

*The  
MAY  
Broadsheet  
2019*



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

**Rev. Steve Wilkinson**

Rural Dean of Bellingham,  
Parson of Humshaugh  
with Simonburn & Wark  
Tel: 01434 681304  
email:

[revd.steve.wilkinson@googlemail.com](mailto:revd.steve.wilkinson@googlemail.com)  
[www.humshaughbenefice.org.uk](http://www.humshaughbenefice.org.uk)

**Rev. Sarah Lunn**

Vicar, Chollerton with Birtley,  
Gunnerton & Thockrington  
Tel: 01434 681721  
email: [sarahlunn63@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlunn63@gmail.com)  
[www.chollerton-churches.org.uk](http://www.chollerton-churches.org.uk)

## **Humshaugh Vicarage**

The lambing seems to be slowing down now, and the shepherds and farmers starting to surface after the long haul of the last month or so. The Mart is getting busy again and it's time to take stock, look out over the fields and weigh up how this season's lambing has gone. For us with our small flock it's a very mixed picture, each loss keenly felt because of the low numbers and every live lamb celebrated as a blessing.

However, for our family the sheep are just a hobby, not a matter of commercial importance and the decisions we make about our flock, though important, are not critical. Yet I'm acutely aware that for many people here in the valley, how well lambing goes determines the future of whole families and farms, the decisions made last autumn about the flock vital for success in the spring.

Farming or not, we all face important decisions in life, which way we turn at a crossroads determining the future for us and our families. Do I take this job? Do we move there? Which school should we choose for our children? - and many others; they are important, but so is the way we approach them.

In the oldest parts of the bible important decisions were sometimes made by rolling two ancient forms of dice, they were called the urim and the thummim, and when necessary the priest would consult them to see how to advise the people. Their use faded away thousands of years ago of course, but I wonder, how do we approach the important decisions in our lives today; do we chance to fate, or base our choices on something else ?

For Christians the way through this is clear; we pray and wait for God to answer. All based on the promises made by Jesus when he said: 'seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened' and experience shows that it is a trustworthy way to make important decisions.

It's a way of life that's proved reliable for two thousand years and you could try this out for yourself, even if you've never prayed before. So perhaps when you next have to make an important decision you could try just stopping and quietly asking God to point you the right way.

Peace.

Steve

## **Round and about Humshaugh**

### Mothers' Union

In May, the members were visited by the Diocesan President, Canon Barbara Packer. It became a fascinating afternoon during which there was a great deal of discussion about the MU, its work and its future. On Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> Liesbeth Langford will talk about several Psalms of David and play CDs of the Kings College Choir, Cambridge.

## The Crown Players



How we all enjoyed "A Bunch of Amateurs"!!

Many thanks to Diana Linnett and her bunch of amateurs – it was brilliant.

## Pub Quiz



A magnificent £309 was raised for St Peter's church at the March Quiz.

The winning team was "The Optimists".

The May Quiz – in aid of the Playing Field Trust – is going to take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday and not on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. This means it will be on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 8.30pm.



## Humshaugh First School

Many parents and others from the village so very much enjoyed year 3 and 4 performing the "Words of War" in March. It was so moving and had many of us in tears.

At the Easter service at St. Peter's, led by Revd. Steve, the children read and sang beautifully.

## Spring is here! CEILIDH

Step into action and dance with the wonderful Hexham Village Band.

With David Oliver and caller: Joey Oliver.

Humshaugh Village Hall.

Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 7.30pm. (doors open at 7.15pm)

Admission: £5 (concessions £3). Family groups of 4 or more £13.

Please bring your own snacks and drinks.

Tickets are on sale from Core Music (01434 601993) and Humshaugh Village Shop.



## Humshaugh Publications

Humshaugh Publications is preparing to publish the Humshaugh Calendar for 2020 and is asking for photographs on the theme "Views of Humshaugh and Surrounds". Photographers have until 30 June to submit their photographs – as many as you wish. The selection will take place in July and the calendars will be on sale by mid- September.

Email digital landscape copies to Richard Hewitt ([rahewitt1@gmail.com](mailto:rahewitt1@gmail.com)) by 30th June. Please phone him 689653 if you need any assistance. All other enquiries to Maurice Gilmour 681587 or [mauricegilmour@btinternet.com](mailto:mauricegilmour@btinternet.com)

**Liesbeth Langford**

## **WARK PARISH NEWS**

I write these notes on a PC having been moved and not totally responsive so apologies in advance for errors. Easter will be well behind us when you read this. Easter in church is a vital and critical time. Thanks to all who made our services so special.

Looking forward, there are many things coming up. First, we have, on SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> May, a Tea and Crafts within St. Michael's. A good number have already booked space, however we could fit more in. Please contact Ann on 230259 should you wish to join in. And for those coming along please mark this in you diary.

We celebrated the life of Eric Charlton in April, a chap who in earlier life lived in the village, then most recently in Cumbria. Thoughts and prayers go to Ena and family within Wark and around.

Next – the Fete. I know it is an awful word, and so early, however it does contribute a lot towards the annual upkeep of St. Michael's, which last year was in the region of £20,000. So please do support with a donation and assistance for the day which is SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY at 2.00pm on the Village Green. Please let Ann, Anne or Jani know.

Think that is all for now, so until we next chat, love to all

**John**

### **Christian Aid Week May 12-18**

When your envelope comes through your door please think about Mums in Sierra Leone, the world's most dangerous place to give birth. Your generosity would mean more Mums like Jebbeh can give birth safely.

Big Brekky at Wark First School 9.00am Thursday May 9th for Christian Aid

*Come and join us for a good start to the day!*

Porridge, sausage, bacon, eggs, toast, croissants and more.

### **ST. PETER'S CHURCH HUMSHAUGH**

#### **Open Gardens in Humshaugh**

Saturday 1<sup>ST</sup> June

2 pm – 4 pm

Afternoon Tea, Plant and Cake Stalls.

Tickets at the Village Hall

**Please Come Along**



## Chollerton Benefice

### Chollerton WI

We're having a crafty evening on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June when Karen Coleman will be demonstrating Kusadama (please don't ask because I haven't a clue, but I might know by Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup>). As always, visitors are very welcome. On 3<sup>rd</sup> July there will be a treasure hunt around Hexham.

### Christian Aid Week 'The BIG Brekkie'

Bacon butties, tea and coffee  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 10am to 12 noon  
at the Hearse House, Chollerton Church  
*Eat in or take away!*  
*Help to change the world over breakfast*  
*All Welcome*

### MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month  
in the Supper Room  
at Barrasford Village Hall at 10.30 a.m.  
Come along for a coffee, biscuits and a chat.  
Donations of £2 welcome

### Quiz Night Birtley Village Hall



Friday 31st May  
7.30 pm  
Light refreshments, bar  
Cash prizes  
Entry £5

### COFFEE MORNING Croft Cottage Birtley



Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
10.30am – 12  
Come along for coffee  
and a catch-up



*Please note we are not in the  
village hall this month.*

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

**Barrasford Village Hall AGM**  
**Tuesday 30th April, 7.30pm in the Hall.**

Please come along and support this valuable community venue.  
We need more volunteers to help run the hall and events, even if you can only help occasionally.

**GUNNERTON CHURCH LUNCHEON CLUB**

LUNCHEES are held on the last Wednesday of the month

PLEASE COME ALONG and join us at 12 noon

29th May, 26th June, 31st July

SOUP, SWEET, coffee or tea : £3.00 All welcome



**BIRTLEY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

Wednesday evening 15<sup>th</sup> May  
7pm at Gunnerton

Follow Jen and Denny on a local history tour of Gunnerton  
finishing with coffee and refreshments in the church



**BIRTLEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN GROUP**

**PLANT SALE**

SUNDAY 5th MAY at 2.30pm  
BIRTLEY VILLAGE HALL

Donations of plants will be appreciated,  
and can be brought to the hall from 12 noon

Teas, coffees and light refreshments



**GARDENS OPEN**  
**CARRYCOATS HALL**



**In aid of the Gurkha Welfare Trust to celebrate its 50th anniversary**

Sunday 26th May from 2pm. till 5pm.

*Azaleas, Rhododendrons, woodland walks, shrubberies & walled garden.*

**Plant stall**

**Entrance £5, to include teas.**

**Please do come along**

**IMPORTANT - READ THIS**

**COMMUNITY RURAL BROADBAND**

If you want the world's fastest broadband to everyone in our area have a look at [www.B4NTR.com](http://www.B4NTR.com)  
(Broadband for North Tyne and Redesdale)

Come to one of the public meetings in our area to find out more.

**TUESDAY 7TH MAY AT 7.30PM BIRTLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**TUESDAY 21ST MAY AT 8PM BARRASFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**Other dates/locations are at [www.b4rn.org.uk/](http://www.b4rn.org.uk/)**

You can also register your interest by visiting  
**[www.b4rn.org.uk/enibi](http://www.b4rn.org.uk/enibi)**

*Working with B4RN (Broadband for the Rural North)*

**Simonburn Notes**

How lovely it is to watch the lambs racing and jumping in the fields, they are gorgeous. We are also keeping our eyes to the skies, in search of the first swallows to arrive in the village. Hopefully by the time The Broadsheet is distributed, they will have made their way back from the long journey of approximately 6,000 miles and 6 weeks of flying.

What an amazing thing nature is!

Our Mothering Sunday service was lovely with posies of flowers, chocolate brownies and scones, made by Jane Lamb along with helpers Robert and Guy.

Thank you to all who helped decorate the Church for the special Easter Service. The flowers looked beautiful. Our Thanks to Marc Bryant, from Corbridge, who came to play the organ while Richard visited The Holy Land.

A small reminder that on Saturday 4th May, we will be spring cleaning the church from 9am, Please come along, more hands make light work. See you there!

Love Sharon

**Hiring of Simonburn Village Hall,**

Any enquiries contact :Sue Hickman Tel: 01434 689682

<b>Benefice of Chollerton</b>			<b>Benefice of Humshaugh</b>		
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>					
9am	Gunnerton	HC	9.30am	Humshaugh	HC
10.30am	Birtley	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	HC
			6.00pm	Wark	EP
			8.00pm	Humshaugh	
				Late@8	
			Contemporary worship and teaching		
Readings: Acts 9.1-20, Psalm 30, Revelation 5.11-14, John 21.1-19					
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>					
9am	Thockrington	HC	9.30am	Humshaugh	MP
10.30am	Chollerton	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	MP
			6.00pm	Wark	HC
Readings: Acts 9.36-43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7.9-17, John 10.22-30					
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>					
9am	Gunnerton	HC	9.30am	Humshaugh	HC
10.30am	Birtley	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	HC
			6.00pm	Wark	EP
Readings: Acts 11.1-18, Psalm 148, Revelation 21.1-6, John 13.31-35					
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May</b>					
9am	Thockrington	HC	9.30am	Wark	HC
10.30am	Chollerton	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	Matins
			6.30pm	Humshaugh	EP
Readings: Acts 16.9-15, Psalm 67, Revelation 21.10, 22-22.5, John 14.23-29					
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>					
			<b>Ascension Day Service</b> Humshaugh 7.00pm		
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>					
9am	Gunnerton	HC	9.30am	Humshaugh	HC
10.30am	Birtley	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	HC
			6.00pm	Wark	EP
			8.00pm	Humshaugh	
				Late@8	
			Contemporary worship and teaching		
Readings: Acts 16.16-34, Psalm 97, Revelation 22.12-14, 16,17,20,21 John 17.20-26					