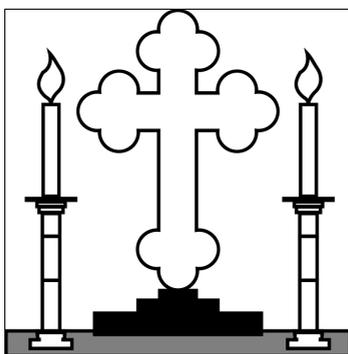


# *The February Broadsheet 2020*



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



**Rev. Steve Wilkinson**  
Rural Dean of Bellingham,  
Parson of Humshaugh  
with Simonburn & Wark  
Tel: 01434 681304

email:

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

**Rev. Sarah Lunn**  
Vicar, Chollerton with Birtley,  
Gunnerton & Thockrington  
Tel: 01434 681721

email: [sarahlunn63@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlunn63@gmail.com)  
[www.chollerton-churches.org.uk](http://www.chollerton-churches.org.uk)

## Chollerton Vicarage

I am writing this to you all in mid-January, right in the middle of the feast of the Epiphany, when all signs of Christmas have gone from everywhere but our churches. The Magi have only just arrived, and the Crib scenes can remind us of Christmas until 40 days have passed and we celebrate Candlemas, the time when Jesus was presented in the Temple to Simeon and Anna. This is a new year, and the start of a new decade, with all its hopes and fears and dreams for everyone.

We have all been so deeply affected by Steve's serious illness, and his diagnosis of an aggressive brain tumour, for which he is to receive treatment in the next few weeks. Steve and I were going to write this together, as we have reflected so much on waiting during the season of Advent, as he waited for his diagnosis. It was revealed just before Christmas and in further detail during this season of Epiphany, when Jesus was made known to the wider community after the visit of the Wise Men.

He and Melanie and the family are so much in everyone's thoughts and prayers at this time as they take time to be together. Steve has been inspirational in his bearing of the bad news. When he has not been sleeping at night he has been 'walking in prayer' around the Deanery, stopping in his mind to pray for each household and community, and we can all do the same for him. He is too unwell to write for this edition but emphasised to me the importance of making known the Good News of Jesus in this season of Epiphany.

Bishop Christine has asked me to be acting Area Dean in order to keep an eye on things while Steve is undergoing treatment. Rosemary and I have met and put together cover for the services so we can try to maintain our rhythm of worship together. Revd Rosemary and James Feeley will cover the non-Eucharistic services in the morning. Rosemary and I will cover the evening services at Wark. Revd Frances Dower, who is a NSM based in Cambo will come and take services in the mornings on the third Sunday of each month, and a few of us will take a turn on the first Sunday for morning services, and at Wark on the fourth Sunday in the morning.

We are the body of Christ in our communities and we will continue to show Christ's love, joy and hope as we journey on together.

May God bless you.



Sarah Lunn

## Round and About Humshaugh

### Mothers' Union

A very special Communion Service took place in St Peter's church, led by our Curate Rosemary, using Bread and Wine, blessed by Steve.

### Pub Quiz



Way back in November the Quiz was won by "The Whinning Chats" and raised an excellent £267 for the Royal British Legion.

The February Quiz will take place on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> at 8pm, will be in aid of the Humshaugh Cricket Club and the Question Master will be Mick Jonas.



### HAP

The February Film night will be on Valentines Day, February the 14<sup>th</sup>. Share this romantic evening watching the West Side Story Musical in the Village Hall. The doors will open at 7pm for 7.30 start and, as usual, there will be a bar, nibbles and fabulous puddings for £2 in the interval. Tickets will be available nearer the time from the shop for £5 for adults and £2.50 for under 18's.



### The Humshaugh School Community

I would like to thank everyone who kindly contributed to my retirement present. I received a beautiful bouquet and some vouchers to spend at my leisure.

Humshaugh will always hold a special place in my life and heart. The village has certainly changed in those 33 years. Thank you all once again.

**Love from Janice Rowcroft.**

### Steve

We all think of and pray for Steve and the family during this time of his treatment and wish all the best for this wonderful vicar of ours.

Liesbeth Langford

### Lent Discussion Group

We are planning to hold a Lent Group, open to anyone who is interested, on 5 consecutive Thursdays in Lent, beginning on March 5<sup>th</sup> (as the Deanery Synod Meeting is on the first Thursday in Lent). We are planning to do the study course on Fr Henri Nouwen's book, 'The return of the Prodigal Son'. The Group will be held at the Vicarage in Chollerton, starting at 7.30pm and finishing by 9.00pm at the latest. If lots of people would like to come, we could run it in an additional slot.

Please would you contact Revd Sarah Lunn if you would like to come, so that I make sure I have enough chairs and cake! Email [sarahlunn63@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlunn63@gmail.com)  
tel: 01434681721

## WARK PARISH NEWS

A little late, but to those I have not had contact with, Happy New Year. We had a wonderful Christmas time here at St. Michael's, which was crowned with the Tree Festival and was such fun, with so many original ideas coming forward. Look forward to next year – start thinking now.

I am starting off with a few dates for your diary. All will know of the terrific Wark Charity Lunch. A meeting is to be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 3.30pm in Westacres Community Room, where this year's charity will be selected along with plans for the operation of the day. Should you wish to assist please come along.

The next PCC meeting will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm at Westacres Community Room, then the Annual Meeting of St. Michael's will be at 7.00pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March in church. Garden Fete is Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July so start baking **NOW!!!**

That is about it, sorry, short and sweet, so comes with all good wishes and just keep reading the newspapers (if you can believe them) to find out what is going on in world.

Until we chat again

Love John

### GUNNERTON CHURCH LUNCHEON CLUB

LUNCHEONS ARE HELD ON THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
PLEASE COME ALONG

and join us at 12 noon

26th FEBRUARY

25th MARCH

29th APRIL

SOUP, SWEET, coffee or tea : £3.00



All welcome

Tea at 2.30

Gunnerton

Tuesday 18th February

All welcome



Chollerton WI We will be having our birthday party at our February meeting and March is our Annual Meeting night followed by a quiz. The programme indicates that there is a Cookery Demo in February. Sadly, Mary Berry isn't available, but I'm sure we'll enjoy her substitute.

## Birtley Notes

I do hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year and not succumbed to the BUG like I did....

A memorial service was held in St Giles late November for Joy Knowles, one time resident of the village. Joy moved to Hexham in 2001 a couple of years after her husband Geoff died, but has sadly been in a home recently. I'm sure we would like to welcome Sally and Derek Iles into the Parish, they moved into The Creel late November, do hope they will be happy in their new home.

I must give a mention to the Carol Service at Chipchase Castle on 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. What a wonderful start to the Christmas festivities – the service which takes place in the chapel is only lit by candles, which makes it much more special.

A Parish children's party took place in the village hall the Sunday before Christmas, the first time for many years, this was enjoyed by all who attended. I remember years ago the 'Boxing Day Party' was eagerly awaited, the highlight of Christmas for us kids... The same evening around 30 people gathered outside to sing 'Carols round the Christmas tree', everyone then enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies in the hall before more carols, which is a nice get-together.

The Craft Group are about to begin their new year with their AGM at the end of January. No doubt members will have lots of creative ideas for workshops and activities. The next block of five 'Drawing for the Terrified' workshops, which is open to the wider community, will run between March and April at Birtley Village Hall on a Thursday night. Local artist Neil Patterson will again be the tutor. Participants who attended the previous workshops will be contacted to see if they want to join this next block of highly enjoyable, relaxing sessions once dates are confirmed. There could be a few spare places so please contact Sally Danys (01434 230519) if you want further information.

Looking forwards to the Snowdrops making an appearance, when hopefully the weather will be kinder to us.

Take care, Mary.

### **Birtley and District Garden Group**

**RHS OUTREACH IN THE NORTH EAST  
with Christine Wright, our RHS regional adviser**

**Be inspired by the stories and ideas that are  
helping schools and communities to grow together**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 for 7.45**

**Guests very welcome £4**



**Churches in North Tyne and Redesdale invite you to:**

*Taizé style reflective services in  
the Parish Room at  
St John's Church, Otterburn  
(go in through the Church)*



(Saturday before 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month)  
at: 6pm (for about 45 minutes)

***There will be simple, repeated songs, readings, prayers and a  
period of silence.***

**All welcome**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**RAY WIND FUNDS LAUNCH 'MINI GRANTS' FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

The Ray Wind Funds distributes grant money donated by the Vattenfall Ray Wind Farm near Kirkwhelpington for the benefit of communities that lie within 10 km of the wind farm. Grants from £500 upwards are available through the Small Grants Programme and the Local Initiatives Fund. To meet the need for smaller grants the new Small Donations Fund has been launched.

This Small Donation Fund is available for local groups and organisations to request a donation up to a maximum figure of £500.00 each grant year. A fund of £1,200 each year will be available to each Parish represented on the CIC Board (Bavington, Birtley, Corsenside, Elsdon, Kirkwhelpington, Otterburn). A sum of £2,800 each year will be available to share amongst the Parishes outside the six represented on the CIC but within the catchment area of the Ray Windfarm (parts of Bellingham, Capheaton, Chollerton, Wallington Demesne, Rothley, Hollinghill and Hepple. Ask the Administrator to check that you are included).

These mini-grants can be awarded quickly and with the minimum of fuss. Contact the Funds Administrator with your request.

All donations must meet the criteria that they will have a positive impact on the residents who live and work within the Ray Windfarm catchment area.

Donations could include for example – Local children's Christmas party, Elderly residents coach trip, purchase of materials for a group to operate/improve, small local project fund raiser.

Full information about the Small Donations Fund and the catchment area for the Ray Wind Funds is on the website [www.raywindfund.co.uk](http://www.raywindfund.co.uk) or from the administrator (email at [admin@raywindfund.co.uk](mailto:admin@raywindfund.co.uk), or telephone 07762 179 579).

## BIRTLEY COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February

10.30-noon



Come along to Birtley Village Hall between 10.30 and noon and enjoy coffee, tea and home baking and have a good catch-up.

The coffee morning is a regular event normally held on the first Thursday of each month.



***Everyone is welcome!***

### **Simonburn Notes**

This being the first Broadsheet of 2020, Happy New Year!

Thank you to all for helping to decorate the Church for Christmas.

St. Mungo's is such a beautiful church, made even more so by the flowers and the Christmas tree.

The traditional Carol Service was enjoyed by all and I think the mulled wine and nibbles were enjoyed too. Thanks to Rosemary for leading this service and also the Midnight Mass service. Thank you Jani for playing the organ. It was a good turn out for the get-together on Christmas Eve, on the green, to see Santa. Thanks to Soraya and Dave and also Santa, for making the time to visit us with early presents, on his busiest night of the year.

On the 29th December, St. Mungo's held a special Benefice Service that included a Baptism. The service was led by Rev. Edward Lobb, who is the grandfather of William Henry Lancelot Lobb, who he Baptised. It was a lovely service and we welcome William (Harry) into Gods family.

It is very dark inside the church at the moment. The west window has been boarded over while the scaffolding is up. The new larger bell has been cast and the smaller one has been taken away to be repaired. Hopefully in February, we will hear the bells ring again.

Congratulations to Simon and Donna, Rectory Terrace, who were recently married, we wish them every happiness for the future.

In January, we said goodbye to Michael Liddle, as he moved to Wark.

Michael was born and bred in Simonburn, so I imagine it will be very sad and strange to move, even if it is only a few miles away. I am sure he will be very comfortable and happy in his new home, but we will miss him in the village.

**Finally, please remember Steve as he undergoes treatment and of course Melanie and all the family at this very difficult time. Our prayers and thoughts are with them all x.**

**Love Sharon x**

## SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

<b>Benefice of Chollerton / St Oswald</b>			<b>Benefice of Humshaugh</b>		
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>					
9am	Gunnerton	HC	9.30am	Humshaugh	HC
9am	Wall	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	HC
10.30 am	Birtley	HC	6.00 pm	Wark	EP
10.30 am	Bingfield	HC	8.00pm	Humshaugh	Late at 8
Readings: Presentation: Malachi 3: 1-5; Hebrews 2: 14 to end; Luke 2: 22-40					
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>					
9am	Thockrington	HC	9.30 am	Humshaugh	MP
10.30 am	Chollerton	HC	11.00 am	Simonburn	MP
10.30 am	Wall	HC	6.00pm	Wark	HC
Readings: 3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent: Isaiah 58: 1-9a; 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12; Matthew 5; 13-20					
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>					
9am	Gunnerton	HC	9.30am	Humshaugh	HC
9am	Wall	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	HC
10.30am	Birtley	HC	6.00pm	Wark	EP
10.30am	Bingfield	MP			
Readings: 2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent: Genesis 1: 1-2:3; Romans 8: 18-25; Matthew 6; 25-end					
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>					
9am	Thockrington	BCP	9.30am	Wark	HC
10.30am	Chollerton	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	MP
10.30 am	Wall	MP	6.30pm	Humshaugh	EP
6.00 pm	Wall	HC			
Readings: Next before Lent: Exodus 24: 12-end; 2 Peter 1:1-end; Matthew 17: 1-9					
<b>Ash Wednesday 26th February</b>					
10.30am		Chollerton		6pm. Wall	
<b>Sunday 1st March</b>					
9am	Gunnerton	HC	9.30am	Humshaugh	HC
9.00am	Wall	HC	11.00am	Simonburn	HC
10.30am	Birtley	HC	6.00pm	Wark	EP
10.30am	Bingfield	HC	8.00pm	Humshaugh	Late at 8
Readings: 1 <sup>st</sup> of Lent: Genesis 2:5-17; 3:1-7; Romans 5: 12-19; Matthew 4: 1-1					