

The March Broadsheet 2020



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

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Chollerton Vicarage

How quickly we rush along in the year, both secular and sacred! By the time this is published we will be into the season of Lent, another waiting time in the church year, the period of preparation for the great festival of Easter. Christmas and the associated festivities are far behind us, although they do in fact last 40 days, until February 2nd, and we do have to remember that without Christmas and the Virgin Mary's willingness to be the mother of Jesus, we would not have Easter!

Lent, which began on 26th February, is a gift to everyone of a specific time set apart to pause and consider the breadth, length, height and depth of the love of God. We saw that love shown by Mary in her obedient Yes to God, and then even more so in the obedience of Jesus. There is an opportunity to get together to discuss a book by Henri Nouwen, a Roman Catholic Theologian, during Lent, on a Thursday evening beginning on March 5th, at Chollerton Vicarage. Everyone is very welcome.

Lent lasts until Easter Day, which, this year, is on April 12th. The penitential practices of Lent, as all acts of penance in a Christian context, are aimed at learning to love, learning to live unselfishly. To put all others before ourselves. The season of Lent is there to help us to hone our ability to give, share, let go and let be – all vital aspects of loving. Ash Wednesday pointing towards Easter. 'Greater love hath no man than this..'

Easter puts into perspective the empty, specious wisdom of the world, with its emphasis on and obsession with efficiency, productivity, results, success, thrift and reward. God's generous foolishness, in sharing his Son in life with us, in allowing the shedding of his blood for us and in accepting the consequences of being fully human in the inhuman world we've created is a love and foolishness beyond comprehension. This foolishness of God, the loving generous giving of his beloved son, the love of God for each of us.

We are delighted that Bishop Mark Tanner, the Bishop of Berwick, will be with Bellingham Deanery for services throughout Holy Week. More details will be circulated closer to the time.

I hope you will feel blessed as you travel through Lent towards Easter.

Sarah Lunn.

Round and About Humshaugh

Mothers' Union

After a great deal of thought it has been decided that the Humshaugh Branch of the Mothers' Union is closing down with a special service on Lady Day, Wednesday the 25th of March, led by Rosemary.

We so appreciate that the Mothers' Union Branch was here for many years, but now the membership has dwindled to so few, it has become impossible to continue.

It was Steve, our vicar, who with his kindness, understanding and wisdom, explained how this was the right thing to do and suggested that the few of us come together every so often for a prayer meeting – and that is what we will do.

We would very much like to thank those who have been at our meetings as speakers over the years and made those afternoons so special for us.



The Crown Players

Many thanks to Diana Linnett and her team for such a wonderful evening when the Murder Mystery was performed. Everybody enjoyed it, even though very few of us found the right answer....



Pub Quiz

The January Quiz was in aid of the Leek Club and raised £216. It was won by “The Umlauts”, closely followed by “The Unimpeachables” and “Petits Fours”.

Graeme Warren was Question Master and if anybody would be interested in becoming a member of the Leek Club, he can be contacted at graemesara@hotmail.com

The March Quiz will be on Tuesday the 17th at 8pm in aid of the Friends of Humshaugh School.



Humshaugh First School

Instead of the usual Easter Service, this year there will be a mini production of: “A Tale of Three Trees”. The children in Reception to Year 4 will be involved.

There will be two performances on Tuesday March the 31st, one at 9.15am and one at 2.30pm.



HAP

The film night in March will be on Friday the 13th, when the original 1969 British Comedy: “The Italian Job”, starring Michael Cane, will be shown. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30 start.

A two course meal will be available, but please note that food tickets should be bought in advance as they will not be sold at the door. Tickets will be on sale in the village shop: two courses plus film costing £10 and film only £5. There will be nibbles and a bar on the night.

Steve

We all keep praying for Steve, Melanie and the family and wish them the strength they all so need at this time.



Liesbeth Langford



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday 30th May 2020

A Celebration of St Peter's Church.

Teas and Stalls in the Village Hall Competitions and Treasure Hunt at the Church.

Further information to follow.



WARK PARISH NEWS

So, we are now into Lent; the period when some do something out of their normal life pattern, or for some, they give up say chocolate, biscuits or alcohol as they prepare for Easter. Full details of the Easter services will be found in the April BROADSHEET. We do have a break from the penitence for Mothering Sunday on 22nd March with a service in St. Michael's at a time to be confirmed.

It is probably reasonable to say all will have been touched by the sudden death of Gordon Grieve. The 400 plus who attended his funeral are testament to the standing in which he was held within our community. Our thoughts and prayers are with Anne and family at this very difficult and sad time.

Prayers and thoughts are also extended to Ruth and all the family of Stewart Hutton who died early in February following a courageously fought illness. A memorial service was held within St. Michael's for his life.

A long time resident of Wark, Joyce Palmer, has also died and although not active in village life in the last few years had over her time of living here given much to the village. Prayers and thoughts to the family at this time.

The Charity Lunch this year will be on Wednesday 13th May in Wark Town Hall with sittings at 11.30am and 1.30pm (almost sold out) with money raised going to a local charity, based at Newcastle Freeman Hospital, supporting patients with brain tumours. For tickets, which are selling fast, contact Ann on 230259. Please, in any way, support this worthy cause. Thank you.

Once a year comes around the set of meetings that gives all the opportunity to see what has been going on in our local church along with appointing officials for the coming 12 months. This year the meetings at St. Michael's will be on Tuesday 24th March at 7.00pm within the church.

Having just spent a short time in Israel, following in the footsteps of Jesus, (that app on the 'phone said we were doing 20,000 plus steps per day and the feet and legs confirm that!). I came across a few lines from George Orwell:- A happy vicar I might have been, Two hundred years ago, To preach upon eternal doom And watch my walnuts grow; But born, alas, in an evil time, I missed that pleasant haven. . . .

Well, I can say after seeing many churches over the time of that visit, that pleasant haven for me is St. Michael's. Pleased to be back and looking forward to seeing you at one of the services arranged.

Until we chat again, Love to all,

John

Birtley Notes

It was with sadness we heard of the sudden death of Gordon Grieve on 23rd Jan. Gordon lived all his life at Whiteside until 7 years ago, when he and his wife Anne moved a mile 'up the road' to newly built Wannies Edge. Gordon went to Birtley school, after a brief spell at Barrasford, then Bellingham, before going into farming with his father, which has been his passion all his life. But he was a 'Birtley lad'. Our condolences to all of the family.

The Gardening Group are needing both a new Secretary and Treasurer as Margaret Watson and Lesley Gosling have decided to call it a day after this season, they have been in office since it started over 20 years ago, Eileen Burn will continue as Chairman. If anyone is interested in either of these positions, even as a joint effort, please contact Margaret on 230204.

The craft group is in full swing again since Christmas, also the monthly Coffee mornings.

The drawing classes will start again on 12th March in the village hall. A Quiz in aid of the hall is to be held on Friday 13th March at 7.30 with Dean Rowell as quiz master.

That's all for now folks,

Mary.



BIRTLEY VILLAGE HALL

BIRTLEY COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 5th March

10.30-noon

Come along to Birtley Village Hall between 10.30 and noon and enjoy coffee, tea and home baking and have a good catch-up.

The coffee morning is a regular event normally held on the first Thursday of each month.

Everyone is welcome!

QUIZ NIGHT

Prepare to pit your wits! Get your teams ready!

Make

Friday 13th March

your lucky night

7.30 FOR 8pm

£7 entry to include delicious light supper



Birtley and District Garden Group

Tuesday 10th March

AGM at 7pm, followed by

PERMACULTURE IN THE GARDEN

with speaker Mark Shipperlee

If you are curious about permaculture and no-dig gardening
come and discover for yourself

Guests very welcome £4



Gunnerton Church Luncheon Club

Lunches are held at 12 noon on the last Wednesday of each month

Soup, Sweet, Coffee or Tea: £3.00

Please come along

All welcome



MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Supper Room

Barrasford Village Hall at 10.30 a.m.

Come along for a coffee, biscuits and a chat.

Donations of £2 welcome

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 6th March at 7pm

Barrasford Chapel

This year the worship has been created by Christians in
Zimbabwe,

“Rise! Take your mat and walk”.

There will be light refreshments. Everyone is very welcome



TEA AT 2.30

Gunnerton Church

Tuesday 17th March

*Come along for a catch-up,
cuppa and cakes!*

Everyone is welcome



THOCKRINGTON CHURCH

The APCM will be held on Wednesday
25th March at 7.30pm
at Carrycoats Hall.

LENT DISCUSSION GROUP

March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2

We are using the study course on Fr Henry Nouwen's book, “The Return of the Prodigal Son”. The group will meet at the Vicarage in Chollerton, starting at 7.30pm and finishing by 9pm at the latest.

Please let Sarah know if you would like to come. Email sarahlunn63@gmail.com



Tel: 01434 681721

CHRYSALIS CLUB TYNEDALE
Rewarding Volunteer & Trustee Opportunities
- You can make a big difference in 2020! -

It takes just a couple of hours a week to make a wonderful difference in the lives of people living with dementia.

Chrysalis Club have been providing uplifting activities and support for those living with dementia in Tynedale for over 10 years. We host tutor led activities and social events in Hexham and Prudhoe. Volunteers are at the heart of everything we offer, providing the support and laughter that make the activities fun and accessible; organising materials; taking part; clearing away; serving refreshments and joining members in whatever we're up to that day - singing, art, gardening, sport, pottery, drama..... anything is possible! (We also have opportunities for those with finance and fundraising skills). We offer full and ongoing training plus reimbursement of travel costs. If you're a caring person with a good sense of fun, this is a great opportunity to get involved in your local community.

Applications to join the board of trustees are also welcome. We have a vacancy for a trustee with fundraising skills, but general interest in joining our board is also welcome. **If you would like more information or a chat, call 07760 124 539 or email lola@chrysalisclub.org.uk**

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|  | <u>Easter Bingo</u> Thursday 26th March Simonburn Village Hall Eyes Down 7.30pm <u>Proceeds in aid of the Village Hall</u> |  |
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Simonburn Notes

Storm Ciara has moved on and Dennis has taken her place. We are lucky we haven't had the bad weather as badly as other places.

Ash Wednesday 26th February marks the beginning of Lent, when we prepare for Easter, by giving something up to imitate Jesus' 40 day fast in the wilderness. What will you be giving up?

Easter Sunday 12th April is a day to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, so we will be decorating the church with Easter flowers, if you are able to donate towards these flowers, it would be gratefully received. Lets make it extra special this year!

The Village Hall will be having an Easter Bingo on Thursday March 26th, 7pm.

Any donations of Easter themed prizes (chocolate/ Easter eggs) would be very much appreciated to help raise money for the new boiler for the hall. Prizes can be left at 1 Red Lion Terrace or with any committee member. The Village hall has now been decorated and is looking great, so watch this space for future events.

To hire the hall contact Roger 681077 or Sue 689682.

Don't forget 22nd March is Mothering Sunday!

We ask also, for you to continue to pray for Steve, Melanie and all the family x

Love Sharon

SERVICES FOR MARCH

| Benefice of Chollerton/ St Oswald | | | Benefice of Humshaugh | | |
|--|--------------|-----|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday 1st March | | | 1st Sunday of Lent | | |
| 9am | Gunnerton | HC | 9.30am | Humshaugh | HC |
| 9am | Wall | HC | 11.00a | Simonburn | HC |
| 10.30am | Birtley | HC | 6.00 pm | Wark | EP |
| 10.30 | Bingfield | HC | 8.00pm | Humshaugh Late at 8 | |
| Readings: Genesis 2: 15-17;3:1-7; Romans 5: 12-19; Matthew 4: 1-11 | | | | | |
| Sunday 8th March | | | 2nd Sunday of Lent | | |
| 9am | Thockrington | HC | 9.30 am | Humshaugh | MP |
| 10.30am | Chollerton | HC | 11.00 am | Simonburn | MP |
| 10.30 am | Wall | HC | 6.00pm | Wark | HC |
| Readings: Genesis 12: 1-4; Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17; John 3: 1-17 | | | | | |
| Sunday 15th March | | | 3rd Sunday of Lent | | |
| 9am | Gunnerton | HC | 9.30am | Humshaugh | HC |
| 9.am | Wall HC | | 11.00am | Simonburn | HC |
| 10.30am | Birtley | HC | 6.00pm | Wark | EP |
| 10.30am | Bingfield | MP | | | |
| Readings: Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-11; John 4: 5-42 | | | | | |
| Sunday 22nd March | | | Mothering Sunday | | |
| 9am | Thockrington | BCP | 9.30 am | Humshaugh | Family service and |
| 10.30am | Chollerton | HC | Baptism | | |
| 10.30 am | Wall | MP | 9.30am | Wark | HC |
| 6.00 | Wall | HC | 11.00am | Simonburn | MP |
| Readings: Exodus 2: 1-10; 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7; Luke 2: 33-35 | | | | | |
| Sunday 29th March | | | 5th Sunday of Lent. Passion Sunday | | |
| <u>Benefice Communion service</u> | | | <u>Benefice Communion service</u> | | |
| 10.30am | Wall | | 10.30am | Humshaugh | |
| 10.30am | Gunnerton | | | | |
| Readings: Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Romans 8: 6-11; John 11: 1-45 | | | | | |
| Sunday 5th April: | | | Palm Sunday | | |
| 9am | Gunnerton | HC | 9.30am | Humshaugh | HC |
| 9.00am | Wall | HC | 11.00am | Simonburn | HC |
| 10.30am | Birtley | HC | 6.00pm | Wark | EP |
| 10.30 | Bingfield | HC | 8.00pm | Humshaugh Late at 8 | |
| Readings: Liturgy of the Passion : Isaiah 50: 4-9; Philippians 2: 5-11; Matthew 26: 14- end of ch 27 | | | | | |