

# THE BELL

Benefice of East Lonsdale Life

**October and November  
2012**



Holy Trinity Church, Wray

THE CHURCHES OF LECK, TUNSTALL, MELLING  
WRAY, TATHAM AND TATHAM FELLS

## **YOUR CHURCH STAFF**

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

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**COPY DATE FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY ISSUE – THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

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**Benefice Website: 'Benefice of East Lonsdale'**

## Editorial

In this edition you will find on page 8 an account of a visit to a little Oratory by Peter Osborne and on page 11 a request by Ann Shuttleworth for items for a basket of goodies made in the Benefice. The goodies will be given as a gift to Bishop Nicholas when he celebrates a service of Communion on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October at St Peter's Church, Leck. This will be his last but one service before his retirement and all are most welcome to attend.

**Carole Butcher**

## Diary of a Lune Valley Vicar

When it goes a bit wrong...

**Wednesday:** I return from a village visit (nice biscuits, tea OK, offer of alcohol) to find three scaffolders seated under the vicarage verandah waiting for the rain to stop (that'll be 2013, then). They are erecting a platform to tackle the jackdaw-infested chimney, and I offer them a cup of tea. So that's three teas plus sugar, and a request for proper builder's tea, nothing weak and wishy-washy. I normally drink Earl Grey, or, as it's known in Morecambe, "poncy tea", and I have to rummage in the pantry to find some Tetleys or PG Tips. I find a box and brew up. "Thank you," say the scaffolders.

**Thursday:** Now that I have my glasses on, and searching once more for the tea bags, I discover that the scaffolders of yesterday got three steaming mugs of fruit tea – ginger and lemon. But I recall that the chaps were nothing but kindness and politeness, and all three mugs came back empty. I don't know how they found their fruit tea, but to me they extended great charity, and forgiveness.

**Sunday:** Ho! Drama at Melling ... a dog has visited the church and taken the opportunity to leave evidence of his visit. So, our sacristan is on her knees purifying the chancel steps. In the excitement we forget to put out the microphone. I have started the service before this omission is noticed. "Shall I set it up for the sermon?"

I ask. What a kind congregation! They simply wouldn't let me put myself to such trouble. It was a blessed relief to our reader, however, who got "Decapolis", Syrophoenician", and "Ephthatha" in the space of three verses. He was much admired for his boldness.

Then the organ packed in as we were gathering in the loot. The notes of "The king of love my shepherd is" died away and our organist threw up his hands in frustration. This acted as a signal to our first-aider who, seeing our musician in apparent distress, assumed he had had a fit, and scuttled up from the depths of the nave with an emergency supply of Fisherman's Friends - warranted to cure most ills. It turns out the fuse box was purchased when the ark was broken up, but by the time it was sorted out only half of the congregation (7) had been importuned for their collection.

In all the above, it was the weakness of others, and the failings of others, which brought forth kindness and charity. God didn't visit us as an angel, or an emperor, or a celebrity, but as an ordinary bloke, and He did not order our love but inspired it freely. We Christians cannot pretend to know all things, to have the answer for everything and to command others to follow; but if we are humble we can allow others to respond in love, and our weakness will become our strength.

## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

### St John the Baptist, Tunstall

It has been very busy at Tunstall recently for all the wrong reasons! The heating system has to be replaced and it was hoped that this would be done by Christmas but alas it will probably be January now before work can start. In the meantime it has been decided that we will endure the winter weather and when it is cold wrap up really well, brave the elements and keep the church open. A hot drink is always provided after every service and there will be a portable fire at the back of church to provide a little cheer - a bit of the Dunkirk Spirit is needed here! It is essential that the church remains open despite this problem and we urge your support in every way. The new system will cost in excess of £35,000 plus VAT at 20% and of course it will greatly enhance the ambiance of this beautiful building when completed, but help is really needed to fund this scheme. Sadly it is time to put out the begging bowl, something which goes against the grain, especially in these hard economic times when many folk have to cut back on their spending, but donations, a little more regular planned giving and an increase in the gift aid envelopes would be very welcome. The church belongs to everyone; it is funded by those who regularly support it. There is no state aid in the UK to help with the running or upkeep of these wonderful structures or of the clergy. If you wish to help keep this grade 1 listed building alive and open please help by contacting the treasurer Robert Rawkins [robert\\_rawkins@hotmail.com](mailto:robert_rawkins@hotmail.com) or on 73210 or, if you prefer, contact the Church Wardens Jane Greenhalgh on 74260 or Gill Stephenson on 74250. Thank you.

We held a very successful 'Back to Church Sunday' service on 16<sup>th</sup> September with good numbers attending which was most encouraging. After the service a delicious lunch was enjoyed by everyone in the village hall.

**JG**

### St Peter's, Leck

We have been delighted to welcome families both old and new to our services. Details are now on the internet making it easier for everyone to find out service times. At the time of going to press we are looking forward to a visit by Bishop Nicholas who will be celebrating his next but last service before his retirement. The Eucharistic service will be held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 11.00am. A basket of Lancashire goodies e.g. jams, chutneys, cakes, shortbread, lemon curd or any craft items is planned as a gift. Please contact Ann Shuttleworth Tel: 71375 if you wish to make a donation.

**ED**

### Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells

Our services have been well attended recently. In late July we were delighted to welcome Rebecca Louise Holland and in mid August Juliana Katy Ashley-Richardson when they were baptised into our church family; best wishes to Rebecca and Juliana.

Sam Grimshaw and Emma Lidiard were married on 11<sup>th</sup> August and we send our warm congratulations to them both for a long and happy life together.

We held a successful coffee morning at Bentham Town Hall on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Custom was slow at first but became brisk as the morning went on. The cake and produce stall, together with raffle and tombola, made fund-raising fun with cups of coffee and biscuits to encourage people to linger and spend more money. The sum of £400 was raised for church funds.

At the time of going to press we are looking forward to an evening service of Harvest Praise on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm and a Youth Service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October also at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

**CB**

### **Holy Trinity, Wray**

Remedial work in the chancel is now underway, but regrettably will take longer than we had at first envisaged. During this period, thanks to the extensive efforts of Mark and Sue Rowland, services will continue as normal in the main body of the church.

The Harvest Festival service will be held on 7th October at 10.00 a.m. in which children from Wray Junior School will participate.

The Harvest Supper will be held on 8th October at 7.00pm (**prompt**) in Wray Village Institute. **JW**

### **St James the Less, Low Tatham**

In the last edition of The Bell I asked the SUN to SHINE on our BBQ. It did, but then of course 'the sun always shines on the righteous!' Indeed we enjoyed one of the few lovely evenings of this dismal summer. 100 guests ate good food, drank wine and generally made merry in Richard and Rebecca's delightful new garden.

These events are hard work but great fun. They are happy occasions and as well as raising money may help to put the church back into the heart of the community where it belongs!

As we go to press our annual Jumble Sale will have been and gone. Hopefully, Linda's team, many of whom come from outside the parish, will be able to take a well-earned rest and look back on another happy and successful social season.

Our services continue to be well attended, but there are usually some spare seats! No tickets are required and you will be given a warm welcome, a cup of coffee, a biscuit, and lots of chat. Please give it a try.

It seems that the weather has deterred visitors to our church recently, but it is always a pleasure to read in the visitors' book the names of local families who have returned to see the church where their forebears were baptised/married/buried. One such family were the Dowbiggins (of Swans?)

NOTE The Harvest Festival Service will now be held on Sunday 7th October at 11.00am the usual First Sunday Holy Communion at 9.00am will remain on that day. **JH**

The Jumble Sale on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September made a fantastic profit of £1,759.32p. We have no idea where it has come from but it is an amazing result. We had nearly 200 buyers and the atmosphere was just buzzing and happy. For the records we started doing these Jumble Sales in 1992 so it is our 20th Anniversary and back in the good old days we raised £300 - £400 and thought that was a lot. We had an army of helpers who worked like troupers and had a LAUGH too. We all sat and had lunchtime picnics, which was a good social time. Warm thanks to all the helpers, you know who you are. **LK**

### **St Wilfrid's, Melling**

The summer season has come and gone in Melling with little sunshine and the sad news that Max Godfrey has resigned as Church Warden. We are all terribly sorry that he has felt he had to leave the post and all wish him a swift and complete recovery. Our heartfelt thanks go to Max and Caroline who have contributed so much to the life of the Church over so many years. Melling only had one Churchwarden and filling Max's shoes will be a difficult task but we very much hope to restore normal 'service' in the not too distant future.

Our Patronal Festival on the 21st October gives us the opportunity to celebrate and welcome all our friends from the congregations of Leck and Tunstall too. The anticipation of the Harvest Festival and the build up to Advent ensures that the small band of helpers who tirelessly turn out will have plenty to do over the next few months.

By the way do we have any technical experts on organs amongst our readers? Sadly we are singing to the backing of the piano at present, so any advice will be gratefully received. **JB**

## CALENDAR OF SERVICES FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

<b>7<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Harvest Festival</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion	TATHAM	Mark
10.00am	Harvest Festival Service	WRAY	Peter
11.00am	Harvest Festival Service with Tatham Fells School	TATHAM FELLS	Mark
11.00am	Harvest Festival Service	TATHAM	Norman/Ann
11.00am	Harvest Festival Eucharist Joint service Tunstall, Melling, Leck	TUNSTALL	Robert
7.00pm	Harvest Praise	TATHAM FELLS	Ann
<b>14<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>		
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	WRAY	Mark
10.00am	Holy Communion	WRAY	Robert
11.00am	Morning Service	TATHAM	Peter
11.00am	Sung Eucharist with the Bishop of Blackburn. Joint service Tunstall, Melling, Leck	LECK	Mark / Robert
7.00pm	Youth Service	TATHAM FELLS	Mary
<b>21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>Twentieth Sunday after Trinity</b> <b>St Wilfrid, Melling, Patronal Festival</b>		
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	TATHAM FELLS	Robert
10.00am	Family Service	WRAY	Peter
11.00am	Sung Eucharist Joint service Tunstall, Melling, Leck	MELLING	Robert
<b>28<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Last Sunday after Trinity</b> <b>also SS Simon and Jude</b>		
9.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	TATHAM FELLS	Ann
9.30am	Sung Eucharist	MELLING	Mark
10.00am	Holy Communion	WRAY	Robert
11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	TATHAM	Robert
11.00am	Family Service	LECK	Mark
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>(Friday) Feast of All Souls</b>		
	Holy Communion	TUNSTALL	Robert
<b>4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>All Saints Sunday</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	TATHAM	Robert
9.30am	Family Service	MELLING	Mark
10.00am	Morning Service	WRAY	Peter
11.00am	Sung Eucharist	TUNSTALL	Robert
11.00am	Family Service	TATHAM FELLS	Mark

<b>11<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>		
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	WRAY	Mark
10.30am	Remembrance Service	TATHAM	Mark
10.30am	Remembrance Service	TATHAM FELLS	Norman/Ann
10.30am	United Parish Eucharist of Remembrance	LECK	Robert
12 noon	Act of Remembrance	TUNSTALL	Robert
12.30pm	Act of Remembrance	MELLING	Robert
6.00pm	Remembrance Service	WRAY	Mark/Mary
<b>18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Second Sunday before Advent</b>		
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	TATHAM FELLS	Robert
9.30am	Morning Service	MELLING	Ann
10.00am	Family Service	WRAY	Mark
11.00am	Sung Eucharist	TUNSTALL	Archdeacon Michael
<b>25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Next before Advent – Christ the King</b>		
9.30am	Sung Eucharist	MELLING	Mark
9.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	TATHAM FELLS	Peter
10.00am	Holy Communion	WRAY	Norman
11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	TATHAM	Robert
11.00am	Family Service	LECK	Mark

#### FROM THE REGISTERS

##### Leck – Weddings

Millie MacFarlane and Sam Bottomley  
Glenys Fothergill and Ian Sedgwick

##### Leck – Funeral

Jane Glover

##### Wray – Baptisms

Marcus Buckland  
Joshua Robert Emmett

##### Tatham Fells - Wedding

Emma Lidiard and Sam Grimshaw

##### Tatham Fells – Baptisms

Rebecca Louise Holland  
Juliana Katy Ashley-Richardson

##### Wray – Burial

Joan Sykes

#### Faith Matters – 4 Creation 'In the Beginning ...'

Our Bible opens with the words: 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth'. Does this mean that God is only the maker of all things at the start of creation? A lot depends upon what the Bible means by the 'Beginning'. When we talk about the beginning of anything we mean either when it all started or its origin and cause. God is the creator of the world in both senses. The world exists because God caused it to come into being in the first place but he is also the continuing cause of everything that exists here and now. God did not begin and end his work as creator on the first day of creation; he continues to be the origin and cause of all things at all times.

Canon Robert Hannaford

## VISITING- A LITTLE ORATORY

This was a hard walk, up the steep valley from Champéry to Barmes. First we passed through Grand Paradis, which was surely too early, then Les Clous, which means 'nails', and should have come before Paradise. Just as we entered the woods we came across the little oratory, which stood prettily against a background of the Dents Blanches.

Inside, through a decorative cast-iron grille, we could see little sculptures. There was an old, locally-made Pieta; Mary looked so sad as she bore the body of her son on her knees.

The oratory was made 200 years ago, and in 1827 the local bishop offered 40 years indulgence if you said a Pater Noster and an Ave Maria and made there 'an act of contrition'. It crossed my mind that you could get away with a lot in 40 years. We sensed a local Catholic devotion as different from ours as the sun-scented pinewoods from our rain-soaked alders. We knew no Latin prayers to say, but the 1,000 foot climb to Barmes seemed contrition enough.

*Surely other parishioners have visited a church on their holidays! How about letting Carole have a brief description?*



### **From ... 'I went out' by Joseph Estin Carpenter**

I went out one afternoon for a walk alone. I was in the empty, unthinking state in which one saunters along country lanes, simply yielding oneself to the casual sights around, which give a town-bred lad with country yearnings such intense delight. Suddenly I became conscious of the presence of someone else. I cannot describe it but I felt that I had as direct a perception of the being of God all around me as I have of you when we are together. It was no longer a matter of inference it was an immediate act of spiritual apprehension. It came unsought and absolutely unexpectedly. I remember the wonderful transfiguration of the far-off woods and hills as they seemed to blend in the infinite being with which I was thus brought into relation. This experience did not last long, but it sufficed to change all my feeling. I had not found God because I had never looked for him. But he had found me.

**Contributed by Eric Baker**

### **My 'Olympic Games'**

This summer has been extra-ordinary for me and I am sure for many others too. I am not a big fan of sport being always the last person to be thrown the netball at school and, when it was thrown at me, I usually dropped it because it was so unexpected! I did not have much interest leading up to the Olympic Games 2012 being held in London but by sheer coincidence I found myself in London on 27<sup>th</sup> July which was the day the Games opened. The air was full of excitement at Euston Station. Games-makers were everywhere in their purple and pink outfits and big signs announced which way to go to catch the Javelin train from St Pancras Station.

I picked up my little granddaughter from nursery mid-afternoon and as we made our way home through the Borough of Hackney I noticed one of the local parks had a big screen in place. There was bunting everywhere and a real feeling of togetherness such as we feel all the time living in rural areas, but I have never experienced it before in London.

My son's apartment is located roughly 1 mile from the Olympic stadium and I was determined to get some of the action for free once the opening ceremony started. My granddaughter and I were playing with her toys after her bath when suddenly there was a loud sound of aircraft passing low overhead just after 8pm. We rushed to the spare room to see what it was and there, hanging in the air, was a red, white and blue vapour trail. I realised then that The Red Arrows had passed right overhead and we had missed it! The vapour trail, 'the pink cloud' as my granddaughter called it, hung in the air for a good 10 minutes after that.

The opening ceremony on TV was truly amazing. Later my son took me up to the terrace on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor overlooking the Olympic Park. Parties were happening below all around us, some on rooftops and some on terraces. I could hear the clink of glasses and excited chatter in the still air. I saw, and heard, the final burst of fireworks live. It was an evening I will never forget because from then on I was riveted and I watched the Games on both big screen and on TV whenever I could. There have been big moments from Chris Hoy, Mo Farrar and Jessica Ennis when I have been on the edge of my seat. As for Ellie Symonds, she was quite simply amazing!

According to Melanie Reid in The Times, herself paralysed due to a riding accident, 'Suddenly it's cool to be disabled'. Like so many she went to the Paralympics anticipating sporting endeavour and precision but suspicious of sentiment. 'Thick and fast they have come, the moments when you shake your head and say, did I just see that? Was that for real? The drama of 80,000 people falling silent so that a blind long-jumper can sprint into her darkness towards the sound of someone clapping; the sight of a young woman, her body frantic with cerebral palsy, achieving serenity on a horse; the potency of men with no legs turned into gods by the menace of their running blades.'

I have been amazed and inspired. If they can go out and train in all weathers I can too. I must stop being a wimp and 'get out there' for a walk, even when it is raining!

**Carole Butcher**

## **Young people's corner**



### **Equinoxes**

We have day and night because the Earth spins on its own axis, the line joining the two poles, in just under 24 hours. The earth also goes around the sun every 365.25 days, which gives us our years.

The Earth's axis is tilted at 23.5 degrees to its orbit around the Sun and for half the year the northern hemisphere has its summer because it is tilted towards the Sun. For the other half of the year the northern hemisphere has its winter because it is tilted away from the Sun. It also means that in summer the days are longer than the nights whilst the opposite is true in winter.

As the Earth travels around the Sun from summer to winter there is a point, at the beginning of autumn, where days and nights are of equal length. The same thing happens at the beginning of spring. These two points in the year are called Equinoxes from the Latin words *aequus* (equal) and *nox* (night).

This year the autumnal equinox happened on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The next spring or vernal equinox will be on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2013.

**Ann Dawson**

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>  
HARVEST FESTIVALS**

**Holy Trinity Church, Wray**  
with Wray Primary School  
at 10.00am

**HARVEST SUPPER**  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October  
at 7.00pm in the Institute

**Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells**  
with Tatham Fells School  
at 11.00am

**HARVEST AUCTION**  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October  
At 7.00pm  
in the Old School  
Auctioneer Revd Mark Cannon

**St James the Less, Tatham**  
at 11.00am  
followed by sale of produce  
and light lunch  
in The Old Rectory

**St John the Baptist, Tunstall**  
Harvest Festival Eucharist  
for Tunstall, Melling and Leck  
at 11.00am

Followed by  
**HARVEST LUNCH**  
at Melling Institute  
Contact Meredith Owen 21416  
for tickets £5

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
10.30am - 12 noon  
**COFFEE MORNING**  
in Tunstall Parish Hall  
**ALL WELCOME**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**  
11.00am at St Peter's, Leck  
**SUNG EUCHARIST**  
with the Bishop of Blackburn  
A special service to mark  
Bishop Nicholas' retirement

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

We plan to give a basket of  
goodies made in the Benefice as a gift  
e.g. jams, chutneys, cakes or craft items

**For contributions please contact**  
**Ann Shuttleworth**  
**Tel: 71375**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**  
7.00pm  
at The Good Shepherd Church  
Tatham Fells  
**YOUTH SERVICE**  
led by Mary Winter  
**ALL WELCOME**

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, TUNSTALL**  
**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>**

**ARCHDEACON MICHAEL**  
will take the 11.00am  
Eucharistic Service  
**Please come and join us**

**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](http://www.fcn.org.uk)

### **MONDAY NIGHT GROUP**

Discussion group for young people  
Every other Monday night  
during term time  
for Year 9 and upwards

This is not a church group. We discuss everything from the nature of humour, through beliefs about life after death to what causes political extremism! If you like a good argument, please come along and say as much or as little as you like; oh, and the refreshments are legendary!

**Please contact Mary Winter  
21784 for further details**

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