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A personal travelogue by John Falkingham Friday 23rd June

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THE GATEWAY

PARISH CHURCH OF ST.MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

LINDA'S LETTER

"One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, `Let us go across to the other side. ' While they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?'" Luke 8: 22-25

Jesus and his disciples are crossing the Sea of Galilee. They are moving from the Jewish side to the Gentile side; the side where they are at home to the side where they are strangers; the side where life is familiar to the side where it is new, different, and unfamiliar. Now we might not have crossed the Sea of Galilee but I would suggest that we have all - no doubt been in that boat. Because this is not just a story about foul weather and a boat trip - it is a story about life. It's a story about faith. It's a story about fear. And whenever we find ourselves up against one of these three things - we are usually up against all three for they are virtually inseparable.

Sometimes the sea of life is rough. The wind is strong. The waves are high. The boat is taking on water and sinking. We all know what that is like. Each of us could tell a storm story. Some of our stories will begin with a phone call, a doctor's visit, or news we did not want to hear. Some of them will start with the choices we have made, our mistakes we regret, or a skeleton in the closet. Other stories will tell about the difficulty of relationships, hopes and plans that fell apart, or the struggles to live within the unwelcome limitations of aging bodies. Some storms seem to arise out of nowhere and take us by surprise. While other storms build and bubble and brew as we watch over them.

Storms happen. Storms of loss and sorrow. Storms of suffering. Storms of confusion. Storms of failure. Storms of loneliness. Storms of disappointment and regret. Storms of depression. Storms of uncertainty and second guessing, Storms of thoughts and voices. Regardless of when or how they arise storms are about changing conditions. Life can be overwhelming and feel out of control. Things don't go our way. Circumstances can sometimes seem too much for us to handle. Order gives way to chaos, the water is deep and the new shore, a safe haven, is only a distant horizon.

The disciples are quick to make the storm about Jesus. "Do you not care that we are perishing?" We've probably all echoed their words in our own life storms. And we demand of Jesus to: "Do something. Fix it. Make it better." In the midst of the storm Jesus can seem absent, passive, uncaring. How can he sleep at a time like this? A sleeping Jesus is not what the disciples want and nor do we. Sleeping Jesus, however, is in the same boat and the same storm as the disciples. He is surrounded by the same water, blown by the same wind, beaten by the same waves. His response, however, is different. While disciples fret and worry he sleeps. The disciples want busyness and activity. But Jesus sleeps in peace and stillness.

His sleep reveals that the greater storm and the real threat is not the wind, waves, and water around us – but the more threatening storm is the one that churns and rages within us. That interior storm is the one that blows us off course, beats against our faith, and threatens to drown us. Jesus isn't changing the weather as much as inviting the disciples to change. The disciples have been pointing to what is going on outside them. Jesus now points to what is going on inside them. "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" Jesus' words are more about us than the circumstances of our lives, the storms we meet. Storms happen.

Faith, more faith, better faith, stronger faith, the right kind of faith will not eliminate the storms - faith does not change the storm. It changes us. Faith does not take us around the storm but through it. Faith allows us to see and know that Jesus is there with us in the midst of the storm. It means we do not have to let the storm overcome us. The love of God is deeper than any water that threatens to drown us. In every storm Jesus is present and his response is always the same, "Peace! Be still!" In every storm there are choices to be made. Do we put our faith in the power of the storm or is our faith in the power of God made visible in Christ Jesus?

Every blessing, Revd Linda



JUNE 2017

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Priest-in Charge **Rev Linda Lonsdale** Vice Chair/Churchwarden Brian Smalley Churchwarden John Dugdale Churchwarden Ian Stirrup PCC Secretary **Dorothy MacLeod** PCC Treasurer Graham Smith **Church Flowers Dianne Lomax Bell Tower Captain** Jenny Marks Church Electoral Roll Gail Crabb Beetham C of E School Wendy Nicholas "The Gateway" - Editor Jenny Marks Business Manager John Lomax **Church Services at Beetham in June** Date Time Service Fri 2nd June 12 noon Wedding Parish Eucharist 10am Sun 4th June. Pentecost 6pm Evensong Wed 7th June 9.30am Holy Communion Fri 9th June School Assembly 9am 10am Parish Eucharist Sun 11th June Trinity Sunday Evensong 6pm Wed 14th June 9.30am Holy Communion Fri 16th June School Assembly 9am Parish Eucharist/God for All 10am Sun 18th June *1st after Trinity* Evensong 6pm Holy Communion Wed 21st June 9.30am Fri 23rd June School Assembly 9am Parish Eucharist 10am Sun 25th June 2nd after Trinity Evensong 6pm Wed 28th June 9.30am Holy Communion

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

9am



Fri 30th June

St Michael & All Angels, Beetham extends a warm welcome to Bishop Robert on Sunday 18th June at 10am to celebrate God for All

and the Local Lay Ministry Service of Commissioning for Vivien Stirrup

Please join us for this special service and for refreshments afterwards



THE PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

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Oliver James and Emma Rose, son and daughter of Matthew and Karen Turner who were married here, were baptised on Sunday 7th May

We welcome them into Beetham Church

Baptism

Isla Helen Colguhoun, daughter for Robert & Kerrie who were married here, was baptised on Sunday 16th April

We welcome her into Beetham Church

Admission of Churchwardens



Our three new churchwardens, John Dugdale, Brian Smalley, and Ian Stirrup, were admitted to their office by Archdeacon Vernon Ross at St Mary's Church, Windermere, on Monday 22nd May, along with many other churchwardens from across the Deanery.

It is a special privilege to serve as a churchwarden and we thank them all for taking on this valuable and challenging role. Please give them your support in all their faith and work for St Michael & All Angels

CHURCH

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

Mr Darcy wanted to marry me! I could never feel affection for such a haughty glance. At the ball in Meryton there was no one in the room with whom he cared to dance. What of poor Jane and Bingley? He ensured their attachment did not stand a chance.

When he made his declaration I declined without hesitation, though he praised my fine, dark eyes. Now it seems, much to my surprise, I could be attracted to him even learn to care tenderly. be mistress of Pemberley! through Wickham's pack of lies with newly-opened fine, dark eyes.

© Sheila MacInnes



Thank you for your generous donations during Christian Aid Week, towards the refugee crisis The total raised for Beetham parish was £934.27

Kent Estuary Group

Milnthorp Milnthorpe Methodi Arnside Arnside Methodist Storth Village Beetham Holme Burton Levens Levens Methodis Heversham Crosscrake Helsington Natland

St Peter's Church Heversham Wednesday 7th June 7-9pm An introductory evening to review the

South Lakes Churches

Maintenance Co-operative

You are invited to

success to date of the SPAB Heritage Lottery Funded 'Faith in Maintenance' Project, and how we can help each other to carry on caring for our church buildings

> To include an inspection walk & "Managing Maintenance ~ It Can Be Done!"

Refreshments available All welcome

May Fundraising for Beetham Church

It has been a particularly busy month for the Friends of Beetham Church Committee, with three fundraising events in quick succession! The Annual Flower Festival Weekend this year was based on a theme of 'The Life and Times of Jane Austen' to celebrate her 200th anniversary. The

team of flower arrangers created imaginative displays

representing her books and life, and the festival was accompanied by an exhibition of Jane Austen and life in Beetham during the Regency period. Torrential rain on Saturday caused church but did not



flooding in the

deter a record

Anne Lofthouse and Jean Metcalfe, did a roaring trade - including sales of Bath Buns, and delicate biscuits decorated with quill pens created by Dorothy MacLeod.

Thanks go to Dianne Lomax and her team of flower ladies - and, for the first time, gentlemen - for such a beautiful display. Brian Smalley and Dennis Wright should be very proud of achieving a 'Silver-Gilt medal' for their floral interpretation of

Jane Austen and Bells, and we look forward to seeing their next arrangement! The weekend raised a record-breaking total of £735 for church funds.

Beetham's Big Duck Day commenced with the 13th Annual Duck Race, with grateful thanks again to Mr and Mrs Gardner for the use of their riverside field, and to Beetham Sports Committee for their marquee. Thanks also go to the local businesses and individuals that donated



such generous prizes, including Beetham Nurseries, Booths, The Wheatsheaf, and Beetham Tea Room. Duck ticket sales and refreshments raised a superb £1,285 for the church.

By kind invitation of Susie and Rupert Villiers-Smith, we again held a Church Plant Stall at Dallam Tower Open Garden Day. On a glorious sunny afternoon, in such a stunning setting, sales were brisk - and plant knowledge certainly tested! We hope



that your purchases are growing well, and thank you to everyone that supported the stall and helped on the day, raising **£165** for the church.

The fundraising continues in June - with our Garden Party and our Chinese Evening. Thank you!

CHIMES



Annual Duck Race on the River Bela











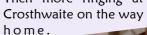




Tower Ringing Tour

This year the ringers decided to head north for their 'Grand Tour'. Starting at Chapel Stile in the sunshine, the regular ringers were joined by Ian & Viv Stirrupand they were not allowed to leave the tower without

having their first go at ringing! George and Norma Heaton also came up to meet us, so that 11 campanologists sat down for a very enjoyable lunch at the Wainwrights' Inn. Then more ringing at



Thank you to Brian Smalley for organising another great trip!



PAGE !

Our Yr 6 children celebrated the end of their test week with a lovely treat at the Old Post Office, which as you can see from the photo, they thoroughly enjoyed.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children for their first morning at school this month. Our other exciting news at school is that from September we will be offering provision for Nursery age children (3+) in our Early Years class. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this or the few places we have left for Reception, please do pass the information on.

One of the most anticipated events of the school year is the Residential visit for Yr 3 & 4.

This year they had a change of venue and spent 2 exciting days at Tower Wood on the East shore of Windermere. The weather was rather wet and miserable but the children hardly seemed to notice at all and spent a lot of time getting wet anyway! Here is what they had to say about their time away from home...

Morgan : I liked the Sky Pole because I got to the top and jumped and grabbed the trapeze and then got down, it was the best!

Emily : I had an amazing sleep and the next morning our first activity was sailing. We had to wear a wetsuit, a swimming costume, a waterproof suit and last of all a buoyancy aid. We were towed to the middle of the lake and then we had to sail back. Then we jumped off the jetty!

Maciej: We went canoeing in a real canoe and it was really fun. We started paddling and there were big waves, we went deeper and deeper. When we were in the middle of the lake we saw a speed boat and it looked amazing.

Holly : On Monday afternoon we did the 'Army Wall'. Harry was the step ladder and everyone had to climb onto him - he got a very muddy helmet when he lifted everyone up.

Lily: We did an obstacle course, it was very slippery. It was like a hot rain forest with all that rain! My favourite bit was the cargo net. I loved how it curled around me like a big tube.

Oliver : Before we went to bed Mrs Klijn read us a story & we had hot chocolate and Mrs Klijn's chocolate brownies, they were delicious.

After a while we went to bed and got cosy. As you can see the children had a wonderful time and really enjoyed the different activities and the opportunity to spend a night away with their friends. I'm sure that their visit to Tower Wood will remain a highlight of their time at Beetham School.

> Best wishes Wendy Nicholas



Beetham & Beyond

art Beetham's Big Duck Day 2017



True story of Saroo who age 5 years gets lost on a train and taken far from home to Calcutta. Eventually adopted, 25 years later he decides to find his birth mother, only from memories and Google Earth

Select your seats and book online at www.theherontheatre.com or pay at the door. The Box Office is now closed for the summer

Beetham WI News

Our record breaking attendances have continued into May, with 20 members and 6 visitors attending the talk by Mr Gordon Fletcher. His slides and facts about what is lurking within Morecambe Bay were certainly fascinating!

None of our members were lucky on the annual Duck Day, but hopefully the village was brightened up by the ducks we carefully cut out and stuck up.



Our Tuesday 6th June meeting is Dr Anne Urghart presenting on mentoring nurses in remote Nepal, 7pm at The Heron Theatre.

Guests are always welcome; please see the notice board near the Old Post Office for further information.

> Sarah Easton, W I President INSPIRIN











What's On Guide

Beetham's Big Duck Day

Once again, Beetham went completely quackers for the Big Duck Day. Ducks appeared from everywhere and the village turned yellow! Inspiration this year was taken from film, books, legends, food, transport and traders, and the threat of rain did nothing to dampen householders enthusiasm. Luckily the rain held off and the duck displays did not float away.

First prize went to Tess and Ned's 'Pond Wars' - an incredible display of all things Stars Wars related -

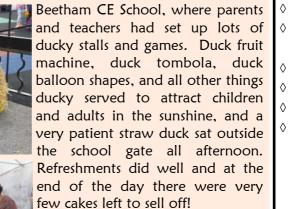
definitely appropriate for 'May the fourth' week! This was closely followed by the Duckville Express at Glenshee Cottage, heading for the 'next stop at the River Bela'.

Every part of Beetham went duck crazy, from Church St to Parsonage Fold, Stanley St, and central Beetham. The WI decorated their planters and their duck flag was again flying on the church!



Following the Annual Duck Race, the fun moved to







Beetham Sports Committee...

..are looking for volunteers to help set up the sports field and/ or to assist on the Sports Day on 29th July

If you can spare a couple of hours to contribute to this famous village event please contact Simon Greenwood or call Dennis Wright on 015395 62365

PAGE 8



Bringing together over 100 choral singers, semi-chorus, orchestra and four soloists in a dramatic telling of the story of the prophet Elijah. Tickets for the concert are £12 / Students FREE. Book now on 01539 733 944.

The 'Come and Sing' rehearsals will take place on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th July. For more information on participating please contact Margaret Jones on 01539 720 168

