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LINDA'S LETTER

Advent blessings, Revd Linda

DECEMBER 2014

They went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Matthew 2:9-11

Have you ever noticed just how much of our everyday life is taken up with waiting: we stand in queues at the shops, in post office and in supermarkets. We sit nervously in doctors and dentist waiting-rooms. We wait in our cars at traffic lights and for that coveted vacant parking place. We can wait for the slow process of healing to take its time, or for that letter in the post, that sometimes never comes. Or we can wait excitedly for the birth of a much wanted, much prayed for child.

Waiting can be very different in all these different situations, and according to our own attitude and temperament. In an age of, must have, can't wait, instant gratification, any delay can be viewed as a purely negative thing, for time, like money cannot be squandered. Yet some things cannot be hurried; we have to let them take the time they need. 'You can't make the grass grow by pulling it', as the proverb wisely warns.

Advent is a celebration of that waiting. It looks both back and forwards - back to the old prophecies of the coming Messiah, forward to the time when Christ will come again. Its human images are the Patriarchs and the Prophets, John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary, all waiting, all watching for the promised Son of God.

We too know we are supposed to be anticipating the birth of Jesus and preparing for his re-birth in our lives, but what happens if we turn that around. What if we look at Advent as a time of Jesus waiting for us, waiting for us to give up our preoccupations, our worries, our unnecessary anxieties. How would this 'turn-around' change our approach to Advent this year? Can we envisage Jesus as the patient wait-er, waiting to fulfil our every need - if only we could allow him into our lives. Or does the thought of Jesus waiting upon us seem so very foreign? Allowing Jesus to wait on me would be to admit that I am in need of something I cannot provide for myself. And that can be really challenging!

In our Lady Chapel one of the stained glass windows depicts Holman Hunt's 'Light of the world' showing Christ holding a lantern and standing at the door knocking; it's based on a verse of scripture:

I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. Revelation 3: 20

Christ is the One who is patiently waiting at the door of your heart, knocking, eager to be invited into your crowded life. Can the call to Advent be really a call to simply BE - to revel in the knowledge that God is waiting for you to recognize his presence, to accept his love for you, to say 'yes' to the miracle of rebirth.

God is waiting! God is waiting for us to become as simple as the shepherds, as wise as the magi, as brave as Joseph, as open as Mary. God gives us this time each year to become the best we can possibly be and waits year after year for you and me to wake up, to see His star shinning in the night sky and to have the faith and the courage to follow it, where ever it may lead us.

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect Light.

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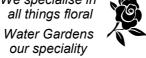
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Church services at Beetham in December Service 9.30am Holy Communion 3rd December 2.45pm Edward Bear Club 4th December School Assembly 2.45pm 5th December Parish Eucharist 10am 7th Dec, 2nd Sunday in Advent 6.30pm Evensong 7th Dec, 2nd Sunday in Advent 9.30am Holy Communion 10th December School Rehearsal 2pm l 1th December Christmas Musical 6.30pm 11th December 2.45pm School Assembly 12th December St Lazarus Service 11am 13th December 10am Parish Communion 14th Dec, 3rd Sunday in Advent 6.30pm Evensong 14th Dec, 3rd Sunday in Advent 7.30pm Rehearsal 16th December Holy Communion 9.30am 17th December School Carol Service 2pm 18th December 10am Parish Eucharist 21st Dec, 4th Sunday in Advent 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols 21st Dec, 4th Sunday in Advent 9.30am Holy Communion 24th December Christingle 4pm 24th Dec, Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass 24th Dec, Christmas Eve 10am Christmas Eucharist 25th Dec, Christmas Day 10am Parish Eucharist 28th Dec, Holy Innocents

Please check Church noticeboards or www.achurchnearyou/beetham for any changes to services

6.30pm

9.30am

NO EVENING SERVICE

Holy Communion

FRIENDS OF BEETHAM CHURCH

A reminder that the Beetham Church Heritage Trust is registered with the on-line donation website at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/bcht

28th Dec, Holy Innocents

31st December

Help support the Trust by using this website for your on-line shopping - it will cost you nothing For details please pick up a leaflet in church

Funerals



Anne Glover, 1st November Ken Hibberd, 19th November Jack Baldwin, 26th November

Extract from Eulogy for Ken Hibberd by John Lomax

Beetham Church has always been at the centre of the community, not least because of our monthly magazine "The Gateway" which is not just a church magazine but very much a community one. That this is so is very largely thanks to Ken Hibberd who for ten years or so has been the business manager, arranging advertisers and invoicing them.

It was the ministry of Ian Davies in the early 2000's that helped Ken through the difficult time of his wife Jean's illness and eventual death. Ken soon became a regular here at Beetham Church and before long was involved more and more. Without Jean any longer, Ken set about keeping himself busy. He became a member of the Church Fabric Committee, where his practical skills were much valued, and quickly became Chairman. Soon too he was elected Churchwarden, a post he filled faithfully and most capably for six years, continuing the established Beetham tradition of ensuring that all who entered Beetham Church received the warmest of welcomes!

His big project for the Church was to bring to fruition the aim to brighten the interior of the church. A major scheme was devised for the renewal of the electrics, new lanterns. paint for the walls and much more. Ken sought out contractors, arranged a tender process and was about to put the scheme in motion when he was taken ill. This wasn't enough to deter him: armed with his mobile phone he set the project going from his hospital bed and was able to see the project through to its successful conclusion

Ken was also, from the outset, a leading supporter of the Friends of Beetham Church and an enthusiastic Committee member. The Annual Duck Race, too, benefitted from his own business 'Petrospec' sponsoring the race each year

Ken's illness over the last five years never quite cleared up yet he bore one episode after another, and frequent hospitali sations, with amazing fortitude and stoicism. Ken continued to attend church as often as possible, occupying his pew at the back. We would always know when Ken was there, for, try as he might, he was quite unable to whisper and even the quietest aside he might utter to his pew-companion would be audible to all! But he wouldn't ever have cause for embarrassment, for Ken never had a bad word to say about anyone.

And, I'm sure, not one of us would ever have a bad word to say about Ken – a lovely man and a Christian gentleman.

CHURCH

WINTER PRUNING

Nature clears out at the end of the year: strong winds gusting through trees, bring down weakened branches from the damson and plum to spit and crackle on the fire.

Leaves which shimmered and flamed in the late autumn sun, now swirl around gravestones or lie trapped in hedges of hawthorn.

Starting from each pointed leaf tip, discolouration spreads like a rash as sap dries up within nettles, blackened and shrivelled by the frost.

Acorns squirrelled away before hibernation, are stored in secret larders; blackbirds have stripped the rowan tree.

Berries still cluster on churchyard holly soon to be picked for the Nativity.

© Sheila MacInnes

Pop IN For CoFFee & Cake

Wednesday 3rd December 10.15am to 12.00

> Join us in church for Beetham Village Coffee Morning

on the first Wednesday of each month (except January)

There is no charge and all are welcome



Bygone Beetham



of Beetham
Church before
the chancel
screen was
erected in 1910



Do you enjoy singing carols?



choral tradition, with a robed choir at Morning Service and Evensong Rehearsals will shortly begin for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, under the musical direction of Charles Edmondson, and we would welcome additional male and female voices in the choir

If you are interested in joining please contact Margaret Cutress on 015395 62858

Reflections on Remembrance by Harry Lister

Transported to the cenotaph from my comfortable chair

By whispered prayers and commentaries winging through the air

Where bowed in silent homage we reach the eleventh hour

As the Queen then all the dignitaries place the Flanders flower.

The sounding of the Last Post that lingering bugle call

Deep silence then a cannon shot echoing down Whitehall

Stirring martial music and traditional songs and hymns

In honour of the fallen heroes who lost their lives and limbs

Proud bemedalled warriors who defy the passing years

Engulfed by the flood of memories from an ocean of salt tears

Scarred minds and limbless bodies and others with sightless eyes

Plagued by the burden of knowing where the unknown soldier lies

And the re-occurring nightmare of trenches splashed with red

Yet the dogs of war still flourish and millions more are dead



Christingle

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

The Beetham Christingle Service will be held on 24th December and we would like to thank Booths Milnthorpe for again kindly donating all the oranges this year

Turn an orange into life-changing support



Children's Society

Christingle Service
24th December at 4pm

Visit www.christingle.org Call 0300 3030 555

What's been happening

November work party



The sun shone for a special work party to plant nearly 4,000 bulbs in the old churchyard. A delightful mixture of daffodils, iris, fritillaria, umbellatum and other bulbs were carefully planted in selected grass areas according to their flowering season and growth needs. Combined with snowdrops planted earlier in the year and crocuses planted by the school, the bulbs should make a spectacular display over several months next spring

Thanks are again due to Beetham Parish Council for their grant of £500 for the bulbs, to Dallam Tower and Beetham Nurseries for their expert plant advice, and to Dallam Tower Estate for their welcome additional manpower on the day to help the working party to get all the bulbs planted in one morning!

Beetham Year of Remembrance





This special year of remembrance continued in Beetham with a concert given in the church by the Lytham St Annes Choral Society, commemorating the outbreak of World War 1 in 1914. The programme included light-hearted songs of the era, nostalgic wartime songs, and moving readings and reminders of the atrocities and huge loss suffered by all families and nations. £60 was donated to the British Legion Poppy Appeal, and £100 to the Choral Society, who kindly offered to donate the remaining £200 to the Beetham Church Heritage Trust. Many thanks go to Sue Smalley for organising (and taking part in) such a successful event

The final act of remembrance of the year was the traditional service, reading of the Beetham roll of honour, and two minutes silence held on Remembrance Sunday at the Beetham War Memorial. Many came to pay their respects, and wreaths were laid on behalf of the Royal British Legion, Beetham Parish Council, SLDC, and Beetham Sports Committee, as well as a number of personal tributes. The British Legion flag was carried by Sheila Ashburner, the Last Post was played by trumpeter Chris Stoneham, and the church bells were rung half-muffled



Poem contributed by Jean Metcalfe

school Corner

We are now busy with all our preparations for Christmas but in particular learning our musical which this year is called 'Gold, Frankincense & Mirth!' The children are busy learning lines, songs and dances as well as organising costumes and props. We always look forward to our performances in the church and for school this really feels like the perfect start to Christmas. We have two performances on Thursday 11th December - a dress rehearsal at 2.15pm and a full performance at 6.30pm. We hope that lots of people from the village and church community will join us for this special telling of the Christmas Story



This half term we have been thinking about children who are not as lucky as the children at Beetham School and doing what we can to help them by supporting 'Children in Need.' The School Council organised a 'wear spots' day, a raffle and colouring competition, a cake and biscuit sale and sold Pudsey key rings and wrist bands. In total we raised £181.71 which is a tremendous effort for our small school and will be counted in with the massive total of over £32 million pounds which was raised in the UK



As well as raising money to help others we also work very hard to raise funds for our own school. These help to pay for additional equipment and extra activities which make our school a lively and fun place to learn. Our Winter Fair was a great community event with lots of stalls, games and lovely Christmas gifts to buy. It was a really busy day with fabulous refreshments served in our outdoor marquee and lots of people helping run stalls and others visiting to join in the fun. We managed to raise over £1400 and are still collecting money from the wonderful puddings we have been selling. So a big 'Thank You' to everyone who helped out in any way at all and contributed to our event being such a success



The children who learn musical instruments at school are busy now preparing for our Carol Service which takes place on the last day of term - Thursday 18th December at 2pm in church. Our newly formed handbell groups are also busy practising under the guidance of Jenny Marks and Anne Fielden, who are very kindly visiting school every week to work with the children and develop their handbell ringing skills



I hope that we will see many of the Gateway readers at our musical performance and our carol service so it only remains for me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year from the children, staff, parents and governors at Beetham CE School

Best wishes, Wendy Nicholas

Christmas Carol Quiz (answers on page 10)

- When did Good King Wenceslas look out?
- In Away in a Manger what were lowing?
- Can you name one of the Three Kings?
- Ding Dong Merrily on High—where are the bells ringing?
- What did my true love buy for me on the sixth day of Christmas?
- Were the shepherds who were watching their flocks standing or sitting?
- We wish you a merry Christmas, but what do we want you to bring us?
- Which bears the crown—the holly or the ivy?
- What sort of road did the little donkey walk along?
- Can you name any of Rudolph's eight reindeer friends?





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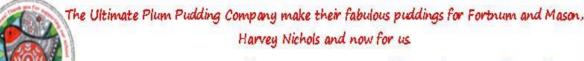
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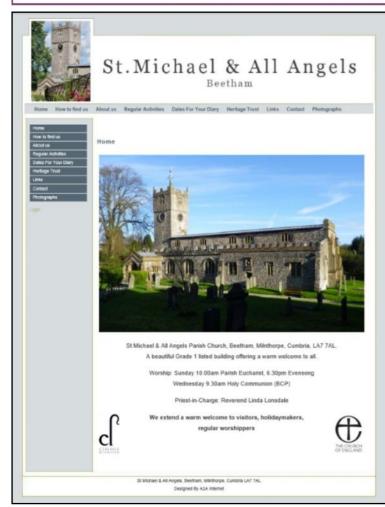
Beetham & Beyond

Look what Beetham School have got for you this Christmas!



Ultimate Plum Christmas Pudding, Triple Chocolate Pudding and Sticky Toffee Pudding

For sale in Beetham Village Store & Beetham School—all money raised will go to the school



Beetham Church Website Launched!

St Michael & All Angels now has it's own website at beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

The site is still under development, and new pages and content will continue to be added over the next few weeks, but make sure you add the site to your favourites for the latest church and community news

As well as information about the church itself there are pages detailing regular activities, dates for your diary, the work of the Beetham Church Heritage Trust, and useful contacts. There are links to other sites in the parish, such as Beetham School, The Wheatsheaf, and Beetham Nurseries (with other links planned), and also to current and past editions of The Gateway magazine

Please take a look and let us know what you would like to see on the website as it expands. We would also like to hear from you if you have any contributions—photographs, activities or additional useful links

Developed locally by A2A in Milnthorpe, the website is intended as a community resource with the church at the heart of the parish, and it needs your help to make it work!

> All suggestions and comments are welcome, and for further information please contact Brian Smalley at b.e.smalley@btinternet.com







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What's On Guide for December

Levens Choir present Handel's Messiah



Written in one month in 1742 and a firm favourite with singers and audiences alike, Levens Choir will be joined by the Kent Sinfonietta, led by Roland Fudge, and four soloists – Philippa Hyde, Joyce Tindsley, Stephen Newlove, and Jolyon Dodgson

December 7th St Martin's Church Bowness at 7pm

December 9th Kirkby Stephen Parish Church at 7pm

Tickets £12 at the door (accompanied children and students free), or from Huttons Chocolates in Bowness, Upper Eden Visitor Centre in Kirkby Stephen, from choir members or by phoning 01539 730590. Save £2 per ticket if purchased before the day of the concert

www.levenschoir.net



Pop-up café @ Beetham Tea Room

Every Tuesday until 16th December, 10am-4pm

Hearty soup with seasonal sandwich & crisps £5

Classic cake & coffee £3.50





December Programme

the HERON theatre

Saturday 6th December A CHRISTMAS CAROL 2.30pm Matinée & 7.30pm Folksy Theatre

"There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humour" said Charles Dickens and this production brings his classic to life in a brand new adaptation, with live performers, puppetry, music and multimedia, bringing something a little different to the much loved text.

Friday 12th December

THE INVISIBLE WOMAN FILM AT THE HERON

At the height of his fame and trapped in a loveless marriage, with a wife whom he despises. Charles Dickens falls in love with a young actress. They embark on a passionate affair but for a number of years, this is kept secret and the woman leads a life of "invisibility". Years later she looks back on this period.

Friday 19th December A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS Blast From the Past

A fun and festive celebration of the Yuletide our ancestors would have known, in an evening of music, song, stories and drama from the time of Dickens and Hardy. There are favourite carols as well as more obscure, but no less beautiful, festive songs and a Christmas tale of the Court of King Arthur.

Select your seats and book on line at www.theherontheatre.com The Box Office re-opens on 2nd September Tel 015395 64283 Beetham Village Store & Tea Room supplying local organic fruit and vegetables from Growing with Grace We have a wide range of seasonal produce but please order if you require anything in particular

Quest

Quest meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from September until March at The Athenaeum, Leasgill, from 10am until noon

Dec 11th —'The Life and Times of John Ruskin' by Freddie Harris

8th Jan —'Arabian Peninsula' by Mo Holland 22nd Jan-Lake District Architecture & Industrial Heritage' by Andy Lowe

Visitors are welcome Contact John Whitehead on 015395 62101

SOUTH LAKELAND AGE UK

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LUNCH CLUBS - Meet noon for 12.30pm lunch

Arnside Lunch Club 1st Friday of each month at The Albion, Arnside. Janet Bolton 01524 762559 Storth Lunch Club 2nd Thursday of each month at The Kingfisher, Sandside. Norah Padgett 015395 62887 Sandside Lunch Club 3rd Wednesday of each month at The Ship, Sandside. Janet Bolton 01524 762559

GENTLE EXERCISE CLASSES & REFRESHMENTS

Wednesday 10.30am **Storth Village Hall**. Mike Crawford: 015395 60736 Friday 10am **Arnside Methodist Church Hall**. Eileen Walters:01524 761720

Age UK South Lakeland, 01539 728180, www.ageuk.org.uk/southlakeland Village Agent for Arnside, Carr Bank, Sandside, Storth, Beetham and Farleton mparker@ageuksouthlakeland.org.uk



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The Church of England

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

6.30pm: 1st Sunday various styles of worship

Info: arnsidechurch.webplus.net Revd David Cooper 01524 761319

BEETHAM ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

10.00am: Parish Communion 6.30pm: Choral Evensong

> Info: beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk Revd Linda Lonsdale 015395 62412

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

4.00pm - 5.00pm: Messy Church for Families on 3rd Sunday

6.30pm: Evening Prayer with hymns on the 4th Sunday

Info: stpetersheversham.org Revd Susan Wilson 015395 63125

LEVENS ST JOHN

10.00am: Parish Communion: 2nd Sunday All-age worship Info: levens.org.uk Revd Ruth Crossley 015395 60223

MILNTHORPE ST THOMAS

8.00am: BCP Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays 11.00am: Main Services 1st, 2nd and 4th: CW Communion

3rd Sunday: Morning Praise

11.00am: every week Sunday Circle for children

6.30pm: on the 2nd Sunday: Café Church

Info: Revd Susan Wilson 015395 63125

STORTH VILLAGE CHURCH

10.30am: varied Anglican and Methodist services

Info: Revd David Cooper 01524 761319 / Revd David Stretton 01524 761397

METHODIST SERVICES

ARNSIDE

arnsidemethodistchurch.ora.uk

MILNTHORPE

10.30am 3rd Sunday of month in Community Room at Milnthorpe Firs Rd Children's Centre

LEVENS

10.30am levens.org.uk Info: Revd David Stretton 01524 761397

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CHRIST THE KING

Sunday, 9.30am

Info: Mar Flattery 015395 62387

1. Feast of Stephen

MILNTHORPE

2. Cattle

3. Balthazar, Melchior,

Casper

4. Heaven

5. 6 geese a laying

6. Seated

7. Figgy pudding

Donner, Blitzen

8. Holly

9. Dusty

10. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid,

fishwicks.funerals@virgin.net

January edition of The Gateway

The Gateway welcomes news and other articles of interest to our readership and would be pleased to receive articles for print. The deadline for the next edition is lunchtime

Wednesday 31st December 2014

Please send contributions to the editor:-Jenny Marks

Email: beethamnews@aol.com Tel: 015395 62559

Keeping rural skills alive

Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

(AONB) was delighted to be able to host the first of the 2014/15 Lancashire & Westmorland Hedgelaying Association Grand Prix competitions in Yealand Redmayne last month. Competitors entered Championship, Open and



Novice classes, with hedges laid in the traditional Westmorland style, and udged for being stock-proof, tidv and for their hedae re-arowth aualities.

Jack Carradice, winner of Best Hedge of the Day.

Tony Riden, AONB Countryside Officer said "A well-laid hedge will make the field stock-proof for the farmer and regenerate the hedge with new growth providing a wonderful haven for wildlife. This competition seeks to keep the traditional rural skill of hedgelaying alive so that they remain so for many years to come"

Tel: 01524 761034; Email: info@arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk

Cumbria Ecumenical Spirituality Group

'Nourishing The Soul', Rydal Hall

Course of 10 one day per month sessions starting 28 Feb to:

- Discover more about your Christian spiritual heritage
- Experience different ways of praying
- Meet with others on a similar journey of discovery
- Consider becoming a spiritual director

For further details contact Chris Wood cesg.chriswood678@yahoo.co.uk



Beetham CE School Toddler Group



Every Friday during school term at 1.30pm. Play, Dance and fun! All babies and toddlers welcom



Beetham Church Roof Security

Following the theft of the roof lead last year, the final level of new protection has been added-with ballisticsinspired technology. Designed by a former police detective, specialist company Trace-in-Metal has fired thousands of microdots into the lead, marking them with a unique identifying code. The dots-which are almost invisible to the naked eve—are also painted on to each sheet using an all-weather lacquer that shows up under ultra-violet light. Even smelting cannot destroy the nickel dots and the marking provides traceability which will help legitimate dealers to refuse to buy stolen metals. Signs have been positioned around the church and Trace -in-Metal have added Beetham to their social network system to automatically alert police and local dealers

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Richard Corrie's Sunday Breakfast 6.00am to 9.00am

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> **CHARTER** FUNERAL PLANS

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