

Harvest Celebrations 2020

St Michael & All Angels

Harvest Festival Eucharist

11am on Sunday 4th October

in Beetham Church

Virtual

CHURCH HARVEST SUPPER



Make yourself a hotpot and apple pie, pour a glass, and settle down to watch this year's Harvest Supper Entertainment in the comfort of your own home. All the usual anticipation, education, music, footlights, and fun, but brought to you via YouTube. See next month's Gateway for details!

Harvest Donations to Manna House, Kendal

Beetham Church will again be supporting Manna House Kendal with Harvest gifts. Please note that this year they will only be accepting dry foodstuffs and foodwrap (for distributing their meals) ~ not bedding, clothing or toiletries. Tins, pasta, coffee & tea, clingfilm and foil would all be gratefully received in the church porch during Harvest Week (it will be moved daily), or at the Harvest Eucharist Service on 4th October

Manna House works for the public in South Lakeland, providing advice, advocacy and a drop-in support centre for those homeless, vulnerably housed, lonely or needing help



Bumper Fruit and Vegetable crops this year?

If you have any excess fresh fruit or vegetables that you would be willing to give to the church, please can you place them in the church porch at any time for others to enjoy

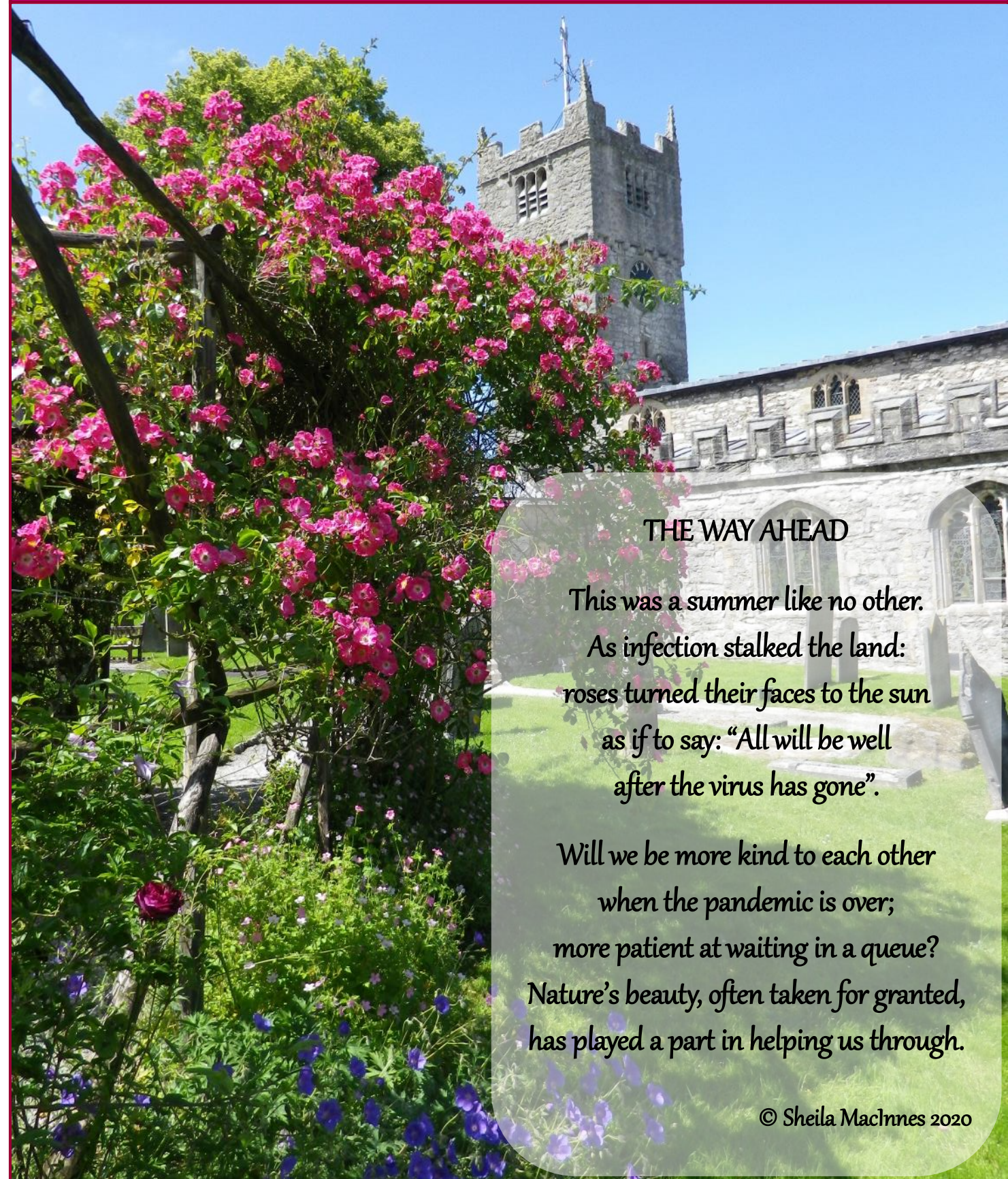
Budding Jam and Chutney maker?

This is your opportunity to make your own delicious preserves from fresh local produce. We would be grateful for a donation towards church funds, and happy cooking!



THE GATEWAY

PARISH MAGAZINE OF
ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM
SEPTEMBER 2020



THE WAY AHEAD

This was a summer like no other.
As infection stalked the land:
roses turned their faces to the sun
as if to say: "All will be well
after the virus has gone".

Will we be more kind to each other
when the pandemic is over;
more patient at waiting in a queue?
Nature's beauty, often taken for granted,
has played a part in helping us through.

© Sheila MacInnes 2020

www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

Letter from The Revd Andrew Norman



Dear Friends

Over the last few weeks it has been a joy to have had the opportunity to celebrate with two couples who, notwithstanding rather changed and straightened circumstances, decided to honour and keep their intention to get married this year. These have been my first weddings as Priest-in-Charge and given our collective experiences over recent months that have felt even more significant occasions; giving thanks for the gift of love, which as human beings, we are enabled to give and receive through the grace of the God of love who first loved us. In both cases, of course, original plans have had to be changed, arrangements altered and celebrations slightly curtailed, yet despite the need to use hand sanitiser, maintain physical distancing and wear face-coverings, there has been no limit to the joyfulness which comes when we are reminded of what it means to know the Lord's presence in midst of our everyday lives.

One of the immediate results of the present pandemic was a huge worldwide increase in online searches for prayer and details about how faith might help in times of crisis; evidence that in a so-called secular age, there remains an interest and appeal to looking beyond ourselves for meaning, comfort and reassurance, particularly at moments of acute anxiety. Such an attitude has been reflected too in conversations and encounters I've enjoyed over recent weeks, where there has been a realisation that times of prayerfulness and reflection have become increasingly important as together we've looked to God for help, support, guidance and grace amid all that we've had to face. There has been a restlessness to our shared experience of life, an unease and sense of disquiet which is eased and reframed when held within an understanding that with God, we do not live life randomly or in isolation, but rather in the sure and certain hope of what he has done for us in Christ, from whose love we can never be parted.

In a letter to the then Archbishop of Canterbury Cosmo Lang in 1931, the spiritual writer Evelyn Underhill, wrote 'God is the interesting thing about religion, and people are hungry for God.' A reminder that when reaching out in prayer, whether in anticipation or frustration, we are not looking necessarily for rules, regulations, dogma or direction, good though they are for the building up of our common life, but rather for a living experience of the God who invites us into relationship. The God whose power and presence is revealed when we are open to him being at work within us and through us. Such an honest integrity was part and parcel of Jesus' ministry, as through word and deed, he revealed the good news of God in ways that made sense for those around him. Jesus intentionally impacted the lives of those around him by inspiring faith, revealing the reality of God and inviting those whose lives he touched to respond by following in his footsteps. The same must be true for each of us today – making time not only to be replenished in our own relationship with the Lord, but to have courage to share that faith - boldly, confidently, joyfully - with others in a way that makes real and tangible the good news we believe.

It is for this reason that at the heart of the Church's mission and ministry, is an explicit and unashamed proclamation that God takes a great deal of interest in our lives and well-being. Although we can sometimes be tempted to think of God as distant, remote and far off from us; the good news of Christianity is the assurance that instead, despite our best efforts there is nothing we can do to separate ourselves from the God who delights in, and cares for, each and every one of us. Jesus came to bring life in abundance so the Gospel of St John (10.10) tells us, and thus God's glory is seen most clearly when we live with openness and receptiveness in allowing that life to shape our own.

With every good wish and prayer for God's blessing,

As ever,

Post Script

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can be of any help or support, if you would appreciate a socially distanced visit, or indeed if there is anything that I can remember in my prayers on your behalf. If you know of any who are sick, struggling or isolated at this time, again, please do let me know. May the Lord continue to encourage and bless us as we seek to show his love and concern through our care for each other. Keep on praying for each other, as I pray for you.



Congratulations to Katie & Daniel Walsh

We offer our wedding congratulations to Katie and Daniel who were married in St Michael & All Angels on Saturday 1st August. We were delighted that they chose to go ahead with their wedding despite the coronavirus restrictions, and making it the only wedding to be conducted at Beetham this year

It was also the first wedding ceremony for the Revd Andrew Norman as priest-in-charge. With safety measures in place there could be no physical contact such as touching of the rings, but Andrew was still able to make it a very special service for the happy couple

We wish faith, hope and love to Katie and Dan throughout their future life together

CONTACTS FOR THE PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

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Gateway advertising	John Lomax	015395 62648	j.d.lomax@btinternet.com

For Baptisms, Confirmation, Weddings, Funerals, Home Visits & Holy Communion at Home, Prayer & Anointing for Healing, Sacrament of Reconciliation or if you have any questions about church life or the Christian faith, please do contact the Vicar

A Tale of Love and Romance (and a little sadness)

In May 2018, a young lady and her boyfriend were visiting Beetham and they came into church to find the pew in which the young lady's grandmother always used to sit. The grandmother in question was Vera Wiseman (née Fell). Vera's father, William Fell, was head gardener at Dallam Tower and they lived in South Lodge on the Dallam estate. Vera attended Beetham School and was a Girl Guide here. She married Harry Wiseman at St Michael & All Angels in April 1950. Vera loved St Michael & All Angels and was a regular worshipper; her favourite pew was in the south aisle beneath the window that shows the Madonna and Child along with Elizabeth and John the Baptist and Mary Magdalen.

Sadly, whilst in church talking to Phil Marks who happened to be there playing his trumpet, the girl received a telephone call to tell her that her grandmother, Vera, had died. The young lady was naturally very upset. Phil, as is his wont, did his best to comfort the girl who was grateful for the chance to sit quietly in church while she absorbed the sad news she had received.

And that was that. Except that it wasn't!

Earlier this year I received a phone call from the young man who had been present that day, one Martin Hogarth. He recounted the above events (which Phil had, in fact, told me about) and asked if I could help him. He wanted to bring his girlfriend back to Beetham in order to ask her to marry him and he wanted to propose in church with her sitting in her grandmother's favourite pew!

Now, we were at this point in lockdown and the church was not open. However, the date he had in mind was actually Saturday 1st August – and that was the date when we were due to hold the only wedding this year which has not been postponed.

To cut a long story short, I was able to arrange for the couple to come to the church after the wedding party had left and before we had cleaned, locked up and gone home. So, Martin brought his unsuspecting girlfriend, Brittany Wiseman, into church that Saturday afternoon and there, in the aisle adjacent to the 'family' pew, he got down on one knee and asked her to marry him. Reader, she said 'Yes'!



Brian Smalley, Churchwarden

Brittany and Martin later that day (Brittany loves horses and this was part of Martin's treat for her)

"YOU COULDN'T NOT LIKE SOMEONE WHO LIKED THE GUITAR"

Stephen King, The Stand

Or any instrument for that matter, even the humble paper and comb has its place. All and every kind of way of music making is very welcome at BEETHAM COMMUNITY BAND!

How are you all coping during these strange times? I think I would be lost without music and without the friends I have made who are connected with music of all types. I have found that anyone with a love of music has been very adaptable during the changing conditions due to Covid-19. True we have not been able to meet up in person, but we have been creative, none the less. I predict that the using of Zoom will make us all better listeners, no bad thing, especially if this moves into our lives generally

So, I cannot yet give a date for getting together, but I am here to answer any questions you may have about Beetham Community Band. I am sure you must have some, so just in case here is my number, 015395 63254. It could be a life changing chat!

Stay safe and hopeful, Tess



**"THERE IS MUSIC IN THE AIR, MUSIC ALL AROUND US,
THE WORLD IS FULL OF IT,
AND YOU SIMPLY TAKE AS MUCH AS YOU REQUIRE"**

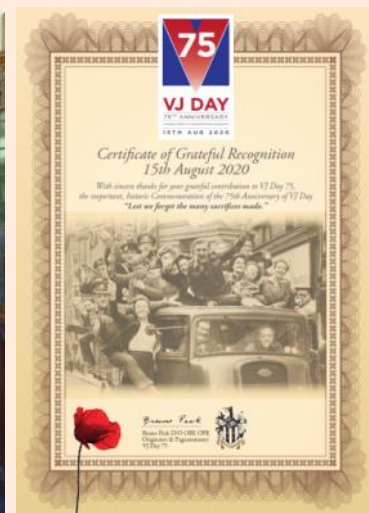
Edward Elgar

VJ Day 75th Anniversary Commemoration

Members of Beetham Church joined with the international commemoration of the 75th anniversary of VJ Day on Saturday 15th August, to remember the day that World War II was brought to a final end when Japan surrendered

The short service was held in the churchyard to enable everyone to be socially distanced. Commencing with prayers by the Revd Andrew Norman, the Last Post was played by Phil Marks, followed by the nationwide two minutes silence, and Reveille. The Town Crier reading was made by Jenny Marks, and then the tenor bell was tolled 75 times by Brian Smalley. The service was ended with a final blessing by the Revd Andrew

We will remember them



Patronal Festival Celebration

Our next series of YouTube videos will begin with a recorded service celebration of our Patronal Festival in worship, music and photographs for

**The Feast Day of
St Michael & Angels
Tuesday 29th September**

Details of the link will be circulated nearer the time, or you will be able to search on YouTube for 'Beetham Church Patronal'



Harvest Festival Songs & Praise

The Patronal Festival video will be followed with another Songs & Praise YouTube video in celebration of our Harvest Festival

**Beetham Church
Harvest Festival
Sunday 4th October**

Details of the YouTube link will be available in the October edition of The Gateway, or you will be able to search on YouTube for 'Beetham Church Harvest'

Beetham Church Online

As well as the YouTube videos, we are continuing to provide a weekly online service via our website to those people who are still unable to attend the public worship in church, along with links to other livestream services

We are very grateful to The Revd Andrew Norman and our music director Geoff Field for providing recordings each week. Each service includes the Gospel reading, sermon, prayers and blessing by Andrew, with reflective prelude, interludes and organ voluntary by Geoff, hymns recorded by the choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields London, and a Bible reading by a member of the congregation. The service is accompanied by Sunday Reflections from Andrew and other material available to download from the website. If you would like to record the Bible reading for one of these audio services please get in touch with Andrew

Please visit www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk each week for the latest service

School Corner



As I write this edition of School Corner we are preparing for the full reopening of our school, with all children returning full time to continue with their education.

Last term the staff and governors worked tirelessly to ensure that every child was able to return to school on a part time basis, which was a fantastic achievement. The children were thrilled to be back and really enjoyed seeing their friends and learning with their teachers after a long time of being at home.

We had ten children leaving Beetham CE School this year, one of our biggest year groups! We were very grateful to Father Andrew and the Church Wardens for enabling us to hold our Leavers' Service in the church for parents of Year 6. This enabled us to give them their usual special send off and celebration of their time at our school.

Some of you may have notice a large canopy amongst the trees on our school field. This was the super leaving gift from our Year 6 children, along with the creation of a covered Forest School Area which we are all looking forward to using on our return.

We were very lucky to organise exclusive use of the Lakeland Maze Farm Park to celebrate our last day of term. This is a tradition at our school that we didn't imagine would be possible this year. However, Jane & Graeme Wadsworth had everything in place and were able to welcome us as usual. As you can see from the photographs we all had a very happy and special day together before beginning our Summer Holiday.

We are now looking forward to being back at school for the Autumn Term and beginning our new school year at Beetham.

Best Wishes
Wendy Nicholas



Colourful Beetham!

Beetham WI Committee have been working behind the scenes using technology to have meetings and keep in touch. They continue to keep members updated with what is going on locally as well as through the Cumbria-Westmorland WI Federation.

Following the disappointment of not being able to exhibit creations at the cancelled Westmorland County Show, members have been able to submit some exhibits into the 'WI Alternative Show'. The judging takes place in August and members will be able to see the exhibits on film in September.



We hope locals and visitors have enjoyed seeing the colourful **WI planters** that are at the two entrances to Beetham off the A6. One of our local members, Doreen Clarke, has kindly added some new flowers and cared for them during the hot period of 'Lock-down' though, as she says, 'the rain has looked after the watering since'!



We hope for brighter, sunny times ahead when one day we can all meet up again!



Beltringing Blues
by Brian Smalley

With apologies to Alfred Edward Housman (amongst other inspirations)

The bells of lower Beetham
Ring clear o'er hill and dale
In joyful clanging chorus,
They tell a merry tale.

At least they did in times gone by,
Before Corona came.
But silent now they hang aloft
All cold and mute and lame

All over the land the bells they stand
Their steadfast watch a'keeping
While ringers young and (mostly) old,
Stay home alone and weeping.

Their joints grow stiff,
The calls they made, a distant memory fading,
As in their dreams past glories stream
Of peals in methods baffling.

For now with towers cold and damp,
In lockdown drear and bland,
No ringing cheer can issue forth
In this benighted land.

As clappers hang unmoved and sad
And ropes hang limply swaying
An old bellringer, grieving lad,
Nods silently and praying.

When Covid came and was made king
Decrees came forth from London;
No bell could swing or ring-a-ding,
To stop the virus spreading.

'Two sallies apart' the cry came forth,
Keep safe and do not ask;
One sally's length may be enough
If you but wear a mask.

But in a tower cramped and confined
It is a task not feasible.
To keep a sally's length away
From others is quite risible

Keep England safe and stay at home
Avoid the stress and hassle.
Obey the rules, it is good form;
Don't go to Barnard Castle!

The day will surely come again
When ringers short and tall
Will once again stand by their rope
Awaiting their captain's call.

"Look to, she's going, do not quail
At this familiar task.
Once more the people know we're here
In glory we can bask."

"We've kept the faith,
We will not fail to tell the world at last,
King Covid rules no longer here,
The lockdown, it is past."

But no, alas, 'tis but a dream
The nightmare runs still deep .
The old bellringer wakes at last
From his regretful sleep.

The tower empty must remain
For many a month to come.
So ringing bells is still a task
That can not yet be done.

And handbell ringers, too, alas
Must curb their inner pains;
And muse o'er glories past and gone
While isolation reigns.

And dream of times in days of yore
When Ode to Joy rang forth;
And Joseph, Daisy, and the Kinks
Recalled their days of worth.

So ringers all, of every kind,
Remember times gone by.
When fun and fellowship was the norm
And ringing was a joy.

Those ringing days will come once more,
I see them, shining plain,
With bobs and singles, hunts and leads:
We **will** go there again!



BEETHAM NURSERIES

Garden Cafe

The Garden Café has now reopened. No bookings are required but please wait to be seated and keep your face covering on until you are sat down. It will be open 10am-4pm every day

Apple Weekend

The Apple Weekend is back on 10th & 11th October, with over 40 different varieties of apple trees available, expert advice, a family treasure hunt and an art competition
For details go to:-
www.beethamnurseries.co.uk

Beetham Parish Council

The next meeting will be on
Monday 7th September
at 7pm
in Storth Village Church or via Zoom tbc
Please contact the Parish Clerk to confirm

Minutes of previous meetings and details of the current East and West Ward Councillors can be found on the website at www.beethampc.co.uk



FRIDAY
ORGAN RECITALS

Kendal Parish Church
has restarted their Friday
organ concerts, with a
series of "summer
specials" at 10.30am:

Sep 4 Andy Plowman

Sep 11 Jonathan Bielby

Please use face masks inside the building.
Track-and-trace in operation - if possible please
bring written name and contact details. All
concerts subject to latest guidelines & confirmation

Admission free. Retiring collection,
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From **18th September** we will be moving to our
usual fortnightly concert, which will start
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62389



Heron Corn Mill is preparing to welcome a limited number of groups and workshops during September, following a programme of repair and maintenance over the summer. This will include a wet felting workshop on 21st September and the return of the Bread of Heron groups. Milling should resume within the next few months

In the meantime we are continuing our newsletters with recipes from our Bread of Heron team, crafting projects from Kerry and Stella, and updates on the Flax to Linen project

To subscribe to the newsletter go to
www.heronmill.org/projects/make-yourself-at-home

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Sadly, many of our advertisers had to close down their businesses until further notice and the services listed below will still not all be available. However, the adverts are here to remind you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time and to remember to support them once trading returns. Some businesses have now re-opened, and do please support them where you can.

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The Tea Room is now open from 10-2 Thurs-Sun. Shop deliveries can be arranged for vulnerable people, and the shop is now open Thursday to Sunday from 10am - 2pm
Please call Huw & Lorraine on 015395 62389

Beetham Church Heritage Trust
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During this time of increased online shopping please help to support us by using these two websites...
...it will cost you nothing and we have raised £370 so far!

October deadline for The Gateway
The deadline for contributions for the October edition is noon on **Monday 21st September**
Please send contributions to the editor, Jenny Marks
Email: beethamnews@aol.com; Tel: 015395 62559
View this and past editions of the The Gateway online at **beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk**