

April 2011

60p



CROSTHWAITE



CARTMEL FELL



HELSINGTON

**TWO  
VALLEYS PARISH  
NEWS**



UNDERBARROW



WITHERSLACK



WINSTER

# *A LETTER FROM BRIAN CROWE*

## **Who Has Authority?**

Our international news over the last three months has been dominated by uprisings in many North African and Middle Eastern states. It began in January with a revolution in Tunisia which successfully ousted President Ben Ali and was quickly followed in Egypt when President Mubarak was forced to renounce power. In Libya, where Colonel Gadhafi has been in power for 42 years, the people's struggle continues. And other countries, like Yemen and Bahrain, have also felt the force of people demonstrating in the streets, seeking change.

While no two countries are the same, there are some common themes. Rulers have been in power for many years without listening to their people; religion has played some part, but the majority of opinion has been seeking greater democracy; and modern forms of communication have helped to undermine the ruling regimes. In each country, the revolutions have posed the question "Who has authority?"

There was a similar situation in Israel 2000 years ago. The Jewish people had long been under Roman authority, and they didn't like it. Jesus was one figure who arose who, they thought, might overturn this oppressive regime – he even talked about bringing freedom. The Jews welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem as a king, albeit on a donkey rather than in more pomp and grandeur. However, within days, they joined the chants of "Crucify Him" as they realised that he wasn't bringing political freedom.

Those with authority were still, apparently, the religious and Roman authorities. After his arrest, Jesus appears before the religious ruling Council, and is found guilty of blasphemy because he claimed authority as Son of God. He is despatched to Pontius Pilate since only he can authorise the death penalty. Jesus tells Pilate that his kingdom is not of this world, yet Pilate is too weak to withstand the pressure of the Jewish authorities. Pilate claims he has power either to free Jesus or crucify him. He did, but subsequently God had the greater power to raise Jesus from the dead.

God had, all along, had the real authority and power. His purpose was not to free the Jewish nation from an oppressive regime; it was to bring an even greater freedom, available to all – freedom through forgiveness and reconciliation, both with God and with our neighbours. When Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection, he says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me". What follows is the instruction to offer this freedom to all.

The events in North Africa and the Middle East have reminded us that even strong leaders have limited power and authority. The religious and Roman authorities may have had power to send Jesus to the cross, but God's power raised him from the dead

so that Jesus could bring perfect freedom. Christians celebrate these events once again as we approach Easter.

*Brian Cross*

## FROM THE REGISTERS



27th February

Baptism at All Saints, Underbarrow  
of **Isaac Stephen Swindlehurst**



26<sup>th</sup> February

Funeral & Burial at St. Anthony's, Cartmel Fell  
of **Robert Geoffrey Wills** aged 81

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### FROM THE EDITOR...

Welcome to April's edition of Two Valleys News! You may notice that it is longer than usual, with 24 pages rather than 20. There is so much going on in our Valley parishes, and lots of information to share. We also have had an extra page of advertisers this year. We hope to have 24 pages each month from now on, and the printers, Milnthorpe Printers, have agreed to print the additional pages at no extra cost.

Therefore, please let the editors have any items for the magazine: upcoming events, useful information, poems, photos—anything you would like to share or think that others would benefit from knowing.

Thankyou!

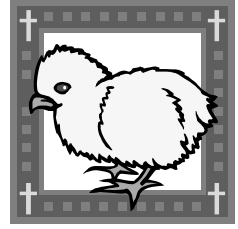
#### **Holy Days in April**

- 10 William Law, Priest, Spiritual Writer, 1761 - Lesser Festival
- 19 Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1012 - Lesser Festival
- 21 Anselm, Abbot of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher of the Faith, 1109 - Lesser Festival
- 23 George, Martyr, Patron of England, c.304 - Festival**
- 25 Mark the Evangelist - Festival**
- 29 Catherine of Siena, Teacher of the Faith, 1380 - Lesser Festival

# CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS



## **Easter Holiday Club**



Fancy a morning of craft, fun and chocolate?

Why not come to our Easter Holiday Club on **Tuesday 26th April** (the day after Easter Monday)? It is for children and young people aged 3–12 years from 10am–12noon at St. Mary's Church, Crosthwaite.

We will be making a variety of Easter-themed crafts including making some Easter slime and goo eggs, Easter finger puppets, decorating Papier Mache eggs, Crazy Easter Bunny hats and bonnets, various paper crafts, jewellery making and some interesting painting activities along with the usual chocolate related activities and much, much more! There will be a break for drinks and Hot Cross buns halfway through and a special all-together time at 11.40am for which your parents are also welcome to join us.

Pre-School children need to bring a parent or guardian to help them. School-age children (or those starting in Reception in September 2011) do not need to be accompanied by an adult.

The cost of this exciting morning is £1.50 per child (payable on the day). Please wear clothes suitable for painting, working with chocolate and generally making a mess in!

We need to know if you are coming as places are limited and we will have preparations to make. Please collect a consent form from any of the churches in the two valleys team or contact **Michelle Woodcock at The Vicarage, Crosthwaite** to book a place before Wednesday 20th April if possible.

Once you have returned your consent form or have spoken to Michelle your place at Holiday Club will be reserved and all you have to do is turn up on the day!

It's going to be great fun and you might even find a few Easter eggs along the way! Hope to see you there.....

Rev Michelle Woodcock 015395 68276

## HOLY WEEK EVENTS

### EASTER VIGIL - ON HOLY SATURDAY NIGHT

Do consider coming along to our Easter Vigil to be held at 8.00pm on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter) 23rd April in St. Mary's, Crosthwaite. This is a wonderfully atmospheric service as we sit in the darkness, lit only by candlelight, and listen to some of the most well-known stories from the Old Testament. Gradually the sense of Easter and resurrection approaching grows stronger and the service climaxes with the lighting of the Easter Fire, outside the church, from which the Easter Candle is lit and processed back into the church. This all sets us up for the Celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Day.

This special service is hosted by Crosthwaite but designed for residents of all our villages to attend. Why not come along and make Easter that bit more special this year?

### HOLY WEEK EVENTS AND SERVICES

Maundy Thursday    7.00pm Holy Communion (CW) at St. Paul's, Witherslack  
                                  7.30pm Holy Communion (CW) at All Saints, Underbarrow

Good Friday            10.00am Litany and Ante-Communion at St. Anthony's,  
                                  Cartmel Fell  
                                  2.00pm Good Friday Meditation at St. John's, Helsington  
                                  2.00pm Good Friday Meditation at St. Mary's, Crosthwaite

Holy Saturday        8.00pm Easter Vigil at St. Mary's, Crosthwaite

Easter Day            9.30am Easter Communion (BCP) at St. Anthony's, Cartmel  
                                  Fell  
                                  9.30am Easter Communion (CW) in St. Paul's, Witherslack  
                                  9.30am Easter Communion at St. John's, Helsington  
                                  9.30am Easter Communion at All Saints, Underbarrow  
                                  11.00am Easter Communion (CW) at St. Mary's,  
                                  Crosthwaite  
                                  11.00am Easter Communion (BCP) at Holy Trinity, Winster

Easter Tuesday 26th April: Children's 'Easter Holiday Club' 10.00am-12noon  
in Crosthwaite church (see p.5)

## **DAMSON DAY SERVICE**

### **11.00am Sunday 17th April in the marquee at Low Farm**

On Sunday 17th April (the day after Damson Day) we will be holding a special 'Damson Day Songs of Praise' Service at 11.00am on the site of Damson Day itself, in one of the marquees. This will include topical hymns and readings and have a real 'damson flavour'. Our Two Valleys Puppet Theatre Project will also be presenting "Jonah & the Whale" Puppet Show – not to be missed! Do come along if you can. Car parking will be clearly indicated.

## **NOTE TO PATHFINDERS**

We are helping at The Easter Holiday Club on 26th April and all Pathfinders are invited back for lunch at The Vicarage afterwards. Pathfinders continues as normal in May with our monthly evening meeting and hot dinner. More details next time of dates.

## **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**SUMMER DANCE in the BARN in aid of RLI Neonatal Unit** at High Farm, Crook (LA8 8LR) on Saturday 20th August at 7pm.

Live Music by Fiona Hanlon & 'High Five'

Hotpot supper, homemade puddings

Reasonably priced bar & raffle

Tickets: Adults £10, Children 8–16yrs £5, Under 8's free

For tickets please contact George on 015395 68004 or 07901720616.

## **HELINGTON & BRIGSTEER VILLAGE HALL presents**

**Caroline Horton in**

### **You're Not Like the Other Girls Chrissy**

**FRIDAY 9th APRIL at 8.00pm.**

This Highlights-sponsored play is a fond, comical and poignant portrait of one woman's experience of love and war performed by 'Best Solo Performer Nominee' at the Stage Awards Edinburgh. Based on the true story of Caroline's grandmother, the play has been pieced together from letters and conversations. 'January 1945, Paris is liberated. Christiane waits in the Gare Du Nord for a ticket to England where she will be reunited with her fiancé. Whilst she waits, she recounts the extraordinary love story between herself and a teacher from Staffordshire.'

Tickets: Adult £6, Child £4, Family £16 from Elizabeth 015395 68434 or Peter 68498.

**Daily Telegraph:** *...the future of theatre, ...runaway success, ...major award at Edinburgh Fringe, ...international tour.*

## Rev. Beardy Weirdy does something whacky for Lent

During the whole of Lent Rev. Michael Woodcock, our parish priest for Cartmel Fell, Crosthwaite, Winster and Witherslack, will be sporting a coloured beard and seeking to raise money for two charitable causes:

**The Stroke Association** (Reg. Charity No. 211015)

**Alzheimer's Research UK** (Reg. Charity No. 1077089)

I'm sure we all know people who are suffering either from the effects of a Stroke or from the effects of Alzheimer's, and there are quite a few folk locally in our parishes who struggle with these conditions.



So for 40 days from Ash Wednesday 9th March until Easter Day 24th April, Rev. Michael will be dying his beard different colours and hopefully drawing people's attention to these worthy causes.

If you would like to make a **donation** in sponsorship then please send a **cheque** payable to '**Crosthwaite PCC**', or **cash**, clearly marked Lent Appeal to:

Rev. Michael Woodcock,  
Lent Appeal,  
The Vicarage,  
Crosthwaite,  
Kendal. LA8 8HX

Please be as generous as you can; between 50p and £1 per day would be fantastic or, if that is too much, simply as much as you would like to offer. Everything will be very gratefully received on behalf of those who suffer in these ways. At the end the total will be divided equally between these two causes (unless you indicate with your donation which cause you would prefer to support).

**THANK YOU**

**WEDDING DRESS AND FLOWER FESTIVAL**

**ST. PAUL'S, WITHERSLACK**

**A fascinating display of Witherslack wedding memorabilia  
from over the last 60 years**

which includes wedding dresses and photographs together with floral displays.

Display programme £2.50

**Saturday 30th April 10am–4.30pm**

**Sunday 1st May 10am–2.30pm**

followed on Sunday by a **church service at 3pm** then cream teas.

**A real family occasion!**

**Refreshments**

served on both days in the Barwick Hall – morning coffee,  
light lunches, cream teas etc.

**Great raffle prizes**

including an anniversary cake and a watercolour of St. Paul's.

**Various stalls and a tombola**

**Wooden spoon, fancy dress competitions and organised games on the  
Saturday**

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**UNDERBARROW OPEN GARDEN & PLANT SALE**

**Monday 2nd May from 10am to 4pm**

at Chapel Spring Cottage, Underbarrow (LA8 8HJ) near the church.  
All proceeds to All Saints' Church. This will be a good opportunity  
to fill in gaps in your garden from a range of interesting herbaceous  
perennials. Refreshments will be served all day.

Entry £2. Children free.

# ***NOTICES FOR INDIVIDUAL PARISHES***

## **CARTMEL FELL**

### **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

Do come and join our special Mothering Sunday Family Service on **3rd April at 9.30am**. Gifts of flowers will be distributed and coffee with Simnel Cake will be served at the end of the Service.

### **CARTMEL FELL COMMUNITY TRUST**

Cartmel Fell Community Trust is planning a TEA PARTY in the Parish Hall on the occasion of the Royal Wedding: **FRIDAY 29th APRIL** at 4pm. There will be fun and games for all ages: a Children's Art Competition on the theme of Royalty or Weddings and a Children's Fancy Dress Competition. Fancy dress for adults is optional! Please bring something for the Jacob's Join tea.

### **CARTMEL FELL HISTORY SOCIETY**

**Monday 11th April at 8pm**

The speaker is Jeff Cowton from the Wordsworth Trust speaking about Bertha Newcombe, the illustrator of international and local fame, in the parish hall.

### **ITALIAN EVENING**

On the 2nd April at 7.30pm our Italian Chef will be serving one of his favourite Italian Meals assisted by his friends. He warmly invites us to join him and enjoy this treat; please bring your own drinks. Cost £15, tickets available from Bowland Bridge Shop and Vanda Lambton (Tel: 015395 31311).

### **BOON DAY**

We are hoping to have a Boon Day on **Saturday 9th April** starting at 10.00am. If you can spare an hour please do come and help us to clean the Church.

### **BLUEBELL WALKS**

A Note for your Diary: on **Sunday 8th May** we will be organising Bluebell Walks and other attractions including a Plant & Produce stall and serving refreshments. Further details next month.

### **TAI CHI NEWS**

The class will now take place (for the time being) in Winster Village Hall on Thursday afternoons at 4.15pm. Any new people interested in joining us will be most welcome.

### **EASTER LILIES**

If you would like to remember loved ones you can give a donation for lilies. Please have names and donations in by 17th April to avoid disappointment. Contact Lily Holme 015395 60247.

### **ST ANTHONY'S ROTAS COFFEE**

10th April     Bridie Prichard  
24th April     Vicky Barratt

### **FLOWERS**

23rd April for Easter—Everyone welcome

## **CROOK**

### **ST CATHERINE'S CROOK AGM**

St Catherine's Crook is holding its AGM on

**Sunday April 17th**, immediately following the 10am service; it will probably commence at about 11.15am. Following the annual meeting everyone is invited to join us for a 'Sunday Lunch Sunday' at the Crook Village Hall. If you would like to come, there is a sign-up list at the back of the church or, alternatively, contact Hilary Crowe: phone 01539 568959 or e-mail [taxcaddy@aol.com](mailto:taxcaddy@aol.com). There will be a hot first course and pudding contributions will be requested nearer the time.

### **SPRING COFFEE EVENING**

The Crook Memorial Hall Committee invite you to a Spring Coffee Evening for all the family on **Saturday 9th April** at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Dominoes, Bingo, Stalls and a Raffle will feature in the entertainment.

## **CROSTHWAITE**

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

### **CROSTHWAITE SHOW**

**Saturday 6th August**

Please note the change of date. Schedules will be available from Easter at Bowland Bridge Shop and the Exchange, and from Caroline Holmes at Tower Hill (the Clock House). Still only £1.00 including entry.

### **MOTHERING SUNDAY SPECIAL— AFTERNOON TEA & CHURCH! 4.30–5.45pm, Sunday 3rd April in St. Mary's, Crosthwaite**

There will be a special service for all ages on Sunday 3rd April at St. Mary's Church Crosthwaite. This will be run by some of the young people from our Pathfinder group. We will be providing a special afternoon spread of dainty sandwiches and cakes with tea from 4.30pm–5pm and then we will lead a short service of celebration and

thanksgiving from 5pm–5.45pm. Do come and join us if you can.

### **CROSTHWAITE & LYTH BOWLING CLUB**

Outdoor bowling will commence at the beginning of April and we look forward to another enjoyable season with old and new members. Our membership is also open to anyone from adjoining Parishes of Brigsteer, Cartmel Fell, Crook, Underbarrow, Winster and Witherslack, so come and join us! Please contact secretary, Pat Walker on 015395 68584.

### **THE ANNUAL JUMBLE SALE**

Takes place in the Memorial Hall on **Saturday 7th May**.

If anyone has any jumble to be collected, please contact Jim Bownass 68203, Gordon Pitt 68210, Marilyn Shuttleworth 68522 or Roger Smith 68671. If you have any goods that you think might sell on the day in our auction, please give any of the above a call. We will be setting up stalls on the Friday night previous, and offers of help will be much appreciated. Thanks.  
Jim Bownass

### **ST MARY'S FLOWER FESTIVAL 25th and 26th June**

The Flower Festival is being organised to raise funds for the refurbishment of the church toilet facilities, and is expected to attract a large number of visitors to the church and the village of Crosthwaite over the weekend. We would like to ask villagers to think about this worthwhile cause when planting seedlings and grow some extras to donate to the plant sale stall. We would be grateful if you could name and price your plants before delivering them to the village hall. More details on this in June's magazine.

We would also be grateful for any donations of homemade preserves, jams, vinegars, damson gin etc. for the bottle stall. And of course we are looking for volunteers to help on the day so if you can spare some time on that weekend, please contact Denise Park on 015395 68520.

## **EASTER LILIES**

Anyone wanting to remember a loved one can give a donation for a Lily to:

Vonnie            52005 or  
Eileen            68565.

## **ST MARY'S ROTAS COFFEE**

10th Apr    Geraldine & Arthur Wilson  
24th Apr    Gillian Smith & Lorraine Brierley

## **FLOWERS**

3rd, 10th, 17th Lent, no flowers  
24th Apr    EASTER SUNDAY  
If you can help with the decoration of the Church for Easter Sunday you are most welcome on Saturday April 23rd at 1.30pm.

## **CROSTHWAITE HELPLINE**

Please contact Geraldine & Arthur Wilson on 015395 68836.

# **HELSINGTON.**

## **DREAMFIRED STORYNIGHTS**

**Tuesday 26th April at 7.30pm**  
Squashed between Easter and the Royal Wedding there's a lively night out at the Brigsteer Village Hall. Tim Ralph is one of the most promising younger storytellers in the UK, and his show 'From the Odd' is a fascinating collection of stories. Some of them you'll know well, others might be sitting in the back of your brain, and others will be unusual and astounding! Join us for

Tim's show, coffee, cake and guest performances all for just £7 on Tuesday 26th April at 7.30pm! There's more information at [www.dreamfiredstorynights.org](http://www.dreamfiredstorynights.org) or you can call 0789 148 7375.

## **BRIGSTEER OPEN GARDENS**

**Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday 29th & 30th May 2011, 11am-5pm**

Visit the hidden gardens of Brigsteer during a stroll around this picturesque village with views of the Lakeland Fells to the North and Morecambe Bay to the South. Refreshments and plant sales. Entry to the gardens: adults £5.00, children free. All proceeds to the village hall. Call 015395 68570 for more information.

# **UNDERBARROW**

## **UNDERBARROW INSTITUTE**

Underbarrow Institute is holding a fund raising event on Saturday 23rd April at 7.30 pm. The entertainment is provided by Vocalist/Guitarist JayBee. Tickets are £9, including hotpot. Tickets are available from Valerie O'loughlin 015395 68655.

## **UNDERBARROW & BRADLEYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

The next meeting will be held at Underbarrow Institute on Tuesday 29th March at 7pm. This will include the letting of Smithymire and all interested parties are invited to attend. The Parish Council Elections, which are held every four years, will be held on 5th May; look out for the notices on the Council's notice boards which give details for anyone wishing to stand as a Councillor. Kevin M Price, Parish Clerk 01539-821596.

## **UNDERBARROW HELPLINE**

Please contact:

Frank Hodson on 01539 728280

Mabel Evans on 015395 68481

Tom Handley on 01539 724013

## **WINSTER**

### **SUNDAY 17th APRIL**

Please note that there will NOT be an 11.00am service at Winster on Sunday 17th April as instead we are all invited to the special 'Damson Day Songs of Praise' Service at 11.00am at Low Farm in the Lyth Valley (the site of Damson Day). See article in 'Calling all Parishioners' for more details.

### **KENDAL NOW AND THEN**

On **Friday 1st April at 7.30pm** in Winster Village Hall, Trevor Hughes is coming to give a slide show and talk about Kendal and the many changes that have taken place over the years. Trevor is well known for his expert knowledge of Kendal and its history so this will be a most interesting evening. Everyone is welcome. There will be refreshments and a raffle.

### **BOOK & PLANT DAY OLD SCHOOL HOUSE (next to Winster Church)**

**Sat 30th April 10.30am–4.30pm**

As Easter Saturday is so close to the end of April this year there will be a break with the traditional start of the Book and Plant days. This year the first Book & Plant day will be the following Saturday after Easter, 30th April i.e. the day after **THE WEDDING!**

We look forward to seeing you all again for homemade cake, fresh coffee etc – we can't promise the sun but a warm welcome

will be waiting for you. For further information tel. Margaret/Yvonne 015394 42325/42945.

### **EASTER LILIES**

If you would like to remember loved ones you can give a donation for lilies. Please have names and donations in by 17th April to avoid disappointment. Contact Lily Holme 015395 60247.

### **HOLY TRINITY FLOWERS**

23rd April for Easter—Everyone welcome

## **WITHERSLACK**

[www.witherslack.org](http://www.witherslack.org)

### **SUNDAY CLUB**

This month Sunday Club will join in with the whole 'Mothering Sunday Service' at 9.30am on Sunday 3rd April. Do also consider coming along to our Easter Holiday Club on Tuesday 26th April at St. Mary's, Crosthwaite for lots of fun and crafts (see separate article on p.5 for details).

### **WITHERSLACK PARISH HALL COMMITTEE**

is holding its annual Jumble Sale on **Saturday 9th April** from 10am to 1pm. For further information, or for collection of jumble, please contact Pauline on 52302 or Linda on 52275.

### **WITHERSLACK COMMUNITY SHOP**

Monday	7.45 – 6.30
Tuesday	7.45 – 6.30
Wednesday	7.45 – 12.30
Thursday	7.45 – 6.30
Friday	7.45 – 7.00
Saturday	9.00 – 4.00

Tel. 015395 52188

**ST PAUL'S ROTAS  
SIDESMEN & READERS**

3rd Ann Duffin; Hilda Jarvis  
10th Danny Jackson; Barbara Page  
17th Richard Coates & Steve Hodgson;  
Trevor Farrer  
24th Hilda Jarvis; Val Pattison

**FLOWERS**

Mrs D Ainsworth & Mrs S Bradley

*Spring in a Church Yard*

*Dying winter now*

*Beside the tomb*

*Ghostly mists my blanket*

*Above, yew trees dark and green*

*Drop arrows that stab*

*My frozen heart.*

*Below white bells rising*

Hope

**JAMIE RATCLIFFE - BRITISH SCHOOLS EXPLORING SOCIETY (BSES) TRIP TO THE AMAZON**

My name is Jamie Ratcliffe, I'm aged 16, and I am going to the Peruvian Amazon in July/August this year. The aim of BSES Expeditions is to help the personal and social development of young people, through the challenge of living and working in remote and demanding areas of the world. While in the Amazon I will be taking part in community projects in a remote tribal village and I will be undertaking important biodiversity research work. The expedition lasts for 5 weeks and I have to fund my own place.

I have been working hard on my fundraising and I would like to thank everyone who has helped me so far. I will be cycling the **Coast to Coast Path** over Easter this year as a sponsored event (there is a sponsor form in the village shop if anyone would like to sponsor me), there is **bag-packing** arranged in Asda's on 10th April and an **Open Gardens** Event is planned in Witherslack on **22nd May**. I very much hope that you will be able to continue to support me in my venture. Please contact me on 015395 52524 if you can offer me any practical help and/or advice. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Regards, Jamie

## TWO VALLEYS EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN

Here is an updated version of our emergency Prayer Chain. Should an urgent matter for prayer occur (e.g. an accident, or someone taken ill suddenly, or an operation about to take place) and prayer be needed quickly, those at the top of the list are informed, who then telephone the next person down on the list, who then telephones the next person, and so on..... Very quickly a 'chain' of prayer is set up, and each person commits themselves to pray for the situation.

Here is our Prayer Chain for the villages in our 'Two Valleys' team of parishes. Why not cut this page out and keep it by your telephone.....

Michael & Michelle Woodcock  
015395 68276

June Childe  
015395 60945

Rodney & Margaret Sale  
015395 68785

Anne Bennett  
015395 31405

Anne Wolfenden  
015395 68919

Dorothy Dobson  
015395 68334

Anne Ratcliffe  
015395 52107

Shirley Holt  
015395 68479

June Harmer  
015395 68865

Diane Woollard  
07502 182804

If you want to use the Prayer Chain, call up the people at the top of the list. If they are in, they will pass on the message to the next person on the chain. The prayer request will then travel down the list. In the event of someone being out, a message is left on an answerphone if possible and the next person on the list is contacted - we will try to ensure that the request gets through to everybody in the end.

Do use the Prayer Chain again for follow up information - e.g. if you send a message that someone is extremely ill, please follow up with a message to say what the outcome was, so that those who are praying are informed. If you wish your request to be kept confidential within the Prayer Chain then make that very clear when you contact the first person and ensure they understand to pass that message on.

*If anyone would like to be added to this Prayer Chain list then please contact Rev. Michael Woodcock*

## CHANGES TO RETIREMENT AND PENSIONS

There's plenty of media coverage on retirement and pensions, but it is not always clear which issues are subject to debate and which ones are actually happening.

### **Want to work past age 65?**

The government has confirmed that the default retirement age of 65 will be abolished from 1 October 2011. Currently, an employer can lawfully retire an employee aged 65 (or below if it is normal practice for the job) provided a set procedure is followed, including giving at least six months' notice of retirement to the employee. This deadline passes on 31 March 2011.

Under the changes, the last day employees can be compulsorily retired using the old procedure will be 30 September 2011. This change applies to all employers, but there are some exceptions. If an employer can 'objectively justify' having a lower retirement age then he/she can continue to retire people under a compulsory system. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills gives air traffic controllers and police officers as examples of where this might be the case.

For all other employers there are new procedures to follow, including guidance on managing older workers. These can be found at [www.acas.org.uk](http://www.acas.org.uk)

*These changes do not affect employees' state pension age and entitlements, which may well be different from the age at which they retire.*

### **Reaching State Pension Age may take longer**

The government is discussing new proposals for increasing State Pension age. Any changes to the timetable needs approval of Parliament, but what is being discussed?

The new proposals would see women's State Pension age increase more quickly to 65 between April 2016 and November 2018. It is called 'State Pension Equalisation' and it affects women born between 6 April 1953 and 5 April 1960.

From December 2018 the State Pension age for both men and women would start to increase to reach 66 by April 2020. The government is also considering the timetable for future increases to the State Pension age from 66 to 68.

For more information see [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk) and type in 'Calculating your state pension age' in the 'Search this site' box, and for the proposed new timetable yet to be approved, type in 'proposed changes to state pension age' to get the timetable month by month.

*Free confidential advice and help is available on any aspect of this article as well as debt, benefits, employment, and any other problems. You can contact the Grange or Windermere Citizens Advice Bureau by phone or in person. Call 015395 33100 / 015394 46464.*



**REPORTS  
&  
NEWS**

## **CARTMEL FELL**

19 members and friends welcomed David Shackleton to the Village Hall to talk on war graves from the Great War. He began by making it clear that he could not

condone war, but found the circumstances and heart-rending stories compelling. Within 3 months of war being announced, 750,000 British youths had enlisted. One million British soldiers died, 90% within a 120-mile radius in Northern France. Only the wounded were able to return to England, the rest were all buried in France. Fabian Ware, working with the Red Cross, made it his challenge to register all the names and details of the fallen. The War Graves Commission was subsequently founded. All the grave stones were to be of equal size and were made from Portland stone: 11,000 in one cemetery alone. Lutyens and Jeykell gave their time to design the tombstones and gardens and Kipling was also heavily involved. Mr. Shackleton is still discovering information about the lives of various local families who lost a loved one. An evening to provoke deep thoughts. Next month we welcome our own Joan Bentley with 'Welcome to Spring'. Do come and join us. EVERYONE WELCOME.

## **UNDERBARROW**

At the March meeting the President, Barbara Lee, welcomed 19 members and 2 guests. The speaker was Mr Norman Godfrey from Wigton who in June 2000 walked the 190 miles from Robin Hood's Bay to St Bees, more or less following Wainwright's route. His slide show was accompanied by music and commentary where necessary. In Swaledale he chose to walk through the hay meadows, and the background music to this section of his talk was the Londonderry Air. His beautiful photography showed the changing and varied landscape and topography as he travelled westward. Most Coast-to Coast walkers travel in the opposite direction

which meant that Mr Godfrey met many walkers including Americans and Australians who had had the hard Lake District climbs at the start of their journeys. Mr Godfrey donates the fee for his talks to Wateraid and Age UK. The competition was a sheep ornament which was won by Hilary Silk.

## **WITHERSLACK**

Ann Walshaw chaired the March Meeting at which subjects discussed included a possible visit to Country Harvest at Ingleton, but too many are required for a group visit. Members are saddened by the decision of NFWI to discontinue the relationship with Yorkshire Teas. This has lasted 20 years and the secretary has written to Yorkshire Teas to express our disappointment. She will also write to NFWI. Members can write individually. Members are asked to make tray bakes for the 'Wedding Dress and Flower Festival' in the church at the end of April. The National Raffle tickets were distributed for sale. Last-minute arrangements for the Spring Show were made. The Lyth Valley Group Meeting is at Witherslack on April 28th when the speaker will be Mr Attwood from Halecat Nursery. There is a Jumble Sale on the morning of April 9th in the Parish Hall. The speaker was Robert Thompson of the Arthur Ransome Society. His illustrated talk recounted the long and interesting life of the author whose favourite place in the world was The Lake District. His children's books are in 80 countries world wide and the two places where they are still in print are Japan and Czechoslovakia. Next Meeting on April 12th: David Oats talking about Wills. Visitors welcome. Tel. 52302.

# REGULAR EVENTS

## BRIGSTEER

Scottish Dancing	Thursdays at 7.30pm in Brigsteer Village Hall Contact Pauline Hampson 015395 68672
Table tennis	Tuesdays at 8pm in from October 5th in Brigsteer Village Hall
Yoga	Tuesdays 6–7.30pm from 14th September in Brigsteer Village Hall
Women's Institute	2nd Thursday of the month, 2pm winter, 7.30pm summer
Pilates...	Fridays 1.15pm–2.15pm in Brigsteer Village Hall Contact Cindy Clarke 015242 73974

## CARTMEL FELL

For bookings contact Helen Caldwell Tel. 015395 68428

Women's Institute	First Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm
Local History Society	Second Monday in the month at 8pm during winter

## CROSTHWAITE MEMORIAL HALL

Check bookings online at <http://www.crosthwaiteandlyth.co.uk>

Art Club	Mondays 1.45pm
Rainbows	Mondays 4.30pm–5.30pm (4th April only)
Aerobics	Mondays 7.30pm–8.30pm (not 25th)
Playgroup	Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30–11.30am (5th & 7th then 28th)
Exchange	1st Wednesday 1pm–4pm; other Weds 2pm–4pm
Women's Institute	Every 3rd Wednesday in the month 7.30pm
Sugarcraft	Tuesdays 2.30pm (finishes 5th April)

## UNDERBARROW INSTITUTE

Quilting class	Mondays 2–4pm
Billiards Club	Mondays from 7.30pm
Brigsteer Table tennis	Tuesdays 8pm (see above)
WI	Every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm

## WINSTER

Book & Plant days	10.30am–4.30pm last Saturday in the month (April to November)
Line Dancing Classes	Mondays 7.30pm–9.30pm at Winster Village Hall
Tai Chi Class	Thursdays at 4.15 pm at Winster Village Hall

## WITHERSLACK

Indoor Bowling	Wednesdays 7.30–10pm
Parent & Toddler Group	Tuesdays 10am until Noon
Tea & Chat Group	Every 1st Tuesday of the month at 2pm
Women's Institute	Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm
The Art Club	Fridays 9.30am–12.30pm