



BEETHAM CHURCH ORGAN ~ 150 YEARS

**Celebrating the
150th Anniversary of the
Beetham Church Organ**

**Saturday
5th September
2-4pm**

**Afternoon Tea
with
Music from Geoff Field
and friends**

**Tickets £10
Available from Jenny Marks on
015395 62559 or via Ticketsource**

Watercolour © Christopher Murphy, christophermurphy.co.uk

**Parish Tuesday
Coffee Mornings**
7th July & 4th August
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 maintenance of our church

**Walking The
KENT ESTUARY PILGRIM WAY**

A spiritual 'footprint', a touch of history, a breath of fresh air
Join us for a 'pilgrimage experience' walk on the Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way. Make of it what you will: a chance to look and listen, to reflect on the past and the present and on the beauty of the landscape, or just a short afternoon social walk with others.



**Sunday 21st June ~ Levens Methodist Church
to St Peter's Heversham**

**Sunday 19th July ~ St. Peter's Heversham
to St. Thomas' Milnthorpe**

**Sunday 16th August ~ St. Thomas' Milnthorpe
to St. Michael & All Angels Beetham**

Family-friendly: children and dogs are welcome

All walks start at 2pm

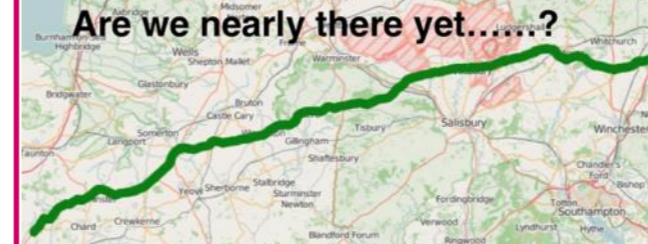
Return transport can be arranged

Copies of 'The Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way' are available in the local churches price £6

THE GATEWAY

Parish Magazine of
St Michael & All Angels, Beetham

Summer 2026



Are we nearly there yet.....?

The ultimate road trip question asked by children and adults alike on many holiday car journeys. Summer is upon us, and thoughts turn to annual holidays, where to go and when.....

Readers who are bereft at the absence of this years Glastonbury festival (a fallow year which allows the land to renew) may wish to consider that now is an ideal time for the road trip along the infamous A303, running between Basingstoke and Honiton. The A303 corridor could almost be considered a 'pilgrim way', as it provides access to ancient sacred landscapes, places of worship, spiritual retreats, medieval abbeys, stone circles and classic temples.

Start your journey at Grid Reference SU 123 422, and travel east to west.

The first location rises out of the morning mist. Amesbury. Here you will encounter the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Stonehenge. Built approximately 5000 years ago, the prehistoric stone circle was, and is still, a site of pilgrimage, where ancient communities gathered to honour the dead, and celebrate the changing seasons.

Follow a 20 mile detour south along the A360, look out for the magnificent spire of Salisbury Cathedral, standing at 404 feet, reputedly the tallest church spire in the country. [Take note, at this time of year the tower tour departs daily at quarter past the hour from 11.15am]. The cathedral itself, a masterpiece of Early English Gothic style, is home to a pristine copy of the Magna Carta dating back to 1215, and also the world's oldest working mechanical clock!



Take time to check your watch before heading back to the A303 along the B3088 towards Tisbury. Follow signs for the ruins of the 14th century Old Wardour Castle. Admire its hexagonal construction, particularly fashionable in France, though unique in Britain. The site was historically tied to catholic devotion in mediaeval times. Then travel on to Mere to experience the elegant Stourhead Mansion & Estate, a neo-Palladian house built by banker Henry Hoare, who made his money during the South Sea Bubble. Prompted by his European travels and an emerging fashion for gardens, take time to visit his creation, inspired by scenes of the Grand Tour which include the Temple of Apollo and the Pantheon.



The journey must include a diversion north to one of the most spiritual locations in the country. Within a 10 mile radius of the A303 you will have a view of Glastonbury Tor, rising 521 feet above marshland, crowned by the 14th century Saint Michael's Tower. This area is famously associated with Arthurian legend, the Isle of Avalon and the Quest for the Holy Grail. In the centre of Glastonbury lie the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey, an 8th century Benedictine monastery. It is now a non-denominational site, welcoming visitors of all spiritual paths and beliefs. Christian legends infer that the abbey was founded by Joseph of Arimathea in the 1st century, alongside a myth that he was given the responsibility of the keeping of the Holy Grail.

We end our journey at Langport, with a visit to Mulchelney Abbey, second largest in Somerset after Glastonbury, where you can dip into the dressing-up box before roaming the Abbots House and monastic ruins, and finally unravelling your picnic blanket on the lawn!

By now if you are feeling daunted with the thought of the 262 mile drive to the start of the A303, perhaps you may wish to consider our very own 'Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way'... right on our doorstep.

Patricia & John Townsend

Letter from The Revd Andrew Norman



Dear friends

Later this year, as you might already be aware, following an historic agreement with the Government of France, the Bayeux Tapestry – for the first time since it was made nearly one thousand years ago – will be returning to the United Kingdom. The Tapestry, one of the wonders of the medieval world, was likely commissioned by a French patron and made by English embroiders using manuscript details from Canterbury. And depicts – across seventy metres of embroidered cloth – a detailed vision of life in the eleventh century, capturing castles and warfare, ships and clothing, food and furniture in vivid detail.

Of course, the reason for its creation centres on the events leading up (and following on) from the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, marking its nine hundredth and sixtieth anniversary this year. The infamous invasion led by William, Duke of Normandy which saw him victorious at the battle of Hastings after challenging Harold Godwinson (the last crowned Anglo-Saxon king) for the crown. A battle which would, over successive years, lead to the gradual and eventual establishment of Norman rule across the land, thus marking a decisive moment in English history.

As my first history lessons at Secondary School taught me (now more years ago than I like to readily acknowledge), no year in our country's history is more famous, or indeed well-known, than 1066; marking the last time England was successfully invaded and defining the lineage from which the British monarchy today still dates itself. As the rather tongue-in-cheek rendering of English history, *1066 and All That* (published in 1930) puts it: 'The Norman Conquest was a Good Thing, as from this time onwards England stopped being conquered and thus was able to become top nation.'

Whilst much has changed in the centuries following that conflict on Senlac Hill, we know full well (and perhaps too well) that we still live with the realities of political change and instability. Indeed, writing this missive as I am on the morning which saw the anticipated announcement from 10 Downing Street that the Prime Minister is set to resign, we know that the weeks and months ahead will feature even more wrangling about the future direction of our country and the welfare of its people.

In the Book of Psalms (46.6) we find these words: '*Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.*' And across the entirety of the Bible, we find ample reflections and recordings (spanning the millennia) of the rise and fall of nations, of the vagaries of political power and authority and of how, so often, the values of earth are out of kilter with what truly matters. Only with God, so Scripture tells us, can the world and its leaders be held in proper perspective and so be truly accountable - confronted with questions of how earthly power can be both used and exercised for the good of the whole, of how earthly decisions might reflect better the priorities and preferences of the Kingdom of heaven.

This is, of course, what we hear time and time again when we attend to the teachings of Jesus, where we find the priorities and preferences of God clearly revealed. His preference for the poor and outcast, his blistering challenge to all that denies and denounces human value and dignity, his willingness to esteem those whom the world often forgets, his passion for justice and righteousness, his command to love, and even to forgive, those whom others would so readily condemn and malign.

And whilst perhaps these habits and attitudes, these behaviours and commitments, seem so far removed from the reality of the world as we often find it, the encouragement is offered – repeatedly - that we should neither abandon the hope of these things being possible nor lose heart as we seek prayerfully to make them so. Trusting in all things, as we turn again to the message of the psalmist, that '*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*'

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

As ever,

St Michael & All Angels Beetham Church Services for July & August 2026

Date	Time	Service	Date	Time	Service
Weds 1st July	10.30am	BCP* Holy Communion	Sun 1st August	11am	Parish Eucharist
Sun 5th July	11am	Parish Eucharist		6pm	BCP Evensong
	6pm	BCP Evensong	Weds 5th Aug	10.30am	BCP Holy Communion
Sun 12th July	11am	Parish Eucharist	Sun 9th Aug	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong		6pm	BCP Evensong
Sun 19th July	11am	Parish Eucharist	Sun 16th Aug	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong		6pm	BCP Evensong
Sun 26th July	11am	Parish Eucharist	Sun 23rd Aug	11am	Parish Eucharist
	6pm	BCP Evensong		6pm	BCP Evensong
			Sun 30th Aug	11am	Parish Eucharist
				6pm	BCP Evensong

Please see weekly pewsheet or website for further details

*Book of Common Prayer

Kent Estuary Mission Community Gathering

Sunday 13th September 10.30am
at **St James' Church, Arnside**

We come together as churches across the Kent Estuary to unite in worship and prayer together.

REST & RESET

Christian meditation.
A moment to press pause.

Tuesday 7th July 6.15-7.00pm
at **St James' Church, Arnside**

invite you to join in celebrating

SEA SUNDAY

Sunday 12th July at 2.00pm
on **Arnside Pier**

A service of hymns and readings as we mark Sea Sunday and pray for God's blessing on our village and all those who work and serve on the seas and waters.

Come and join us in celebrating

ST JAMES' DAY

with a

Songs of Praise

in the church grounds followed by tea and cake
(if you would like to, please bring something to share)

Sunday 26th July at 2.00pm
at **St James' Church (Church Hill, Arnside)**

the prayer course

An eight-week journey through the Lord's Prayer...

Wednesday 30th September 7th, 14th, 21st October
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November 12.30 - 2.15pm

at **Arnside Methodist Church Hall**
An opportunity to come together and help grow and deepen our lives of prayer - as individuals and as part of the wider church.

Please, if you would like to, bring some lunch!

Fairtrade refreshments will be served. **24-7 PRAYER**

ARNSIDE

crafts & activities food (including a meal)

MESSY Church

fun stories & music

Friday 10th July 2026 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Arnside Methodist Church



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- Classic & Performance Motor Show - Sunday 12th July
- Shakespeare in the Garden - Thursday 23rd July
- Motorcycle Hill Climb - Sunday 26th July
- Tennants Valuations Day - Tuesday 4th August
- The Kirkby Lonsdale Motoring Club Car Rally - Sunday 16th August
- Mourholme Local History Weekend - Sat 5th and Sun 6th September

SPECIAL
SUMMER
EVENTS

OPENING TIMES

July: Tues, Wed, Thurs 1:30 – 5:30
August: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sun and
Bank Holiday Monday 1:30 – 5:30

The owners reserve the right to restrict
access to Leighton Hall, the grounds
and parkland on certain days.



'YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE, MY ONLY SUNSHINE, YOU MAKE ME
HAPPY WHEN SKIES ARE GREY. YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH
I LOVE YOU, PLEASE DON'T TAKE MY SUNSHINE AWAY'

Jimmie Davies and Charles Mitchell

Dear Reader(s....there is a rumour I have more than one!), above is the chorus of a well-known tune that has become somewhat of a band anthem. For sunshine you could insert music. It will not scan very well, but you get my meaning. Before I wander off into another paragraph, the song has quite an interesting history. All I shall say is Jimmie and Charles were not the original composers. Something to Google whilst on your deck chairs!

Whilst writing this we are experiencing Summer. As always it arrives all bunched up, lasts about 10 days, and as we finally acclimatise, the storms appear or hosepipe bans are threatened and its over! Summer, like Christmas is loaded with musical memories. But like a well-stocked flower bed, Summer has more variety. We can all think of a tune that encapsulates those Summer memories. Mine is, 'Oh Lori' by the Alessi Brothers. Alas for band we do not have a Mariah Carey to play in Summer, but we do have FLORAL DANCE, SLOOP JOHN B, and, of course, YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE. Plus quite a few others which we will be playing on SPORTS DAY. A lovely community day where sport, cake, music and countless other fun activities take place. Make sure you plant a sausage the night before to ensure sunshine. Yes, it is a 'thing'. Another chance to Google. You are welcome.

'SUMMER ~ HAIR GETS LIGHTER ~ WATER GETS WARMER ~ MUSIC GETS LOUDER ~ LIFE GETS BETTER'

Kenny Chesney

This year it is going to be lovely. We have some new members for whom it will be their first gazebo experience. The first time they get to play off the Fell runners to the iconic CHARIOTS OF FIRE! It does not get much better. I love being part of Beetham Community Band. I love making music full stop. There is a lot said about mental health and wellness these days. Which is great, it should not be hidden away. Get it out from under the rug and find your inner musician. It is in us all and I speak from personal experience. So why not give us a try? Have a think whilst scrolling the oracle for the answers to my 'puzzles' in your deckchairs. Remember to wear your factor 50 folks!

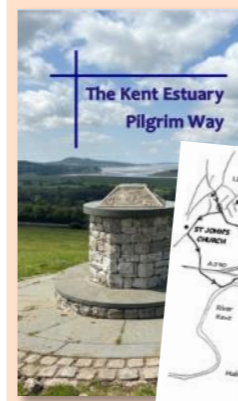
'REST IS NOT IDLENESS, AND TO LIE SOMETIMES ON THE GRASS UNDER TREES ON A SUMMER'S DAY,
LISTENING TO THE MURMUR OF THE WATER, OR WATCHING THE CLOUDS FLOAT ACROSS THE SKY, IS BY NO
MEANS A WASTE OF TIME.'

Sir John Lubbock, scientist, from The Use of Life

With love and light and music as always, Tess

[07725580095 for more information, or to 'book' us to play]

Walking The Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way



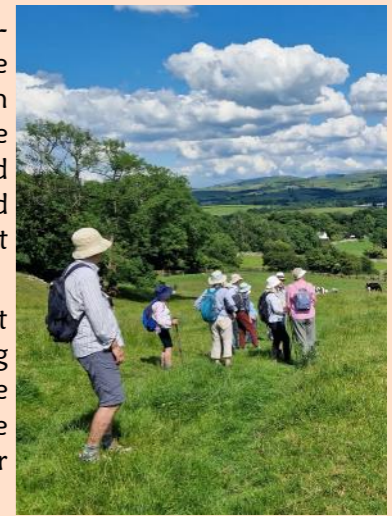
On Sunday 21st June nineteen people (and two dogs) became pilgrims for the afternoon, experiencing the first of the Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way walks from Levens to Heversham.

The walk began at Levens Methodist Church with a summary of the beginnings of Christianity in the area given by Colin Honour. The next stop was St John's Church Levens, where Barbara Fairburn gave a reflection and prayer.

The walk continued in hot sunshine, across the fields and through woodland to reach the A6 at Levens Hall, where Colin talked about the importance of the crossroads - both physically and spiritually.

From Levens the route went across open countryside and through narrow green paths (where the shade was very welcome!) to reach Heversham Head. Here there was a pause to take in the breathtaking views across the Kent Estuary and time for reflection on our pilgrimage and fellowship, and our connection to the environment around us, led by Jenny Marks.

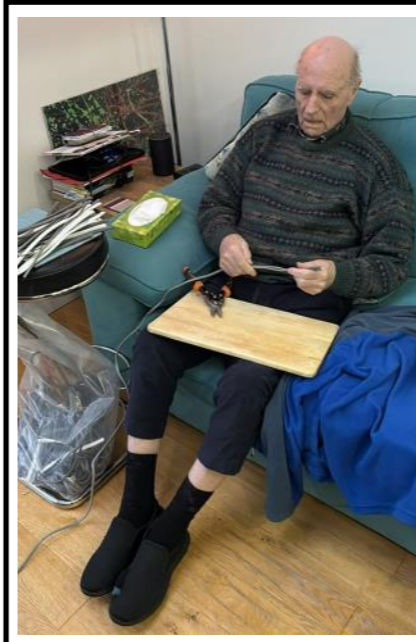
The final part of the route took us down to St Peter's Church at Heversham for a very refreshing cup of tea and cake! Thank you to Peter Clarke and all who helped to organise the walk. Please join us for Walk 2 on 19th July (see back page for details). Guidebooks are available in church.



Recycling thanks

We are grateful to Gary and Edward Hewitt for their kind donation of 22kg of copper (from old electricity wires) to our 'recycling appeal' which generated an additional £175.56 when it was recycled last month. It was made possible by many hours of patient work by Edward stripping the old redundant wiring from his son Gary's business premises, for which we are very thankful.

We continue to be very grateful for your help in supporting our appeal to repair the church fabric. 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. A reminder that 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 (or more wiring for Mr Hewitt to strip!) please contact Deborah on 07899 702476.



School Corner



Following the Whitsun holiday, the children have returned to what has been a very busy and exciting half term, with much more still to come before we conclude the year with our Class 2 and 3 production and the Year 6 Leavers' Service.

We began the half term with an engaging Heart Health workshop for Class 3, where pupils explored the importance of staying active and making healthy food choices. This was followed by financial literacy workshops for both Class 2 and Class 3, during which children demonstrated fantastic creativity by planning parties and designing bedrooms—all while staying within a budget!

Class 3 have also begun their sailing lessons at Killington, delivered in partnership with Arnside Sailing Club. It has been wonderful to see the children developing confidence on the water as they work towards their Level 1 sailing award. So far, they have experienced a variety of conditions and have learned a range of valuable sailing skills.

Class 2 have enjoyed two visits to Dallam. On their first visit, they had the exciting opportunity to meet the author Joseph Elliott. During their second visit, they participated in an expressive arts day, taking part in activities involving art, drama, and music. We would like to extend our thanks to Dallam for organising such enriching experiences.

We also welcomed Sports Reach into school, who spoke to all children about their upcoming holiday club at Carnforth Secondary School. In addition, some pupils from Class 3 refreshed their Open Water Swimming skills with Waterwise—an extremely important life skill given the area in which we live.

This term has also seen key assessment for some year groups. Year 1 pupils completed their Phonics Screening Check, and Year 4 pupils undertook their Multiplication Tables Check. We are incredibly proud of all of them for their positive attitudes and for trying their very best.

Year 6 pupils have begun their preparations for leaving primary school, including attending the Diocese Leavers' Service at Kendal Parish Church. This special event brought together pupils from across the local area to reflect on their primary school journeys and to look ahead to the next stage of their education. It was a thoughtful and memorable day for all involved.

Looking ahead, the remainder of the term promises to be just as busy. Children will be taking part in a range of exciting activities, including end-of-term trips, the summer production, Sports Day, and a visit to Elmsfield House. Class 3 will also complete Bikeability Levels 1 and 2, enjoy their residential visit, and Class 2 visiting Arnside Coastguard. We will round off the year with Class 1's Afternoon Tea and our final Leavers' Service for our Year 6 pupils.

All of this will take place alongside the continued hard work and dedication our children show in completing their National Curriculum learning.

Best wishes,
Abi Johnson

Beetham WI ~ Summertime!

Following a bus ride to Rydal, some members enjoyed a warm and sunny walk sighting heron, goats, pigs and alpacas on the way, and on reaching Ambleside we had a look around the site of the Roman Fort 'Galava' in Rothay Park. The lunch stop was sitting outside on the terrace at the Ambleside Park Hotel overlooking Windermere before catching the bus back from Waterhead.



For our monthly meeting in June we were instructed by Sue Tyldesley from Yealand WI in the art of 'Sun Printing', which is a creative craft that captures botanical (or other items) shadows onto damp fabric using sunlight. Unfortunately, it rained all that day, but after having covered our painted material and prepared the inside of our books, we carefully took our samples home and finished off the procedure for putting our dried samples onto the covers. The end results were all very different!



We will be having a Talk about Recycling Textiles by Katharine Banks from the Waste Prevention Team on Thursday 9th July at 2pm in The Wheatsheaf. This is an Open Meeting so anyone welcome to attend for a small contribution that will include refreshments.

We will be visiting Leighton Hall for our summer outing at the end of July and getting together for our August meeting at a local café. September 3rd meeting will be a Talk by Victoria Morris entitled: Land's End to John O'Groates. Starts at 2pm and held upstairs in The Wheatsheaf – this is another Open meeting so all very welcome. Further details by emailing our secretary at beethamwi@gmail.com

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**Beetham Parish Council Meeting
Storth Village Church
Monday 6th July 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.beetham-pc.gov.uk

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- Friday 3rd July - *The Seed of the Sacred Fig (Film)*
- Friday 17th July - *The Playboy of the Western World (National Theatre Live)*
- Friday 7th August - *I Swear (Film)*
- Friday 21st August - *Les Liaisons Dangereuse (National Theatre Live)*
- Friday 4th September - *H is for Hawk (Film)*

Book tickets online www.theherontheatre.com
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Saturday 25th July

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10:30AM - 12:30PM

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Medium terrain, good footwear a must.
You will arrive back at the barn for Foodie Friday, in time to buy fresh bread, cakes and other goodies!

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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

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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
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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 September edition should be submitted by Monday 24th August. Please email articles to jenny.marks@btinternet.com. View deadlines online at www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk