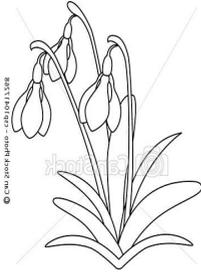


# *The Broadsheet*

## *February*

2015



for the parishes of Humshaugh  
with Simonburn & Wark, and  
Chollerton with Birtley,  
Gunnerton & Thockrington

*During the Humshaugh Benefice vacancy  
please contact the Churchwardens:*

**Humshaugh:** John McCollum (681682) or  
Roger Langford (681195)

**Simonburn:** Judith Brown (681371) or  
Veronica Allgood (689533)

**Wark:** Ann Bell (230259) or  
John Cooper (230367)

*For clergy matters, contact the Rural Dean:*

**The Revd. Dr Susan Ramsaran** (220019)  
[www.humshaughbenefice.org.uk](http://www.humshaughbenefice.org.uk)

**The Revd. Michael J Slade**  
Vicar, Chollerton with Birtley,  
Gunnerton & Thockrington  
Tel: 01434 681721  
email: [chollertonvicar@gmail.com](mailto:chollertonvicar@gmail.com)  
[www.chollerton-churches.org.uk](http://www.chollerton-churches.org.uk)

## Chollerton Vicarage

Dear friends,

Saturday January 3<sup>rd</sup> may have been an ordinary day for you, even easily forgettable, but for me it was one of the most special days of my life. Fiona, my wife, had planned the most amazing party to celebrate my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. It had been in planning for months, and everyone invited was sworn to secrecy. Our son Matt had taken me on a Wild Goose Chase in west Northumberland during the morning that ended up at Barrasford Village Hall, which was decorated, tables laid, musicians in place, food cooked, cake made, so that when I walked through the door there was a tremendous singing of Happy Birthday and (to my even greater surprise and for the first time in my life) 'For he's a jolly good fellow'! A gin and tonic was pressed into my hand by Fiona (to aid with my recovery you understand) and so the party went on.

Everything about it was just wonderful. Many people met others for the first time, and good conversation together with many happy smiles made it a very special time for me, one I shall never forget for the rest of my life. With about ninety people there I was surprised (even concerned!) how well people can keep a secret from their Vicar. I have often said to couples I prepare for marriage that keeping secrets from one another is not a good thing except when they revolve around special times of celebration such as Christmas and birthdays. These times of celebration can make for enduring and treasured memories - as I know.

Then, a few days later, some words I used in my January letter (about not planning too far ahead and troubles of the day being enough for the day) came back to mind when we heard how dreadful Man can be to his neighbour by the killing in Paris of cartoonists, policemen and shoppers in a Jewish supermarket. A range of grievances held by the most extreme adherents of Islam were acted out on the streets: offense taken over the visual portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad, the fighting against those tasked with upholding laws they would rather supplant with their own, and gross anti-Semitism. It seems a world away from the peacefulness and good community of north Tynedale. I am sure there will be some in our country who would like to replicate the scenes of Paris on the streets of our cities, and something Pope Frances said last September came back to me: "Perhaps one can speak of a third war, one fought piecemeal, with crimes, massacres, destruction." He had in mind the brutal aggression in the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and Syria and with Boko Haram in northern Nigeria as well as other conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine. He added that, 'War is madness'. We all know that. But some are so deaf and blind to the messages of peace that all world religions expect of their followers that their religion is brought into disrepute.

In their view their own interpretation of Islam is the only correct one and they don't care much who gets in their way, whether fellow-Muslims or anybody else.

I always come back to the Holy Bible for instruction and guidance for me at such times as these and, as a Christian, the words of our Lord Jesus Christ are the ones which carry substance. I am reminded of these challenging words: 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who ill-treat you' (Luke 6:27-28). 'Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man' (Luke 6:22). 'The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks' (Luke 6:45). And lastly, 'So in everything, do to others as you would have them do to you' (Matthew 7:12a).

I cannot imagine what will unfold in the coming months and years. For me it is important that I focus on who Christians call the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, and in him there is hope, grace and an abiding protection against evil, even if I should be killed because I follow him.

If all this sounds serious, then that is because we live in serious times.

With love,

**Mike**

## **BENEFICE OF HUMSHAUGH, SIMONBURN AND WARK.**

### **Round and about Humshaugh**

#### **Christmas Show Photographs, 2014.**

The photographs from the December Christmas Show are at present on the Humshaugh website. They will remain there until the end of February. In order to access these go to [www.humshaughparish.org.uk](http://www.humshaughparish.org.uk) and then follow the instructions. If anyone is unable to access the website or has any query please contact John McCollum. Tel. 681682. I am most grateful to Richard Hewitt for his assistance with this and acknowledge his help and also all of the cast of the show who made it easy for me to produce some good memories.

#### **Mothers' Union**

Each Branch of the Mothers' Union has their annual Corporate Communion in their local church in January and Revd. Michael Slade led our service on the 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a very special afternoon and we all want to thank Michael very much indeed.

On Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, Margret Jacot, in whose house we will meet at 2pm, will give us a talk on “Moorish Architecture – Andalusia and Morocco.” Knowing how wonderful her talks are, this promises to be an afternoon to look forward to.

### **Pub Quiz**



The Quiz on 6<sup>th</sup> of January was won by the team “Banana Bunch.” We enjoyed an intellectual challenge with a number of Dingbats set by Mick, which stimulated the brain cells and was great fun.

The next Quiz will be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of February, when the questions will be set by the Humshaugh Wildlife Group and proceeds will be in aid of them.

**Liesbeth Langford**

## **St Peter’s Church and Vicarage**

Since Marion and Michael vacated the vicarage at the end of September a great deal has been taking place. The house has been totally rewired. A new heating system has been installed which includes the attics on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The house has also been redecorated and painted throughout. This is so that the vicarage will be ready when a new appointment is made and in the meantime we hope that it will shortly be let on a short term basis. The plan is also to keep the garden tidy. This will give a presence in the property during the remainder of the Winter and Spring.

## **Shrove Tuesday**

We have decided NOT to hold the annual Shrovetide party this year. Shrove Tuesday is on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February which is also half term. In order to include the school, who are very important contributors to the evening, this would mean changing the date of the party. We have reached this decision partly for this reason but also there is so much work at present in connection with the interregnum and proposed building works. The Shrovetide party will therefore return on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016, by which time we hope to have a new vicar in post.

**John P.K.McCollum**

## Simonburn Notes

That is the first month of the year over already, I think the wind has blown it away! I have noticed the days are getting a little longer and the snowdrops and spring flowers are beginning to show themselves, giving us hope that Spring is on its way. As I write these notes, the weather is wintry and icy winds are biting. We often wonder how on earth do the homeless cope with sleeping under the stars. We should thank ourselves lucky that we have warm beds to go home to.

Anyone visiting our church will have noticed and heard the organ. It is a Walker organ and has been included in the British Institutes Register of Historic Pipe Organs, as being an instrument of importance to the national heritage and one deserving of careful preservation for future generations, It has been awarded a certificate Grade 11\* in recognition of it being an organ by J.W.Organ 1860 with its unusual terraced console.

### Brass cleaning Rota

Please take a look at the Brass cleaning rota below , if you are not able to continue on your month, please contact Roger on 681077.

There are 2 empty months February and October, if you would be able to clean the brasses on one of these months, please contact Roger. Many Thanks.

- JANUARY.....ADRIAN LANGFORD
- FEBRUARY.....
- MARCH.....ANN LONG
- APRIL.....ROGER HADLEY
- MAY.....JUDITH BROWN
- JUNE..... JANICE ROWCROFT
- JULY .....SHARON HADLEY
- AUGUST.....SUE HICKMAN
- SEPTEMBER.....KAY HADLEY
- OCTOBER.....
- NOVEMBER.....VERONICA ALLGOOD
- DECEMBER.....SUE LEE

**THE BRASSES ARE TO BE CLEANED FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH**

Thank you

Sharon Hadley

As the Broadsheet goes to press arrangements are in hand for the funeral service of one of North Tynedale's best known and best loved figures. **Cyril Cooper** died very peacefully at Close House Nursing Home on January 9th and he is to be laid to rest, with Evelyn, in Wark Churchyard on January 20th.

Though Cyril was already 12 years old when his family moved from North Yorkshire to Parkend in 1938, down the years he has come to be thought of as 'Wark through and through'. With the support and encouragement of family and friends Cyril has done much to make his corner of this World a happier place.

Whether in the 51 years he was driving Nichol's van, the 32 years, or so, he served as a Churchwarden, or in his short but arduous stint as a 'Bevin Boy', Cyril has approached each task with optimistic good humour and a real spirit of neighbourliness. In the days of the Wark Pantomimes, I understand that Cyril could always be relied upon to raise a laugh. In more recent, I am but one among many who have been the recipient, or subject, of one of his poems!

I last saw Cyril, frail but sharp minded and cheerful, about 10 days before Christmas and was delighted to find that he had been occupying himself making a cardboard model of a building. Though it is his innate kindness and generosity that we shall all chiefly remember, a great number of us will also be reminded of Cyril by the things we see day by day or week by week; the long case clocks, the hemmels and hen houses, the toys and plant holders, not to mention all the things he did to make St. Michael's Church more 'user friendly'.

As we pray God's comfort for John, Christine and all the family, we also pray that Cyril indeed finds joy in the hands of the God he has served so cheerfully in this life.

**JMT**

## **WARK PARISH NEW**

Well 2015 got off to an odd start with the Cooper household being in disarray then the first snow of winter 2015 arrived. For a number of reasons these notes are brief however I welcome the following from a roving reporter.

Wark First School put on another excellent Christmas nativity with a twist, the Disgruntled Snowman started the show as a grumpy and miserable sole but after meeting with the nativity characters, Mary, Joseph, The Kings, shepherds and animals he was convinced through some tales and songs that being happy was much more fun! News also comes from the school of some brave (or foolish) members of staff are on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March taking part in 'Zip the Tyne' which involves soaring on a zip wire 1,000 feet over the River Tyne. More details will come as how to sponsor the event.

Wark certainly pulled out all the stops for this magical and inspirational part of the churches calendar with St Michael's along with our friends at MURC holding

warm family friendly services of celebration. Carols under the chestnut tree drew around 150 locals to sing well known carols which this year were sung from a special Royal British Legion sheet which are a delight to retain. Then followed, I did attend one, many parties to welcome Santa Claus.

Thanks to accommodating friends in Humshaugh all parishes within the benefice were blessed with the services being led by The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne. Previously I have kept you informed about the progress to appoint a vicar and did warn of the slow speed the wheels within the C of E move. Looks now as if it could be late summer before the process is completed.

February sees the church enter the penitential period of Lent so forget the chocolates and biscuits for 6 weeks. A listing of services during this period is in this edition of **THE BROADSHEET**.

I've run out of steam for this issue. A sincere thank you to all who have helped us. Have a belief and you will be supported.

I will end with part of one of Dads poems with apologies to locals who may just recognize themselves.

***The other night I had a strange dream as I lay in bed,  
About a load of muck George Johnson tried to spread,  
Now his son Anthony set off with a load of liquid manure to spread on the fields  
up the road  
He hummed to himself as he drove up the street,  
His load also hummed in the afternoon heat,  
Now his old muck spreader had a mechanical fault,  
And the rough road around the green turned it on with a jolt,  
An odorous spray of manure it let fly,  
Without fear or favour of all who passed by,  
The door was open at The Black Bull  
And when he passed by the passage was full  
The post office and petrol pumps got a fair share  
But there was nout they could do but just stand and stare  
Poor Cooper's windows were all open wide when a generous helping descended  
inside,  
Now the Vicar was visiting at the time had just said let us pray,  
when this manure from heaven came flying his way.....***

There is more that cannot be printed!

I'll just say God Bless.

Love **John**

## SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2015

<b>Benefice of Chollerton</b>	<b>Benefice of Humshaugh</b>
<b>Sunday 1st February - Presentation of Christ in the Temple</b>	
9.00 Gunnerton Holy Communion 10.30 Birtley Holy Communion	9.30 Humshaugh 1662 Communion 11.00 Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00 Wark Holy Communion
<b>Old Testament:</b> Malachi 3:1-5 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 2:22-40	<b>Epistle:</b> Hebrews 2:14-end <b>Psalms:</b> 24:7-end
<b>Sunday 8th February - The Second Sunday before Lent</b>	
9.00 Thockrington Holy Communion 10.30 Chollerton Holy Communion	9.30 Humshaugh Morning Prayer 11.00 Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00 Wark Evening Prayer
<b>Old Testament:</b> Proverbs 8:1, 22-31 <b>Gospel:</b> John 1:1-14	<b>Epistle:</b> Colossians 1:15-20 <b>Psalms:</b> 104:26-end
<b>Sunday 15th February - The Second next before Lent</b>	
9.00 Gunnerton Holy Communion 10.30 Birtley Holy Communion	11.00 Humshaugh Benefice Holy Communion service with the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne
<b>Old Testament:</b> 2 Kings 2:1-12 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 9:2-9	<b>Epistle:</b> 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 <b>Psalms:</b> 50:1-6
<b>Wednesday 18th February - Ash Wednesday</b>	
We are warmly invited to join with the Humshaugh Benefice to mark the beginning of Lent	7.30pm Humshaugh Holy Communion with the Rev'd Michael Slade
<b>Old Testament:</b> Isaiah 58:1-12 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	<b>Epistle:</b> 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 <b>Psalms:</b> 51:1-18
<b>Sunday 22nd February - The First Sunday of Lent</b>	
9.00 Thockrington 1662 Communion 10.30 Chollerton Holy Communion	9.30 Wark Holy Communion 11.00 Simonburn Morning Prayer 6.30 Humshaugh Evening Prayer
<b>Old Testament:</b> Genesis 9:8-17 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 1:9-15	<b>Epistle:</b> 1 Peter 3:18-end <b>Psalms:</b> 25:1-9
<b>Sunday 1st March - The Second Sunday of Lent</b>	
9.00 Gunnerton Holy Communion 10.30 Birtley Holy Communion	9.30 Humshaugh 1662 Communion 11.00 Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00 Wark Holy Communion
<b>Old Testament:</b> Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 8:31-end	<b>Epistle:</b> Romans 4:13-end <b>Psalms:</b> 22:23-end
<b>Sunday 8th March - The Third Sunday of Lent</b>	
9.00 Thockrington Holy Communion 10.30 Chollerton Holy Communion	9.30 Humshaugh Morning Prayer 11.00 Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00 Wark Evening Prayer
<b>Old Testament:</b> Exodus 20:1-17 <b>Gospel:</b> John 2:13-22	<b>Epistle:</b> 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 <b>Psalms:</b> 19:7-end

## Chollerton Benefice

### From the Registers in the Chollerton Benefice



#### **Holy Baptism**

We welcomed into the Family of the Church Benjamin Ares Andrews at Chollerton St Giles on Sunday December 28<sup>th</sup>

#### **Funerals and Memorial Service**

We celebrated the life of Elizabeth Jane Bell, 75, at Chollerton St Giles on Monday December 22<sup>nd</sup>



### **Wine Tasting Evening**

Ken and Alison are planning an evening tasting on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm.

**'Off-piste Austria'**

Tickets £15 per person payment with order please from Ken or Alison.

**Be quick!**

### **Messy Church...**



... meets again in Barrasford Village Hall on Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> at 3.00pm. Families welcome with something creative to do for adults and children of all ages. A short time of singing and a prayer or two follows before we have a family meal together. For further information please ring Mike the Vicar on 681721.

### **Community Events in Gunnerton Church**



#### **Gunnerton Lunch Club**

**Wednesday February 25<sup>th</sup>**

**£2.50**

**12noon-1.00pm**

Delicious homemade soup, pudding, tea and coffee, raffle,  
and, as always, good conversation,

**Raffle**



**Please ensure that all bookings for Gunnerton Church are made by  
contacting**

**Susan Reay on 01434 681852**

## Birtley Village Hall

### **Birtley & District Gardening Group**

Next meeting is on Tuesday February 10<sup>th</sup>

7.30pm for 7.45pm.

The Winter Garden

with Bob Sanderson of Cath's Garden Plants,  
Heaves, near Levens, Cumbria



The group always welcomes new visitors or prospective members whether

experienced or rookie gardeners.

The annual membership for 2014/15 season is £20.00

Couples £40.00. Guests/single talks £4.00

### **Coffee Morning**

Thursday February 5<sup>th</sup> from  
10.30am

Delicious coffee, home bakes and  
great conversation guaranteed!



### **Birtley Local History Group**

Wednesday February 18<sup>th</sup> at

7.30pm

Members' Night - it's your  
evening ... !

Bring along anything interesting,  
items or information.

Further details from Mary White

01434 230307

£2.00 per person



## **Other Church services within the Chollereton Benefice**

Barrasford Methodist Chapel: Normally services are at 6.30pm each Sunday.

Great Swinburne: St Mary's RC Church. Mass at 10.15am and 12.00 Noon every Sunday, the 12 o'clock Mass in the Extraordinary Form, said in Latin. Enquiries to Fr Bede (Tel: 681968)

## **Afternoon Tea Parties**

Tea parties will take place once a month at Newton Village Hall from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Everyone is welcome and they are particularly for the elderly, people who feel lonely and the less mobile.

The dates are:

Wednesdays on 11th February, 11th March, 8th April and 13th May.

There are several volunteers who are willing to provide transport to and from. The whole thing is free of charge to everyone. There will be tea/cakes/sandwiches provided - and hopefully lots of happy smiles, friendship and laughter.

More details from Alice Murphy, 01434 689387 or 07968 396938.

## **Chollerton WI**

7.30p.m. Wednesday, 4 February at Barrasford Village Hall. This will be our 3rd Birthday Party, when we will be entertained by three WI Husbands (at enormous expense!!).

Wednesday, 4 March will be our Annual Meeting and on Wednesday, 1 April we are looking forward to a talk by Tricia Stainsby on 'Silks & Satins'. At the end of the meeting there will be items for sale. Visitors are always very welcome (£3), please come along.

Thanks

## **Joint Lent course 2015**

### **PRAISE HIM - songs of praise in the New Testament**

*Course booklet written by Dr Paula Gooder*

We are used to singing hymns of praise in church but often miss the hymns

and poems that are there in the New Testament. This course explores five different Songs of Praise from the New Testament - what they tell us about God and Jesus, but also reflecting on what they tell us about ourselves and our faith.

**This course will be held weekly in the benefices of Chollerton and Humshaugh and also the parish of St Oswald in Lee**

We have arranged that The Parish of St Oswald in Lee will hold the course on **Tuesdays** during Lent, the Chollerton Benefice will hold it on **Wednesdays** and it will be held on **Thursdays** in the Humshaugh Benefice - this gives a choice of venue and day. **All are welcome to attend from any church at any venue.**

### **Venues:**

- **Tuesdays:** 24th February, 3rd and 10th March at Eastside Lodge, Bingfield [Christine Bull; Tel: 672303], and 17th and 24th March at Fellfoot Cottage, Wall [the home of Jill Taylor] at 7.30 pm.
- **Wednesdays:** 25<sup>th</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7 Chishillways, Barrasford NE48 4AE [the home of Geraldine Tate] at 7.00pm beginning with a simple meal of soup and bread;
- **Thursdays:** 26<sup>th</sup> February, 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March at The Coinings, East Farm, Humshaugh NE46 4DF [the home of Liesbeth & Roger Langford] at 11.00am ending with a simple lunch of soup and bread. A donation is invited for the food which will be given to the Cedarwood Trust in North Shields.

For the Chollerton and Humshaugh benefices Mike will be ordering course booklets which will cost no more than £3.50 each. If you would like one, please sign up on the sheet in church or let him know by phone (01434 681721).

**The Broadsheet Editor – Roger Hadley**

Tel: 01434 681077 – email: [roger.hadley@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.hadley@btinternet.com)

**Please don't forget the deadline for the Broadsheet is 14th of each month**

**Thank you**