

## Brain of Beetham Quiz

This month our Quizmaster Clive Holden asks us all about 'Reptiles and Rodents'

1. Was born as Mortimer ?
2. Looks forward to a future meeting ?
3. Is deceitfully lachrymose ?
4. Could have a stifling plumage ?
5. Knows that two and two make four ?
6. Is a classmate with responsibility ?
7. Was a tuba's distant ancestor ?
8. Is an item of footwear ?
9. Was a bodysnatcher ?
10. Provides you with a pointer ?
11. Symbolised the 7th Armoured Division ?
12. Is suspected of suicidal tendencies ?
13. Slept at a tea party ?
14. Might toss the caber ?
15. Had a sister called Bianca ?



### Answers to the December edition 'Church and Clergy' quiz:-

- 1) One is a **Cardinal** number, second and third are ordinal.
- 2) The jazz pianist and composer was Thelonious **Monk**.
- 3) The rascally part of the church is the **Nave** (knave).
- 4) On the (Coronation) Street for 50 years was Emily **Bishop**.
- 5) Charles Primrose was Oliver Goldsmith's **Vicar** of Wakefield.
- 6) Always before the rest is a **Prior**.
- 7) Alexander **Pope** wrote English versions of works by Homer.
- 8) Bud Abbott (**Abbot**) was partnered by Louis Cristillo (Lou Costello) in many films.
- 9) Tinker was an assistant to **Sexton** Blake, amateur detective.
- 10) A quire (**choir**) consists of 24 or 25 sheets of paper.

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

|                         |                         |              |                             |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
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| Beetham C of E School   | Abi Johnson             | 015395 62515 | head@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk |

Please do be in touch with Andrew you would like to receive the parish email, if there is any support or encouragement he can offer, if you would have any questions about services church life or the Christian faith, or if you would like anyone or anything remembered in prayer. He would be very pleased to hear from you.

# THE GATEWAY

PARISH MAGAZINE OF  
ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

JANUARY 2024

[www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk](http://www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk)



### The Kent Estuary Youth Project

KEY supports young people at where they are in their lives, seeing the whole person and supporting them to develop and grow. We listen to the 'youth voice' and young people's needs are at the heart of our provision.

Young people today grow up in the internet era with instant access to everything with content often pushing an agenda or selling them something. Teenagers may feel social peer pressure in school, their community, or their family, and when using social media.

(and stress about it!) Many will manage this as 'just another teenage pressure.' However, a large minority will struggle, they may become increasingly introverted and isolated from 'real life.' They may be subjected to inappropriate sexual content on their phones, creating a distorted idea of what healthy behaviour looks like. They may develop harmful addictive habits, and resulting mental health difficulties at an age when they should be just enjoying healthy relationships with their contemporaries. Additionally, there is widespread availability of illegal drugs, including vapes and the usual pressures on teenagers to 'take risks' which, whilst an endemic part of their development, may be distorted by exposure to extremes of behaviour on the internet.

Against this background, government funding for youth work has dried up. KEY is a charity set up to counteract this loss of provision for young people by creating safe places to develop their physical, social, and emotional skills in a fun environment.

KEY employs 2 full time youth workers and sessional staff to run 6 youth clubs. The junior clubs for school years 7 to 9 are held straight after school in Arnside, Storth, Milnthorpe and Levens. The senior clubs for school years 10+ are held in Arnside and Milnthorpe later in the evening. The young people at each club choose their activities under the guidance of the youth workers but they are focused on fun ways to enjoy sports, cooking, and creative skills. Many of the young people who attend our clubs come from disadvantaged backgrounds and may have problems with social interaction. Through developing friendship groups in the safe environment that KEY creates, these youngsters have been able to integrate to the extent that some of them are now training with us to become young leaders.



In addition to the clubs, we organise adventure weekends away through the year. We also provide the government sponsored HAF (Holiday Activities & Food) programme in the school holidays and we join in with community activities and fundraisers. We continue to strive to expand the horizon of possibility for the young people and enhance their balanced development in a challenging world.

### What help can you give us?

Whilst the professional staff run the youth work, we need volunteers for additional support at the clubs, to join our Board of Trustees or act as mentors to youth workers. Club volunteers can support activities by helping with cooking, baking, crafts, sports etc. depending on the volunteers' own interests and skills. But mostly the vital role that they can provide is a listening ear and supportive friendly face for the young people attending. Our Board of Trustees currently has six members. We need to increase this to eight so we are looking for people interested in this role.

If you feel that you would like to help in any way, please contact our Administrator [rosiebrown@keyprojectcumbria.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:rosiebrown@keyprojectcumbria.onmicrosoft.com) For further information on what we do see our website [www.thekeyproject.org.uk](http://www.thekeyproject.org.uk)

Thank you for taking time to read this. God bless you.

Greg Tagney, Trustee Chair 07776 252937





# Letter from The Revd Andrew Norman

*What can be said in New Year rhymes,  
That's not been said a thousand times?  
The new years come, the old years go,  
We know we dream, we dream we know.  
We rise up laughing with the light,  
We lie down weeping with the night.  
We hug the world until it stings,  
We curse it then and sigh for wings.  
We live, we love, we woo, we wed,  
We wreath our brides, we sheet our dead.  
We laugh, we weep, we hope, we fear,  
And that's the burden of the year.*



These words by the nineteenth century American poet Ella Wheeler Wilcox in her poem ‘The Year’ express something of the inevitable reflectiveness that comes as we contemplate the turning of the year, bidding farewell to the old and preparing to welcome in the new. Such musing, as the poem suggests, brings with it an awareness of the very ordinary nature of noticing the passage of time. The reality that though we are encouraged, not least in our own day, to aim for a ‘happy’, ‘healthy’ and ‘successful’ new year, we can never avoid the very ordinariness of life and the truth that each year will always include that rich tapestry of emotions and circumstances which is the essence of our human condition. Joy and sadness, pleasure and pain, hope and disappointment, life and death.

I once heard it said in a sermon when I was at theological college that ‘God is in the world as poetry is in the poem’. And the wonderful, if sometimes all too unbelievable, claim of the Christian faith is that God’s presence in the world, his love and commitment towards his creation means that he is alongside us in and through all of our life’s twists and turns. A promise and pledge he has made permanent in the manger of Bethlehem, and in the hopefulness of the Christmas season, the light of which we continue to rejoice in as we begin the new year.

In his essay, ‘Myth becomes Fact’, the writer and Christian apologist, C. S. Lewis writes ‘Now, we know where times move. They move away. But in religion we find something that does not move away.’ All too often, perhaps especially, as we look out into a new year, balancing both the excitement of its possibility and the anxiety which comes from its unpredictability, we can feel that we don’t know which way to go. In our world write large and then in everyday lives we see evidence of variation and transition, change and decay. A changeableness that can lead us into a fearfulness born of the unexpected and of not knowing where we are headed.


It is into such feelings and situations that God comes. Making himself known and inviting us - with each day and every passing year - into friendship and fellowship. Into a relationship of trust and faith, where we ask for help so as to live our lives and face all that lies ahead with the assurance of a comfort and joy only he can offer and bring. The one who, in Christ, is the same yesterday, today and forever. The one who is ever moving towards us, despite our attempts to go in the opposite direction, and who tells us repeatedly that he will never leave or forsake us, whatever the days, months and years might bring.

May you, and all those whom you love, pray and care for, know the Lord’s presence and peace as we look ahead to this new year of grace.

As ever, 

**The Gateway team wishes all our readers a Happy and Peaceful New Year**





**CARLISLE DIOCESE**

### Archbishop of York Statement on the Crown Nominations Commission for the next Bishop of Carlisle

“At the conclusion of a lengthy process of discernment, culminating in two days of interviews on 13 and 14 December, the Crown Nominations Commission considering the nomination of the next Bishop of Carlisle has, very sadly, not been able reach the level of consensus required to nominate a new Diocesan Bishop.

Over the course of the next months, the Crown Nominations Commission will need to reflect, and make a decision about which stage it wishes to re-commence the discernment process. This is not likely to be before the Spring of 2025.

Bishop Rob Saner-Haigh, the Bishop of Penrith, will continue serving as acting Diocesan Bishop alongside the senior leadership team in the Diocese of Carlisle.

Please continue to hold the Diocese of Carlisle and the discernment of the Crown Nominations Commission in your prayers.”

## Donation in memory of Dorothy Bingley (nee Barker)

A generous gift has been donated in memory of Dorothy Bingley to St Michael & All Angels Beetham by her son and daughter-in-law, Graham and Elizabeth Bingley, who came across from their home in America and visited the church last September.

Dorothy was baptized in the font at Beetham and Graham and Beth requested that the funds should be used for the restoration of the font cover and permanent reinstallation above the font, saying  
“Dorothy was a wonderful woman with many friends and family members in the area and it is hoped they will enjoy seeing her remembered in such a meaningful way. This church was integral in her life and it is an honor to be able to help the Church in this way”

Beetham Church would like to express their grateful thanks to Graham and Beth for such a charitable gift at this time



## Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal

**Thank you to everyone who responded to Tess Rowlands’ request to support this year’s Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal. Tess has received this response from Captain Canon Hilary Borthwick of the Kendal and Millom Salvation Army:-**

“I’m writing to say a very sincere thank you for the toy donations from your friends, neighbours and St Michael and All Angels Church. As you can see from the picture, you collected a huge amount of toys, and a wonderful selection.

We send out right up until Christmas Day itself as we don’t want any children to go without. And we give every child a selection of presents: toy, game, art/craft item, book, cuddly toy, toiletries, chocolate selection box, and a number of stocking fillers. Many parents aren’t able to provide anything else for their children so we try to make sure that Santa does a reasonable job!

We also send out a roll of wrapping paper for each child and a roll of Sellotape per family, so that the parents know what their children are receiving, and can wrap them themselves.

Many families are struggling massively to provide food day-to-day, before the extra pressure of Christmas, so we provide Aldi vouchers (that can’t be used for alcohol, tobacco or lottery) that enables them to choose their Christmas dinner. We couldn’t do it without your help”

Post-Christmas update from Hilary - “We sent out 232 bags of toys, helped 103 families and distributed £2,355 of Aldi food vouchers”. Thank you to Tess and to all concerned for making it such a special Christmas for so many families







**'NEW YEAR IS A DAY, TO TUNE THE RHYTHM CALLED SOUL, WITH THE BEST CHORDS CALLED EXPERIENCES AND PLAY THE GUITAR OF LIFE'**  
*Vikram*

I have never been a fan of New Year as I love Christmas. It seems to me that as soon as the cutlery is put down after lunch, to many that is it done! By Boxing Day the festive music on the radio has all but disappeared, when in fact the Christmas period goes on for much longer. Are you one for making resolutions? Nor me. Or constantly looking back over the year. The only thing I happily revisit is music. It encapsulates everything, it will endure, it excites, it comforts. Learning an instrument or a new vocal piece can be frustrating, but the feeling of achievement is wonderful.

**'THERE IS NOTHING MAGICAL ABOUT THE FLIP OF THE CALENDAR, BUT IT REPRESENTS A CLEAN BREAK, A NEW HOPE & A BLANK CANVAS'**  
*Jason Soroski*

Beetham Community Band hope to build on all we achieved last year, starting with Thunderbirds Are Go seems appropriate. It will certainly blow the cobwebs away! We have been busy but it has been very rewarding sharing our unique approach, with so many coming together at Christingle which was a highlight and a special way to start Christmas. As was the Brightening Beetham switch on, where alongside music, mulled wine and Mince pies (tea and coffee also available....), a hefty amount of snow added to the atmosphere.

**'AND NOW WE WELCOME THE NEW YEAR. FULL OF THINGS THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN'**  
*Rainier Maria Rilke*

Back to that blank page or music manuscript paper.....maybe this year will be your time to make music...



**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
TO YOU  
ALL**

Tess x

07725580095



**Blackburn  
PEOPLE'S Choir**

*South Lakes  
Acappella*



**A Celebration of Christmas**

On Saturday 9th December, there was an afternoon of entertainment in Beetham Church as Blackburn People's Choir and members of South Lakes Acappella joined forces to bring us 'A Celebration of Christmas'. Directed by Jeff Borradaile the choirs gave us a joyful mix of unaccompanied Christmas and popular music, ranging from 'Away in a manger', 'Silent Night', and 'The Angel Gabriel' to Bryan Adams 'Everything I do, I do it for you'

The audience members were invited to participate in 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' and 'Feliz Navidad', and the evening concluded with the uplifting 'A Holly Jolly Christmas'

Thank you to the choirs, all those who organised the event, and the audience who came out on a cold winter's afternoon, enabling the concert to raise a welcome £325 for church funds



**CUMBRIA FESTIVAL CHORUS**

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### Brightening Beetham


The Big Switch-on for this year's Brightening Beetham project took place on Saturday 2nd December, made all the more festive with snow lying on the ground

With grateful thanks to Beetham Nurseries for all the trees, and to all the individual and business sponsors for their donations for each tree, twelve trees were erected this year in the churchyard and around the village. The trees, church porch and rose pergola were all decorated with fairy lights timed to come on at 4pm each day, and thanks go to Tess for her organisation and the volunteer teams of tree erectors and light fitters who worked so hard to make everything work

The Switch-on countdown attracted plenty of people from the village, who were treated to mince pies, mulled wine, and music from the Beetham Community Band inside the church. The outdoor crib was lit up at the same time in a reminder of the message that it brought to the village during the pandemic lockdown in 2020. The lights will continue to 'Brighten Beetham' in Christmastide until Candlemas







### Christingle

The traditional Christingle service was held on Christmas Eve with a record attendance of 257 adults and children. The children were able to bring the Nativity figures up to the Crib during the singing of the carols, and Revd Andrew led the telling of the story of Christ's birth as well as the history of the Christingle with the church lit by candlelight

Thanks go to the team of Christingle makers, and a very grateful thank you to Booths Milnthorpe for providing the oranges. A total of £326.60 was raised for The Children's Society



**BOOTH'S**

THE GOOD GROCERS






# School Corner

December is always a special time of year in school with the build-up and excitement of Christmas.

We began December learning more about the season of Advent. The whole school worked together to learn about the meaning of the Advent Wreath and the candles on it. We also developed our own Advent Calendar of kindness. Everyone worked together to devise activities to complete with their families or take time to appreciate the world and people around them. Examples on our calendar included reading a book, giving to charity and saying hello to your neighbours.

Everyone supported St John's Hospice and the Lakeland 100. Together we completed over 700 laps of the school field which totalled 115 miles and raised over £300 in sponsorship money. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported us.

We have also been fund raising for school by Carol Singing in the local area. We were warmly welcomed by both Beetham Nurseries and Booths in Milnthorpe where all children sang beautifully. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

We have also been continuing with our learning in lessons during December as well as all the fun Christmas based activities. Children have been learning about different forces and friction, LS Lowry and the development of Liverpool; others have been learning about Rosa Parks, sound and photography.

Our EYFS and Year 1 class worked hard to put together the Nativity play of 'A Very Special Baby'. The children acted and sang beautifully along with wonderfully performed dancing. It was a wonderful experience for us all to see. Thank you to all the staff who helped to put the Nativity together and be such a success.

On the last Monday of term there was a great excitement in school as it was party and Christmas Lunch day. The children played games together and were visited by Santa who gave each child a gift before enjoying a wonderful lunch provided by Wildlife Oasis.

We concluded our term with a Carol Service at church. Readings by the children and Carols from the congregations retold the Christmas story. The event was further added to with the playing of the handbells and Ocarinas by our older classes and the guitar duo. During the service we also said goodbye to Mrs Sansom. Mrs Sansom has taught at Beetham for the last 6 years. She will be remembered by all of the children, parents and staff for being a wonderful teacher who was always caring and nurturing to everyone she encountered. We will all miss her enthusiasm in school and wish her luck with her new adventures.

Everyone at Beetham CE Primary School would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We thank you all for the support you have given the school over the coming year and look forward to working together next year.

Best wishes, Abi Johnson







### Advent at St Michael & All Angels

The period from Advent, starting on 2nd December, through to the end of Christmastide with the celebration of Candlemas at the beginning of February, is a joyous time, but the church requires a lot of hands-on preparation! Advent begins with the making of the Advent wreath and the displaying of our indoor and outdoor Nativity scenes. This year, following the reordering, we were able to position the precious Crib made by the local WWII Prisoners of War on specially prepared tables instead of precariously balanced on the pews

The main Church Christmas tree was erected mid-December, following the Advent Carol Service held on Sunday 10th December, and in time for the School Nativity. Candles were placed on all the windowsills, and decorations on the Nave pillars. The flower arrangers completed their wonderful displays throughout the church after the School Nativity. The church was regularly cleaned, bells were rung for every service, refreshments prepared each week, service sheet photocopying done, sound and lighting checked, and normal Sunday services held

The choir, under the musical direction of Geoffrey Field and accompanied by Ken Forster, practiced for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols held on Sunday 17th December. This was the joyous culmination of all the Advent hard work as the story of Christ's birth was told in readings and our church filled with glorious music by candlelight

Thank you to everyone that made all this possible - and then started all over again in time for Christmas Eve and Christmastide



### Village Carol Singing

Undeterred by the persistent drizzle, the carol singers set off at 6pm on Wednesday 20th December around Slackhead. We were delighted to be welcomed with an assortment of sweets, mince pies and drinks on the way, helping to keep our voices going and our spirits up as we got increasingly wet. Luckily the following evening the forecast for strong winds did not materialise and the rain also held off, and a record number of carol singers (21!) gathered to sing around Beetham village, ending up in the warmth of The Wheatsheaf where diners joined in the singing

Thank you to the generosity of all who gave donations, enabling over £400 to be raised for the Salvation Army

### Beetham WI News

We enjoyed a Christmas lunch in The wheatsheaf in December when there was much fun and laughter by all who attended.

There is no WI monthly session in January though we are going ten-pin bowling instead. Our next get-together will then be on Thursday 8th February (2-4pm) with a Talk upstairs in The wheatsheaf by Karen Bentley-Brown from Simply Repair South Lakes. Guests are very welcome to attend.

Contact the Secretary for more information  
[beethamwi@gmail.com](mailto:beethamwi@gmail.com)

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**BAKING WITH KATE**  
Wednesday 31st January, 12.30 - 3.30pm  
**CRAFTING WITH ERIKA**  
Monday 8th January, 1 - 4pm  
**CRAFTERNOON**  
Tuesday 20th February, 1 - 4pm  
**POWSOWDIE**  
Wednesday 24th January, 11am - 2pm  
**WRITE BY THE RIVER**

Friday 19th January, 11am - 3.30pm  
Heron Corn Mill, Mill Lane, Beetham, LA7 7PQ  
015395 64271 - [info@heronmill.org](mailto:info@heronmill.org) - [www.heronmill.org](http://www.heronmill.org)

### Beetham Village Facebook

**A dedicated facebook group for Beetham village**

**Search for "Beetham Village Cumbria"**



**the HERON theatre**  
*January What's On*

Thursday 25th January ~  
Saturday 27th January

Warton Drama Group  
presents a double bill of  
'Betrayal' &  
'The Dumb Waiter'  
by Harold Pinter



Book tickets online [www.theherontheatre.com](http://www.theherontheatre.com)  
email: [boxoffice@theherontheatre.com](mailto:boxoffice@theherontheatre.com) ~ tel: 015395 64283  
Evening performances start at 7.30pm; Saturday Matinee 2.30pm  
Doors open 45 minutes before performance. Refreshments available  
The Heron Theatre, Stanley Street, Beetham, LA7 7AS



### Quest Lecture Group

A friendly group, meeting at the  
Athenaeum village hall, Leasgill, LA7 7ET

11 Jan ~ Mike Hayward

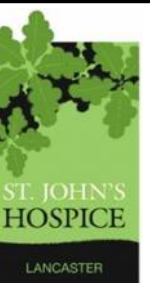
'Just Around the Corner - Adventures in a Kayak'

25 Jan ~ Julian Blatchley

'Aegean - Sailing the Wine Dark Sea'

All talks are on a Thursday, starting at 10am, with a break for coffee around 11am, then questions to the speaker. Everyone welcome. No need to book in advance. £2.50 for one talk (including refreshments) or £18 for all 12

The Annual Coffee Morning in aid of St John's Hospice held in Storth Village Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> November raised the incredible sum of £3,239. Thanks are due to all who supported it in any way



### Tower Bell Quarter Peal Weekend

The Lancashire Association of Change Ringers are holding a Quarter Peal Weekend with ringing at many of the church towers in this area

They will be ringing at Beetham Church from  
**11am on Friday 19th January**  
and the ringing will last for just under an hour

### Would you like to sing with Kendal South Choir?



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- ♦ Mental health ~ Reduces stress and boosts confidence
- ♦ Physical health ~ Exercises lungs, heart & upper body muscles
- ♦ Brain function ~ Music helps to slow cognitive decline
- ♦ Social life ~ You're guaranteed to make great friends!

We welcome all singers without audition. Music reading is useful, but not essential - come and learn with us! You will receive support from members, and excellent guidance from our Director who can help find where your voice lies if you are not sure. Don't worry if you haven't sung since school - just bring enthusiasm and a tuneful voice.

Rehearsals are always fun, and we welcome singers from all over the South Lakes. We meet on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in Kendal, with free parking nearby. Rehearsals start in January for our next concert 'Rejoice' in May. You are welcome to join us for a free trial period. Visit our website or Facebook to find out more about us

[kendalsouthchoir.weebly.com](http://kendalsouthchoir.weebly.com)



### Beetham Parish Council

The next monthly meeting will be held in  
Storth Village Church

**Monday 8th January at 7pm**

Members of the public are welcome to attend  
Minutes of previous meetings and details of the Councillors can be found at [www.beethampc.co.uk](http://www.beethampc.co.uk)



## Important message for advertisers

Now that Gateway is back to both paper and online circulation we aim to contact each advertiser individually for your ongoing requirements - some ads were slightly altered as it became necessary during lockdown to realign some pages. Do please let us know if there are any details you would like us to change.

And to other local business, would you like to advertise? Annual costs can be as low as just £20! To book space call John on 015395 62648 or email [j.d.lomax@btinternet.com](mailto:j.d.lomax@btinternet.com)

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