

PASTORAL LETTER

The Vicarage,
Penny Bridge
ULVERSTON.
LA12 7RQ

February 2020

Dear Friends

PRESENT

The New Year has come and passed, the Christmas season is over, the baubles have been put away and the Xmas tree has been taken down. This can be a difficult moment for some people, in the same way that the absent Xmas tree can leave a gap in the living room, so the absence of festivities can feel like a gap in some people's lives – they feel like the 1970s group Wizzard, “I wish it could be Christmas every day”.

On the other hand, other people can never get on to the next thing soon enough. No sooner than all the Xmas presents have been opened, the turkey carved and the Queen's Speech has finished, than they are packing up the Xmas things for another year. It is a case of “roll on the New Year” and all that it brings. Some people want to cling to the past and fear the future, whereas other people dash into the future and throw away the past.

Both of these sentiments are understandable. As human beings we want security, and avoiding the future and living in the past can give the illusion of security. In the same way, as human beings we want to forget our mistakes and failures, and start again, and only the future can offer that. But, as human beings we can neither live in the past nor live in the future. We can only live in the present, we can only do things in the present, we are stuck in time and space. However, this is not the case for God. God is outside of time and space and for Him, yesterday is the same as today or as tomorrow. For God, your past and your future is as present as the present moment is to you.

When Moses and the Israelites were facing the impassable Red Sea with the Egyptian army bearing down on them from behind, the LORD God said to Moses in Exodus 14.14,

“The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still”

Our prayer for you and your family is that you can remember 2019 with forgiveness, and look forward to 2020 and beyond with hope, and both in the confidence that the LORD God will fight for you, if you remain still and dependent on Him.

Blessings in Christ

Brian & Ann



COLTON CHRONICLES

DECEMBER: From Advent to New Year may be but a faded memory and yet it was memorable in that we had some beautiful services that would not have happened if it were not for the dedicated efforts of the faithful few. We give thanks to those who led are services for our organist and for those who not only decorated the church so wonderfully and well but did, what is taken for granted, by setting up the church and providing drinks etc in the Hall.

There was, however one particularly memorable Sunday, Advent, when the knowledgeable helpers were unable to attend which left three, somewhat ignorant of what needed to be done helpers, struggling. Fortunately, our vicar came to the rescue and all went well. No names but particular thanks to the lady who singlehanded organise and served the after-service refreshments.

BENEFICE: Many of you will have received the first benefice magazine and enjoyed the information and perhaps even the advertisements which brought back thoughts of the origin of the Colton Parish News.

As far as we know it was in existence in the latter years of the 19th.C and served the parishes of Colton, Rusland, Satterthwaite and Finsthwaite. In the early 20th.C issues there were but three pages of information covering all the parishes with similar comments to those we use today. The remainder was ‘Nationally imported’ and like our Benefice magazine included advertisements, mainly from shops in Ulverston. Of some interest

was Dickenson's, the shoe shop that recently closed and a music shop, probably the one that still exists in Queen Street.

The 'Carols Round the Tree' on Christmas Eve was exceptionally well attended, lustily led by Jane Patton whom we thank and we also thank Kath & Nigel Barton of White Hart fame for their gifts of mulled wine and mince pies. The collection raised £277.83 for the North West Air Ambulance.



PARISH NEWS

Congratulations: Well hardly, as it is more 'sackcloth and ashes.' In December we congratulated Mr & Mrs Dean on their wedding anniversary but due to a slip of the finger on the keyboard it read 60 instead of 50. The dear couple were not amused especially Mrs, who does not take prisoners. This editor's apology, but then, she could have been a child bride!



The annual New Year's Eve Dinner at the White Hart attracted 22 locals who enjoyed excellent company and delicious food. Thanks go to apprentice Jilly Atherton for all the arrangements. The usual arranger, David Hamer, was unavailable – playing golf?

Beware, for Jilly has an obsession - glitter! If you ever receive a card from her, be careful otherwise you will spend some considerable time cleaning up myriads of tiny sparkling bits!!!



Cinema Club: Only six more films to the end of the season and these are some of the best plus an 'extra' on **Tuesday 4 February;** Supper at the Manor, **7:00pm** followed by '*Capharnaum/Capernaum*'. On **Saturday 15 February, 7:30pm** (repeated on Sunday, if necessary) we are showing the multi-winning '*The Favourite*' with Olivia Coleman.

And on **Saturday 22 February, 7:30pm, extra, extra** – '*Neither Wolf nor Dog*' Based on a best-selling Native American novel where a Lakota elder sucks a white author into a road trip through the heart of the contemporary

Native American landscape to open his eyes to reality . There is a remarkable performance from 95 year old Lakota Elder, Dave Bald Eagle.

Book as usual with Carol crimcneill@gmail.com

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Oxen Park Reading Room: The refurbishment is almost complete and almost unrecognizable apart from the green look and we couldn't possibly change that. – look out for special events over the coming year.

We still have 3 more of our fund-raising presentations. **Friday 7 February** – Stephen Sykes, who lives at Hill Top (Ealinghearth) will relate stories about the times that Arthur Ransome lived there.

These are all at **The Carthouse 7:30pm** and it's best to book ahead to secure a seat. crimcneill@gmail.com.

The Kevin Baverstock & Suzanne Tiplady presentation was hugely well received giving everyone a much-enlightened historical view of the old coffin route from Hawkshead to Dalton. We learnt why bodies were carried feet first and why the route zig zagged over any becks in the way. Those fell spirits needed to be respected.

. Rusland Horizons Trust - What's On?

Greenwood Trails Accompanied Walk - Sunday 9 February: The Eight Greenwood Trails walks throughout the Rusland Valley are proving very popular. We will be organising a number of guided walks along these trails, the first being Greenwood Trails 4: Oxen Park to Bethcar Moor. There will be a choice of two guided routes, both starting and finishing at Abbot Park Farm, with the option of tea and scones (for a small fee). Full details and registration information can be found on the Rusland Horizons website.

Polytunnel Project Update: The Polytunnel Project, which will focus on growing trees from seed and wildflower seedlings, is making good progress. A location has now been established along with sponsorship for the initial purchase of the polytunnel. A volunteer Project Leader has been confirmed with additional expressions of interest to help from others. The

aim is to involve many more members of the community, from the youngest to the oldest, so why not get involved?

Get Writing in 2020! As part of the Rusland Horizons 2020 Arts Initiative, there will be three creative writing workshops held on **Saturday 4 April - 2 May and 4 July**. The workshops will provide a great opportunity to work with the talented, Ulverston based, Caroline Gilfillan; experienced tutor, published author of poetry and fiction and winner of several creative writing prizes. Each workshop will focus on the working landscape and natural world of the Rusland Valley. More details will be available on the website soon.

For more details, or to get involved, in any of the Rusland Horizons Trust projects please visit the website <http://www.ruslandhorizons.org>
email <mailto:hello@ruslandhorizonstrust.org>



BOUTH WOMENS INSTITUTE

Our Christmas Party was its usual success and well attended and although it lacked its famed entertainment Brenda Patton's recital of Lancashire verse was superb and much appreciated.

Our January meeting did not go as planned as the speaker Philip Caine failed to turn up as a result of a booking mix up, on his part. Fortunately, 'Nuclear' Roger Coates OBE saved the night by giving an off the cuff talk on his work, for the U. N., about nuclear waste, which was quite an eye opener and very interesting.

Everyone enjoyed the evening and are looking forward to our next meeting which will take place on **Wednesday 12 February** and for a change at **11:00am** in the morning, to see if it is easier for members on these dark nights. There is no speaker, just a social meeting. Please note the change of time *'this is just a trial'*



COLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Website: Good progress is being made with respect to the development of the new Parish website with plans to launch it early in February, in the

meantime apologies from me for the lack of website whilst we do this work. I hope that the local community take the time to explore it and let me have any comments on style and content. In particular the “Community News” section is designed for local groups and individuals to advertise local events, meetings, e.g. WI, village green and village hall committees, coffee mornings etc and my intention is to keep it current and relevant which I can only do with your input and contribution. Please email me with what is happening in your local area and community and I will do my utmost to post it for others to read and support where necessary.

Community Plan and Parish priorities: Cllr Hoyle is working on an update of the original 2015 Parish plan to bring it up to date for 2020 and by involving Councillors new and “old” in reviewing their sections. At the Parish Council meeting we also reviewed all the portfolios and so we have three fresh pairs of eyes joining in with their colleagues in sharing Councillor “business” including the Parish Plan review and update. We would welcome input from our Parishioners in updating the Plan and agreeing our priorities so watch this space for next steps, if you have any ideas on how we can best involve YOU in this please email me!

Highways and Road Safety: Cllr Brereton from Cumbria County Council gave an update on progress being made in setting up a meeting to discuss the A590 and road safety. A date has not yet been agreed because the invitees include a wide group of local politicians, opinion leaders and the media so many diaries are being consulted, information will be provided once the date and venue is known!

The Parish Lengthsman, Archie Workman, has appeared in the local press again, as our local minor celebrity, though as part of his day job he is busy unblocking drains, repairing signs etc and generally keeping the roads safe for us. Please let me know if there are any highways issues in your area and as we are about to experience winter will you also keep an eye on your nearest grit bins so that we can get them filled up in good time before a freeze. Part of my role is to support Archie to do his job and I will let Archie know of any issues that you report to me, Cllr Hoyle also works closely with Archie so can also be contacted.

Planning: The Parish Council considers and responds to planning application and one which was discussed at great length at the Parish Council meeting was the submission number 7/2019/5835 on the planning section of the website www.lakedistrict.gov.uk relating to planned developments at the Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge. The many documents which can be accessed from the website describe their plans to build a new wing with to the existing hotel for the creation of a swimming pool, spa facilities, hotel rooms with car parking and landscaping. As this is such a significant development the Parish Council suggest that Parishioners take the time to consider and provide their views on the development directly to the LDNPA.

Finances: The Parish Council agreed the budget for 2020/21 and cheques were signed for the successful applicants for funding from the Community Grant funds, including tables for Oxen Park Reading Rooms, a new sign for Rookhow Bunkbarn, lighting for Lakeside and Finsthwaite Village Hall and a vacuum cleaner for Rusland Reading Rooms. A further opportunity for a grant is open as we speak, and applications will be discussed at the next meeting.

Parish Elections: Parish Council, amongst other SLDC positions, elections are scheduled for 7 May 2020 with much of the planning taking place in March. I have advised Colton Parish Councillors of this and, as there may be one or more vacancies, there is an opportunity for Parishioners to think about whether you wish to apply once the process has started. Feel free to ask for more information if you are interested and once the new website is launched there will be a wealth of information for potential new councillors to read through.

The next meeting will take place on **Monday 10 February, 7:00pm, Finsthwaite Village Hall** (Chair's Surgery at 6:30), feel free to come along and learn more about your local community, all welcome!

Julie Hendry, Clerk to Council - clerk@coltonparishcouncil.org.uk



*“What is better than wisdom? Woman. And what is better than a good woman.
Nothing.”*

Geoffrey Chaucer

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU

I bought a present for a special anniversary from an online store. I paid extra for next day delivery but it hasn't arrived. The online store has said my parcel is with the delivery company. I tried to contact the delivery company but wasn't able to speak with anyone. What can I do?

You paid for next day delivery so your goods should be delivered on the agreed date. It's the seller's responsibility to make sure the item is delivered. They should chase the courier - it's not your responsibility.

You can cancel your order and ask for your money back because you haven't received your goods on the agreed date. Tell the seller it is "a breach of contract under the Consumer Rights Act 2015" - as the delivery date was essential and they didn't meet it.

You could try to get your special present from another online store or a local shop, if there is time.

You can find useful template letters and information about your rights on the [Citizens Advice website](#).

Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice on any aspect of debt, consumer problems, benefits, housing, employment or any other problems. We can give detailed advice over the phone – telephone 03444 111 444. For email see our website: www.southlakescab.org.uk. We have various outlets across South Lakeland if an appointment is required. For Money Advice and for on-going enquiries please call 015394 46464.



Shepherdess

All day my sheep have mingled with yours. They strayed.

Into your valley seeking a change of ground.

Held and bemused with what they and I had found,

Pastures and wonders, heedlessly I delayed.

Now it is late. The tracks leading home are steep,

The stars and landmarks in your country are strange.

How can I take my sheep back over the range?

Shepherdess, show me now where I may sleep.

DIARY DATES

- 2 February **Presentation of Christ in the Temple – Morning Worship, 9:30am.**
- 4 February Cinema Club, 7:00pm.
- 7 February Oxen Park Reading Room, Cart House, 7:30pm.
- 9 February **Combined Holy Communion, Colton, 10:30am.**
Rusland Horizons – Walk.
- 10 February Colton Parish Council Meeting, Finsthwaite Village Hall, 7:00pm.
- 12 February Bouth W I Meeting, Village Hall. Note: **11:00am.**
- 15 February Cinema Club, 7:30pm.
- 16 February **Morning Worship, 9:30am.**
- 22 February Cinema Club, 7:30pm.
- 23 February **Holy Communion, 9:30am.**
- 26 February **Ash Wednesday, Service, St. Mary the Virgin, Penny Bridge, 7:30pm.**



Colton Church Readers & Prayer Leaders Month February 2020

Date / Service	Readers Names	Lessons	Prayer Leaders
2 February	Presentation of Christ in the Temple		
Morning Worship	Gordon Pickles	Malachi 3: 1- 5	Susan King
9:30pm. <i>Pam</i>	Jane Pickles	Luke 2:22-40	

9 February	Third Sunday before Lent – Combined Service, Colton		
Holy Communion	Susan Smith	1 Corinthians 2: 1-12	Judy Redhead
10:30am <i>Vicar</i>	Graham Wallace	Matthew 5:13-20	

16 February	Second Sunday before Lent		
Morning Worship	Margaret Sanders	Genesis 1:1-2 -3	John Tarr
9:30am <i>Donald</i>	Roderick Smith	Matthew 6:25-34	

26 February	Ash Wednesday		
Service Booklet	N A	Isaiah 58: 1-12	N A
9:30am <i>Vicar</i>	N A	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	

SIDEPERSONS ROTA

2 February Mrs. Susan King

9 February Mr. Roderick Smith

16 February Mrs. Margaret Sanders

23 February Mrs. Susan Smith

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FLOWER ROTA

2 February Mrs. Elspeth Cooper

9 February Mrs. Elspeth Cooper

16 February Mrs. Susan Smith

23 February Mrs. Susan Smith

26 February - LENT

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£ Note £: As we are now into the 25th. year as your editor and the first year of a new decade the Colton Parish News in 2020 will be 'Free of Charge'. *Donald.*

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