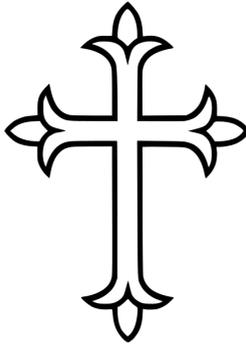


The May Broadsheet



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

Revd. Steve Wilkinson

Rural Dean of Bellingham

Parson of Humshaugh, Simonburn & Wark

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Humshaugh Vicarage

Friends,

As I write this, it really does seem to be a time of pilgrimage. Yesterday we welcomed both Bishop Christine and Bishop Mark to the parish for tea and then later on we went to meet the Northern Cross pilgrims in Wark.

Our Bishops have been walking round the diocese and meeting with people as they go, following in the footsteps of St. Aiden and encouraging those who they meet.

The Northern Cross pilgrims carry a large wooden cross and walk from Carlisle, roughly following Hadrian's Wall for a while until they bend north, ending up on Holy Island to celebrate Easter.

In both these cases there seem to be two things going on, firstly there is the individual pilgrimage of the walkers, a personal spiritual journey towards Easter. Listening to their conversations this seems to be an internal process of journeying towards the very centre of our faith, and what it means to know the risen, resurrected Christ.

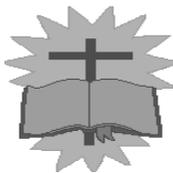
But there also seems to be a second process; something about encouraging others in their faith, to persevere and to draw others in to be a part of something better. Bishop Christine did this as she prayed for our church and community, Bishop Mark blessed us all to the work before us as they left and one Northern Cross pilgrim said that it was a chance 'to share in a small Christian community for the week'.

These I think are all good foundations for our common life beyond Easter, to continue to grow in faith and develop our personal spiritual life and, as we do so, to encourage others we meet and to then be a blessing to them in whatever way we can.

Finally, a correction to last month when I wrongly said that the results of our questionnaire consultation on deanery development would be back after Easter. My apologies, I was too optimistic and what I should have said was that we would be ready to consult more widely after the Easter break, with questionnaires going to our church communities in early May. Please accept my apologies for the mix up and any confusion it caused.

Peace

Steve





Pub Quiz

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the March Quiz had to be cancelled. The May one will be on Tuesday the 16th at 8pm and will be in aid of the Playing Field Trust.



Humshaugh Cricket Club

On Saturday April the 8th the Cricket Club held their annual jumble sale. Once again the residents of the village were very generous with their donations, as were the Village Shop and the George Hotel. The hall was packed and the stalls quickly emptied and demand for Raffle and Tombola tickets was brisk. At 3.30 it was all over and the Cricket Club £550 better off. This money will be used to buy a set of wicket covers.

Liesbeth Langford

WARK PARISH NEWS

I have kicked off early with this one as I am bored looking onto grey skies along with a new PC which I am unsure about! Wish me luck, please.

What a wonderful weekend we had at St. Michael's (6th – 9th April) which all started with the school coming to church to view the exhibition, then have their Easter service. I have said before how good they are with speaking and singing, so will say again, if you have not joined them at a service make sure you do the next time. A group of young children we should be proud of. Then the exhibition of Wark Past and Present continued for the next three days with a good steady attendance. I think it is reasonable to say everything went off well. Thank you to all who allowed their memories to be shared. Those left standing met in Humshaugh on the Monday for tea and cake, with our Bishops Christine and Mark at the end of their second day walking within the diocese.

I am delighted to say that over that weekend work commenced on the tower roof repair job, so hopefully in the next edition of ***THE BROADSHEET*** I will be able to say mission accomplished.

As I will push the button to send these notes before Easter, I can only say, hopefully, the services were well attended along with a hope those who made the early 8.30am start on Easter Sunday enjoyed the butties after! Thank you to all who contributed to the decoration of the church, it's good to see colour back with us.

A few blistered hands and aching backs were evident after the Monday Men, assisted by David and his tractor, spread the plainings on the car park surface. A great job done, thank you to all.

Looking ahead, it may well be this **BROADSHEET** arrives with you too late for this, but there is a Deanery Day in Wark Town Hall on Saturday 29th April from 9.30am. I have mentioned a number of times the Wark Charity Lunch on Wednesday 10th May, which this year is supporting Blood Bikes. The charity was chosen before we realised Bishop Mark is one of their drivers. Sorry to say, or good for the charity, all tickets are sold for both sittings, with a waiting list. That evening at 7.30pm in St. Michael's is one of the Archidiaconal Visitations where churchwardens are admitted to their office. Ann and I will, after the lunch, be on our knees but I should say the service is open to anyone not just churchwardens.

We never appear to stand still here in Wark with us having the following in the diary, although exact times etc. will be in the June **BROADSHEET**. You all know just how much we enjoy our food here, so following on from the last Summer Lunch there will be a repeat on Sunday 18th June in the grounds of The Old Rectory by kind permission of Bruce and Sally Napier. Please contact Ann on 230259 for tickets and further information. We now need to see how the tent goes up, further news next time.

A couple of weeks before that, Saturday 10th June at 2.00pm, in the grounds of St. Michael's will be a Teddy Bears Picnic, full details next time.

The PCC will next meet on Monday 22nd May at 7.30pm in the community room, Westacres, with the Guild meeting on Tuesday 6th June to discuss the Garden Fete amongst other items.

A little late, but, why did the National Trust find the need to delete Easter from their publicity for the Easter Egg Hunt at their properties? A cartoon in a newspaper shows a church safe open with a stash of chocolate eggs visible with the caption 'hidden vestry egg stash, to sustain the clergy through the long months of ordinary time' Now you know what goes on and the reason for the laughter from that little room behind the curtains!!

Nothing more to say, other than I do hope you found something to make you smile from this amongst the dark news reports we daily receive.

Until we chat again,

Love

John

Let's get cooking



BIG BREKKIE

For Christian Aid

Thursday May 4th

8.45am at Wark School

PLEASE DO COME ALONG

To help support refugees



Birtley Village Coffee Morning



The monthly Coffee Morning will be held on Thursday 4th May at Croft Cottage (Bill and Mary's). As the hall is being used for the Council elections, See you then for a coffee and chat.



Now Is The Time
To WORSHIP
THY KINGDOM COME

An evening of
Christian Celebration

Saturday 13th May, 2017
6.30pm to 8.00pm
(doors open 6pm)

At Tynedale Function Suite
Hexham Auction Mart

Free admission,
donations welcome.

Garden Party

Little Park End

Simonburn

NE48 3AE

Sunday 25th June

2pm. Till 4pm.

In aid of

Affleck Academy of Ballet
(Snow White & the Huntsman)
&

Simonburn Parish

For further info.:

07810665733

hadrianswallaccomodatiom@gmail.com



Editor's new email address: rogerhadley29@gmail.com

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

TEA PARTY FOR THE SLADES

There will be a tea party for Mike and Fiona and family
in the Village Hall, Birtley
on Sunday 30th April at 4pm



Everyone in the Chollerton Benefice parishes and beyond will be most welcome.

*If you would like to contribute any scones, sandwiches, cakes or traybakes please contact
Mary White 01434 230307*

Chollerton WI

Catherine Little from the Calvert Trust will be our speaker in May and Julian Harrop will talk about 'Beamish from the Inside' in June. In July, our talk is 'Hush Now and Listen', communicating with your horse or dog with Joanna O'Neill. As always meetings are at 7.30p.m. on the first Wednesday in the month, Barrasford Village Hall. **Visitors always welcome.**

Simonburn Notes

I love this time of year, now that the nights are getting lighter, the trees are becoming greener and being able to watch the lambs in the fields. I also spotted our first house martin. Hopefully it won't be long before the swifts and swallows also make a return. Isn't nature a wonderful thing?

Judith Brown stood down as churchwarden, after 37 years. She was presented with a watercolour painting of St. Mungo's at the APCM. Adrian Langford has taken over the role. Thank you Judith for your many years of hard work.

Happy Retirement to Dave Rosemurgey, who retired from Nunwick at Easter, after nearly 20 years. We wish him all the best.

Thank you to all those who helped decorate the church for Easter. More helpers make such a difference and the flowers are beautiful.

It's that time of year when we have our annual Spring Clean in church. Please come along on Saturday 20th May, from 9am with polish and dusters at the ready. Refreshments will be available. Many hands make light work.

Mr and Mrs John Robson, late of Allgood Farm have pleasure in their grandson, Patrick, son of Catherine and Ian Ridge, Edinburgh, achieving as an oboist, his first performance with the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow on 4th April 2017. What an achievement!

Best Wishes
Sharon

SERVICES FOR MAY 2017

Benefice of Chollerton	Benefice of Humshaugh
Sunday 7th May	
9am Gunnerton HC 10.30am Birtley HC	9.30am Humshaugh HC 11am Simonburn HC 6pm Wark Evening service of the Word
Readings: Acts 2. 42-47	John 10.1-10
Sunday 14th May	
9am Thockrington HC 10.30am Chollerton HC	9.30am Humshaugh MP 11am Simonburn HC 6pm Wark HC
Readings: Acts 7. 55-60	John 14.1-14
Sunday 21st May	
9am Gunnerton HC 10.30am Birtley HC	9.30am Humshaugh HC 11am Simonburn HC 6pm Wark Evening service of the Word
Readings: 17. 22-31	John 14. 15-21
Thursday 25th May	
7.30pm Thockrington	6.30pm Humshaugh Evening Service of the Word 11am Simonburn, Matins 9.30am Wark, HC
Readings: Acts 1. 6-14	John 17. 1-11
Sunday 28th May	
9am Thockrington BCP 10.30am Chollerton HC	8.30am Wark HC 9.30am Humshaugh HC 11am Simonburn HC
Readings: Acts 10. 34-43	John 20. 1-18
Sunday 4th June Pentecost Sunday	
9am Gunnerton HC 10.30am Birtley HC	9.30am Humshaugh HC 11am Simonburn HC 6pm Wark, Family friendly service for Pentecost
Readings: Acts 2. 1-21	John 20. 19-23