

THE BELL

Benefice of East Lonsdale Life:

April and May 2019



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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Email: markhcannon1@gmail.com

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For further details please go to the Benefice website

'Benefice of East Lonsdale'

<http://eastlonsdalebenefice.wordpress.com>

CHURCH CONTACTS

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**This issue has been sponsored by
St James the Less Church, Tatham**

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please contact Carole on 015242 63095, the cost will be £55

**Copy date for the June and July edition 2019
Saturday 11th May**

DIARY OF A LUNE VALLEY VICAR by Mark Cannon

A Special Visitor ...

Sunday: 10am – I am (unusually) early at church this morning, for today the new Bishop of Lancaster is visiting Melling Church – all other services are cancelled and we are expecting a big turnout. We confidently expect that as many as 10% of the congregations living up to three miles away might attend instead of hollering with joy at the thought of a ‘morning off’.

10.05am – first problem comes to light. The pipes are frozen. This means that the lifeblood of the Church is cut off – there will be no tea!! Fortunately, a neighbour has water and a valiant volunteer is traipsing across the churchyard with a kettle. I grab the tea-urn and dash across as well. It’s a bit difficult to open the neighbour’s gate and keep hold of the urn. A gap is left and the neighbour’s dog legs it through the gate and to freedom.

10.30am – all this water carrying has effectively let all the warm air out of the church door. It has taken 37 hours to bring the temperature up to 10degC and now I find it warmer outside, where I am loitering at the roadside to guide the Bishop in. I am passed by members of the congregations – generally dressed far more smartly than when they tip up to church – whizzing past on to exciting adventures elsewhere. They begin to study their maps very closely, heads down, as they pass me by. The Bishop sweeps across the road in her Ford Fiasco to draw up beside me. She beckons me over and I stick my head through the passenger window ... Lordy! Lordy! It’s a Bishop with legs! I withdraw, blushing, and follow her to the car park.

11am – there’s a bigger congregation than usual (50+) but all their comings and goings have wasted all the heat. Clergy wear many layers beneath their cassocks and we are generally used to winter worship, but the congregation look well-chilled.

11.15am – I have devised my own service this morning and have cut out as many of the ‘boring bits’ as I can get away with without being hauled up before the Disciplinary Panel. This is to give more time for Bishop Gill, and she takes it, grabs it and runs with it for half-an-hour. It is an excellent sermon, but difficult to hear above the chattering of many teeth and dentures. I wonder about cuddling my neighbour to preserve warmth, but these choir ladies are tough cookies and I don’t fancy a black eye.

12.15pm – just as communion comes to an end (not enough wafers, sorry if you got crumbs), the Bishop stands and declares that she has been ‘given a Word’. Not sure how I feel about the Holy Spirit interfering in the life of the church, but Gill tells us that ‘our’ word is ‘Come up higher’. I have been thinking about this ever since. I have to dash off and leave the Bishop to the loquacious parishioners; I didn’t even have time to get cake!

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Holy Trinity, Wray Our ‘Messy Church’ services continue to be very popular and on 24th February we had lots of children and adults enjoying pancakes cooked and tossed by Katherine and Adam. Our next ‘Messy Church’ will be on 31st March which is Mothering Sunday and it will be at 4pm.

The next congregation led afternoon service will be on 7th April and on 5th May we will be holding a ‘Songs of Praise’ service at 2.30pm organised by Mary. Last year we had a number of scarecrow visitors who joined us for a good sing of favourite hymns. Our congregation led services involve a large amount of preparation by the person leading the service but they are well attended and enjoyed by all.

We held a coffee morning on 2nd March for the charity 'Water Aid'. We did very well and there were lots of visitors. We have decided that this will be our chosen charity for this year and the money raised at our Lent Lunch on 14th March will be sent to them also.

We now look forward to a joyous Easter and we welcome everyone to join us for Holy Communion at 9.30am on Sunday 21st April.

Of course one of our busiest times of the year is Wray's Scarecrow Festival which begins on 27th April. There will be an exhibition in church and volunteers will be needed to sit in there and welcome visitors. Our church will be providing the refreshments in the Institute on Friday 3rd May all day. We will need many volunteers to help on the day and to bake please; lists will be around shortly!

Ann Anderson/Judith Wrigley

St John the Baptist, Tunstall It was lovely to see spring arrive in early March with all the newly planted daffodils and the wonderful crocus circle springing into bloom. Thanks possibly to fast flowing genuine Russian aperos, guests seemed to enjoy an illustrated talk on 'Living in Moscow' in Church given by Ross. A donation of £100 was sent to help Macmillan Nurses. A happy bunch of parishioners enjoyed the Lent Lunch on Friday 8th March resulting in £70 going to The Children's Society.

On Monday 8th April there will be the regular craft session in Church where we will make fabric eggs and on Monday 13th May there will be the second watercolour painting session. The Tunstall Trust are again having a plant sale in the Church grounds on Saturday 4th May and 'Messy Church', which was well supported last month, is on 12th May. **Sue Hunter**

Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells

Since the last issue of The Bell we have welcomed two children into our church family through Baptism. We wish every blessing in life to Alfie James Harrison and Frederick William Causer. A few of our parishioners enjoyed the special service of Holy Communion for the Benefice which was held in Melling Church on 3rd February when Bishop Gill paid us a visit. Our warm thanks go to all those involved in making the occasion memorable.

One month later on Sunday 3rd March at 6.30pm we held a special 'Pancake Service' led by Peter Osborne. In a short service in church Peter outlined the story of Easter, the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert and the reason why we remember this on Shrove Tuesday by making pancakes to use up the flour, eggs and milk before Lent, which is a time of fasting. The congregation then moved to The Old School where everyone enjoyed delicious pancakes provided by Gillian Middleton, Sara Mason and others.

At the time of going to press we are looking forward to another special service for the Benefice in Melling Church on Sunday 24th March at 11.00am led by Mary, Jane and Carole. This will be followed by the Mothering Sunday service on Sunday 31st March at 9.30am with the children and families from Tatham Fells School.

We will be catering again at Wray Fair on Saturday 27th April and then on Saturday 11th May there will be a 'Music in the Fells' concert at 7.30pm organised by Jane and Carole. Proceeds for Church and The Old School and details appear on page 11. **Carole**

Butcher

St Peter's, Leck

At the end of February we were very fortunate to have Mandy Hunter and Mel Welsh come and talk to us. Mandy and Mel formed the charity 'Charis Ministries' in 2008 and the aim of this UK charity is to develop a ministry to bring Good News of the Gospel through word and action to the poorest people in rural Mozambique, along with the support and help of local people.

They gave us an inspired insight into their work, dealing with practicalities like house building and repair, installing water wells and growing crops. They also help families with children who are in need, providing food, clothing, school uniforms and also helping them to attend school. Mandy is a trained nurse so helps to train village health workers in basic health care and provide them with simple medicines.

They deliver regular Bible teaching and provide Bibles in the local language. The work they do is amazing and, if nothing else, it certainly puts the worries we all have in our lives into perspective!

We wish to say a huge 'Thank You' to Carol Howard for doing a sterling job sorting and categorising all the old papers and documents which had been stored in the now removed vestry cupboard. Some are now destined for the Archives in Preston, some to school, some to remain in church and the inevitable pile for recycling! So many thanks Carol it is a job very well done.

Due to unforeseen circumstances we had to postpone the Quiz Night arranged for 15th March. This event is now rescheduled for Friday 7th June; details on page 11. Huge apologies to those who have already bought tickets, these will be honoured for the June event but can be reimbursed should this date be inconvenient. Please speak to whoever sold them to you.

Our fundraising is being put to good use. As well as a fully functional loo we now have a refurbished vestry which will be more welcoming for everyone and much more photogenic for wedding parties. The next stage of the refurbishment will commence as and when funds allow. This will include providing disability access, a brew station at the back of church and the movement of some pews to create a more social seating area.

Could we remind everyone that it is Electoral Roll renewal this year? Existing and new applicants must complete a new form which is available from Church or the Village Stores. Please return to either venue or to a member of the congregation by 1st April. Thank you.

Leck St Peters School Easter service will take place in Church on Thursday 4th April at 6.30pm. Please come along and support us.

Ann Shuttleworth/Joan Withers

St James the Less, Tatham

The cover of the February and March issue of The Bell announced that Spring is Coming. It was summer that arrived in February which produced a wonderful display of newly planted crocuses in the church yard and on Wennington Green. This evening a thrush is singing as I write; spring may really be here soon.

It has been a quiet time at St James. We hope for strong support at our Mothering Sunday service on 31st March and of course at Easter time. We look forward to the Friends' Tea Party on Sunday afternoon 17th March (free!) and Lent Lunch at The Old Rectory on 4th April at which donations to the orphanage in Africa which Hannah Burch supports will be given.

The marathon of the vestry roof has left the starting line in spectacular fashion. We have received 'Specialist Heritage Advice' from the Conservation Team within the Directorate for Economic Growth and Regeneration at Lancaster City Council, no less, which concludes, after reservations, that 'it may be classed as an enhancement'. Next step Blackburn Diocese!

John Holt

CALENDAR OF SERVICES FOR APRIL AND MAY 2019

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

APRIL

Sunday 7th	Fifth Sunday of Lent		
9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Tatham	Sue
9.30am	Morning Service	Melling	Mark
11.00am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Morning Service	Tunstall	Mark
2.30pm	Evening Prayer	Wray	Congregation
Sunday 14th	Palm Sunday		
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Morning Service	Wray	Mark
11.00am	Morning Service	Tatham	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Holy Communion	Leck	Sue
2.15pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	Tatham Fells	Peter
Thursday 18th	Maundy Thursday		
7.30pm	Holy Communion	Melling	Mark
Friday 19th	Good Friday		
10.00am	Stations of the Cross	Tunstall	Sue
10.00am – 1.00pm	Children's Workshop	Wray Institute	Mary and Team
12 noon	Good Friday Service	Wray	Mark
2.00pm	Good Friday Service	Tatham Fells	Norman and Ann
Sunday 21st	Easter Day		
9.30am	Holy Communion	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Holy Communion	Tatham Fells	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Holy Communion	Tatham	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Holy Communion	Melling	Sue
11.00am	Holy Communion	Tunstall	Mark
Sunday 28th	Second Sunday of Easter		
9.30am	Morning Service	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Morning Service	Leck	Mark
MAY			
Sunday 5th	Third Sunday of Easter		
9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Tatham	Mark
9.30am	Morning Service	Melling	Norman and Ann
11.00am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Mark
11.00am	Holy Communion	Leck	Sue
2.30pm	Songs of Praise	Wray	Mary
Sunday 12th	Fourth Sunday of Easter		
9.30am	Holy Communion	Wray	Sue
11.00am	Morning Service	Tatham	Sue

11.00am	'Messy Church'	Tunstall	Mark
6.30pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	Tatham Fells	Mark

Sunday 19th

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Wray	Mark
9.30am	Holy Communion	Tatham Fells	Mark
10.30am	Family Service	Wray	Mary
11.00am	Holy Communion	Melling	Mark
11.00am	Morning Service	Leck	Sue

Sunday 26th

**Sixth Sunday of Easter
Rogation Sunday**

9.30am	Morning Service	Wray	Sue
9.30am	Morning Service	Tatham Fells	Peter
11.00am	Holy Communion	Tatham	Sue
11.00am	Morning Service	Tunstall	Norman and Ann

FROM THE REGISTERS

Tatham Fells, Baptisms

Alfie James Harrison
Frederick William Causer

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 second Saturday of each month 2pm-4pm- tea, coffee, cakes

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, NAZARETH



Visiting the Holy Land in early February we spent time in several churches in the course of our tour. They come in all sorts of shapes and sizes and from many different denominations and countries. Looking down the Mount of Olives from our hotel, you could see three on the nearside of the City, all very different, of which, the most beautiful, looking down is the Russian Church at the Garden of Gethsemane with its golden onion domes.

All the main churches were crowded, most of all the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, where we queued for an hour in row of five in a beautiful Greek Orthodox Church of the 6th Century with large remnants of golden mosaics and a late Roman mosaic floor. At the very end you crouch down to enter the site of Jesus' birth in a compress of people and savour your brief moment at the star marking the place on the floor. (The main door to the church was reduced to about a metre in height at some point to prevent animals getting in!).

Throughout the tour the crowding was signalled as you arrived into the coach car park to find several already parked. But in the Galilee churches and the Church of the Dormition in Jerusalem, there was a joy in this because some groups just loved to sing hymns while they were there. There was lovely singing from a South Korean congregation in the church at the place by the sea where Jesus preached the sermon of the Beatitudes.

In all this it is difficult to choose a favourite, but for me it would be the Church of Saint Joseph in Nazareth. Partly this is personal because it was there over 30 years ago that we took our children to be baptised. Also, of course, the church is Anglican. Among all the glories of sects trying, perhaps almost too hard, to make something special in Jesus' home places, St Joseph's gains by its simplicity. There is touching simplicity too in what it hides underneath, for there are the remains of the workshop where Jesus spent his early days. All the remains of His time are now deeply buried below later development. Under St Joseph's, and under the neighbouring Church of the Annunciation, what you find is basically a cave with added outer walls. That is how most dwellings seem to have been in early Nazareth and I found its great simplicity to be deeply moving.

Peter Osborne

MUSIC IN THE FELLS CONCERT



'Rest Sweet Nymph'

Saturday 11th May at 7.30pm is when the next, and very special, Music in the Fells concert 'Rest Sweet Nymph' will take place at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells.

The concert is special because Dawn Johnston, one half of **Aurora** is a 'local lass' having moved to live in Bentham about three years ago. Aurora was formed by Dawn and Maria Sanger, her friend and colleague, in 2003 to perform music from the Renaissance and early Baroque periods for recorder (Maria) and lute, theorbo and baroque guitar (Dawn). Maria studied music at University College, Cardiff and Dawn at the Royal College of Music. Both have performed extensively throughout the UK and Europe during their professional lives.

The intimate setting of the Church of the Good Shepherd is particularly well suited to small scale music and Aurora employ a wide range of recorders and plucked string instruments drawing the audience into the ambience of a renaissance or early baroque chamber. The evening will feature a range of composers from Henry VIII to John Dowland, Diego Ortiz and Turloch O'Carolan.

For Dawn and Maria who have been together for 16 years, music is their life and passion and they will make 11th May a memorable and special evening. As always at Music in the Fells concerts the evening will be rounded off with drinks and nibbles and a chance to meet both performers.

Tickets are £15 for adults; £5 for under 18s/students and £36 for family tickets. They are available from Carole Butcher (015242 63094) and Jane Proctor (015242 62648).

LENT LUNCHESES

Thursday 28th March

LENT LUNCH 12noon - 1.30pm at Laith House, Tatham Green (Althea and Martin Gillibrand). All welcome for soup, cheese and fellowship. Proceeds to charity.

Thursday 4th April

LENT LUNCH 12noon - 1.30pm at The Old Rectory, Tatham (John and Phyllis Holt). All welcome for soup, cheese and fellowship. Proceeds to charity.

Thursday 11th April

LENT LUNCH 12noon - 1.30pm at Brackenbottom, Lowgill (Margaret Baker). All welcome for soup, cheese and fellowship. Proceeds to charity.

For further information please contact Liesel Fox on 62486

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



JOYFUL NOISE

This weekly get-together for young parents/carers and their pre-school children takes place in Wray Church each Tuesday and Mary will be there on the first Tuesday of the month.

YOUTH GROUP DATES FOR APRIL AND MAY

Mondays April 1st and 29th; May 13th and 27th
All meetings from 7pm to 8pm in Wray Church
Bring a game and a friend!

GOOD FRIDAY DAY

Once again we are inviting children to participate in Wray's Good Friday Workshop. Those of you who have taken part in the past will know how popular this event is. This year's theme is 'Second Chances'. The day will include various hands-on activities and the performance of a story in church.

ALL local children 4 years and older are welcome, you do NOT have to be a member of any church or chapel. Children may bring a friend; just let us know ahead of time. Activities are chiefly aimed at primary-aged children, but I am always delighted to hear from older siblings or friends who would like to come along as helpers. A few adult helpers will also be needed; do let me know if you would be interested.

The day will take place on Friday April 19th from 10:00am until c. 1:00pm. We will need to know numbers by Sunday April 14th. Please ring Mary on 015242 21784 with any questions. Hope to see you there!

---oOo---

LENT STUDY IN APRIL/MAY

Four sessions in Wray Church on Wednesday evenings:
3rd; 10th; 17th April and 1st May
7.30pm – 9.30pm

Are Christians deluded? Are we mad to believe in God?
A look at the arguments for the existence of God in the 21st Century,
and how we can be confident in what we believe.

More details from Mark – markcannon1@gmail.com

EVENTS AND INFORMATION

FILM NIGHT AT TATHAM CHURCH 12th April at 7.30pm

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or Helen on 07802 499934

**12th April will be our last film night,
we will then have a break for the
summer and resume in the autumn.
Please let us know if you would like to
go on our mailing list for future films**

GOOD SHEPHERD, TATHAM FELLS MUSIC IN THE FELLS

SATURDAY MAY 11TH at 7.30pm

CONCERT

WITH AURORA

**Lute, Baroque Guitar, Theorbo
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**Tickets: £15 adults;
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£36 Family**

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Proceeds for Church
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Please contact

Ann Shuttleworth Tel: 015242 71229

Janet Nuttall Tel: 015242 72556

OR Cowan Bridge Stores

CLEARBECK OPEN GARDENS

Clearbeck Garden will be open again for

Charity this year. The dates are
Sunday 26th and Monday 27th May
for NSPCC

and then Sundays 30th June and 7th July

for Save the Children

and Church of the Good Shepherd

Each day we shall be open from

11.00am to 5.00pm

but followed on 7th July by

the Garden Service

when we sing some hymns at 6.00pm

BENEFICE SECRETARY REQUIRED

This is a paid position

Involving producing and delivering
The Bell

taking minutes at Benefice meetings

Mark's school assemblies calendar

and sending off marriage returns
to the local Registrar

For further details contact

Carole Butcher on 015242 63095

or Mark Cannon on 015242 21030

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