

THE BELL

Benefice of East Lonsdale Life
THE CHURCHES OF LECK, TUNSTALL, MELLING.
TATHAM, WRAY AND TATHAM FELLS

**NOVEMBER
2011**



SKETCH BY PETER OSBORNE
See article 'Visiting Churches' inside

Diary of a Lune Valley Vicar

Tuesday: I am addressing the infants of Wray, and am half-way through a cultured exposition of the parable of the Good Samaritan (as seen through the eyes of a hamster), when I see the signs that I am beginning to “lose” my audience. It’s a bit like Sunday mornings when you go past the seven minute mark for a sermon. After seven minutes of the Gospel, Anglicans start to think of their lunch, and their eyelids begin to droop. You’d think they were praying, but the snoring usually gives it away.

Anyway, the cream of Wray’s children are beginning to lose interest in me, and beginning to transfer their attention to a patch of carpet a foot or so away. I have, it turns out, brought with me to the assembly a slug, which even now is making a break for it. Clearly, the slug is as fascinated by my assembly as the kids, and he has had enough. The children are getting excited/ revolted in equal measure, and the Year Six boys charge forward to volunteer for slug assassination duty.

Any measure of control has gone, and I realise why I could never, ever be a teacher. The assembly has disappeared and we are now intent on slugs and not Jesus.

Sunday: I am burying ashes in a churchyard, but it is raining. The mourners are gathered under brollies, but I have no spare hands and am getting drippier and drippier. Again, you can feel the attention of the congregation wandering, and I speed up the service. I then have to cover the casket in a dignified manner, but it is getting damper and damper, and more of the mud of Tatham is sticking itself to me, my surplice, and my hands. I’d started the service quite respectably attired, I now look like I’ve had fight with a mud pie, and lost. I’m distracted from the matter in hand, and when I shake hands with the mourners, they each leave with a generous reminder of Lancashire earth.

We try our best to be an image of Christ at home, at work, at play, and in the village, but we still carry with us the slugs and mud of the past. Sometimes our neighbours can’t see the grace of Christ because our weaknesses are gaining more of their attention. It is not easy to throw off our natural inclinations, but the more we acknowledge that we need His Grace, the closer to Him we become, and His Love shines a little more brightly.

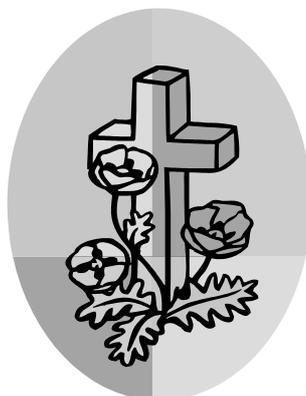
THIS EDITION OF THE BELL
IS SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF
MICHAEL ARGLES
WHOSE 90TH BIRTHDAY
WOULD HAVE FALLEN ON 6TH NOVEMBER

SPONSORSHIP The cost of printing this newsletter is around £40. If you wish to sponsor an issue as an individual, in memory of someone or as a business please get in touch with Carole 63095 or Mark 21030.

Calendar for November

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

2nd	Wednesday 7.00pm	All Souls Day (Commemoration of the faithful departed) Holy Communion	MELLING	Robert H
6th	Third Sunday before Advent 9.00am 9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 2.15pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Service Morning Prayer Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer (BCP)	TATHAM MELLING WRAY TUNSTALL T/FELLS	Mark C Ann D Mark C Robert H Robert H
13th	Remembrance Sunday 8.00am 10.30am 10.30am 10.30am 12 noon 12.30pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion Remembrance Service Remembrance Service United Parish Eucharist of Remembrance Act of Remembrance Act of Remembrance Remembrance Service	WRAY TATHAM T/FELLS MELLING TUNSTALL LECK WRAY	Mark C Mark C Norman D Robert H Robert H Robert H Mark C
20th	Christ the King 9.30am 9.30am 10.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Service Family Service Sung Eucharist	T/FELLS MELLING WRAY TUNSTALL	Robert H Ann D Peter O Mark C
27th	Advent Sunday 9.30am 9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 11.00am	Morning Prayer Sung Eucharist Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion (BCP)	T/FELLS MELLING WRAY LECK TATHAM	Norman D Robert H Mark C Peter O Robert H



UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Tatham Fells Village Society
Saturday November 19th
At 7.30pm
in The Old School, Tatham Fells
ARCTIC INSPIRATION
AN ARTIST'S INTERPRETATION
A talk by Jane Rushton
£3 including tea/coffee and biscuits
Contacts: Margaret McIntosh (61843)
Ann Dawson (62936)

Saturday December 3rd
at 10.30am
CHRISTMAS FAIR
AND COFFEE MORNING
in The Old School, Tatham Fells.
Santa will be paying a visit.
Various stalls
Mince pies
and Coffee
ALL WELCOME

Church of the Good Shepherd
Tatham Fells
Saturday December 3rd at 7pm
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
THE ARTISANS
present the
'Medieval Experience', a musical
journey through Medieval Europe
with hurdy gurdy, harp and occasional bagpipe
Tickets £10
to include light refreshments,
from David and Carole Butcher
015242 63095.
THE PERFECT START
TO THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

St James the Less Church, Tatham
Presents
"CHRISTMAS CRACKERS"
An evening of music and fun with
BREWERS APRON
Saturday 10th December at 7pm
Tickets £12.50
to include Hot Pot Supper
and glass of wine
Contacts
Phyllis Holt 21443
or Linda Kirkby 21486
THE LAST CONCERT
WAS A SELL OUT
DON'T MISS IT!

FORTHCOMING CAROL EVENTS

Tuesday December 13th Carols by candlelight in Wray Institute at 7.00pm—a community pre-Christmas celebration of music, readings and carols with Jacobs Join refreshments.

Sunday December 18th at 6.00pm carol service in Melling church

Sunday December 18th at 6.30pm in Wray church the traditional service of lessons and carols for villagers and all-comers.

Monday December 19th at 7.00pm Carol service in The Lunesdale Arms, Tunstall conducted by Revd Mark.

Sunday 1st January 11.00am Carol service at Tatham Fells

VISITING CHURCHES

Several years ago, when the kids were small, we took them on holiday to the seaside in Turkey. It was on the Aegean coast out on the peninsula from Bodrum. The sea was everlastingly turquoise, so clear that you could see the columns of old Greek temples and the flash of silver fish swimming around them.

One day I took my sketchbook into the little fields by the coast and was surprised to find a church, or at least what had been a church. It was built like a little stone hangar but it had a minimal apse and a carving over the door. There was a cross and what seemed to be flame shapes above the portal and a date, surprisingly recent, for it read 1873. Disappointingly it was empty, except for the smell of onions which had probably been stored there.

While I was sketching, the Turkish farmer came up to me perhaps thinking I was scrumping his grapes, which I may have been but not just then. He was obviously intrigued by what I was doing, so I showed him the sketchbook, which happened to have previously been across Turkey with me. But most of all he wanted to know why I was drawing the ruin. We chatted about the church and I asked him who had built it.

I am still certain of his answer because I scribbled it on my sketch when he had gone. He said, "Greeks come from Kos, make villas here, make ecclesias. So Turks come with guns: 'k. k. k. k. k.' and Greeks back to Kos. Ha Ha!" And I thought how sad it was that those ancient rivalries last and last as modern hatred - rather like Northern Ireland and other places too close for complacency.

Peter Osborne

Peter's lovely sketch appears on the front page. He has suggested that others might like to send in a piece about a church they have visited and this could become a regular slot.

Please send any contributions to me at

High Ivah
Lowgill, LANCASTER
LA2 8QZ
Tel: 63095

This is your magazine and your contributions on any subject are greatly needed and much appreciated
You do not have to include a sketch!

Carole Butcher

Jane and Gill wish to thank all those who helped and contributed to the MacMillan Coffee Morning held at Tunstall on Saturday October 1st. £227.75p was raised for MacMillan Cancer Concern. **Jane Greenhalgh**

BOON DAY THURSDAY DECEMBER 1ST

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, TUNSTALL 9.30—12.00

Come along and enjoy meeting your friends and making new ones as we get together for a big clean before the festive season hits. Coffee and cakes will be provided and lots of gossip will be exchanged! Whether you usually come to church or not we will be delighted to see you. **Jane Greenhalgh**

JUMBLE SALE THANKS

Tatham Church PCC would like to thank everyone who gave jumble, bric-a-brac etc. and donations for our recent event—the response was unbelievable. Our thanks also to the band of happy helpers who gave their time and energy to achieve an amazing result of £1,306.46p. We had a record 212 keen buyers through the door making the atmosphere buzzing with bags of bargains for everyone.

Diary Date: 15th September 2012—see you then!! **Linda Kirkby**

REPORTS FROM HARVEST SERVICES

Holy Trinity church Wray held the annual Harvest Festival Service on the 2nd October with a very full church in which the school and parents joined the regular congregation. After presenting harvest gifts at the altar, the children gave a performance of harvest songs and assisted the Reverend Mark Cannon with some experimental cooking. The following evening 77 people sat down to the harvest supper in the Institute where the produce was auctioned. These events raised £400 for the Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Fund. Thanks are due to auctioneer David Hartnup and bidders and to all those who gave produce and raffle prizes and worked hard to decorate the church and put on the supper. **John Ryle**

Reverend Mark's 'expertise' as a chef continued at the annual Harvest Service on Sunday 9th October at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells. The church was full with 72 adults and 35 children in attendance. After a short presentation and some singing by the children they were invited to join Revd Mark for 'breakfast' when his cooking skills came to the fore once again.

Refreshments in The Old School afterwards were kindly provided by Eric and Margaret Baker with the help of Olive Beard.

The Harvest Auction was held in The Old School, on Monday 10th October when Revd Mark entertained us all again by being our Auctioneer.

£306 was raised which was declared a record. Warm thanks go to all who helped in any way. **Carole Butcher**

QUOTATION FROM THE BOOK OF COLLECTED POEMS
BY BASIL BUNTING

“Poetry, like music, is to be heard. It deals in sound—long sounds and short sounds, heavy beats and light beats, the tone relations of vowels, the relation of consonants to one another which are like instrumental colour in music.

Poetry lies dead on the page, until some voice brings it to life, just as music on the staff is no more than instructions to the player.

A skilled musician can imagine the sound, more or less, and a skilled reader can try to hear, mentally, what his eyes see in print; but nothing will satisfy either of them till his ears hear it as real sound in the air. Poetry must be read aloud.”

Contributed by Eric Baker

DUST IF YOU MUST

Dust if you must ...

But wouldn't it be better to paint a picture or write a letter, bake cookies or a cake and lick the spoon or plant a seed, ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must ...

But there's not much time with wine to drink, rivers to swim and mountains to climb, music to listen to, books to read, friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must ...

But the world's out there with the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair, a flutter of snow, a shower of rain—this day will not come round again.

Dust if you must ...

But bear in mind, old age will come and it's not kind ... and when you go and go you must, you yourself will make more dust!

Contributed by Jane Greenhalgh

CONFIRMATION ... contact Mark (21030) for more details of adult and child classes – the Bishop will be conducting a service of confirmation in the benefice on March 13 2012.

FARM CRISIS NETWORK—helping farming people through difficult times. This is a charity set up by the churches to provide help and support to farming people who might benefit from a bit of assistance. A Helpline is open from 7am to 11pm every day of the year offering help with overwork, anxiety, illness, isolation, form-filling, regulations, debt, bereavement and other issues. The FCN is staffed by volunteers with a farming and pastoral understanding—just a phone call away.
Tel: 0845 367 9990 Website: www.fcn.org.uk

FROM THE REGISTERS

There are no weddings, christenings or funerals to report
since the October issue

TRIBUTES for individuals are always welcome for inclusion in our magazine
Please contact Carole Butcher 63095 with any information

Your church staff

The team of clergy and lay-people who run our services at the six churches are:

Revd Mark Cannon

Tel: 015242 21030

Revd Canon Professor Robert Hannaford

Tel: 015242 74376

Revd Canon Norman Dawson

Dr Ann Dawson

Tel: 015242 62936

Mary Winter

Tel: 015242 21784

Peter Osborne

Tel: 015242 61029

WARDENS

WRAY	Mark Rowland Tel 22484	Frank Gretton Tel 22311
TATHAM	Phyllis Holt Tel 21443	Norman Dove Tel 21557
TATHAM FELLS	Carole Butcher Tel 63095	John Wilson Tel 61594
TUNSTALL	Jane Greenhalgh Tel 74260	Gill Stephenson Tel 74250
MELLING	Max Godfrey Tel 21312	
LECK	Eleanor Denby Tel 21793	Fanny Leech Tel 72009

The Benefice Website is now LIVE

Please go to [BENEFICE OF EAST LONSDALE](#) on Google and take a look

It is near the top of page two and the heading is

Benefice of East Lonsdale—welcome

We are also on Facebook, the website 'A Church Near You'
and we are linked to the schools' websites and now to Wray Village website

Carole Butcher

CHURCH NEWSLETTER – THE BELL

The Bell is produced on a monthly basis to keep church members and friends updated with all the services and events in our six churches. There will be nine issues each year. December and January will be in one issue and also July, August and September to take account of holidays. We welcome other contributions (in fact, we need them) so please send contributions to Carole Butcher – Tel: 015242 63095

COPY DATE FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY ISSUE IS 15TH NOVEMBER