
Leven Valley School – Easter Service – St. Anne’s – 2.45pm.
Bouth W I – Meeting – Village Hall – 7.15pm.
- 13 April Palm Sunday - Holy Communion – 9.30am.
- 14 April **Annual Parish Church Meeting** – Church Hall – 7.30pm.
- 17 April Maundy Thursday.
- 18 April Good Friday – Service of Devotion – 2.00pm.
- 19 April Decorating the Church – 10.00am. >
- 20 April **Easter Day** – Holy Communion – 11.15am.
- 22 April Sparkbridge & Lowick W I - Meeting, Lowick Sunday School – 7.30pm.
- 23 April **George - Patron Saint of England.**
- 25 April **Mark – Evangelist.**
- 27 April Holy Communion – 11.15am.
- 1 May **Philip & James – Apostles.**



Please, please note that the services in May, may well be different from those that you are used to. So, for once, take the Diary Dates seriously. And please say a prayer or two for our new Vicar to be the Rev. Gary Wemyss, his wife Elizabeth, our own Joanna and the wardens of all three churches. Thank you.

