

# **The September Broadsheet 2023**

**for the parishes of  
Humshaugh  
with Simonburn & Wark,  
Chollerton with Birtley,  
Gunnerton, Thockrington.  
St Oswald in Lee with  
Bingfield & Wall  
[Www.chollertonchurches.uk](http://www.chollertonchurches.uk)**



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Dear Friends,

Welcome to September and the start of a new school year. I don't know about you, but at this time of year I still get the urge to investigate stationery and check that my shoes still fit (they do!). It's also a time of year when I find myself reflecting on life in general. I have taken a policy decision to stop describing myself as "new" when I introduce myself. That's not because I know everything (I really regret that accumulated parish wisdom can't be simply downloaded into my brain), but because I no longer need to be told the most basic of basics. I sometimes know who is related to whom, and where places are!

One of my joys has been learning about the huge range of skills and gifts across parishes and across the deanery. I am so grateful to be surrounded by people who care for others, who listen, bake, unblock drains, craft beautiful clothes, mend engines, turn wood, grow plants, pray for neighbours, offer lifts, and all the other thousands of tasks.

*"Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."*  
St Paul's letter, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

That sense of striving and working together for the common good is very precious, whether we recognise it as the outworking of the Holy Spirit, or whether we see it as being part of a community. I see so many examples of the good that you all do. In the last week of September, the Diocese of Newcastle is running "Generosity Week" during which we are all encouraged to think about the skills, gifts, and finances we give and use to support the work of the church. September is indeed a good time to review what we do. However, I want to say **thank you** to each and every one of you, for all that you do for the common good and for being the wonderful human that you are.

This comes with my prayers for us all  
Claire

### Bingfield, Wall and Heavenfield Notes

Claire's letter feels very relative. We had a prime example of people working together for our flower festival weekend at St. George's, Wall. I have received lots of praise over the weekend BUT a huge amount of that praise must go to the wonderful, talented people who helped. People not only from our parish but from other parishes as well, truly churches working together. I felt very humbled by the efforts put in by many. I loved having so many in the church on Friday all working together making beautiful arrangements, but thanks must also go to the ladies doing the teas and for the preparations made in the gorgeous gardens which were open on Sunday, also to the people who donated flowers from their own gardens and to all the wonderful people who visited over the weekend and Frances for our service on Sunday morning. I also give thanks for the weather; it was not as was forecast and made a big difference to the happiness shown over the weekend. I know I am going on a bit but I do not apologise, it was such a big weekend for St. George's and I don't know how else to try to express the full amount of my gratitude. Yes we did make some money for the parish which was the prime motivation but in the end this was totally out-weighted by the love shown by so many over the events. God must be quite pleased with us all. I am now focusing on our 'Tea in the garden' but lots of my flowers have gone and getting tidied up is a major task.

We must not forget we have our harvest communion service at Heavenfield on 17th September at 10.30 am followed by a harvest lunch in Wall village hall.

TWIMC -Our next PCC meeting will be at 5.30pm at Bingfield Farm on Monday 4th September

God bless you all and much love.

Helen

P.s. Tea in the garden has now happened. Again we were blessed with good weather and lovely people. Thank you all. H xx

## **The Friends of St Oswald's Church Heavenfield**

Readers of the Broadsheet will be well aware of the large wooden Cross at the side of the Military Road near to the top of Brunton Bank and the small church of St Oswald's across the field to the North and almost hidden in by trees. You will know about the significance of the Cross and the church, and the Battle of Heavenfield and its importance in the development of the Christian faith in Northumbria, which is vividly described by St Bede in his well known History.

However you may not know about the Friends of St Oswald's which is a small charity which was founded almost 30 years ago at the suggestion of the then Vicar, Canon Clive Price.

The Friends make a significant financial contribution to the upkeep of the fabric of St Oswald's Church and also arrange the Annual Pilgrimage from Hexham Abbey to St Oswald's on or near to the Feast of St Oswald in August each year. The Pilgrimage follows a tradition begun by the monks of Hexham Abbey in the 8th Century, and also described by St Bede. We publish an annual newsletter each Spring.

Membership is open to all and if anyone would like to join and support this worthwhile organisation or seek further information please contact the Membership Secretary, Mark Wood at [boghall@btinternet.com](mailto:boghall@btinternet.com) or 07860 602949 or the Secretary, Stephen Porteus at [sporteus@btinternet.com](mailto:sporteus@btinternet.com) or 07803 268921

### **Brighten up your day - The Chatty Cafe Starts soon!**

On the 4th July, the Chatty Cafe scheme was launched in Bellingham at the Fountains Cottage Cafe - a fantastic way to tackle isolation and loneliness within our community. If you, or someone you know who would like to make new friends and would enjoy a cuppa with friendly people, a warm welcome will be waiting on Tuesday mornings from 10.30am to 12 noon. The kettle is always on!

Stay for as long as you like - it can be 5 mins or an hour or so - the choice is always yours.

If you would like to come but transport is a problem, please ring this number - we may be able to help: 07539 110161.

[www.thechattycafescheme.co.uk](http://www.thechattycafescheme.co.uk)

## **Humshaugh Notes**

Many congratulations to Malcolm and Anne Race, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding in July.

Coffee Morning in aid of the Humshaugh Playing Fields Trust (plus Carwash!), will be held on September 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Village Hall from 10-12. On October the 7<sup>th</sup> there will be a Coffee Morning in aid of St. Peter's Church, which will have a Dutch flavour. (Also from 10-12).

Crown Players Club Nights – September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

Humshaugh First School will open its doors on September 5<sup>th</sup> and we wish all the children, including the newcomers, a very happy schoolyear.

The Quiz will be held on Tuesday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 in aid of Quiz Funds and on Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 in aid of Bonfire Night Works.

HAP are hosting a one man show called “Old Herbaceous” on Friday September 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Village Hall. Doors open at 6.30 pm for 7pm. A bar will be available before the performance and at the interval. It has been described as “Downton Abbey with gardening tips”. It has also been enjoyed by those who dislike gardening!! Tickets at £10 are available in the village shop or on Eventbrite.

The pop up Craft Shop proves to be popular. There will be glass work for sale until September 18<sup>th</sup> made by Phillipa Lee Glass. From September 19<sup>th</sup> till October 16<sup>th</sup>, there will be punch needle work made by Stuff Olive. Also, two local Bee Keepers will sell bees wax, lip balm and insect repellent.

Crib Festival We will be holding our Crib Festival in St. Peter's on 15-17<sup>th</sup> of December. We had a wonderful display of cribs from all over the world last year and hope to see even more! Please think about bringing your own crib and its story. We are also hoping the school-children will be making a special trip to come and see the cribs. More news to come, but do save the dates: 15-17<sup>th</sup> of December!

Love, Liesbeth

## **Rota for September 2023**

**3<sup>rd</sup> September 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Readings : Jeremiah 15: 15-21; Romans 12: 9-end; Matthew 16: 21-end**

8.30am Holy Communion at Wark  
10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham  
10.00am Holy Communion at Chollerton  
10.00am Morning Worship at Birtley  
10.30am MURC Service at Wark  
11.00am Parish Worship at Falstone  
11.00am Parish Worship at Otterburn  
11.30am Holy Communion at Simonburn  
4.00pm Holy Communion at Bingfield  
6.00pm Holy Communion at Elsdon  
8.00pm Late at 8 Contemporary Worship- Humshaugh

**10<sup>th</sup> September 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity ; Readings: Ezekiel 33: 7-11; Romans 13; 8-end; Matthew 18: 15-20**

8.30am Holy Communion at Thockrington ( BCP)  
10.00am Holy Communion at Humshaugh  
11.00am Holy Communion at Thorneyburn  
11.30am Holy Communion at Wall  
2.00pm Informal Communion at Corsenside  
5.00pm Holy Communion at Horsley  
6.00pm Holy Communion at Wark

**17<sup>th</sup> September 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Readings : Genesis 50: 15-21; Romans 14: 1-12; Matthew 18: 21-35**

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

## **21<sup>st</sup> September**

10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham

## **24<sup>th</sup> September 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Readings : Jonah 3: 10-end of 4; Philippians 1: 21-end; Matthew 20: 1-16**

8.00am Holy Communion (said BCP) at Bellingham

8.30am Holy Communion at Chollerton

10.00am Deanery Zoom for Harvest

11.30am Holy Communion at Wall

3.00pm Holy Communion at Byrness

6.00pm Evening Prayer in the Iona Tradition at Thorneyburn ( further details elsewhere )

6.00pm Holy Communion at Humshaugh

6.00pm Parish Worship at Wark

## **29<sup>th</sup> September St Michael and All Angels : Readings : Genesis 28: 10-17; Revelation 12: 7-12; John 1: 47-end**

7.00pm Holy Communion at Wark

### **Birtley Notes**

How lovely to see a Red Squirrel shoot across the road at the Cat Wood the other day, usually it is one of those horrible greys.

The Craft Group are in full swing once again, they are doing Needle Felting

workshops on Monday 11th Sept and Wed 13th Sept. The craft group for your own work will be on Mon 25th Sept and Wed 4th Oct. For further information contact Sally Dannys on 7732388501.

The 'Busy Beavers' have been tidying trees etc up in the park and playing field, thanks to them for keeping our village and churchyard tidy this summer, the grass always looks immaculate.

The Harvest Lunch will take place in the Village Hall on Sunday 1st October 12.30 for 1pm start £18 pp all are welcome, contact Eileen or Judith for tickets. Followed on Sunday 14th by the Harvest Festival in St Giles at 10 am.

The Village Hall are having their annual Quiz Evening on Friday 20th October, 7 for 7.30 start. Teams of up to 8 people £5pp. Cash prizes - Nibbles, Raffle and Bar available.

A reminder that Wark Coffee Mornings are held every Friday 10-12am in the Town Hall. All are welcome, including those from Birtley.

Regards Mary.

### **Simonburn Notes**

I hope you enjoyed the so called 'Summer'. Maybe an Indian Summer is on the cards! Where is the year going to? They say the older you get the faster time flies by...Enjoy every moment.

A BIG Thank you to everyone that donated prizes, cakes, food for the teas and their time to make this years fete a success, over £3300 was raised,

One set of stained glass windows have been removed from church to be restored. There are still more to do and the fundraising is on-going. Inside the church porch, is a box for donations for the Food Bank, which sadly is very much needed by many. Please, if you are able to donate anything i.e. dried, tinned foods or toiletries, it will be much appreciated.

Simonburn Village Hall is holding a Ceilidh dance, to raise money for The Great North Air Ambulance, on Saturday 14th October 7pm, music by The Tasset Ceilidh Band. £5 per ticket, £2 under 16's, under 7's free. Shared supper, bar ( cash only) and a raffle. It will be a fun evening for all ages. Don't worry if you don't know the dances, there will be a caller to help. Tel 681077 for tickets.

A Date for your diary....Christmas Bingo in the village Hall Friday 8th December 7.30pm start. Any donations of prizes, would be gratefully received.

Thank you to Alice Murray for taking over the cutting of the village green and to Norman Griffiths for keeping St. Mungo's churchyard pristine as usual.

Take care

Love Sharon x

### **Harvest Lunch**

**Wall Village Hall  
Sunday 17th September**

Following the service at St Oswald in Lee there will be a lunch of  
cold meats and salads etc

Followed by a selection of mouth watering puddings.

Tea and coffee

£12 per adult £6 per 13's and under



## WARK PARISH NEWS

Back with you all after the summer break – what summer many will be asking. It has been awful. Fingers crossed we may have a drier autumn.

We had two events on the Village Green during July starting with St. Michael's Garden Fete at the beginning of the month which following the recent pattern of other churches had a smaller attendance than previous years however was successful. A new venture came a couple of weeks later in the form of Scruffs Dog Show (my apologies I wrongly named this in the last edition of The Broadsheet) which I understand went to plan. Brave organizers – never work with children or animals being a moto I remember.

A new school or new class or the first day for those with years ahead will be coming soon and once I start to receive information from Wark school I'll keep you informed. They always have a full and varied programme of events.

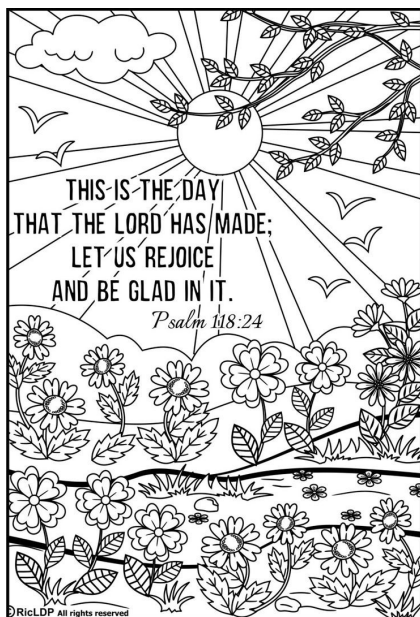
Over the summer a number of children have been welcomed into the church through Baptism in St. Michael's and we send blessings to them. The thoughts and prayers of all parishioners are extended to all those recently bereaved in the parish and beyond.

A reminder to PCC members the next meeting is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm in church.

A service of Holy Communion will be held in St. Michael's on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup>** September at 7.00pm to celebrate the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, our patron Saint.

Last time I promised you Harvest Festival details but at the moment I don't have them. There will be notices around the village once the arrangements are completed. Until we chat again, Love to all

**JOHN xxx**



### Thockrington Fete and Open Gardens

Despite all our fears about the weather we had a fine day on August 6 for the annual fete at Carrycoats and a great turnout of folk. We are grateful for the generosity of everyone who came along to support us and enjoy the afternoon. A record £1,847 was raised for the church. Very many thanks to everyone who provided baking for the ever-popular teas, the cake and produce stalls, and for volunteering to help. It was good to have Barrasford artist Hugh Denholm with us, selling his beautiful cyanotype prints in aid of Thockrington ([bit.ly/hughcyano](http://bit.ly/hughcyano)) Thanks also to Katie and Angus for maintaining the tradition of holding the annual event at Carrycoats.

## Ladies.....

Have you ever noticed how in the scriptures men are always going up into the mountains to commune with the Lord?

Yet in the scriptures we hardly ever hear of women going to the mountains.

But we know why — right?

Because the women were too busy keeping life going.

they couldn't abandon babies, meals, homes, fires, gardens, and a thousand responsibilities to make the climb into the mountains!

I was talking to a friend the other day, saying that as modern woman.

I feel like I'm never "free" enough from my responsibilities, never in a quiet enough space I want with God.

Her response floored me,

"That is why God comes to women.

Men have to climb the mountain to meet God, but God comes to women wherever they are."

I have been pondering on her words for weeks and have searched my scriptures.

to see that what she said is true.

God does indeed come to women where they are, when they are doing their ordinary,

everyday work. He meets them at the wells where they draw water for their families,

in their homes, in their kitchens, in their gardens.

He comes to them.

as they sit beside sickbeds, as they give birth, care for the elderly,

and perform necessary mourning and burial rites.

Even at the empty tomb, Mary was the first to witness Christ's resurrection,

She was there because she was doing the womanly chore of properly preparing Christ's body for burial.

In these seemingly mundane and ordinary tasks,

these women of the scriptures found themselves face to face with divinity.

So, if — like me — you ever start to bemoan the fact that you don't have as much time to spend in the mountains with God as you would like

Remember, God comes to women. He knows where we are and the burdens we carry. He sees us, and if we open our eyes and our hearts we will see Him, even in the most ordinary places and in the most ordinary things.

He lives. And he's using a time such as this to speak to women around the world.

Found on facebook Author unknown



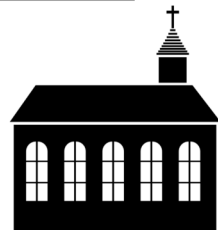
# ✝ Church is Fun ✝

## Word Search

L B L M C U D C O U R A G E G R A C E R  
H E A L I N G V K F W T P E A C E I C B  
J E S U S F N K P C H U R C H M X L F O  
X O P F Q L U H O L Y N F A I T H I O N  
W R C O M P A S S I O N Z D H A A K D E  
I Q F A X T W J P I H S D N E I R F M O  
S K U A E G N I T G O D S L B E L I E F  
D J O Y I T M A B N Y L Q F G U Z K F E  
O V M S R T V A I E Z Z G N I V I G N W  
M B O W P L H R K P S R E C N E I T A P  
H W Q O A I L F Q W O D E I Q X J L Q A  
F O X S B V R F U U Q G L A N R E T E F  
G N T V A E U I Z L D B L E S S I N G S  
A W R J K U D C T Y N J W V U F Q U Q T  
M K T L O V E I N S S E N E V I G R O F  
G U I D A N C E E T H P S T S I R H C X  
M U Y K W O S Y U N N N B S Q L V H P O  
L Y Y C R E M S K J C H O P E Q F U F I  
O N E V A E H D A J G E J M X U L K S Q  
T R U T H J B E F D D K B U V M N D V F

### Word list:

BELIEF	FRIENDSHIP	JOY
BLESSINGS	GIVING	LOVE
CHRIST	GOD	MERCY
CHURCH	GRACE	OBEDIENCE
COMPASSION	GUIDANCE	PATIENCE
COURAGE	HEALING	PEACE
ETERNAL	HEAVEN	SALVATION
FAITH	HOLY	SPIRIT
FAITHFULNESS	HOPE	TRUTH
FORGIVENESS	JESUS	WISDOM



GOD ✝  
LOVE ✝

### Tea at 3

Gunnerton

19th September

In support of

**McMillan nursing**

(replacing a coffee morning)

Please do come along and  
support McMillan

Delicious home baking

### **BIRTLEY HARVEST LUNCH**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October

12.30pm

Birtley Village Hall

Come and enjoy delicious

3 course Sunday lunch

Choice of soups

Ham, chicken and vegetarian  
main courses

with salads and new potatoes

Great selection of naughty puds  
and/or cheeseboard

Coffee or tea

Bring your family and friends

Tickets £18 pp

Under 12's £10

wine, beer and soft drinks extra

To make a booking contact

Judith (230850) or Eileen

(270228)

### **Coffee Morning**

Wall Village Hall

Wednesday 6th Sept.

10.30 am

### Bacon Butties

1st Tuesday of every month

9am to 11am

Simonburn Village Hall

with tea or coffee

£3

Eat in or take away

Do come along  
for a butty & a chat.

Gunnerton Railway Circle

5th September

7 for 7.30pm

At St. Christopher's Church

Gunnerton



### **Lunch at Noon**

Soup and Pud £3

Raffle

27th September

New guests always welcome

### Soup & Dessert

Thursday 21st Sept.

Then 3rd Thursday each month.

12p.m.

Followed by needle felting

1.30pm

All welcome to either or  
both

Wall Village Hall