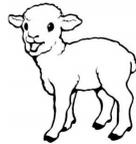
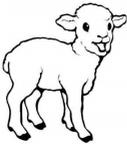


The March Broadsheet



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

Rev. Steve Wilkinson

Rector, Humshaugh with
Simonburn & Wark
Tel: 01434 681304
email:

revd.stevewilkinson@googlemail.com
www.humshaughbenefice.org.uk

Rev. Michael J Slade

Vicar, Chollerton with Birtley,
Gunnerton & Thockrington

Humshaugh Vicarage

Change is in the air, the snowdrops are coming through thick and fast and the mornings are lighter as I start each day. And I think I like this change, each year it seems to herald the end of winter, even if spring isn't properly here yet and we might still get a final cold snap.

Our gospel readings these last few weeks have also been about change, Jesus gently taking people on a journey with him as he shows them what it means to be a Christian, a follower of Jesus. Starting with the beatitudes Jesus lovingly expands on what it means to live this new life. However, loving and gentle though Jesus is, He pulls no punches and we get the imagery of blinding oneself or cutting off a limb rather than falling into sin.

I think we're in a similar position here in the deanery; change is coming as we begin to think and pray through what our parishes might look like in five years time, and we begin ask questions about what, where and why.

What should mission and outreach look like by the early 2020s, where should Christians be helping to grow church and bring hope, why do we decide on one course of action over another ? All these and so many other questions to think about during this period of change to make sure we get it right.

So over the next few months we'll be asking you to help us shape what mission and outreach will look like in years to come, and to help us understand there will be a simple questionnaire and an online survey. I hope and pray that as many of you as are able will take part, as it's vitally important that you share your knowledge and experience of being in this place at this time.

I see this as a gentle journey of change but with a hard core to it, like Jesus' message all those years ago. Because if we don't adapt to the changes in our villages and schools then we run the real risk of becoming irrelevant and sidelined, unable to carry out the mission Jesus commanded us to do.

Please come and join us, and help shape the future of our deanery.

Steve

A Quiet day at Buteland Bothy

Friday the 19th of May from 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Please consider joining us for a time of silent reflection, indoors or out dependent on the weather, and on an introduced theme. We will have morning and afternoon sessions with a break for lunch and fellowship and we will end with a short time of worship.

Please reply as soon as possible to **Alison Williams on 220389**

Round and about Humshaugh

Mothers' Union

In February it was a lovely meeting for the MU members plus two members from the Hexham Branch, when Jennie Jones, the Diocesan Training Officer, gave us an afternoon of Music and Movement. Everybody became totally involved and enjoyed it. Our March meeting on Thursday 2nd, promises to be a very special one as well: Dr John McCollum will give his talk on "How to read a church". The meeting will take place at the Langford's home and starts at 2pm



Pub Quiz

The January quiz was won by "One Man Up". £114 was raised from entry fees and raffle tickets for the Leek Club, enabling them, among other things, to engrave their cups. The next quiz at The Crown will be on Tuesday 21st March at 8pm in aid of Friends of Humshaugh School. Mick will be Question Master.

The North East Recorder Orchestra



Conductor John Hawkes presents a Concert of Music for All Tastes, to be enjoyed by every age. It will take place in Humshaugh Village Hall on Saturday 4th March from 2.30pm until 4.15pm with an interval for tea and cake. Tickets are available in the village shop.

Liesbeth Langford.

Diocesan Open Synod

Please will as many people as possible come and join us at the Diocesan Open Synod on the 11th of March when Bishop Christine will introduce the new mission and evangelism strategy for the Diocese: Growing Church Bringing Hope

Everybody is welcome, not just Synod members !

Saturday 11th March at the **Dr Thomlinson Church of England Middle School, Silvertown Lane, Rothbury NE65 7RJ**

Refreshments from 9.30am, Synod starts at 10.00am and will finish by 1.00pm.

WARK PARISH NEWS

Following on from a thin covering in February it does appear a lot is happening in March and beyond. Let us start with the beyond first. 10th May is the date for the Wark Charity Lunch which once more will be two sittings, 11.30 and 1.30. Following a vote of the organising committee Northumbria Blood Bikes was chosen as the supporting charity this year. The volunteers from this deliver essential blood, out of hours, between healthcare sites and laboratories in the North East. Steve is attempting to arrange for a representative to be present to discuss their essential work. To book your places for lunch, not on the bikes, please contact Ann Bell on 230259. As they say on TV 'lines are open now' Experience indicates they close soon.

Closer to the beyond is an exhibition of Wark in the past and present which will be held in St. Michael's from Thursday 6th to Sunday 9th April, Sunday 9th being Palm Sunday. Should anyone have an item or photograph of interest for this please let Ann or John know. The exhibition will be monitored at all times and we understand school children will join us on Thursday 6th April for a talk. Please do support this event; we do need to use our church for as many events as possible; points are achieved towards future grant applications if we can show this. Full details will be out soon for this weekend of events.

As detailed in the last issue of **THE BROADSHEET** our Lent course commences on Monday 6th March at 10.00am within Humshaugh Vicarage, other times and venues are as listed.

I always appear to mention food within these notes so cannot miss the opportunity to mention on Sunday 18th June St. Michael's will hold a lunch for church funds. Full details will be out in the next **BROADSHEET**. **Mark the date in your diary and look for further information.**

Our wonderful Guild is holding their annual prize bingo on Tuesday 7th March within the Town Hall. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Please come along and support and enjoy a competitive evening.

Before long, once the bats have left their hibernation roosts, work will commence on the repairs to the tower along with the bell frame. It will be good to hear the sound of the bell once more (just have to remember to toll it!)



As I write these notes, looking out over the village, workmen are digging up the road, preparing for another round of closures. The repairs to potholes are welcome so I suppose the inconvenience is short so something we have to put up with. I will not open a book on how long it will be before they reappear! The potholes that is.

It will not be long before the wonderful Monday Men start the cutting of the grass within the churchyard. Could I ask, to help them, any grave wreathes etc are placed close to the headstone or removed. Doing this helps the men cut the grass and keep our churchyard in its outstanding condition. We are so fortunate to have the help of the Monday Men.

My late father, who gave the wit input to these notes said 'keep them short, not church heavy (even though the C of E Synod are meeting this week with some contentious points to discuss) and with a laugh' he would say to me I have been bored so many times looking at that pulpit I will make a clock of it! And he did! Michael now has it in Corbridge.

I feel Steve, along with Melanie and their family, have fitted so well into our community. All is well in Wark, all is well.

Until we chat again

Love John

The Guild Prize

BINGO

on

Tuesday 7th March
Wark Town Hall
Eyes Down
7.30

Please come do along



**SPRING
BINGO**

Simonburn Village Hall
Thursday 16th March
Eyes Down 7:30 pm
All Welcome



Donations of prizes gratefully received



The annual service for the
Women's World Day of Prayer
St Giles Church, Chollerton
Friday 3rd March at 7.30pm.



Everyone is very welcome
light refreshments will be served after the service.
Please come along

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, WARK WARK PAST AND PRESENT

An exhibition of photographs along with memorabilia
will be held within the Church
Friday 7th to Sunday 9th April
10.00 am to 4.00pm. Wark school children will be holding a talk in the
Church on Thursday 6th.



All are welcome
Refreshments will be available



Offers of photographs or memorabilia to Ann or John please.

Chollerton WI The speaker for our April meeting will be Susie White, speaking on a Gardening Theme. In May, Catherine Little is coming to talk about the Calvert Trust and Julian Harrop will be telling us about Beamish Museum from the Inside, in June. As usual meetings are held in Barrasford Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 7.30p.m. **Visitors always welcome.**

FRIENDS OF CHOLLERTON CHURCHES

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Friday 17th March!
Irish themed 3 Course Dinner at Barrasford Arms -
Music and raffle. Great prizes!

7.00pm. for 7.30pm.

Tickets: £30. per head from Bob Fletcher



07733529228 or 681949 (01434)



Gunnerton Lunch Club

Held on Wednesday's
at 12 noon

29th March, 26th April, 31st May, 8th June, 26th July, **none in August,**
27th September, 25th October, 29th November.

£2.50 includes soup, dessert, tea and coffee.

And a raffle.

You are all welcome



Best wishes Mike wishing you a speedy recovery.
From all your parishioners and friends .



**Bookings for Gunnerton Church may be made by contacting
Susan Reay on 01434 681852**

Simonburn Notes

Simonburn is always a quiet village in the winter months, where everyone goes about their business and hunkers down in their warm houses in the evenings. It is staying noticeably lighter at night now and we look forward to the clocks going forward on the 26th March, when British Summer Time begins.

Sad news reached us, that Ken Benson, formerly of Sharpley Farm, died on January 27th. His funeral was held in a packed St. Mungo's church. Our thoughts are with Joan and all his family.

Next some good news....Congratulations to Gemma, Peter and Callie Richardson on the birth of Caiden, born on 28th January, a gorgeous little boy.

Sadly, on February 11th, John Jeffrey, from The Kennels and retired Foreman at Nunwick, died after a short illness. Our thoughts go out to Gwen, Peter, Jade and all his family. What a rollercoaster of emotions it must be for them all.

The PCC AGM, will be held on Tuesday 28th March, in the village Hall at 6.15pm. All welcome.

Best Wishes

Sharon

SERVICES FOR MARCH 2017

Benefice of Chollerton	Benefice of Humshaugh
Wednesday 1st March - Ash Wednesday	
7.30pm Gunnerton	7.30pm Humshaugh, quiet, said service
Sunday 5th March (Purple) - 1st Sunday of Lent	
9.00am Gunnerton Holy Communion 10.30am Birtley SC	9.30 Humshaugh Holy Communion 11.00 Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00 Wark Evening Prayer (BCP)
Genesis 2.15-17 Matthew 4. 1-11	Romans 5. 12-19 Psalm: 32
Sunday 12th March (Purple) - 2nd Sunday of Lent	
9.00 Thockrington Holy Communion 10.30 Chollerton Holy Communion	9.30 Humshaugh Morning Prayer 11.00 Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00 Wark Holy Communion
Genesis 12.1-4a John 3.1-17	Romans 4.1-5, 13-17 Psalm: 121
Sunday 19th March (Purple) - 3rd Sunday of Lent	
9.00 Gunnerton Holy Communion 10.30 Birtley SC	9.30 Humshaugh Holy Communion 11.00am Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00pm Wark Evening Service of Word
Exodus 17.1-7 John 1.5-42	Romans 5.1-11 Psalm: 95
Sunday 26th March (Purple)- 4th Sunday of Lent and Mothering Sunday	
9.00 Thockrington Holy Communion 10.30 Chollerton Holy Communion	6.30pm Humshaugh Evening - service of the Word 11.00 Simonburn Matins 9.30 Wark Holy Communion
1 Samuel 16.1-13 John 9.1-41	Ephesians 5.8-14 Psalm: 23
Sunday 2nd April (purple) - 5th Sunday of Lent, Passiontide begins	
9.00 Gunnerton Holy Communion 10.30 Birtley Holy Communion	9.30 Humshaugh Holy Communion 11.00 Simonburn Holy Communion 6.00 Wark Evening Prayer
Ezekiel 37.1-14 John 37.1-14	Romans 8.6-11 Psalm: 130