



PARISH NEWS

Holy Trinity Church

COLTON

PASTORAL LETTER

Woodside Cottage
Colton
ULVERSTON
LA12 8HE

February 2010

Dear friends

Well – it's been a bit bleak on the weather front lately hasn't it? As I write this the snow is still lying around, the pavements are still a bit lethal and improvements seem a long way off.

In the depths of my childhood winters (some of you will remember 1947!) my Mum used to encourage us by quoting the final line of Shelley's Ode to the West Wind... "If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" Of course Spring always came, even if it was a bit late sometimes, but we appreciated my Mum's encouragement.

Lent is just around the corner, this year Ash Wednesday falls on February 17th, and this is a time when we should be especially encouraging to one another in our Faith. Traditionally this Benefice has always offered a Lent course of one kind or another but sadly attendance has been rather patchy in recent years with a strong preponderance of clergy and PCC members, regardless of whether the courses were in the day time or the evening. Perhaps it is time to try something new?

A small number of people in Colton have been trying out the Bible Society's Lyfe courses together and I would like to challenge you to try them too?

This is what you would need to run a Lyfe group

- A small group of people
- A warm venue – a cafe is best but a private home will do
- Material from the Lyfe website (which I will get for you)

What you don't need

- Clergy!
- A Bible – everything is provided.
- Special knowledge

Study is a very important part of Faith, it builds Faith up and strengthens it, it gives us confidence to talk about our Faith and it gives us listening ears for what God is trying to say to us about how we should be as a witnessing church in this Benefice.

I will be so disappointed if some of you don't take up this challenge for Lent – it is so easy to become dependent on Sunday worship and the clergy sermons for shoring us up, when what we really need is to become more self-reliant and able to resource ourselves in times of pressure and trouble.

If you want to be part of a group and need some help to get one together please get in touch, as there will be others like you needing you to be in a group with them.

With love and prayers for you all

Your sister in Christ

Joanna



COTTON CHRONICLES

Whilst writing this, the chilling reality of January is in full flow, Christmas is all but a distant memory and the bleak mid winter refuses to concede. It must be the first time in living memory that both our Carol Service and Christmas Day Communion service were aborted, but all was not lost as our Epiphany service went ahead.

Congratulations and thanks to all those brave souls who overcame the conditions to attend this exceptionally chilly service where the concluding hymn 'In the bleak midwinter' was sung with gusto and not a little feeling. A special thanks to organist Sue Lydon, who a few weeks before, foolishly followed in the footsteps of our dear vicar by breaking her ankle but managed to arrive at church bravely clutching her crutch and struggled manfully and successfully with a frigid and reluctant organ.

Also many thanks for those, especially John Tarr, who cleared the path to church and made the road passable. John even tried to get the church warm but was defeated by the ancient boiler which is long past its sell by date. May be we will get some action before next winter. May be?

Those who took part in the Posada found it a wonderful and stimulating experience during the nine days leading up the Christmas, but what is a Posada? The name derives from the Spanish Las Posadas (the inns) and is a nine day celebration, with origins in Spain, beginning on 16 December and ending on the 24th. but now, mainly a tradition for many Catholic Mexicans. It symbolizes the trials that Mary & Joseph endured whilst finding a place to stay where Jesus could be born.

A nativity scene is taken to families for a night, as hosts of the Posada, and act as innkeepers. The night Mary and Jesus 'stay' provides a great opportunity to invite guests and share together the true meaning of Christmas.

Although this Christmas it was successful there was a shortage of hosts so please make a note in your diary to be a host this coming December. You will be reminded. Finally a thank you, to Joanna for making it happen.

It has been reported that nationwide there is extensive bullying of clergy by Bishops, Archdeacons and especially by parishioners and one cannot but wonder whether this has crept into our benefice. Not only is that suggestion doubtful it is near impossible for what the authors of the report seem to have forgotten is that in most cases clergy are married and they have a secret or perhaps not so secret weapon – their spouses!

It may be that Christmas is a fading memory but it is a bit of a shock to realise that Valentine's Day will soon be upon us and this year it is on a Sunday which should be a good excuse for enjoyment although it must be said that sometimes the fruits of the day are sadness as true love, more than occasionally, does not run true. Enjoyment, because, three days later, as Joanna tells us, it is Ash Wednesday the 17. February; the beginning of the self discipline of Lent, a time to spring clean our lives.

A personal note: I have attended several Carol Services over the Christmas period, from the high to the low and have heard some magnificent music and singing, but I try as I will I cannot fathom why organists do not seem to understand the word *pianissimo*. On another and perhaps more

controversial note I have, as a good Anglican, sat at the back of the church and marvelled at the fact so few ladies seem to have their natural hair colour. Streaky blondes had it by a country mile. *Donald.*

Signpost: All systems are go and the money has been sent to sponsor two very poor Indian children. This is the story of one of them.

Arun, is six years old, the son of Paramasivam and Ramana, they live in a small village in Southern India, they are a Dalit family (sometimes referred to as “untouchables”) and are Hindus.

He is a good student and is known for his drawing talents at school, where he also performs well in sporting activities, especially running. He does well in reading, writing, English and his native tongue Tamil, he also able to speak a little English.

His parents have taught him good morals and manners, but life is not easy for the family. Father Paramasivam is the only breadwinner but a day’s hard work results in a wage of £160 per year, which is insufficient to meet all their basic needs. Mother Ramana, works in the home, which is a small tiled house without toilet facilities. The standards of hygiene within the village mean that all the families are subject to many health hazards. The family income is just enough for food alone; other basic needs is not met.

As Paramasivam is unable to get regular employment his earnings are not constant which means that his meagre income is insufficient to educate Arun who has nowhere to sit quietly and study in the evenings. With our support Arun and his family could overcome this critical situation which would enable him to continue his studies to ensure a decent and dignified life.

Next month Judy will tell you more about the little girl we are also sponsoring. *Christine.*



Money – A nasty subject but we can’t do without it and neither can the church. It seems that some of you have not yet paid your £5 for the Magazine. The only cost to the parish is the printing and it does not come cheap. If you have not yet paid please do ASAP.

£££

COFFEE

Mrs. Sue Dean + Helpers

FLOWER ROTA

7 February	Mrs. May Lambert
14 February	Mrs. May Lambert
21 February	Mrs. Wendy Smith
28 February	Mrs. Wendy Smith



MOTHERS UNION

On the Sunday when the Church was celebrating the Baptism of Christ, fittingly, Christine Holden was commissioned as Branch Leader and Judy Redhead as Branch Secretary by our Vicar, the Rev'd. Canon Gary Wemyss. You will recall that we expressed our thanks to Barbara and Wendy in the November issue.

At our last meeting we enjoyed a topical and amusing address on 'The Future of Rural Parishes' given by the Rev'd. Peter Calvert, from Haverthwaite. He talked positively and with joy about attendances, new ideas, how to attract the younger generation, the problem of combined (several parishes) services and importantly the introduction new forms of services that would be attractive to all.

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9 February, 2:00pm. Haverthwaite Church Hall** when the speakers will be Stella and Pete McKeever, their subject – The Work of 'Compassion.'

Judy.



PARISH NEWS

Our organists are both proud grandparents; congratulations to Duncan and Emma Lydon on the birth of Bethany Jane on 22 December, first grandchild for Sue Lydon and also to Guy and Sally Redhead on the birth of Kitty Elizabeth on 27 November the 6th grandchild for Judy and Bryan.

The true joy of Christmas was seen in abundance this year as the good burghers of this parish gave not only with joy but with enjoyment.

The Carols Round the Green on the Eve of Christmas in Bouth was hampered by the weather but all sang lustily and more importantly, dug

deep in their pockets, for St. Mary's Hospice raising a stunning and record £240.92. Has anyone got the odd 8p? Well done John Osborne & helpers.

Not to be outdone, the doughty Judy Redhead had a mini affair round her tree in Ulverston and in very frozen circumstances raised a magnificent £80 for the NSPCC. Another well done!

Closer to home the Fun Christmas Quiz at Bouth Village Hall raised £230 for the development fund. Thanks to those 'competed', gave donations & raffle prizes and to Colin Barr, a native from nearby Oxen Park, for organising the quiz and acting as a very benevolent Quiz Master. The 'competition' was won (?) by a team comprising the Osborne family, the Hamer family and Cathy Styles, which was hardly surprising as they ranged from the old to the nearly young and had twice as many on their table as any other. Sour grapes? Certainly not, well nearly not!

Donald.



WOMENS INSTITUTE

Our Christmas Party was its usual hilarious, organised and immensely enjoyable occasion, appreciated particularly by the guests but also the hostesses. So thanks to all who attended, those who decorated the Hall (the chaps were allowed), the 'Bouth Belles', the entertainment producers, Debbie & Judy, our keyboard player, Neville, the wine pourers, the G. O. S who brewed the wine and the caterers who have been invited back for this year. There were no reported casualties.

We had to cancel our January meeting because of the weather and the state of the road leading to the Village Hall. Our Next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 10 February, 7:15pm repeat 7:15pm**. The speaker will be Mr. J Murphy, his subject 'Walks from Barrow to Walney'. The competition, 'A Local Guide Book.'

Original by Penny but since, backed about by the Editor.



COLTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



We have all been tearing our hair out! For the second winter running, Colton Parish has been devoid of salt/grit. This is despite our complaints last winter, promises from Highways for deliveries this winter, and our sending in a detailed map of

bins and salt-heap requirements. Needless to say, we are already working with Highways and our County Councillor (Rod Wilson) to sort out what went wrong, again! and to make sure we get properly supplied next winter.

On the positive side, i) the road from Penny Bridge to Hawkshead WAS routinely gritted as promised, which helped those living on this route a great deal, and ii) eventually Highways offered a large delivery of salt/grit to a single location in the Parish; we received it in Oxen Park the next day and various heroes (Colin Barr, Dave Higgs, Kevin Pike, and Frank and Zella Slater amongst others) worked hard to distribute it to the worst affected areas.

Two key concerns have emerged from a police survey of residents in the Rusland area: i) deer poaching and ii) illegal behaviour by off-road vehicle users. Arrests for poaching have been made recently using DNA evidence and there is an ongoing investigation into four deer carcasses found at a location in Ulverston. Poaching of the Rusland deer herd is a now a serious concern and there is a great deal of suffering when deer are brought down by dogs. PC Baldwin urges anyone seeing anything suspicious to contact him on his mobile: 07971 140533 or if you can't reach him by mobile, then ring 01229 848535.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 22 February, 7:30 pm, Finsthwaite Village Hall.**

Mandy Lane, Clerk, Tel: 012290861408, colton@btinternet.com, www.coltonparishcouncil.org.uk



LEVEN VALLEY SCHOOL C o E PRIMARY SCHOOL

The new school term began with the challenge of snow and all its attendant difficulties. Access to school seems to have been a theme for academic year 2009/10 and as Finsthwaite Lane was opened up first to pedestrian and then to vehicular traffic after the flood our relief was tempered by the need to dig ourselves out of the snow in order to use it! School itself was only closed for one day. Everyone was appreciative of the efforts made by parents to ensure pupils were able to attend and of the staff to ensure not only they were able to get to school but also that the site was safe for everyone to use.

The snow also stimulated the creative instincts of Class Three who drew wonderful winter landscapes “first hand” sitting in the snow.

In direct contrast work has already begun planning a residential visit for the summer for pupils at the school. Staff and governors have already discussed it, a meeting is being held for parents but a large part of the organisation will be done by the pupils themselves, providing them with opportunities to develop a range of skills, independence and self confidence.

Work continues apace on the Inside outside classroom despite the Christmas break. On my last visit to school there were some very interesting boulders being placed.

Sue Sanderson – Vice Chair of Governors



The Gospel of St John

Why not try a new topic this New Year and come and join a lively but challenging group, studying a biblical topic which holds many messages for today. This brief 6 week course, starting on **4 February** will examine why this gospel is so different from the rest, exploring the “johannine problem” in depth.

It will ask fundamental questions such as who was the author, what was their intention in writing it as well as what was their theology? It will put forward some contentious views such as was the author a mystic concerned not with historical but with transcendental truths?

The themes and imagery in this gospel will also be explored in greater depth. This course is taught by an experienced tutor, Angela McLaughlin and will provoke debate as well as be a good foundation to take further courses run through Cartmel Community Education. For further details and to reserve your place call **Jude on 015395 36323** or email us on **adulted@cartmelpriory.cumbria.sch.uk**

Jude.



Comment on the winter weather.

Somebody asked the question as to why people could not get to work yet the supermarkets were full?



Services and Rotas for February

7th	Second Sunday before Lent			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Communion	
Holy Trinity	Colton	10:30am	Morning Worship	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	Genesis	2:4b-9, & 15-25	
	Second Reading	Revelation	4	
	Gospel	Luke	8:22-25	
Readers:	Lowick	A Naylor	& W Keegan	
	Colton	E Fleming	W Smith	S King
	Penny Bridge	P Ashton	C Sadler	D Lancaster
Sidesmen:	Lowick	S Wood		
	Colton	S King	& C Holden	
	Penny Bridge	D Lancaster	& R Long	
14th	Sunday next before Lent			
St Luke	Lowick	10:30am	Benefice Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	Exodus	34:29-35	
	Second Reading	2 Corinthians	3:12-4:2:	
	Gospel	Luke	9:28-36	
Readers:		E Wemyss	D Wroe	J Gregg
Sidesmen:		A Wood	& S Wood	
	No service at Penny Bridge or Colton			
17th	Ash Wednesday			
St Mary	Penny Bridge	7:30pm		
21st	First Sunday of Lent			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Communion	
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am	Communion	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	Deuteronomy	26: 111	
	Second Reading	Romans	10:8b-13	
	Gospel	Luke	4: 1-13	
Readers:	Lowick	G Mitchell	& B Mitchell	
	Colton	M Sanders	J Pickles	R Smith
	Penny Bridge	C Styles	P Ashton	D Lancaster
Sidesmen:	Lowick	A Wood		
	Colton	C Holden	& M Sanders	
	Penny Bridge	A Greatorex	& W Greatorex	
28th	Second Sunday of Lent			
St Luke	Lowick	9:30am	Methodist Communion Service	
Holy Trinity	Colton	9:30am	Communion	
St Mary	Penny Bridge	11:00am	Communion	
Readings:	First Reading	Genesis	15: 1-12, 17-18	
	Second Reading	Philippians	3:17-4:1	
	Gospel	Luke	13:31-35	
Readers:	Lowick	J Davis	& D Gregg	
	Colton	W Smith	D Wroe	I Pirnie
	Penny Bridge	J Lancaster	R Atkinson	G Wemyss
Sidesmen:	Lowick	G Mitchell		
	Colton	S Dean	& P Priestley	
	Penny Bridge	B Law	& J Law	

DIARY DATES

***A reminder that the Service on the first Sunday of every month starts at 10.30am as does the second Sunday whilst the third and fourth are at 9.30am.**

- 2 February **Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Candelmas**
- 4 February Course on the Gospel of St. John – Cartmel Priory School.
- 7 February Cinema Club – Rusland Reading Rooms – 7:30pm.
- 9 February Mothers Union – Haverthwaite Church Hall – 2:00pm.
- 10 February Bouth W I. - Village Hall – **7:15pm.**
- 11 February Cinemas Club – Leven Valley School – 6:30pm.
- 14 February St. Valentine – Benefice Communion – Lowick – 10:30am.
- 16 February Cinema Club – Coronation Hall – All day – film -7:30pm.
- 17 February **Ash Wednesday – First Day of Lent.**
- 20 February Benefice P C C
- 22 February Colton Parish Council Meeting – Finsthwaite Village Hall – 7:30pm.



OXEN PARK CINEMA CLUB

For the first time in our history we had to cancel a showing on 2 January and you do not need to guess why but we are hoping for a normal February.

On **Tuesday 2 February** we will be showing *Kitchen Stories* at **Rusland Reading Rooms, 7:30pm.**

On **Thursday 11 February** we will be showing the film *Millions* as part of an educational film week. **Penny Bridge School 1:30pm** and **Leven Valley School, 6:30pm.**

On **Saturday 16 February** we are holding our annual ‘Coro’ Book & Film Event when Alan Sennet a film, politics and history lecturer we speak about book and film links. We shall be showing *The Manchurian Candidate* at the **Coronation Hall, 7:30pm.**



“Whatever you do, do cautiously, and look to the end.” Anon.

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