

THE BELL

Benefice of East Lonsdale Life:

August and September 2018



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:

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**For further details please go to the Benefice website
'Benefice of East Lonsdale'**

<http://eastlonsdalebenefice.wordpress.com>

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by an anonymous individual
with thanks for The Bell
and in acknowledgement of a 75th birthday**

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**Copy date for the October and November 2018 edition
Saturday 15th September**

DIARY OF A LUNE VALLEY VICAR by Mark Cannon

Friday I am looking at the 'full set' this weekend; a hatch, a match and a despatch, but not in that order. And to be very pedantic, I am not booked in for an exorcism or the Churcing of a woman. In fact, I haven't done a Churcing for 30 years. I remember the last one clearly, because nothing was put on the plate and I'd waited two hours for the mum to be discharged from the Infirmary. But today is the funeral. It was a bit unusual as it started when Jimmy the Funeral Director called up and advised me that he had a funeral booked and the family wanted a Vicar who was 'not religious, so I thought straightaway of you, no offence'; none taken Jim.

It is the first time I've taken a funeral without wearing my dress, and it doesn't feel quite right. It is a bit odd for a Vicar to do a funeral and to omit the mention of God, but, according to the staff at the crematorium, half of their funerals are now humanist; (Top tip: Vicars are cheaper).

The day is rounded off with a wedding rehearsal. The bride laughs when I ask her if she wants to promise to obey. But that is another change I've seen in the last thirty years; back in the eighties, no brides promised to obey their husbands, but now it is 50/50.

Saturday Up in the Fells for a double Christening, and it should be fine for a quick splashing, and then down the hill for the wedding. However, there is a bit of a hold up. A family member is delayed and so the clock starts to tick away. Someone is sent off to find a mobile signal; we never see him again. Another guest reports seeing a car on the lane, he drives off to retrieve the lost sheep. Finally, a taxi pulls up having come from Lancaster. 'Don't even ask', declares one guest walking into church.

The bride arrives in a golf-buggy type thing. I've seen brides on horseback, brides on tractors and a groom arriving by parachute, but this one is new and the bride is somewhat precariously perched on a bale of hay. The original draft of the service had me down for a sermon but, as I usually say, politely declining the request, 'it is supposed to be a happy day'.

Sunday Today is Trinity Sunday, but it is also the day the Church celebrates two of its most famous clergy - John and Charles Wesley. So the option is: explain a profound theological mystery in 7.5 minutes, a mystery by the way unexplained by St Augustine and Thomas Aquinas, so I have serious doubts about my own capacity; or to read some amusing excerpts from John Wesley's diary of his visit to Lancashire, and crack a few gags about Methodists. You may have guessed which option won, but it led to the final piece of my full set; a funeral, a christening, a wedding and a complaint.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Holy Trinity, Wray

Firstly, we must thank everyone involved in our June Messy Church. This began with a short service led by Mary with some lively singing. Mugs were decorated with a picture and the word 'Dad' for Father's Day and the children made rock buns to celebrate St Peter's Day. All this was followed by a barbecue organised by Adam and his band of helpers. Burgers and sausages were enjoyed by many children and adults and it was all declared a great success.

We must express our thanks to Tony and Sheila Sedgwick for our new notice board near the church gate. This was a lovely leaving present from them. At the beginning of July, baby Ella Rose Anderson (Ann's granddaughter) was baptised in our church. She had flown with her family from their home in

Bratislava for this occasion. Her brother Luke, who was with her, was baptised in our church last year. It was lovely to have the baptism during a service with our friends in the congregation.

Our coffee morning on the 14th July was, as usual, very successful. These are always well supported and enjoyed by all. This time it was in aid of the North West Air Ambulance. Thank you to everyone who joined us.

On 22nd September Hannah will be holding a coffee morning in church from 10am to 12 noon. This is to raise much needed funds for the orphanage in Africa supported by her. Please come and join us to help this excellent cause.

Tickets will be on sale from August for our Harvest Supper. Full details for these events appear on page 11.

Ann Anderson/Judith Wrigley

St Peter's, Leck

As this wonderful summer weather continues, we can reflect on two very successful fundraising events in aid of the proposed installation of a loo and brew point in church.

The first was a Quiz Night which raised £1,200 and was enjoyed by everyone in a packed Fraser Hall. Special thanks must go to Jane Greenhalgh, Gill Stephenson and Jean Dalkin for compiling and running the Quiz. Also Janet Nuttall and her team for providing an excellent buffet supper and bar.

Exceeding all expectations visitors came from far and near to see the nine open gardens on the last Saturday in June. Car parking was available at Church from where the majority of the gardens could be reached on foot. The Church was also a cool haven for refreshments as well as home produce and a raffle. Enormous thanks go to everyone who had worked so hard to make their gardens beautiful, all those who baked, gave prizes, and helped in Church. A total of £1,300 was raised, so well done and many thanks to 'The Friends of St Peter's', especially Janet and Sally for coordinating yet another successful event.

Looking ahead ... again for loo funds ... Fiona Brodie is planning a string quartet concert in the Fraser Hall on Tuesday 2nd October. Full details appear on page 11.

At the time of going to press 'time' is at a standstill in Leck but hopefully it will be on the move again soon! The cherry picker and clock maintenance team are due to synchronise on the morning of July 17th.

The churchyard is looking rather unkempt at the moment. Our brilliant gardeners, whom we have had for a number of years, have had to give up rather earlier than planned due to ill health. We are putting out a few feelers for a trusty replacement at the moment. If anyone is willing, or knows of anyone who may be happy to take on the job, please let us know. At this time of year it is an urgent vacancy to fill.

Joan Withers/ Ann Shuttleworth

St James the Less, Low Tatham

The highlight of the summer at Low Tatham was a glorious weekend around midsummer's day centred on a flower festival at the Church. The celebrations kick-started with the annual open evening of the Wenning Singers. This was not a concert but a happy sing-along followed as always at Tatham by delicious 'eats'. The flower arrangements represented the life of the area and the various interests of the local communities who use the Church. Only native flowers were used by the many talented arrangers to beautiful effect. Visitors were greeted by Shawn the Sheep at the Church door.

The centrepiece of the weekend was a special service on the Sunday morning devised and conducted by Frank and Mabel Parr which was titled 'A Celebration of Creation and Life in Church as a Community'. We are so fortunate to be surrounded by so much support and goodwill. We were blessed with a real

summer evening for Jazz and Fizz in Willis and Jackie Harrison's lovely garden at Station Farm on Saturday 14th July. A full house enjoyed 'a right good do' thanks to much work by our faithful team.

Last but not least we send love and best wishes to Lewis Hale and Rachel Berry who were married here at the end of May. I am biased but it was a real family affair.

John Holt

St John the Baptist, Tunstall

As I write this we are having the biggest rain fall I have seen for many weeks, the Churchyard and all the countryside around is parched and brown and will welcome this.

Robert Rawkins has been our Church treasurer for many years and has done the most fantastic job keeping all the accounts in order, sorting out heating, fuel, electricity, events, gardening, replacing the flag (ably assisted by Malcolm) in fact invaluable - I would have been very lost without him and would like to thank him for his and Kerry's support and guidance over the last two years. He has been very ably replaced by Sarah Thrippleton who has stepped into the role extremely quickly and efficiently from a long career in banking; a warm welcome to Sarah. Early in June we had a very well attended 'Messy Church' on Ascension Day where adults and children enjoyed activities, history, and bacon butties which were ably cooked by Nick (thank you). On the following Monday we had a patchwork session in the Churchyard taken by Vivienne and Jean, for which a huge thank you too. We all learnt the technique and enjoyed chatting and sewing in the sunshine.

Lancaster Archaeological Society held one of their talks at our Church which was a most interesting and informative talk by Mike Winstanley, much enjoyed by the group. We also had our monthly get together where I gave a keen group of artists a start in charcoal sketching, with some great results.

There will be a break of our monthly sessions in August but these will restart in September with a pencil and perspective class taken by Andy Crossley and a rag rug class in October with Jennifer Stephenson.

On Sunday 8th July we had the baptism of Henry Arthur Duckett when Sister Sue welcomed him into the Church and all his family too.

Sue Hunter

Good Shepherd Church, Tatham Fells

On Saturday 26th May we welcomed Faith and Alyssa Parkinson into the Church family. The baptism of the two little sisters was a delight and we send them every blessing.

Our two refreshment days at Peter and Bronwen's Open Gardens were a great success and we enjoyed hot weather on both days. The Garden Service at 6pm on Sunday 1st July was a very special time when over 30 people plus two children came together to read poetry, prose and sing hymns. The talk was on animals in the Bible. Special thanks go to Peter for organising the service and to Mary Longton for accompanying the hymns on the keyboard.

On Sunday 8th July Mark conducted our service of Songs of Praise to which people from the local community were invited to discuss the results of our survey. The team will convene soon to plan the way forward.

At the School Leavers service on Tuesday 17th July twelve children were presented with copies of The Good News Bible and six children from Year 2 were presented with copies of The Children's Bible we wish Billy, Kit, Jay, Jack, Ethan, Cameron, Darcie, Finlay, James, Lizzie, Charlotte and Ella all the very best in their future school careers. Our church was also presented with the 'Child Friendly Church Award' by Sarah Earnshaw from the Diocese of Blackburn.

Carole Butcher

CHURCH SERVICES IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

AUGUST

Sunday 5th 10th Sunday after Trinity
 9.30am Morning Service Melling Mark
 11.00am Morning Service Tatham Fells Norman and Ann
 11.00am Holy Communion Tunstall Sue

Sunday 12th 11th Sunday after Trinity
 9.30am Holy Communion Wray Sue
 11.00am Morning Service Tatham Mark
 11.00am Holy Communion Leck Norman and Ann
 6.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP) Tatham Fells Peter

Sunday 19th 12th Sunday after Trinity
 9.30am Morning Service Wray Mark
 9.30am Holy Communion Tatham Fells Norman and Ann
 11.00am Holy Communion Melling Norman and Ann
 11.00am Morning Service Tunstall Mark

Sunday 26th 13th Sunday after Trinity
 9.30am Morning Service Wray Norman and Ann
 9.30am Morning Service Tatham Fells Mark
 11.00am Holy Communion Tatham Norman and Ann
 11.00am Morning Service Leck Congregation

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 2nd 14th Sunday after Trinity
 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Tatham Mark
 9.30am Holy Communion Melling Norman and Ann
 11.00am Holy Communion Leck Sue
 11.00am Morning Service Tatham Fells Mark
 2.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP) Wray Congregation

Sunday 9th 15th Sunday after Trinity
 9.30am Morning Service Wray Peter
 11.00am Holy Communion Tatham Sue
 11.00am Holy Communion Tunstall Mark
 6.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP) Tatham Fells Norman and Ann

Sunday 16th 16th Sunday after Trinity
 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Wray Mark
 9.30am Holy Communion Tatham Fells Mark
 11.00am Harvest Festival Service with Melling School Melling Mark
 11.00am Morning Service Leck Sue
 3.00pm 'Messy Church' Wray Mary

Sunday 23rd	17th Sunday after Trinity		
9.30am	Holy Communion	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Sue
11.00am	Harvest Festival Service	Tatham	Mark
11.00am	Morning Service	Tunstall	Sue
Sunday 30th	Feast of St Michael and All Angels		
11.00am	Benefice Communion for all six churches	Tatham Fells	Norman and Ann

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
	7.15am	Prime
	7.45am	Eucharist
	12.45pm	Sext
	5.00pm	Vespers
Sunday	7.00am	Lauds
	7.15am	Prime
	12.45pm	Sext
	5.00pm	Vespers

OPEN HOUSE on the second Saturday of each month
Drop in between 2pm and 4pm
Tea, coffee and cakes available

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism, Tunstall
Henry Arthur Duckett

Baptisms, Tatham Fells
Faith and Alyssa Parkinson

Wedding, Low Tatham
Lewis Hale and Rachel Berry

Baptism, Wray
Ella Rose Anderson

A Churchwarden's Moan



Apart from this being a big inconvenience to me it is a **SERIOUS SAFETY ISSUE** Earlier in the year, following a directive from the Diocese, I spent a chilly damp afternoon walking round the Churchyard testing headstones for stability. I then identified the unsteady ones with red and white tape and put a notification in the next copy of The Bell as to why they were marked.

With much assistance from Sue Hunter we have now located a stonemason to come and fix the unsafe headstones at an affordable price. The problem now is we do not know which they are!

So if the 'kind' person who undid all my hard work would like to give me a hand to replace all the tape I would be most grateful, preferably before there is a serious accident; telephone number on page 2.

Joan Withers

Editor's note: This is a mindless act causing much inconvenience!

QUIET DAY AT TATHAM FELLS

Jane, Fanny, Fiona, Sue and Tamsin wish to thank Norman and Ann Dawson for a truly wonderful and inspiring quiet day at Tatham Fells on July 14th.

Our thanks to you, Norman, for the content of the day and the truly refreshed feeling we all had at the end of it. We were truly blessed with the weather as well. Ann organised coffee and tea on our arrival and we all enjoyed a lovely Jacob's Join meal together. Thank you both so much.

Jane Greenhalgh

LONELY?



Are you someone who does not get out much and would welcome the idea of going out to lunch occasionally? There would be no commitment to join a club or group but I am willing to help organise individuals into small groups (they may or may not know each other) and arrange free transport to and from a café or restaurant. Everyone would pay for whatever they had and hopefully would make new friends. If you are interested please contact me.

Jane Greenhalgh 01524805844

**‘Virtual Tweets from St Joseph’s House of Prayer’
the second half of a day in the life of
the Sisters of the Order of the Companions of Martha and Mary**

... **12 noon** Back into the kitchen to prepare for lunch. Bless our little kitchen Lord and all who will eat this meal ...

12.45pm Sext or Midday Prayers – yep, it’s back to the Chapel and another pause in the busy day to redirect our gaze to God. With 17 other voices the psalms seemed to bounce along and the singing rang the rafters – lovely! ‘Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken away from her’.

1.00pm Lunch – serve guests first of course; today the pudding has been donated by a friend (as were the tomatoes in the soup!) so our second grace is heartfelt ‘For these and all God’s gifts and graces, let us bless the Lord!’

1.30pm Time to wash up the dishes and clean the kitchen, thinking about the Holy Spirit bringing order out of chaos!

2.15pm This afternoon one Sister is leading a meditation for the group and the other is meeting with an individual who comes regularly for Spiritual Direction. Not forgetting that there are sermons to write later! (On a day without guests this time is usually taken up with gardening or other manual jobs around the house or preparing for any retreats and quiet days to come); but today – remembering the Revelation passage about there being silence in heaven for about half an hour.

4.00pm Recreation time – cup of tea (and if it’s a special day cake!) Time to chat and relax as we knit, crochet, or sew some craft items for the sales table.

5.00pm Vespers or evening prayer – The Benedictine motto is Ora et Labora – Prayer and Work; and St Benedict wrote that nothing is more important than the community regularly praying together in the chapel. All the busyness and activity of the day is punctuated by our primary business, prayer. At Vespers we give thanks for the day and offer our intercessions for individuals and the world. ‘Lord, teach us to pray.’

5.30pm Another blessed time of private prayer and spiritual reading, (well at least for the Sister who does not have to prepare the supper).

6.00pm Supper time! ‘Bless O Lord, this food to our use and us to your service. Relieve the needs of those in want and give us thankful hearts’.

6.30pm Strictly speaking this ‘free time’ but today – there’s that sermon that needs preparing.

9.00pm Our final service of the day – Compline from another Latin word *completorium*, the completion of the working day. Now our thoughts turn to endings as we prepare ourselves for sleep – and incidentally death – as we give thanks for the blessings of the day, confess our failings and ask for forgiveness of our sins. We now observe the Great Silence until we meet again to sing our praises to the Lord our God as the sun rises on another blessed day in God’s service. ‘Lord now let your servant depart in peace according to your word’.

10.00pm Lights out! Good night and God bless.

Movies in the pews – coming soon

We are starting film nights at Lower Tatham Church in October. These will be 'feel good' films which we hope everyone will enjoy, some recent and some older. We plan to show a film on the first Friday of every month from October to April, doors will open at 6.45pm with the film starting at 7.30pm. There is no charge but we hope people will give a donation.

We are hiring professional projection equipment, sound system and 10ft screen for each showing with the kind support of Audio Visual Works in Bentham. You are welcome to bring your own glasses and drinks to have whilst you are watching the film and we will have refreshments as well.

We have a non-commercial film licence so we are not allowed to advertise the film or charge people to see it. Therefore we can only tell people which film it is if you want to join our contact list. It's like a secret film society!

So if you are interested please get in touch and then we can send you details for the films we are showing and you can reserve a seat. You can email us, Helen and Sue at moviesinthepews@gmail.com or phone 07836 500 091 to register your interest.

Calling all 11 to 14 year olds!



We are re-starting the Youth Group at Wray Church. From September, there will be a fortnightly group for your age group.

We held a bit of planning session recently, and decided that we would meet every other Monday from 7pm-8pm. This will leave a bit of time for homework after the meeting, if you don't quite finish everything beforehand.

We will be meeting in Wray Church, which has 'youth area' in the back of church, and also a kitchen with a microwave (for the preparation of pizza, popcorn etc ...)

Either Mary or Mark will be there at each session, and we are inviting parents to think about whether they could offer to be a 'second adult' every 2 or 3 months.

We decided that a mixture of discussion, food, activities (such as crafts) and games would work well for our 'regular' meetings. We also discussed special events, such as outings (skating? bowling?) and social occasions that we could run for the village (Games night? indoor 'sports night', anyone?). There is also the option of getting involved in fundraising for a cause of our own.

Weather permitting we will meet for the first time on **Monday September 17th at 7pm at Mary's, starting with a visit to the river.** Plan on wading! A change of clothes might be a good idea ... Then we'll come inside, eat and get started. If it's wet that night we will meet in church.

There is already a Facebook group for Wray Youth Group, which I'll be using for announcements. Please pass the word on to anybody you know who doesn't use Facebook.

Mary Winter

EVENTS AND INFORMATION

TATHAM FELS VILLAGE SOCIETY FROM THE OLD SCHOOL, LOWGILL

**TREASURE HUNT ON FOOT
FOLLOWED BY CREAM TEA
SUNDAY AUGUST 19TH
AT 2.00PM**

**£4 per adult/teenager
£1 for children 12 and under
£3 for cream tea alone**

The Old School is where we have coffee after our services and where refreshments are served after our concerts.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WRAY COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

Hannah will be holding a coffee morning from 10am - 12noon to raise much needed funds for Exodus House Orphanage in Africa supported by her.

**Please come along
and support a very worthy cause**

**TATHAM CHUCH
GRAND JUMBLE SALE
SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER - 2PM
AT HORNBY INSTITUTE
Contact: lindakirkby@aol.com
Tel: 015242 21486**

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WRAY
HARVEST SUPPER
Monday 9th October at 7.00pm
Adults £7 Schoolchildren £3
Preschool children FREE
Tickets: Frances Hartnup
Sue Rowland**

JOYFUL NOISE AND DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday September 11th The first meeting of Joyful Noise in Wray Church. Come at 9.00am or as soon as you've dropped the older children at school.

Do you like a good argument?

Come and join the 'Discussion Group' fortnightly at Mary Winter's home on a Tuesday evening. This is NOT a church group, but is open to anyone with an interest in ideas and an open mind. We welcome anybody from Year 9 up.

Ring Mary on 015242 for details.

ST PETER'S CHURCH, LECK

**STRING QUARTET CONCERT
at The Fraser Hall, Cowan Bridge
TUESDAY 2ND OCTOBER
AT 7.30PM**

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Fiona Brodie: viola
Mary Dainton: cello

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Janet Nuttall 07816 640 755
Fiona Brodie 015242 41974

**All proceeds to
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FARM COMMUNITY NETWORK

A HELPLINE IS OPEN

7.00AM-11.00PM

every day

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