

The November Broadsheet 2022

for the parishes of
Humshaugh
with Simonburn & Wark,
Chollerton with Birtley,
Gunnerton, Thockrington,
St Oswald in Lee with
Bingfield & Wall



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Friday is my day off, I will respond when I return to work

November: a month of ‘blues’ – or of realism?

“Thirty days hath September, April, June and dull November....” Others may remember that mnemonic I learnt in primary school about the number of days in each month. (I won’t bore you with the rest of it...) The point is that we always assume November to be ‘dull’. It could be the coming of colder, wetter weather; or that the clocks have just gone back, making it very dark by about 5.30pm – or could be also be fact that Christians have always linked the month with death?

We Catholics call it the ‘month of the Holy Souls’, based on the celebration of All Saints on Nov. 1st, then All Souls on Nov. 2nd. Most of you reading this won’t be members of my Church, but most Christians do celebrate All Saints – based on the hope given by Jesus’ resurrection that there is life after death. In his strange vision we call the Book of Revelation (or Apocalypse), St John writes in chapter 7, verse 9: “I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne (of God’s presence) and in front of the Lamb” (That is, Jesus in glory.) Originally, by the “huge number”, the writer meant those who had died in persecution; but most nowadays interpret it as meaning all good people.

But one sense of ‘persecution’ is still kept by everyone this month: the commemoration of Remembrance Sunday. We think with solemnity and gratitude of those who died in the service of others – mainly in the two world wars and in conflicts since; but also of those serving the community in a more general way. The original date referred to the exact moment when the First World War ended – the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. The way it rolls off the tongue has a simplicity and dignity that is hard to match. The ghastly slaughter of the Western Front in 1914-18, coupled with the barbarity of the Axis powers in 1939-45 have left an indelible stamp on our consciousness. Remembrance Sunday is far from a gloating over victory: it is a celebration of relief from tyranny and from the awful effects of a total lack of humanity. It also commemorates human bravery and many acts of self-sacrifice for others.

This year, Remembrance Sunday is November 13th. Up and down the North Tyne and in Redesdale, there will be celebrations at the many memorials and in the churches and chapels, usually at 11am. Although many will involve Christian clergy, the services are aimed at people of all religions and none. When shells and bombs landed, they did not distinguish between religion, race or language! Everyone was in it together, and that is how they should – and will – be remembered.

On a slightly less respectable note, the end of October involves ‘Halloween’. Older people like myself are still amazed how this American fad has taken over – almost eclipsing Guy Fawkes in young people’s imagination. The actual phrase means “The Eve of All Hallows” i.e. All Saints. so

it really refers to October 31st. In one sense, it's mainly harmless fun for primary-age children to dress up as witches, ghouls, etc. Mind, the movies from the USA meant for high-school students appear (to me, at least) a bit less innocent – they seem to aim at being both scary and slightly salacious at the same time. I wonder how many young people grow up thinking that the witches, spooks, and so on are a real portrayal of what religion is meant to be?

Enough sermonizing from me! We hope and pray that our very rural electricity supply system does not suffer the same problems as it did this time last year! Advent starts on the 27th of this month, as Christmas Day falls on a Sunday, so I wish all readers a happy run-up to the Festive Season.

Fr Jim Dunne, St Oswald's RC Church, Bellingham.

WARK PARISH NEWS

This month, following a meeting of wardens in the southern area of the deanery, a trial period of a slightly different format of services starts. Here in Wark on the first Sunday of each month there will be a service of Holy Communion in St. Michael's at 8.30am. The first of these being on Sunday 6th November.

A reminder Christmas wreaths are being made once more at the same price as last year and should be ordered via Anne Grieve (01434 270245) as soon as possible please. Once more the Christmas Bazaar is back with Sunday 4th December at 2pm in Wark Town Hall being the date and time for you to gather. Look forward to seeing you there. The day before Wark Royal British Legion is holding a Social Evening at 7pm in The Hall where for £5.00 you'll enjoy nibbles and a glass of wine. Not bad for a fiver and supporting a good cause.

This year St. Michael's is the church in our benefice holding the Remembrance Service on Sunday 13th November at 10.45am, followed by Acts of Remembrance at Wark, Simonburn and Humshaugh Memorials.

The Town Hall have a couple of events during November; 19th Fool's Gold folk duo and 26th Reiver- Tales from the Borders. Booking please through Vicky on 01434 230180 or pay on the door. (best to book in advance then they know how many are coming!)

Have a good autumn.

Love to all

JOHN

Northumberland Log Bank : Are you needing help to obtain wood fuel for your stove/fire? Please contact Kate Thick at 07900963224 or katethick@hotmail.com There is no charge for this service.

HUMSHAUGH NOTES November 2022

We are planning to have a **CRIB FESTIVAL** in St. Peter's church to help us think about the Christmas Story.

On Saturday December the 10th, the Cribs will be on display in the church from 10am-4pm.

There will be lit candles, soft background music and mince pies and biscuits on offer.

On Sunday December the 11th, the Cribs will be blessed as part of our 10 am Sunday Service.

Cribs can be of any form or size and please bring yours to church between 3pm and 6pm on Friday the 9th. If you have a story about your Crib, please do share it on a piece of paper, no larger than A5 to be placed beside your Crib.

A rota of at least 2 people will be on duty, so that the Cribs will be safe at all times! They can be collected after the 10am service until 2pm on Sunday the 11th.

We would love as many people as possible to take part in this and would welcome Cribs from anybody in the Deanery.

Humshaugh First School celebrated Harvest in October and took decorated boxes round to "Friends from the village" with the help of Dr. McCollum.

There will be a coffee morning on Saturday November 12th in aid of St. Peter's church and will have a Scottish Theme.

The September Quiz, in aid of the Humshaugh Choir, was won by The Lost Chord and raised a magnificent £213. The November Quiz will be on Tuesday, November 15th, in aid of

Humshaugh First School. There is no Quiz in December.

HAP will show an Icelandic-Ukrainian comedy film: "Woman at War" on Friday 11th of November. Reviews described the film as "Surprising, Touching and Funny" and was rated suitable for 12 years and over. Tickets at £5 for adults and £2.50 for under 18's will be on sale in the village shop. Doors are open at 7pm for 7.30 start. There will be a bar and also fabulous puds for £2.50. Watch out for posters around the village.

It was very sad to hear that Pat Moore died in September. This talented lady, who made wonderful embroideries, will be missed and Bob and his family are much in our thoughts.

Love, Liesbeth

Birtley Notes

I forgot to mention in the last issue, that Joyce Bell had an 'unwanted visitor' to her hen house one night..! The culprit was disposed of, but not before killing 9 hens... It was a rogue ferret...!

An enjoyable afternoon took place in the Village Hall on Sunday 10th October for the Harvest Lunch in aid of St Giles, a jolly crowd attended, some from other parishes, although a few more would have been nice. It was lovely having children attending, (your 5 grandchildren were a credit, Eileen...). Lots of very nice comments, with a lot of chat at the tables, which shows we must have done things right.

Regards Mary.

Bingfield, Wall & Heavenfield

As the rota of services in the Deanery is being jiggled now that Claire has settled into her role in the Northern half, we are getting back to 2 Sunday services per month at Bingfield and also at Wall. Although not quite what we used to have we must be thankful that Sarah is doing her very best to fulfil wishes around all the Parishes for which she is now responsible, an onerous task and one which is impossible to fill when most of the 10 churches would like a 9am or 10am service. This is a suck it and see measure which may need to be re-configured at some point in the future.

Please remember that the next broadsheet will cover both December and January. All items for inclusion must be with me by 14th of November.

Be good to each other.

Helen. x

Simonburn Notes

Many Thanks to everyone that came to the Macmillan Coffee morning in the Village Hall.

£432.06 was raised, Thank you.

On Sunday 16th October, St. Mungo's was beautifully decorated with flowers and contributions of produce for the Harvest Festival service. Thank you to everyone for your donations, which were taken to The People's Kitchen in Newcastle.

On Saturday November 12th, in Simonburn Village Hall, there will be a **Coffee Morning, in aid of The Great North Air Ambulance** from 10am – 12 . any donations of sweet or savoury would be much appreciated. Please come along to support this worthy charity, ALL WELCOME.

Remembrance Sunday Service on 13th November will be held at Wark at 10.45am followed by Acts of Remembrance at Wark , Simonburn and Humshaugh Memorials.

Looking ahead to December, Simonburn Village Hall are holding a **Christmas Bingo** on Friday 2nd December starting at 7.30pm, donations of prizes would be greatly appreciated, please contact Christine Burrige on 07523 166543, 3 New Kennels, Simonburn or any other committee member.

Christmas Wreath making workshop in Simonburn Village Hall will be on Friday 9th December starting at 7pm. By ticket only, limited numbers. £15 with festive refreshments.

Please telephone Roger 681077 to book your place.

The next Bacon Butty morning will be Tuesday November 6th, unfortunately, due to rising costs, the price has had to be increased slightly to £3.

Take care everyone.

Love Sharon x

Rota for services in November 2022 .

2nd November

All Souls Day

10.00am All Souls Service at Humshaugh

5.00pm All Souls Evensong at Bellingham

6th November 3rd Sunday before Advent : Job 19: 23-27a; 2 Thessalonians 2: 1-5; 13-end ; Luke 20: 27-38

8.30am Holy Communion at Wark

10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham

10.00am Holy Communion at Chollerton

10.30am MURC Service at Wark

11.00am Parish Worship at Falstone

11.00 Parish Worship at Otterburn

11.30 Holy Communion at Simonburn

4.00pm Holy Communion at Bingfield

6.00pm Holy Communion at Elsdon

8.00pm Late @8 (Deanery Contemporary Worship) at Humshaugh

11th November

Various Acts of Remembrance

13th November Remembrance Sunday : Malachi 4: 1-2a; 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13; Luke 21: 5-19

8.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham (BCP)

8.30am Holy Communion at Thockrington (BCP)

9.30am Holy Communion at Thorneyburn

10.00am Act of Remembrance at Birtley

10.30am Service of Remembrance at Chollerton

10.30am Service of Remembrance at Otterburn

10.30am Service of Remembrance at Wall

10.45 Service of Remembrance at Bellingham Cemetery Chapel

10.45am Service of Remembrance at Wark, followed by Acts of Remembrance at Wark, Simonburn and Humshaugh Memorials

5.00pm Holy Communion at Horsley

6.00pm No service at Wark

Thursday 17th November

10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham

20th November Feast of Christ the King : Jeremiah 23; 1-6; Colossians 1: 11-20; Luke 23: 33-43

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

11.30 Holy Communion at Bingfield
3.00pm Parish Worship at Otterburn
6.00pm Holy Communion at Simonburn

27th November Advent Sunday (Year A)

8.30am Holy Communion at Chollerton
10.00am Deanery Zoom
11.30 Holy Communion at Wall
3.00pm Holy Communion at Byrness
4.00pm Advent Service at Simonburn
6.00pm Parish Worship at Thorneyburn
6.00pm Holy Communion at Humshaugh
6.00pm Parish Worship at Wark

Follow that Star!

Save the date

The next schools event at St. Mungo's Church, Simonburn will be from 28th Nov-8th Dec. 2022

We are looking for volunteers to help with crafts, everything provided, you just need to show the children what to do. You will be rewarded with a light lunch. Just the offer of one day would be very welcome.

If you are happy to volunteer your time to help please contact:
Tish Easby easby904@btinternet.com

Friends of Chollerton Churches

Return of the Yuletide at Chipchase Castle Chapel celebration

We are delighted that Jonathan and Zoe Elkington
are able to welcome us back

On Friday 2nd. December at 7 p.m.

There will be an evening of carols, music and readings in the chapel
followed by drinks and seasonal fare in the castle.

Tickets at £15. Reservations enquiries to
Ken Carlisle Tel: 07747593844

Wark Town Hall Future events

19th November 7.30pm Cash bar

Fool's Gold folk duo

Pay on the door. Booking :Vicky 01434 230180

26th November 7.30pm Cash bar

Highlights present Reiver - Tales From The Borders

Pay on the door. Booking: Vicky 01434 230180

Wark RBL
Wine and Cheese Social
on Saturday 3rd December
at 19.00.

Wark Town Hall.
Entry is £5.00 and includes a
glass of wine and some nibbles.

Carols around the Christmas Tree
Friday 16th Dec, 6p.m.
Village hall, Birtley

Carols in St. Giles
Sunday 18th Dec

GUNNERTON CHURCH

Railway Circle

Tues 1st. Nove at 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.
*Aln Valley railway, past, present and
future*



Bacon Butties

Tuesday 1st November
1st Tuesday of every month
9am to 11am

Simonburn Village Hall
with tea or coffee
£3

Gunnerton Church Tea at Three

Tues Nov 15th .at 3 p.m.
Come along for delicious
home baking

Gunnerton Church Lunch Club

All are welcome to join us on
Wed Nov 30th at 12 noon
for soup, dessert and tea/coffee

Coffee Morning

Wall Village Hall

2nd November

10.30 am

Carolyn Dowie
Of

ALL STITCHED UP

Invites you and your friends to
AN EXHIBITION OF
NEEDLEPOINT DESIGNS
Thursday 3rd November 2022

10am -3pm

At Errington House, Humshaugh,
NE46 4HP

Display of Cushions, Upholstery items &
Rugs, Needlepoint
Kits and Accessories for Sale

Tel: 01434 672 389 Mob: 0794170 9966

Carolyn.dowie@btinternet.com

www.needle-point.co.uk

Light Refreshments

Soup & Dessert

Thursday 17th November
& 3rd Thursday each
month. 12p.m.

Wall Village Hall