







THE GATEWAY

PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

DECEMBER 2019

Dear Friends

I wonder what choices you have made already in the preparations for Christmas? There are many decisions to be made, whether that's food or gifts, the location of celebrations or how you are going to spend such a precious time, there are lots of things to consider. With these decisions of course comes the pressure to make sure that we get everything right, to select the best food, to find the best gift, to find happiness and contentment in what we can gather, accumulate or afford for ourselves. This pressure for many brings with it great pain and discomfort; most particularly for those who have least, for whom day-to-day life is a struggle and who worry about how they can afford the Christmas that is presented to them through clever advertising and marketing.

At the heart of the story of the Nativity is a reminder that our choices matter – whether that's the response of Mary to the call of God given to her through the Archangel Gabriel, the decision of

Joseph to take Mary as his wife despite his fears and worries, the willingness of the shepherds who having heard about the birth of a baby in Bethlehem set out to find him, or the determination of the Magi in setting out on a long journey following the star that would lead them to Jesus. The accounts of Jesus' life related to us in the Bible remind us that God is most beautifully and lovingly at work amid the messiness of life, a reminder that ultimately what prevails is God's purposes of love and peace.



Ultimately, this is because of all the choices that form part of the Christmas story, it is only one choice that matters – the choice of God in being born amongst us as the child in a manger, the one who comes to us as Emmanuel as 'God with us'. For it is in helplessness, fragility and vulnerability that God chose to come amongst us, entering into the world he had created not with power and might but in the cries of a baby born in poverty, laid in the straw of a feeding trough, who comes to claim us for himself, offering salvation as a free gift to all. It is this wonderful choice of God that we celebrate each year at Christmas.

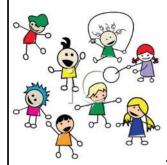
So often it is easy amid the rather hectic weeks of December to lose sight of this hopeful message, finding many different ways to blot out what God might be saying to each of us as we rejoice once more in remembering the birth of his Son amongst us two thousand years ago. This is why the season of Advent, that great season of hope and expectancy, asks us to make sure that we have made the choice of preparing for the good news of Christmas. Offering us the opportunity to make room amid the busyness for the Christ-child whom we pray to born into the world and into our lives afresh.

For it is in Jesus we see the God who comes amongst us as a baby in a manger. The Saviour whose birth over two-thousand years ago we continue to celebrate and give thanks for, the God who is still 'with us' in all our doubts and fears, in all our struggles and weakness, in all our joys and surprises, today, tomorrow and always. I hope and pray you will not lose sight of this hopeful message amidst all you will be doing in the coming days and weeks. A reminder that whatever we may face in life that God chose to come amongst us in love for each of us – whoever we are, whatever we might have done – so that we might share life with him forever.

May the good news of this love inspire, guide and bless all your choices in the days ahead.

With every good wish and prayer for God's blessing





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January deadline for The Gateway

Please note that the deadline for the January edition is the slightly earlier date of

Monday 23rd 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 beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

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THE PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

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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 feel able to contact the Vicar

Church Services at Beetham in December

Date	Time	Service			
Sun 1st Dec	11am	Parish Eucharist			
Advent Sunday	6pm	Advent Carol Service			
Wed 4th Dec	10am	Holy Communion			
Fri 6th Dec	9am	School Assembly			
Sun 8th Dec	11am	Parish Eucharist			
2nd of Advent	6pm	Evensong			
Thu 12th Dec	2pm	School Nativity			
Thu 12th Dec	6.30pm	School Nativity			
Fri 13th Dec	9am	School Assembly			
Sun 15th Dec	11am	Parish Eucharist			
3rd of Advent	6pm	Evensong			
Fri 20th Dec	2pm	School Carol Service			
Sun 22nd Dec	11am	Parish Eucharist			
4th of Advent	6.30pm	Nine Lessons & Carols			
Tues 24th Dec	4pm	Christingle			
Christmas Eve	11.30pm	Midnight Mass			
Weds 25th Dec Christmas Day	10.30am	Christmas Day Eucharist			
Sun 29th Dec	11am	Parish Eucharist			
1st of Christmas	6pm	Evensong			
Please check Church noticeboards or					

beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk for any changes

Beetham Church Carol Services

Please come and join us to celebrate the joyous seasons of Advent and Christmas in words and music. As well as the traditional

candlelit Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (see back page) the season will begin with an Advent Carol Service at 6pm



on Sunday 1st December, and the Christmas season celebrations will continue with an Epiphany Carol Service at 6pm on Sunday 12th January. You are warmly welcome to come along and sing with us.

EPIPHANU

Out in the open on Cumbrian Fells Herdwick sheep give birth to their lambs. hearing the first faltering cries under a freezing, crustal sku with Sirius, the dog star, riding high

The Son of God born in a cold stable cradled in straw with ox and ass, a human birth foretold by an angel: from the fields, made dumb with fright, shepherds marvelled at the sight.

The worst time of year for a journey: wise men bringing gifts: gold for kingship, frankincense; myrrh for his embalming; riding on camels they came from afar following the bright Bethlehem star.

Just as the Magi brought their offering, Spring will return with her treasures: bird song, blossom, fresh leaves unfurling, cold and harshness then fade away banished by the glory of Easter Day

© Sheila MacInnes

Beetham Church Fundraising

A reminder that a new selection of Christmas cards is available in church, depicting the Madonna and Child in the West Window, the Beetham Church WWII Nativity, and details of Angels and

Kings from the East Window. There are also copies of the 'Old Beetham Post Office Tea Room Recipes' which make useful extra Christmas presents! If you are doing your Christmas shopping online this year, don't forget that the Beetham Church Heritage Trust is registered with the online 🐧 donation website at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bcht and with smile.amazon.co.uk. By clicking on these websites before you go onto your normal shopping websites you will automatically raise funds for the Heritage Trust - and it will cost you nothing!

Old Beetham Post Office

CHURCH



Valentine Davies: Miracle On 34th Street, just one of the wonderful Christmas numbers in our festive repertoire. Yes it is definitely that time of year. Followers of this little article will know that the Beetham Community Band has been limbering up since September.

Our first outing, weather permitting, may be to play for the Beetham Village Christmas Tree switch-on, on the 7th of December. Earlier in the day we will be playing at the Silverdale Hotel, hopefully adding some festive atmosphere to a fund raiser for First Responders in Silverdale. Feel free to attend any time from 11am.

On the 14th December from 11am until 2pm, there will be a few hours of music and merriment – and of course mince pies – in Beetham Church. Everyone is welcome and entry is free of charge. It promises to be a fun festive program, not to be missed.

Beetham fairly explodes with wonderful music at Christmas time. The beautiful bells, both hand rung and chimed, Christmas songs sung from the heart, and the band weaving their tinsel tunes throughout the season. As always feel free to join in, you will always be welcome. It could be your New Years resolution... As Charles Dickens wrote, "THERE IS NOTHING IN THE WORLD SO IRRESISTIBLY CONTAGIOUS AS LAUGHTER AND GOOD HUMOUR". You will find a great deal of that in Beetham Band, and within every musical group we are so lucky to have in Beetham. For more information about the band please call Tess on 015395 63254.

Church Volunteering 2020

It is that time of year again when we review our various regular church volunteer rotas for the next year. Volunteering helps us to keep our running costs down, and keeps the church looking lovely, as many of our visitors often comment. It can also be a very sociable occasion! A big thank you to those who often volunteer already but the more volunteers we get for the weekly/monthly rotas, the less frequently everyone has to do the job. If you are willing to join any of the rotas please speak to the churchwardens.

We wish you a Merry Christmas

Top into Beetham Church on
Saturday 14th December
any time between 11am~2pm for
Music, Mince pies & Merriment



Are you interested in playing the accordion?

Beetham Community Band has generously been offered the loan of an accordion for anyone wishing to take up the instrument

If you have played an accordion in the past and would like to take up the instrument again, or if you are wanting to learn how to play this fascinating and versatile musical instrument please contact the Gateway editor, Jenny, on 015395 62559 or via beethamnews@aol.com for more details

Beetham Village Coffee Morning in Church

Wednesday 4th December 10.35amto 11.45am

Delicious homemade cakes, coffee and chat!

There is no charge, & all are welcome



Wishing all our
Gateway readers
Peace at Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

CHIMES

Nick Gray - Lay Reader Trainee



Hello, my name is **Nick Gray**, I'm 62 and a newly retired vet who worked at Highgate Veterinary Clinic in Kendal for nearly 30 years, and a handful of other places before that! Katharine and I live in Kendal and have two daughters, Lucy and Mary who are at present

working in Sheffield, and studying at Glasgow respectively. I started my Christian journey at St Thomas' Church in 1990 and maybe it was after my years of teaching farmers and pet owners life skills for their animals that I felt I was being called/led to help or inspire others in their faith life journeys. In exploring this possibility it seemed that Lay Reader Ministry offered a suitable path to follow and I started my training with Cumbria Christian Learning (based in Penrith) this September.

A big thank you to Andrew and your PCC for agreeing to have me on a placement with you from December until Easter, and thank you <u>all</u> for welcoming me. I'm really looking forward to being a part of your Church and getting to know you all.

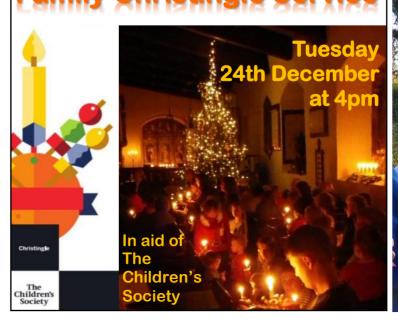
Apart from animals and the natural world in general, I'm enthusiastic about enjoying the hills and lakes, on foot, canoe and cross-country skis, art and folk music to name a few interests.

I'd be very grateful for any feedback, ideas, thoughts, suggestions, constructive criticism and wisdom that you may like to share with me over the next 4 months; the more the merrier. I see it all as constructive in our building of God's Kingdom. So thank you all in advance.

Very best wishes - I'm really looking forward to starting Advent with you; it's one of my favourite seasons.

Nick

Beetham Church Family Christingle Service



St Michael & All Angels Beetham

Midnight Mass

Tuesday 24th December at 11.30pm



Christmas Eucharist

Wednesday 25th December at 10.30am

Remembrance Sunday

The Beetham Act of Remembrance was very well attended at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, 10th November.

The service included the reading of the 21 names on the Beetham roll of honour, two minutes silence, and wreaths laid on behalf of the Royal British Legion, Beetham Parish Council, and South Lakeland District Council.

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

The Act of Remembrance was followed by the Remembrance Day Eucharist in church. The choir sang the anthem 'Holy is the true light' by William Harris, and the service concluded with the parading of the Union Jack and British Legion flags and the National Anthem.



We have had a great few weeks at school since the last Gateway with lots of new learning and exciting activities...

KS2 are really enjoying learning about Ancient Egypt and held an Egyptian Day with wonderful costumes and a banguet of typical Egyptian food. In the morning 'Imagining History' a local group who run investigative workshops for children visited and provided a great session looking at aspects of Egyptian life using drama. The day finished with a performance of a play with Egyptian Music and Dance which was watched by the rest of the school and many enthusiastic parents.

Yr 1 & 2 had a fantastic outdoor learning day at Borwick Hall. The all took part in indoor caving, problem solving activities, the low ropes course (over water!) and canoeing on the canal. This was a great opportunity for children to learn team building skills, rise to personal

challenges and have fun in the outdoors.

Our Yr 5 & 6 school councillors also have the opportunity to attend the South Lakes Pupil Parliament, which meets termly at the Netherwood Hotel and is attended by 17 local primary schools. Tim Farron was the guest speaker at our first meeting and told us of his work as an MP and then answered many questions which the children had prepared. Other activities during the day were planning a focus for the parliament for this year and finding out how elections are run and how voting take place in the House of Commons.

Our children in Reception and Nursery had a lovely 'Welly Wednesday' when they worked with Mrs & Mrs Parrott and Mrs Burn to plant up all our window boxes with the plants donated by Beetham Nurseries - as you can see from the photo they had a great time!

KS2 have been busy preparing their next communication with the school we are twinned with in Senegal, Ataba Tabar. The children collected postcards of our local area and then wrote their messages to the Senegalese children in French, which was a great opportunity for them to practise their French writing skills for a very real purpose. Claire Griffel who helps us manage the link with Ataba Tabar School has now delivered the postcards so we are looking forward to our reply from the children there.

We were delighted to welcome Father Andrew, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Villiers-Smith into school for a present wrapping session where the children learnt more about how the church helps support people in our local community and the history behind this tradition.

We are now busy working on our Nativity and looking forward to our Party and visit to the Dukes Theatre to watch Cinderella. We would like to invite members of our church and village community to share with us in our Christmas Celebrations in Church

Children in Need. They held a Mufty Day, ran a Pudsey Gift Stall and organised a cake sale which in total raised £227 - a great effort from our school to help children in need in the UK.

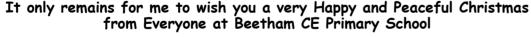
Our School Council has now been elected and one of their first jobs was to organise a Fundraising Event for

> Please come and join our School Christmas Celebrations

> > in Church

'Bethlehem B&B' nativity musical Wednesday 11th December 2pm, Thursday 12th December 2pm & 6.30pm

School Carol Service Friday 20th December, 2pm - please wear a Christmas Jumper and make a donation for 'Save the Children' who raise money at this time of year through 'Christmas Jumper Day.'





Beetham CE School 200 Club Results



Draw 247 1st Greenwood 2nd Morgan 3rd Walker

Congratulations to them all! Fancy a flutter? Join our club for only £4 a month with the chance to win £70, £25 or £10 every month. The form to join the lottery is now available on the school website. All welcome ~ be in it to win it!

Beetham & Beyond

Beetham WI Celebrations

Three teams from Beetham WI took part in a Federation Quiz at Kendal Golf Club and Gilpin Bridge in early November which everyone enjoyed.

At our AGM, the 'business' side of matters was dealt with efficiently by the committee with all 6 of them agreeing to continue for another year. Louise Tomlinson (President) presented Alison Warwick with her certificate for winning the Gladstone Trophy following her success in achieving the most points overall in the Craft section at the Westmorland Show. (Louise came 2nd and Frances Irving 3rd).



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A sociable evening followed with everyone enjoying time to chat over coffee - and reminisce over the last two year's events by looking through



the most recently created Scrapbook and Centenary Photo Album.

In December we have our Christmas Party at the Heron Corn Mill and, if anything like last year's event, will be great fun. Some members are planning to attend the

Federation's Festival of Readings & Carols at Kendal Parish Church later that same week.

Beetham WI members wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. And if anyone is interested in joining us, we get together at the M:Hub in Milnthorpe on the first Tuesday of each month (7-9 pm). A warm welcome



assured.



the HERON theatre

Sunday 1st December Trio Volant

2.30pm Clarinet, Oboe & Bassoon

We welcome back this trio who met whilst studying at the RNCM in 2010 and continue to perform chamber music together and as soloists

Friday 6th December The Favourite

FILM AT THE HERON 7.30pm 2018 [15] 1hr 59mins

Overweight Queen Anne (Olivia Coleman) occupies the throne but her close friend Lady Sarah Churchill (Rachel Weiss) runs the country

Friday 13th December "Letters from the Front" 7.30pm

In 1990 Arthur discovered letters between his mother and a soldier fighting on the Western Front. Their letters are full of light and life

Saturday 14th December **Ladies of Note Christmas Concert**

2.30pm

This local singing group celebrates modern songs from traditional, folk, film music and classic pop. Here they are in festive mood!

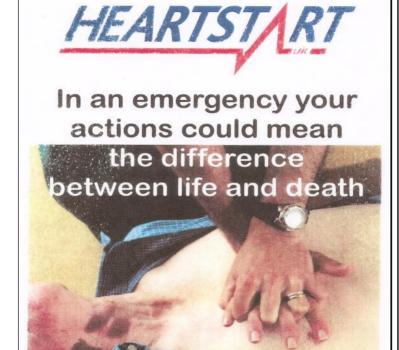
Saturday 21st December A Christmas Carol: in Concert

7.30pm GreeneMatthews

A retelling of the classic Christmas Carol. GreeneMatthews present the tale in narrative folk and carol song with traditional instruments

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

What's On Guide



To learn how to save a life takes just 2 hours. You can do just that at The Heron Theatre, Beetham on Tuesday 3rd December at 7:30pm

Booking not essential, just turn up. For further details phone 01524 761399

Starry Music



Sunday 15th December at 7.30pm Carver Uniting Church, Windermere

Antonio Lotti 'Missa Sancti Christophori' Gerald Finzi 'In Terra Pax'

> Levens Choir Conductor ~ Ian Jones String Ensemble Leader ~ Pam Redman Tickets £12 from 01539 730590 or at the door

Eversley

A Christmas Celebration of Carols

St Thomas Church Milnthorpe Monday 16th December at 7.3opm

Conductor: lan Jones Tickets £10 (child/student free) including refreshments from choir members, on the door, or online via www.everslevchoir.org

the Heron Corn Mill

Friday 6th December, 11.30am-1pm Mill Tour and Milling Demonstration

Join Stuart and his team for a tour to learn all about the historic Heron Corn Mill, and then watch as he mills our artisan flours aided by his trusty volunteers! Our freshly stoneground flours will be available for purchase following the demonstration, and there's a free tea, coffee, juice or soft drink with every adult ticket purchased. Tickets are priced at £5 for adults, while entry for under 16's is free

Thursday 12th December, 1.30-4pm Flax Spinning & Weaving Group

Stella would like to invite you to come along and spin flax while enjoying a brew and cake beside the fire in the Heron Corn Mill barn! There will be space for table looms, spinning wheels, distaffs and drop spindles. You don't need to come to every meeting, and support and advice will be available for novice spinners and weavers. Drop spindles will be available to borrow, and other spinning and weaving equipment will be available to try out at these friendly drop-in sessions



Heron Corn Mill, Mill Lane, Beetham ~ 015395 64271

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

The Athenaeum, Leasgill at 10am All are welcome!

12th December: Andy Gilchrist 'Apple Store'

Contact Patricia McPoland 015395 62765 McPoland@btinternet.com



Westmorland Orchestra Sunday December 8th 2019 at 3pm Lakes Leisure Kendal

> Conductor - Richard Howarth with Joo Yeon Sir - Violin

Prokofiev ~ Lieutenant Kije Suite Glazunov ~ Violin Concerto in A minor Dvorak ~ Prague Waltzes B.99 De Falla ~ Ritual Fire Dance Tomlinson ~ Suite of English Dances Herold ~ Cloq Dance, La Fille Mal Gardee Johann Strauss ii ~ Polka, Thunder & Lightning Tchaikovsky ~ Swan Lake Finale

Tickets via www.westmorlandorchestra.org.uk

PAGE 8



Friday 20th Dec @ MHUB Milnthorpe - Afternoon tea, Bingo, Christmas Quiz & Raffle

2 - 4:30pm

Family Disco

(competition for the best Christmas outfit) 5:30-7:30pm

We the young people of KEY have organised the event to connect with our community

FREE: Tea, coffee, squash & cakes & family disco Raffle, Fundraising tables & Bingo 50p a game

All money raised goes to the youth group - donations welcome

MILYTHORPE'S CHRISTMAS IN THE CROSS KEYS Saturday 7th DEC. 10am-3PM

> CHRISTMAS MARKET STALLS Music & Dance Entertainment Santa's GROtto (apmission £1) Raffle With Fantastic PRIZES

(HICKETS FROM THE CROSS KEYS OR MILITE MOSER)

Bells rina out for the Lantern Procession at 3.30pm from The Cross Keys to The Green for the Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on and Christmas Sonas around the tree at 4pm

Beetham Parish Council The next meeting will be on Monday 2nd December at 7pm in Storth Village Church

Members of the public are welcome to attend Minutes of previous meetings can be found on the website at www.beethampc.co.uk

ARNSIDE HIGHLIGHTS

Arnside Educational Institute, Church Hill, Arnside Saturday 7th December

The Dukes ,Lancaster present "Shaun the Sheep ~ Farmageddon" [U] 1.30pm "Judy" [12A] at 4.30pm "Fleabag" [15+] at 7.30pm

Tickets: First two films - Adults £7 per film or £5 for multiple films & Under 18s £5; Fleabag - £10 from Sue Hayward 01524 762254, suediane57@amail.com or The Little Shop, Arnside or online at dukes-lancaster.org



Sunday Worship in the Kent Estuary area

ARNSIDE ST JAMES

8.00am: BCP Holy Communion 9.30am: Morning Worship

Info: arnsidevillage.co.uk

BEETHAM ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

11.00am: Parish Communion

(See page 3 for Christmas service times)

Suna Evensona

(Note: Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols at 6.30pm) Info: beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

HEVERSHAM ST PETER

8.00am: BCP Holy Communion 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays

9.30am: Main Service:

1st and 4th Sundays: Parish Communion (CW)

2nd Sunday: Communion Praise (contemporary worship)

3rd Sunday: All Age Worship

10.30am: 5th Sunday: United service with Levens & Milnthorpe

6.30pm: 2nd Sunday: Open to God

Info: stpetersheversham.org

LEVENS ST JOHN

10.00am: Parish Communion:

MILNTHORPE ST THOMAS

2nd Sun: All-age worship; 5th Sun: United service Info: levens.org.uk

8.00am: BCP Holy Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays 11.00am: Main Services 1st, 2nd and 3rd: CW Communion

4th Sunday. Morning Praise

5th Sunday: United service with Heversham & Levens

11.00am: every week Sunday School for children Info via: stthomasmilnthorpe.org.uk

STORTH VILLAGE CHURCH

10.30am: Methodist and Anglican services each week Info: Revd David Stretton 01524 761397

METHODIST SERVICES

ARNSIDE

10.30am see website for details arnsidemethodistchurch.org.uk

MILNTHORPE

10.30am 3rd Sunday Worship 3pm 2nd & 4th Sunday Fellowship meetings. In Milnthorpe M-HUB

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



The Friends of Beetham Church organise events throughout the year to raise funds for the upkeep of the church and to maintain the strong sense of fun and community that exists in and around our church

Friends Membership is by Annual subscription of £10, a one-off payment of £100 for Life membership, or £150 for Joint Life members.

If you would like to play a part in maintaining our beautiful church for future generations please download the application forms at beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk, pick up a leaflet at the back of church, or email beethamnews@aol.com for a Membership pack



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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 at The Kingfisher - Norah Padgett 015395 62887

Helpline: 01539 728180: www.ageuk.org.uk/southlakeland

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Beetham Church Heritage Trust is registered with the donation website at easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bcht

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For details of the Friends of Beetham Church and how to become a member see the top of this page or visit beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

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SOUTH LAKELAND ageuk AGE UK **GENTLE EXERCISE CLASSES &**

> **REFRESHMENTS** Tuesday 10.30-11.30am Milnthorpe

Catholic Church Hall

Tuesday 9.30-10.30am & Friday 10.30am-12noon

Arnside

Methodist Church Hall

Huw & Iorraine welcome you to

The Old Beetham Post Office Shop & Tea Room



Open Thursday to Monday

Tel: 015395 62389

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