

Beetham's Family Easter Trail



Can you complete the Beetham Easter Trail?

Make your way around the village and find 10 eggs which tell the story of Easter!

Friday 4th April to Sunday 27th April 9.30am - 5pm

Collect your free booklet from the porch of St Michael & All Angels Church, follow the map around the village to find all the posters, and have fun doing the activities along the way whilst learning all about the Easter story

A prize awaits you at the end of the trail!

For more info, contact revhannahwallace@gmail.com

TABLE TOP



SALE

ARE YOU SPRING CLEANING? Well, if you find you have items too good to throw away, how about selling them?

On **Saturday 5th April** at **St Michael & All Angels Church Beetham** there will be an indoor

TABLE TOP SALE from 10am ~ 3.30pm

The cost is £10 per table Refreshments available, with donations welcomed

REFRESH, REPURPOSE FOR 2025!

For more information or to book a table contact Tess on 07725 580095 or Ann on 07779 208057

THE GATEWAY

PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

APRIL 2025

www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk



Spring is sprung, the grass is ris - I wonder where the birdies is?

After a week of glorious sunshine around the Vernal Equinox, this gem of English poetry came to mind. Silly though it is, it reminds us of the ever-changing seasons: Summer frolics and fun, Autumn reflections and reminiscences, Winter for reinforcement and resilience. But my favourite season is Spring: new life and hope for the future!

One has only to glance at the churchyard in the centre of our village to be greeted by the heartwarming sight of spring flowers brightening the scene with their nodding golden heads which so inspired Wordsworth some 200 years ago. Might he have been the unacknowledged author of the above ditty, I wonder? Perhaps not.



As something of an amateur gardener, Spring is for me the most exciting time of the year. After appearing lifeless for months, shrubs and perennial plants burst into new life as if by magic! And sowing seeds for new plants is just as thrilling – to observe how a seed no bigger than a speck of dust, given the appropriate conditions of warmth and moisture (just a bit – not too much!) can emerge into a fully-fashioned new plant in time to enhance the garden this year and possibly future years too.

With this in mind, we must remind ourselves of our responsibility to sustain all of this. Daily reminders about polluted watercourses, irresponsible dumping of hazardous chemicals, thoughtless waste of plastics – all of these need to be heeded. Our duty is to all on our planet and particularly to future generations.

What a wonderful creation this is of which we are privileged to be a part! Let us all do what we can to keep it so.

John Lomax



NB: The familiar tunes of Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" have been given a new airing as a choral piece! Kendal South Choir, led by our own Geoff Field, has co-commissioned the renowned composer Joanna Forbes L'Estrange to arrange a setting of Vivaldi's glorious tunes along with texts from poetry and the Bible. You can be present at one of only two North West England performances later this year on 6th December: make a note in your diary NOW!

Letter from the Curate

Be different!

If you're reading this on the morning of 1st April, I'm here to remind you to be alert for the jokers and pranksters who like to come out to play on this day of the year! It can be a time for great hilarity, but it doesn't always end in laughs. One famous April Fool was played by the BBC back in 1980 when they announced that Big Ben was getting a makeover – it was going to go digital with beeps instead of bongos and be renamed Digital Dave. Plenty of people got the joke, but there were also plenty of people who didn't and who rang in to the BBC to express their outrage!

We might think that April Fool's Day is a relatively new tradition perhaps thought up by some joke shop owner! However, it's actually been around a long time and originates in the Church. There is some discrepancy over exactly how it came about, but it supposedly had to do with Christians being classed as 'fools for Christ' in the lead up to Holy Week and Easter.

In this season of Lent, Christians spiritually journey through the wilderness towards the cross of Good Friday (and beyond) with Jesus. It was on that cross that Jesus experienced the climax of the mockery and humiliation that had been building as he lived out the message of love that God sent him to share. So much of what Jesus did and said went against the cultural and societal norms of the day, for which he was challenged and ridiculed. Yet, he was simply trying to communicate a better way – *the way* – of living.

As Christians continue to follow Christ today, they, too, can be met with ridicule and humiliation – accused of acting as fools (fools for Christ). However, there's encouragement found in the Bible to persevere through this. In the words of St Paul:

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18)

The Christian way of life may well lead people to look foolish – to do things that the world would say is odd. Would the 'world' encourage us to give away all our money to the poor? Would the 'world' encourage us to forgive people who hurt us and not take revenge? Would the 'world' encourage us to love our enemies? It's about going against the grain in order to follow the teachings of Christ.

Whether we do this from a faith standpoint or not, going against the grain can be very freeing. It's always good to question what our cultural and societal norms are asking of us, and to see whether or not we actually believe in them. So let's be wary – not only of practical jokers – but of 'following the crowd' without thinking. Let's be different! Let's be foolish?!

To end, let's turn to more words from St Paul, found in the letter he wrote to the Romans:

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Romans 12.2)

I hope the rest of this Lent is filled with foolishness!

With love & prayer,
Hannah



St Michael & All Angels Beetham Church Services for April 2025		
Date	Time	Service
30th Mar	11am	Mothering Sunday
	6pm	BCP* Evensong
Weds 2nd	10am	BCP Holy Communion
Sun 6th	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong
Sun 13th	11am	Palm Sunday Eucharist
	6pm	The Way of the Cross
<i>Holy Week</i>		<i>See separate list</i>
Sun 20th	11am	Easter Day Eucharist
	6pm	No Evensong
Sun 27th	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong
7th May	10am	BCP Holy Communion

Please see weekly Pewsheets for details
*Book of Common Prayer

Services for Holy Week and Easter

Sunday 13th April – Palm Sunday
11.00am - **The Liturgy of Palm Sunday** (beginning with procession from Beetham School, distribution of palms and reading of the Passion according to St Luke)
6.00pm - **The Way of the Cross** (a service of readings and hymns for the beginning of Holy Week)

Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th April
10.00am – **Holy Communion** for Holy Week

Thursday 17th April - Maundy Thursday
7.30pm – **Liturgy of Maundy Thursday** (with washing of feet and stripping of the sanctuary) followed by The Watch in the Lady Chapel until 10.00pm

Friday 18th April - Good Friday
2.00pm – **The Liturgy of Good Friday**

Saturday 19th April – Holy Saturday
Deanery Easter Vigil (with renewal of baptism vows and First Eucharist of Easter) at Holy Trinity, Kendal

Sunday 20th April - Easter Day
11.00am – **Parish Eucharist of Easter Day** (with lighting of the Easter fire)

Annual Beetham Church Meetings

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME to TUESDAY 13th MAY at 6.30pm

The running of our church relies on a large group of volunteers working together in enthusiastic teams. The many different roles are interesting and varied, so would you like to join us?

Three churchwardens are elected at the Annual Vestry Meeting by members of the parish in April each year. They are the Bishops local representatives and ex officio members of the PCC, and are elected for 1 year. **PCC members** are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting by members of the church electoral roll. The PCC is collectively responsible for the care of the church and the finances, and members represent both the church and the parish at our 6 PCC meetings each year. PCC members are elected for a term of 3 years

The **PCC Treasurer** enables the church to meet its financial obligations. The current Treasurer is inviting anyone interested in the role to shadow him in the forthcoming year. If you would like more information on this essential role please contact John Lomax. The **Fabric Committee** is responsible to the PCC for the care of the church building. If anyone is interested in becoming either the **Chair** or the **Secretary** of the Committee please contact Jenny Marks for more details

New members of all the church sub-committees - Fabric, Finance, and Friends - are always welcome, as are new readers, sidespeople and intercessors. If you would like more information on any of these roles please speak to Andrew or the churchwardens

Lent Lunches

Join us at Our Lady of Lourdes, with your lunch, as we journey through Lent with 'The Sacraments'. Hot drinks provided.

Wednesdays, 12:30pm - 13:45pm.
2nd April & 9th April

Beetham Church Electoral Roll 2025

A reminder that there will be a complete revision of the Church Electoral Roll this year. Names are not automatically carried forward this time, so please can you fill in a new form and return it to the Electoral Roll Officer, Jenny Marks, by Sunday 13th April. The forms are available at the back of the church or can be downloaded at: www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk/Links

REST & RESET

Christian meditation
A moment to press pause !!
St James Church Arkside
6:15 - 7:00PM
TUES 4th TUES 11th TUES 18th

The Bereavement Journey

a place to talk

Grief is hard. Death can impact all of life.

for **anyone** bereaved **anytime**

7 sessions of films and discussions
Topics include:

- Attachment, separation and loss
- The pain and responses of grief
- Anger and guilt
- Coping with others' reactions
- Delayed and suppressed grief
- Adjusting to change
- Moving forward healthily
- Faith questions - a Christian perspective (optional last session)

St Thomas' Church, Milnthorpe
Wednesdays | 6.30 - 8.30 p.m.
12th, 19th, 26th March
2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd April

Booking is necessary.
For more information and/or to book, please contact Lesley:
dianalesley@btinternet.com / 01524 951566

To find out more, please visit: www.thebereavementjourney.org

Beetham CE Primary School Foundation Governor Vacancy

Would you be interested in supporting our school as a Foundation Governor?

If you know anyone who you think might be well-suited to helping to guide the future of our next generation please contact The Revd Andrew Norman for more details



"I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT PEOPLE WOULD FIND A LOT MORE PLEASURE IN THEIR ROUTINES IF THEY BURST INTO SONG AT SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS"
John Barrowman

Wouldn't that be such a wonderful thing to do or see? I have, in my younger healthier days, been sorely tempted. If not to sing, but dance. I think I was very influenced by musicals. A quick song and dance could put almost everything right. In reality my feet would have hardly have touched the floor. In these days when the World seems to be dancing to an intense, unremitting tango we could do with more music to take us away from the dance floor for some fresh perspective and to learn some new moves.

"THE TRUE BEAUTY OF MUSIC IS THAT IT CONNECTS PEOPLE. IT CARRIES A MESSAGE, AND WE, THE MUSICIANS, ARE THE MESSENGERS"
Roy Ayres

So we continue to connect each Saturday, our musical doors are always open and we can never have enough members. Did you know we are also available to perform should you be requiring some music at your event. Just call for details of all things Beetham Community Band. Always remember.....

"MUSIC IS HEALING. MUSIC HOLDS THINGS TOGETHER"
Prince

Until Mayor before
Tess 07725580095



Beetham Duck Day

Saturday 3rd May 2025 10:30am

River Bela at Ellers Meadow
by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Gardner

First duck race at 11am
Free entry

Stalls & games Raffle & prizes Food & drink

Race tickets available from Friends of Beetham Church Committee or John Lomax 015395 62648
All proceeds will go to the Church and Primary School

Beetham Church
Annual Flower Festival 2025
'Caring for our Environment'

Saturday 24th to Monday 26th May

Flower displays ~ Live music ~ Refreshments

St Michael & All Angels Heating Appeal

A big thank you to all who are donating to our church heating appeal, and to the team that is working so hard to help to raise the much needed funds to replace our obsolete church boilers. The total now stands at **£7,506**, so please continue to support our appeal if you can.

Our fundraising events continued last month with the **Shrove Tuesday Supper and Quiz**. This was held in the Heron Corn Mill Barn, with everyone being treated to delicious cottage pie and fresh pancakes with all the trimmings - and second helpings for those that could find room. As always we give thanks to Alison Thompson and her team for their amazing catering. Thanks also go to Colin Clarke and Carol Brown for running the raffle with so many generously donated prizes. This was followed by The Trivia Quiz, hosted by Jenny Marks and Katriona Field, and congratulations go to the winners - The Clangers, closely followed by Well Met, The Intellectuals, and The JimJams, with the remaining five teams only a few points behind. Thank you to Dianne and John Lomax for organising the evening and to all who set up, served, and cleared away, helping to raise **£335** for the heating appeal.

Thank you also to all who attended our **Soup Lunch** on 12th March, with special thanks to the organiser Patricia Townsend and the soup and cake makers, raising a further **£155** for the appeal. *The Lent Soup Lunch this month will be in aid of Christian Aid.*

If you would like to donate to the heating appeal please scan the QR code, or visit our website for other ways of giving.

St Michael & All Angels Beetham Lent Drop-in Soup Lunch for Christian Aid

Wednesday 2nd April in Church
11.30am ~ 1pm

christian aid

Come and join us for a selection of homemade soups and cakes. All welcome!

The Sound of Music

As the well known film celebrates it's 60th anniversary this week, we only need to look at this edition of 'The Gateway' to see how vibrant the sound of music continues to be in our area - from Joanna Forbes L'Estrange's *The Season to Sing* on the front page, our school taking part in Young Voices, and Tess's regular Beetham Band update, to The Heron Theatre music and the many choral concerts coming up over the next few weeks

Our own church organist and choir director, Geoff Field, will be leading one of the Kendal celebrations for the 450th Anniversary of the granting of the town's first Royal Charter. Geoff, who is the music director of Kendal South Choir, is taking on the challenge of conducting four South Lakeland choirs in a collaboration for a spectacular performance of Carl Orff's **CARMINA BURANA** at Kendal Parish Church on Saturday 10th May

Choir members from across our Deanery will be amongst over 100 voices for the event, combining Kendal South Choir, Amabile, Poco Amabile, and FELLas men's community choir plus individual singers. They will be joined by three soloists, two pianists, and a battery of percussion that will raise the roof of Kendal Parish Church. The performers will each present showcase pieces in the first half, then everyone joins together in the second half of the evening for *Carmina Burana*, starting and finishing with the well-known and powerful 'O Fortuna'

The Kendal Royal Charter was bestowed by Elizabeth I in 1575, giving the town the right to an Alderman - which later became the position of Mayor - in a tradition continued to this day. We are grateful to Kendal Town Council for their generous grant to enable this performance of *Carmina Burana* to take place. Tickets are available from TicketSource, and their charity referral programme means that for each ticket sold Beetham Church will benefit from a small donation. Please do come along to what promises to be a very special evening!

KENDAL PARISH CHURCH
SATURDAY 10th MAY
at 7pm

Conducted by Geoffrey Field
Kendal South Choir with Amabile Choirs and FELLas men's choir

Emily Robinson (soprano)
Dominic Mattos (counter-tenor)
Patrick Relph (baritone)
Ken Forster and David Battersby (pianists)
Paddy Davies (percussion leader)

Tickets £18 (under 18s free) via TicketSource, choir members, or kendalsouthchoir.weebly.com

School Corner



Young Voices is a choir of up to 9,000 children who sing a variety of songs in large arenas. This year our Class 3 children went to the Co-op Arena, Manchester to perform alongside 7,000 other primary aged children and a live band. It was an amazing experience to be part of and was really enjoyed by all. Thank you to the parents who travelled down to be part of the audience and the teachers and pupils who worked really hard to learn all the songs.

Since half term we have welcomed Maya in to school on a Thursday. Maya plays Lacrosse for Great Britain and is running a lunchtime club as well as curriculum sessions for the children in Classes 2 and 3. All the children are really enthused by Lacrosse and are really enjoying the sessions.

On World Book Day children in Classes 1 and 2 visited Lancaster Grand Theatre to see the performance of *Pirates love underpants*. This really helped the children with words coming to life. The children really enjoyed their visit.

Class 1 have visited Morecambe Library this month. They were able to become members of the library and select books to take home. Andrew, the librarian, also read stories for the children to enjoy.

Class 3 took part in the RAF Glider Challenge. Children joined a live stream where they learnt about the forces at work on a glider. Following this they designed three of their own gliders to test which would travel the furthest. The children had a great time testing the flight of their gliders with the best designs being put forward to enter the STEM RAF competition.

Curriculum Focus: Religious Education (RE).

Beetham CE Primary School is part of Carlisle Diocese and as such we follow their guidance and use a scheme of work called Questful RE. This scheme teaches Christian concepts alongside God's big salvation story as well as explore all major World Faiths and discussion of non-religious worldviews.

Questful RE uses an enquiry approach where pupils are given a sense of being on a quest of discovery. Each unit of learning involves key questions which children spend time investigating, reflecting, evaluating and making meaning to be able to draw conclusions and answers. This approach encourages children to discover more about themselves, their relationships with others, their relationship with the world around them and their relationship with God.

Children learn yearly about the key event of Christmas and Easter alongside other topics including The Bible, Baptism, Harvest and The Church. Activities include watching videos, reading texts and visiting places of significance to their learning. Within each key question children are given the opportunity to explore the beliefs of Christians and other world faiths to allow an outward view of the world.

Best wishes, Abi Johnson



Beetham WI

We had a good turnout for our AGM in The Wheatsheaf and after dealing with the formalities, members then took part in a quiz followed by social chat over tea and coffee.

Later in the month, a group of us again enjoyed a session of Pickle Ball with our members, Lynn & Susan, giving instruction (and reminding us of the scoring system) whilst others came along to watch and support. It's proving to be a popular activity so another session has already been arranged.

Our Noticeboard has spent the winter 'drying out' and being refurbished and will soon be fixed back on the wall near Beetham's Old Post Office (minus the fungi that had covered it's back)!

For our next monthly meeting we will be in The Wheatsheaf on Thursday 10th April from 2 to 4 pm, when we are holding a 'Book Social' where some members will chat briefly about their favourite book. Non-members are very welcome to join us – with or without a book! Small charge includes Tea or Coffee. Contact Jeanette, our Secretary, beethamwi@gmail.com for more information.



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MILL TOUR & DEMONSTRATION
Friday 4th April, 11.30 - 1pm
BAKING WITH KATE
Wednesday 16th April, 11am - 4pm
CRAFTING WITH ERIKA
Monday 7th April, 1 - 4pm
CRAFTERNOON
Tuesday 29th April, 1 - 4pm
POWSOWDIE
Wednesday 23rd April, 11am - 2pm
FOOD FOR THOUGHT
Sunday 13th April, 10am - 2.30pm
POETRY CAFE
Wednesday 9th April, 11am - 3.30pm
WRITE BY THE RIVER
Wednesday 14th May, 11am - 3.30pm

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Kendal LA9 7AS
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Ripley St Thomas CE Chapel
Ashton Rd
Lancaster LA1 4RS
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3:00pm Sun 13 April

Conductor: Gawain Glenton
Soloist: Rebecca Chandler
Organ: Ian Pattinson

Tickets £17
Available from www.levenschoir.net or at the door
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Levens Choir

Beetham Parish Council

Next meeting will be in Storth Village Church
Monday 7th April at 7pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend
Previous minutes and details of the Councillors can be found on the website at www.beethampc.co.uk



K Shoes Male Voice Choir

Invite you to
An evening of male voice choir singing
Songs for all, to gladden your hearts.

Gaskell Memorial Hall Silverdale

Saturday 24th May at 7-30 pm

Tickets £12-00 on the door

or in advance £10 via QR Code (below), choir members
or website - www.kshoesmvc.org

Refreshments



Great Raffle

The Marian Consort
directed by Rory McCleery, presents
PATER PECCAVI: Music of Renaissance Portugal

Friday 4 April at 7.30pm
St John's Church, Silverdale



Tickets £10-£25 (£5 under 25)
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EHBT>



art dance
the HERON theatre music film
April What's On

Friday 4th April ~ Drive My Car (Film [15])

Sunday 6th April ~ The Dunelm Duo (Sunday Music)

Friday 11th April ~ Howerd's End (Drama)

Tuesday 15th April ~ Dawn of Impressionism (Exhibition on Screen)

Saturday 19th April ~ Crazy Pony (Saturday Music)

Friday 25th April ~ Havisham (Drama)

Friday 2nd May ~ Sound of Metal (Film [15])

Book tickets online www.theherontheatre.com
email: boxoffice@theherontheatre.com ~ tel: 015395 64283

Evening performances start at 7.30pm. Sunday Music 2.30pm.
Exhibition on Screen 2pm. Refreshments available

The Heron Theatre, Stanley Street, Beetham, LA7 7AS

The Gateway deadline

Items for the May edition should be submitted by **Monday 28th April**
Please email articles to **jenny.marks@btinternet.com**

View deadlines online at beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk

Would you like to advertise with us? Annual costs can be as low as just £33! To book space call John Lomax on 015395 62648 or email j.d.lomax@btinternet.com



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CONTACTS FOR THE PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, BEETHAM

Priest-in-Charge	The Revd Andrew Norman	015395 62355	revdabn@gmail.com
Assistant Curate	The Revd Hannah Wallace	01524 449035	revhannahwallace@gmail.com
Lay Minister	Chris Roberts	015395 63019	lainyandchris@aol.com
Lay Minister/Churchwarden	Vivien Stirrup	015395 64320	vstirrup7@aol.com
Churchwarden	Theresa Holden	01524 782737	mtholden77@gmail.com
Churchwarden	Deborah Lancaster	-	lancasterdeborah82@gmail.com
PCC Treasurer	John Lomax	015395 62648	j.d.lomax@btinternet.com
Safeguarding Officer	Andrew Skinner	07362 593076	beetham-safeguarding@gmail.com
Gateway Editor	Jenny Marks	015395 62559	jenny.marks@btinternet.com
Beetham CE School	Abi Johnson	015395 62515	head@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk

Please do be in touch with Andrew you would like to receive the parish email, if there is any support or encouragement he can offer, if you would have any questions about services church life or the Christian faith, or if you would like anyone or anything remembered in prayer.

Church Websites

For information about our church and parish, What's On, and church videos please visit our website at www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk. Full colour versions of this and past editions of The Gateway are also available online. If you would like to receive an email copy please contact jenny.marks@btinternet.com

For more details of the Kent Estuary Mission Community visit the website at www.kentestuarymissioncommunity.com

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