

# Beetham Church Flower Festival 2026

## 'IN CELEBRATION OF MUSIC'

Saturday 23rd May ~ Monday 25th May

Flower Displays ~ Refreshments ~  
Live Music on Saturday & Bank Holiday Monday

Saturday 23rd May ~ 10.30am - 4.30pm  
Sunday 24th May ~ 12.30pm - 4.30pm  
Monday 25th May ~ 10.30am - 4pm

Free entry - donations welcomed



## Parish Coffee Morning

Tuesday 5th May  
10.30am-12pm in church



Please do join us for refreshments and a chat!  
All are very welcome.

There is no charge but any donations will be gratefully received for our church fabric appeal

# Beetham Duck Day

Saturday 2nd of May 2026 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

# THE GATEWAY

Parish Magazine of  
St Michael & All Angels, Beetham  
May 2026



## Your community needs YOU

We all belong and want to.  
Whatever would life be like without others?  
So we do things together, which is good!

If we go on holiday, or out for a meal, or attend a concert then all we have to do is contact whoever is in charge - make our requirements known, make the booking and all is set. Done!

All of which assumes that someone or an organisation has taken responsibility to run the holiday company/pub/restaurant/music venue or whatever.

That of course applies to commercial establishments; "You pays your money and makes your choice".

BUT within our local community, doing the things we like to do, it's not a simple case of a monetary transaction. We just assume that the facility is there for us when we want it.

HOWEVER, if it's not a commercial thing, then it's very likely staffed by and reliant upon volunteers!


The sort of things I'm thinking about may include:

Beetham School Governors, Beetham Sports Committee, Beetham Community Band (see page 4), Friends of Beetham School (PTA), Beetham Parish Council, Beetham WI, The Heron Theatre, Heron Corn Mill, and Church groups, as well as Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Scouts etc, and adult groups such as U3A, Sports Clubs, and Choirs - and so the list goes on.

It's all very well to support and to participate in these things - they are the very fabric of our community life. But we must remind ourselves that these things don't just happen - they need to be run! By people like you and me. And this, of course, is where YOU can play a part! Very rarely are specific skills or talents required: it is willingness, ideas and an "all hands to the pump" attitude that's needed.

To paraphrase JFK: "Ask not what your community can do for you, but ask what you can do for your community!"

John Lomax



[www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk](http://www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk)

## Letter from The Revd Andrew Norman

Dear friends

The weeks of 2026 have, in a variety of ways, confronted us with a world which feels increasingly unstable and uncertain. Whether that be the painful realities of war, violence and human suffering, the unpredictability of market and economic forces which impact upon us all, or the disintegration of a world order which reveals the fragility of so much that we can easily take for granted, there is much that can lead us to feel anxious, troubled and wearied. And thus, unsure of where things – on a global as well as within our own lives – might be headed.

To live with this unpredictability is, in many ways, part of what it means to be human, coming to the realisation that despite our (sometimes feverish) efforts to the contrary we cannot always plan and prepare as we would like. An understanding that, it could be rightly suggested, faith – a life lived in awareness and trust in God – helps us to achieve, recognising that to live fully and freely we need both his peace and perspective.

Towards the end of this month, we will celebrate the fiftieth day of Easter, the feast of Pentecost, marking the occasion – as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles – when the earliest Christians received in powerful and transformative ways the gift of the Holy Spirit. A gift that came, not as a heavenly surprise, but as the seal of what the risen Jesus had promised his friends, so that they would know him alongside them to the very end of the age.

In the English-speaking world, one of the alternative and historical titles for Pentecost was 'Whitsun'. Perhaps, not surprisingly, the name is a contraction of 'White Sunday' – deriving from the white garments worn by those who were, commonly, baptised (and so welcomed into the life of the church) on that Sunday. Indeed, so significant was this celebration – that the week following the festival was, from the Middle Ages until the early twentieth century, the principal summer holiday of the year. It was the time for fairs, Morris dancing, games, school and church processions, weddings, wanderings and generally having a good time; traditions that were rather dislocated with the decision in 1972 to fix the Spring Bank Holiday to the last Monday in May (rather than its historic connection with Whit Monday).

Yet, despite the changes that come with the passage of time, the significance of 'Whitsun' remains – reminding us that the Spirit remains active, involved and interested in the world and in our lives, drawing us into deeper and better relationship with God and with one another. This is captured most effectively in one of the names that the New Testament offers us for the work of the Spirit, described as being our 'Advocate' – or literally 'the one who comes alongside' as helper, supporter and encourager.

Since, it is by the Spirit's presence and power we find the reassurance that we are not left alone or abandoned by God, inspired to work, think and speak in ways which are a response to the peace and the perspective that he, alone, can offer. A gift that helps us to reject cynicism and despair, apathy and resentment, trusting that we can be convinced that God does not simply abandon us to our own devices, but continue – time and time again – to draw close to us, in mercy, in forgiveness, in love.

As Jesus says in the Gospel of John:

*'Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'*

May the promise of such peace, and the perspective it brings, be yours this month.

With every good wish and prayer for the Lord's blessing,

As ever,




### St Michael & All Angels Beetham Church Services for May 2026

Date	Time	Service
Sun 3rd May	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP* Evensong
Weds 6th May	10.30am	BCP Holy Communion
Sun 10th May	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong
Thurs 14th May	10.30am	Ascension Day Service
Sun 17th May	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong
Sun 24th May	11am	Pentecost Eucharist
	6pm	Choral Evensong
Sun 31st May	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong

Please see weekly pewsheets or website for further details  
\*Book of Common Prayer

### St Michael and All Angels, Beetham



## Ascension Day

We mark the fortieth day of Easter, rejoicing in the presence of Jesus Christ, risen, ascended and glorified.

**Thursday 14th May  
at 10.30am**

*'While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him...'*  
Luke 24.51-52



**REST & RESET**  
Christian meditation  
A moment to press pause !!  
St James Church Arnside  
6:15 - 7:00PM

**2026 Dates**

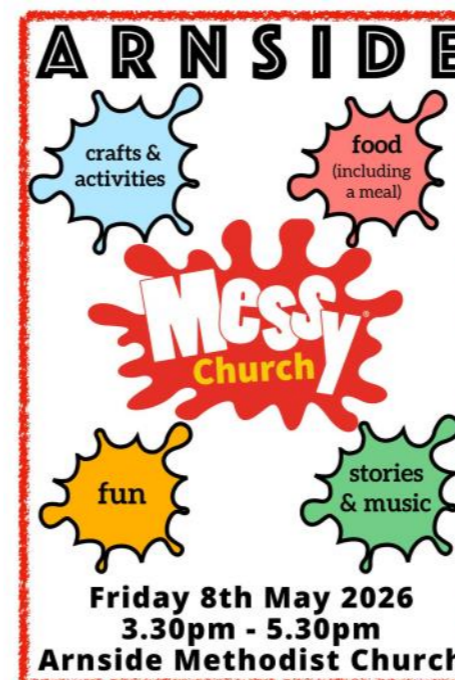
JAN	MAR	MAY	JUL
TUES 6TH	TUES 3RD	TUES 5TH	TUES 7TH

Arnside Christian Together  
Contact: revhannahwallace@gmail.com 01524 449 035



**Baptisms**  
Sunday 19th April  
Sidney David Abbit  
Lenny Stephen Abbit

We welcome them into the Beetham Church family  
We pray for their parents, Annalise and George,  
and for their godparents



**ARNSIDE**  
crafts & activities  
food (including a meal)  
**Messy Church**  
fun  
stories & music


Friday 8th May 2026  
3.30pm - 5.30pm  
Arnside Methodist Church

The Deanery of Kendal  
**Ascension Day**  
We celebrate the Ascension as we gather as churches of the Kendal Deanery, welcoming as our preacher The Reverend Jennifer Totney, the newly appointed Diocesan Ministry Development Lead.


**Thursday 14th May  
7.30pm  
at St Peter's Heversham**



**Questions about life & faith?**  
Keen to explore more, and ask questions, about Christianity?  
Then try the **Alpha Course**  
[www.alpha.org](http://www.alpha.org)



// Fridays, 11.30am – 1.30pm  
// from 17th April for 11 weeks  
// at St James' Church, Arnside  
// Free lunch  
// Contact Hannah to find out more:  
revhannahwallace@gmail.com





Hi wonderful and patient reader. We are in busy times musically. Busy times generally. But there is always a song to sing, a tune to play, and a warm welcome when you join Beetham Community Band.

Now not to beat around the bush, WE NEED YOU! YOU NEED US! (I am sure we will enrich your life on many levels).

Bands are organic and ever changing. People move and circumstances change. So we really do need new members to survive. I am passionate about music. It has saved me, it takes me away when I need to reset, but mostly I have met and made some of the best friends through music and we support each other.

Please just call for a chat or come and see us playing at the Flower Festival on May 23rd.

Add some light into life. You will not regret it and as the man on the front cover himself sort of said.....if he had known us....

BEETHAM COMMUNITY BAND  
NEEDS YOU!!

Much love as always  
Tess xx  
07725580095





## Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid exists to create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

### 10th - 16th May 2026

Christian Aid Week is seven days of action - giving us opportunity to fund lasting change and life-saving support across the world. Our donations will help families overcome poverty and injustice, wherever the need is greatest.

Any support or generosity you can give will be gratefully received.

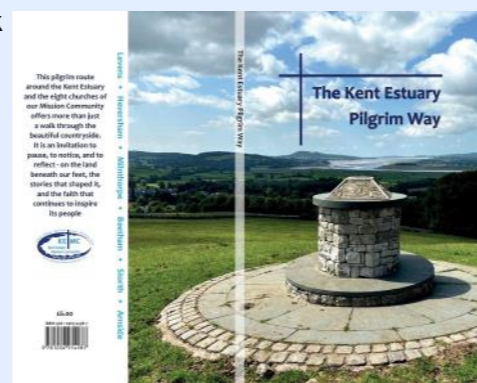
## Thank you very much!

Donation envelopes will be available at the back of church.

### The Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way

Guidebook available from the Church Bookstall and retail outlets

Price £6



### Aluminium Recycling

We are very grateful for your help in supporting our appeal to repair the church fabric. If you are able to do so, please continue to help us by recycling your clean aluminium drinks cans, tin foil, and pie cases, but **please note that blister packs are no longer accepted by the recycling company.** You can kindly drop off your contributions in the marked wheelie bin round the back of the church. If you have larger items such as ladders please contact Deborah on 07899 702476.



### Easter at Beetham Church

Our thanks go to Revd Andrew and Revd Hannah and all who led us through Passiontide to the joy of Easter. Poignant services were held throughout Holy Week, celebrating Easter in worship and glorious music.

A special thank you goes to all the flower arrangers for dressing the church for Easter Day, from the crosses and tomb outside the main entrance and the porch, to the Easter Gardens, Paschal Candle and all the beautiful displays throughout the church.

Thank you also to Hannah for organising the Easter Trail around the village, which proved very popular!







## Joseph Haydn

# THE SEASONS

**Kendal South Choir**  
Conducted by Geoffrey Field  
with orchestra led by Pamela Redman

**Kendal Parish Church**  
**SATURDAY 16th MAY**  
at 7.30pm

Ellie Blewitt [Hanne]  
Kristen Gregory [Lucas]  
Jonny Hill [Simon]




**ticket source**  
making music

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

Our church organist, Geoff Field, will be conducting Haydn's *The Seasons* at Kendal Parish Church on Saturday 16th May. Geoff is the Music Director of Kendal South Choir and several members of our church choir also sing with Kendal South. Tickets are available from Ticketsource, and their charity referral programme means that for each ticket sold Beetham Church will benefit from a small donation, so please do come and enjoy the concert!

### Sandy's Cross

#### A letter from Anne Lofthouse


Hello Dianne, At long last, I have a morning in. Many thanks for sending the picture of Sandy's Cross. It looked lovely. I forwarded it to both boys. John and I were discussing when it was put together, it is well over 40 years ago now. They used to carry it through Brigsteer Woods on Good Friday, starting with a service at Underbarrow; on to Helsington; hot cross buns at the Crossing; and the final service at Levens at 2pm. I can't remember where the logs came from, but probably a road side somewhere!

Yes, we had a lovely bright Easter Day, just as it should be. We also had a good congregation, 70, quite a number of visitors.

We now have a new Bishop and new Dean and a new Bishop of Basingstoke.

The garden is coming on well, despite the rain, cold and the showers. There are buds on the roses already. I am preparing for Cafe Church which is doing really well. We are also starting an afternoon tea once a month, as a get together, to see how that goes. And then in the garden if it stays fine.

Much love to you all, Anne x



# School Corner

Beetham Church of England Primary School has enjoyed a busy and enriching end to the Spring term, followed by a positive and energetic start to the Summer term.

The Spring term concluded with Class 2 visiting Common Farm, where children took part in a range of hands-on activities. They learned about farm life as well as conservation and caring for the local environment, deepening their understanding of the world around them through practical experience.

The whole school then came together for our Easter Service. Class 3 guided everyone through the story of Holy Week, supported by the other classes who proudly shared their learning and reflections about Easter.

Prior to Easter, the school welcomed a SIAMS inspection, which explored how the school lives out its Christian vision in everyday life. The inspector found that the school lives out its Christian vision clearly and consistently, with love and respect at the heart of daily life. This vision guides leaders' decisions and creates an inclusive, caring community where pupils and adults flourish. The report also praised the way every child is cherished as a unique individual, with staff working tirelessly to support all pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities. In addition, the inspector highlighted the school's rich, inspiring curriculum and meaningful collective worship, which help pupils to live life to the full and apply Christian values such as kindness, perseverance, and respect in their everyday lives. We are delighted with the final report, which was published this week, and would like to thank staff, pupils, governors, families, and the wider community for their continued support and commitment.

Following the Easter break, children have returned to school enthusiastic and ready to learn.

Class 1 have begun learning about London and Kings and Queens, exploring London's landscape and famous landmarks.

Class 2 are studying Morecambe Bay, with a particular focus on the role of the Guide Over Sands, linked to ongoing project work.

Class 3 have started their topic on Rivers and have already created impressive mini water cycles, now displayed in their classroom.

Classes 1 and 2 have also enjoyed an educational visit to Conishead Priory in Ulverston, a Buddhist temple. The children listened attentively, asked thoughtful questions, and showed great respect throughout the visit. They particularly enjoyed role play, learning about what makes a temple a sacred space for Buddhists, and exploring the colourful symbolism and peaceful atmosphere of the temple.

This term has also seen the return of our popular Stay and Play Forest Friends sessions, which now run on Thursday and Friday mornings. These sessions support our 2- and 3-year-olds as they explore the school field and enjoy outdoor learning opportunities. We warmly welcome families with children under school age to come along and join us.

Places for Reception starters in September have now been allocated, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming our new children into school. We do, however, still have places available in some year groups. If you are considering Beetham Church of England Primary School for any provision from age two upwards, please do get in touch to arrange a visit — we would be delighted to welcome you.

Best wishes,  
Abi Johnson





**Thursday & Friday mornings  
9:30-10:30**  
Term time only and free!

## Forest Friends Stay & Play

Join us in our fabulous woodland area at our school field for lots of exciting outdoor activities!

- ☆ Mud kitchen fun!
- ☆ Weaving, leaf printing & crafts
- ☆ Den building & hammocks
- ☆ Blindfold trails and more!
- ☆ Refreshments and snacks

**Wellies and waterproofs are a must - prepare to get messy!**


### Congratulations

As noted in this month's School Corner, Beetham School's SIAMS report has been published, following their inspection at the end of the Spring Term.

It is a hugely encouraging read, recognising the efforts and contributions of teachers, pupils, families and governors in making the school a loving, supportive, encouraging and caring place, guided and upheld by its Christian vision.

In noting the school's strength, the introduction of the report says this: *'Love and respect are the heartbeat of this happy, close-knit community. Bringing the Christian vision to life, they drive leaders' daily actions and decisions. This creates an ethos of kindness and acceptance that empowers pupils and adults to flourish.'*

The report also notes a *'thriving relationship'* with St Michael and All Angels, helping ensure that collective worship and the Christian faith is fundamental to the school's spiritual life. We congratulate the school on this wonderful outcome.



Could you serve as a...

## FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

*Why do we need you?*  
Beetham Church of England Primary School has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. We hope that it could be you....  
*What would you do?*  
Foundation Governors, like all the other governors, help to develop a vision and strategy for the school. They oversee how the school spends its money and make sure the Headteacher is doing their job. Foundation Governors are appointed by the foundation that has a close connection to the school. At Beetham, this is the Church of England. Foundation Governors ensure that the school's foundational vision and ethos is maintained and enabled to flourish.  
*What is the commitment?*  
Governors meet for a couple of hours in the late afternoon around 6 times throughout the year. Governors also regularly undertake monitoring visits in school, having opportunity to learn more about different parts of school life and so report on these for the benefit of the whole Governing Body.  
*Who can do it?*  
Foundation Governors are nominated by the Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels, Beetham, and anyone is eligible providing that they are supportive of and in sympathy with the Christian foundation of our School. You don't need any formal training or an educational background, just a desire and willingness to help support the life and flourishing of our school now and into the future.  
*How do I find out more?*  
Please have a word with Father Andrew ([a.norman@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:a.norman@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk)) or Mark, the Chair of Governors ([m.ryan@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:m.ryan@beetham.cumbria.sch.uk)) for a conversation or for more information. They will be very grateful to hear from you!



## Beetham WI News

Members enjoyed a social afternoon at Holgates Caravan Park, Silverdale perfecting their Ten Pin Bowling skills accompanied by plenty of smiles, laughs & groans.

At our monthly meeting Mike Whitbread, a member of the North West Blood Bikes, shared his experiences as a volunteer blood biker. The bikers are dispatched to collect and deliver urgently needed items for NHS hospitals, such as blood, platelets, samples for analysis, medication and donor breast milk. It is a completely self funded organisation who are always looking for volunteers, especially controllers, where age is no limit!!

Coming up next month is a talk by Stewart Lambert entitled Diversification and Farming at Kittridding, 2pm, on Thursday 14th May upstairs in The Wheatsheaf. Anyone is welcome to join us for a small contribution.



Further details about Beetham WI can be obtained by emailing Jeanette, our Secretary, at [beethamwi@gmail.com](mailto:beethamwi@gmail.com)

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN



**Eversley Choir**  
**Spring Reflections**  
Requiem\* **Oliver Linton**  
Ave Maris Stella **Cecilia McDowall**  
Poulenc Sonata for Flute and Piano  
Mozart Veni Sancte Spiritus  
\*First performance  
Soprano **Emma Jenkins**  
Flute **Lynne Williams**  
Accompanied by **Robert Rainford**  
Conducted by **Ian Jones**

St John's Church, Silverdale, LA5 0RF  
Sunday 10 May 2026, 3pm  
Tickets £16, including refreshments  
Available from [www.eversleychoir.org](http://www.eversleychoir.org), choir members or on the door.  
Children and full time students FREE.

**Beetham Village Facebook**  
*A dedicated facebook group for Beetham village. Search for "Beetham Village Cumbria"*

**Beetham Parish Council Meeting**  
**Storth Village Church**  
**Monday 11th May at 7pm**  
Members of the public are welcome to attend.  
[www.beetham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.beetham-pc.gov.uk)

**You're invited to a Big Brunch!**  
**christian aid**  
ARNSIDE CHRISTIAN TOGETHER FAIRTRADE  
Do want to help change the world? Then come along and tuck in at our Big Brunch, in support of Christian Aid, helping to fund its work in fighting poverty and injustice across the world.  
**Saturday 16th May 2026**  
**11.00am - 1.00pm**  
**Methodist Church Hall**  
(Chapel Lane, Arnside)

**GAME ON YOUTH CLUB**  
Play • Eat • Explore  
Tuesdays 3:45pm - 5:15pm (term time only)  
School years 7-9  
Board Games || Pizza  
Optional faith space  
Arnside Methodist Church Hall, Chapel Lane, LA5 0AQ  
More info contact Tiras - 01524 963716

**OTTOVOCE SOUNDS OF SUMMER**  
SUNDAY 10 MAY - 3PM  
SUNDAY 7 JUNE - 3PM  
SCAN TO BOOK  
ARNSIDE METHODIST CHURCH ST MARY'S CHURCH, ALLITHWAITE  
**TICKETS £10**  
KIDS GO FREE  
AFTERNOON TEA & RAFFLE  
DIRECTOR: TRACIE PENWARDEN  
ACCOMPANIST: KEN FORSTER

**HERON**  
NATIONAL MILLS WEEKEND  
9th & 10th May, 11am - 4pm  
**HANDS ON BAKE**  
Wednesday 13th May, 11am - 4pm  
**HANDS ON CRAFT**  
Monday 5th May, 1 - 4pm  
**CRAFTERNOON**  
Tuesday 26th May, 1 - 4pm  
**POWSOWDIE**  
Wednesday 20th May, 11am - 2pm  
Heron Corn Mill, Mill Lane, Beetham, LA7 7PQ  
015395 64271 - [info@heronmill.org](mailto:info@heronmill.org) - [www.heronmill.org](http://www.heronmill.org)

**the HERON theatre**  
art dance music film  
*May What's On*

Sunday 3rd May - Simeon Walker - Piano (Music)  
Friday 8th May - Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde (Drama)  
Saturday 16th May - 4 in 1 (Music)  
Tuesday 19th May - Frida Kahlo (Exhibition on Screen)  
Friday 22nd May - Under Milk Wood (Drama)  
Friday 5th June - The Ballad of Wallis Island (Film)  
Sunday 7th June - South Lakes Acapella (Music)  
Book tickets online [www.theherontheatre.com](http://www.theherontheatre.com)  
email: [boxoffice@theherontheatre.com](mailto:boxoffice@theherontheatre.com) ~ tel: 015395 64283  
Evening performances start at 7.30pm. Sunday music 2.30pm.  
Refreshments available  
The Heron Theatre, Stanley Street, Beetham, LA7 7AS

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[www.heydayscare.co.uk](http://www.heydayscare.co.uk) | 01539 555 685

St Michael and All Angels, Beetham  
**Pentecost**  
  
**Sunday 24th May**  
**11.00am - Parish Eucharist**  
**6.00pm - Choral Evensong**  
We mark the end of the great season of Easter as we remember the gift and coming of the Holy Spirit, remembering Christ's promise to be with us always.

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**St Michael & All Angels FABRIC APPEAL**

St Michael and All Angels exists to worship God, to share the love of Jesus Christ and to serve our wider community in his name. Our ancient and beautiful church building is at the heart of the parish and village of Beetham and is open to everyone. In looking to the future, various parts of our church fabric are in pressing need of repair and restoration, and we would appreciate your support in helping us make this possible. Might you be able, out of your kindness and generosity, to help us preserve this cherished Grade 1 listed building? Thank you

Any donation small or large would be gratefully received. Please scan the QR Code for direct donation to Beetham Church.

St Michael & All Angels Parish Church, Beetham, Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7AL

**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	John Lomax	015395 62648	j.d.lomax@btinternet.com
PCC Treasurers	Andy & Dorothy MacLeod	015395 62062	admdhm@live.co.uk
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.

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**The Gateway deadline**  
Items for the June edition should be submitted by Monday 25th May. Please email articles to jenny.marks@btinternet.com. View deadlines online at www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk