



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

The Vicarage
Penny Bridge
ULVERSTON
LA12 7RQ

April 2010

Dear friends

From Darkness – Light

As November came and went and then December, January and February more and more people began to express how “down” they felt, mainly because of the dark days, the snow and ice and the exceptionally cold weather.

But last week at the breakfast table, Elizabeth asked when we had last had any rain. Three, four, or even five weeks since we had seen any and we have had glorious sunshine and blue skies – even if it has been a little cold.

This has brought about a complete change in many people’s attitude. The gloom has lifted, any despair gone and a new optimism and hope brought to their lives by a change in the weather and in nature. Trees are beginning to leaf, the spring flowers have been exceptionally good this year in the churchyards and gardens and, of course, the lambs are gambolling in the fields bringing their own delight to the scene.

It is no surprise that this is the time we approach Easter and two things come to mind.

Firstly, those early disciples of Jesus who had seen their teacher and inspiration taken from them, arrested, tried and crucified and pronounced dead. The hope he had offered had turned to despair and no good was to come of his life – and then – the events of what we call Good Friday turn into Easter Day – Jesus was seen again – risen from the dead. Their whole attitude changed from gloom, darkness and despair to joy, hope and light.

Secondly, the change that happens in a life when someone experiences the joy and hope of knowing the risen Christ in their lives. The old has gone and the light of the risen Christ Jesus shines in their hearts. This is a dramatic change and affects the life of a Christian bringing them from darkness to Light.

We can all experience this change if we open our hearts to the Creator God and seek to follow the way of Jesus.

Is this Easter a time for you to seek his life changing way and to experience the risen Lord in your life?

“The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Yours sincerely

GARY

Vicar.

COLTON CHRONICLES

It is such a shame that Mothering Sunday has been hijacked not only by commerce but also the media and the general public and now is universally known as Mothers Day.

All those years ago it was the day when apprentices were allowed home to visit their mothers but more importantly for the church, it was the day when congregations visited their mother church. That being so we should all have been at Hawkshead.

Last month we mentioned the Parish Offering but neglected to say that our three parishes paid in full, although not without a struggle. This payment, £15,936 this year for Colton alone, only covers the cost of the ministry in the benefice excluding Joanna who comes, expenses apart, for free.

We also have to fund the maintenance, repair and heating of the church and church hall, as well as the upkeep of the churchyard. Grass cutting alone, last year, cost £1,500; to date the sum of £20,000+ has been identified for repairs, maintenance and renewing the boiler. Colton Church has survived for over 400 years mainly, in recent times, thanks to some generous bequests, but these will not last forever and are gradually being eroded to pay our way.

In these hard times it is not easy asking people for money but if the Church is to continue the generosity of the good residents of the parish is more in need as ever it was.

Again we have had to cancel a service because of the weather which stubbornly is keeping spring away. As a local countryman remarked "I have never known winter last all winter." He was, perhaps, too young to remember the winter of 1965 when it froze on Boxing Day and stayed below freezing until well into April.

Decorating the Church: This will take place on **Saturday 3 April, 10:00am onwards**

Church Fête: There will be a Fête this year, if for no other reason, we need the money and it will be held on **Saturday 24 July**. More anon.

Signpost: In February we told you about a little boy called Arun and we can now tell you of the little girl we are sponsoring. She is called

Jeyalakshmi, 8 years old and is the only daughter of Ramakrishnan. They live in a small remote village called Thandalam.

Jeyalakshmi is a good pupil, does well in reading and writing English as well as her mother tongue, Tamil. She is known for her singing and dancing talents and also performs well in sporting activities. Her parents have taken good care of her health and makes sure she is immunised at the right time and like Arun (February issue) has been taught good manners and morals.

Father Ramakrishnan is the only breadwinner but is not in regular employment so his earnings do not even cover the family's basic needs. With our support Jeyalakshmi and her family will be able to overcome their problems and enable her to continue her studies which would ensure a decent and dignified life.

Christian Aid: For the last 30 years a Lunch has been held in Christian Aid Week in May but alas no more. The committee has been depleted over the years and nearer home Wendy & Peter feel that they can no longer continue and Judy has decided to retire.

Over the years £29,272 has been donated to the charity of which about £25,000 came from the lunches, the balance from the Boxes. If any of you still have a Box will you please return it, full, to Wendy Smith ASAP or to the back of the church.

Donald.



The interest in Christian Aid actually started 10 years before the Lunches when the then Vicar Rev'd. Fred Hambrey encouraged 'Frugal Lunches' where people were invited to share a little bread and a cup of tea and to forget their Sunday Lunch. This was followed by sponsored walks and led to the formation of a committee which held an Annual Jumble Sale in Greenodd Village Hall; Bryan & Judy Redhead were heavily involved as was Mrs. Dobson who was totally committed to the cause and worked tirelessly through the years until her illness.

From these beginnings the popular Soup & Cheese Lunches originated and could be resumed if enough willing volunteers come forward; contact Edward Collins Tel: 01229 860 312.

Very many thanks to everyone who has supported this wonderful charity in so many ways for so many years.

Judy.



GOOD FRIDAY

The Crake Valley Mission group invite you to a service on **Friday 2 April, 10:30am. outside** and in front of **Greenodd Village Hall**, starting with a procession along Main Street.

Coffee & Hot Cross Buns in the Hall afterwards. For further information contact, Rev'd. Joanna Henson 01229 861 800, Rev'd. David Gregg 01229 885 258 & Rev'd. Phil Gomersall 01229 861 820.

David.



FLOWER ROTA

4 April Easter Flowers

11 April Easter Flowers

18 April A Donation

25 April A Donation

COFFEE

Mrs. Margaret Sanders + Helpers



MOTHERS UNION

At the March meeting at our speaker was Rev. Glynn Jones who is Lead Chaplain at Haverigg Prison. His talk was very lively and uplifting and he made us all think about our approach to people who end up in prison and how they are treated. The problem of drugs was raised and the number of offenders who are in prison because of drugs and how they are rehabilitated was talked about at length. The prison community is very like any other community with its fair share of people who want nothing to do with drugs and others who spend all their time devising ways to get drugs

into the prison. Glynn told us that without his faith to help him, he would find his working life difficult to cope with.

We also held our annual Wave of Prayer service during which we remember Mothers' Union members throughout the world as well as those in this country.

Our next meeting is a service of **Holy Communion, Tuesday 13 April at 2:00pm, Colton Church.**

Chris.



PARISH NEWS

Sadly we have to report the death of Mrs. Avice Ramsay on 18 February; Mrs. Ramsay was the widow of Rev'd John Ramsay Vicar of this parish in the sixties and had not been well for some time and had been living in a care home.

She was a bright, happy friendly lady with a great sense of humour, not always appreciated by some of the more staid members of congregation; after they left the parish she continued to take a great interest in Colton, was a 'Friend of Colton' and attended services when she came to stay with Tiesy. Her sister, nephew and his family will miss her very much.

John Ramsay's claim to fame is that his first marriage ceremony in the parish was that of Zella & Frank Slater. He also guided Sue Dean and Judy Redhead to confirmation.

The newspaper readers in Bouth are grateful to the kind gentleman, one Gordon Pickles, for the excellent repair and stabilisation to the newspaper box in the pub car park and also for the assistance of Neville Stark.

There is a Christina Rossetti poem called 'Weary in Well Doing' and there has been a perfect example of this in Bouth. For some years there has been a good show of very early daffodils at the entrance to the village, but the frosty weather has delayed this delight. Conscious of this, the resident purchased some ready in flower and to cheer things up planted them for all to see, only to be called 'a cheat'!

Donald.



"Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer." Anon.

WOMENS INSTITUTE

At our March meeting we all enjoyed a talk on 'Indian Textiles' by Mrs. Matthews, a very brave lady who travelled throughout India on her own and told some very entertaining tales of her journeys.

Her grandfather owned three cotton mills and exported fabric to India and now she is bringing interesting materials back from there. The examples she showed were very varied and beautiful; a delighted Penny tried on a sari. It was clearly her night as she also won the raffle.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 14 April, Village Hall, 7:15pm** when the speaker will be Mrs. J Whitehead, her subject, 'Lost Children of Ulverston'. On **Thursday 15 April** there will be a W I Group Meeting at **Hay Bridge, 7:15pm** when there will be a return visit of John Murphy.

Spring Walk & Cream Tea: Saturday, 10 April, start time, 1:00pm. Bouth Village Hall. £4 per head, children under school age free - dogs on leads and children under control. Remember it is lambing time. Everyone is welcome and walks are suitable for all ages.

The original by Penny.



COLTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Colton and Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Councils held a joint Public Meeting on 11th March about the future of Bouthrey Bridge (over the river Crake), badly damaged in the November floods. The bridge is a Grade II listed double-arch structure which was once an old packhorse bridge. Both Councils had been consulted by Capita-Symonds, for Cumbria Highways, for their opinion on 3 options: i) repair, ii) replacement with like or iii) replacement with a rectangular beam-deck. They had also attended a site meeting with engineers, and representatives from the Environment Agency, English Heritage and the National Park. The public meeting was well attended, and those present voted overwhelmingly for repair of the bridge, rather than re-building. We will report the final decision in due course. Works are scheduled for this summer.

Your Council has responded to a government consultation on sites for new nuclear power stations, objecting to the proposed siting of three power stations in such close proximity on the Cumbrian coast. Objections were expressed about the Kirksanton proposal in particular, because of i) its

proximity to internationally designated wildlife sites and ii) potential road development schemes affecting our area required to support the consequent heavy traffic.

Deliberations over the phone kiosks at Nibthwaite and Oxen Park have been resolved subject to confirmation of BT's recent change of heart to continue its responsibility for the electricity supply (or disconnection) charges. Both kiosks are to be adopted, with each community thinking up ideas for best use and agreeing to lavish them with loving care and attention!

On **Monday 29 March**, we will be holding our Annual Parish Open meeting and the Parish Council meeting, **Rusland Reading Rooms, 7:30pm**. Our Annual Parish Council meeting is on **Monday 10 May, Bouth Village Hall, 7:30pm**.

Mandy Lane (Clerk) - 01229 861408 - coltonpa@btinternet.com - www.coltonparishcouncil.org.uk



LEVEN VALLEY SCHOOL

Pupils at Leven Valley School have been involved in a number of enrichment activities relating to the curriculum. Years 5 and 6 took part in National Science and Engineering Week along with other schools in the local consortium. The children visited the Big Bang Fair in Manchester where they investigated a range of experiences from gadgets to goo, farming to fashion and space to surgery.

They were amazed by experiments, explosions, simulations and shows; they were also able to ask questions of scientists and engineers and as part of the same week they visited Cartmel High School to be equally amazed by rockets.

All of the children in Key Stage Two took part in a Tudor Workshop. They made wattle and daub panels, they learned the art of bodging (making pegs to put in traditional oak frames) and produced a cruck framed peasant's house and a merchant's house a third of its proper size. Key Stage One pupils and all parents were invited in to see the final products. Class One have been busy conducting a traffic survey in the village. They have also taken part in a mock wedding with the bride, groom and vicar being played by members of the class. Four pupils from each year group

have represented the school in a gymnastics class and a number of pupils are participating in a dance performance at Ulverston Victoria High School.

The inside outside learning area continues to develop. There are now sand and water areas, the beginning of planting areas and an area for imaginative play. The learning environment of the whole school will be greatly enhanced.

Questionnaires were sent out to all parents and pupils in preparation for a long term review of the School Improvement Plan. We would like to thank all parents and pupils who participated in this, especially for their overwhelmingly positive responses. The results have been analysed and will provide the basis for further improvements in the school. Thank you once again.

Sue Anderson vice-chairman, Governors.



OXEN PARK CINEMA CLUB

Our last film of the season, ‘*Synecdoche*’ (pronounced Sih-NECK-doh-kee) will be shown on **Tuesday 6 April, Rusland Reading Rooms, 7:30pm.**

Once again we are running an after school film making club at Leven Valley and this year the theme is ‘Leven valley Mysteries’ and the group have lots of imaginative and mysterious ideas.

This year the theme for the Rusland show classes is “If I ruled (the name of where you live) I would.....? The mind boggles at such an opportunity. Alternatively entrants in each category may enter an ‘open option’ on a subject of their own choosing. If you have a vision of how our parish should be in 2020 then why not make a film of it.

Carol.



NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

At the last meeting a legal Advisor and magistrate explained the workings of a Magistrates Court, what they do and what they cannot do. It was a helpful and interesting presentation. Other matters discussed were, illegal parking in Ulverston, South Ulverston flooding, the Ulverston Air Training Corps, Home safety visits and ‘The Hoad’.

Finally, the Bouth Village Green committee got a grant for drainage work.

Services and Rota for April

4th	Easter Day			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am Communion		
Holy Trinity	Colton	10:30am Communion		
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am Communion		
Readings:	First Reading	Acts	10:34-43	
	Second Reading	1 Corinthians	15:19-26	
	Gospel	John	20: 1-18	
Readers:	Colton	E Fleming	C Holden	S King
	Lowick	A Naylor	& W Keegan	
	Penny Bridge	J Lancaster	E Wemyss	R Long
Sidespersons:	Colton	S King	& P Priestley	
	Lowick	S Wood		
	Penny Bridge	C Line	& E Line	
11th	Second Sunday of Easter			
St Mary	Penny Bridge	10:30am Communion		
Readings:	First Reading	Acts	5:27-32	
	Second Reading	Revelation	1: 4-8	
	Gospel	John	20:19-31	
Readers:		J Gregg	D Wroe	E Wemyss
Sidespersons:		A Greatorex	& W Greatorex	
	No service at Colton or Lowick			
18th	Third Sunday of Easter			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am Communion		
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am Communion		
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am Communion		
Readings:	First Reading	Acts	9: 1-6	
	Second Reading	Revelation	5:11-14	
	Gospel	John	21: 1-19	
Readers:	Colton	R Smith	M Sanders	J Pickles
	Lowick	G Mitchell	& B Mitchell	
	Penny Bridge	R Atkinson	D Lancaster	C Styles
Sidespersons:	Colton	S Dean	& C Holden	
	Lowick	A Wood		
	Penny Bridge	J Atkinson	& R Atkinson	
25th	Fourth Sunday of Easter			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am Methodist Service		
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am Communion		
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am Communion		
Readings:	First Reading	Acts	9:36-43	
	Second Reading	Revelation	7: 9-17	
	Gospel	John	10:22-30	
Readers:	Colton	J Redhead	I Pirnie	R Tarr
	Lowick	J Davis	& D Gregg	
	Penny Bridge	J Lancaster	R Long	D Lancaster
Sidespersons:	Colton	M Sanders	& S Dean	
	Lowick	G Mitchell		
	Penny Bridge	C Line	& E Line	

Help!

For the umpteenth time, Service Times are **1st. & 2nd. Sunday – 10:30am. 3rd. & 4th. Sunday – 9:30am.**

DIARY DATES

- 1 April **Maundy Thursday, Holy Communion, Colton, 7:30pm.**
- 2 April **Good Friday Service, outside Greenodd Village Hall, 10:30am.**
- 3 April Decorating the Church – 10:30 am. onwards.
- 4 April **Easter Sunday, Holy Communion, 10:30am.**
- 6 April Cinema Club, Rusland Reading Rooms, 7:30pm.
- 10 April W I Spring Walk, Bouth Village Hall, 1:00pm.
- 11 April **Benefice Holy Communion, Penny Bridge 10:30am.**
- 13 April Mothers Union, Holy Communion, Colton, 2:00pm.
- 14 April Bouth W I, Village Hall, 7:15pm.
- 15 April W I Group Meeting, Hay Bridge, 7:15pm.
- 17 April **+ St George, Patron Saint of England +**
- 18 April **Holy Communion, 9:30am.**
- 25April **Mark the Evangelist.**
Holy Communion, 9:30am.



Good Advice

The Vatican has issued some advice to Parish Priests, that their homilies should not exceed eight minutes, as that is the length of the attention spell of an average congregation.



Times Gone Past

*“Wherever God erects a house of prayer,
The Devil always builds a chapel there;
And ’twill be found, upon examination,
The latter has the largest congregation.”*

Daniel Defoe

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