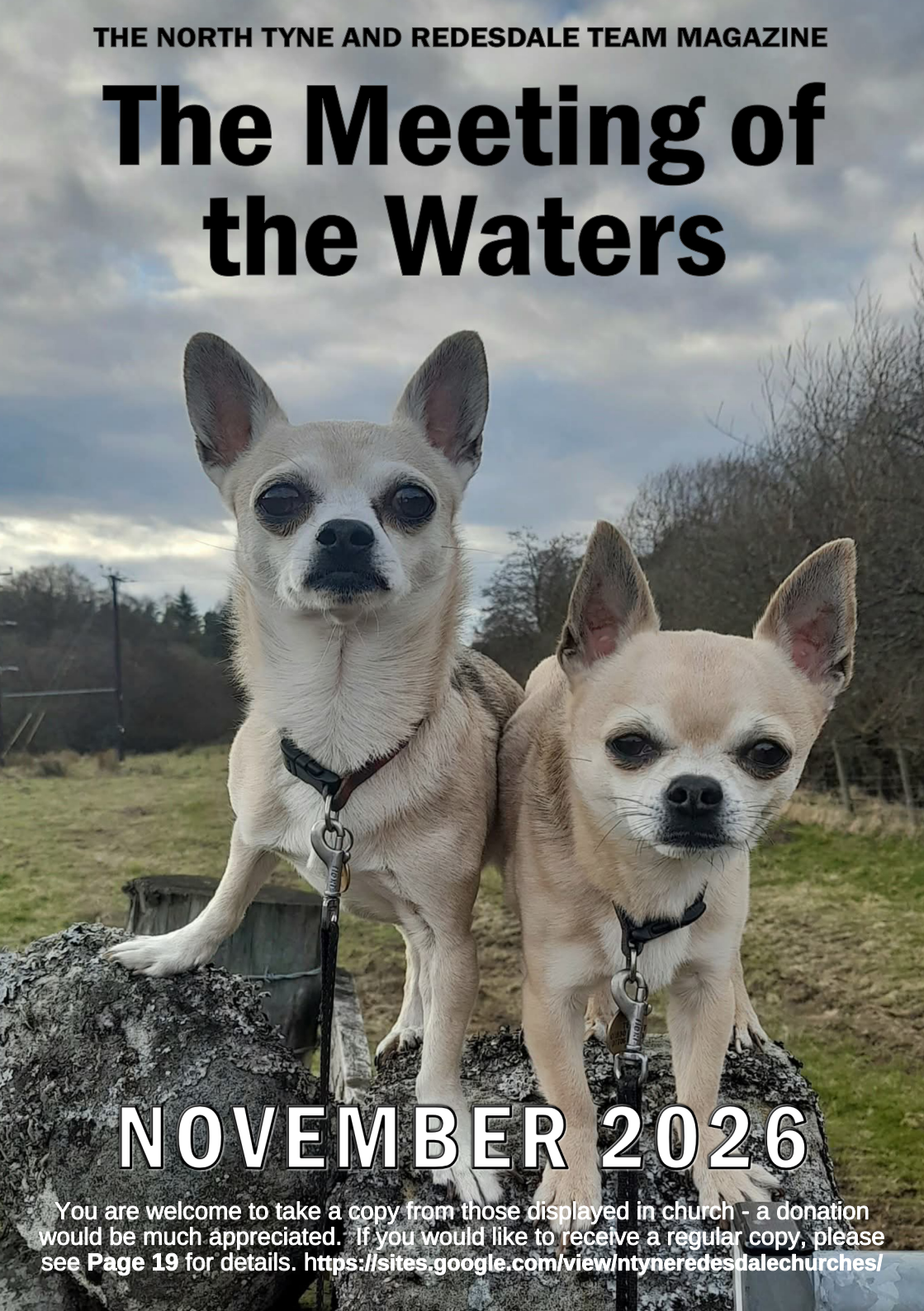
THE NORTH TYNE AND REDESDALE TEAM MAGAZINE

# The Meeting of the Waters



## NOVEMBER 2026

You are welcome to take a copy from those displayed in church - a donation would be much appreciated. If you would like to receive a regular copy, please see **Page 19** for details. h**ttps://sites.google.com/view/ntyneredesdalechurches/**



Darcy & Co.

Northumbrian Bathroom Specialists

- Plumbing and Heating
- Wetroom and level access adaptations
- Wash dry toileting
- Walk-in baths
- Supply and install unique, high-quality bathrooms

Contact Jack
Tel 07885786644
Email ***admin@darcyandco.co.uk***

LEGAL ADVICE & ASSISTANCE

**Micky Macgregor**

- retired solicitor -

In attendance at
Saddlers Cottage Bellingham

Thursday mornings 9-10.30am

☎: 01434 240256
or email:
mjmacgregor48@outlook.com

Penny
on the move

**BELLINGHAM GARAGE SERVICES**

AdBlue
Domestic Fuels
Off-Licence
Convenience Store

**Open 6am – 10pm**

Station Road Bellingham

NE48 2BS. Tel: 01434 220233

Redesdale
ARMS

*Known locally as The First and Last*

**EN SUITE ROOMS, GREAT FOOD AND LOCAL ALE**

**WWW.REDESDALE-ARMS.CO.UK**

**01830 520668**

# A REFLECTION FOR NOVEMBER

As you may already know, a community of Carmelite Friars now serves the Catholic parish of Hexham and also Bellingham and Haydon Bridge. My name is Fr Patrick Fitzgerald-Lombard O.Carm, and I am the third member of the community - along with Fr Paul Jenkins (parish priest) and Fr Richard Green. I am already known to the community at St Oswald's, Bellingham. Fr Paul suggested I send you the following reflection for the November magazine:

*"I believe in the communion of saints…*" so we Christians say every Sunday in the Creed, our summary of Christian belief. This month of November begins with the feast of All Saints. It is a month when, as we prepare for winter with nature dying around us, we are able to proclaim the new life and triumph of the saints, those who are rejoicing and praising God in heaven. Where they have gone before us, our hope is that one day we will follow them. By our baptism we already belong to the communion of saints but what we are to be in the future has yet to be revealed, as St John tells us.

The feast is also known as All Hallows, though Hallowe'en for the eve will be more familiar to us. English often has two words, German and Latin, for the same purpose. "Saints" is Latin, "Holy" is German. There is as a result a possibility of confusion and it helps us to be aware that the two describe the one reality. We need to understand that Saints are the holy ones who share the life of the all holy God. To become saints, to become holy, is our journey through life.

Perhaps the most important teaching of the Second Vatican Council is that we are all called to holiness: *The classes and duties of life are many, but holiness is one—that sanctity which is cultivated by all who are moved by the Spirit of God, and who obey the voice of the Father and worship God the Father in spirit and in truth. These people follow the poor Christ, the humble and cross-bearing Christ in order to be worthy of being sharers in His glory. Every person must walk unhesitatingly according to his own personal gifts and duties in the path of living faith, which arouses hope and works through charity (LG 41)*

Yet we are also sinners. The 2nd November for Catholics is All Souls day and for many centuries, November has been regarded as the month of All Souls. In many countries, All Souls is the day for visiting the cemetery and remembering the departed loved ones. That the emphasis falls on All Souls rather than All Saints arises because of the strong emphasis in the past on purgatory, a place of purification before souls enter into heaven. The mindset was that we are all sinners and that God's judgement could make it difficult for the departed to take the final step into heaven itself.

Today we are better placed to celebrate November as the month of All Saints. That gives a different focus to our remembering those who have gone before us

marked with faith. We have become more confident that God's judgement will be a merciful judgement, because our God is a God of compassion and love. That is the overall message of the Bible with its climax from St John that God is love. We will know many people who have good and faithful Christian lives, saintly, holy lives indeed. Our faith and our hope is that they are already praising God in heaven, the communion of saints in heaven as we are on earth. With that confidence our praise of God here on earth is always joined with theirs in heaven.

## SERVICES IN THE DEANERY IN NOVEMBER 2026

### 1st November: All Saints Sunday (All Souls Day)

*Revelation 7: 9-end ; 1 John3 3: 1-3; Matthew 5: 1-12*

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) at Wark
9.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham
9.30am Holy Communion at Birtley
10.30am MURC Service at Wark
10.30am MURC Service at Bellingham
11.00am Service of the Word at Falstone
11.00am Holy Communion at Simonburn
11.00am Roman Catholic Mass at St Oswald's, Bellingham
11.00am Holy Communion at Otterburn
4.00pm Holy Communion at Bingfield
5.00pm Holy Communion at All Saints, West Woodburn
6.30pm Service for All Souls at Humshaugh

### 8th November: Remembrance Sunday

*Micah 4: 1-5; Romans 8: 31-end * If Eucharist : Amos 5: 18-24; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end ; Matthew 25: 1-13**

9.00am Holy Communion at Thockrington
9.00am Holy Communion at Thorneyburn
10.00am Act of Remembrance at Birtley
10.40am Service of Remembrance at Chollerton
10.30am Service of Remembrance at Otterburn
10.30am Service of Remembrance at Wall
10.45am Act of Remembrance at West Woodburn Memorial
10.45am Service of Remembrance at Simonburn, followed by Acts of Remembrance at Simonburn Humshaugh and Wark Memorials
10.45am Act of Remembrance in Bellingham Cemetery Chapel (Fr Richard Green)
10.50am Act of Remembrance at Bellingham Cemetery
11.00am Roman Catholic Mass at St Oswald's, Bellingham
6.00pm Evensong at Bellingham

NB: 6.00pm NO Holy Communion at Wark

### 15th November: 2nd Sunday before Advent

*Zephaniah 1:7, 12-end; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11; Matthew 25: 14-30*

9.00am Holy Communion at Gunnerton -
10.00am Service of the Word at Birtley -
10.00am Service of the Word -Bellingham
10.30am MURC at Wark
10.30am MURC Service at Bellingham
11.00am Holy Communion at Falstone
11.00am Holy Communion at Humshaugh

11.00am Service of the Word at Otterburn
11.00am Roman Catholic Mass at St Oswalds Bellingham
11.30 am Service of the Word at Bingfield
3.00pm Holy Communion at Horsley
6.00pm Evensong at Simonburn

**22nd November Christ the King**

*Ezekiel 34: 11-16; 20-24; Ephesians 1: 15-end; Matthew 25: 31-end*

9.30am Deanery Zoom
10.30am MURC Service at Bellingham
11.00am Holy Communion BCP at Bellingham
11.00am Holy Communion at Chollerton
11.00am Roman Catholic Mass at St Oswald's Bellingham
11.15am Service of the Word at Elsdon
11.00am Service of the Word at Wall
3.00pm Holy Communion at Byrness
6.00pm Taizé service at Humshaugh
6.00pm Service of the Word at Wark

**29th November: Advent Sunday (Year B)**

*Isaiah 64: 1-9; 1 Corinthains 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 24-end*

10.30am MURC Service at Bellingham
11.00am *Benefice Holy Communion Service at Bellingham*
11.00am Roman Catholic Mass at St Oswald's, Bellingham
3.30pm *Deanery Confirmation Service at Simonburn*

**Please note that e*very week there is also a Roman Catholic Mass on weekdays at the following times/ venues:***

- Swinburne St Mary's: 9.30am, Tuesday
- Bellingham St Oswald's: 9.30am, Wednesday
- Otterburn St Peter's: 12.00 noon, Friday

***MURC Bellingham: regular services***

- Sunday 10.30 am
- Friday 10.30-11.45 Coffee

# NOTICEBOARD



**FALSTONE COFFEE MORNINGS:** Future Coffee morning dates for your diary, are listed below and all sessions start at 10.30am in Falstone Village Hall.

In October (20th) the coffee morning is raising donations for Chrysalis Club, Hexham – who rely on Donations to continue to provide excellent services and support for people living with dementia and their families. They are currently seeking funding for their "*a-brick-at-a-time*" campaign, to raise funds for a new building to secure their services for the future. Future coffee mornings in 2026 will be:

- **17th November:** in aid of Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

- **15th December:** we are pleased to announce this will be our Christmas party! There will be music, Christmas Carols, mince pies and seasonal treats – plus Santa Claus is coming to Falstone!

Do remember if you need transport to attend one of the coffee mornings, we can arrange transport via the **Church and Community Transport** scheme, who now have a number of volunteer drivers. One lady who recently used this service said it was "blooming brilliant"! Please do give us as much notice as possible, and a donation towards the cost of the fuel is encouraged. You can call Caroline Waitt (01434 240210) or Marie Ness (01434 240679).

**COACH TRIP TO DURHAM:** We had a lovely trip to Durham on 29th September - many thanks to the Church and Community Partnership for their funding for the coach itself. The autumn sun shone! Although our visit to the Cathedral was restricted due to student matriculation, we explored other areas of the Cathedral – starting, of course, with coffee and scones (and other sweet delights!) in the Cathedral restaurant. Many of us attended the special Communion Service for St. Michael and All Angels, was held in the Chapel of the Holy Cross, an ancient worship space adjacent to the Cathedral. The Chapel has been used since the 13th Century, and has been recently renovated to form part of the newly established Cuthbert Centre for Pilgrimage and Prayer. The photo shows some of us from the group outside the entrance to the Cuthbert Centre.



Following the obligatory(!!) visit to the Cathedral bookshop, we explored the historic Georgian and medieval architecture of the College buildings. As we wandered back down the "Bailey" we were accompanied by small groups of chattering students, as they expectantly started their lives at Durham University. We shared a

delicious Italian meal with plenty of chat at “Zizzi’s” before it was all too soon time to head back via the Marketplace to the coach. There is always so much to see, do and experience in Durham City. Thank you to everyone who came along.

With all best wishes from Marie Ness.

---

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Cathy Smith was licensed as a reader, in a service at the cathedral - a joyful service and a very special time for her, especially as a number of folk came along to support her. She has asked me to put the following message of thanks into the magazine: “*Dear friends, I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude for all the prayers, messages, cards and gifts that folk have sent me as I was licensed as a Reader in the cathedral last weekend. The road to becoming a Reader has been exciting and interesting, but also tough at times, and knowing that I had a wonderful bunch of friends supporting me and willing me on has been very important. I am looking forward to making plans with Rev Sarah, getting stuck into new things but also continuing the things that I have been doing together with you all as well. Much love, from Cathy*”

---



**COMING SOON…**

## CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2026

Bellingham’s annual Christmas Tree Festival will take place at St Cuthbert’s, Bellingham, from 30th November to 5th December 2026

# THE 100 WORD CHALLENGE 2026

Tarset's second *Tony Bell 100 Word Challenge* (the challenge being to write an original story in 100 words or fewer) closes to new entries on 30th October. There will be an event at Tarset Village Hall on 14th November, starting at 7pm, when everyone is welcome to come along and hear some of the stories read out loud by members of BADDS, and to help decide the ultimate prizewinners of the competition.

---

**BATON OF HOPE 2027:** Northumberland will host the Baton of Hope on 28th September 2027, and the organisers are inviting people to walk with them and become Baton Bearers for their national relay.

Angela Watt, Locality Coodinator for West Northumberland (NCC), has this to say: *"If you've been affected by suicide in any way, we invite you to walk with us on this journey. Whether you're walking in memory of someone you've lost, to show support for someone who may be struggling, or simply because you believe every life is worth fighting for, your reason for walking matters. Over 40 days, the Baton will travel through 21 communities across the UK, bringing people together to remember, to connect and to have the conversations that can make a difference. Simply by taking part, each Baton Bearer will add their own story, their own reason and their own hope to a journey that belongs to all of us. Because when we walk together, we remind people that they are not alone. And when we carry hope forward, we can help create a future where more people feel able to stay.*"

If you feel you would like to take part, the direct website link is as follows: https://thebatonofhope.org/our-initiatives/the-tour/2027-tour/baton-bearers-2027/

# SONGS OF PRAISE AT THE GLASSHOUSE

Local people were delighted to be offered free tickets for the recording of this year's Christmas Songs of Praise at The Glasshouse, Gateshead. The Rev'd. Roberta says "*I was hesitant at first, but Marie's enthusiasm and her experience at running trips won the day*." It was an extra special event not least because Songs of Praise have just celebrated their 65th birthday! So on 6th October our merry group (see photo) set off for The Glasshouse. "I've so appreciated the team work," adds Roberta.



We were encouraged to wear our "Christmas jumpers", which got us a few strange looks as we left Bellingham dressed in our sparkling attire, complete with flashing Christmas trees. We even managed to pick up an elf! It was more autumnal than Christmas as we journeyed down the valley through the golden, red and yellow autumnal vista of trees. The coach journey enabled people to forge new friendships and renew old ones. We discovered two professional horsewomen were in our midst.

Thankfully, when we arrived at The Glasshouse, lots of other folks had also donned their festive jumpers and were cheering "Merry Christmas"! Following an indoor picnic in the Squires room we excitedly took our seats in the auditorium. It is a fantastic venue with incredible acoustics and it sounded amazing when over 3000 of us sang Christmas Carols. We were welcomed by David Waters, the producer of Songs of Praise, who reminded us that the programme is one of the world's longest running religious TV shows, and how God's message of hope is brought to people in their homes, both in this country and abroad.
Many of us had never been to a TV recording before, so we were pleased to be advised via instructions from the floor manager, Will, on what to do, what not to do and when to applaud. Thus armed, we were finally ready to start the show.

Aled Jones was the presenter. He couldn't resist starting off with a short rendition of 'We're walking in the air' in falsetto, mimicking his younger self. He was very funny as well as professional. Then it was our turn to sing one of my favourite carols, "O little town of Bethlehem". The orchestra was conducted by Ken Burton and we were supported by the Northern Spirit Singers and Durham Choral Society. We all sang with great enthusiasm and, helped by the Glasshouse acoustics, we sounded great…but oh dear, in our enthusiasm we began the second verse during a musical interlude while the conductor had his back turned! Will, the Floor Manager, came on stage and made us do it again. Such precision, however, made us appreciate just how much detailed work is needed to bring about the professional production we see on our TV screens.

We promised not to give too much away so that you, our readers, can enjoy Songs of Praise on Sunday 20th December. It will include fabulous solo performances from James Emanuel, one of Scotland's most exciting new artists, the legendary soul and gospel singer Mica Paris, and a mysterious Chorister of the Year.

THANK YOU! Our trip was made possible by - and we are very grateful to - both the Ray Wind Farm fund and The Church and Community Partnership for sponsoring our coach to The Glasshouse. That funding made the outing possible for people from Bellingham, West Woodburn, Ridsdale, and Falstone, who would otherwise not have had the chance to attend this special Christmas Songs of Praise. We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to the Glasshouse staff, who provided such a perfect space for our picnic tea, and also to our regional safeguarding officers (listed at the back of this magazine) who work tirelessly to ensure that people have the best possible experience.

With best wishes from Marie and Roberta

## AN UPDATE FROM A 'RAMBLING RECTOR'

Claire Maxim has sent a lovely message that she wanted to share with all of you, along with some photos:

"A huge thank you to everyone for my lovely new rose! I very much appreciated that it arrived potted, it took the pressure off, but I did manage to get it safely planted within a few hours of its arrival. I have

a very old garden shed which isn't fit for tools but is fit for rambling roses. You'll be glad to know that Lily is an excellent Head Gardener (at least in her feline mind).



I was slowed down by the unexpected appearance of archaeology, which turned out to be a substantial bracket and a bit of broken blade. I haven't called the County Archaelogist!



I'm settling in well here, and they are all being kind. I do miss you, and may well very quietly ramble back very occasionally - a Lesser Spotted Former Rector.

With many thanks and much love, from Claire."



## NEWS FROM BYRNESS AND HORSLEY

**NEWS FROM BYRNESS:** 4th October was day after the 800th Anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi (b. 19/8/1181, d. 3/10/1226) and we held The Blessing of the Animals Service on that afternoon.

Mike Nixon had written a lovely service, which flowed remarkably well with minimum disruption and each dog and their owner were blessed at the altar rail. In all, there were 14 humans and 9 dogs, and all were so well-behaved.

Pablo, one of Caroline's Chihuahuas (see photo on the front cover of the magazine) famous in Byrness for his temperament, was uncharacteristically docile, Hettie (one of Jax's Cockerpoos) wasn't too thrilled with the singing and had a good bark, Dora always shows exemplary behaviour, and all the other dogs (Jill's Spaniels and Jean's

Whippet were great). Even Pat's Shih Tzu, usually a bit of a diva, was quiet. My Poster Boy, Murdo (a Cairn terrier), had his photo blessed as I was too busy with the refreshments to mind him - he is also elderly and isn't too keen on excitement.

Thanks to Mike for the super service, to Pete for the baking, and to all you lovely people and pets who came along!

Everybody is now working hard to prepare for coming meetings with the Archdeacon on the 21st and moving on with the search for a new member of the hard-worked Clergy team.

Autumn colour in Byrness is so beautiful just now, once leaf fall is finished we clean the gutters. Aren't we lucky to live in such a beautiful area.

Love to all and special thanks to Sarah Lunn for keeping the show on the road.

Barb (Byrness), 07860 671442

**NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY:** November always feels like the quiet doorway into winter, with darker evenings, crisp mornings, and the first hints of Christmas beginning to stir. At Holy Trinity, things have been steady, with regular services continuing and a calm rhythm carrying us through the month.

We also want to mention the lovely Service of the Animals held at St Francis, Byrness. It was great fun and full of wagging tails and happy faces. My own two dogs thoroughly enjoyed themselves — a real reminder of how special these shared moments between our churches can be.
Looking ahead, St John's, Otterburn, will be holding a Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November at 10.30am. It's always a thoughtful and meaningful gathering for the village, and everyone is warmly welcome to attend.

A few small maintenance checks are planned, and we'll share any updates once we have clearer information. Meanwhile, the PCC has been turning its attention toward the festive season, making sure everything is in place for December.

A date for your diary: our Carol Service will be held on Sunday 20th December at 3pm, and the church will be beautifully decorated for Christmas, ready to welcome everyone. After the service we'll be serving tea, coffee, hot chocolate, mulled wine and mince pies - a cosy way to start the festive season together. Full details will appear in the December magazine, but we're already looking forward to the afternoon.

As always, thank you to everyone who keeps Holy Trinity running smoothly - the helpers, the organisers, and those who simply come along and keep the church feeling rooted and warm.

With all best wishes, from Jill Thomas

## NEWS FROM CORSENSIDE

The Macmillan event on 3rd October at Corsenside Village Hall Raised £235 thanks to Andrea and to all the helpers who made the event possible.

The slow cooker demonstration on the 6th of October at Corsenside village hall was very successful. Nine people came along to watch the demonstration and some free slow cookers were given out to the people that came along. Thanks to Freddie and Andrea and to all the other helpers for organising.

As mentioned last month, on Saturday 24th of October, there will be a traditional evening of entertainment at Corsenside village hall, organised by Graham Dick and friends. The event starts at 6:30 PM and tickets cost £10. Tickets are available from Graham and from the West Woodburn village shop (watch this space for an update on how it went).

On 6th October, Marie and Roberta (MURC) organised a fantastic trip to the Glass House in Newcastle for Songs of Praise. Alex Jones whilst presenting the show and the guest singers were amazing. It was hard to choose a favourite, but the young choristers' rendition of "O Holy Night" (my favourite hymn) was outstanding. James Emmanuel sang a fabulous version of "Go Tell It on the Mountain" and we were all encouraged to join in. Silent Night was sung by Micah Paris and that was beautiful too. The performance of "Unto Us a Child is Born" by the Durham Choral Society and the Northern Spirit Singers was absolutely beautiful.

The Deanery had expressed its intention of holding a communion service at every church in the diocese once a month. Therefore, on a dark, wet night on the 4th of October, to celebrate the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis' death (which was on 3rd October 1226), Susan Ramsaran gave a sermon at Corsenside. The Old Testament reading (from Isaiah), and the New Testament reading (from Philippians), were read by Hugo Remnant. Susan's sermon was about Saint Francis' holy person and the corroborated fact that he replicated Christ's stigmata. It was an ecumenical service and it was good to see Barbara and Tony, and John Gibson at the service - as well as Richard Virden, who braved the weather despite being poorly. We all had a very welcome hot cuppa after the service. Thank you, Andrea, for driving me there!

Finally, I do hope you are all enjoying the lovely autumn colours at the moment!

With all best wishes from Diana.

## NEWS FROM FALSTONE



Autumn is here! I know this not only because the weather is cooler, and the leaves on the trees have changed, but also because the vest is finally on, The Husband has allowed me to pop the heating on (for short periods only at first!) and I have emptied the composting toilet at church! See photo of The Mother and me performing this task - it is not actually as bad as you may think.

It was with great joy to see the church full at the Family Harvest Communion service on 20th of September. The Rev Canon Sarah Lunn took the service, which was relaxed and fun, and the church was decorated with autumnal flowers – even having apples and pears placed along each pew. The children read the prayers - Neave Swailes (aged 10) and Meghan Dixon (aged 8) read out a special harvest poem and we had the delight of Mike Wilkinson playing his guitar, accompanied by the congregation with

their chosen percussion instruments. Jill Walton and Falstone toddlers made another wonderful painted banner all about Harvest Blessings . As part of her sermon, Rev Sarah asked the congregation to make new words from the letters of the word 'harvest'. These ranged from share, rest, starve, heart to my personal favourite…'rave'.




I took a car boot full of non-perishable items to West Northumberland food bank who were very grateful for the donations.

The churchwardens of St Peter's, St Cuthberts and St Aidan's, had a day out on Saturday the 10th of October, to St Nicholas' Cathedral. I drove Cath Brennand and Caroline Waitt to attend a celebration of Reader Ministry in the Diocese of Newcastle where Cathy Smith from St Cuthbert's was licenced as a new Reader in a very moving service, presided over by Rt Rev Mark Wroe Bishop of Berwick. I know Cathy has put a lot of hard work and commitment to her studies over the past few years and we wish her well in her new role. Thanks to both Cathy and Marie Ness (ALM), who took the service at St Peter's on Sunday 4th October - it was enjoyed by everyone who attended.



A very special member of our congregation, namely The Mother-in-law (Jenny), has recently celebrated becoming a nonagenarian. She celebrated her 90th birthday surrounded by 17 members of her family with a surprise weekend away in North Yorkshire. On the 31st of October, another member of the congregation, Shirley Richardson, will also join the nonagenarian club, and we look forward to celebrating with her.

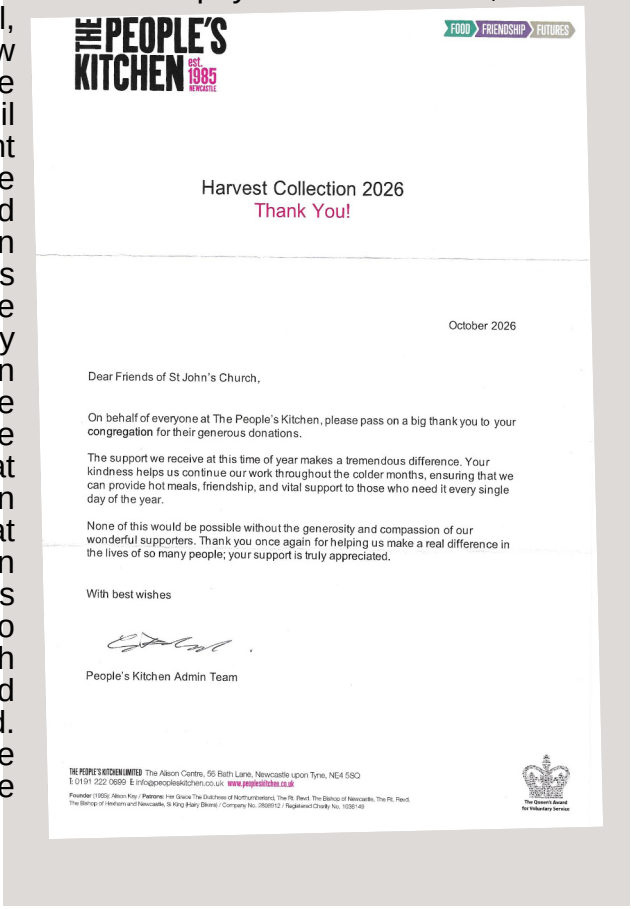
Finally, on behalf of St Peter's, I would like to thank Nicola and Malcolm (who are neighbours and live in the Croft in Falstone) for keeping

Falstone tidy over the summer months. They have swept and weeded the centre of the village and there have been complementary comments on how lovely the village looks by locals and tourists alike. A BIG 'thank you' to them!

With best wishes from Jill Swaile Churchwarden and ALM
(Tel: 07890096469 email: alanswaile@aol.com)

## NEWS FROM OTTERBURN

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH, OTTERBURN:** As with many local Churches, St John's Church, on the main road through Otterburn, has faced rising costs compounded by falling income, in recent years. For several years, total receipts have been lower than total payments. Until now, reserves have covered the shortfall, but they are now exhausted, leaving the Parochial Church Council (PCC) with a significant financial challenge. The PCC has therefore decided to invite all Otterburn residents and businesses to a meeting to discuss the way forward, particularly how the community can help, if they wish. There will be two meetings: one on Saturday, 10 October, at 4pm, and the other on Wednesday, 14 October, at 7.30pm, both at Otterburn Memorial Hall. Leaflets have been delivered to homes in Otterburn Parish outlining the situation and inviting people to attend. Interested parties from the wider local area are welcome.



THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN est. 1985 NEWCASTLE

FOOD FRIENDSHIP FUTURES

Harvest Collection 2026
Thank You!

October 2026

Dear Friends of St John's Church,

On behalf of everyone at The People's Kitchen, please pass on a big thank you to your congregation for their generous donations.

The support we receive at this time of year makes a tremendous difference. Your kindness helps us continue our work throughout the colder months, ensuring that we can provide hot meals, friendship, and vital support to those who need it every single day of the year.

None of this would be possible without the generosity and compassion of our wonderful supporters. Thank you once again for helping us make a real difference in the lives of so many people; your support is truly appreciated.

With best wishes

People's Kitchen Admin Team

THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN LIMITED The Alison Centre, 55 Bath Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5SQ
T: 0191 222 0699 E: info@peopleskitchen.co.uk www.peopleskitchen.co.uk

Founder (1985): Alison Key / Patrons: Her Grace The Duchess of Northumberland, The Rt. Revd. The Bishop of Newcastle, The Rt. Revd. The Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, Sr King (Hairy Biker) / Company No. 2686912 / Registered Charity No. 1036149

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

**HARVEST FESTIVAL:** The PCC wishes to thank everyone who donated produce to our Harvest Festival. Eight full carrier bags were delivered to The Peoples Kitchen in Newcastle and was very gratefully received. A thank you letter has been sent to us (see photo on previous page) and a copy will be posted on the Otterburn St John's Facebook page. Thank you everyone!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Further details of all events can be found on the Otterburn St John's Facebook page

- *17th October*: Race Night (jointly held between St John's Church and Village Hall)
- *8th November*: Remembrance Sunday at St John's Church, Otterburn
- *12th November*: Prize Bingo held at Village Hall.
- *4th December*: Coffee morning

Best regards

Moira Ledger

## NEWS FROM THORNEYBURN

**NEWS FROM ST AIDAN'S**: Well, we seem to be fully into autumn now, with the trees turning, apples and garden produce bountiful with Harvest services, and turning from salads to soups!!!

We finally had our long-awaited Soup and Pud Social last week and it was well attended with about 60 people there in total. I had thought we were over subscribed with helpers, but with those numbers we were all kept busy serving the wonderful selection of food which was well appreciated by all. The atmosphere was noisy and great fun as everyone was chatting and enjoying the social as well as the great food. We had lots of compliments and asks of when we were going to have the next one? The answer to that one is 'Not till after Christmas at least!' On the next page is a picture of the full hall. Sadly, we didn't get one of all the helpers – they were moving too fast (except me!) but they enjoyed it too, and we made a fantastic £540 for church funds.

So, thank you all and especially Libby, Laura, Gloria, John, Jenni, Lizzie, Michael, Megan, Cath, Liz and Marion (who worked so hard cooking and on the day).

We have just had our communion service with Sarah Lunn where she gave a wonderful sermon helping us understand the parable. It was well attended, with Danielle (who is getting married next year) and her grandmother, travelling from Middlesbrough and who get the prize for the earliest start - leaving before 7 to get to the service at 9…! There are no such excuses for us.

We are going to have Greenhaugh School coming to have their harvest service and then our traditional soup swap at the end of the month and I will report later.

Looking forward: now that it is getting to darker nights, we will not have our evening services. The services are as follows.

- 8th November: 9am Remembrance Sunday Communion
- 22nd November: No evening service
- 13th December: 9am Communion
- 23rd December: 7pm Candlelit Community Carol Service
- 25th December: 11am Christmas Communion
- 27th December: No evening service

Caroline Waitt (Churchwarden)
caroline.waitt@btinternet.com 01434 240210



## A BRIEF WORD FROM THE EDITOR

This month's cover photo, provided by Barb, is of Caroline's two angelic Chihuahuas en route to St Francis', Byrness to receive their blessing.

Meanwhile, if you have anything you would like to see included in the magazine (articles, cartoons, news, photos, events, birthdays, etc.), please email it to me at: **sarahMOTW@btinternet.com**

The copy deadline for next month's issue, is
**MONDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2026**

*Please note that any views, thoughts or opinions expressed within this magazine are those of the authors/contributors and do not officially represent those of the wider church or of any other group or individual.*

### NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE MEETING OF THE WATERS

We would like to say a huge thank you for supporting this publication. If you are an occasional reader and would like a regular copy, please contact your local distributor below - the annual sub is just £7 for 11 issues. If you would just like an occasional copy, feel free to pick one up at your local church, where a donation in the box would be gratefully received and very much appreciated!

A monthly electronic version of the magazine(in full colour) is also available and if you would like to be added to the online subscription list, please email **sarahmotw@btinternet.com** directly, you will be added to the list.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Bellingham:** | Cath Brennand | 01434 220631 |
| **Corsenside:** | Diana Staszewski | |
| **Falstone:** | Jill Swaile | 01434 240168 |
| **Thorneyburn:** | Caroline Waitt | 01434 240210 |
| **Elsdon:** | Helen Howie | 07791 539706 |
| **Otterburn:** | Jean Turnbull | 01830 521169 |
| **Horsley:** | Jill Thomas | 07707 331722 |
| **Byrness:** | Barb Sunley | 01830 520773 |

Contact: Charlotte Lloyd 01434 220428 **charlotte@mantlehill.co.uk**

**Painter and Decorator**

**Paul Easton**
T: 01434 270661
M: 07585 046657
eastondecor@gmail.com



**Matty Erskine**

**Drystone Walling Contractor**

**07773 576128**

THE NATURAL GARDEN COMPANY

Gardeners/handyperson husband and wife.

Based near Hexham.
All aspects of gardening covered. We have a wide range of knowledge and experience. We offer a professional, reliable and personal service.
Weekly slots, full day or 1/2 days minimum of 3 hours

Tel 07506 933247
Email: info.naturalgardencompany@gmail.com

FB: The Natural Garden Company

Dawn and Martin

A K SWAILE
FALSTONE
APPROVED SOLID FUEL MERCHANT
FIRST CHOICE FOR YOUR
SOLID FUEL DELIVERIES
TEL: 01434 240258



Galbraith

Rural surveyors and estate agents covering the North of England and Scotland

Taking pride in delivering results

Sam Gibson
Mobile| 07769 687978
Office | 01434 693693

galbraithgroup.com

The Pheasant Inn



Kielder Water

TEL: 01434 240382
STAY@THEPHEASANTINN.COM
WWW.THEPHEASANTINN.COM

BAY HORSE INN
West Woodburn

• En Suite Accommodation
• Open all day, every day for good, home-cooked food
• Food served:11am-2.30pm and 6pm-9pm Monday - Saturday
• Sunday Lunch Carvery: 12noon-5pm and 6pm-9pm
• Senior Citizens' Lunch: Monday - Saturday 2 courses for £12.95

Phone 01434 270218

# MOTW Goes Electronic

A monthly electronic version of the Meeting of the Waters (MOTW) is now available. If you would like to be added to the online subscription list, email **sarahmotw@btinternet.com** and your name will be added to the list.





**WARK FOREST LANDSCAPES**

**ARBORICULTURE • TREE SURVEYS AND FORESTRY**

warkforestlandscapes@outlook.com
01434 230050 / 07970 783706

**THE BELLWETHER**

**GALLERY & SHOP**

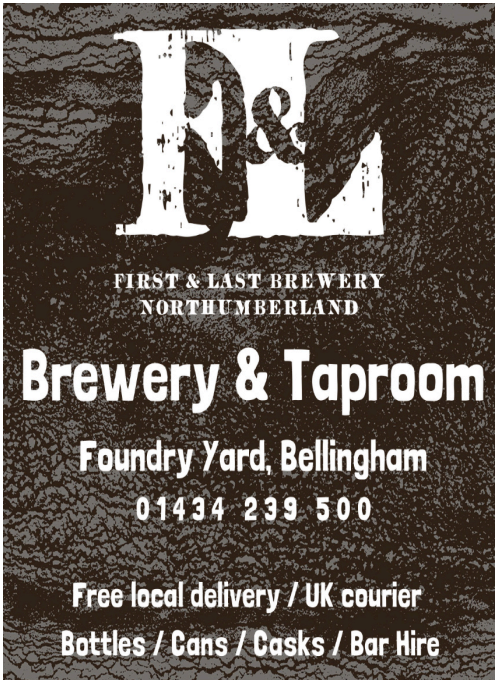
CHARLTON, NE48 1PE

A STUNNING ART GALLERY AND SHOP, JUST A 5 MINUTE DRIVE FROM BELLINGHAM (ON THE WAY TO KIELDER FOREST).

FROM ORIGINAL ARTWORK, CERAMICS, GLASS AND TEXTILES, TO A GREAT RANGE OF ICE CREAMS, CHUTNEYS, JAMS, HONEY AND BISCUITS, EVERYTHING AT THE GALLERY IS SOURCED FROM WITHIN THE NORTH EAST. THE GALLERY CAN ALSO BE HIRED AS AN EVENT AND WORKSHOP SPACE (SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF OUR UPCOMING EVENTS)

**OPENING HOURS**

MONDAY & TUESDAY: CLOSED
WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY: OPEN 11AM – 4PM
WEBSITE: WWW.BELLWETHERGALLERY.CO.UK
EMAIL: BELLWETHERGALLERY@NCLLP.CO.UK



# RIVERSIDE GARAGE

Servicing – Repairs
MOTs – Tyres

## Mark Barber

*Fallow Green, Boat Road*
*Bellingham NE48 2AN*

Tel. 01434 220654
**m.s.barber@live.co.uk**


A monthly electronic version of the Meeting of the Waters (MOTW) magazine is also available.

If you would like to be added to the online subscription list, please email

*sarahmotw@btinternet.com*

and request that you be added to the monthly distribution list.

Electronic magazines are sent out in the form of a link, via email.





**Tel: 07789 990710**
**Email: phil_dent@btinternet.com**

Rawlogs
Simply Good Firewood

**Seasoned hard and softwood logs delivered & stacked**

**contact: Phil Rawdings**
**tel: 01434 220115**
**web: https://www.rawlogs.co.uk/**
**email: rawlogs@btinternet.com**



## STEVEN ARNUP

**Painting and Decorating**

**Bellingham**

All aspects of interior and exterior paintwork – free estimates

**07531 512649**

*stevenarnup1@gmail.com*

## HEXHAM AND DISTRICT LOCAL CLERGY

**Bellingham Deanery (CofE)**
Rural Dean: The Revd Canon Sarah Lunn
Chollerton Vicarage, Hexham, NE46 4TF
Tel: 01434 681721
Email: sarahlunn63@gmail.com

Bellingham (vacant) 01434 220119

**Retired Clergy:**
The Revd Dr Susan Ramsaran
The Revd Ian Kitchen

**Methodist United Reformed Church (MURC)**
The Revd Roberta Ritson
42 Woodcroft Road, Wylam. NE41 8DH
Tel: 01661 852702
Email: revrobertamary@gmail.com

**St Mary's, Hexham (RC)**
(including St Oswald's Bellingham)
Parish Priest: Fr Paul Jenkins O. Carm.
Assistant Priest: Fr Richard Green O. Carm.
Priest in Residence: Fr Patrick Fitzgerald-Lombard O. Carm.
Tel: 01434 603119
Email: stmarys.hexham@diocesehn.org.uk
Website: stmaryshexham.org.uk

## PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

*Bellingham and Corsenside*
Cath Brennand
Tel: 01434 220631
Email: cath.brennand@gmail.com

*Falstone with Greystead and Thorneyburn*
Jenni Holland
Tel: 01434 240337
Email: jenni_holland1@hotmail.com

*Horsley with Byrness, Elsdon and Otterburn*
Janis Bloomer
Tel: 07738 611212
Email: Janis.bloomer55@gmail.com

## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

| | |
|---|---|
| Citizens' Advice Bureau | **0808 278 7944** |
| **CHILD PROTECTION** | |
| Childline | **0800 1111** |
| Children's Services | **01670 536400** |
| NSPCC Helpline | **0808 800 5000** |
| **DISABILITY & CARERS** | |
| DWP Helpline Carers' Allowance | **0800 731 0297** |
| *See DWP website for all other services (such as UC, Pensions, Job Seekers, PIP, etc.)* | |
| **DOMESTIC ABUSE** | |
| *Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services (NDAS)* | |
| NDAS (Women) | **0808 200 0247** |
| NDAS (Men) | **0808 801 0327** |
| **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING** | |
| *Northumberland Cygnus Support* Tel: **01670 853977** Website: **www.cygnussupport.com** | |
| Samaritans | **116 123** |
| **RAPE CRISIS** | |
| Rape & Sexual Abuse support Line | **0808 500 2222** |
| **ELDER ABUSE** | |
| National helpline | **0800 8088141** |
| **FUEL POVERTY** | |
| National Energy Action fuel poverty | **0800 336699** |
| **FARMING COMMUNITY** | |
| ARC-Addington Fund (*Housing*) | **01926 620135** |
| Farming Community Network | **0300 011 1999** |
| Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (*Welfare & Financial*) | **0800 188 4444** |
| RSPCA | **0300 1234 999** |
| **VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS** | |
| Bellingham Town Hall | **01434 220471** |
| Byrness | **07860 671442** |
| | **01830 520773** |
| Corsenside Parish Hall | **01434 270360 or** |
| | **07704 730909** |
| Elsdon Village Hall | **07542 903611** |
| Falstone Village Hall | **07583 929353** |
| Otterburn Memorial Hall | **07879 992175** |
| Reed Hall Bellingham | **01434 220631** |
| Rochester Village Hall | **01830 520589 or** |
| | **07761 735887** |
| Tarset Village Hall | **07498 522683** |
| **MEDICAL** | |
| Bellingham Surgery | **01434 220203** |
| Urgent (**not** life-threatening) | **111** |
| Urgent (life-threatening) | **999** |
| **NORTHUMBRIA POLICE** | |
| Non-emergency | **101** |
| Emergency | **999** |

**INTERNET SECURITY**
www.getsafeonline.org

# NORTHUMBRIAN WINDOWS

## Windows & Doors
## Sunrooms
## Guardian Warm Roof
## Gutters & Fascias


**David Atkins**

01434 601882 / 07762 718125

david@northumbrianwindows.co.uk

www.northumbrianwindows.co.uk


CERTASS
Certified Installer

TRUSTMARK
Government Endorsed Quality