

THE BELL

Benefice of East Lonsdale Life:

October and November 2017



Leck, Melling, Tatham, Tatham Fells, Tunstall, Wray

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

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

Revd Mark Cannon (Vicar) Tel: 015242 21030

Revd Canon Norman and Dr Ann Dawson Tel: 015242 62936

Sister Sue OCMM (Revd Canon Dr Sue Williams) Tel: 03330 119 563

Peter Osborne Tel: 015242 61029

Mary Winter Tel: 015242 21784

YOUTH WORKER Lauren Platt Tel: 07875 311 938

For further details please go to the Benefice website

'Benefice of East Lonsdale'

<http://eastlonsdalebenefice.wordpress.com>

CHURCH CONTACTS

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MELLING ST WILFRID	JAC Beeson	Tel: 015242 21638
LECK ST PETER	Joan Withers	Tel: 01539 724201

**This issue has been sponsored by a kind parishioner
who wishes us all to remember World Mental Health Day
on Tuesday 10th October
'The Lord is my light and my health'
Psalms of David 27**

Sponsorship: if you wish to sponsor an issue as an individual,
in memory of someone, or as a business
please contact Carole on 015242 63095, the cost will be £55

**Copy date for the December 2017 and January 2018 edition
Sunday 12th November**

DIARY OF A LUNE VALLEY VICAR

by Mark Cannon

Monday

Good day at church yesterday – bumper congregation (17); lemon drizzle cake (2 slices), no one heckled or threw anything during the sermon. One visiting vicar to another church in the benefice must have got a shock, his congregation averages 2000; so a big shout out to Leck for showing how things compare in the Lune Valley as opposed to San Diego, which, I believe, is on the other side of Chorley.

Anyway, I have collected my shoes from the cobbler who has had to stretch them. I never knew that your feet could put on weight, but I am now able to put on a jaunty pace through the market, and am full of bonhomie, when suddenly I am stopped by a chap who passes me a card ‘in case you need us ...’ it is a card for the Samaritans. Well, do I really look that miserable? Do I not radiate deep inner joy? Obviously not, and this may explain part of the churches’ decline. Perhaps we just look miserable or too serious? The card tells me, ‘Be Your Self’. This is the exact opposite of the message of St Paul who tells us to be transformed.

Tuesday

There is a bit of gloom about in the church at the moment. The latest surveys are telling us that belief is dropping as quickly as a pre-Brexit Pound. Gloom is a destroyer of church life, and I am sure that Paul would have wanted joyful churches with excitement, and with an energy which provides hope. No one wants to go into a church and feel worse after they’ve come out. Paul’s transformed life is something that attracts others and shows that following Church is a joyful journey.

Am hurrying through emails and messages, and because I am doing this in the vain belief that I can read my own horrible handwriting, I call a lady to confirm her wedding date. It turns out she only wants a christening. Anyway, it could have been a worse error, and I didn’t ask about where she wants the ashes to be buried, but she laughed. Laughter in church is a real sign of grace.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Holy Trinity, Wray

We begin the month of October with our Harvest Festival Service on Sunday 1st at 9.30am and on Monday 2nd we will be holding our Harvest Supper at 7.00pm followed by an auction of harvest produce; tickets are available from F. Hartnup and S. Rowland. There will therefore be no congregation led Evening Prayer on this Sunday and the next one will be on Sunday 5th November at 2.30pm.

The Vicar and Church Council will be holding a **Service of Thanksgiving** to celebrate the completion of the works of reordering, repairing and improvement to the church on Thursday 5th October at 7.00pm when Bishop Philip, the Suffragan Bishop of Burnley, will be our chief guest. Invitations will go out to representatives of all the organisations active in Wray and in addition all residents and parishioners are most cordially invited to join us at this joyful event which is the culmination of nearly three years of work by members of the congregation and our local contractors. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible. Refreshments will be served in church afterwards.

The next Benefice Communion, which is for everyone from all six churches, will be held in Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 29th October at 11.00am; this is Bible Sunday.

Our Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 12th November at 6.00pm. This is an important service when we fill the church to pay tribute to those who died for us.

On Sunday 19th November there will be another 'Messy Church' with great activities for everyone and delicious bacon butties! Come and join us, there is no age barrier.

Ann Anderson and Judith Wrigley

Good Shepherd Church, Tatham Fells

Our School Leavers' Service took place on Thursday 20th July at 9.00am led by Mark. Our very best wishes go to Mason, Hollie, Tabitha (Tabs), Tabitha N, Jessica, Emma and Fin as they start secondary school this term.

On Sunday 23rd July we welcomed Paige Helen Harrison into our Christian family. The service of baptism was led by Sister Sue OCMM. We send Paige every blessing.

On Saturday 9th September our church was filled with wonderful music again when local band Tabuka from Lancaster came to play. Jane Lawrence, Ben Farmer and Paul Beevers delighted us with traditional music from England, Ireland and Brittany. The concert, our twenty eighth, was part of the 'Music in the Fells' series and proceeds are for Church and for The Old School.

We are always grateful to Carl Taylor and Stephen and Isaac Middleton for keeping our churchyard neat and tidy by cutting and clearing away the grass for us. It takes time and effort in their busy lives and the churchyard is a credit to them.

Our Harvest Service with the children and families from Tatham Fells School will be on Sunday 1st October at 11.00am; the service will be led by Mark and the children. Harvest Songs of Praise will be at 6.30pm led by Ann. Our Harvest Auction of produce will be on Monday 2nd October at 7pm in The Old School. Our Harvest Supper and Domino Drive will be on Saturday 7th October at 7pm, admission £6, children £3 including supper.

Carole Butcher

St Peter's, Leck

At the time of going to press we are busy preparing for our Congregation led Service. This will be the first time the congregation has run a service on their own, taking a more informal approach; the theme will be Harvest. It is hoped that many people will join us for what we trust will be a joyous occasion. I will report back in the next edition.

Despite the lack of much summer weather our two gardeners, Dave and Ian, have done a marvellous job in keeping on top of the grass cutting and routine gardening jobs. We are now planning a BOON day on Saturday 14th October and anyone is welcome any time after 9am that day to give them a hand on the final tidy up day before winter. We are hoping for good weather and many helping hands to strim, rake, weed and edge the paths. Please bring your own tools. Light refreshments will be available.

If you are visiting the graveyard please be aware that there are some unstable headstones, particularly on the Ireby side of the church.

On Tuesday 31st October, Halloween Night, we will be holding a Light Party for children at The Fraser Hall, Cowan Bridge. The party will be run by Lauren Platt our new Youth Worker. Details appear on page 11.

St Peter's is now kept open at weekends and is usually accessible on Saturdays and Sundays during daylight hours. For access at any other time please ring 71067 and a key-holder will be pleased to open it for you.

Joan Withers

St James the Less, Tatham

This soggy summer has become a soggy autumn but our thoughts and prayers must be with those who have lost everything in the hurricanes in Texas and the

West Indies as well as with the earthquake in Mexico. The miserable weather relented for our Benefice Service, picnic and keenly contested croquet and boules games which followed in lovely sunshine. It was a delight to welcome a congregation of 56 from all corners of the Benefice.

The improvements to the church are near completion; the new sound system is up and running which only leaves work on the lighting to be started, hopefully before you read this report. It would be nice to think the same hope applied to the long delayed delivery of the new chairs!

Our Jumble Sale on Saturday 9th September raised the magnificent sum of £1,513; many thanks to our wonderful band of helpers.

Looking ahead we hope for the rain to relent on the occasion of the wedding of Richard Pendlebury and Kirsten McAndrew on Saturday 16th September.

We also look forward to the visit of Lancaster and District Male Voice Choir on Saturday 14th October organised by our indefatigable Friends; details on page 11 and in the Wrayly Mail.

The next major service is Harvest Festival on 24th September which we hope will long continue as a major event in the calendar of this rural parish, not only to members of the farming community.

John Holt

St John the Baptist, Tunstall

We have had a quiet summer but the Churchyard still looks lovely, despite the weather. I would like to thank Steve Barber and Malcolm Robinson for washing the Church windows which is a long and complicated task but what a difference when the sun did shine, the stained glass looks splendid.

We had a beautiful wedding on Saturday 8th July when Louise Robinson was married to Carsten Weiss. Louise walked from home to the Church and then all the guests walked back to the reception in glorious sunshine; we wish them a happy future together.

On 9th September there was a Hog Roast and Promise Auction organised by Tunstall Church Trust. It was a wonderful turnout of around 120 people despite the heavy rain showers. The promises were fantastic and very varied, all going under the hammer of Colin who, with wit and wisdom, held everyone in suspense until the hammer came down. The Hog Roast was excellent with salads and ice cream to follow, also a fully stocked bar. Thank you to everyone who organised and helped before, during and afterwards; we are looking forward to hearing the amount raised.

We have a Churchyard clean up date on the 23rd September. Everyone is welcome to come and help, starting at 10am; there will be a further church clean on Monday 2nd October, also at 10am.

Harvest Festival this year will be on Sunday 8th October, led by Mark. It will be a traditional service where everyone can enjoy a good sing followed by sausages and soup; do please come and join us.

I am looking forward to an Indian summer soon.

Sue Hunter

St Wilfrid's, Melling

Things have been very quiet since my last report. We have had no christenings, weddings or funerals. Looking forward we have a Country and Western Evening with Melling Strummers in the Village Hall on Saturday 14th October, the first of our 'Singing Sunday' services on Sunday 22nd October at 3.30pm with Melling School children, and an Organ Recital given by Graham Toft on Friday 3rd November at 7pm. All are welcome.

JAC Beeson

CALENDAR OF SERVICES FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2017

BCP=Book of Common Prayer

OCTOBER

Sunday 1st Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Tatham	Norman and Ann
9.30am	Harvest Festival Service	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Morning Service	Melling	Peter
11.00am	Sung Eucharist	Leck	Sue
11.00am	Harvest Festival Service with Tatham Fells School	Tatham Fells	Mark
6.30pm	Harvest Songs of Praise	Tatham Fells	Ann

Sunday 8th Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	Holy Communion	Wray	Sue
11.00am	Morning Service	Tatham	Mary
11.00am	Harvest Festival Eucharist	Tunstall	Mark
2.15pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	Tatham Fells	Norman and Ann

Sunday 15th Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Morning Service	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Holy Communion	Tatham Fells	Sue
11.00am	Holy Communion	Melling	Mark
11.00am	Morning Service	Leck	Norman and Ann

Sunday 22nd Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	Morning Service	Wray	Norman and Ann
9.30am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Sue
11.00am	Holy Communion	Tatham	Mark
11.00am	Morning Service	Tunstall	Sue
3.30pm	'Singing Sunday' with Melling schoolchildren	Melling	Mark and Congregation

Sunday 29th Last Sunday after Trinity Bible Sunday

11.00am	Benefice Communion	Wray	Mark
5.00pm	Vespers at St Joseph's House	Tunstall	Sue

NOVEMBER

Sunday 5th All Saints Sunday

9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Tatham	Mark
9.30am	Morning Service	Melling	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Mark
11.00am	Sung Eucharist	Leck	Sue
2.30pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	Wray	Congregation

Sunday 12th	Remembrance Sunday		
8.00am	Holy Communion	Wray	Mark
10.30am	Remembrance Service	Tatham	Norman and Ann
10.30am	Remembrance Service	Tatham Fells	Peter
10.30am	Eucharist of Remembrance	Tunstall	Mark
12 noon	Act of Remembrance	Leck	Mark
12.30pm	Act of Remembrance	Melling	Mark
6.00pm	Remembrance Service	Wray	Mark
Sunday 19th	Second Sunday before Advent		
9.30am	'Messy Church'	Wray	Mark and Mary
9.30am	Holy Communion	Tatham Fells	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Holy Communion	Melling	Norman and Ann
11.00am	'Messy Church'	Leck	Mark
Sunday 26th	Feast of Christ the King		
9.30am	Holy Communion	Wray	Norman and Ann
9.30am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Mark
11.00am	Holy Communion	Tatham	Sue
11.00am	'Messy Church'	Tunstall	Mark

ST JOSEPH'S HOUSE OF PRAYER, CHURCH LANE, TUNSTALL

Daily Service Times in the Bethany Chapel

The sisters keep Monday as their rest day

Tuesday – Saturday

7.00am Lauds followed by
Community intercessions
and silent prayer

7.30am Prime

8.00am Eucharist

12.45pm Sext

5.00pm Vespers

Sunday

7.00am Lauds

7.30am Prime

12.45pm Sext

5.00pm Vespers

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism, Tatham Fells

Paige Helen Harrison

Burial of ashes, Tatham

Doreen Nash

Baptism, Wray

Sydney Elliot Walker

Wedding, Tunstall

Carsten Weiss and Louise Robinson

Visiting Churches St Hywyn, Aberdaron



Aberdaron is almost at the very tip of the world – at least of the world of Wales. It is perched so far out on the Llyn peninsula that it has its own climate, with 20% more sun than the rest. Twice it has become famous, a central focus although so isolated.

The first was at the beginning of monasticism, when some Christians wanted to separate themselves from the everyday world. Where better than the far end of a mountainous peninsula or, even better, beyond it on Bardsey Island a mile out to sea. The presence of very early Christians (6th Century) is attested in St Hywyn by two tombstones, beautifully lettered in late Roman style, one to Veracius, the other to Senacus, both of them priests.

Their place had been on the barren far coast of the mainland but later a larger monastery on Bardsey would attract thousands of monks and pilgrims, all embarking at Aberdaron. By the late middle ages there were so many that the church was doubled in size to provide a hostel for them. This is why the dark ancient church, with its fine, triple-arched Romanesque portal, is now open on the seaward side to a larger and brighter Perpendicular building. But it is something more modern that its windows illuminate.

There is a large display about the great modern poet R S Thomas, who was Vicar of Aberdaron from 1967 to 1997. More and more absorbed by the Welshness, Thomas delighted his parish with its church on a bank right next to the sea. Many of his poems reflect this:

‘Here are men
 who live at the edges
of vast space.
 light pours on them
and they lift their faces
 to be washed by it ...’

and

‘There is an island there is no going
to but in a small boat the way
the saints went.’

Aberdaron is one of those churches where although the architecture is not outstanding, it is wonderful to visit for the long history, ancient and modern, which has made it what it is.

And you can still take the small boat.

Peter Osborne

LONG TERM FOSTER HOME NEEDED FOR DILLON THE CAT



This is Dillon. He is 12 years old and a British Blue with an unusually long coat. He is very shy at first, but when he gets to know you he is very affectionate and loves to come on your knee to be stroked and have a snooze! He sleeps quite a lot these days but loves to be groomed and this is quite fortunate because he does moult rather a lot, making grooming necessary to avoid a matted coat.

Although he likes to go out, he has been kept indoors in the past without any trouble and when he goes out he doesn't tend to bring 'presents' home any more. I think he's a bit 'been there, done that, leave it to the younger guys!' He is happy on dried food but really likes tinned fish for a treat.

I would really appreciate someone who can foster Dillon long term as I am moving away, initially for six months but may be longer. I will be happy to pay for any vets bills and his food during the first six month period.

For more information please contact Sister Judith or Sister Sue on 03330119563.

Angels Unawares article supplied by Ann Dawson



One of those surveys which some newspapers love to publish claimed recently that more people believe in angels than claim to believe in God. They didn't say just what people meant by 'angels'.

Most simply, the word in the New Testament means 'messenger' and implies that an angel is a being who brings God's message or his help. The angel Gabriel, who told Mary that she was chosen to be the mother of the Messiah is not described at all, but his words are recorded in detail. The familiar notion of wings and flight comes from a vision Isaiah had in the Temple when he was being called as a prophet and most of the angels mentioned in the Bible come either in visions or in dreams. For example, Joseph, the husband of Mary, was visited by an angel in his dreams, encouraging him to take Mary as his wife and later, to flee with her and the child Jesus into Egypt.

Most people, even very devout ones, have never knowingly encountered an angel. The New Testament, however, tells us that in 'showing hospitality to strangers' some of us have 'entertained angels without knowing it'. Clearly wings and eyes of flame are not obligatory; just human care. 'Oh, go on, be an angel and make me a cup of tea!'

**CHILDREN'S CORNER
BIOLOGY FOR KIDS
FUNGI**



Fungi are a group of living organisms which are classified into their own kingdom. This means they are not animals, plants or bacteria. Unlike bacteria, which have simple prokaryotic cells (they do not have an organised nucleus or middle), fungi have complex eukaryotic cells (they have a nucleus or middle) like animals and plants.

Fungi are found throughout the Earth, including on land, in the water, in the air and even on plants and animals. They vary widely in size from microscopically small (teeny tiny) to the largest organisms on Earth at several square miles large. There are more than 100,000 different identified species of fungi.

Fungi were once classified as plants. However, they are different from plants in two important ways: (1) fungi cell walls are composed of chitin (a semi see-through material) rather than cellulose (a basic part of plant cell walls) and (2) fungi do not make their own food like plants do through photosynthesis (sunlight energy taken in by the plant through its leaves making chlorophyll).

They get their food by absorbing dead or decaying matter or by feeding off their hosts as parasites. They reproduce through numerous spores rather than pollen, fruit or seeds; they are usually not motile, meaning they cannot move around.

CHURCH WORD SEARCH by Ross Hunter

3 Around the church, in and out. 21, plus some parishioners

B	E	L	L	R	O	P	E	S
I	A	W	E	D	D	I	N	G
B	S	P	C	R	Y	P	T	R
L	T	U	T	A	O	E	O	A
E	E	L	E	I	N	S	M	V
Y	R	P	R	L	S	D	E	E
E	E	I	N	O	O	M	L	S
W	A	T	E	R	W	I	N	E

Bellropes Wedding Baptism Crypt Bible	Easter Pulpit Pew Rail	Pipes Row Rod Lectern	Water Wine Tome Candle	Sue Ross Yew Graves	Moon Roses Sorel
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EVENTS AND INFORMATION

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sunday October 1st

Holy Trinity Church, Wray

at 9.30am Harvest Service

HARVEST SUPPER

Monday 2nd October at 7pm

In Wray Institute

followed by

AUCTION OF PRODUCE

Tickets from F. Hartnup

and S. Rowland

AND

Good Shepherd Church

Tatham Fells

at 11.00am with Tatham Fells School

at 6.30pm Harvest Songs of Praise

Monday 2nd October at 7pm

in The Old School

HARVEST AUCTION

Sunday October 8th

St John the Baptist, Tunstall

At 11.00am

Harvest Festival Eucharist

MELLING CHURCH PRESENTS A COUNTRY AND WESTERN EVENING

with the Melling Strummers

in Melling Institute at 7.30pm

on SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER

Tickets £10

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Proceeds for St Wilfrid's, Melling

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being the light

For more information
contact Lauren: 07875 311 938
lauren@theplattfamily.org

ST WILFRID'S, MELLING

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followed by refreshments

Retiring collection

FARM COMMUNITY NETWORK A HELPLINE IS OPEN from 7am until 11.00pm every day

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Website: www.fcn.org.uk

EVENTS AND INFORMATION

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