



BINSEY LINK

The magazine that reaches out to everyone in our communities

binsey.org.uk

Charity Number:
1169267

Serving and informing the Mission Community of:
Allhallows, Bassenthwaite, Boltons, Embleton, Ireby, Isel, Plumbland, Setmurthy,
Torpenhow, Uldale and Wythop

April 2021

SIGNIFICANCE OF PLACE

All of us have significant places. It may be the place where we are living now, it may be the place where we were born and grew up, or indeed the place where we've shared our married life and where our children grew up.

Some of you will not have moved very far from where you were born, if at all, especially if you are from farming families. Whereas some of us, have lived in a number of different places and moved around quite a bit, sometimes considerable distances. However, there is usually a particular place, that has shaped our life and draws us back in our thoughts and memories, and which we will always consider home.

Sally and I have lived in several places during our married life, but we have always enjoyed holidays in the Lake District. For 27 years (until we moved here) we returned to a cottage on the same farm in Binsey parish each summer. For us and our 2 children, it became like home.

Many of you will be familiar with the term 'hefting', which describes how the homing and hefting instincts of hill sheep make it possible for individual flocks from different farms to graze on the open fells with no fences or physical barriers between them. Hefted sheep not only stay together in the same group, but they also graze the same place on the fell throughout their lives with the ewe passing this trait down to her lambs. The female lambs replace the older ewes and they bring their lambs back to the same place. The sheep become entirely acclimatised to that terrain, the prevailing weather conditions and where to find shelter.

Being required to stay at home, and indeed work from home if we can, has given many of us the opportunity to become more familiar with the places where we live, if we weren't already. Life may have carried on much as normal for the farming community, but it has been rather different for the rest of us. Obviously, there have been some benefits to being at home more and, given that we only moved to Cumbria a few months before lockdown started, it has helped us to become more familiar with our home, our village and local surroundings through regular walks. More importantly, it has helped us to get to know our neighbours as we meet them on our walks or chat to them over the garden wall.

Christianity too has its significant places. At Easter we think of the garden where Jesus had been buried in a tomb. The women who stood with him at the cross made their way there early on Easter Sunday morning to complete the burial rituals. The open and empty tomb shocked and distressed them, and they called their companions to come and see.

What happened in that special place on that special morning was to change their lives, yet it didn't fully dawn upon them at first – that Jesus had risen from the dead. They were in that in-between place and not able as yet to see the miraculous future that lay ahead.

We may not be celebrating this year with our special people or in our special places, but I hope that Easter marks a new dawn for us all. Our 'hefting' place is where we know that we meet with the risen Christ.

May we find fresh hope and inspiration at this place of new creation from which everything is now possible through the love and grace of God in the risen Lord Jesus.

Happy Easter to you all.
With my prayers and best wishes,
Stephen



Monthly Letter

Oh, what is that beautiful thing that just happened?

During Lent we have been sharing some reflections on poetry that has a special resonance for us at this time of year. Thank you to those who have contributed, and to all of you who have been reading and praying through them. Now we've reached Easter and the shout of joyful resurrection is in the air, 'Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!' Hopefully, we are able to join in with it in our congregations, even if we're in the churchyard!

I have one last poem to offer you. It's by Mary Oliver and titled '*At Blackwater Pond.*'

At Blackwater Pond
the tossed waters have settled
after a night of rain.
I dip my cupped hands. I drink
a long time. It tastes
like stone, leaves, fire. It falls cold
into my body, waking the bones. I hear them
deep inside me, whispering
oh, what is that beautiful thing
that just happened?

Now, I've no idea whether she intended this to be a poem about Easter but that's what strikes me about it. The tossed waters of the events of Holy Week have settled and we can drink long and deep of the new hope of Easter Day. The hope that calls to somewhere deep within us that something has changed- what is that beautiful thing that has just happened?

Have you ever tried to explain the resurrection to someone? It's virtually impossible. Yes, we can talk about Jesus dying for our sins and so breaking the bonds that keep us tethered to the things that destroy us. Yes, we can talk about him conquering death and bringing in God's kingdom of everlasting life. Preachers like me do it all the

time. But...all the words in the world don't really capture what Jesus' rising from the dead accomplishes.

Thomas Merton said that we're not called to *believe* the resurrection, we're called to *experience* it. To experience the power that it has to change things. I wonder if this year we might have a better idea of what that feels like.

We're well into the national roll out of the vaccine and many of us will have had the first, if not both doses. Does that give us a greater feeling of safety? A greater feeling of hope? We're being able to take those first cautious steps out of lockdown. Very slowly and tentatively, as is right. But freedom *is* on its way. Does that make us feel more confident in the future?

Confidence, safety, hope, freedom, are all gifts of the resurrection; they're all part of what Merton calls on us to experience. All things *have* been put under the power of Jesus' authority. Even if it hasn't yet come to its full fruition. (1 Corinthians 15. 25-26).

Living in the light of the resurrection truly brings us into a new place and to a new way of seeing. As Christians, we are, of course, Easter people, we always have that reality with us, but it's been hard to live from that light-filled place sometimes in this last year.

In Mary Oliver's poem she risks dipping her hands into the chilly water and drinks deep. It wakes something in her.

'Oh, what is that beautiful thing that just happened?'
The resurrection of our Lord, that's the beautiful thing that just happened and we can walk into the changed future with confidence because of it.
Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

Happy Easter to you all.
Julia

From the Registers

FUNERALS

The funeral of Dorothy Batty from Blennerhasset, took place at St. Michael & All Angels, Torpenhow on 12th March 2021.

The funeral of Henry Stalker from Fletchertown, took place at All Saints, Allhallows on 10th March 2021.

The funeral of Douglas Scrivener from Parsonby, took place at St. Cuthbert, Plumland on 23rd February 2021.

The funeral of Nina Gordon-Giles from Cockermouth, took place at St. Cuthbert, Embleton on 16th February 2021.

Services

Easter Services

As this Easter edition of the Binsey Link is being prepared we are still not holding any services in church (only via Zoom), but we hope to resume church services by Easter.

Full details of the Easter services for the Binsey Team will be published on the Binsey website (www.binsey.org.uk) and the church noticeboards before the end of March. Alternatively, please contact the clergy or the churchwardens for information about services.



Donations

Binsey Link Donations

We are very grateful for the generous support from our readership, which enables the Binsey Link to be produced and delivered each month to every home in the parish. Normally, we make an appeal for donations in the February edition, but due to the uncertainty caused in

early January as to whether we could print and deliver the magazine, we have decided to delay making the appeal until the May edition instead.

Craig Williamson
Binsey Team Treasurer

Easter Creed

We believe in God,
Maker, Redeemer and Sustainer of life, without
beginning or end,
whose life giving love was let loose on the first Easter
Sunday
and whose life giving love we share and proclaim here
today.

We believe in God,
who gave up the divine life and submitted to the
darkness and terror of the grave
and who enters with us into every terror and darkness
we shall ever face.

We believe in God,
who raised Christ from the death of the grave to glorious
new life
and who raises our lives from sin and despair to newness
and hope again.

We believe in God,
who met the grief-stricken Mary in the garden and
called her into hope by the uttering of her name
and who meets us in our grief and gives us hope and
courage again by tenderly calling our name.

We believe in God,
who sent Mary from the garden to be the witness and
apostle of the resurrection
and who commissions us, like Mary, to be bearers of
hope and good news in our world.

We believe in God,
Maker, Redeemer and Sustainer of life, without
beginning or end,
whose life giving love was let loose on the first Easter
Sunday
and whose life giving love we share and proclaim here
today
to all women and men, wherever and whoever they are,
loved, blessed and called by God without beginning or
end.

By Nicola Slee (2004) *Praying like a Woman*



Team Items

Visitors to St Bega - a different story?

There was no key! The church could not be locked. When a key was specially made for the old lock, the church had to be locked before a couple of weddings were held there. But with careful precautions it has been possible for it to remain open otherwise.

Usually visitors come to St Bega from all over the world. This year the visitors' book has been signed by hundreds rather than thousands and only three people from overseas from Texas, Italy and Ireland.

The main things our visitors remark on have not changed. This year, people have been particularly grateful to find the church open when so many places of worship have had to remain closed. 'Thrilled to find the church open.' 'First time I have found a church open.'

So many have commented on the sense of peace like a visitor from Sunderland who, 'found great peace which I have not had for a while.'

And lots of people return like this one from Retford, 'I come back here time after time. Beautiful and healing.'

Two couples found themselves here celebrating their golden weddings on the same day in October. There are regular thanks for the care taken to look after this old church, like this one, 'tribute to the parishioners who keep it so lovely'.

There have been heartfelt prayers and thanks for prayer. Among these someone from Wokingham gave thanks for a prayer answered and another said, 'thank you for looking after this church and even more for your prayers for all who visit.'

St Bega may not be the most famous saint, but a visitor called Douglas had preached on the life and legacy of St Bega and was happy 'at last a chance to visit a sanctuary in her name.'

In this troubled time places of sanctuary are especially precious. As a visitor from Ennerdale wrote, this is 'a lovely quiet and sacred spot.'

Choose any one of our churches for your special day!

Congratulations if you have just got engaged and are thinking about getting married in one of the Binsey Mission Community churches.

If you currently live anywhere within the Binsey Mission Community area, then you can get married in our churches. If you live elsewhere, but have a family connection to a church, or want to come and worship regularly in our churches, then we'd love to help you.

We expect to be able to conduct weddings again, once the present lockdown is eased. The current Government advice is that a maximum of 15 people will be able to attend a wedding from the middle of April with those

restrictions expected to ease further through the summer.

If you would like to enquire about what is currently possible or book a wedding, please contact our Team Rector, Revd. Stephen Banks on 016973 71541 for a friendly chat. He will be able to talk you through what is possible and what are the current differences.

We would love to welcome you into our church and help you make your life-long commitment to each other before God.

Please note that we are not currently taking any new bookings for St. Bega, Bassenthwaite due to its size, location, and to ensure the safety of all volunteers under the current climate.

St James, Uldale is also not currently available because of major restoration work.

Keep in touch with us on **facebook**

See what's happening in your area and the wider Christian community. Visit **facebook.com/binseyministry** or search for **Binsey Ministry**.

Team Items

HELP SUPPORT OUR TWELVE CHURCHES IN BINSEY

For centuries our twelve parish churches have been a spiritual home to generations of villagers. Our inspirational buildings, not only help shape the character of our villages, but are also reminders of the presence of God in our daily lives, supporting people at times of joy and sorrow.

We are very grateful to all who support our work; generously giving their time, their talents, and their money. We hope that the twelve parish churches of Binsey can continue to be very much at the heart of our community life, offering a haven of peace and reflection to all our parishioners.

There are now some challenges for us, as the current restrictions continue to prevent most social events, group meetings and fundraising activities from taking place.

Church services are very restricted in the number of people who can attend due to social distancing guidelines and the relatively small size of most of our buildings.

These regulations have a particular impact upon funerals, weddings, and baptisms, all of which are limited to only a maximum of 30 people, if the building allows. In the case of weddings and baptisms many of these services are being delayed until next year and whilst funerals must go

ahead despite the restrictions, the number of people who can attend them is greatly reduced.

All of this has had a significant impact on the income of each of our churches, and yet most of the running costs and financial commitments remain the same.

The Binsey Team receives no external funding and is entirely reliant on donations. Therefore, if any of you could consider making a financial donation, your gift would be very gratefully received.

Your donation can be made as a one-off gift or you can make a regular monthly donation instead.

If you are able to make a financial contribution, then you can send a cheque (made payable to the 'Binsey Team Ministry') to the Binsey Team Treasurer and his address details are on the back page, (please give details of whether you wish your gift to be used for any specific purpose or a specific church).

Alternatively, you can visit the website, www.binsey.org.uk, and click on the 'donate' button on the home page or 'give' on the churches page, where a direct internet link allows a financial gift to be made to any of our twelve churches using your debit card.

Stephen
Revd. Stephen Banks

Baptism in the Binsey Team Mission Community

We are really pleased when parents approach us about Baptism (also known as Christening) for their child. It's a very important step, both for parents and the child. Infant Baptism involves parents and godparents making a public commitment about their own Christian faith and the church. They are making a commitment to pray for their child, so that as they grow, with their help, and ours, they may be able to live out in practice the Christian life.

To enable parents to do this we ask that you come and join us in worship at any of our team churches at some point in the two months BEFORE the date of the baptism. After an enquiry is made, a home visit will be arranged to discuss things informally, to see what level of preparation might be appropriate and answer any questions.

We hope to conduct Baptisms after Easter and they are subject to the same restrictions as any church service; face-masks must be worn and due to social distancing and the small size of our buildings, most churches would not be able to have more than 12-15 people in the Baptism party.

For an informal chat about infant baptism, please contact the Team Rector, Revd. Stephen Banks on 016973 71541 or the Team Vicar, Revd. Peter Gilroy on 016973 71430.

Please note that we are not currently taking any new bookings for St. Bega, Bassenthwaite due to its size, location and to ensure the safety of all volunteers under the current climate. St James, Uldale is also not currently available because of major restoration work.



Binsey History by Mick Jane

Fletchertown Wesleyan Chapel

16th July 1904

Bazaar at Mealsgate

For some considerable time, the workers and friends of the Fletchertown Wesleyan Church have been holding sewing meetings, teas and putting forth other efforts to clear off a debt of over £100, which has been hanging on the church for several years. This place of worship was built some nine or ten years ago, and was opened practically free of debt. Unfortunately about four years after it was opened the east wall gave way, with the result that the building had to be taken more than halfway down and rebuilt. The improved edifice, however, is a substantial building, with strong buttresses, coloured glass windows, and altogether is a model village church, and a credit to Fletchertown and neighbourhood. The bazaar was held in the George Moore Memorial Hall, near to Mealsgate Station, on Wednesday and Thursday.

No. 1 stall oversaw Mrs. Spencer, The Lodge, Mealsgate; Mrs. Greenhall, Fletchertown; Mrs. Robinson, Weary Hall; Mrs. R. Matthews, Fletchertown; Mrs. Jas. Tate, Fletchertown; and Mrs. A. Bell, The Crossings.

No. 2 stall was presided over by Mrs. Briggs and Miss Storey, Mealsgate, Mrs. Tate, Mrs. Irving, and Miss M. T. Hodgson, Fletchertown.

The following oversaw the gentlemen's stall: Messrs Henry Walker, Jas. Beattie, and Moses Tate, Fletchertown; James Armstrong, Mealsgate; and Thos. Robinson, Weary Hall.

The young ladies' and girls' stall was superintended by Mr. W. Tate, and the following ladies had charge: Mrs. and Miss Mallinson, Bolton Low Houses; Miss Graves, Ireby; and Miss Nicholson, Beech House, Bothel. Mr Joseph Routledge, Ireby and Mealsgate, kindly erected the stalls free of charge.

The money raised over the two days amounted to just over £175.

Young People's Service

In 1907 a young people's service was held. Mr. Henry Stalker, one of the bible class members officiated, and an able address was given by Mr. Hayton, of Kirkland. There was a large company, the chapel being full. The singing was bright and hearty. Miss Matthews presided at the organ, and Messrs Briggs and Cass accompanied on violins, Mr. W.J. Tate double bass, and Mr. Temple English concertina. An interesting program of recitations, dialogues, solos, etc, with pianoforte accompaniments, was gone through in a pleasing way. The collection was for Sunday school funds. Those who took part were Ethel Hill, Lizzie Tate, Mary Jane Fletcher, Mary E. and Kitty Mitchell, M.E. Hetherington, Mary Anderson, Eva Mallinson, Francis Walker, Alice Robinson, John Briggs, Hannah Parkin, John Greig, Florrie Tate, Cissy Moffat.

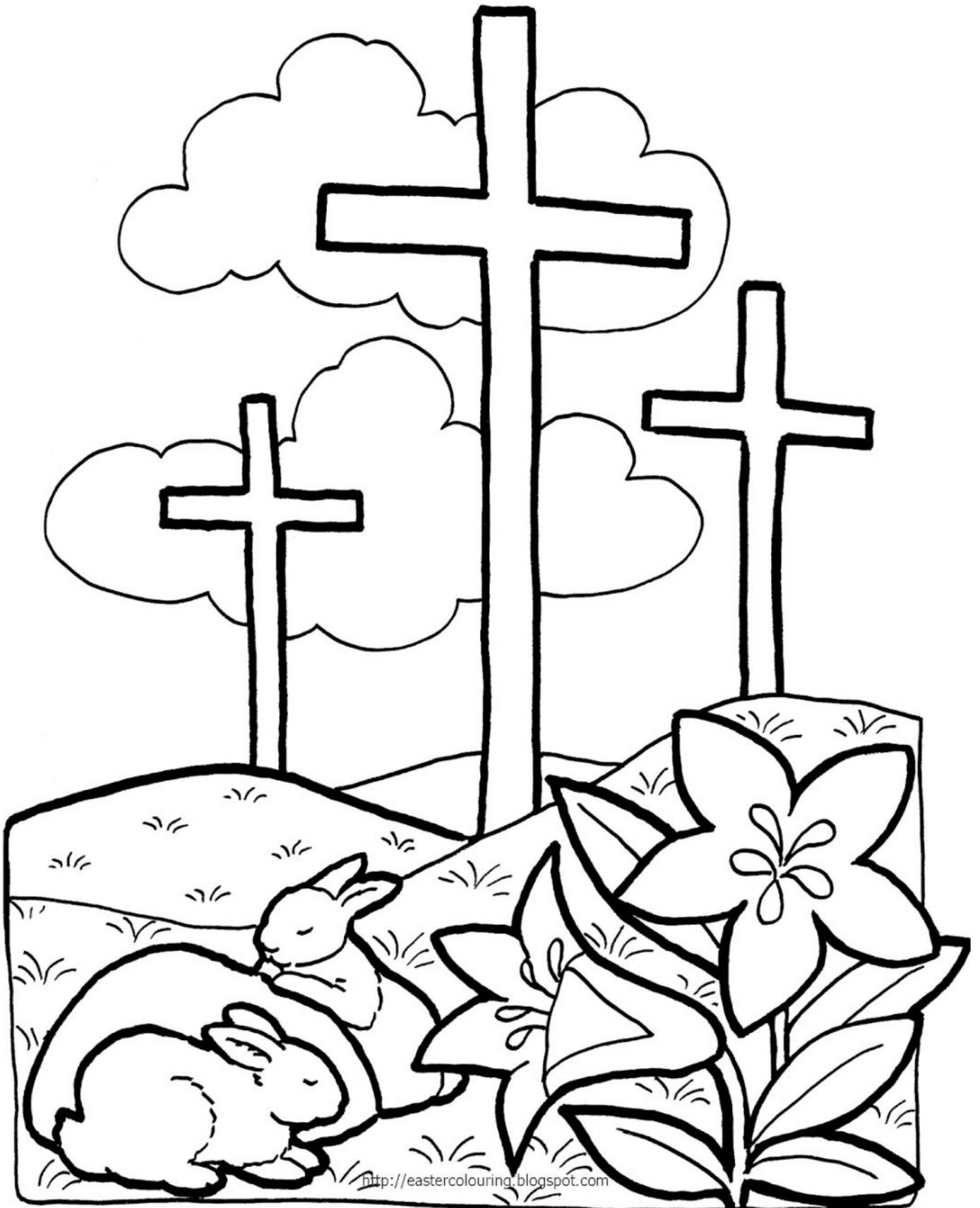
The final service in the Wesleyan Chapel was held in March 2009.

The building has now been bought privately and has been converted into a flat upstairs with an art gallery on the ground floor. At least the outside of the old chapel looks very much like it has done for the last 100 years.

More information about the chapel can be found in my new book. To purchase a copy, you can contact me: Mick Jane, 5 Front Street, Fletchertown.



Family Colouring



Around The Parishes

Allhallows

All Saints Church is now open for private prayer every Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Take time to enjoy the lovely primroses under the lime tree by the roadside hedge while you are in the churchyard.

The 2 by 2 Playgroup

The 2x2 baby and toddler group welcomes all parents and carers of children under 5 years old. It is held at the Allhallows Community Centre on Tuesdays from 10.30am till 12pm. There is a small charge per family. Activities include circle time with songs, play doh and other crafts and free play with toys and ride on. There may be some restrictions with some activities because of COVID.

Sessions will begin as soon as the centre is reopened for groups again. Hopefully in April.

The committee would like to thank Caroline McKenzie for all her help during her years as centre manager and particularly her interest in our group.

The George Moore Memorial Hall Trust

The next meeting of The George Moore Memorial Hall Trust will be on Wednesday 19th May at 1.30pm, to be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Raven.

The trust distributes interest gained to groups, societies, clubs, or organisations that promote recreation and leisure time with the object of improving lives. The area of benefit takes in the parish of Allhallows and part of the Bolton parish known as Mealsgate. If you represent a properly constituted group, please put in an application to the Secretary, Mrs. Gillian Marr at Sunny Brae by Wednesday 12th May.

The biography of George Moore belonging to the DCC is available on request to the Church Wardens and Secretary. Anyone in the Binsey Team is welcome to borrow the book.

Allhallows Parish Council

The Allhallows Parish Council needs some new members! Are you a good team player, someone who is interested in local affairs 'at the coalface', a good problem solver? Then Allhallows needs you!

We respond to queries, investigate local concerns and communicate directly to Allerdale Borough Council and Cumbria County Council. If you feel you could contribute to life at a very local level, then you would be most welcome.

Our council, which is responsible for Baggrow, Gowrie, Watch Hill, Pine Grove, Fletchertown and Mealsgate, needs fresh new blood and ideas. Interested? Then please contact info@allhallowspccumbria.co.uk.

Allhallows Community Centre

We have all been experiencing very difficult times, which has brought challenges and sadness to many, our thoughts go out to everyone.

Whilst the community centre hasn't been open for some time, the committee have not been idle, the spick and span centre is COVID-19 safe and ready to welcome everyone back, when it is safe to do so.

We are looking to the future with hope, welcoming back regular groups/events and hopefully some new ones. Take care and keep safe.

Bassenthwaite

St. John and St. Bega

Our churches still remain closed for services and we are grateful to Stephen and Peter for organising online worship.

Now that schools have returned, we hope it won't be long before we can welcome everyone back to church. Stay safe.

Parish Councillor retires

The most long serving councillor on Bassenthwaite PC, Bob James, has decided to retire after serving the community for 40 years.

Bob will be sorely missed on the council as his knowledge of local history is unsurpassed and his invaluable work with highways, both for road and drainage issues, will be hard to replace.

During his long time on the council Bob always arranged a Christmas tree on the green for everyone to enjoy, a real asset to the village contributing to the Christmas atmosphere for locals and visitors alike.

We all wish Bob a happy retirement, but of course we will be seeing him around Bassenthwaite for some time yet.

Embleton

St Cuthbert

The churchyard flowers are colourful this year, well worth a visit, especially on a sunny day. Rest assured that as soon as it is safe to do so we will be opening St Cuthbert once again. Meanwhile, thank you if you are joining in with our Quilt Positive Community Project; we have some lovely blocks handed in so far. You can either hand them in or leave them in the basket in the church porch. Our thanks to Thomas and Sheila at Scales Farm for letting us use their shed to sell our Easter themed crafty bits, do look when you are there. We continue to share proceeds between St Cuthbert Church and Dewode; Uganda, both of which need to keep raising funds to meet financial commitments in these difficult times. We plan to hold a

pop-up stall, on the hill at Wythop Mill, on the weekend of 17 and 18 April, in the hope that restrictions are lifted for non-essential shops and markets by then.

Ragbags; unwanted clothing, linen, shoes, handbags, and belts; all welcome and thank you for keeping the donations coming. Items can be left in the porch at St Cuthbert **OR** in the collection bin at Ling Crest, Wythop Mill. All money raised goes to Dewode.

Any items or comments for the next edition please send to Jean at jeanmaca@aol.com or 017687 76184 by 7th April please.

Ireby

Parish Church of St James, Ireby

We are grateful to all those who support St James' Church regularly throughout the year. Like all charities and organisations, our church finances have had a significant downturn in the last twelve months. All support is important to us, as we still have our usual bills to pay. We have also needed to have some repair work carried out on the church roof.

Grass cutting will be starting again soon, and we would appreciate any donations towards the cost.

We are aware of the uneven ground in the top churchyard, so please take care when visiting graves. We hope to be able to remedy the situation.

Thank you for the response to the Children's Society through the candle boxes.

There are Lent boxes in church for the work of the mission agency USPG.

We currently have no date for the resumption of services in church, but the church is open for private prayer.

Isel

Blindcrake Village Hall is pleased to report that we will be open for the elections in May (Police and Crime Commissioner).

There has been slow but steady progress getting through our refurbishment, having found all sorts of obstacles in our way to completion, but things are getting close now! We are looking forward to having the hall back in use soon, with extra insulation, acoustic panelling, flexible

lighting, and a new, nicely refitted kitchen. The hall will be redecorated and COVID compliant before we reopen for general use.

If you would like to enquire about bookings, please email villagehall@blindcrake.org.uk, or text the village hall booking line (07503 763590), and we'll do our best to answer any questions you have.

Setmurthy

DUBWATH SILVER MEADOWS

DAWN CHORUS EVENT

5am, SUNDAY 2ND MAY 2021

(Meet at the gate)

We are hoping to hold our annual Dawn Chorus again this year, in a COVID safe manner, of course. If you would like to book a place, details will be available on our website www.dubwathsilvermeadows.org.uk and Facebook page nearer the time, or you can call Barbara on 017687 76026 or email at dubwathsilvermeadows@gmail.com

This week the children are back in school, some of our parishioners are receiving their second COVID vaccination and the infection rate is dropping, so along with all the signs of spring there is much cause for hope of brighter days ahead. We are also hoping that services in church can resume soon and thank our clergy for the Zoom services they have provided. A very happy Easter to all our parishioners.

Parish Hall - we hope we can soon start planning events to be held in the hall. For bookings, please contact Mrs. E. Wise on 017687 76381.

Torpenhow

Torpenhow DCC would like to thank all those who have supported St. Michael Church in any way and look forward to welcoming you back (when it is safe to do so) and your support in 2021.

In recent weeks it has been good to share in live online Zoom services with friends from parishes across our mission community, these have also been recorded and shared on Facebook.

Everyone is welcome to join us – give it a try!
We hope you are keeping safe and well.

For future church services please refer to the website: binsey.org.uk for information or contact the Clergy/Churchwardens. Church is open for private prayer and reflection on Saturdays and Sundays.
Please continue to observe COVID-19 precautions.

Churchyard

To keep the churchyard tidy, could all Christmas wreaths/flowers please be removed from graves.

If you would like to donate towards the cost of maintaining the churchyard, please contact any of the Church Wardens.

Please be aware that over the next few months our contractor will be working on various parts of the churchyard wall, this should not affect access to the churchyard.

Binsey Link - a big thank you

Torpenhow DCC, on behalf of themselves and residents in Bothel, would like to thank Dot and Ronnie Nicholson for the dedicated job of delivering the Binsey Link and its predecessors (Binsey Beacon, The Messenger) to a large part of Bothel for well over 25 years and in all weathers. We would also like to thank Sharon Helling for kindly offering to take over the delivering of the magazines to these households and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the other distributors in our villages.

Parish Council Information

Bassenthwaite

Meeting on Thursday 4th March 2021 on Zoom.

It is important that the **Local Government Reorganisation Consultation** is responded to as it will have a very significant impact on the whole of Cumbria. The consultation is open now and closes at 11.45pm on the 19th April 2021. The consultation link is <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposals-for-locally-led-reorganisation-of-local-government-in-cumbria-north-yorkshire-and-yorkshire-and-somerset>

Cumbria County Council seeks customer's ideas and views to improve the highways network. The online survey is part of a project to develop & improve the highways service, ensuring the network meets the needs of local communities, businesses, and visitors. Please complete the survey by following link: <https://cumbria.citizenspace.com/cumbria-county-council/highways-feedback-survey>

A donation of £50 to the **Great North Air Ambulance** was approved for payment.

A request to move the **Chapel Bus Stop** (buses travelling in the Keswick direction) to north of the junction was thoroughly discussed by the council and it was agreed that it should stay as is.

For a copy of the full March minutes, please contact the Clerk or visit www.bassenthwaite.org.uk.

Next virtual meeting will be held on Thursday 1st April 2021 at 7.30pm. ALL PARISHIONERS WELCOME TO ATTEND. Clerk: Elizabeth Clark, 11 Standingstone Heights, Wigton, CA7 9DS. 016973 45665 / bassenthwaiteclerk@aol.com.

Embleton and District Parish Council

From the February Meeting

Mr Allan Richardson

The meeting was informed of the death of Mr Allan Richardson, a past chairman of Embleton and District Parish Council, and extended its sympathy and condolences to Mr Richardson's family.

Play Area Weed Treatment

The ground around the fences of the play area had become very weed-ridden by the end of last summer/autumn and the parish council is intending to have those areas professionally treated this spring. Please look out for notices informing users of this process and any precautions they need to take, such as noting any areas that are temporarily out of bounds on health and safety grounds.

Wythop Mill Village Lanes

The surfaces of the lanes around Wythop Mill Village have become seriously degraded over the winter months and Cumbria County Council has recently carried out temporary patching work to prevent the most seriously damaged areas from becoming worse. Further work on the carriageway surfaces and associated drainage problems are to be carried out during the period 31 May – 11 June 2021.

Continued on next page...

Parish Council Information continued...

Embleton and District Parish Council continued...

Planning Application: Ref: 7/2020/2249

Location: Lothwaiteside, Wythop

Proposal: Full internal refurbishment of the existing building and extension into the adjoining ancillary storage area. Provision of off-grid services and rebuilding the dilapidated and partially collapsed piggery to accommodate plant equipment.

The application seeks to give this familiar landmark on the East flank of Sale Fell, near Wythop Hall a total facelift and a new lease of life.

County Roads in Embleton, Setmurthy and Wythop

Parishes:

If you are reporting a problem on CCC Highways, it always helps to be able to quote a road number. I now have compiled a complete list of the numbers of all the county roads in our three parishes, and there are some wonderfully unexpected ones. If you need a road number, please email: anneburton5@aol.com.

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Wednesday 21 April 2021, 7pm in a Virtual Meeting Room. If you have a matter that you would like to raise, please contact our Clerk, Becx Carter on 077866 78283 or email embletonparishclerk@hotmail.com.

Ireby and Uldale Parish Council

Virtual Meeting held on 2nd March 2021.

Matters discussed included: Cumbria Police: The Police Community Support Officer had advised that a new process has gone live on Cumbria Constabulary's website. This can be used for reporting requests/complaints and

can be used for various issues such as speeding in the village, requests for speed limit reviews, anti-social driving/parking. Members of the public are encouraged to self-report using the online form or e-mail RoadSafetyConcerns@cumbria.police.uk.

Planning – Applications received: 7/2021/2053 – Baggra Yeat, Uldale - Roof over sheep pens. Decisions - 7/2020/2287 – Ruthwaite Farm, Ireby - Refurbishment of building comprising damp proofing, replacement stove in lounge and new multi-fuel stove in second lounge, replacement lighting, replacement bathrooms and chimney repair work - GRANTED. Donations: The annual donation of £250 was granted to Northern Fells Group.

Local Government Reorganisation: The Government has announced that it has launched an eight-week public consultation into proposals for local government reorganisation in Cumbria. The government is welcoming views from any individual or organisation. Responses can be made at: <https://consult.communities.gov.uk/governance-reform-and-democracy/cumbria>

The consultation is open until 19th April 2021.

Date of next meeting: Parish meeting and annual meeting to be held on 4th May 2021.

Anyone wishing to attend the virtual meeting, please register their interest with the Clerk 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Clerk: Janice Rae, 33 Scholars Green Wigton, CA7 9QW. 016973 42138 / janice.rae220@btinternet.com.

School News

Ireby

I feel like I have written this opener before (I apologise!), but it is just WONDERFUL to see happy faces back in the classroom and to hear laughter and chatting in the playground. The routine of home learning and continuing communication between the pupils and teachers, along with the use of the laptops with the older children, has helped enormously with the ease at which the children are settling back to school life. The KS2 pupils are continuing with their topic on Ancient Egypt and have also been learning about "light" as their science topic. The children planned to make camera obscuras to investigate how light travels which was part of a live workshop organised with the Discovery Museum in Newcastle. The school has been making the best use of the technology that we are so fortunate to have acquired. I am sure it won't be too long until our minibus is spotted out and about again on regular trips and excursions.

The younger children in the early years and KS1 have been extremely busy and productive designing and planning their sensory and vegetable gardens and have given their lists of seeds and seedlings to Mrs Errington to purchase, with funds raised through the PTA. The children are hoping to encourage the return of Peter Rabbit this year to their garden and cannot wait to tend to their plants and see this garden flourish. Learning from home did not stop the children from participating in World Book Day this year - always a highlight in school. Some wonderful costumes were seen on our school Facebook page and demonstrated again the love and variety of books they enjoy and devour.

Wishing all our Ireby families and friends a very happy and peaceful Easter. We hope it is not too long before we are able to welcome you back to celebrations in school and in church.

School News continued...

Bothel

As I write, it is the start of a special week at St Michael, as with all schools, in that we have been able to welcome all of our children back to school after lockdown. It is so lovely to hear our classrooms and playgrounds filled with happy voices and learning once again and I think everyone is glad to be back together and getting back to normal.

Today we also welcomed back Reverend Peter for our first collective worship from the church since lockdown and we managed to do both bubbles separately so everyone could enjoy it safely. We also had a go at a Zoom collective worship for the whole school yesterday so that we could all be together for a time, despite being in our separate bubbles.

Outside, our early years team have been busy developing our infant outside area over the last few weeks and the children now have a fabulous new mud kitchen and digging area. We have lots of plans for developing the area even further over the next term, so the children can make the most of our wonderful grounds and be outside as much as possible.

This term, KS2 are continuing to learn about World War 2 and have been learning all about forces in science, while KS1 and early years have begun a new theme of elves and fairies, making lots of splendid potions this week! Now that the children are back in school, we want to concentrate on their well-being as much as their

curriculum learning, and we are making sure we are outdoors as much as possible and KS2 have begun enjoying extra PE in their tennis coaching sessions and spending extra time taking walks around the path within our grounds, looking at the changes in nature as winter turns to spring and even observing the frogs and frog spawn in the pond!

Plumbland

All our children returned to school on 8th March with great enthusiasm and all were extremely pleased to see their friends after what has seemed an eternity of remote learning from their homes.

Since January, our school has only been open to the children of keyworkers and vulnerable pupils; this meant that we were open to approximately one third of our pupils. During that time those at home carried out the same lessons remotely as those who were at school. Although we are now open to all our pupils, we still have lots of safety measures in place and are unable to have parents and visitors inside the school building, however Revd. Gilroy and Revd. Banks will be visiting us again soon for collective worship and we look forward to this. Our infant children helped to fill some planters with bulbs, shrubs and bedding plants to brighten Plumbland village bus shelter. Our pupils have also created an art gallery inside the shelter and we hope to put regular art and poetry displays for villagers and friends to see.

General

West Cumbria Carers Spring Sessions



Although we can no longer meet up face-to-face, West Cumbria Carers are still here to provide carers with information and support. Just give us a call or drop us a line, even if all you need is a bit of a chat – 01900 821976 or general@westcumbriacarers.co.uk.

Following a successful virtual 'Christmas Cuppa' session we have arranged a few more online get-togethers. There are 2 options, depending on your preference, but do feel free to attend all 3 sessions!

Guided Relaxation

Join us for some guided relaxation with Maria from Stressless Therapies (make sure you wear your comfy clothes and have a nice warm blanket or throw handy).
Friday 14th May – 2pm to 3pm.

Cuppa and Chat

Pop in to our online cuppa and chat, obviously it will be BYOC "bring your own cuppa."

Tuesday 13th April – 11am to 12noon

Thursday 3rd June – 11am – 12noon

The get-togethers will be held using Zoom so you will need to have access to this on a device such as a phone, laptop or tablet. Contact West Cumbria Carers on 01900 821 976 for more information or to book your place.

Skiddaw U3A: Our next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st April at 10am prompt on Zoom. The speaker will be Mark Hatton who will talk on "The History of Wad Mining in Borrowdale." This meeting will be preceded by the AGM. Our meeting on 19th May will feature Jack Ellerby, Project Officer, Friends of the Lake District Dark Skies Project. Many of our activities have continued during lockdown and we are looking forward to others restarting soon. If you are retired or semi-retired and want to stay active, learn new things and make new friends, visit www.skiddawu3a.co.uk or contact Tony Marsh on 017687 72137.

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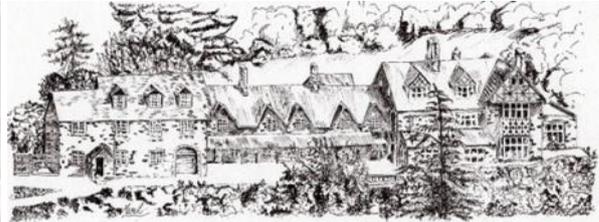
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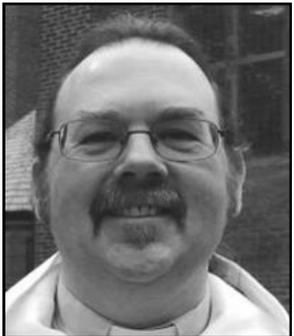
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Copy deadline for the MAY 2021 issue is 10th April 2021

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