

The February Broadsheet 2023

for the parishes of
Humshaugh
with Simonburn & Wark,
Chollerton with Birtley,
Gunnerton, Thockrington.
St Oswald in Lee with
Bingfield & Wall
www.chollertonchurches.uk



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Friday is my day off, I will respond when I return to work

Dear Friends

Did you see on the BBC news a few weeks ago, a piece about one of Newcastle's most deprived communities really struggling this winter? There were photos of a family; a single mother with three children to keep. She was full of loving determination to care for her family and keep them all warm, clothed and fed against great odds.

The Food bank that she had contributed to herself in recent years had now become her lifeline! As the cameras panned over the scene inside the church that hosted the busy gathering of customers and helpers, I realised that Sarah and I had been to that very place the week before. The huge and grand interior of St James' Benwell, now sadly in poor condition, is housing such a vitally important project, run by those who have very little themselves. The place was full of goodwill and bustle.

The reason I was there was to help Sarah facilitate a Pastoral Care course run by the diocese, enabling people with plenty of life experience to listen to one another and be alongside one another in a positive and meaningful way as they tussle with what life is throwing at them: physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Here, physically, we found food and advice given; emotionally, warmth and welcome; spiritually, kindness and hospitality. That grand cavern of a church has become the warmest of hubs.

I found myself deeply moved.

Jesus 'came to visit us in great humility' and here before my eyes were hard-working, life-saving, comfort-giving ordinary people doing extra-ordinary acts full of loving kindness with great humility.

'Truly I tell you... just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me'

Frances

Lent Groups 2023

We hope to hold a number of Lent Study Groups this year around the Deanery. In order to work out the times and venues (North/ South / Daytime or evening /or online), it would be very helpful to know by February 10th who would like to be involved and at what time of day. We will then confirm the dates and times of the courses . Please let a member of the clergy know as soon as possible if you would like to be involved. Sarah Lunn , on behalf of the Clergy .

Lent Lunches.

We hope to run a weekly simple Lent lunch of Soup and Bread in the southern parishes of the Deanery, beginning in the first week of March. This would be free, but any donations after the cost of hire of the building would go to charity. If you would be interested in coming to this or helping, please would you let Canon Sarah Lunn know, as we are trying to work out if this is worth doing. Thank you. Sarah Lunn

The Work of Christmas Begins by Howard Thurman (*an African-American theologian, educator, and civil rights leader*)

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with the flocks,
then the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal those broken in spirit,
to feed the hungry,
to release the oppressed,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all peoples,
to make a little music with the heart...
And to radiate the Light of Christ,
every day, in every way, in all that we do and in all that we say.

Then the work of Christmas begins.

HUMSHAUGH NOTES

Coffee Mornings continue on the 1st Saturday of each month from 10 – 12 midday. Do come along, bring your friends and enjoy some delicious cakes and coffee/tea!

Warmhub – The Hall will be open each Tuesday morning from 10-12, so do come along for coffee and a chat! If you need a lift, please contact Diana Linnett 07974922771. There is no charge (although no cakes either!) – sessions will continue until the end of March.

The Crown Players will be presenting their new production of “Around the World in 80 Days” on the 9th, 10th, and 11th of March at 7.30 pm. Tickets will be on sale at the Village Shop from mid February.

Humshaugh First School On January the 19th Friends from the Village were invited for another great afternoon with the children. On the 2nd of February, year 1-4 will have a trip to the Sill for National Story Telling Week.

The Pub Quiz will take place on Tuesday February the 21st (Shrove Tuesday!) in aid of the Cricket Club and will start at 8pm.

HAP will screen “The Dressmaker” (rated 12), a drama set in 1950’s Australia with Kate Winslet and Judy Davis. Tickets are £5 and £2.50 for under 18’s. There will be a bar and amazing puddings will be for sale for £2.50. Tickets will be in the shop. **HAP** are taking part in the Tyne Valley Film Festival this year with a rare screening of “Lawrence of Arabia” on Saturday March the 18th. The film is longer than usual, so the doors open at 12.45 for 1pm start with 3 intervals, ending about 6pm. Light refreshments will be available during the intervals. Tickets for £5, available in the shop/Eventbrite from Feb 2nd.

Also: there will be a Folk Music Evening with Jez Lowe, one of the Pitmen Poets on Thursday, March the 30th at 7 for 7.30. Dodgy B’s will be supporting Jez! Tickets at £12, are now in the shop/Eventbrite. Sure to be popular, so get your tickets early!

It was very sad to hear the news that David Shaw died very suddenly on January the 10th. Always one of the first customers to come into the shop, not only for his own paper, but for quite a few others, which he took each day to several of his neighbours. We will miss him.

Love, Liesbeth

Northumberland Log Bank :

Are you needing help to obtain wood fuel for your stove/fire? Please contact Kate Thick at 07900963224 or katethick@hotmail.com

There is no charge for this service.

Safeguarding: A Course near you.

“Oh no! Not a safeguarding course. Not for me!”

A couple of months ago, that was precisely my reaction. However, I was quickly reminded that as a Church Warden I should attend. Indeed it was an obligation and duty.

As the date approached when I should go I became even more grumpy. In the days when I worked I had attended many courses on Safeguarding. Post 2012 I had accumulated more DBS and Safer Recruitment Certificates than there have been Secretaries of State for Education. Before arriving for the sessions [two parts over three and a half hours, excluding a coffee break and held at Simonburn Village Hall] I had completed the pre-course reading, the necessary ‘reflections’ and finished the writing tasks. Strangely by that time I could almost admit to a slight shift in attitude. Our course was led by Carol Butler, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, supported by Andy Brittlebank, Deanery Safeguarding Officer, and Rural Dean Sarah. There were ten course attendees.

The content, though harrowing at times, was aimed at giving tools and knowledge with which to recognise safeguarding issues in the context of our roles within our parishes, and take appropriate action. It was based on an holistic understanding of what is meant by “Safeguarding” and rested upon our beliefs, values, knowledge and practice.

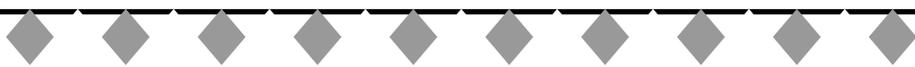
Time passed quickly with video, reading and discussion. Our superb leaders gave us time to reflect, tease out our questions and concerns or just to remain silent with our thoughts. I believe all course members appreciated the approach and were mutually supportive.

Churches must be safe and secure for ALL especially the vulnerable of whatever age or level of health. We have a duty to promote a safer church where the relevant information should be visibly displayed.

I returned home humbled and certainly better educated. I had turned 180%. A distant memory resurfaced: A schoolmaster once said to me, “David we are all supposed to live and learn, sadly some just live.” I have always wondered into which category he had me.

Stay Safe and Healthy. Happy New Year!

David Watson.



Rota for February correct at 16 02 23

February 2023

5th February 3rd Sunday before Lent : Isaiah 58: 1-9a; 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12; Matthew 5: 13-20

8.30am Holy Communion at Wark SR
10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham
10.00am Holy Communion at Chollerton
10.00am Morning Worship at Birtley
10.30am MURC Service at Wark
11.00am Parish Worship at Falstone
11.00am Parish Worship at Otterburn
11.30 am Holy Communion at Simonburn
(1.00pm Baptism at Heavenfield)
4.00pm Holy Communion at Bingfield
6.00pm Holy Communion at Elsdon
8.00pm Late @8 at Humshaugh- all welcome !

12th February 2nd Sunday before Lent: Genesis 1: 1-2:3; Romans 8:18-25; Matthew 6: 25-end

8.30am Holy Communion at Thockrington BCP
10.00am Holy Communion at Humshaugh SL
11.00am Holy Communion at Thorneyburn
11.30am Holy Communion at Wall
3.00pm Licensing Service at Celebration of Ministry in the Deanery at St. Mungo's Simonburn with Bishop Mark Followed by a bring and share afternoon tea in Simonburn Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

19th February Sunday Next Before Lent : Exodus 24: 12-end ; 2 Peter 1: 16-end ; Matthew 17: 1-9

8.30am Holy Communion at Gunnerton
9.30am Holy Communion at Falstone
10.00am Holy Communion at Birtley
10.00am Parish Worship at Bellingham
10.30am MURC Service at Wark
11.30 Holy Communion at Bingfield
3.00pm Holy Communion at Otterburn
6.00pm Holy Communion at Simonburn

Wednesday 22nd February Ash Wednesday: Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10; John 8: 1-11

10.00am Holy Communion at Humshaugh
6.30pm Holy Communion at Wall
7.00pm Holy Communion at Bellingham

26th February 1st Sunday of Lent : Genesis 2: 15-17;3: 1-7; Romans 5: 12-19; Matthew 4: 1-11

8.00am Holy Communion (said BCP) at Bellingham CM

8.30am Holy Communion at Chollerton SL

10.00am Deanery Zoom

11.30 Holy Communion at Wall

3.00pm Holy Communion at Byrness

6.00pm Parish Worship at Thorneyburn

6.00pm Holy Communion at Humshaugh

6.00pm Parish Worship at Wark

From Bishop Mark

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am delighted to let you know that the legal process enabling Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley to become our new Bishop of Newcastle continues on 3 February when her Confirmation of Election takes place at York Minster. In the weeks following this, Bishop Helen-Ann will travel to Buckingham Palace where she will pay homage to His Majesty the King, and on Saturday 22 April at 3pm her Installation Service as thirteenth Bishop of Newcastle will take place at Newcastle Cathedral. Details of the service will follow in due course, but you may wish to hold this date in your diaries. I hope as many people as possible will be able to join us in person for the service; it will be livestreamed on the internet for those unable to attend in person.

In the period between Bishop Helen-Ann's Confirmation of Election and Installation, her focus will very much be on getting to know our diocese in more informal meetings and gatherings, and she will not pick up her formal duties as Bishop of Newcastle until after her installation has taken place. In the meantime, at Bishop Helen-Ann's request, I will continue to be responsible for the day to day running of the diocese, as I have been since Bishop Christine's retirement.

Please do pray for Bishop Helen-Ann and Myles as they prepare to move home from Yorkshire to join us here in Newcastle Diocese.

Every blessing,

+ Mark

Simonburn Notes

Happy New Year! (am I allowed to say that in February?) I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas.

The Carol service in St. Mungo's was a lovely evening and well attended. Thanks to John Roper and Antiphon for making the service so special with their music and singing.

Thanks to Santa and his helpers for making an early visit to the village green on Christmas Eve, his very busy night, also to Bob and Chris Lamb for the refreshments.

Many Thanks to Jani Keep for coming to play the organ at the midnight service on Christmas Eve, it was very much appreciated.

Sadly, just before Christmas, Doris Liddle died in hospital, at the age of 93. Doris lived in Simonburn before moving to Wark. Over the years, she was very much involved in all aspects of village life. Her funeral was held in January and we send our condolences to all her family.

Bacon butties in the village hall will start again on Tuesday 7th February from 9am—11am (every first Tuesday of the month) a great time for a get together and a natter or take away !

The first Village Hall bar and get together of the year will be on Saturday 18th February from 7pm, there will be Pizza and chips available for £1, a great opportunity for getting together over a drink and a game of darts perhaps!

If you have anything you would like me to mention in future Broadsheets, please contact me : shazzahdley@hotmail.co.uk

Take care, Sharon x

Do you enjoy stepping aside, relaxing with friends and finding space with God?
If so, then do join us for:

Coffee, chat & prayer 10.30am to 12 noon
16th February 2023

Quiet morning 10am, finishing with a light lunch at 1pm
16th March 2023

At The Rectory, Wark NE48 3PP

Further information from Sally Napier at wannies30@btinternet.com or Cathy Smith at contactcathysmith@gmail.com.

St. Oswald-in-Lea with Bingfield and Wall

Well, Christmas is well and truly over. The Christmas eve service at Heavenfield, held by candlelight is always rather special and although not a midnight service as it always was, was still quite lovely and the little church was almost full with quite a few children attending. At Bingfield, we had a service on New Years Eve. Not having been to one before I found it to be delightful, winding up the old year and welcoming the new. The service was quite relaxed. We happily welcomed people from various churches and denominations which added greatly to the festivities and then had mulled wine and nibbles with lots of very friendly chit-chat and still left plenty of the evening for people to go and enjoy further celebrations elsewhere. We are pleased to have our organist John back after his knee operation.

St. Georges, Wall -we were again able to celebrate Epiphany, with a bring and share lunch after the Church service.

The Follow the star event at Simonburn was a joy to be part of and enjoyed by so many children from various schools. I for one am very much looking forward to the next one though I know it involves a great deal of preparation and planning for some, especially Frances, Jane and Jude but so very worthwhile.

Be good to each other.

Helen. x



GOD +
is
LOVE

Chollerton Churches Website

A new website has been set up for the Chollerton Churches. Although this is primarily for Chollerton and Gunnerton, they are quite happy for other parishes to also make use of the site. Hugh Denholm has built the site and anyone wishing to make an addition of notices etc. can contact him at hughden@gmail.com
The address for the website is <https://chollertonchurches.uk>

Wall Village Society

Fun Quiz night on Thursday 26th January in Wall Village. 7.30pm
£3 entry. Visitors welcome.

Stephen Blake will enlighten us on a talk “**WW1 Battleground to Modern Playground**” on Thursday 23rd in the village hall at 7.30pm.
Visitors welcome £3.

SING!



Where do you sing? In the bath, in the shower, around the house, on a walk?
Most of us like to have a good sing.

Have you ever thought about joining a friendly choir and bringing music to our local towns and villages?

The North Tyne and Redewater Choral Society (Bellingham Choir for short) does just that and we are looking for more singers to help swell the sound.
Could that be you?

The Choir meets in Bellingham Methodist Church at 7.30pm on Monday evenings during term time from September to April. The selection of music is mainly classical, and we perform two concerts each year at Christmas and in the Spring.

The Choir has a reputation for friendliness and fun, and you would be assured of a warm welcome. Why not call in on a rehearsal night and see for yourself.

Check out our website <https://ntrcs.org>

Interested? Please get in touch with John Roper on pennvandjohn@gmail.com

Just for fun

Biscuits Quiz

1. Hairless Italian general
2. Birthplace of Charles Darwin, 150 miles north west of London
3. Spicy but not hazel
4. Sounds as though they come from an Italian city
5. More fruity than artful
6. American liquid with supplied by cows
7. Not long loaf digit
8. When Napoleon was found in a cracker
9. Wealthy Beverage
10. Quite pleasant
11. Part of plant used with bows
12. Cathedral city in east midlands
13. System in a body starting near the top and ending at the bottom
14. Mix socially with those of a higher social standing
15. Comes from the capital of Austria
16. 4th rank in British peerage comes between a Barron and an Earl
17. Old fashioned bedtime drink
18. Fiscus carica from the mulberry family turned over and over
19. Little bitter things in Italian
20. drink without any e's repeated in French



1. Garibaldi 2. Shrewsbury 3. Ginger nut 4. Florentine 5. Jamie dodger 6. Bourbon cream
7. Shortbread finger 8. Brandysnap 9. Rich tea 10. Nice 11. Arrowroot 12. Lincoln 13. Digestive
14. Hobnob 15. Viennese 16. Viscount 17. Malted milk 18. Figroll 19. Amaretto 20. Biscoff

GUNNERTON CHURCH SOCIALS

Tea at Three

Tuesday 21st. February
Why not come along to enjoy a
cuppa, a chat
and home baking.

Lunch Club

Wednesday 22nd. February at
12 noon
Savour soup, sweet and tea or
coffee
all for a modest price.

Warm hub

Humshaugh Village Hall
Each Tuesday morning
10 am—midday
Free coffee & chat



Coffee Morning

Wall Village Hall
Wed 1st Feb
& 1st Wed in each month

Bacon Butties

Tuesday 7th February
1st Tuesday of every month
9am to 11am

Simonburn Village Hall **with tea or coffee**

£3

Eat in or take away

Do come along
for a butty & a chat.

Simonburn Village Hall

The hall is available to hire at
an hourly rate of £10
To book please contact.
Sue Hickman on 01434
689682
Or
Roger Hadley on 01434
681077

Humshaugh Village Hall
Coffee morning
Saturday 4th February
10 am—midday



Soup & Dessert

Thursday 16th February
& 3rd Thursday each
month. 12p.m.

Wall Village Hall