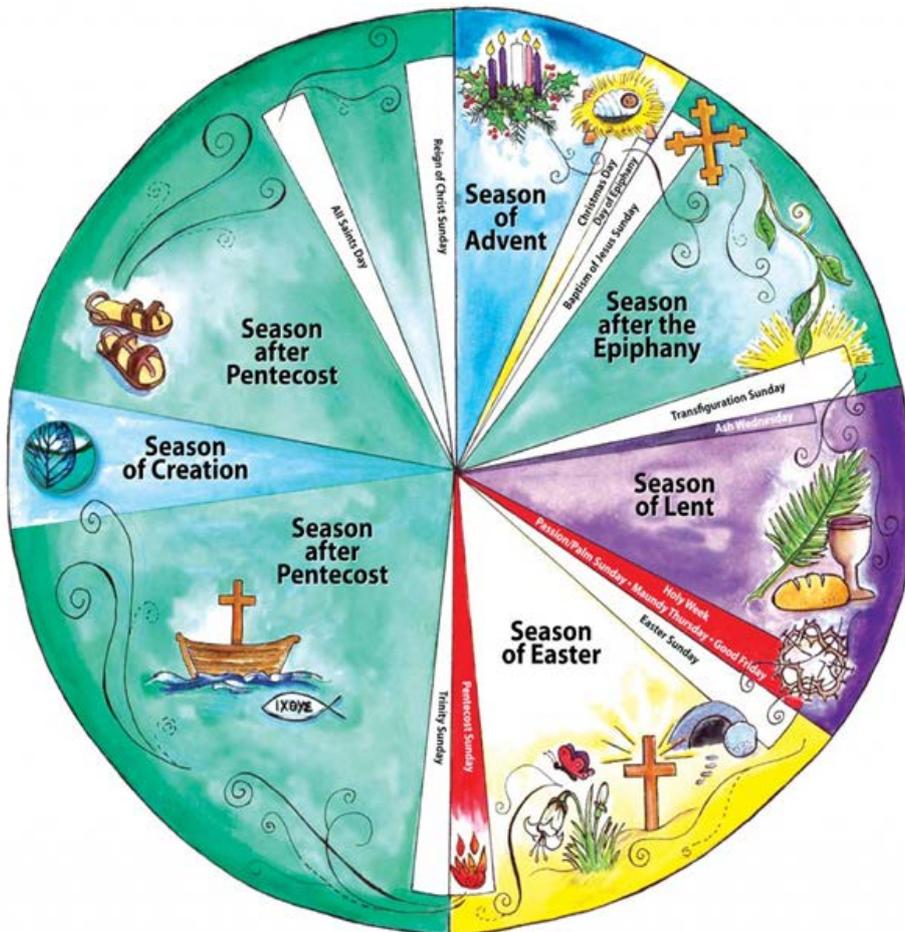




St. Mary's Parish Church Allithwaite

within
The Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry



JUNE 2017

Editor's Ramblings ...



Thank you to everyone who let me know how much the April magazine was enjoyed. This was mainly due to the contributors without whom there would be no magazine. I just put their articles together.

I am always interested to hear what you like and dislike about your magazine. If you can find time please let me know three things you like and three things which could be improved and we shall see what we can do.

Many years ago, when working in the NHS as a Computer Services Manager, I realised an expert was someone two weeks ahead of most others. My skill was project managing the installation of computers and writing software for mainframe computers, McDonnell Douglas Sequoia which we used for personal and financial records. We also had a DEC VAX mainframe computer which was used for Patient information.

I don't do that anymore, I just mess around on PCs and I am by no means an expert. The illusion is pressing buttons and seeing what happens until I find one that works. I've been asked several times whether it is best to upgrade to Windows 10. My answer has always been 'yes'. We've all got to try to keep up with the rest of us. If you haven't already you can still get a free download of your free copy of Windows 10. Don't be afraid. Don't be left behind. It will be different.

There will be a few problems, different for each of you. If you cannot see the answer you can always ask your search engine for help.

Mike (Ed)

Do you remember the milk man?

Here is a collection of notes left in milk bottles....

When you leave my milk please knock on my bedroom window and wake me because I want you to give me a hand to turn the mattress.

Milk is needed for the baby. Father is unable to supply it.

From now on please leave two pints every other day and one pint on the days in between, except Wednesdays and Saturdays when I don't want any milk.

FROM THE VICARAGE



What an experience!

Many of you will know I have not long returned from Zululand in South Africa. I was invited to join a team of eleven from Carlisle Diocese to visit one of our link partners, the Diocese of Zululand.

Our team consisted of vicars, educationalists, agriculturalists and members of the Mother's Union. We had an amazing few weeks, visiting different schools, Churches, harvest projects and historical sights, as well as a game park before we flew home.

We were looked after so well and made to feel very welcomed by everyone we met. Sometimes we stayed altogether in tourist accommodation and on other occasions we were in small groups enjoying home hospitality. I stayed with two others in a lovely farmhouse in the middle of a sugar cane farm where we were awoken around five each morning with the sound of the choir from Kings College, Cambridge blasting out through the speakers. The early starts did mean that we got to see the most beautiful sunrises!

One of my lasting memories will be from our second Sunday in Zululand when I was asked to preach at the township church in Eshowe, which is hundred percent Zulu - fortunately most of the congregation could speak English! I also had the huge privilege of giving over forty children and young people their first Communion. The whole service was so full of joy and included lots of singing and dancing. The service lasted just under four hours but it felt like five minutes.

There are so many memories and it will certainly be an experience I will never forget. I am very grateful to all who made this trip possible.

Hamba kahle (go well)

Rev Rach

A Prayer for Blessings on The Way

A blessing on our departures, without them we cannot walk the way.
A blessing on our companions, bread of friendship, bread for the soul.
A blessing on all travellers, border-crossers, wanders in strange lands.
A blessing on all the stages of the way, and those who give us guidance.
A blessing on all we leave behind and on their journeys.
A blessing on our lostness and delays, these too are life.
A blessing on our arrivals, new beginnings, bright horizons, home-comings.
A blessing on the Trinity of Journeys, Giver of the Way,
Jesus of the Way, Spirit of the Way.
Amen

A prayer by Kathy Galloway, based on Psalm 139

TOUCHING THE VOID

In June 1985, two British mountaineers Joe Simpson and Simon Yates made the first-ever climb of the West Face of the 21,000-foot snow-covered Siula Grande mountain in Peru. It was an exceptionally tough assault - but nothing compared to what was to come. Early in the descent, Simpson fell and smashed his right knee. Yates could have abandoned him but managed to find a way of lowering him down the mountain in a series of difficult drops blinded by snow and cold. Then Simpson fell into a crevasse and Yates eventually had no choice but to cut the rope, utterly convinced that his friend was now dead.

In his subsequent book on the climb entitled "Touching The Void", Joe Simpson wrote:

"As I gazed at the distant moraines, I knew that I must at least try. I would probably die out there amid those boulders. The thought didn't alarm me. It seemed reasonable, matter-of-fact. That was how it was. I could aim for something. If I died, well, that wasn't so surprising, but I wouldn't have just waited for it to happen. The horror of dying no longer affected me as it had in the crevasse. I now had the chance to confront it and struggle against it. It wasn't a bleak dark terror any more, just fact, like my broken leg and frostbitten fingers, and I couldn't be afraid of things like that. My leg would hurt when I fell and when I couldn't get up I would die."

The survival of Yates himself was extraordinary. That Simpson somehow found a way of climbing out of the crevasse after 12 hours and then literally crawled and dragged himself six miles back to camp, going three days and nights without food or drink, losing three stone, and contracting ketoacidosis in the process, would be the stuff of heroic fiction if it was not so true. Indeed, six operations and two years later, he was even back climbing. All because, against all the odds, he tried ...

Source: "Touching The Void" by Joe Simpson

THE STARFISH

Once a man was walking along a beach. The sun was shining and it was a beautiful day. Off in the distance he could see a person going back and forth between the surf's edge and the beach. Back and forth this person went. As the man approached, he could see that there were hundreds of starfish stranded on the sand as the result of the natural action of the tide.

The man was stuck by the apparent futility of the task. There were far too many starfish. Many of them were sure to perish.

As he approached, the person continued the task of picking up starfish one by one and throwing them into the surf.

As he came up to the person, he said: "You must be crazy. There are thousands of miles of beach covered with starfish. You can't possibly make a difference." The person looked at the man.

He then stooped down and pick up one more starfish and threw it back into the ocean. He turned back to the man and said: "It sure made a difference to that one!"

Anon

CRMI CHILDREN OF HOPE - UGANDA

On Sunday 28th May, less than a week after the horrific Manchester bombing Mark and I joined 9000 plus runners including my niece Harriet and our friend Shane to run the Manchester half marathon.

A great atmosphere and lots of folk cheering us along (the flat!) route made it an enjoyable 13.1 miles. Karen (Shane's wife and my chief bridesmaid 33yrs ago!!) and Jasper the dog was at the finish to cheer us in.

A huge thank you to all who sponsored us we are so grateful. To date we have raised over a £1000 and are truly humbled by this generosity.

The money raised will go towards medication kits for the 2018 medical mission; ongoing rehabilitation for our sponsored disabled children; medical bills for children such as Gifty who has sickle cell disease and is very anaemic at present and for a young widow with two children who has HIV AIDS and a severe infection in her leg which may require amputation and materials for the Days for Girls washable sanitary kits that the St Mary's sewing group are making.

THANK YOU

Kathy Haughton

Volunteer Nurse for CRMI CHILDREN OF HOPE Uganda



At our June meeting we were entertained with a lively talk by Julie Clark entitled 'Entertaining Made Easy'.

During this time she also made 2 delicious savoury dishes and 2 very tempting deserts which were raffled at the end of the meeting. Recipe leaflets were also available for us all to try at home.

The committee will be serving afternoon tea to members at the July meeting which will take place in Tuesday 4th July at 2pm at Allithwaite Community Centre. New members welcome, contact Wendy on 32702 for more details.

THE STORY BEHIND THE HYMN: LORD, FOR THE YEARS

This hymn was written in 1967 by Revd Timothy Dudley Smith, who later became Bishop of Thetford. He later confessed: "I wrote it on a train when I was very pressed for time. I'm thankful if something I write gets picked up, but I suspect anyone who does something in a rush later regrets that they didn't find time to apply the sandpaper a bit more!"

Dudley Smith had been asked to write a hymn for the centenary service of the Children's Special Service Mission, now Scripture Union, in St Paul's Cathedral.

His commission was to write words that could be fitted to Jean Sibelius's Finlandia, as it was to be accompanied by an orchestra with this tune in their repertoire. And so – 'Lord for the years' was written.

He need not have worried about lack of time – his lyrics were a ‘hit’ in the cathedral on the day, and went on to become so well-loved that George Carey chose the hymn to be sung at his consecration as Bishop of Bath and Wells, and then again later, in 1991, at his consecration as Archbishop in Canterbury Cathedral.

The hymn continued to be widely sung and loved, until in 2002 Timothy Dudley Smith was asked to write an extra verse for it so that it could be sung around the time of the Queen’s Golden Jubilee. Many of the words in the hymn are true for the Queen herself, as she celebrated her 90th birthday in April 2016.

She does indeed thank God ‘for the years your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way’. And so indeed the ‘extra’ verse added for the Queen has also held true:

*Lord for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,
Christ and his kingdom one united aim,
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name.*

*The Dentist's Hymn.....Crown Him with Many Crowns
The Contractor's Hymn.....The Church's One Foundation
The Tailor's Hymn.....Holy, Holy, Holy
The Golfer's Hymn.....There is A Green Hill Far Away
The Vet's Hymn.....All Creatures of Our God & King
The Cobbler's Hymn.....Soul of my Saviour
The Travel Agent's Hymn...Anywhere with Jesus
The Geologist's Hymn.....Rock of Ages*

RUIN IT AGAIN!

A resident in a seaside hotel breakfast room called over the waiter one morning and said, ‘I want two boiled eggs, one of them so undercooked it’s runny, the other so overcooked, it’s about as easy to eat as a rubber ball, also grilled bacon that has been left on the plate to get cold; burnt toast that crumbles away as soon as you touch it with a knife; and a very weak coffee, lukewarm.’

‘That’s a very complicated order sir,’ said the bewildered waiter. ‘It might be difficult.’

The guest replied, ‘Oh, but that’s what you gave me yesterday!’

YOU KNOW YOU'RE OLDER

You know you're older when:

Everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work.
The gleam in your eyes is from the sun hitting your bifocals.
You feel like the morning after, and you haven't been anywhere.
You get winded playing chess.
Your children begin to look middle-aged.
You join a health club but don't go.
Your mind makes contracts your body can't meet.
You look forward to a dull evening at home.
You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.
You are turning out lights for economic rather than romantic reasons.
Your knees buckle and your belt won't.
The best part of your day is over when the alarm goes off.
Your back goes out more than you do.
The little grey-haired lady you help across the road is your wife.
You've got too much room in the house and not enough room in the medicine cabinet.
You sink your teeth in a steak and they stay there!

Sunday Services

There are services every Sunday at: **8.00am** and **10.45am**.

The First Sunday of the month is a Service of the Word.

The Second and Fourth Sundays in the month are Holy Communion.

The Third Sunday of the month is an All-Age Service.

The occasional **Fifth Sunday** could be anything!

Our Sunday School meets during the morning service on most Sundays apart from All-Age Services.

SALT

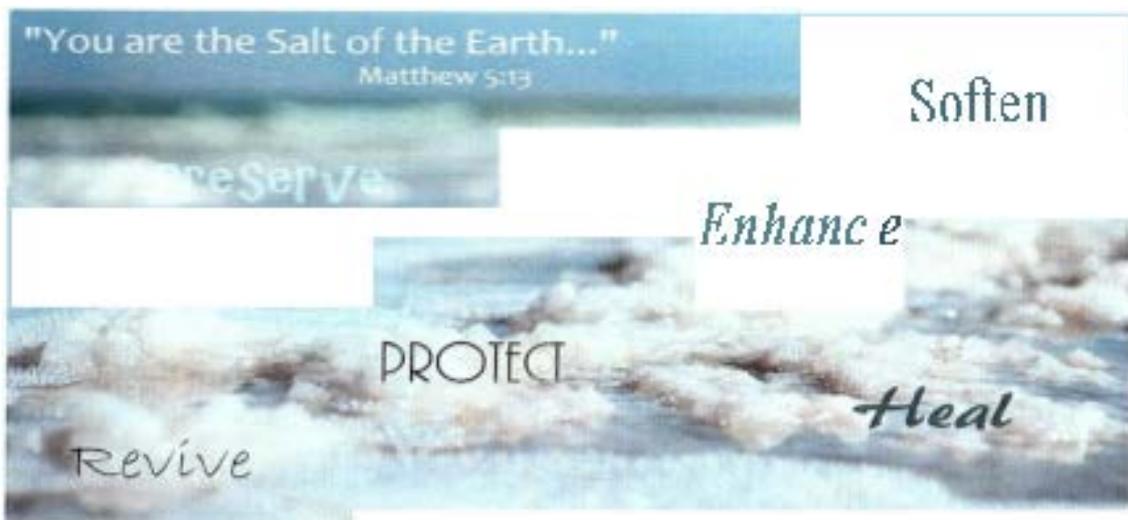
Jesus said a number of strange things, and in Matthew chapter 5 verse 13 we have one of them: "You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled by men".

We have Lot's wife who was turned into a pillar of salt. Leviticus tells us that "with all your offerings to God you shall BRING salt". In Numbers we read about "the Covenant of salt", used to emphasize the binding nature of God's promise as an ordinance forever. Paul writes to the Colossians, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one".

In maritime days of sailing ships and Captain Bligh type skippers, floggings were common for any insubordination, and often the backs of offenders were raw flesh. It was the practice to rub salt into their wounds and, although this resulted in excruciating pain, the salt aided healing and also acted as an antiseptic.

Sodium Chloride is known to most of us as common salt. For thousands of years human beings have known that not only is salt a good preservative, but also that, used in reasonable quantities, it makes most foods taste better. As Job put it into question, "Can that which is tasteless be eaten without salt?" subsequent generations have taken it a bit further than that. I can remember my habit as a child, heaping loads of salt on almost everything I ate because, on its own, the simple food given to me was bland, except of course the very special treat from the local fish and chip shop, when I could not imagine eating chips without salt and lots of vinegar. But, habits change and we are advised by our doctors that salt can be a health hazard; for example, blood pressure.

These days we are more conscious of our diet, since salt is added to many foods and cannot be extracted. The UK recommendations for daily salt consumption is a maximum of 4grams, which is very little. Salt cannot be eliminated from our diets because, in very small quantities it is needed by all living creatures, human beings included.



In fact, the pay of Roman soldiers was partly made up by a salt ration. (This is from where the word 'salary' comes).

We are reminded of the words of Jesus to his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot". This saying is one of a pair; the other follows straight after, and refers to the disciples as "the light of the world". Salt and light, taken together, represent what the followers of Jesus are called to be both collectively and individually.

Cliff Parker (The Link)



Opportunities to serve with the Network Youth Church
in the Cartmel Peninsula from September 2017

Intern – Cartmel Peninsula

The Churches Together Youth Trust in Grange Over Sands is seeking an intern (aged 18 – 24) who would work alongside the Network Youth Church in the Cartmel Peninsula. The intern would be expected to work at least 16 hours a week. Training will be provided for which there is a fee.

Volunteer Female Leader

To assist in running a largely female cell group which takes place twice a month on Wednesday early evening.

Volunteer Youth Club Leader x 2

To assist in helping the local community run a youth club based at Flookburgh Village Hall on a Thursday evening.

Volunteer Ignite Fridays Leader

To join a team of volunteers to assist in running Ignite Friday's (an expression of church) on a Friday night, currently held at Grange-over-Sands Methodist Church.

Volunteer school lunch club assistant

To assist in running two school lunch clubs on a Tuesday and Friday lunch times.

If interested please contact Chris on 07956396576 or email ignitewindermere@hotmail.com

All positions are subject to references and DBS check.

ON HOW TO BAFFLE THE CHURCH COMMITTEE

The Rectory
St. James the Least of All

My Dear Nephew Darren,

I was delighted to hear that you have been made chairman of the Missionary Sub-committee; it should help you to hone your skills in appearing to encourage committee members to contribute while ensuring that they only say the things you want to hear. It is a skill that needs not a little practice; democracy only works if all the important decisions have been made beforehand.



However, do remember that sub-committees are only formed in order either to kill an item stone dead, or to give the chairman of the main committee some time to decide what he wants, since he isn't sure how to handle the issue at that particular moment. I formed a sub-committee in 1999 to discuss Miss Fothergill's suggestion of creating a "water feature" on the Rector's Glebe land, as a way of celebrating the Millennium.

I noted at the time that no one wanted the thing on their own land. It's significant that whenever people suggest some imposing edifice, they always think it will be most appropriate either in the Rector's garden, or in some public place, well out of sight of their own homes.

While this particular group has been working away tirelessly, and endless masons and architects have been approached, a suitable design has yet to be presented. It looks as if a suggestion will eventually be considered by my hundredth successor, as we enter the third Millennium. That is the customary rate of progress for St. James the Least, which I find entirely satisfactory.

The procedure for decision-making is always the same: after enormous effort, the sub-committee will produce a carefully worded report, which will be circulated round all members of the church council. At the next meeting, they will be thanked profusely for all their hard work and the matter will be discussed at great length. It will then be proposed that the final decision will be taken at the next meeting, after everyone has time to consider the matter more thoroughly.

Come the next meeting, the item will somehow fail to appear on the agenda, and when it is raised in Any Other Business, it will be pointed out that it is now far too late in the evening to tackle such an important issue. From then on, you can be assured, it will sink without trace.

Always remember the golden rule: a church committee meeting consists of a body of people waiting to go home.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



If you think you've been a victim of online crime, get in touch with [Action Fraud](#), the national fraud and cyber-crime reporting centre run by the police. The [Action Fraud website](#) also has information to help you understand different types of online fraud and how to spot them before they cause any damage.

To protect your important information, your privacy and your money, follow the government's advice at cyberaware.gov.uk. There are simple steps you can take to improve the security of your online devices and avoid risky activity.

Ransomware is a kind of cyber attack that involves hackers taking control of a computer or mobile device and demanding payment.

Here are some ways to protect yourself from [ransomware](#).

Back up your files

The best [protection against ransomware](#) is to back up all of the information and files on your devices in a completely separate system. A good place to do this is on an external hard drive that isn't connected to the internet. This means that if you suffer an attack you won't lose any information to the hackers.

Be suspicious of emails, websites and apps

For ransomware to work hackers need to download malicious software onto a victim's computer. This is then used to launch the attack and encrypt files.

The most common ways for the software to be installed on a victim's device is through phishing emails, malicious adverts on websites, and questionable apps and programs. Never download an app that hasn't been verified by an official store, and read reviews before installing programs.

Use an antivirus program

Most antivirus programs can scan files to see if they might contain ransomware before downloading them. They can block secret installations from malicious adverts when you're browsing the web, and look for malware that may already be on a computer or device.

Always install updates

Companies often release software updates to fix vulnerabilities that can be exploited to install ransomware. It is therefore advisable to always download the newest version of a software as soon as it is available.

Mike (Ed)

THE ALLITHWAITE BLITZ

At approximately midnight on Sunday night/Monday morning 4/5th May 1941 a bomb was dropped on the houses in the middle of Holme Lane, Allithwaite. These houses had only been built in the previous 10 years.



No one was killed but one lady, Mrs Drinkall, lost the hearing in one ear and a lady in another house, Miss Byers, lost one of her eyes. Miss Byers had been a governess in Russia prior to the Russian Revolution.

One resident describes Wartbarrow Fell being lighted up with the incendiary bombs being dropped around the village.

(Holme Lane, Allithwaite, after the bomb blast of 4/5 May 1941.)

Allithwaite Blitz—Poem

In days of old great tales were told of heroes unafraid,
But I will tell what us befell on the night of the Allithwaite raid.

The tomcats growled, the tabbies howled Joe Rainford's hens had fits,
The cows all bawled, the old mare foaled on the night of the Allithwaite blitz.

A spotted dog went tearing past which no one could pursue.
A warden cried as the dog he espied "It'll win the waterloo"

Our Vicar opened wide his doors; a haven of refuge was that.
Folk came in droves and did not pause to wipe their feet on the mat.

And some to Kirk Head cave did run while bombs fell helter skelter,
But once in there they didn't care- t'was a natural air raid shelter.

Out of his bed, a joiner sped while bombs fell round the houses,
One hand he used to put out fires, the other to hold his trousers.

A Home Guard in the Home Lane blast in to wreckage was searching beneath.
He heard a voice: "I can't come out; I've lost my darned false teeth."

Said Bill to Sall:" don't fear we'll stick together through death or life."
But the light of a flare made poor Bill stare- he was holding another man's wife!

"Oh, what's that crash," two ladies cried as 'neath the bed they hid
It was only our Chief Warden, who'd through the skylight slid.

A blazing hen hut was the mark for the Nazi airman's bullets
Tom said to Frank "We'd better duck." Said Frank "Nay! save my pullets"

A brave young girl went dashing out to fight incendiary's flame.
Her elastic ripped, and down they slipped, but she went on just the same!

“Where’s my old cat,” a lady wailed, as among her ruins she searched.
When hope had passed she found him at last he was up the chimney perched.

Our butcher won his laurels too, for quickly on the alert,
He doused incendiaries by the score with nothing on but his shirt.

And Gillie Rigg was a lad again- Our goalie, six feet three-
When he saw that land mine coming he headed it into the sea!

And lots of other funny things did happen that Sunday night
Which only the man in the moon did see, and he keeps his secrets tight.

And so in future years to come, when we’re all laid to rest,
Our children’s bairns will tell their bairns how Allithwaite stood the test.

M.I.Brockbank.

Test your knowledge of the Old Testament Below are 15 anagrams of Books of the Old Testament. Can you work out what they are? Answers on page 22!

Burns me
Chair haze
Eds Jug
Evil is cut
Hail Mac
Hurt
I jam here
On gloom of sons
Our needy Tom
Rich clones
See sign
Select as ices
Threes
Tom anneals it
Used ox

Answers on page 22.



For more than 70 years, Christian Aid has fought poverty, strengthened the poor, and turned hope into action.

1940s

In the aftermath of World War II, British and Irish church leaders met, determined to do everything possible to help European refugees who had lost everything.

The name they gave themselves was Christian Reconstruction in Europe. Their purpose was not to evangelise, but to alleviate suffering for ordinary people, no matter what their faith.

Christian Reconstruction in Europe became a department of the British Council of Churches, and was eventually renamed the Department of Interchurch Aid and Refugee Service. In a decade, it raised £29,000.

1950s

Christian Aid was involved in the creation of Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) – an organisation dedicated to sending skilled volunteers to work in the developing world.

Christian Aid made sure that the public was aware of continuing problems in the world by organising the first Christian Aid Week in 1957.

1960s

In 1964, on the back of the success of Christian Aid Week, we changed our name to Christian Aid. The change of image worked, and our annual income reached £2.5 million by the end of the decade.

As world food shortages increased, Christian Aid began to look more deeply into the causes of poverty – not just at dealing with its symptoms. We began campaigning in earnest when we challenged the British government on its aid and trade policies in 1969.

1970s

Severe famines in Pakistan, Sudan and Ethiopia in the 1970s prompted a huge rise in public support for aid. However, it was becoming obvious that emergency relief wasn't enough. What starving people needed was a genuine solution, not hand-outs.

We saw that it was not just an act of nature that made people poor, but political and economic decisions. Alongside traditional relief and development, we started to consider how to work for people's rights.

By now we were working in 40 countries, funding more than 100 long-term development projects.

1980s

The 1980s saw a huge change in the way aid agencies operated. Large-scale fundraising events like Live Aid brought the troubles of the world to the public's attention as never before. More people were giving, and for the first time government funding was made available to Christian Aid.

By the end of the decade, Christian Aid's annual income had increased from £5.5 million in 1979 to £28 million in 1989. That same year, Christian Aid Week raised more than £6 million.

1990s

In the 1990s Christian Aid became one of the first aid agencies to highlight 'unsexy' and complex global economic issues.

Our celebrated Banking on the Poor campaign alerted people to the need to cancel Third World debt, while the culpability of the World Trade Organisation and International Monetary Fund was exposed in our Who Runs the World? campaign.

Christian Aid was also quick to respond to humanitarian crises in Rwanda, the Middle East and, at the end of the decade, working across ethnic and religious divides in Serbia, Bosnia and Kosovo.

2000s

The 21st century has brought new challenges to Christian Aid. The so-called war on terror, climate change and the increasing number of natural disasters, and the fact that almost half the world's population live on less than US\$2 a day, mean our work is needed more than ever.

In 2007 our annual income was £86.5 million and we now work with more than 650 overseas partners in around 50 countries. We are putting into practice our aim of turning hope into action.

But 60 years on from our founding, the fact that we're still here isn't a victory.

We won't stop now. We'll carry on tackling the causes of poverty. We'll continue to support local organisations to deliver real, practical change. We'll work so that everyone can fulfill their right to a decent life.

By inviting your friends, family and colleagues to a Big Brekkie fundraising breakfast, you can show love for people living in poverty and suffering injustice around the world.



St Mary's Church held their Big Brekkie fundraising on Saturday 20th May in which they raised £469.05 (at time of press, more funds still to be collected).

It was a time for inviting our friends, family and colleagues to a Big Brekkie fundraising breakfast, to show love for people living in poverty and suffering injustice around the world.

Isabel Davey

LETTER FROM A TRAINEE READER – Episode 4

Hello again and ‘home’ again. It’s funny to remember that I was apprehensive about my placement to begin with. Ulverston! Where? That’s the other side of the Levens estuary! Why do I have to do this? It felt like banishment. Similar thoughts went through my mind when, two days after the appalling incident at the Manchester Arena, we set off on the train on a planned visit to Kew Gardens. London!! Why? Why now? Let’s stay at home. But if I’m honest such thoughts do generally accompany me when I venture any great distance out of my comfort zone. I’m quite sure the group who recently visited Zululand must have had to soothe their own private doubts and fears about the journey.

But I have no regrets about visiting Kew; it was a beautiful sunny day in Richmond upon Thames. And I certainly have no regrets about my ‘banishment’ to far away Ulverston. I have returned from both, enriched and enlarged by my experiences. Life is a risky business and the majority of accidents happen in the home I’m reliably informed! So, do visit Kew Gardens if you have the chance. It’s incredible. And let’s celebrate the rich diversity of fellowship and friendship which we can discover, all over the world, or even just across the estuary.

Heather.



A newly discovered chapter on the book of Genesis has produced the answer to ‘Where do pets come from?’



And Adan said, ‘Lord when I was in the garden, you walked with me every day. Now I don’t see you anymore. I am lonely here and it is difficult for me to remember how much you love me.’

And God said, ‘No problem! I will create a companion for you and your wife that will be with you forever and who will be a reflection of my love for you, so you will love me even when you cannot see me. Regardless of how selfish or childish you are or unlovable you may be, this new companion will accept you as you are and will love you as I do, in spite of yourself.’

And God created a new animal to be a companion for Adam. And it was a good animal. And God was pleased. And the new animal was pleased to be with Adam and he wagged his tail.

And Adan said, ‘Lord, I have named all the animals in the Kingdom and I cannot think of a name for this new animal.’ And God said, ‘No problem!’ Because I have created this new animal to be a reflection of my love for you, his name will be a reflection of my own name and you will call his DOG! And dog lived with Adam and was a companion to him and loved him. And Adam was comforted. And God was pleased and saw that it was good. And dog was contented and wagged his tail.

After a while it came to pass that Adam’s guardian angel came to the Lord and said, ‘Lord, Adam has become filled with pride. He struts and preens himself like a peacock and he believes he is worthy of adoration. Dog has indeed taught him that he is loved, but perhaps too well.’

And God said, 'No problem!' I will create for him a companion who will be with him forever and who will see him as he is. The companion will remind him of his limitations, so he will know he is not always worthy of adoration.'

And God created Cat to be a companion for Adam. And Cat would not obey Adam. And when Adam gazed into Cat's eyes, he was reminded that he was not the Supreme Being. And Adam learnt humility. And God was pleased, and saw it was good. And Adam greatly improved. And Dog was happy and wagged his tail. And Cat didn't give a hoot one way or the other.

Keith Buckler

HOPE

*Replace your worry with hope.
And fulfil your hope with action.
Send positive thoughts to your most troubling situation.
Soon you'll find yourself starting to act on those thoughts.*

*Instead of worrying about the worst that could happen,
Allow yourself to hope for the best that can happen.
In your mind, make the most positive outcome real.*

*Hope for the best, with passion, conviction and faith.
For when you do, you'll begin to see real,
Workable ways to get there.*

*There is no situation so desperate that it cannot be turned around.
Always, there is a place and a purpose for hope.
Hope for the best, and let that hope push you forward.
With hope in your heart, you're well on your way.*

~~ unknown

On a grave from the 1880s in Nantucket, Massachusetts:

*Under the sod and under the trees,
Lies the body of Jonathan Pease.
He is not here, there's only the pod,
Pease shelled out and went to God.*



WE'VE GOT A NEW WORD: "POST TRUTH"

The Oxford Dictionaries selected "post-truth" as their 2106 word of the year. Originally coined in the 1990's, it came to the fore as a description of the way the UK Referendum and the US Presidential election were fought last year.

Rather than concentrating on facts and policies, these campaigns relied on the repetition on unsubstantiated claims and stories; emotion won over argument. In an uncharacteristically severe reproof, Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury described all this as the "fact-free manipulation of emotion by popular adventurers."

In the TV panel game "Would I lie to You?" each participant tells a personal story, and the opposing team has to decide whether it's true or a lie. It only works because, at the end, the storytellers are honour-bound to admit whether or not they have told the truth. Honesty has to prevail or the game wouldn't work.

Telling the truth isn't easy and like the fabled angler who exaggerated the size of the fish which got away, many of us have caught ourselves out embroidering the facts. "Post-truth" means that none of this matters. It was entertaining when a Sunday newspaper carried these headlines: "London Bus Found Frozen in Antarctic ice and World War 2 Bomber Found on the Moon." Whether or not they were true is irrelevant.

"What is truth?" asked Pontius Pilate, as he handed Jesus over to be crucified. He wasn't to know that history would record him as a failure, whereas his prisoner would be worshipped as "the Way, the Truth and the Life."

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things." Philippians 4:8

"Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight." Proverbs 12:22

"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

Actual call centre conversation!

Samsung Electronics

Caller: 'Can you give me the telephone number for Jack?'

Operator: 'I'm sorry, sir, I don't understand who you are talking about.'

Caller: 'On page 1, section 5, of the user guide it clearly states that I need to unplug the fax machine from the AC wall socket and Telephone Jack before cleaning. Now, can you give me the Number for Jack?'

Operator: 'I think it means the telephone plug on the wall.'

WHEN A VICAR WON WIMBLEDON

3rd July 2017 sees the start of Wimbledon. “Lawn Tennis,” wrote J.B. Priestley, “is a name with the mildest associations. It suggests a companion pastime to croquet, a late-Victorian thing, bright with petticoats and delicately clouded with curates.”

So it seemed with the development of Wimbledon’s All England Lawn Tennis Club from its beginnings in 1869 as a Croquet Club, at which “Gentlemen are requested not to play in their shirt sleeves when ladies are present.” However, with the addition of tennis courts to the grounds, the new game gained ascendancy, and the first Wimbledon Tennis Championships took place in 1877.

It was at the third tournament of 1879 that the Rev J.T. Hartley, vicar of Burneston in Yorkshire, won the All-Comers Gentlemen’s Singles out of an entry of 45 competitors at Wimbledon, and repeated the feat the following year. On the middle Sunday of the tournament, he was obliged to dash back to Yorkshire to deliver his church sermon before returning once again to complete his triumph at the All-England Club.



PRAYER FOR HEALING

No matter how many miracles the health services provide, no procedure or prescription is a complete panacea. Medics can now do so much that it almost shocks us to hear they have no treatment to heal a particular ailment or condition. However, the acknowledged complex connections between the workings of body, mind and spirit offer many unexplored possibilities.

Healing in many forms is long-established within Christian Ministry. Many of our great hospitals were founded by the Church, missionaries sent around the world in past centuries took with them a rudimentary knowledge of medicine, and still many of those offering care to the sick and frail, wherever they are, do so in Christian love.

Less widely recognised, sometimes, is that prayer for wholeness is another integral part of the Church’s healing ministry. Whatever ails – tumour or toothache, broken leg or broken heart, dispute between neighbours or nations – everyone needs healing somewhere, at some time.

Such prayer may be accompanied by the one ministering softly placing their hands on your head, shoulders or arms to present a channel for God’s healing power – but only if you are agreeable to such contact

GOING ABROAD?

When I was a lad, there was no question of where we went for our holidays! If we went anywhere away from home, it was to the nearest seaside centre. Not till I left school did we go overseas to the Isle of Man. Going abroad was out of the question – like men walking on the moon. But today package holidays cost little more than a fortnight in Devon or Scotland. More and more people are travelling overseas either on holiday or for business reasons.

A friend of mine visiting Malta, until recently one of the least evangelised countries in Europe, but one most open to the gospel, found only four Gideon's trying to distribute Bibles to the thousands of hotels, schools and holiday apartments. The local Anglican minister, who used to work in Lancashire, might well have felt the lack of fellowship disheartening. When we travel abroad on holiday we have a wonderful opportunity to minister encouragement.

I remember visiting an English speaking church near a military airbase in Rimini and learnt that although nearly a million Brits visited that coastline every summer, the church was lucky if a dozen came through their doors, and there were then no other English speaking churches around.

Before we go abroad, we should put on our travel check list. 'Possible local Christian contacts.', as Alan and Chris Jones have done on their East European safari. Information is readily available from many sources: Operation World will tell of missionary societies, ICS of Anglican churches and people who have been to your destination before will all be willing to help. But one must remember that the people we visit have often full time jobs to do and often very limited funds so they are not a source of accommodation, except in an emergency.

Many such visits have led to people taking one of many opportunities to spend a week or more working abroad as with OM, WYAM or as a SPOT worker. Missionary societies have hundreds of details of available work overseas with missionaries desperately needing assistance distributing literature, for example.

Of course, tourists come to UK by their thousands, many can be lonely and often feel lost even in Grange or Lakeside. Refugees flee to towns seeking a new life, but in one African city, I noticed only Moslems waiting at the bus termini to welcome them. Like the Marshalls in Malta, many go to foreign lands to help lonely refugees, but we have a mission field on our doorstep. Foreign students at Uni often can't afford to go to their home country at vacation time. We have welcomed students who came as strangers to share our Christmas and have remained as lifelong friends.

In Thailand, I met a Malay nurse who had come to Britain to study, been befriended by a local Christian and introduced to Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, she returned to her home country as a missionary to share her newfound faith with her family and friends - no culture shock, no language difficulties- just an unbelievable love for Jesus and those for whom He died.

I wonder what would happen if, during his years in Bristol, Ghandi had been shown more Christian love, or Julius Nyerere in Edinburgh, or President Gaddafi while he studied close to Wycliffe Bible School in Oxfordshire or Idi Amin at a British Military academy. Friends International or UCCF will be delighted to help you to find a stranger in a strange land who has temporarily become your neighbour, doesn't Jesus say something about loving our neighbours?

Keith Buckler

FUNNY, ISN'T IT!

Funny how a £5 note "looks" so big when you take it to church, but so small when you take it to the shopping centre.

Funny how long it takes to serve God for an hour, but how quickly a team plays 90 minutes of football.

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but don't have any trouble thinking of things to say to a friend.

Funny how we get thrilled when a football game goes into extra time, but complain when a sermon is longer than the regular time.

Funny how hard it is to read a chapter in the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a bestselling novel.

Funny how people want to get a front row seat at any game or concert, but scramble to get a back seat at church services.

Funny how we need 2 or 3 weeks' advance notice to fit a church event into our schedule, but can adjust our schedule for other events at the last moment

Funny how hard it is for people to learn a simple gospel passage well enough to tell others, but how simple it is for the same people to understand and repeat gossip.

Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, but question what the Bible says.

Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven provided they do not have to believe, or to think, or to say, or do anything.

Funny how you can send a thousand 'jokes' through e-mail and they spread like wildfire, but when you start sending messages regarding Jesus, people think twice about sharing.

FUNNY, ISN'T IT? are you laughing? are you thinking? spread the word and give thanks to the Lord for He is good.



The Bulletin Board

Over the last few years, churches across Cumbria have been talking, praying and planning together. Every month we have 'get togethers' for all ages and backgrounds to come together, everyone is welcome, do come and join us.

Friday 30th June outdoor worship will be for school children across the Cartmel Peninsular at Flookburgh between 1pm – 3pm

Saturday 1st July open worship at Abbot Hall between 10.30am – 1pm, finishing with a BBQ (BBQ cost £5 per family, £2 per adult), various walks, games or other events making it a 'Fun Saturday'. All are welcome.

Sunday 2nd July, various events finishing with a picnic at St Mary's.

Sunday 30th July let's do something different! Open to ideas. St Mary's Church, Allithwaite outdoor worship with St John's Flookburgh.

Saturday 19th August, family walk and picnic.

Sunday 17th September Outdoor baptisms, place to be confirmed. Confirmation service at St Mary's 6pm with Bishop James. If you are interested in either being baptised and/or confirmed, please speak with either Rev Rach or Rev Andrew. Confirmation classes will commence in July.

Sunday 1st October, Harvest Festival and Lunch, visit of CRMI (Children of Hope).

Saturday 11th November, Curry night!

Sunday 12th November, Service of Remembrance

Sunday 24th December, Christingle Service.

Saturday morning prayers. Meet at St Mary's Church every Saturday morning at 9am for an informal time of prayer. All are welcome.

Moving Mountains. The next meeting will be on **Thursday 13th July at 7.30pm** at St Mary's Church. All are welcome whether you came to the first meeting or not. Please continue to pray for God's guidance as we seek to do His will across the Peninsula.

FINAL THOUGHTS ...

No man ever said, at the end of his days, 'I have read my Bible too much; I have thought of God too much; I have prayed too much; I have been too careful with my soul'.

Spirituality without a prayer life is no spirituality at all, and it will not last beyond the first defects. Prayer is an opening of the self so that the World of God can break in and make us new.

Prayer unmask. Prayer converts. Prayer impels. Prayer sustains us on the way. Pray for the grace it will take to continue what you would like to quit.

Happy moments, praise God. Difficult moments, seek God. Quiet moments, worship God. Painful moments, trust God. Every moment, thank God.

Anon

Old Testament Anagrams - Answers

Numbers
Zechariah
Judges
Leviticus
Malachi
Ruth
Jeremiah
Song of Solomon
Deuteronomy
Chronicles
Genesis
Ecclesiastes
Esther
Lamentations
Exodus



*Copy for Next issue by the end of August
please for the next issue.*