

For enquiries please contact Revd Dr Robert Brown

Priest-in-Charge, Bewcastle, Stapleton and Kirklington with Hethersgill

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From the Registers

Baptisms

29th August Joseph Jack Charnock at St Mary's, Stapleton

12th September Sonny Elliott at St Cuthbert's, Kirklington

Funerals

10th September Annabel Forster aged 89, of Kernalhill Farm, Bolton Fell, St Cuthbert's Nether Denton

Services for October:

Sunday 3rd October, 10am, Holy Baptism and Harvest Thanksgiving, St Cuthbert's Bewcastle

Sunday 10th October, 10am, Holy Communion, St Cuthbert's Kirklington

Sunday 17th October, 10am, Morning Prayer, St Mary's Stapleton

Sunday 24th October, 10am, Holy Baptism, St Mary's Hethersgill

Sunday 31st October, 6pm, Holy Communion, St Cuthbert's Bewcastle

Sunday 7th November, 10am, Harvest Thanksgiving at Morning Prayer, St Cuthbert's Kirklington

We are now singing again in all our services – why not come and join in!

Our churches continue to remain open for private prayer (except Hethersgill).

Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms: Life event services (Occasional Offices) may now take place with unrestricted numbers but still with advisory distancing. This means we are still asking that numbers invited to services respect social distancing capacities. If attending an event at church where a large number of people are likely to be present, please be aware of others, and try to keep to a minimum of 1m distant from others, if possible. Masks may be worn but are not compulsory.

Saturday 2nd October 7 pm Bewcastle Harvest Supper in Roadhead Village Hall. 2 course meal, plus tea/coffee. Limited bar available. Entertainment by Zing Choir. Tickets £12.50, 10-16 £5, under 10's free. Please bring own crockery, cutlery and mug.. Tickets from Gary Phillips, Ann@murrayholmetraining.co.uk or Frank Waugh 48655. All welcome.

Saturday 9th October, 2-4 pm Apple pressing at Greenholme, Bewcastle. Bring your apples and some containers to take away the juice, or just come and join us for a fun and sociable afternoon, a cup of tea, a piece of apple cake, and lend a hand chopping and juicing apples. If you have apples, bring as many as you can and we'll use them all. Perhaps try some of last year's cider! Everyone welcome. There is no charge.

Sunday 31st October 12 noon Kirklington with Hethersgill Church Harvest Lunch in Hethersgill Parish Hall. Tickets £10 (under 10s free) in advance from 01228 675389 or 01228 675652 or any PCC member. Please bring your own crockery and cutlery. Gifts of produce and homemade preserves gratefully received. All welcome

Saturday 27th November 2 pm Stapleton PCC Christmas Fair at Stapleton Public Hall

Knowe United Reformed Church, Bewcastle

Services first Sunday in month 2.15pm

October 2021-----**BENEFICE NEWS**-----October 2021

Dear Friends,

Autumn. The year turns and turns about. The leaves colour as they lose their chlorophyll green. The goodness from the grass has gone. Swallows have gathered, fed, and fled. Goldfinches flock, in their scores, the hedgerows, and starlings assemble at dusk. Fields are drained of lambs by bustling marts and cattle head for the stalls. Hedgehogs seek the leaf-piles and bees huddle round their honey on the comb. Queen wasps and bumbles crawl into sheltered cracks for the long sleep. Solo robins sing their pretty, mournful tunes. Soil becomes sodden and cold as death, as darkness, like thick, dank mist, draws its cloak ever tighter round the shoulders of the day. Romantic Keats calls it the “season of mists and mellow fruitfulness”, and so it may be. But that is to miss the folding-away, the battering-down, the preparations for the coming storm that is winter, when all is laid bare to the biting winds and cold, driving rain. As Maddy Prior sings of the Bewcastle Fells, ‘the bare bones of a tree give some shelter to me.’

But we aren’t there yet! And autumn does have its own glory. Not in the sense that Christless Keats gives, but like, perhaps, Gerard Manley Hopkins, with his sharp eye to God’s saturating presence, might say, that even here, ‘the world is charged with the glory of God. It will flame out, like shining from shook foil.’ For the dying that is autumn explodes with breath-taking beauty. As the beech, the oak, the birch, the cherry and the larch turn, they fill the heart with an ache that bursts the spirit within to give glory back to God, even in the midst of death. And is that not a strange thing to realise, beauty in death?

There is something here for us, too, in this preparation for the end of the year. For each of us, if we are spared, will approach, or perhaps already are in, our autumn. This season of our lives when our true colours are unmasked as the chlorophyll of our busyness fades away. It is the season for preparation, when work is done and the end is in sight, though when we may not know. In this sense it is a time for looking forward, not with fear, or without hope, but in the knowledge that the one who made us, who knows our deepest secrets, yet, with gentle arm, walks with us our final steps. This is the Christ who has been at our side all our lives, often unseen, perhaps sometimes glimpsed, yet ever close even though we perceive him not. He is the welcome home, the greeting at the door that says, ‘Come in, my good and faithful servant.’

And for those still in their spring or summer, autumn is a time for pause and reflection; a time for taking stock, seeing the beauty of a life well lived, and realising that our lives, like all creation around us, is ‘charged’, as a lightning rod, with God’s glory. The question arises, ‘how then shall we live?’ And that is the question we must each answer, for that is what our autumn will reveal.

This autumn is also the time when our churches need to raise funds to deal with the urgent repairs and works that the 5-yearly church inspections require us to undertake. Your churches are there for you, for the major events in your and your family’s lives, as well as the regular rhythm of Sunday worship, or just a quiet place to go and think and pray. But they are expensive to upkeep, and that burden lies on the shoulders of the communities they serve – there is no one else will pay for them. Last month Bishop John spoke of Bewcastle’s appeal. This month I would like to extend that appeal for each of our churches. Stapleton, in particular, requires major work to be carried out urgently on the church tower. So please could I ask each of you to consider supporting our appeal for works to your parish church, and especially invite farmers to ‘bring a lamb’, in the words of the famous Christmas carol, ‘If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb’, by donating the price of one lamb from their lamb sales this autumn. Cheques can be made payable as follows:

‘The Parochial Church Council of Stapleton’ and send to: Mrs D Walker, Lyneholmford House, Lyneholmford, Roweltown, CA6 6LH

‘Kirklington and Hethersgill PCC’ and send to: Mrs C Armstrong, 32 Edmondson Close, Brampton, CA8 1GH

‘Bewcastle PCC’ and send to: Mrs A Roberts, High Grains, Bewcastle, CA6 6PT, or go the ‘JustGiving.com’ website and search for Bewcastle

Thank you for your support and kindness.
Your friend and priest
Revd Robert Brown

Saturday 2nd October 7. 30pm, Border Rievers Ceilidh band at Stapleton Public Hall, bar, drawing, £7 Inc refreshments

Friday 15th October 6.30 pm Bewcastle School Harvest Pie & Pea Supper followed by homemade tray bakes and tea/coffee. Tickets £6 All primary school age children free. Raffle.. All welcome. To book your place contact school on 01977 48662 or Joyce on 48338.

Sunday 17th October 5 pm Concert in Bewcastle Church followed by bubbles with the Bishop. Internationally renowned trumpeter, Chris Hart will be accompanied by pianist Michael Bawtree . Tickets £20 for concert and drinks reception. Available from Allison Roberts 016977 48311 or info@bewcastle.com or Felicity-Anne Richardson on 016977 48389

Tuesday 19th October Bewcastle Primary School Great North Air Ambulance Collection. Please ring 016977 48662 to arrange a drop off slot for any bags. They accept clothing, towels, bedding, footwear (in pairs), belts. No Duvets or pillows.

Saturday 23rd October Stapleton Hall dance with Jason Arnup and drummer, 8pm, bar and drawing. £7.50 Inc light refreshments, for any info contact Mary on 02697748379

Friday 5th November 10 am Fir Ends Primary School Air Ambulance Collection Bags can be dropped off from the afternoon of Wednesday 3rd November They accept clothing, towels, bedding, footwear (in pairs), curtains, bags & belts .NO Duvets or pillows please. Any information contact Angie Smith on 07917341301 or Fir Ends School on 01228 675283

Friday 19th November 6.30 pm Brampton Fairtrade Group Autumn Quiz at Brampton Community Centre. Tickets £8 including two course meal. Contact Eileen Norman, 9 Ridley Gardens, Brampton CA8 1BY. Come as a team or individually to join others.

Knit and Natter at Stapleton Hall, every Tuesday evening from 7pm-9pm. Everyone is welcome to come along. For further details contact Carol on 01697543094.

The Bewcastle Cancer Research UK Committee have decided not to hold their annual Whist Drive and Drawing this year. We will be delivering the donation letters as usual and anyone wishing to donate can do so through any committee member or Gary Phillips. The committee was formed 50 years ago back in 1971 and sadly we lost one of our longest serving members earlier this year, Mrs Mary Phillips who served for 27 years as secretary and continued to be a very active member. 50 years of fundraising is an amazing achievement and we would like to thank everyone for supporting us over those years. Research has led to more cancer screening services and the chances of survival for most cancer types is improving all the time, there is still much more research needed into certain types of cancer, so any donation however small is much appreciated

Bewcastle Primary School are looking to start a play group for babies and toddlers. If you can help set it up and look towards running it (it's easy) we would love to hear from you. For more information contact Emma at Bewcastle school on 016977 48662.

Kirklington Church yard up keep .We would all like to appreciate and enjoy seeing this community space kept tidy, however the only way regular up keep is possible is through voluntary help from the whole community! Volunteers would be very welcome for strimming, mowing grass etc. Please contact Margaret on 01228675652 or Sandra 01228675510

Bewcastle Scouts Contact. Simon Barrett 01228 497970 or David Harding 07935172942
bewcastlescouts@gmail.com

Newsletters can be picked up from: Kirklington Church porch, Hethersgill Church porch, Stapleton Church, Bewcastle Church, Stapleton Public Hall Porch, Smithfield Garage office, Garry Phillip's Garage. Or downloaded : www.Bewcastle.com/news-events, www.BewcastleHouseOfPrayer.org.uk/parish-notice

Deadline for the November 2021 issue is 1pm on Saturday 16th October to Tricia Coombe, Damhead, Lyneholmford, Roweltown, CA6 6LQ. 016977 48833 or triciacoombe@damhead.me