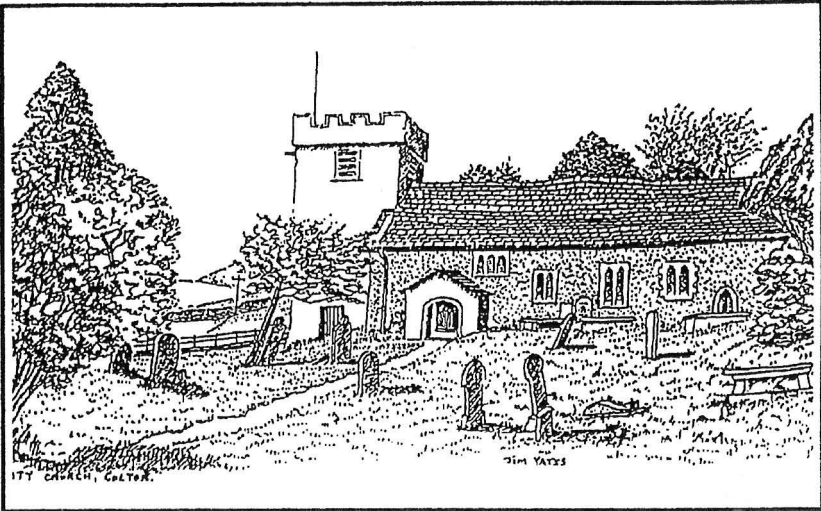




PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

Woodside Cottage
Colton
ULVERSTON
LA12 8HE

October 2007

Dear friends

This is the time of year when gardeners start to think about “putting their gardens to bed” ready for the winter; and now that I have had the time to stop and look at ours, having recently retired from paid work, I realise that I have a great deal of work to do with the pruning secateurs. My, how stuff grows!

The wonderful thing is, that come the Spring, more growth will happen to make good my amateur attempts to put things to rights and control the appearance of our borders. While I may have ended the life of particular branches, the overall life of the shrubs will have been maintained, perhaps even improved if I have taken advice and done as I was told.

It occurs to me that life as a Christian is a bit like being a shrub. If we have been planted in the right spot we will flourish and grow, fed and watered with God’s loving care; but if we are in the wrong spot we will fail to thrive and reach our potential. But, how can we be sure that we are in the right spot in God’s garden, you might ask? Well – just as I am going to read my book on pruning and ask for advice to get it right, I suggest that you read God’s book – the Bible – and talk to Him to make sure that you are planted where He intends you to grow! You never know, He may have amazing plans for you once you start to listen and seek His advice - even if it means being “re-potted” or pruned.

I know that God’s pruning and re-shaping is not always without pain and that He sometimes seems to turn our worlds up-side-down in the process, so that there seems to be no light at the end of some very dark tunnels,

particularly if the “re-potting and pruning” has resulted in the loss of loved ones, or a removal from familiar places and faces. How hard it is to keep our trust and faith then! But as surely as Spring follows Winter we can, as Christians, be confident of God’s promise that we will be borne to new life.

If your life has been turned up-side-down, especially through loss or bereavement, why not come to **Colton Church on Saturday, November 3rd at 2.30 p.m.** We shall be holding a service in the afternoon when we shall be reminding ourselves of the promises that God has made to us in which we can find comfort and re-assurance and we shall be looking back and, perhaps, treasuring some of our memories. My hope, too, is that we will all leave that afternoon, with renewed confidence and hope to face the challenges of being plants in God’s garden.

With love and blessings to you all,

Joanna

Curate



COLTON CHRONICLES

By the end of the morning of 30 September our dear Joanna will have become a fully fledged priest with no more getting up at the crack of dawn and trundling down to Ulverston to get the bread and wine blessed. Joanna’s first full Communion will take place on **Sunday 14 October, 10.30am at Colton.** This service will be a **Benefice Harvest** and during the service Joanna will be enrolled, or whatever they do, into the Mothers Union; also Barbara Watson will be licensed as a Commissioned Lay Minister expressly concerned with pastoral care.

Importantly we will be celebrating this event with a DIY i.e. Jacobs Join Light Lunch in the Hall afterwards. Be prepared.

There are many misconceptions about the finances of the Church of England for contrary to popular opinion the money we raise in the parish does not go to ‘them in Carlisle’ or even to ‘them in London’. The cost of

Bishops and their 'Palaces' and the general administration of the Church is funded from central sources. Some years ago the Church Commissioners financial portfolio came a cropper and they lost many million pounds; things have now stabilised but even so they have not the funds to cover the Clergy Pension Fund.

The funds we send cover the salary of our Vicar and pension costs but excludes the upkeep of the church and Hall. As reported last month a wonderful £1935 was raised by efforts that replaced the Fête and we are grateful to the parishioners of our benefice and others who contributed so handsomely. Sadly direct giving is stagnant and we need £19,000+ to keep Colton church as a going concern. Add on another 4% for next year. Donald.



DOES COLTON CHURCH FULFIL YOUR WORSHIP NEEDS?

Having just returned from a PCC meeting at which we were discussing forms of worship and how we need to be conscious of meaningful change in our worship, I felt that I needed to write down my feelings on this subject. I made a list of ways in which worship has changed since I have been a member of the congregation at Holy Trinity (5 years) and I came up with the following:

- Joint Benefice services at Penny Bridge, Lowick and Colton;
- Holy Communion celebrated by a number of different ministers, including retired priests and Methodist ministers;
- Lay people conducting the whole service of Morning Worship; Lay people preaching at Holy Communion and Morning Worship;
- Extended Communion conducted by Joanna after attending Holy Communion at Ulverston or Cartmel to bring back sanctified wafers and wine for our service;
- Joanna's wonderful Morning Worship with the hand puppets which delight both children and adults with their antics;
- Walk Cumbria bringing the churches in the area together at a service in Greenodd Village Hall.

These are significant changes to our worship at Colton, but we still need to fulfil our role in the community as a church to which **ALL** people feel they can come to worship. We need to ask people:

What do we need to do to make Colton Church a place where **YOU** want to come to worship?

This is your opportunity to make a difference to the way worship is conducted at Colton Church. If you feel strongly about this subject, would you please contact the Vicar, Joanna, any member of the PCC or myself to tell us your ideas. **MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN.**

Thank you.

Christine Holden.

Editorial note: Please, also consider timings of the service, e.g. are you happy with the present times? Would you prefer the same time each week and if so what?



Advance Notice of Christmas Services

The **Carol Service**, in fact the only Carol Service in the Benefice will be held on **Sunday 23 December, COLTON, 3.00pm** which is an hour earlier than usual and probably better for it.

The Christmas Eve **Midnight Communion Service** will be at **LOWICK.**

The Christmas Day **Communion Service** will be at **EGTON, 10.30am.**

On **30 December** there will be an **Ecumenical Benefice Communion at COLTON, 10.30am.**



Nothing to do with Christmas, but there will not be Morning Worship at Colton on **2 December.** There is to be a **Confirmation Service, Egton, 10.30am.** when Bishop Graham will preside.



FLOWER ROTA

The Church will be decorated for Harvest on **Friday 12 October, 10.00am** onwards. Not only is help required but fruit, vegetables, flowers and other produce. Remember that there is Service at **7.00pm with Supper afterwards**. If you want supper, it must be pre-booked, Contact Sue Dean 861 435.

7 October Mrs. Wendy Smith

14 October Harvest

21 October Harvest

28 October Harvest



COFFEE

Mrs. Barbara Watson + Helpers



Childrens Society

Slight error last month; if anyone would like to support the Society contact is Wendy Smith Tel: **015395 31872**



MOTHERS UNION

A Coffee Morning will be held in **Greenodd Village Hall, Saturday 20 October 10.00am 'til noon**. There will be displays showing the work of the M U both in this country and overseas.

There will be the obligatory raffle and cake stall, and what would we do without the Bring & Buy. Please come and support whilst enjoying a cup of coffee and discovering what is being achieved by the M U. Wendy.



PARISH NEWS

Sadly we report the death of Anne(Annie) Oldham who died peacefully on the 4 September. She was the landlady extraordinary who had presided over the Hole int' Wall, Bowness; The Golden Rule, Ambleside and The Manor House, Oxen Park. Our condolences and prayers go out to husband David and the family.

On a happier note there was a wedding at Colton on 21 July when Amy Posthlewthwaite married Martin Hool, but not quite as simple as that, for at the exchange of rings the groom made a sharp whistle and a well trained sheepdog puppy came bounding up the aisle with the rings in a casket round his neck.

The puppy is Martin's constant companion and goes everywhere with him. On honeymoon?

After a sad twelve months when Old Hall Farm has remained empty, things are about to change for shortly it will be occupied by Charlotte White, Alex Sharphouse with children Joe and Alfie. We wish them a very warm welcome to the parish and to Bouth in particular and hope that they will be very happy stay healthy and enjoy this part of South Cumbria. There are certainly worse places to live, but not many better.

Living in Bouth recently has been like looking at the lid being taken off Pandora's Box. An amazing variety of veteran farm and construction machinery has wended its way through the lanes to the farm; apparently Alex is an 'obsessive?' collector of these treasures and all of them, we are told, are in good working order.

There was the odd tear in the eye of this editor for, as a steam road roller went past, he remembered working with one on a road scheme back in 1952 in South Lancashire. (Well, I was very young at the time.)

More happiness in that Judy and Bryan Redhead are grandparents, again! A son Samuel Benjamin has been born to Sally and Guy Redhead. At last a boy to carry on the family name; the corks will be popping in the Redhead household.

Donald.

WOMENS INSTITUTE

In September we enjoyed a fascinating talk and slide show given by Mr. Low on the subject of 'Old Crafts and Industries of the Lake District'. It made us all realise how much we take for granted, the history of the area in which we live . A very interesting and enthusiastic speaker.

Do not look now for Christmas is upon us again; the caterers have been booked for our Annual Party and plans are underway to coerce various members to stand up in public and amuse us.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 10 October, Bouth Village Hall, 7.15pm.** The talk will be 'Cath's Garden Plants' and the competition – 'A House Plant'. This will give everyone the opportunity to rush off to Booths to buy one. (Honest, that was Penny not this editor.) Penny.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Despite the current trend for Open Government it is getting increasingly difficult to obtain information from our Parish Council. It must be something we said.

Earlier this year you will remember that they smartly took the initiative to find funding for a 'Lengthsman' and duly made an appointment. The result of this initiative has been exceptionally successful and the parish is looking cleaner and tidier for his efforts. The problem is that the appointment was made on an experimental basis and if it is to continue, then we, the residents, must make our views known, either to a parish Councillor or to the Clerk, preferably in writing.

The Clerk is Judith Dove, Fell View Cottage, Lowick Green, Ulverston, LA12 8EA. E-mail – coltonpc@tiscali.co.uk To be fair, the Council has got an excellent web site, for those with a computer.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 15 October, 7.30pm, Bouth Village Hall.**

SCHOOL NEWS

Cartmel Priory

A term has started with a new headteacher, Dr. Paul Williams who has kindly sent a pen picture of himself so that we will know who he is and what he has done.

'I was born in Royton (Lancashire) and went to North Chadderton Comprehensive for seven years before going on to study pharmacy at Manchester University. After successfully completing my MPS (pharmacist qualification) in 1983, I returned to University to study for a PhD in Cardiff.

I then decided that rather than continue in the area of research my true vocation was teaching and I achieved qualified teacher status in 1987. This September I have started my 21st year of teaching, I have during that time worked in Oldham (twice), Halifax, Maryport and Carlisle. I have enjoyed my time at all of my schools immensely and found teaching a challenging, but truly fulfilling career.

It is a privilege to have been appointed Headteacher of Cartmel Priory School CoE School. I am committed to the right of every child to a high quality education in a safe and happy environment and I am already enjoying working with my colleagues in the school to ensure this is what we deliver.'

Thank you Paul, your academic and management qualities are no doubt, first class, but importantly, you have the merit of being born on the right side of the Pennines.



Leven Valley

Unfortunately, and through no fault of their new headteacher we have not as yet, been able to make contact. However it is hoped that this will be corrected by next month.

Diary Dates

Colton Church Services

- 7 October **Morning/Family Worship – 10.00am.**Coffee to follow. (Donald)
12 October **Farmers Harvest – 7.00pm.** Supper to follow. (Joanna)
14 October **Benefice Harvest Communion – 10.30am.** Lunch to follow. (Joanna)
21 October **Holy Communion – 9.30am.** (Gary)
28 October **Holy Communion – 9.30am.** (David)



Other Dates

- 2 October Cinema Club - Rusland Reading Room – 7.30pm. – Babel (15)
4 October Francis of Assisi.
10 October Bouth W I - Bouth Village Hall – 7.15pm.
12 October Decorating the Church for Harvest – 10.00am >
13 October Edward the Confessor, King Of England, 1066.
15 October Parish Council Meeting – Bouth Village Hall (it really is) – 7.30pm.
18 October **Luke the Evangelist.**
20 October M U Coffee Morning – Greenodd Village Hall – 10.00am>Noon.
28 October **Simon & Jude, Apostles.**
1 November **ALL SAINTS DAY**



Oxen Park Cinema Club

The next showing will be Babel (15) on **Tuesday 2 October, 7.30pm, Rusland Reading Room. Members £3, non-members £4.50.** Contact: Carol McNeill Tel: 01229 861 507

