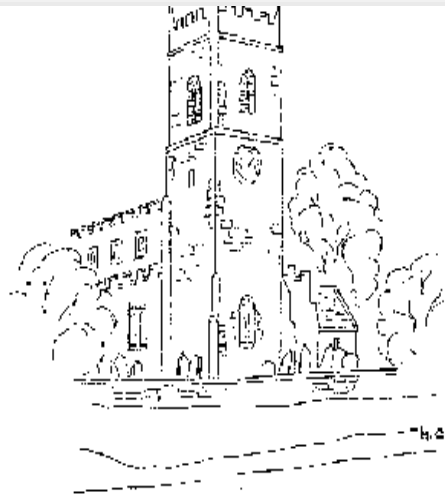
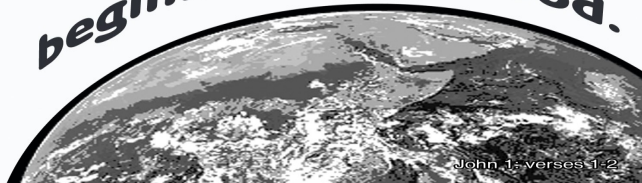


# November 2021

*In the beginning  
was the Word,  
and the Word was  
with God, and the  
Word was God.  
He was in the  
beginning with God.*

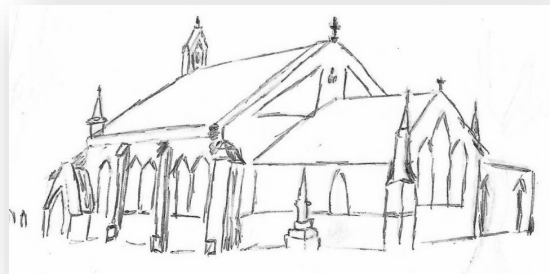


Parish Church of All Saints, Lanchester

## LANCHESTER & BURNHOPE PARISH NEWS with St Thomas Harelaw and Annfield Plain



St. John's Church, Burnhope



St Thomas Church Harelaw



**50p monthly or £5 per year**

# Parish Church of LANCHESTER & BURNHOPE

Priest in Charge – The Revd Lesley Sutherland

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Curate Stephen Martin

St Ives Vicarage, St Ives Road, Leadgate, Tel 01207 509730

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Doreen Park, 10 West Terrace 438564

Burnhope  
Ann Sinclair, Reader Emeritus  
Stephen Burt, Reader Emeritus

## SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS', LANCHESTER

*First and Third Sunday services*

10.30am Parish Eucharist

*Second and Fourth Sundays*

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30 am Service of The Word

6.00 pm Evensong

Wednesdays 9.45 am Holy Communion

## HOLY BAPTISM & WEDDINGS -

by arrangement with the Vicar

## SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S, BURNHOPE

1st and 3rd Sunday 9.15 am Said Eucharist

2nd Sunday and any 5th Sunday joint (All Saints)

4th Sunday 9.15am Service of the word

Café Church at The Community Centre every second Tuesday of the month

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## HON. SECRETARY PCC

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David Baggott, 14 Woodlands 520646

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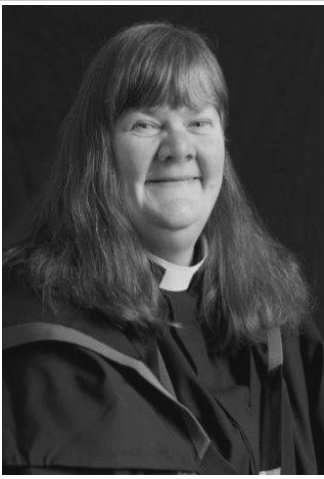
**MEN'S FORUM** See noticeboard or pew sheets for notifications and details

**Contributions to  
the Church  
Magazine are  
always welcome.**



Copy preferably, sent by E-mail, to:  
**robmatthews48@hotmail.com**

**The copy deadline for the  
December /January issue is  
Sunday November 21st**



When light becomes darkness.....

On the eve of the first Great War, statesman Sir Edward Grey said, 'The lamps are going out all over Europe. We shall not see them lit again in our lifetime.'

The lamps were indeed going out, both literally and metaphorically. When German zeppelins began to drop bombs on their enemy in 1915, a limited version of the blackout was introduced in the United Kingdom, with lights being dimmed when it was known that a zeppelin was en route. But the light had already been dimmed by the ferocity of the fighting on the continent as hundreds of thousands of young men lost their lives. And nothing was more fierce, more ferocious than the battle of Passchendaele, beginning in October of 1917.

Tom Lloyd Rees served in that battle. He manned a machine gun for two days and two nights while two of his friends lay dead on the sandbags around the gun emplacement. Tom was only 17 when he signed up in 1914, having lied about his age. Herbert Seeley served there too. Herbert was injured and sent back to the frontline four times during the

war, surviving the Battle of Passchendaele. Each time Herbert was sent back to the front, he knew what it would be like. And still he went.

Private Harry Patch was the last survivor of Passchendaele. Before he died, he described his experience; ".....some nights I dream - of that first battle. I can't forget it. I fell in a trench. There was a fella there. He must have been about our age. He was ripped shoulder to waist with shrapnel. I held his hand for the last 60 seconds of his life. He only said one word: 'Mother'. I didn't see her, but she was there. No doubt about it. He passed from this life into the next, and it felt as if I was in God's presence.

"I've never got over it. You never forget it. Never." All three men endured the horror of a battle in which over 500,000 died.

When light becomes darkness.....

Daily Herald journalist Mea Allan wrote in 1939; 'I stood on the footway of Hungerford bridge across the Thames watching the lights of London go out. The whole great town was lit up like a fairyland, in a dazzle that reached into the sky, and then one by one, as a switch was pulled, each area went dark, the dazzle becoming a patchwork of lights being snuffed out here and there until a last one remained, and it too went out. What was left us was more than just wartime blackout, it was a fearful portent of what war was to be. We had not thought that we would have to fight in darkness.....'

It was a fearful portent indeed, of a war which saw profound darkness in the depravity and evil of the holocaust, a war which ended in the blinding light followed by the enveloping darkness of the mushroom cloud rising after two nuclear explosions.

When light becomes darkness.....

And it often seems that the light is waning, even in the years after two world wars. Some claim that there have been only 26 days of peace across the globe in that time. Some say that even that is optimistic, that there hasn't been a day without war. Wikipedia's list of ongoing armed conflicts runs to nine pages, spanning the length and breadth of Africa, reaching across Asia from the Yemen and Saudi Arabia, through India and Pakistan, Myanmar and Thailand, to Indonesia in the far east. Only Europe is relatively peaceful; but our peace is marred by fear. It feels as if there's no firm foundation beneath our feet, as if the nations are planted on shifting sands, as if we have no security, and no light to guide us. It is easy to believe that the darkness has won.

But one of the great themes of the Gospels is *light*. In the creation account, God said, 'Let there be light;' and the light sprung into being. The beginning of the Gospel of John, often read at Christmas, echoes the creation account but underlines that the light is Jesus, the light of the world, a light which the darkness can never, never overcome. And in the story of the first Easter, the darkness into which the world is pitched at the death of Christ is banished by the light and joy of the resurrection on Easter day.

Darkness becomes light. Take heart. Take heart from the commemorations this year, when we are able to meet again in church and on the green to remember the fallen. Take heart from the cross, that other great symbol of sacrifice and death. As we reflect on, and give thanks for, the sacrifices of those who served in the wars of the last centuries, as we weep for the sufferings of men like Tom Lloyd Rees and Herbert Seeley and Harry Patch, we are mindful of the death of Christ; a death which lit the touchpaper for the coming of God's kingdom on earth. When nations seek to impose their rule, their view of what constitutes a right use of power on others, as they did in the first and second World Wars, we see the proof that the kingdoms of this world are deeply flawed and ultimately doomed to fail. Jesus, throughout his ministry, but increasingly as he approached his death, revealed what the Kingdom of God is like. A kingdom where the ruler brings not only justice, but mercy to his people. Where the king is known for his self-sacrifice, his all-embracing love, his forgiveness. And we are called to be people of the light. We come together in the name of Jesus, the light of the world, to affirm and re-affirm our commitment to peace, freedom, justice, truth and love. We are called to be people who follow Christ, living already as members of his kingdom. We are called to keep awake, to keep each other awake, to be watchful and active in our following, so that our own personal light shines bright and clear and we bear God's light out to those who have not yet encountered it. And that's fitting, because it means that we need never again see a time when light becomes darkness.

In Christ,

**Lesley**

**Rev'd Stephen writes :**

### **Tell me the old, old story,**



My taste in music is rather eclectic to say the least, happy to listen to everything from classical music to the golden oldies from the nightclubs I frequented when I was younger. Recently I came across a hymn called 'Tell me the old, old story' which made me reflect on an encounter I had a few years ago. I sat with a man who had lost his wife and sitting together he talked openly about her and how happy he was that she was now with her Lord. Naturally, the gentleman was sad at his loss, but his faith had taught him that there was nothing to fear. They had shared a life and a faith which had held them steadfast, a relationship founded on love, the love of each other and the love of God.

There was a lot of talk about God and faith, and I did squirm a little which did not go unnoticed. I was embarrassed when he asked me if I believed. The answer was yes, I believed, yes God was important to me but at the same time I was embarrassed that others knew that I held on to something which was outdated and for most meaningless. The family concerned were of the Free Church tradition and had no issues talking about Jesus, about faith and their conviction and confidence in the Gospel message.

Having reflected on that conversation I was encouraged by them, and I believe this encounter was a 'God-incidence' God's way of getting a message across to me, a message heard loud and clear. As Christians in a world in turmoil, of war, climate change, hunger and COVID, we have a message of light and love that we should be proclaiming for all the world to hear. We have a story of love, sacrifice and hope to tell that has changed lives for over two thousand years, it is an old story but it's a story of God, a God that loves us and continues to act in the world for the love of those he created, it's a story that needs telling today with conviction. More importantly a message we should be proud and unashamed to tell.

Tell me the same old story,  
When you have cause to fear  
That this world's empty glory  
Is costing me too dear;  
And when the Lord's bright glory  
Is dawning on my soul,  
Tell me the old, old story:  
"Christ Jesus makes thee whole."



*tell me the old old story'*

**Stephen**

### **No proof-of-jab needed to go to church**

You can go to church this autumn for worship, baptisms, weddings, and funerals, all without needing to offer proof that you have had the jab.

The Church of England welcomed the news that vaccination certification will not be required. As a spokesman said: "it would be difficult ... to justify limiting access to church services or organisations on the basis of vaccine passports. Such an approach would run contrary to the principle of the Church being a home-and-a-refuge for all."

**Source the Parish Pump**

### **Is it hard to park your car in the garage?**

It is not your fault: the bestselling modern cars have become bigger by about up to a third. A comparison of the most popular models sold in 1965 and 2020 had found that most popular modern models have expanded from 59 inches (1.5m) in width to 71 inches (1.8m) in width. Their length has gone from 153.5 inches (3.9m) to 169 inches (4.3m). The most popular 2020 model, the Ford Fiesta, has a width of 66 inches (1.7m).

Yet the average garage door is still only 82 inches wide (2.1m), often leaving just six inches (15cm) each side of the vehicle.

**Source The Parish Pump**



## Lanchester and Burnhope

### Baptisms

August 22nd

Grace Mason in Lanchester All Saints  
(Apologies for late entry)



October 3rd

Ollie Joe Rankin Hird



*"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"*

### Good to slow down in rain

A cut to the speed limit on motorways in wet weather would be backed by the majority of UK motorists. Such is the finding of a recent poll by the RAC, following a rise in serious accidents.



Almost three-quarters of us would be in favour of following the French method of lowering the speed limit on all major roads when it rains. The Highway Code states that stopping distances in wet weather are at least double those on dry roads, as tyres have less grip.

A spokesman for the RAC said that figures show that 'driving too fast for the conditions' and 'slippery roads' are still among the top 10 reasons for motorway collisions, and they "contribute to significant numbers of serious injuries and even deaths each year."

### Parade for Remembrance Service

Local newspapers advertising church services don't always get it quite right. Such as the local paper advertising a Remembrance Day service, who should have printed: *There will be a parade of uniformed organisations.*

Instead, they printed: *There will be a parade of uniformed organists.*



## Lanchester and Burnhope Advent Fayre

Saturday November 27th  
9.30 am—12.30

Admission Free

## In All Saints Parish Church

Refreshments £1.00

Free drink and treat for Children

Attractions include

Turkey Raffle, Tombola,  
Bottle Tombola,  
Homemade cakes and savouries,  
Jams, preserves and Ginger Wine,  
Hand crafted goods,  
Christmas Goods,  
Wives "Hook a Christmas Bag" and  
Bran tub  
Traidcraft



# NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

## Mothers' Union Lanchester



Our meeting on Tuesday 25th October was well attended. Eileen was poorly, so Dorothy and I did our best in her absence.

We had a new microphone provided by Rob ( Thank you Rob) so all our ladies heard perfectly ( after I remembered with prompting to speak directly into it). Father John commented "It was like Carry on M.U." Oh dear.

Father John Fisher then had us all enthralled with a fantastic talk about his pilgrimages to Santiago De Compostella. We ended with tea and biscuits and lots of questions.

The speaker at our next meeting on Tuesday 9th November is our lovely Priest in Charge, Lesley. We look forward to seeing you all there.

**Audrey Newton**

## Mothers' Union St John's Burnhope



Our Pie and Pea supper was very enjoyable and we made £280. However, it would not have been such a success without the help of the Ladies -friends of St John's - We thank them most sincerely.

We are now looking forward to our Christmas Fair on the 4th December

**Muriel Molloy**

## Ginger Wine

Traditional Ginger Wine will be available from late October onwards. £4.50 a bottle or the Summer special on request at £5.00 a bottle. Delivery no problem we are happy to help.

Supporting Church fund raising. Hazel 521690  
Thank You

**Hazel Gaskill**

## Soup Lunch 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Even though we had fewer customers than in previous years it was good to hear the Chapter House alive with chatter and laughter after such a long time. Everyone seemed to enjoy the various delicious soups on offer and, together with sales of jam, marmalade and chutney, £208 was raised for church funds. Thank you to all the stalwart helpers and to all those who came to support the event.

**Margaret Walters on behalf of the Social and Fundraising Committee**

## The Language of Flowers Activity –Thyme –Thymus

*"O'er fringed heaths, wide lawns and mountain steeps,  
With silent step the artful Thyme creeps.  
Unfolds with fragrant bloom her purple flow'rs  
And leads with frolic hand the circling hours"*

Frances Arabella Rowden.

Thyme was first made emblem of activity by the Greeks, who observed that its perfume stimulates the brain and appetite. Bees seek it with great 'activity' and the Greeks and Romans grew vast areas of it for honey. Medieval ladies embroidered sprays



of Thyme with a bee on scarves for their Knights, as the emblem of courage and action. Thyme was a great favourite with Frances Bacon, who in his plan for the perfect garden planted paths with Thyme and other herbs which when trodden on would perfume the air 'most delightfully, Fairies and elves were reputedly specially fond of wild thyme and in Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' Oberon exclaims with delight

*"I know a bank whereon the wild thyme blows,  
Where Oxlips and the nodding violet grows.  
Quite overcanopied with lush woodbine  
With sweet Musk Roses and with Eglantine".*

However to bring a sprig of wild thyme into the house was thought to be unlucky.

*For he painted the things that matter,  
The tints that we all pass by.  
Like the little blue tints of incense,  
That the wild thyme breathes to the sky*

Hoping you enjoy this article and stay active.

**Audrey Newton**

## Church Flowers November

7th Nov D Leyland  
B Gibson  
B Craddock

14th Nov G Nichol

28th Nov M Boville





## 100 Club

The numbers for the October draw were drawn by Sue and Olga.

The winning numbers are

All £5 - 71, 75, 96, 42, 144, 130.

**Sue Smith and Olga Walker**



## Annual Churchyard Tidy up

Autumn is well and truly with us and with it comes falling leaves. As is our custom we ask for volunteers to help sweep up the leaves and carry out general Churchyard tidying to ensure the Churches look as good as they can for winter. We propose weather permitting to carry this out on Saturday 13th November with St John's Churchyard Tidy up 2 weeks later on 27th November. We will be serving refreshments with cake and scones for the hardy volunteers. Are you able to help?



## The Churchwardens

### Advertisement

Chutneys, jams and marmalades still on sale.

Ring Margaret 521214

or Jen 520498.



### Harvest Thank you

Thank you everyone for the magnificent amount of produce and food provided for our Harvest festival. The amount taken to the food bank was almost 80 kilos in weight, and there was a cash donation. The fresh produce was delivered to Willow Burn. Both organisations expressed their thanks. A similar amount collected by EP school at their Harvest Festival was delivered to Annfield Plain foodbank.



### Editor

## Church Wives

Autumn and its glorious colours abound  
Bright red berries, coloured leaves all around  
Thank God that we have eyes to see  
Appreciate the season, nature is free!

We had our first meeting for a very long time  
A joy to be together, everything was fine.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, Barbara Malpass will come  
Bringing beautiful crafts to show everyone.

There will be a choice of things to buy

Christmas gifts in full supply.

November 25<sup>th</sup> will be getting ready for the Advent Fair

It would be good if everybody was there.

Also bring the name of your favourite hymn

And there will be a prize to win.

Have you noticed how much busier the roads are now? Cars seem to race along the roads which can make crossing them a nightmare at times. Zebra crossings are so important I think and are used frequently by old people like me. I tread out briskly and safely to cross them, in confidence that they are the way to go. It made me think more deeply about zebra crossings. Did you know that it was 70 years ago on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1951 that zebra Crossings were introduced. They had been trialled for over two years at 1000 experimental sites but in 1951 the black and white pedestrian crossings were approved with their flashing Belisha Beacons and all drivers were required by Law to stop as soon as a pedestrian set foot on them.

**Brenda Craddock**

### Material



If anyone has any spare material, cotton or polycotton, patterned or plain, I would be very grateful for it. Polycotton sheeting is perfect for mask linings. I would be very happy to collect. Please ring Margaret on 521214.

Many thanks.

### *Children's Aprons for Sale*

*Lovely cotton fabrics  
Ideal Christmas present*

3 sizes (excluding straps):

16 inch length for 2-4 year old £2.50

20 inch length for 5-7 year old £3

24 inch length for 8-12 year old £4

*All proceeds to Church Funds  
Ring Margaret on 521214*

## We remember



The Somme, Dunkirk and Passchendaele  
Cause us to think of times of war,  
When men and boys went bravely out  
They fought, some died and returned no more.

They gave their all that we should live,  
We never should forget such cost,  
Remembering with thankful hearts  
Our freedom gained as lives were lost.

Another Man gave up His life,  
Another war, another fight,  
With all mankind held fast in chains  
As darkness fell as black as night.

The cost was high, a sinless life  
To break the chains and set us free,  
The Lamb of God on Calvary's cross  
Paid that price for you, for me.

## Megan Carter



## Quotes for the month November also brings us Remembrance Day...

War does not determine who is right – only who is left. –  
*Bertrand Russell*

The tragedy of war is that it uses man's best to do man's  
worst. – *Harry Emerson Fosdick*

The Church knows nothing of a sacredness of war. The  
Church which prays the 'Our Father' asks God only for  
peace. – *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

## 100 years of red poppies

Amid the mud, blood and carnage of trench warfare in World War 1, tens of thousands of bright red poppies grew, marking the graves of the fallen. This led John McCrae, a Canadian army physician who had lost a colleague, to write "In Flanders Fields",

*In Flanders fields, the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.*

This image inspired the adoption of a red poppy as the symbol of all soldiers who had died in conflict. Exactly 100 years ago, on the 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 1921, poppies of remembrance were sold for the first time in British and Commonwealth countries. Hostilities had actually ceased three years earlier at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

This year, on the 14th November, which is the nearest Sunday, a two-minutes silence will be kept at war memorials throughout the country, and at the national ceremony at the Cenotaph in London's Whitehall. The Queen will pay tribute alongside Members of the Cabinet, Opposition Party leaders, former Prime Ministers, the Mayor of London and many others. Representatives of the Armed Forces, Fishing Fleets and Merchant Air and Navy will be there, as well as High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries. All will wear a red poppy.

Around 30 million poppies are sold each year in the UK by the Royal British Legion. All the proceeds are used to provide serving and ex-service personnel with financial support, advice, employment, mobility, housing and mental health facilities.

Today we are more aware than ever that battles are fought mainly by young people, and many of those who survive bear scars for life. The act of 'remembering' will not only look back to mark their sacrifice, but also yearn to learn lessons for the future.

Reflecting on the poem, 'In Flanders Fields', the American professor Moina Michael, wrote:

*And now the Torch and Poppy Red  
We wear in honour of our dead.  
Fear not that ye have died for naught;  
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought  
In Flanders Fields.*

Source  
The Parish pump





## A Reflection from Pauline

*'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest, for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'* Matt 11, 28-30

To Jesus' audience, and to Mark's, the yoke was an obvious one. These were people who struggled under many yokes. The yoke of political oppression, the yoke of poverty, the yoke of unending toil, but most of all, under what the Rabbis described as "the yoke of the Torah". The 613 complex rules which had gradually been built up around the 10 Laws of Moses. The rules which were meant to enable people to grow closer to God, but instead had become a barrier, because only the very wealthy had the time, the energy, and the resources to keep them. The poor, the disadvantaged, could never hope to be good enough.

Jesus spoke to their hungry, thirsty, weary hearts, "cast off this heavy yoke, and take mine". And he reduced the entire Torah to two rules: "Love God"; "Love your neighbour as yourself", and there, in a heartbeat, the burden was lifted from the groaning backs of an oppressed people, their souls could find rest, and they were refreshed.

And yet today, as individuals and as nations, we continue to struggle under heavy burdens. Why is that, I wonder? Is it because as individuals and as nations we have carved a new yoke for ourselves in the way we live our lives - in the priorities we have chosen; priorities which, like the 613 rules of the Torah have crept upon us over the centuries, unnoticed, until now we are weary beneath their weight?

As a nation, we, like many others, seem to have lost our way. We have somehow slid from being a country where we cared about each other to one of self-interest. It's happened at both a national and individual level, and it is a cripplingly heavy yoke on each and every one of us, and many of us are so used to it we aren't even aware - that's just the way it is.

Think of Jesus' words, "Come to me, all you that are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Think of the burdens we place on our own shoulders with the burden of "more". Of wanting "more", of getting "more", of being "more," of having "more" than anyone else; of comparing ourselves to others and envying or resenting what they possess and we don't. As individuals we are almost all guilty of it - I certainly am. As a nation we have lost our spirit of gratitude and of generosity - and it is born of fear. People, as Harold Macmillan famously said, "have never had it so good" - nor have we guarded it so fiercely and wanted so much to add to it, constantly struggling to have more and more, and at any cost. It's exhausting. It's exhausting because it produces a state of constant dissatisfaction. Too much will never be enough. Our economy is built on us obsessively buying, hoarding, and wasting. In a time of plenty, we fear scarcity.

Let us think instead of Jesus' commandments. "Love God. Love your neighbour as yourself." To fully love God is to fully trust God. To accept that ultimately in the words of Julian of Norwich, "all will be well, and all will be well, and all manner of things will be well". To trust God is to release the struggle to acquire more and more for our own fleeting, selfish satisfaction. And it IS fleeting, too - like any drug, wanton constant consumption just leaves us very quickly wanting our next "fix". Remember those images on TV and social media at the start of the pandemic? People whose garages and spare rooms were so full of tins and packets and bottles that they could easily have opened a small shop - in fact, the shops I remember as a child probably carried less stock. It was an "I'm all right, Jack" attitude that pushed up prices, emptied shelves and caused the vulnerable to suffer.

Where is "loving your neighbour" in that attitude? I read somewhere once - I forget where - that in order to love our neighbour as ourselves, we must first learn to love ourselves, and that for many, if not most of us, loving ourselves can be hard. Now I can see where this is coming from, but it doesn't strike me as a great truth, because I know many people who have little regard for themselves, but who do much for others.

I subscribe to a different philosophy; one of "Love your neighbour as you yourself are loved by God", and I can tell you exactly where I read that. It was, somewhat ironically, in a biography of Albert Speer, Hitler's architect. Speer wrote those words in a letter to his biographer, Gitta Sereny. It strikes me as a much more meaningful translation. "Love, as you yourself are loved." How powerful that sentence - that commandment - is.

This universe, this precious world and all that is in it, was created from a massive outpouring of love from God. It is sustained by continual Divine love. It is redeemed by the sacrificial love of Christ. And we, above all other created beings, are formed in God's own image. We weren't created with a single word like everything else, but crafted by the Divine hand, brought to life by the Divine breath - and we speak the Divine name with every breath we take - "Yah - Weh". We were created from love and with love, to have love for all the world: to steward creation as the physical presence of God's love in the world. The fact that we are offered a yoke by the Lord is a reminder that we are not created just to love God, and to praise God, but also to serve God, and until we can see and accept our role as God's agents, we will never cast off the heavy yoke of oppression, and we will never find fulfilment in our lives. And we can be assured that we won't be carrying the burden that we are given alone. Christ stands next to us, shouldering it with us, and he expects us to shoulder it with each other; to take on the heavy burdens of those who are struggling, with his help, so that everyone will have a lighter load to bear.

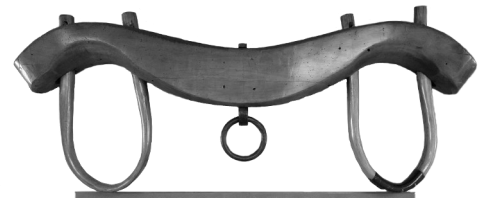
We are human, and imperfect, and must constantly struggle against our own worst instincts. We, like the Israelites in the desert, are a stiff-necked people - a comparison that also relates to the yoke. For a yoke to fit on an ox, the beast must relax its neck and accept it. If it refuses, the yoke is uncomfortable and chafes, and the ox can't be guided gently, with a stick against the side of its neck, but must be forced and beaten into compliance. Such an ox makes its own life harder, and its master's job difficult, and we, too, make our own lives harder, and God's more difficult, when we stubbornly refuse to accept the service we owe to our creator.

Here, in our own desert, we make our own yoke heavy.

In a base world which tempts us to ever greater excess in every respect, which encourages us to waste precious resources, urges us to think only of personal "fulfilment", we need to learn to step back, and place our trust in God. We need to throw off the yoke of selfishness - and selfishness doesn't just have a yoke, it blinkers us, too. We must throw these off and take on Christ's yoke of selflessness: the yoke of loving; loving other people, other nations, God's thrice-blessed creation itself. We need to change our mindset from discontent to gratitude, to stop demanding what we regard as our "rights", and instead willingly shoulder the yoke of our responsibilities. We are all children of the one God; we are all our brother's keeper; and the whole world is our brother.

There is a buddhist saying. "If you want others to be happy, practice compassion towards them. If you want to be happy, practice compassion towards others." In helping others, we help ourselves.

Christ's yoke of kindness is light. We are invited to shoulder that yoke daily, and with gratitude. We need, for our own sakes, to show love to others as we ourselves are loved. Only then, both in this world and the next, will our weary souls find rest in God



"TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU, AND LEARN FROM ME" - Matthew 11:29



## An Extract from the Parish Magazine of November 1901

For some time past there has been a good deal of talk about a new clock for the Church tower or repairing the old one; the opinion of Mr. Potts, of Leeds, was taken, and the works of the old clock were found to be such as to render it impossible to keep time. In the meantime some generous person has offered to present us with a new clock, a noble offer indeed, and one that will be highly appreciated, and now we hear that Mr. Logan has come forward and made a very handsome offer of "Cambridge Chimes" and illumination, which will cost a considerable sum; it is quite possible, that one of these days in the near future, we may have the electric light, and then our new clock will look more beautiful and be still more useful.

A very interesting gathering took place on Thursday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Deanery; the occasion being the presentation of a handsome drawing room suite of furniture to Mr. and Mrs. Brotherhood by the Guardians in recognition of the valuable services they had rendered the Workhouse during a period of 23 years; as the Chairman remarked, during the whole of the time they had performed their duties to the entire satisfaction of the Board, and he was sorry that owing to Mrs. Brotherhood's indifferent health they had felt obliged to resign their position; he hoped that Board would have the pleasure of paying pensions to them both for many years.

It is many years since our country has experienced such a prolonged drought; in many parts the consequences have become most serious, and even in our own district we hear of pits and works being laid off, and many cases of illness and ill effects arising from the indifferent supply and quality of the water; good, we hope, will come out of evil, and people will learn to value more than ever they have done one of God's great gifts to man, water.

(Yours faithfully George Jepson Vicar and Surrogate)

**Peter Smith**

### *Facemasks still for sale*

*Minimum donation £1 each  
Various fabrics*

All proceeds to church funds

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**Happy to deliver in the village**

## Churchwarden's report

We are slowly, cautiously but surely returning to normality in our Churches. We are cautiously bringing back the social activities we so enjoy and have missed. So far, the return of Accapella Group, Meditation and Mindfulness, Mothers' Union, Church Wives, and Julian Group is a step in the right direction. It is also wonderful to hear the bells rung in peal again, a point which has been commented on around the village.

All activities are being carefully planned within our Covid Risk Assessment and a careful eye on the local Covid situation.

We have had to step back slightly and return to the ticks and crosses spacing in the pews and a return to mask wearing when moving about in Church. Sanitiser stations are still being maintained. We are still able, socially distanced of course, to enjoy a cuppa and a chat after services and it is lovely to hear the "buzz" in the Chapter House again.

We have eight persons who kindly have volunteered to form our Cleaning Teams and arrangements are in hand to sort out rotas.

Our recent Harvest Service was a great success and the resultant produce donated by our Congregation has been distributed to the Foodbank at Consett with fresh produce going to Willow Burn.

We are still waiting to start redecoration which has been delayed slightly by the slow drying out of the corridor walls. However as the heating is now being switched on for events, we hope that this will help the drying out process. The new upstairs toilet fan has been fitted.

We have replaced the George Flag which flies from the tower now permanently, (with the exception of the dates when the union flag is required) the old one was damaged and shredded when flying at half mast on the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, it caught on the mast rigging.

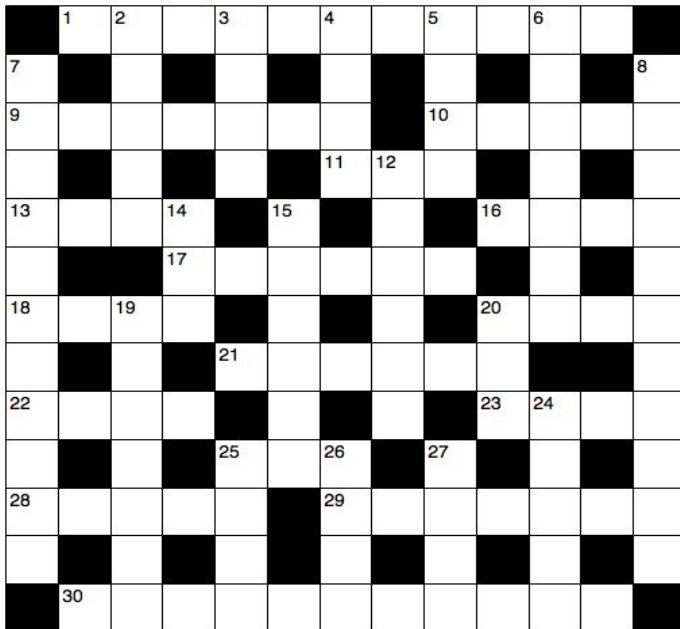
We are experiencing some problems with the exterior lighting. The current control system is complicated and has had to be reset for the last few years with our grateful thanks to Dennis Geer who has managed to reset them with some success. The original system was set for 15 years (up to 2015) but now to make them work, it is necessary to reset the clock back a couple of years. This is becoming more increasingly difficult and we are looking at a simpler form of control to be more efficient. A proposal and estimate is being sought.

The plasterer has responded and looked at the flaking plaster above the Bureau in the North west Corner and has provided a price for the remedial works which we shall take to PCC for approval.

We intend as is usual to carry out our annual Churchyard tidy ups for both Churches in November/December when all the leaves have fallen and hope for a good turn out of volunteers. Hopefully this time we are able to offer refreshments to those who turn up.

Meanwhile we continue to support Lesley as she ministers to our Congregations.

**Rob Matthews for the Churchwardens**



### Across

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)
- 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
- 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)
- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
- 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
- 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
- 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
- 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
- 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
- 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
- 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

### Down

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
- 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
- 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
- 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
- 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)

### Down cont'd

- 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
- 8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
- 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
- 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
- 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
- 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
- 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
- 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
- 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)

## Doctor Livingstone I Presume?

It was 150 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1871, that Welsh journalist and explorer Henry Morton Stanley located the missing missionary Dr David Livingstone near Lake Tanganyika, in present-day Tanzania. He may or may not have greeted him with the words: "Doctor Livingstone, I presume?" Stanley's real name was John Rowlands. He was born in Denbigh to an unmarried 18-year-old who abandoned him. He ended up in a workhouse until he was 15, then went to America, where he changed his name and became an American citizen. When he found Livingstone, he was working for the *New York Herald*. Known for his strength of will, Stanley also had an African name – Bula Matari – Breaker of Rocks. Much of his life was spent in Central Africa, and his reputation was mixed: he was said by some to be violent toward Africans, but by others to have treated them well. His feats as an explorer were impressive: he played a big part in locating the true source of both the Nile and the Congo, and he helped open up the Congo on behalf of King Leopold of Belgium. Though not overtly religious, he felt he was engaged in a "sacred task". He was re-naturalised a British subject in 1892, following his marriage.



## Source The Parish Pump

**ACROSS:** 1, Charloiteers, 9, Immoral, 10, Cairo, 11, SAE, 13, Inns, 16, Firm, 17, Accuse, 18, East, 20, Ogam, 21, Ju-dith, 22, Seba, 23, Msgr, 25, Den, 28, Inane, 29, Entreat, 30, Chrysoprase.  
**DOWN:** 2, Human, 3, Rare, 4, Oils, 5, Ecce, 6, Raising, 7, Citizenship, 8, Commemorate, 12, Assail, 14, Sat, 15, Scouse, 19, Sabbath, 20, Ohm, 24, Seeds, 25, Deny, 26, Nero, 27, Star.



## Dates for your Diary November/December 2021

Sat 6th 10.00am Churches Together Service of Remembering, Thanksgiving and Hope Burnhope.  
Sun 7th 9.15am Said Eucharist St John's Church Burnhope.  
Sun 7th 9.45 am Service of the Word St Thomas Church  
Sun 7th 10.30 Parish Eucharist at All Saints Church  
Sun 7th 'Light up the Night'- pitstop for hungry and thirsty Trick or Treaters; Hot dogs, Hot Chocolate and Winter Pimms, All Saints Church Chapter House, time TBA  
Mon 8th 2.00pm Julian Meeting in the Chapter House  
Tue 9th 11.00am Meditation and Mindfulness Drop in  
Tue 9th 2.00pm Mothers' Union All Saints (Chapter House)  
Tue 9th 6.00pm Café Church Burnhope Community Centre. Wed 10th 9.45 Holy Communion at All Saints Church Thur 11th 7.00pm Church Wives at All Saints Barbara Malpass  
Sun 14th 9.00 Eucharist for Remembrance Day St Thomas' Church  
Sun 14th 10.30am Service of the Word All Saints Church  
Sun 14th 10.50 Remembrance Service Village Green  
Sunday 14th 11.00 Act of Remembrance Burnhope War Memorial (TBC)  
Sun 14th 2.00pm Remembrance Service Annfield Plain Park, parade leaves from Tesco car park at 1.30pm  
Sun 14th 6.00pm Simple Said Eucharist at All Saints Church  
Tues 16th 11am Meditation and Mindfulness Drop in  
Wed 17th 9.45 Holy Communion at All Saints Church  
Sun 21st 9.15 Said Eucharist St John's Church Burnhope  
Sun 21st 9.45 Service of the Word at St Thomas Church Harelaw  
Sun 21st 10.30 Sung Eucharist at All Saints  
Tue 23rd 11am Meditation and Mindfulness Drop in  
Wed 24th 9.45 am Holy Communion All Saints Church  
Thur 25th 7.00pm Church Wives (Preparation for Fair) Chapter House  
Sat 27th 9.30am -1.30pm All Saints Church Autumn Fayre  
Sat 27th 10-12.30 St Thomas Church Fair Catchgate Primary School (venue TBC)  
Sat 27th 6.00pm Switching on of Lights Village Green  
Sun 28th First Sunday in Advent- look out for confirmation of the dates of our Advent Courses  
Sun 28th 8.00 Eucharist All Saints  
Sun 28th 9.15 Service of the Word St John's Church Burnhope  
Sun 28th 9.45 Eucharist St Thomas Church Harelaw  
Sun 28th 10.30 Service of the Word All Saints  
Sun 28th 6.00 Evensong All Saints  
Tues 30th 11am Meditation and Mindfulness Drop in  
Tues 30th 2.00pm PCC Meeting  
Wed 31st 9.45 Holy Communion All Saints Church  
December  
Sat 4th 10.00am St Johns Church Christmas Fair at Burnhope Community Centre

## Good news for coffee lovers



If you drink a cup of coffee a day, you could reduce your risk of having a stroke by a fifth. A recent study, by researchers at Semmelweis University in Budapest, found that people who drink a moderate amount of coffee (from half a cup to three cups a day) are 21 per cent less likely to have a stroke, as compared to people who avoid coffee completely. About 100,000 people in the UK suffer a stroke each year, and it is the fourth leading cause of death, just behind dementia, heart disease and lung cancer.

## My Friend

Where have you gone my companion and friend?

Your bark, your look were with me each day,  
But now there's such an empty space  
You're no longer here; what is there to say?

Released from pain and now at peace,  
Memories sweet will never depart,  
Amazing how a four-legged friend  
Can be so entwined within one's heart.

Of all God's creation His special touch  
Is the gift of a pet coming into our care,  
Loyal, loving, a constant friend

So we thank the Lord for the  
time that we shared.



By Megan Carter

## Foodbank

Please don't forget those who depend on the foodbank at this difficult time. Lanchester All Saints is on service days, open for you to leave donations at present and we have liaised with the Foodbank in Consett to see how we can help. Lanchester donated over a ton of food in the year before lockdown, and many people would struggle without that generosity of spirit.

As it is difficult to collect food for the food bank we have spoken to them and they are happy for us to circulate their bank account details if anyone wants to make money donations on line.

**Sort code 40-52-40 Account number 00022928**

Cheques for Consett foodbank should be made payable to Consett Food 4U, and posted to Durham Christian Partnership, Unit 7/9, First Avenue, Drum Industrial Estate, Chester-le-Street, County Durham DH2 1AG (0191 303 8623 / 07758 400128)

**The new location for Consett foodbank from Tuesday 6 April 21 is: Consett Methodist Church, Station Road, Consett DH8 5RL**

**Their opening times remain unchanged.** We keep opening times / closures and locations up to date on

<https://durham.foodbank.org.uk/locations/>

## THINK FOOD BANK

**As a church we are committed to supporting the Food Bank in Consett (There are now 29 Food Banks operating in the Durham Diocese)**



# News from St Thomas

## Harvest Lunch at St Thomas

This year it was lovely to resume our harvest lunch again. There were 30 of us gathered to share a delightful array of soup all freshly made. There was also apple crumble and other tempting creations to enjoy. The afternoon finished with a game of Bingo. All proceeds are going again this year to the Daft as a Brush charity. The total raised was £136.15p

## Chocolate and Chat

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October in the Community room. There was a chocolate tombola, and hot chocolate as well as tea and coffee. Ann Whitely made a delicious chocolate cake which was raffled. The event went very well with £171.50 made for church funds. This was the first fundraising event for St Thomas since lock down.

## St Thomas Mothers' union

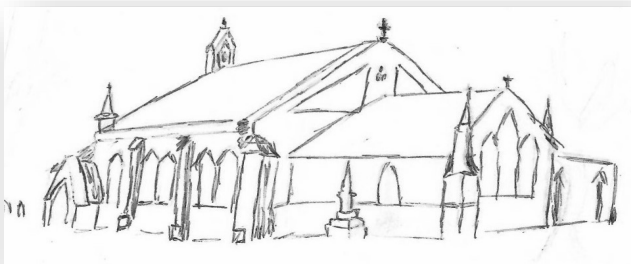
Mothers' union resumed here at St Thomas in September. We are looking forward to meeting Cyril Robinson from the Methodist Chapel in Annfield Plain who will be speaking on the 1<sup>st</sup> November. In December on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 2pm, Stephen Martin will be speaking about his journey.



## St Thomas Church fair

Will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> November 10-12.30. This is held at Catchgate primary school in the hall

## Jane Makepeace



## Stewardship

Our church launched a new Stewardship Campaign, which instead of holding a series of events, decided to focus entirely on one big fund-raising event. The evening became known as "putting all our begs into one askit."



## The beloved Stone of Scone

A quarter of a century ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1996, England officially returned the Stone of Scone to Scotland after 700 years. It was the coronation stone of the Scottish and (later) English and British monarchs. Scotland has agreed to loan the Stone to Westminster Abbey for future coronations.



Ten thousand people lined the Royal Mile in Edinburgh to witness the Stone's return, and at a service in St Giles' Cathedral the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt Revd John MacIndoe, formally accepted it.

The red sandstone block – sometimes called the Stone of Destiny – has been used in the enthronement of all Scottish kings since Kenneth I united the Scots and Pictish kingdoms and moved his capital to Scone, Perthshire, in about 840AD. It was brought to England by King Edward I in 1296, and taken to Westminster Abbey, where it has been used in the crowning of every subsequent monarch of England.

Scottish Nationalists had taken the Stone from the Abbey on Christmas Day 1950, but it was returned a few months later.

One of several legends suggests that it is the same stone Jacob used as a pillow at Bethel, which later became the pedestal of the Ark in the Temple.

## Source The Parish Pump

## Love your trees: 27<sup>th</sup> November – 5<sup>th</sup> December

National Tree Week is the UK's largest annual tree celebration, marking the start of the winter tree planting season (November to March each year). This year, it runs from Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December. It is a good time to both celebrate your current trees, and to plant more trees in your area. You don't have to necessarily hug a tree to prove your appreciation; there are plenty of other ways to support them.



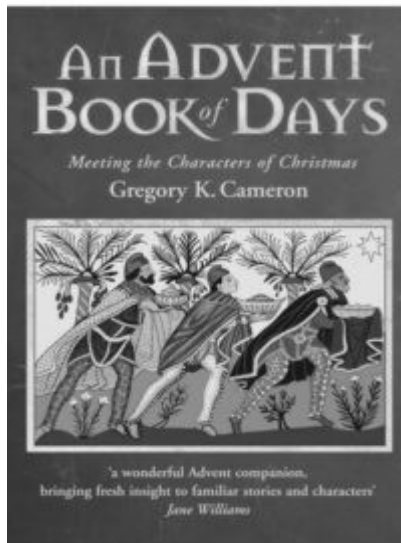
Visit: <https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action/seasonal-campaigns/national-tree-week/>



## Book Reviews



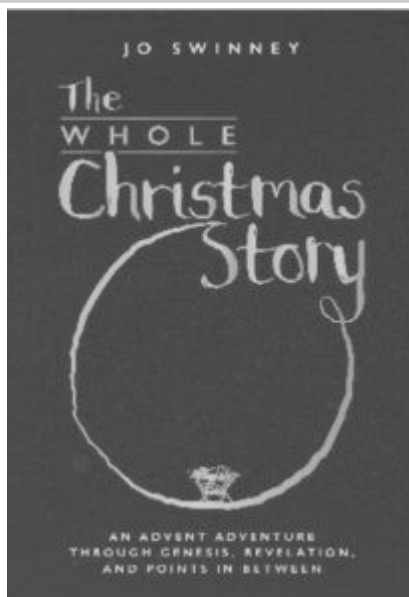
**An Advent Book of Days – meeting the characters of Christmas**  
By Gregory Cameron, Canterbury Press, £9.99



An Advent Book of Days tells the stories of all the characters and creatures that make up the Christmas story, with daily prayers and reflections based on their experiences. Fully illustrated in colour, this rich seasonal companion combines the Bible, history, art and legend to explore the story of the incarnation.

For each day of Advent, we meet a character caught up in the drama of the nativity, from the archangel Gabriel to the ox and ass in the stable

**The Whole Christmas Story – an Advent adventure through Genesis, Revelation and points in between**  
By Jo Swinney, BRF, £8.99



BRF's Advent book for 2021 covers far more than the 120 gospel verses which take us from the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary to the escape to Egypt by Joseph, Mary and the infant Jesus. In daily readings, reflections and prayers, from Advent Sunday to Epiphany, Jo Swinney sets the familiar – sometimes over-familiar – Christmas story in the infinite context of God's creation.

## Prayer Tips

*Do not forget to do good and to share with others for with such sacrifice God is pleased.*



## Smile Lines



We so enjoyed the fireworks display, can we do it again at New Year?

Father,

In these short, dark days of November, with all the uncertainties and complications in our new Covid 19 landscape, help us to feel the reassurance of Your presence in the gift of each new day. Help us to be guided through the darkness by Your light – by Jesus, who will never leave us or forsake us.

In His name – the name above pandemics and shortages and rising bills and all anxieties – we pray.

Amen.

**By Daphne Kitching**







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