

November 2025 -----BENEFICE NEWS-----November 2025

For enquiries please contact Revd Dr Robert Brown

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

Greenholme, Bewcastle, Cumbria, CA6 6PWT: 016977 48438

email: Robert.Brown@BewcastleHouseOfPrayer.org.uk

Date	Sunday	Bewcastle	Stapleton	Hethersgill	Kirklington
2 nd Nov	All Saints			10 am HC	
9 th Nov	Remembrance	10.55 am Remembrance	10.55 am Remembrance		
16 th Nov	2 nd Before Advent				10 am HC*
23 rd Nov	Christ the King	3 pm HC			
30 th Nov	Advent			10 am HC	
7 th Dec	Advent 2		10 am Carol Service		

HC = Holy Communion, MP = Morning Prayer, EP = Evening Prayer

* Taken by Archdeacon the Ven Revd Ruth Newton

Knowe United Reformed Church, Bewcastle

2.15 pm

Prayer for the Month

Be the strength of God between me and each weakness; be the light of God between me and each darkness; be the joy of God between me and each sadness; be the calm of God between me and each madness; be the life of God between me and each death; be the Spirit of God between me and each breath; be the love of God between me and each sigh; be the presence of God with me when I die.

Amen

From the Registers

Weddings

Oliver O'Neil and Abigail Ellen Charnock at St Cuthbert Bewcastle on Saturday 23rd August 2025

Funerals

Joseph Henry ("Harry") Storrow, 83 of 30 Sleetbeck Rd, Sleetbeck, at St Mary Stapleton on Saturday 27th September 2025

Church Notices

Monday 3rd November 7 pm Kirklington & Hethersgill PCC at Nether Onset Farm

Monday 10th November 7 pm Stapleton PCC at Soutermoor

Please note evening services at Bewcastle during the winter will be held at 3 pm instead of the usual 6 pm in summer.

If you know of someone who would be unable to attend church but would like to receive communion at home, or would appreciate a visit from me, please do let me know. My contact details are below and at the top of the newsletter.

If anyone would like to talk to me about anything (doesn't need to be church-related, for example if you don't know where to turn for help or someone to speak to), please do feel free to contact me. Conversations will always be confidential. My normal parish working days are Monday and Friday (plus Sundays) but I will always try and find time to listen. Phone no: 016977 48438, email:

Robert.Brown@BewcastleHouseOfPrayer.org.uk

A selection of podcast sermons can be found on the [Bewcastle House of Prayer](#) website under the 'Podcasts' menu tab.

"At last, we have a new ABC (Archbishop of Canterbury!) Many people wiser and better informed than I have written about her appointment. This is an open letter to her from me - an ordinary priest - albeit a Bishop for the last 31 years

Dear Sarah,

We have never met - let alone spoken - but congratulations on your new appointment.

You have however my sympathy. Even if you were the Archangel Gabriel you would have it, for yours is an impossible task. Not only will you have your own Diocese of Canterbury to care for, but you will have oversight of every other Diocese in our Country. Add to this your responsibility for the Anglican Communion worldwide, and your duty to speak to any who are prepared to listen to you about issues of National and Worldwide importance. And wellIt's an impossible brief!

And you will do all this as a woman. 31 years ago, I was privileged to play a minor part in the Ordination of the first tranche of women priests in the Diocese of St. Albans. It was then I discovered just how many wonderful and much needed gifts they brought with them - not just as priests but later in several cases as Bishops too. Some became personal friends, and throughout the Church their ministry has been widely welcomed. But not by all. A minority are still opposed - especially in countries like Africa. So, (as you know) you will face opposition. When you do, please remember just how many people support you. You will be BRILLIANT!

In earlier days you were a nurse - latterly a Chief Nursing Officer. So, you will bring with you your unique gifts of empathy and compassion as well as the discipline that nursing demands. These will be particularly appreciated by any who may have Gender Issues or who have been wounded by the many failings of our Church in Safeguarding.

Sarah, I pray that God will give you strength and wisdom when the pressure is on. Wisdom to find the right colleagues to stand beside you. And that you may have the strength of character to listen to them, trust them and to delegate.

I end with one heartfelt plea. Along with thousands of other Christians I have watched with dismay the steady erosion of the role of the traditional parish priest over these last 20 years. In so many cases they have been replaced by so-called experts, or had their parishes enlarged by adding to them other parishes, to the point where in many cases they have little opportunity to be other than full time administrators of "Holy Things" - Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Gone (or nearly gone) is the vision of the parish priest (like the traditional family doctor), being there as everyone's friend regardless of faith or circumstance, which for centuries has been one of the glories of the Church of England. Priests are there in the name of Christ to love and to care, to serve, to visit and to befriend. No longer is this the case and congregations everywhere miss it grievously. Please do your best to help us restore it.

Sarah, I wish you well. Wrap yourself in God. Listen to and trust Him in all that He gives you to do. Here in this northern part of Cumbria we shall remember you daily in our love and prayers. Thank you for having the courage to say "YES" to God's impossible call." As I say on many occasions to others. "YOU WILL BE A STAR"! And I mean it.

Bishop John

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Monday 27th October 8 pm Folk Tunes Sessions at the Black Lion, Hethersgill. All welcome

Tuesday 28th October 2 pm The Knowe URC Poetry Group at Roadhead Hall. Everyone welcome to join an informal group to read poems and prose, listen to music and enjoy some conversation, tea and cake. Theme: All Hallow's Eve. Free entry, but a small donation to hall hire appreciated

Saturday 1st November 8 pm Stapleton Public Hall Dance with John & Robbie. Details Mary Thompson 016977 48379

Tuesday 4th November 11 am – 2 pm Bewcastle Mini Hub at Roadhead Hall. Come for a chat and free coffee in the supper room; scones and cakes for sale

Wednesday 12th November 7.30 pm Stapleton WI "Old Fireplace Stories" by Chrissy Craghill. Visitors welcome. For more details about WI contact the President Tel 07398 130 363.

Friday 14th November from 5 pm Kirkups Fish and Chip Van at Roadhead hall. Slots from, 5pm every 15 minutes till 7pm. Pre-order by calling Margaret on 07838 930984. Takeaway or sit in, free hot drinks served by the Bewcastle Hub, please support this, as we are very grateful to Kirkups for coming out and giving us such a great service.

Saturday 15th November 7.30 – 11 pm Hethersgill Parish Hall Dance with John & Bobby. Coffee, tea and biscuits. Details Irene 01228 675389

Sunday 16th November 10.30 am - 2 pm Bewcastle Hub at Roadhead Hall. Community drop in event - free entry and refreshments. Cakes, bacon rolls, crafts and produce for sale. All welcome.

Tuesday 18th November at Hethersgill Parish Hall Community Lunch - it is hoped to start a Community Lunch Club in Hethersgill Parish Hall in conjunction with Brampton & Beyond Community Trust. It would be a regular social gathering where local residents can enjoy lunch together in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Contact Alison Sisson 01228 675378 or ring Brampton Community Centre 016977 45023 or email admin@bramptoncc.org.uk for details or to express an interest.

Thurs 20th – Mon 24th November 10am – 5 pm Christmas Craft Fair at Dacre Hall, Lanercost

Friday 21st November 7.30 pm Bewcastle Heritage Society Autumn Ceilidh Night at Roadhead Hall. with Iain Anderson. 2 course hot supper of pie, mash and peas with dessert. Bar available. Tickets £12.50. Please book in advance by Fri 15th Nov with Barbara 016977 48212, Anne 07765 928403, or Margaret 07838 930984

Monday 24th November 8 pm Folk Tunes Sessions at the Black Lion, Hethersgill. All welcome to come along and play or listen. Some tunes to ensure we have something in common to play can be found on the [Bewcastle House of Prayer](http://BewcastleHouseofPrayer.org.uk) website. Music can be found by searching for them on TheSession.org website

Tuesday 25th November 2 pm The Knowe URC Poetry Group at Roadhead Hall. Everyone welcome to join an informal group to read poems and prose, listen to music and enjoy some conversation, tea and cake. Theme: Advent & Winter: Light & Darkness. Free entry, but a small donation to hall hire appreciated

Saturday 29th November 2 pm Stapleton PCC Christmas Fair at Stapleton Hall. Stalls include cakes and preserves, tombola, raffles and competition. Offers to help or donations for stalls greatly appreciated. Contact any member of the PCC.

Saturday 29th November 5 pm Hethersgill's Christmas Celebrations. Mulled wine and mince pies at the hall, followed by a Christmas concert by Dalston Male Voice Choir. Bar and food available by Black Lion pub and Rigg Head farm (cash only). Donations welcome towards cost of the event. Raffle, including Christmas Hamper. Christmas Toy donation for local children.

Claiming Dates

Saturday 6th December Stapleton Public Hall Dance with Brian Griffin

Line Dancing Classes: Every Monday 7.30 - 9 pm at Stapleton Public Hall. Ann Robb 07855 919368
Anyone who can't attend please let Ann Robb know. Thanks

Stapleton Knit and Natter Group: Every Tuesday 7 pm in Stapleton Hall. **Carol 01697 543094**

Beading Classes: Wednesday 1.30 – 3.30 pm fortnightly. Details Christine Batey 01228 791248

Stapleton WI: 2nd Wednesday of every month 7.30 pm at Stapleton Hall

Yoga: Every Thursday 6 pm in Hethersgill Parish Hall

Carpet Bowling: Every Thursday in Stapleton Hall

Badminton: Every Thursday 7.30 – 9.30 pm at Hethersgill Parish Hall

November 2025-----NEWS AND THANKS November 2025

Hethersgill's Christmas Toy Appeal. Can you donate a Christmas toy? On behalf of Brampton Food Bank and Mission Christmas (Carlisle area), we are collecting toys for local children (0 – 18 years old) who may otherwise go without this Christmas. Please take your unwrapped children's gift to the Black Lion Pub, Hethersgill. The last day to donate is Sunday 7th December.

St Mary's Church PCC ask that people tending graves in the churchyard take plastic wreaths and flowers away with them and do not put them in the compost heap. Thank you.

Hethersgill Church: A big thankyou to everyone who helps keep Hethersgill church & church yard so lovely. If you have any spare time to help in anyway eg. grass cutting/strimming/cleaning please contact Irene 01228 675389 or Madge 01228 675568.

Hethersgill Village Hall All enquiries/bookings please contact Elsie Elliott 01228 675336 or Christine Falder 07790 302016

Hethersgill Parish Hall 100 Club. Winners: October winners: 1st Katie Graham; **2nd;** Mary McCormick; **3rd** Julie Bainbridge. Drawn at Stapleton WI.
For Details call Irene on 01228 675389. Thank you for all your support

Stapleton Public Hall can be booked or enquiries made by email bookings@stapletonpublichall.co.uk or calling Eileen on 016977 3196.

Shankhill C of E Primary School and Nursery - We have places throughout school for children aged 3 - 11, with free 15 & 30 hours places for children aged 3+ Mon-Fri 8.45-3.30 pm, with the option of Breakfast Club for everyone from 07:45 to 8:45, and After-School Clubs/extended childcare from 3:30 to 5:30. Please call 01228 577264 or email office@shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk for more information

Shankhill Parent & Toddler Group every Tues 1:30 –3:20pm during term time. 01228 577264
Updates on our Facebook page

Bewcastle Primary School and Nursery – places available throughout school for children aged 3 – 11. We now offer wrap around care, 8am -5pm. For further information please call 016977 48662 or email admin@bewcastle.cumbria.sch.uk

Bewcastle School Nursery – Nursery places available for children aged 3+, full and part time places available. For further information please call 016977 48662 or emailadmin@bewcastle.cumbria.sch.uk

Bewcastle Scouts Contact. Simon Barrett 01228 497970 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 **December 2025** issue is Saturday **15th November** to Tricia Coombe, Damhead, Lyneholmeform, Roweltown, CA6 6LQ. 016977 48833 or triciacoombe@damhead.me