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Village**

Carol Singing

**Tuesday 19th December
around Slackhead**

**Wednesday 20th December
around Beetham**

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THE GATEWAY

**PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE OF
ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM**

DECEMBER 2017

It may only be the middle of November as I sit down to write this message, but everywhere there is evidence that Christmas is coming. A constant stream of television advertisements daily recommend what we need to do, and what we need to buy, in order to ensure for ourselves and for those whom we love the cheeriest and merriest of Christmases. Meanwhile, on the high street, Christmas lights are already in place and shop windows sport Christmas trees and festive decorations in an attempt to get us open our wallets and shop early. And then there is so-called Black Friday - the last Friday in November - an import from the USA where, on the Friday after Thanksgiving, - always the last Thursday in November - shops and stores traditionally offer cut-price bargains. Now shops here in the UK are following suit, offering supposedly significant discounts for one day or a few days only, in order to try to create a frenzy of pre-Christmas buying.



This year, as every year, this early marketing of Christmas also has, thank goodness, an amusing side. Christmas toilet rolls with pictures of Father Christmas, reindeer, stars and Christmas trees printed on them are on sale in some local shops at £3.95 each of three for £10. An original and useful Christmas present for those for whom buying a gift is something of a challenge! And a national chain of bakery stores has caused a furore among pious-minded people by creating an advertisement showing the Three Kings worshipping a sausage-roll in a manger!

Yes, it's all happening and the razzamatazz will continue to grow and grow over the coming days and weeks. And with that, the usual panic will set in. What can we buy for Auntie Flo? Do we have to put up with Grandma again on Christmas Day? Whose turn is it to cook Christmas Dinner this year? How am I going to dress the Christmas tree, buy and wrap all the presents, make Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings and provide a cartload of mince pies in case anyone happens to pop by for a cup of coffee or tea? Tempers will get frayed, doors will be slammed, the children and grandchildren will get over-excited and fractious and the cry will go up, 'Why on earth do we bother?'



Amidst all the fuss and flurry, what we need to remember, of course, is that Christmas is supposed paradoxically to be the season of peace and quiet, something reflected in the words of well-known Christmas carols - 'O Little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie...,' 'How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given...,' 'Silent night, holy night/All is calm, all is bright...,' 'The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.'

Perhaps, therefore, as we all inevitably become embroiled in the madness which is the run-up to Christmas, we should try to capture something of the quiet and stillness of the Christ-child in the Bethlehem manger. And that we can perhaps seek to do by quite simply setting aside a little time each day over the coming few weeks - it need be no more than ten minutes - to sit quietly doing nothing. Yes, NOTHING! By doing that, we might, for a short time at least, let the stresses and strains of Christmas fall away from us and experience, albeit momentarily, something of the true gift of Christmas which is 'the peace of God which passes all understanding.' Give it a try.

David Peacock



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Dementia Information Drop-in Sessions
For people living with dementia, their families and carers

All welcome Thursday 14th Dec
9.15-11.15am at Park View Surgery, Milnthorpe

For more info call Maria Day, Dementia Support Worker, 01539 742631

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THE PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

Priest-in Charge	<i>Vacancy</i>		
Lay Chair/Churchwarden	Brian Smalley	015395 64778	b.e.smalley@btinternet.com
Churchwarden	John Dugdale	01524 781570	johndugdale2332@gmail.com
Churchwarden	Ian Stirrup	015395 64320	ianstirrup02@gmail.com
PCC Secretary	Dorothy MacLeod	015395 62062	admdhm@live.co.uk
PCC Treasurer	<i>contact Churchwardens</i>		
Church Flowers	Dianne Lomax	015395 62648	diannelomax@btinternet.com
Bell Tower Captain	Jenny Marks	015395 62559	jenny.marks@btinternet.com
Beetham C of E School	Wendy Nicholas	015395 62515	head@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk
"The Gateway" - Editor	Jenny Marks	015395 62559	beethamnews@aol.com
- Business Manager	John Lomax	015395 62648	gatewayads@btinternet.com

Church Services at Beetham in December

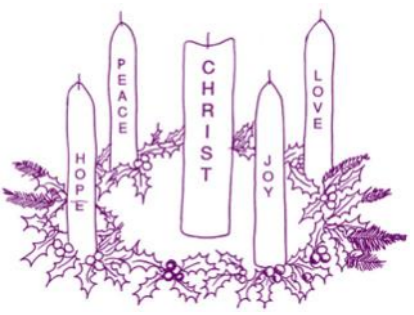
Date	Time	Service
Fri 1st Dec	9am	School Assembly
Sun 3rd Dec <i>1st of Advent</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	Evensong
Wed 6th Dec	9.30am	*Communion by Extension
	2pm	School Nativity
Thu 7th Dec	2pm	School Nativity
	6.30pm	School Nativity
Fri 8th Dec	9am	School Assembly
Sat 9th Dec	11am	St Lazarus Eucharist
Sun 10th Dec <i>2nd of Advent</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	Evensong
Wed 13th Dec	9.30am	*Communion by Extension
Fri 15th Dec	2pm	School Carol Service
Sun 17th Dec <i>3rd of Advent</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
	6.30pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
Wed 20th Dec	9.30am	*Communion by Extension
Sun 24th Dec <i>Christmas Eve</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
	4pm	Christingle
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
Mon 25th Dec	10am	Christmas Day Eucharist
Wed 27th Dec	9.30am	*Communion by Extension
Sun 31st Dec <i>2nd of Christmas</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
		No Evensong

Wednesday morning services marked * are
Public Worship with Communion by Extension

Please check Church noticeboards or
beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk for any changes

EASYFUNDRAISING
A reminder that the Beetham Church Heritage Trust is
registered with the on-line donation website at
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bcht
Help support the Trust by using this website for your
Christmas on-line shopping - **it will cost you nothing**
For details go to beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

Wishing you
Peace at
Christmas
and a Happy
New Year



Baptism

Harriet Sophie Katharine Edwards
& Lewis James Parrott Edwards,
daughter & son for James & Katharine,
were baptised on
Sunday 26th November

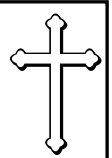


We were delighted to welcome Lewis & Harriet into
the family of Beetham Church during the Parish
Eucharist. They both behaved beautifully, as did
their parents, godparents and grandparents

Funeral

Our prayers and condolences are
with the family of

James Alan Parsons
Friday 1st December



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Visit our website at beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk to see past editions of The Gateway

ADVENT

Here on this darkening earth,
the sky throws its shawl of stars
and the moon untethers, afloat,
above the chain-stitched fields,
felted with frost, like a loss
which warps the heart,
or perhaps a loneliness ~
an unconscious need to welcome
a stranger to the earth.

© Mavis Fawcett

Winter Work Parties

Thanks go to the members of the Fabric Committee who braved the elements to clean up the War Memorial in preparation for Remembrance Sunday following several days of floods. As if this was not enough for one day, the church gutters and drains were also cleared of debris, and the unsightly rotted sandbags removed from the tower and kitchen extension doors. A further big thank you goes to Ann and Harry Parrott who, later in the same week, also spent a full day on their hands and knees weeding and pruning the pergola ready for the winter months

Another work party has recently replaced all the faulty light bulbs inside the church, and renewed some of the external floodlighting bulbs. Hopefully everyone can now walk in safety to the church and be able to read their hymnbooks once they are inside!

As always these work parties - as well as the many other roles in the church - are done by volunteers, and a reminder that the new volunteering year will be starting soon. If you would be willing to spare some time for cleaning, Gateway folding, weeding, flowers, or helping at the Sunday services please contact one of the churchwardens



Origin of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The original service was created in 1880 by Edward Benson, who was then Bishop of Truro. The Service took place at 10pm on Christmas Eve in a wooden building that was being used as a temporary Cathedral whilst Truro Cathedral was being rebuilt. As he recalled when he later became the Archbishop of Canterbury "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve - nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop"



The service was adopted at other churches, but it was when the choir from King's College, Cambridge, sang their first Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve in 1918 - to celebrate the end of the First World War - that the popularity grew across the UK and the world. King's College revised the Order of Service in 1919, to begin with 'Once in royal David's city' and a rearrangement of the lessons that told the Christmas story, and it has remained largely unchanged since then

The first BBC broadcast service from King's was in 1928 and has continued every year, except 1930, as a well-loved Christmas tradition. The opening verse is sung by a single young chorister - a number of choristers train, but the treble that sings it is only told just before the service

At Beetham Church the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is held as a candlelit service on the Sunday before Christmas Eve, sung by an augmented choir for the occasion. The whole community is warmly welcome to join us on this very special occasion on 17th December



What is a Christingle?

Once again Beetham Church will be supporting The Children's Society at the Christingle Service (details on page 7)

Every part of a Christingle is symbolic:-
~ the orange represents the world
~ the red ribbon is the love and blood of Christ
~ the fruits and sweets are symbols of God's creations and the four seasons
~ the lit candle symbolises Jesus, the light of the world

Each Christingle helps children in poverty by giving The Children's Society the chance to transform the lives of disadvantaged children. Please come along and join us for this special candlelit service on Christmas Eve



Beetham Church
Candlelit Service of
Nine Lessons
& Carols

Sunday 17th December
at 6.30pm

Everyone welcome



Remembrance Sunday

The Beetham Service of Remembrance was held at the War Memorial, with the reading of the Beetham roll of honour, two minutes silence, and wreaths laid on behalf of the Royal British Legion, and SLDC. Wreaths had also previously been laid on behalf of The Lancashire Fusiliers, and Beetham Parish Council.

The British Legion flag was carried by Sheila Ashburner, the Union Jack was carried by Jack Lashley, the Last Post was played by Phil Marks, and the church bells were rung half-muffled



Thank you to Beetham CE School pupils for producing a very poignant display of hand-crafted poppies and prayers, which they had brought across to the church ahead of the Remembrance Service

Beetham Christmas Cards & Calendars

Christmas cards depicting Beetham scenes, and slimline Calendars with views of Beetham village and the surrounding area, are on sale now

Cards are priced £2.50 / £3 per pack of 4

The 'Beetham 2018' Calendar is £5



Beetham School Winter Fair

The School Winter Fair was held on Saturday 25th November and, as always, attracted a high number of families and visitors



The Friends of Beetham Church again organised a 'Grand Hamper Raffle'. Members of the congregation had donated items for the hampers, and the Friends spent a fun morning packing and decorating seven food hampers plus a hamper of games and goodies for one lucky child

Ticket sales had been brisk beforehand and also sold well on the day, with the raffle drawn in school at the end of the Fair. First prize went to the Old Post Office!

The church stall also sold Christmas cards, 'Beetham 2018' calendars, and church bags. In our most successful year to date, the stall and hampers raised an amazing total of £935 for Beetham Church



We hope that the lucky winners enjoy the contents of their hampers, and we wish all those that helped and supported us a very Merry Christmas!



We are rapidly approaching the end of our Autumn Term and preparations for Christmas at school are well underway. We are busy rehearsing our Christmas Musical 'Baa Baa Bethlehem' which we would like to invite people from the church and village to come and watch - the Nativity is always a highlight of our year and I'm sure this year will be no exception. We are also visiting the Dukes Theatre to watch Aladdin, having a whole school Christmas party and celebrating the end of term with our Carol Service in Church. Details of these events are here for anyone who would like to come along and support our school.

The School Council organised a super day to raise money for Children in Need. They ran a 'Pudsey' shop, held a non uniform day, organised a whole school walk to Fairy Steps and then finished the day with a cake sale. In total the school raised £305.60 which is a fantastic effort and will go towards helping children all around our country who have difficult lives.

To celebrate Remembrance Day the children in KS2 made a beautiful display of Poppies and prayers they had written. This was displayed in church and greatly appreciated by those who saw it (see page 5)

We were delighted to welcome Mrs Villiers Smith and Mrs Haddow into school to work with Yr 5 & 6 wrapping the Christmas gifts for people in the village. The children are always really interested by the historical record of these gifts which is kept in a beautiful book and is an important archive of this thoughtful tradition.

Last weekend the school and church got together at school to hold a Winter Fair. This was a great event with lots of fun and laughter as well as a great fundraiser, making £1350 for the school and £935 for the church. It was lovely to see so many people supporting the organisations in our village and enjoying themselves at the same time.

On behalf of Everyone at Beetham CE Primary School
I would like to wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas,
With Best wishes
Wendy Nicholas

'Baa Baa Bethlehem'
 Weds 6th Dec ~
 Dress Rehearsal 2pm
 Thurs 7th Dec ~
 2pm & 6.30pm
Carol Service
 Friday 15th Dec
 at 2pm

Beetham Church
Christingle Service
 Christmas Eve
 at 4pm
 All welcome





Beetham & Beyond

Beetham WI News

Festive Greetings from Beetham WI

The AGM in November gave us all a time for reflection, and the conclusion was that it has been a successful year for Beetham WI - with a new venue, a growing membership, wonderful achievements at the County Show, plus a varied and enlightening programme. Certainly there has been no time for complacency!

We are ending 2017 with our Christmas meal and party on Tuesday 5th December, and I look forward to a fun evening.

For those of you who attended the November meeting, I am very pleased to say that the Wessex-Ghana Stroke Partnership now has funding for 2018, however we were not the winners of the Health Service Journal International Team of the Year!!

Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful festive season

Sarah Easton,
WI President

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December Programme

art dance
the HERON theatre
music film

Friday 1st December **FILM AT THE HERON** 7.30pm
Lady Macbeth (2016) [15] - 1 hour 29 mins

Sunday 3rd December Matinee 2.30pm
Handel, Bach plus....! *The Biber Ensemble*

Ann Bond (harpsichord) and Louise Latham (baroque violin) make a welcome return, joined by Rosy Williams, a talented mezzo-soprano

Friday 8th December 7.30pm
Mrs Oscar Wilde *Wild Wolfe Productions*

Constance Lloyd was a feminist, writer & mother - and wife of Oscar Wilde. One woman show featuring award-winning actress Lexi Wolfe

Tuesday 12th December **Film Extra** 7.30pm
Etre et Avoir (2002) [U] - 1 hour 44 mins

Moving portrait of 12 pupils, age 4-10, who are taught every subject by one dedicated teacher in a village in deepest rural France. *Subtitled*

Saturday 16th December 7.30pm
A Brief History of Christmas *Green Matthews Touring Co*

Festive romp through 600yrs of Christmas music and the origins of our midwinter festivities, from the popular Chris Green & Sophie Matthews

Select your seats and book online at www.theherontheatre.com
Box Office open Fridays from 10am until 12noon 015395 64283

Christmas Concert 2017

at St. Thomas's Church, Milnthorpe
Monday, December 18th, 7.30p.m.

Hail Smiling Morn

A Christmas celebration of carols and readings from Thomas Hardy



Eversley Choir

Conductor:
Ian Jones

Organist:
Ian Pattinson

Tickets £10 (child/student free)
Available from choir members,
on the door or 01539 621559
Refreshments included

www.eversleychoir.org

Bells at Booths!



The Beetham Handbell Ringers will be playing at Booths, Milnthorpe, from 7pm on Thursday 21st December

Why not come along and sing as you shop!

What's On Guide

Storth and District Gardening Association

is organizing a talk by
Steve Halliwell on

"Gresgarth Hall Gardens"

at 7.30pm

Wednesday 6th December

in Storth Village Church

The Christmas Draw will also take place

Admission £2 including refreshments
All welcome



meet for talks

at

The Athenaeum
Leasgill

at 10am

1st & 3rd Thursdays

7th December : Dr Rob David
"The Yellow Earl"

21st December
Seasonal Entertainment

Everyone welcome

Contact: 015395 52330

LANCASTER'S MIDWINTER MARKET

FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER
10:00-17:00

LANCASTER MARKET SQUARE

CELEBRATE THE MIDWINTER WITH LOCAL FOOD AND DRINK, LOCAL CRAFTS, LIVE MUSIC AND MORE...

www.lassuk.org/blog

Pop in for Coffee & Homemade Cakes!

Beetham Village Church Coffee Morning

on Wednesday
6th December
10.15 to 11.30am



There is no charge and all are welcome

QUEST

A friendly group, we meet to hear talks, often with slides, 2nd & 4th Thursdays, in

The Athenaeum, Leasgill at 10am

All are Welcome!

14th December : Edward Lawton
"Christmas Cracker"

Contact Patricia McPoland 015395 62765
McPoland@btinternet.com

Heron Corn Mill

Christmas Opening & Corn Mill Shop

We will close for our annual holiday on Thursday 21st Dec, with the barn reopening and operating as normal on Monday 8th Jan. As usual, the mill will be closed in January for a good clean before reopening on 21st Feb (half term). If you're stuck for Xmas gifts the Mill shop is open for business! We've got some superb Mill related items for sale ~ books, tea towels, pens, mugs, drawstring bags, flours, and four copies of Ruth Goodman's book 'How to be a Victorian', two of which are signed by Ruth herself! All items can be purchased from our pop-up shop in the barn, or by visiting our online store

Patchwork and Quilting Workshop

Textile artist Stella Adams-Schofield is currently on the lookout for new learners to join her Patchwork and Quilting workshops, which are held in the barn one Wednesday every month. The first session of 2018 will take place on the 24th of January, where there will be an opportunity to learn all about Crazy Patchwork! Each workshop runs from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm and includes lots of support from the tutor. Each workshop costs £35.00 which includes tea and coffee. Please contact Stella on 015395 63991 or stellaadamsschofield@outlook.com

Heron Corn Mill, Mill Lane, Beetham ~ www.heronmill.org, 015395 64271



Heron Corn Mill
Older Peoples Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 12th December, 1pm for 1.30pm

Our FREE Christmas lunch for the older members of the community is just around the corner, taking place on Tuesday December 12th, with a 1.30pm start time. As well as a full Christmas lunch, guests will be treated to entertainment from Alan 'Ukulele' Yates who is based in Blackpool, and will entertain and delight with a veritable smörgåsbord of hits from the 50's, 60's and 70's! There'll also be the return of our popular raffle, with some fantastic prizes up for grabs courtesy of some very generous donors.

Contact info@heronmill.org or call 015395 64271

Many thanks to Beetham Nurseries, Booths Milnthorpe, Robin Reed International, Hawkshead Relish, Old School Brewery, Ford Park, Sheila Jackson, The Olive Tree and Lakeland for their generous donations.



Dallam School presents...

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE
 by Glyn Robbins
 Adapted from the book by C.S. Lewis

Save the date! 30 January-2 February 2018

This amateur production of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, The Rubbish!" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.



**CUMBRIA
 CHRISTIAN
 LEARNING**

CCL has been created to serve the Anglican, Methodist and United Reform churches and the Salvation Army in Cumbria as they work together towards the goals of the God for All strategy. It brings together historic expertise and resources from the Ministry and Training arm of Carlisle Diocese and from the Lancashire and Cumbria Theological Partnership.

A new series of learning modules and workshops has been launched for Spring 2018; details can be found on their website at www.cumbriachristianlearning.org.uk

KENT ESTUARY GROUP MINISTRY

The Church of England around the Kent Estuary

Sunday Worship in the Kent Estuary area

ARNSIDE ST JAMES
 8.00am: BCP Holy Communion
 10.30am: Morning Worship, usually with Communion
 2nd Sunday: All-age Worship
 4.30pm: 2nd Sunday Celtic Communion
 Info: arnsidechurch.webplus.net Revd David Cooper 01524 761319

BEETHAM ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS
 10.00am: Parish Communion
 6.00pm: Sung Evensong
 Info: beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

HEVERSHAM ST PETER
 8.00am: BCP Holy Communion
 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays
 9.30am: Main Service:
 1st and 3rd Sundays: Parish Communion (CW)
 2nd Sunday: Communion Praise (contemporary worship)
 4th Sunday: All Age Worship
 5th Sunday: United service with Levens & Milnthorpe
 6.30pm: 2nd Sunday: Open to God
 Info: stpetersheversham.org

LEVENS ST JOHN
 10.00am: Parish Communion:
 3rd Sun: All-age worship; 5th Sun: United service at Heversham
 Info: levens.org.uk

MILNTHORPE ST THOMAS
 8.00am: BCP Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays
 11.00am: Main Services 1st, 2nd and 3rd: CW Communion
 4th Sunday: Morning Praise
 5th Sunday: United service at Heversham
 11.00am: every week Sunday Circle for children
 Info via: stpetersheversham.org

STORTH VILLAGE CHURCH
 10.30am: Methodist and Anglican services each week
 Info: Revd David Stretton 01524 761397; Revd David Cooper 01524 761319

METHODIST SERVICES

ARNSIDE
 10.30am see website for details
arnsidemethodistchurch.org.uk

MILNTHORPE
 3.00pm 2nd & 4th Sunday of month at Methodists in Milnthorpe, M:Hub, Beetham Road

LEVENS
 10.30am levens.org.uk
 Info: Revd David Stretton 01524 761397 or 015395 63179

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES

ARNSIDE
 OUR LADY OF LOURDES
 Saturday, 5.30pm

MILNTHORPE
 CHRIST THE KING
 Sunday, 10.30am
 Info: Fr Philip Smith 015395 32731 or Chris Noble 01524 762427

Beetham Parish Council

The next meeting will be on
Monday 4th December
 at 7pm
 in **Storth Village Church**

Members of the public are welcome to attend 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

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January deadline and Full Colour editions of The Gateway
 The Gateway always welcomes news and other items of interest to our readership
 The deadline for contributions for the January edition is
Wednesday 27th December
 Please send contributions to the editor, Jenny Marks, Email: beethamnews@aol.com; Tel: 015395 62559
 View current & past editions of The Gateway in full colour at www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

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Wednesday 10.30am
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 Mike Crawford:
 015395 60736

Tuesday/Friday 10am
Arnside Methodist Church Hall
 Eileen Walters:
 01524 761720

SOUTH LAKELAND AGE UK LUNCH CLUBS (12 for 12.30pm)

Arnside Lunch Club 1st Friday of month at **The Albion**, and
Sandside Lunch Club 3rd Wednesday of month at **The Ship**,
 Christine Marland, 01524 761566

Storth Club 2nd Thursday of month at **The Kingfisher**,
 Norah Padgett 015395 62887

ageUK
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Huw & Lorraine
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