

Beetham's Family Easter Trail



Can you
complete
the Beetham
Easter Trail?

Make your way around the village and find
10 eggs which tell the story of Easter!

Friday 27th March –
Sunday 5th April, 9.30am – 5pm

Collect your free booklet from the porch of
St Michael & All Angels Church,
follow the map around the village to find all
the posters, and have fun doing the activities
along the way whilst learning all about
the Easter story.

A prize awaits you
at the end of the trail!

For more info, contact
revhannahwallace@gmail.com

Beetham Duck Day

Saturday 2nd of May 2026 10:30am

River Bela at Ellers Meadow

by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Gardner

First duck race
at 11am

Free entry



Stalls
& games

Raffle
& prizes

Food
& drink

Race tickets available from Friends of Beetham Church Committee
or John Lomax 015395 62648

All proceeds will go to the Church and Primary School

Beetham Church Flower Festival 2026 'IN CELEBRATION OF MUSIC'

23rd May ~ 25th May

Free entry ~ Flower displays ~

Live music ~ Refreshments



THE GATEWAY

Parish Magazine of
St Michael & All Angels, Beetham

April 2026

Springtime Gardens

The late-nineteenth century poet Gerard Manley Hopkins reminds us, that 'nothing is so beautiful as Spring', and looking out of the window onto my garden on a mild and sunny late-March day, I cannot help but concur with Hopkins' sentiment. Our admittedly rather-too-many daffodils are in full triumphant bloom. Contrasting with them there are hellebore flowers, some white and green, others various shades of pink and burgundy. And by way of further contrast, there are dark blue grape hyacinths and the more delicately pale blue flowers of a mass of scillas. Meanwhile, over the hedge, our neighbour's magnolia is bursting into bloom. All most surely guaranteed to lift the spirits; all seeming to compel to a sense of wonderment and awe, after the long, dark and dreary winter days of January and February.



But then I note that the grass on the lawns is in need of its first cut of the season; that our roses are in need of cutting back and feeding; that if we are to enjoy across the summer months and into autumn a colourful and reasonably well-tended garden, there are myriad tasks which will have to be regularly carried out – weeding, hoeing, dead-heading, pruning, spraying, to name but a few. Yes, throughout the summer and autumn, even a modest garden needs constant attention, and for someone like me, who appreciates having a reasonably well-tended garden, but who, as a result of advancing years and natural disinclination, does not relish the constant work that keeping a trim garden necessarily involves, the thought of weeks and months of garden toil is, to be honest, far from welcome. Indeed, the thought of all that labour detracts for me from the springtime delight of seeing everything bursting into bloom at the onset of a new growing season. Consequently, I try to remember the old adage which proclaims that 'there is no gain without pain' - in other words there can be 'no caringly cultivated garden without backache'!

All that said, it seems to me that we should not let the thought of the manual labour involved in their creation and maintenance blind us to the pleasure which gardens both great and small can bring to us all. Let us not forget to marvel at the way various plants in our gardens grow and flourish; how the very tiniest of seeds when buried in the earth and watered can produce amazingly large plants – think sunflowers, think foxgloves; how different plants have adapted to different climate and soil conditions, with the result that plants that thrive in some places show little tolerance for prevailing conditions in others.

Yes, whether we are able to garden or not, whether we enjoy gardening or not, Springtime is surely a time for us all to indulge in a little awe and wonder as we contemplate gardens large or small, our own gardens or the gardens of others.

At the same time, let us not forget to indulge in awe and wonder across the wider natural creation. Let us stop and take delight as blossom and new foliage appear on trees; as wild flowers proliferate in woodland, field and hedgerow; as lambs in fields remind us of the miracle of new life. If we do nothing else, let us all at least take time across the coming weeks of Spring to heed the words of the Welsh poet William Henry Davies who wrote:

*What is this life, if full of care,
We have no time to stop and stare?*

David Peacock

Letter from The Curate

Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us? Luke 24.32

HAPPY EASTER!!

Whether you're reading this on 6th or 26th of this month, I do hope that you're still living in the joy of the celebrations of Easter Sunday! I hope and pray that the brightness of the day can linger as we return to the rhythms and responsibilities of daily life. For Easter is not just a day – it's a season. And more than that – it's a way of being.

Christians believe that the death and resurrection of Jesus was the totally life-changing, life-saving act of God that gives us never-ending hope, light and love. Pope Benedict XVI explains it like this:

The resurrection is not the end of the story, but the beginning of a new life.

Therefore, the people of God's Church are often called an Easter people – a people who sing Hallelujah not just on Easter Sunday, or even just on any Sunday, but each day of their lives. To be an Easter people is to recognise that the resurrection is not simply something that happened to Jesus, but something that continues to shape us. It calls us forward, sends us out, and makes us pilgrims.

The image of pilgrimage has been quite strong over the last month as we've seen the launch and blessing of the Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way* and as the children in our local schools have been singing a new song entitled The Pilgrim Way** in their Collective Worship times. It's a very helpful image no matter where we find ourselves. Pilgrims are people on the move - not staying where they began and not yet where they will finally arrive. They travel with purpose, often through uncertainty, sometimes through difficulty, but always with hope. And crucially, they do not journey alone.

A few days after Jesus' death, some of his followers were walking the road to the village of Emmaus wondering why Jesus had died (no social media in those days to instantly spread the word of the resurrection!)... only to discover that Jesus had been with them on the road all along. Their hearts had been warmed (see verse above) and their journey was transformed from confusion to joy, from despair to hope. In light of recognising him, they did not stay still - they returned to others, with urgency and gladness, to share the Good News.

And so it is with us. We are invited, this Easter season, to continue the journey - to walk in the light and deep-rooted joy of the resurrection, even when the path ahead may be uncertain or difficult. We walk knowing that Christ walks with us. When we trust that, we can walk with a hopeful stride – journeying together in faith and love – encouraging others and sharing as we travel.

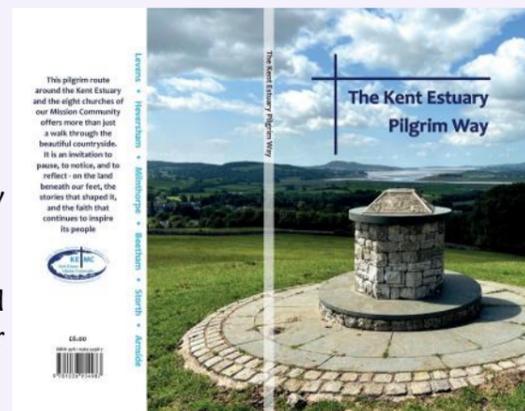
With Easter framing our picture, may we be people who notice the signs of God's new life around us this season - in creation, in one another, and in ourselves – walking in the pilgrim way.

With love & prayer

Hannah

*Copies of the route book are available from church at the very reasonable price of £6. Do be in touch if you'd like one.

**Just google The Pilgrim Way Songs for Schools and you'll find it, but – be warned – your feet might start moving! (Other search engines are available.)



St Michael & All Angels Beetham Church Services for April 2026

Date	Time	Service
Thurs 2nd Apr	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday
Fri 3rd Apr	2pm	Good Friday
Sun 5th Apr	11am	Easter Day Eucharist
	6pm	No Evensong
Sun 12th Apr	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP* Evensong
Sun 19th Apr	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong
Sun 26th Apr	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong

Please see weekly pewsheets or website for further details
*Book of Common Prayer

Funeral
Thursday 26th March
Kenneth Stuart Hackett
May he rest in peace



ARNSIDE
crafts & activities | food (including a meal)
MESSY Church
fun | stories & music
Friday 17th April 2026
3.30pm - 5.30pm
Arnside Methodist Church

Church Electoral Roll 2026

Forms to register for the Church Electoral Roll will be available at the back of the church between 5th-19th April. If you are already on the Roll please note that you do not need to register again this year unless you have changed address. Forms should be returned to the Electoral Roll Officer, Jenny Marks, by Sunday 19th April, to enable the new Roll to be displayed ahead of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 3rd May

Church Repair Fund

We are very grateful for your help in supporting our appeal to repair the church fabric. If you are able to do so, we invite you to help us by recycling your clean aluminium drinks cans, tin foil, pie cases, and blister packs. You can kindly drop off your contributions in the marked black bin round the back of the church. If you have larger items, please don't hesitate to reach out to Deborah at 07899702476.



Deanery Easter Vigil
With lighting of the Easter fire, renewal of baptism vows and the celebration of the first Eucharist of Easter.
Kendal Parish Church
Saturday 4th April
at 8.00pm
'Exult, O earth, in radiant hope; in Christ's majestic splendour shine! The Lord is here, the victory won, the darkness drowned in light divine.'

REST & RESET
Christian meditation
A moment to press pause II
St James Church Arnside
6:15 - 7:00PM
JAN TUES 6TH | MAR TUES 3RD | MAY TUES 5TH | JUL TUES 7TH
Contact: revhannahwallace@gmail.com | 01524 449 055

REST & RESTORE
A time of prayer for healing & wholeness
St James Church Arnside
6:15 - 7:00PM
FEB TUES 10TH | APR TUES 14TH | JUN TUES 2ND

Questions about life & faith?
Keen to explore more, and ask questions, about Christianity?
Then try the **Alpha Course**
www.alpha.org

Alpha

// Fridays, 11.30am – 1.30pm
// from 17th April for 11 weeks
// at St James' Church, Arnside
// Free lunch
// Contact Hannah to find out more:
revhannahwallace@gmail.com





Hello lovely musical folk. I am having a quote break this month. It has been a very mixed time for us all since we last spoke. Personal loss, local concerns, worries about the future generally. Ripples in varying ponds.

We have had a glorious vision of spring, floral outbursts and the search for t-shirts. Only for it to be postponed for a while longer. Change can be difficult. We are creatures of habit. The one thing that unites us is MUSIC in all its forms. Even if you don't care for the song it is a language we understand and stirs our souls deeply. A creative outlet that is universal.

So once again I invite you to come and discover music. For as long as it lasts, all other worries are subdued. Or if it moves you, go with it. You will never walk alone(oops !)

So much music to offer in Beetham. It could be just the tonic you need. Music is the best medicine and that is a fact.

Need to know more?? Please contact me.

Tess 07725580095

Next month we will have quotes a plenty so be ready. Better still, send me your own. But for now, 'what the WORLD needs now is love sweet love'



Beetham Church Handbell Ringers

The Beetham Handbell Ringers were invited to ring for the Arnside with Milnthorpe Sight Advice group at Arnside Methodist Church on Monday 16th March. We rang a selection of classical pieces and songs from the musicals, finishing with a rendition of *The Dambusters*. The group was interested to hear about the history of the handbells and how they relate to tower bells, including a demonstration of the tower method 'Plain Hunt' - which did not quite go according to plan on the first attempt, but was successfully completed on a second ring!

Then it was over to the group members and volunteers who joined together in trying 'Frère Jacques', and proved to be excellent learners. It was an enjoyable morning for attendees and ringers alike.

Anouska Assisi
Live at
St Michael and All Angels
Beetham, Cumbria
April 11th

Scan me for tickets!

Doors: 6:30pm
Start: 7pm

Tickets are £15 • include a complimentary welcome drink
Get your tickets now at anouskaassisi.com

Joseph Haydn
THE SEASONS
Kendal South Choir
Conducted by Geoffrey Field
with orchestra led by Pamela Redman

Kendal Parish Church
SATURDAY 16th MAY
at 7.30pm

Ellie Blewitt [Hanne]
Kristen Gregory [Lucas]
Jonny Hill [Simon]

ticket source
making music

Tickets £18 (under 18s free)
via TicketSource or choir members
kendalsouthchoir.weebly.com

The Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way

On Saturday 14th March The Bishop of Carlisle, the Rt Rev Rob Saner-Haigh, joined members of the eight churches in our Kent Estuary Mission Community for a launch event of our new Pilgrim Way and guide. The new guidebook includes five circular walks and a return route which connects our churches in Arnside, Levens, Heversham, Milnthorpe, Beetham and Storth.

Peter Clarke, a member of St Peter's Heversham who helped to co-ordinate the new pilgrimage, said: "The aim is to encourage people to enjoy the countryside and appreciate the natural and historical richness of the Kent Estuary whilst also helping visitors and locals alike know a little more about the churches in each village. We hope it prompts reflection on how the expression of faith has evolved here through the centuries and how that faith remains relevant to the challenges and opportunities of our own time and that it affirms the distinct identity of each of our eight congregations, while celebrating their shared life as part of a wider community of faith."

The idea for the 67-page book originally came from retired vicar the Rev Colin Honour who had researched the Christian roots of the south Lakes. It took more than a year to develop and was collated and designed by Jenny Marks, a member of St Michael and All Angels. As well as guides to the circular routes and the linear route, the book includes an introduction penned by Colin, a history of each of our churches, and reflections for use on the journey.

Bishop Rob attended the special launch event which included a time of open-air worship on Heversham Head, a walk of part of the pilgrimage route and further worship at St Thomas' Milnthorpe.

He said: "I was thrilled to be invited along to the launch event and to celebrate the rich Christian heritage which blesses this area. It is wonderful to see the effort, skill and care which has been put into the creation of the pilgrimage routes which link these eight churches. This project will help people connect with the deep Christian story of these communities and the living faith in Jesus which we want people to hear today."

The guidebooks are available for sale (priced £6) from the Beetham Church bookstall and in each of the Kent Estuary churches, as well as selected retailers in the area.

To view a short video of the launch event of the Kent Estuary pilgrimage please visit the Mission Community website at:-
www.kentestuarymissioncommunity.com
Alternatively search on YouTube for Beetham Church or Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way

With thanks to Dave Roberts, Diocesan Head of Communications

Coffee Morning & Lent Lunch

Thank you to everyone that supported the **Village Coffee Morning** on Tuesday 3rd March in aid of our church appeal, and to those who organised the event and prepared the delicious cakes and biscuits.

The **Lent Lunch** was held on 17th March, and as it was St Patrick's Day there was a definite green theme for the soups! It was a very social and enjoyable lunch and thanks go again to all who made soups, baked cakes, served and washed up. Nearly £200 was raised for the life-saving work of Christian Aid.

A reminder that Christian Aid week this year will take place from 10th-16th May. Please do continue to support them in their vital work.

School Corner

It has been an exceptionally vibrant month at school, filled with creativity, celebration, sport and community connections. Our pupils have thrown themselves enthusiastically into every opportunity, and we are delighted to share some of the highlights.

We embraced Comic Relief with a cheerful sea of red across school, raising smiles as well as awareness. Pupils also took part in Down's Syndrome Day by proudly wearing odd socks—bright, bold and full of meaning as we celebrated inclusion and individuality.

In Art, Class 2 have been hard at work crafting clay pots inspired by Ancient Egyptian canopic jars, while Class 3 created beautiful trinket holders decorated with flowers. Class 1 have spent time outdoors planting seedlings, deepening their understanding of growth and new life. Class 2 also enjoyed a Faith and Belief workshop, learning more about Humanism and the Bahá'í faith, leading to thoughtful discussions about worldviews and respect. Laura from NISCU visited school to work with each year group on the Easter Story, engaging pupils through drama, reflection and hands-on activities.

Class 2 have also been exploring light in science, investigating reflective surfaces and experimenting with how different materials behave. Classes 2 and 3 learned important lessons about online safety through sessions with Sophie from Screen Savvy Kidz, helping them understand how to stay safe and confident online. Meanwhile, Class 3 have been developing their cycling skills on the field, practising balance, teamwork and their own "team pursuit" challenge navigating obstacles.

This month also saw fantastic sporting success as Years 1 to 6 represented the school brilliantly at the Dallam Cross Country. Every child ran with determination and we are extremely proud of them all. Special congratulations go to Harriet, Lewis and Olivia Mc, who each won their races, and to Cora, Olivia AM and Betsey, who placed in the top 10. The Year 6 girls' team also won their team competition with an outstandingly low score of 17.

World Book Day was celebrated in a wonderfully collaborative way as pupils came together to create imaginative book scenes, bringing stories to life around the school. Class 3 also performed magnificently at their Dance Platform at the Kendal Brewery. After working closely with Lucy Everett, their performance was polished, expressive and a joy to watch—they were absolutely stunning on stage.

We were delighted to welcome members of the local church community who joined the whole school to make Mother's Day posies, filling classrooms with beautiful flowers and happy conversations. Pupils also had the chance to meet Lizzi Collinge MP, who spoke to them about her role in the local area, raising thoughtful questions and sparking interest in how democracy works.

It has been a month full of inspiration, learning and shared experiences. We are proud of every child for their enthusiasm, effort and kindness, and we look forward to another exciting month ahead.

Best wishes,
Abi Johnson






Could you serve as a... FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

Why do we need you?

Beetham Church of England Primary School has two vacancies for Foundation Governors. We hope that it could be you....

What would you do?

Foundation Governors, like all the other governors, help to develop a vision and strategy for the school. They oversee how the school spends its money and make sure the Headteacher is doing their job. Foundation Governors are appointed by the foundation that has a close connection to the school. At Beetham, this is the Church of England. Foundation Governors ensure that the school's foundational vision and ethos is maintained and enabled to flourish.

What is the commitment?

Governors meet for a couple of hours in the late afternoon around 6 times throughout the year. Governors also regularly undertake monitoring visits in school, having opportunity to learn more about different parts of school life and so report on these for the benefit of the whole Governing Body.

Who can do it?

Foundation Governors are nominated by the Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels, Beetham, and anyone is eligible providing that they are supportive of and in sympathy with the Christian foundation of our School. You don't need any formal training or an educational background, just a desire and willingness to help support the life and flourishing of our school now and into the future.

How do I find out more?

Please have a word with Father Andrew (a.norman@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk) or Mark, the Chair of Governors (m.ryan@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk) for a conversation or for more information, they will be very grateful to hear from you!

Springtime update from Beetham WI



Since our last report in The Gateway, Beetham WI members have been participating in activities in various locations around the area. Great fun was had at Burton Memorial Hall when 6 members improved their Pickle Ball skills. Our AGM in The Wheatsheaf was a very relaxed meeting; we distributed our new programme for 2026/27 (available soon on our village notice board) and enjoyed just catching up and chatting.

As part of the Dallam group of WI's some members took part in a quiz in Yealand Village Hall in aid of St John's Hospice, Lancaster. A lovely afternoon was enjoyed by many filled with laughter, smiles and delicious cakes, (of course, it wouldn't be WI without these!!) with a great amount raised for the Hospice too.

Coming up next month is a Talk about 'Blood Bikes' at 2 pm on Thursday 9th April upstairs in The Wheatsheaf. Anyone is welcome to join us for a small contribution.

Further details about Beetham WI can be obtained by emailing Jeanette, our Secretary, at beethamwi@gmail.com



Parish Coffee Morning Tuesday 7th April 10.30am-12pm in church



Please do join us for refreshments and a chat!
All are very welcome. There is no charge but any donations will be gratefully received for our church.

MILLING DEMONSTRATIONS
Fridays 10th Apr & 1st May, 11.30am - 1pm
HANDS ON BAKE
Wednesday 22nd Apr, 11am - 4pm
HANDS ON CRAFT
Monday 13th Apr, 1 - 4pm
CRAFTERNOON
Tuesday 24th Feb, 1 - 4pm
POWSOWDIE
Wednesday 15th Apr, 11am - 2pm

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art dance music film
the HERON theatre
April What's On

Friday 3rd Apr - Blue Moon (Film)
Friday 10th Apr - Mad Hatter's Tea Party (Drama)
Sunday 12th Apr - Chameleon Wind Quartet (Music)
Tuesday 14th Apr - Hamlet (National Theatre Live)
Saturday 18th Apr - Hebble (Music)
Weds 22nd~Sat 25th Apr - Hay Fever (Drama)
Friday 1st May - The Choral (Film)

Book tickets online www.theherontheatre.com
email: boxoffice@theherontheatre.com ~ tel: 015395 64283
Evening performances start at 7.30pm. Sunday music 2.30pm.
Refreshments available
The Heron Theatre, Stanley Street, Beetham, LA7 7AS

Beetham Parish Council Meeting
Beetham CE School
Monday 13th April at 7pm
Members of the public are welcome to attend.
www.beetham-pc.gov.uk

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<https://adultlearning.cumbria.gov.uk/centres/kendal.asp>

Or: 01539 713257 or 07966116905
Or: email: Kendaladultlearning@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

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You're invited to a Big Brunch!

christian aid
FAIRTRADE

Do want to help change the world? Then come along and tuck in at our Big Brunch, in support of Christian Aid, helping to fund its work in fighting poverty and injustice across the world.

Saturday 16th May 2026
11.00am - 1.00pm
Methodist Church Hall (Chapel Lane, Arnside)

OTTOVOCE
SOUNDS OF SUMMER

SUNDAY 10 MAY - 3PM
SUNDAY 7 JUNE - 3PM

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St Michael & All Angels FABRIC APPEAL

St Michael and All Angels exists to worship God, to share the love of Jesus Christ and to serve our wider community in his name. Our ancient and beautiful church building is at the heart of the parish and village of Beetham and is open to everyone. In looking to the future, various parts of our church fabric are in pressing need of repair and restoration, and we would appreciate your support in helping us make this possible. Might you be able, out of your kindness and generosity, to help us preserve this cherished Grade 1 listed building? Thank you

Any donation small or large would be gratefully received. Please scan the QR Code for direct donation to Beetham Church.

£75,000
£60,000
£45,000
£30,000
£15,000

St Michael & All Angels Parish Church, Beetham, Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7AL

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

Priest-in-Charge	The Revd Andrew Norman	015395 62355	revdabn@gmail.com
Assistant Curate	The Revd Hannah Wallace	01524 449035	revhannahwallace@gmail.com
Lay Minister	Chris Roberts	015395 63019	lainyandchris@aol.com
Lay Minister/Churchwarden	Vivien Stirrup	015395 64320	vstirrup7@aol.com
Churchwarden	John Lomax	015395 62648	j.d.lomax@btinternet.com
PCC Treasurers	Andy & Dorothy MacLeod	015395 62062	admdhm@live.co.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Andrew Skinner	07362 593076	beetham-safeguarding@gmail.com
Gateway Editor	Jenny Marks	015395 62559	jenny.marks@btinternet.com
Beetham CE School	Abi Johnson	015395 62515	head@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk

Please do be in touch with Andrew you would like to receive the parish email, if there is any support or encouragement he can offer, if you would have any questions about services church life or the Christian faith, or if you would like anyone or anything remembered in prayer.

Church Websites

For information about our church and parish, What's On, and church videos please visit our website at www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk. Full colour versions of this and past editions of The Gateway are also available online. If you would like to receive an email copy please contact jenny.marks@btinternet.com

For more details of the Kent Estuary Mission Community visit the website at www.kentestuarymissioncommunity.com

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The Gateway deadline

Items for the May edition should be submitted by **Monday 27th April**. Please email articles to jenny.marks@btinternet.com. View deadlines online at www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk