

## Church Reopening Guidelines

Beetham Parochial Church Council have unanimously agreed to reopen the church for public worship from Sunday 12th July. Opening for private prayer and additional services remains under review and the church will continue to remain locked at all other times

Our public worship will be the celebration of the Eucharist with the following adaptations:-

- \* worshippers to arrive at the main entrance no earlier than 10.45am
- \* use the hand sanitiser provided upon entering the church building via the main porch only
- \* a temporary record of all those attending worship will be kept for 21 days
- \* strict social distancing measures of two metres to be maintained at all times, sitting only in pews with runners as identified to be used by the stewards (one household per pew) and limiting touching of surfaces as much as possible; kneelers have been removed
- \* service and hymn books have been removed, and separate printed liturgy sheets will be available in the usable pews each week (to be taken away at the end of the service)
- \* the Eucharist will be celebrated with those worshipping able to receive Holy Communion in one kind (consecrated bread) into the outstretched hands in silence, or to remain in their seats and pray a prayer of spiritual communion
- \* worshippers wishing to receive Communion are asked to remain in their seats until the steward indicates, and to use the hand sanitiser provided at the Chancel step
- \* only one person will be allowed into the Chancel at any time and should exit to the left or right to return to their seat via the side aisles
- \* there will be no singing, with the Eucharist being accompanied with music from the organ
- \* the Peace will not be shared physically
- \* the length of the service will be shortened
- \* donations may be left on the plate with the steward at the rear of the church
- \* the toilet will only be open for emergencies
- \* the kitchen will remain closed and refreshments will not be served at the end of the service; please bring your own bottled water if required
- \* at the end of the service please leave immediately, observing social distancing, and use the hand sanitiser provided at the exits via either the main door or the Lady Chapel door

A full risk assessment has been undertaken and approved, and the church has been cleaned and sanitised. Following national guidelines the church doors will remain open during the service for ventilation, and you are recommended to wear warm clothing. Face masks are optional, but social distancing should be maintained at all times. Thank you for your understanding

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

Priest-in-Charge	The Revd Andrew Norman	015395 62355	revdabn@gmail.com
Licensed Lay Minister	Vivien Stirrup	015395 64320	vstirrup7@aol.com
Licensed Lay Minister	Chris Roberts	015395 63019	lainyandchris@aol.com
Lay Chair/Churchwarden	Brian Smalley	015395 64778	b.e.smalley@btinternet.com
Churchwarden	Jenny Marks	015395 62559	jenny.marks@btinternet.com
Churchwarden	Ian Stirrup	015395 64320	ianstirrup02@gmail.com
PCC Secretary	Dorothy MacLeod	015395 62062	admdhm@live.co.uk
PCC Treasurer	John Lomax	015395 62648	j.d.lomax@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
Gateway advertising	John Lomax	015395 62648	j.d.lomax@btinternet.com

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



# THE GATEWAY

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



Celebrating our return to public worship with a  
**Parish Eucharist**  
said service at 11am on Sunday 12th July  
(Church open from 10.45am)



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



## Letter from The Revd Andrew Norman

Dear Friends

***'No man is an island entire of itself; every man  
is a piece of the continent, a part of the main'***

**John Donne (1572-1631) 'Meditation XVII'**



I wonder if you'd had chance yet to reflect on your own personal experiences over these last three months? In conversations over the phone, at a social distance or over email in recent weeks it's been wonderful to hear how different people across the parish have responded to the challenges that we've faced together in the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic. There have been stories of encouragement and joy, of support and solidarity, of isolation and anxiety, of a yearning for things to get back to 'normal' and a cautiousness in approaching what the future might hold.

In this, our little corner of rural Cumbria will be no different to hamlets, villages, towns and cities across the country, where we've seen heartening glimpses of what happens when as individuals we look not simply to our own interests, but with open hearts seek the good and welfare of others. We have seen this through a resurgence in the inherent value of kindness, neighborliness, and a generosity of spirit which has brought reassurance in what has been such a distorted and destabilizing period. It must be our fervent hope and prayer that as we look ahead none of us will forget what we have learned about ourselves and the importance of community, kinship and friendship in the days to come. For which, as in all things, we ask for the blessing and help of God.

If we read the stories of Jesus' life as recorded in the gospels, we find that he invested heavily in relationships and spending time in the company of others, particularly the marginalised, the outcast, the poor and needy. Those who others around him dismissed readily, Jesus welcomed with a generous hospitality that was the hallmark of his ministry, as he proclaimed God's love in word and deed. We see this recorded in the time Jesus spent with friends and disciples, with so-called sinners and untouchables, and how he gathered around him a community of people who shared in his vision of a world transformed, where there was to be forgiveness, healing and mercy for all.

Over the years this community of faith, of people who seek to follow the example of Jesus in everyday life, is what we understand as the Church; a group of people who knowing their need of God and accepting the free gift of his love, wish to play their part in bringing about the change which will ultimately make the world a better place. In this great work is the promise that we don't work in isolation from each other, but rather our wellbeing and flourishing is found to be connected to those around us. As Saint Paul reminds us, 'if one member suffers, all suffer...if one member is honoured, all rejoice' (1 Corinthians 12.26). A reminder that our flourishing and welfare is intimately bound up with those whom we live alongside - in families, in friendships and in wider communities - we seek to care for others because if we do not, somehow all of us are diminished.

This has been the way we have inherently acted these past months, actively seeking to do our utmost to encourage and comfort others in what has been not only a time of trial and difficulty but of immense grief and sadness for many. As we now prepare to face what seems an increasingly uncertain future as we continue to evaluate risks and how they might be mitigated, what will our response be? What will we seek to do differently? What changes might we need to make? And most importantly of all, how might God's grace enable through our prayers and lives to be active in love and service?

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

As ever,



### Post Script

*Please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can be of any help or support, or indeed if there is anything that I can remember in my prayers on your behalf. With the gradual easing of restrictions, I am pleased to arrange a suitably socially distanced visit in peoples' gardens, if the weather is favourable, so do please get in touch if that might be appreciated. This is particularly offered in support of those who, for the moment, will be choosing not to return to the church building for public worship.*

*If you know of any who are sick, struggling or isolated at this time, again, please do let me know. I have been touched to hear many accounts of people doing their best to support one another during these past months. May God bless all the ways in which his love and concern continues to be demonstrated through our care for each other. Pray for each other, as I keep on praying for you.*

### Beetham Church Online

Since Easter, the Revd Andrew Norman and our organist Geoff Field have been recording weekly Sunday services of worship and music for us all to listen to. Although public worship is now resuming we realise that not everyone will be able to return to our church building just yet. It has therefore been decided that the online services will also continue for the time being

Our grateful thanks go to Andrew and Geoff for their considerable time in producing these services. Each service includes the readings, sermon, prayers and blessing by Andrew, with two hymns, reflective interludes and organ voluntary by Geoff. The service is accompanied by a series of Sunday Reflections from Andrew and other material available to download from the website

The 'Coronavirus Resources' webpage also has links to our four YouTube services recorded by members of the congregation during Eastertide, as well as weekly links to other national and local livestream and recorded services available online

Please visit

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

### Socially Distanced Decision-Making



If you have been thinking that our Church committee meetings have all been taking place via Zoom, then think again. As rules began to relax we were able to meet outside the church - suitably socially distanced as you can see! First to arrive has the benefit of choosing the bench, so a good incentive to get there early

Many people have been involved in keeping the Church running during the lockdown and thank you goes to everyone who has played their part in ensuring our community, congregation and church building have all been safe. We are slowly coming to terms with the 'new normal' and have found new methods of working together, but let us hope and pray that we can all return to face to face meetings soon



## Beetham Life

As we emerge from the lockdown caused by the Covid-19 pandemic it is interesting to look back at earlier times when life for the people of Beetham was a challenge.

During the Incumbency of William Hutton, the Beetham Parish Registers make reference to numerous outbreaks of disease (and other forms of natural disaster). The following brief extracts from the registers give a flavour of what life was like for our ancestors. The original spelling, word order and punctuation have been retained.



### 1796:

Jan 13, 'Roger HADWEN (*was buried*). 'He did of a Typhus Fever, & his Sister. This is also a Scarlet Fever & sore Throat very general this Spring'

*(In November and December of 1796 the Parish Registers record 7 burials, all victims of Smallpox, mostly infants and children aged between a few months and 11 years, with one adult who died in the poorhouse.)*

### 1803:

NB that a very feverish Disorder nam'd Influenza affecting almost every Person began in this Parish the middle of March 1803 - few died; It held this Patient about a fortnight: began with running of the Eyes or Nose or both; great Pain at the Breast, a sore Throat, & much spitting; & rendered the Body very weak: much aking of the Bones also (this Disorder run thro' most parts of Europe)

Brian Smalley

## BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER ISSUE No 40, APRIL - JUNE 2020

We have all been affected by the terrible coronavirus pandemic and its devastating consequences. Life has changed beyond all recognition and may remain so for many months to come. Thankfully Beetham parish seems to have escaped the worst incidence of cases but everyone's daily routine will have been hard-hit. The Parish Annual Assembly was first to suffer. A great deal of work by members to better publicise this event, in the hope of attracting more local interest (and higher attendance), all came to nought when the inevitable decision had to be taken to cancel the event. Next to suffer was the April parish council meeting. In the absence of a traditional face-to-face meeting members exchanged views via email so that urgent matters could be progressed, with minutes of decisions taken being published. However, this procedure was ruled not to comply with central government guidelines and has since been replaced by 'virtual' online meetings. Despite widespread unfamiliarity with the new procedure, members are to be commended on their determination to make this work and these virtual meetings have now become the norm. One disadvantage has been the absence of members of the public; although few took advantage of live PC meetings to express their views, they were always welcome. They can continue to do this by joining the new online meetings – please contact the Clerk for details of the procedure.

The Parish Council continues to work at resolving day-to-day issues to keep the parish an attractive place to live. As was done with the underused BT phone kiosk in Stanley Street, Beetham, the similarly underused Carr Bank Road BT phone kiosk has now been taken over by the Parish Council and a defibrillator purchased and installed. Thanks to Sue Cox (First Responders) for her determination and practical advice in bringing this about. The new convex mirror at the B5282/Storth Road junction has been repositioned to provide better sight lines. A new outdoor seat has been ordered to replace a badly damaged one on Sandside promenade and forewarning of possible flooding in that area is to be provided by an electronic signal on the approaches. However, the problem of inconsiderate recreational anglers along the promenade remains, with pedestrians at times being forced to walk in the road in order to bypass fishing tackle blocking the footway.

Further traffic problems are foreseen with the imminent and long-awaited repairs to Park Road, Milnthorpe. A restricted traffic system will cause further delays at the Milnthorpe traffic lights, with no easily-accessed alternative routes. Traffic on the A6 in Beetham will also be affected by a new 30mph restriction where it crosses the River Bela whilst serious repairs are carried out to the bridge. New ways of controlling traffic speeds in this area are also being looked at.

Signage is often a problem – either too little or too much. The attraction of Fairy Steps to the general public is one such example. The provision of an incorrect postcode in the Google Maps software has led to drivers seeking Fairy Steps from a location where there is no Public Right of Way, resulting in walkers seeking the delights of this very special place trying to gain unauthorised and unwelcome entry via private property. An additional problem is that many walkers wish to park their cars within reasonable distance of their objective, which highlights the notable absence of suitable parking spaces in the area. After extended discussion and considering all aspects of this problem the Parish Council is hoping to reach a compromise solution that will go some way to meeting this need.

Parish Council contacts and minutes of the monthly meetings can be found at [www.beethampc.co.uk](http://www.beethampc.co.uk)

## 'Messages from America'

One of the last entries in our Church Visitors Book before lockdown read *"Had such a lovely time meeting everyone for coffee & cake & ringing the bells with Jenny & Phil"*. It was dated 3rd March and was from sisters Cassedy and Lorelei from America.

Cassedy and Lorelei were visiting Beetham and joined in the Village Coffee Morning in our church. They were given a warm welcome and enjoyed it so much that they returned later the same day. This time it was the quintessentially English custom of bellringing that drew them back into the church. Having never seen or tried ringing before they both thoroughly enjoyed having a go - and making a noise (which we have missed ever since!)

They loved this area, and went walking over Fairy Steps. However, they both admit that their favourite shop in this country was Fortnum and Masons...

They were able to return to the US before flights were disrupted. Cassedy has recently moved to Washington state and Lorelei lives in Arizona, and both work in the medical profession so we wish them and their families well at this worrying time.

They have kept in touch with us via Messenger since their return and it has been really interesting to hear how the US is coping during the pandemic restrictions. Just like us when not at work they have been spending more time in their local countryside, and Cassedy has turned her talent to watercolour painting

They both say hello to everyone they met, and to look them up if and when any of us travel to the US!



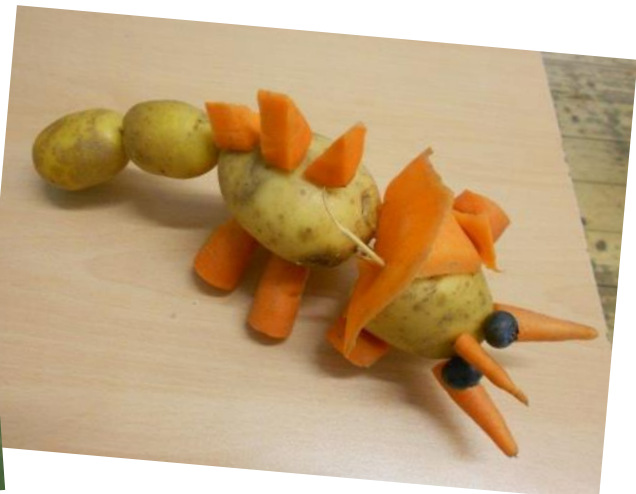
## Beetham Bellringers are still Zooming!



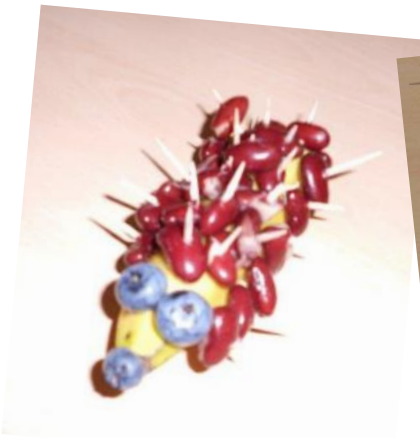
As mentioned in the June edition of The Gateway, the Beetham Tower and Handbell Ringers are continuing with a themed Zoom call every fortnight. This month one of the themes was 'a mask', which once again generated much laughter with an eclectic assortment of holiday purchases and homemade masks.

On the alternating weeks the Towerbell ringers are attempting to master the online ringing chamber known as the 'Ringing Room'. We are not quite there yet but will keep trying!





# School Corner



Since the last edition of The Gateway our school has now reopened and everything is going well. We have a maximum of 25 children in each day and every child in the school (except Nursery) is now attending on a part time basis. It is wonderful to see them all again and I know they are very happy to be back.

Our classrooms look rather different at the moment with all children having their own individual table - they tell me they are really enjoying this and want to continue in September!!

It is an important time for our Yr 6 children as they only have a few weeks left before they leave us and move on to Secondary School. They have a day in school altogether on a Friday and are doing some transition work to help them get ready for the move. Secondary schools have worked hard to provide videos so the children can have a virtual tour of the school and meet some of the staff as they are obviously unable to visit at the moment.

One of the Home Learning topics which we have also been enjoying in school is 'Fabulous Food'. We have been learning to order food in French, designing a healthy meal, finding out about all the different types of pasta, singing 'Food Glorious Food' from Oliver and learning about the Bible story of the 'Feeding of the 5000.'

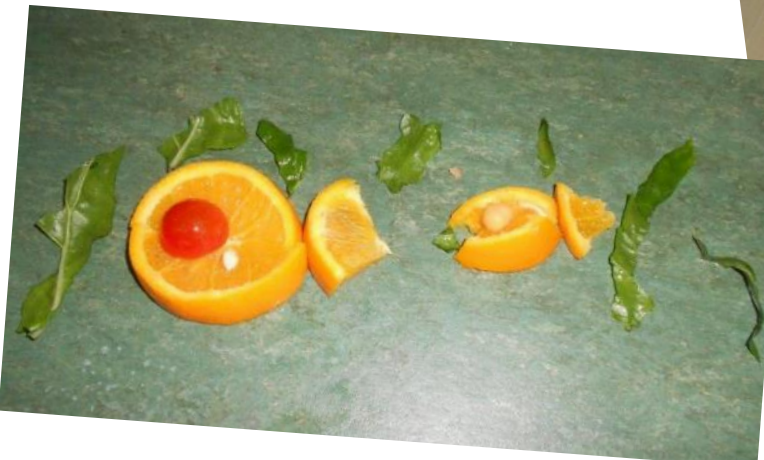
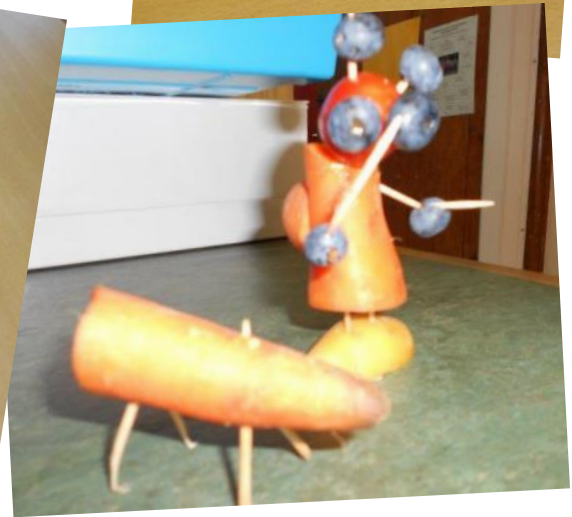
Our Art/Dt activity was to design and make an animal, bird, alien or creature from fruit and vegetables - I'm sure you will agree from looking at the photos that the children were very inventive and made some super creations.

Many of you will have noticed the signs on our railings in support of the temporary 30mph restriction on the A6 past our school. We have set up a petition with Councillor Pete McSweeney to try and make the reduction in speed permanent. This would make a big difference to the safety of everyone at school but would also hopefully impact on safety in the village. Please log in and sign the petition on the following link to show your support <http://chnq.it/ZBmNJTPt>, we are aiming for 1000 + signatures so please help if you can.

The end of term will be rather different for us this year but I'm sure that we will be able to celebrate in some way before finishing for the summer holidays.

As this is the last edition before the end of the school year, can I wish you a lovely and safe summer from all the children, staff and governors at Beetham CE Primary School.

Wendy Nicholas





## Beetham WI still keeping busy!

Members continue to remain active and busy during these restrictions as well as keeping in touch and supporting each other. They have managed to get many household and gardening jobs completed, much baking has been created, learnt new skills, delved deeper into family history and participated in Internet exercise classes. Enjoying the delights of the great outdoors as they relax and read – and for others, cycling, walking and running through the beautiful countryside that surrounds us.

Knitting needles and sewing machines have been in constant use as members continue to be creative, and though, sadly, not able to exhibit some of their items at this year's cancelled Westmorland County Show, looking on the brighter side, many Christmas presents have already been made! Protective items continue to be sewn and distributed to those on the front-line, some by members who are, themselves, key workers.

Recording their time during the pandemic, members have also taken to using a camera, paintbrush and pen and here is a poem that our Treasurer, Jane Walton, wrote in the Spring

And our President, Louise, who works for the North West Ambulance Service, sent this poem out to our members in April which was written by her 10-year old grandson, Lucas Hayden

### To Each Morning

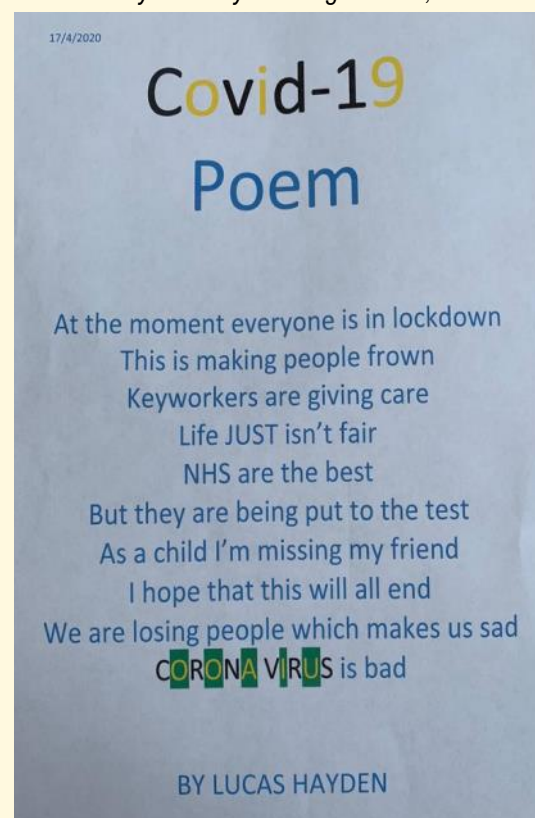
I woke up this morning  
to the bright chime of birdsong  
whilst others woke, sobs clotted in their throats  
at not having said goodbye.

I woke up this morning  
and walked amongst the hedgerows  
starred with flowers and burgeoning promise  
whilst others had seen their last spring.

I woke up this morning,  
breathed in the warm air, scented with blossom  
and felt immeasurably grateful.

I will sleep tonight  
under a sky awash with bright moonlight  
Whilst others will work, bone tired,  
Without the luxury of rest,  
To ensure others see the dawn.

I woke up this morning  
and was thankful...



theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN



## BEETHAM NURSERIES

### Garden Cafe

After a good few weeks of closure we are back open, serving a reduced menu for takeaway

Limited outdoor seating is now available and limited toilet facilities are now open

Garden Cafe  
Opening Hours  
Mon – Sat 9.30- 4  
Sun 10.00 - 4

## the HERON theatre, Beetham

For our latest news we have put together a video on YouTube, reminding you that there is 'No Business Like Show Business' and that we will be back as soon as we can!

Take a look at  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3MsMIGrYys>  
www.theherontheatre.com



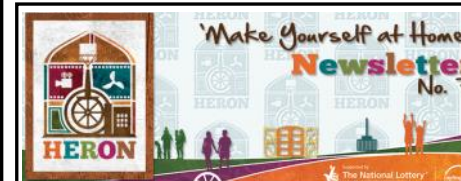
## The Old Beetham Post Office Shop & Tea Room

Huw & Lorraine welcome you back to their  
Village Shop & Tea Room

Now open Thursday to Sunday  
from 10am - 2pm



Tel: 015395  
62389



Heron Corn Mill has not yet reopened due to our current programme of repair and maintenance. We are also continuing to

monitor the ongoing Covid 19 situation both locally and nationally before we settle on a date to reopen to the visiting public.

In the meantime we are continuing our newsletters with recipes from our Bread of Heron team, crafting projects from Kerry, fascinating facts and more that you can try out in the comfort of your own home!

To subscribe to the newsletter go to  
[www.heronmill.org/projects/make-yourself-at-home](http://www.heronmill.org/projects/make-yourself-at-home)



## "MUSIC CAN CHANGE THE WORLD"

Beethoven

As I type this, the restrictions to our life are gradually being lifted. We will be entering a 'new normal', whatever that will mean... We have all missed family and friends, events, making music together in any way. Technology has played a huge part in keeping the music of Beetham going. As a frequent reader of my little column, you will be aware of Beetham Band embracing Zoom to keep us, in tune.....ish.



By using this portal we have recently pulled off a wonderful surprise for two of our band members. Meeting covertly, we practiced an arrangement of Congratulations which we played to Viv and Ian to mark their Golden Wedding anniversary on the 20th of June. Remarkably, we managed to arrive unseen and unheard, to surprise them as we played a socially distanced rendition accompanied by some fine voices. It was a lovely thing to do and reinforced how much music really does reach people in such a unique way. It also made me realise that good as technology is, I really missed my musical friends and cannot wait to get back to meeting up to make music in our usual way.



So, yes we have been apart for a long time, but the fellowship is hale and hearty and the welcome to any new players will, as always, be warm and friendly. Should you want to find out more about that welcome please contact Tess on 015395 63254

Don't let the fear of the time it will take to accomplish something stand in the way of doing it. The time will pass anyway, might as well put that passing time to the best possible use. Take care, be kind to yourself and your instruments.

## Bird Quiz Answers from June Gateway

- 1)  KINGFISHER
- 2)  OSPREY
- 3)  GOLDENEYE
- 4)  SHELDUCK
- 5)  WAXWING
- 6)  STONECHAT
- 7)  HOUSE SPARROW
- 8)  GOLDFINCH
- 9)  FLYCATCHER
- 10)  FIELDFARE
- 11)  BARN OWL
- 12)  PEREGRIN

## BEETHAM AID CORONAVIRUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

As a community we are continuing to do our best to support those who need our help at this time

**If you need assistance with anything:  
shopping - collecting prescriptions - posting letters -  
having a friendly chat - or anything else  
please ring the Support Line on  
015395 63368**

**or email [estateoffice@dallamtower.com](mailto:estateoffice@dallamtower.com)**

**If you reach an answer phone please leave a message  
with your name, address, telephone number and  
requirements and we will return your call.**

**If you wish to volunteer to help please ring  
015395 64778**

**or email [beethamaid@btinternet.com](mailto:beethamaid@btinternet.com)  
leaving your name, address, phone number/email**

**All calls will be treated in confidence & all safety  
precautions will be taken by the volunteers**

**Thank you for your assistance, and please keep safe  
Beetham Church and the Beetham Aid Support Group**



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

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Anne Robinson 015395 63191



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

**Beetham Church Heritage Trust**  
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During this time of increased online shopping please help to support us by using these two websites...  
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**September deadline for The Gateway**  
The deadline for contributions for the September edition is noon on **Monday 24th August**  
Please send contributions to the editor, Jenny Marks  
Email: beethamnews@aol.com; Tel: 015395 62559  
View this and past editions of the The Gateway online at **beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk**