

# St. Catherine's Church, Crook

April - May 2010



*We all owe everything to Almighty God;  
Come and worship Him at St Catherine's.  
A warm welcome is given at 10 am each Sunday.*

# WHO'S WHO at St Catherine's

**Vicar:** Rev. Canon Tim Montgomery  
**Associate Minister:** Rev. Tim Harmer  
**Hon. Asst. Minister** Rev. Canon Clive Porthouse  
**Licenced Readers:** Mrs Marian Porthouse  
 Mr Reg. Bradby  
**Church Wardens** Mr Tony Fitch  
 Mr Don Webster  
**Hon. Treasurer:** Mrs Hilary Fitch  
**P.C.C Secretary** Miss Margaret Blades

**Two Valleys Team  
 Churches' Office**  
 c/o St Thomas' Church  
 Stricklandgate  
 Kendal  
 LA9 4QG  
 01539 730683

**Revd Tim Harmer**  
 015395 68865  
 revtim.harmer@virgin.net

*Please do not hesitate to contact us for baptisms, weddings, funerals or any pastoral need. Please ring Tim Montgomery or go via the churches' office.*

We are grateful to those who care for our church and grounds week by week – cleaners, flower arrangers, gardeners. Let us know if you want to help!

## Church Services Every Sunday at 10.00am

### APRIL

**4th HOLY COMMUNION (CW)  
 EASTER DAY  
 The Resurrection of Jesus  
 Acts 10:34-43 Luke 24:1-12**

**11th MORNING WORSHIP  
 Faith and Doubt  
 John 20:19-31 Acts 5:27-32**

**18th MORNING WORSHIP (BCP)  
 "First Step" to change lives  
 John 21:1-19 Acts 9:1-19**

**25th MORNING WORSHIP  
 Kept safe through death!  
 John 10:22-30 Acts 9:36-43**

### MAY

**2nd HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)  
 Much to thank God for  
 Deut. 6:4-9 Col.1:3-14**

**9th MORNING WORSHIP  
 Good News to the Wider World  
 John 17:20-26 Acts 16:9-15**

**16th MORNING WORSHIP  
 The Gospel for those  
 "on the fringe"  
 John 5:1-9 Acts 16:16-34**

**23rd MORNING WORSHIP  
 The Promise of the Spirit of God  
 John 14:8-17 Acts 2:1-21**

**30th MORNING WORSHIP  
 The Holy Trinity  
 Rom. 5:1-5 John 16:5-15**

**Join us at 10am on 4th April  
To Celebrate Easter Sunday  
At St. Catherine's Crook**

**The Cross**



A symbol of my faith  
That strengthens me each day  
As I by God's grace  
Walk the narrow way.

You see God's own Son  
He gave His life for me  
And took my debt of sin  
To a place called Calvary.

I owe Him my life  
And all I'll ever be  
All He asks is that  
I'll let Him live through me.

So I run the race  
Empowered by His grace  
And give Him all the glory  
As I look into His face.  
**JESUS is LORD!**



**Haiti Earthquake Appeal**

In the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti, it was decided that the cash collection for Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January, would be given as a donation to the relief fund. Consequently, a cheque for £65.05 was sent to the DEC Haiti Earthquake Appeal.

**St. Catherine's Church**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday, 18th April 2010**

**In Church after the Morning service.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**This is the time when St. Catherine's church elects its Officers and the PCC. We look back over the past year and make plans for the future.**

**Please come to support the life of your church.**

**St. Catherine's Church Gift Day - Sunday 16th May**

**Once a year we give all parishioners an opportunity to make a gift towards the expense of maintaining a church in our village. If you would like to respond, please use the envelope tucked into this Newsletter and return it via anyone who comes to the services.**

**Thank you for your contributions in the past.**

**Robert Whitehead**

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January, a young man from Windermere who is a member of St Thomas' Church came to St Catherine's to speak about his faith. Robert explained that he felt called to a ministry of evangelism and hoped to do this through an organisation called YWAM (Youth With A Mission). As part of its work, the organisation offers discipleship training courses which enable young people to focus on God and to respond to His call, showing the love of Jesus to the lost and needy. As a result of his talk, the PCC decided to make a donation to Robert to help him pay for the course.

Since starting his course, Robert has spent three days in Wales, studying at a WYAM centre there and he has also spent three Friday nights involved with 'Street Angels'. This is an organisation which ministers to young people in towns and cities as they come out of pubs and clubs, working with the police to keep them safe when they may well be vulnerable. Robert has also attended a YWAM conference in Dublin, so he has certainly been around a bit! Hopefully further reports will be available to us in the future.

Dear friends,

Crook church saved my life! Let me explain what I mean.

Marian and I retired after 37 years of very full-time ministry. We had both been so involved in parish work that it was extremely difficult just to skid to a halt and “retire”. One Sunday Alan Croxford spoke to me about the possibility of taking his place at Crook church. He and Margaret had worked tirelessly over 10 years, but Parkinson’s disease was increasingly hindering his ministry. Marian and I prayed about it and decided God was calling us to come here. Later, the then Bishop of Carlisle wrote inviting me to be what he called the “Shepherd” of this congregation. What a nice title!

Over the last 12 years the Lord has gradually increased the congregation and other lay people and clergy have worked alongside us. It has been a privilege to do our work and we have both been very happy and fulfilled in it. We have always been particularly attached to Crook village and gradually have got to know quite a lot of you. It has been very special to share in significant events in people’s lives - especially at baptisms, weddings and in bereavements.

So many things have changed since we began here. One of the most important developments of all has been to open up the ministry of our church to the congregation. Everybody seems to have some gifted contribution to make: reading, praying, preaching, leading, cleaning, playing, welcoming, visiting and so on. It is genuinely “our church” because the church is people, not just the building. Our fellowship together is joyful and loving just as much at Service times as it is when we have lunches or outings. We have difficulty getting out after a service, as you well know! Thank you for your part in all of this.

Our last service as pastoral leaders at Crook will be on 2nd May. It will mark the 50th anniversary of my Ordination, and is in the same week as I reach my 78th birthday, a good time to retire yet again! We have put our name down to move into accommodation which offers care for the future. We will miss you very much indeed, but whenever we visit our family up here we will be back to worship with you. May God bless and guide you.

Clive and Marian

**“HE IS NOT HERE, HE HAS RISEN!”**

***Luke 24:6***

Standing before an empty 1<sup>st</sup> century tomb just outside the wall of the Old City in Jerusalem, many a visitor is deeply touched by the message ringing out from the Gospels' accounts of that first Easter morning.



A little known British secret is the jewel of the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem, located just 100 yards north of the Damascus Gate into the Old City. All through the year visitors from around the world drop into the Garden – around ¼ million in fact each year. So what do they find that is so different about this Garden? It is a place of tranquillity and peace yet so near the heart of this bustling city, a place where visitors are encouraged to take a fresh look at the Christian faith and its relevance to them personally

Yet in its simplicity, the Garden offers its visitors, who come from all faiths and none, the opportunity to ponder on the claims of Christianity. Each individual or group will be guided by believing Christians who take them to a place where they can look out onto the hillside in which naturally etched are two eye sockets, a nose and a mouth in correct orientation to form a skull face in the rock.

### Gordon's Calvary

Next you will go to another quiet spot and consider if this is the Garden owned by Joseph of Arimathea, and see the largest water cistern in Jerusalem and evidence of a large wine press which show that it would have been a garden - a vineyard.

Finally the visitor goes down to that first century tomb, sees it laid out exactly as Mary Magdalene would have found it; you can imagine Peter and John racing there, with Peter barging past John to enter first, seeing the abandoned grave clothes, and the penny dropping that Jesus was indeed Risen.

Many groups finish their visit by having a service together, often communion, or their own time of worship, for many a unique and pinnacle moment in their time in Israel.



Every day is Resurrection day at the Garden, but at Easter literally thousands of Believers from all around the World come to services held in the place where just maybe it all first happened. It may be the right place, or it may not – many consider that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is correctly located. But that does not matter as much as the true fact that Jesus is Risen, and that we of all the world faiths serve a living God, who has overcome death, and who by his death has opened for us the Gate to Glory.

The Garden has free admission to encourage visitors. Some come individually; some in families; small groups, and large tour groups up to 250-300 come from, say, the larger American or Nigerian churches. The Garden is also regularly visited by Mormon, Jewish, Islamic and Hindhu groups, but only Christian worship is allowed.

***Reg and Elaine Bradby***

The Garden Tomb was established by British Christians who purchased the site for £4,000 in the 1890s. Today it is wholly operated by a British charity (1004062), the Garden Tomb Association. It employs about 20 Believers in Israel, and volunteer guides come from around the world to serve there. If you wish to know more, visit:- [www.gardentomb.org](http://www.gardentomb.org)

Manna House, Kendal - Last year as part of our charitable giving St Catherine's gave £1,000 to further the work of Manna House.

## Manna House - The Big Move



*Castle Lodge just off  
Aynam Road in Kendal*

Having identified some suitable premises that would give us much more space in September last year, we were hopeful that we would be able to move in by November. However, things have moved much more slowly than anticipated. Despite very positive meetings with the landlord, the translation of requirements into 'Solicitor speak' in the lease agreement has proved very difficult and the lease has had to be drafted and redrafted several times. We are now in the middle of February and we still do not have a signed lease. However, we are hopeful that all the obstacles have been overcome we should have a signed document by the end of this month.

Given this timescale we are hopeful that the various works required to the building will be able to be completed by Easter and we are hopeful that we will be able to be operational in the new premises by the end of April. The new premises offer us much more space for our growing range of activities and services.

The original cost of moving into and adapting the premises was estimated to be in the region of £25,000. However, the cost of paying the landlord's solicitors fees alone has risen to £2,500. We will have to raise additional funds to pay for the move. We very much look forward to be able to move into the new premises we have already received a grant for an organic gardening and healthy eating project to bring the gardens back into productive use.

The new premises will also give us additional meeting rooms and storage space, and mean that we won't have to desk share anymore.

Hopefully we will have some good news very soon.

Jonathan Brook – Director Manna House

**St. Catherine's Men Of Crook Evening  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May at the Sun Crook,**

6.45 for a meal at 7pm. 2 courses for £12.

Speaker John Butcher

“ Thirlmere to Manchester—a long way down”

All men very warmly welcome.

Please contact Don Webster 015395 68705 or

[dnjwebster@ktdbroadband.com](mailto:dnjwebster@ktdbroadband.com) if you would like to come.

**Ladies Outing - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

“ A magical, mystery tour”

Cars to leave Crook at 10.45 am

Lunch out ( more details later)

Please contact Judi Webster 015395 68705 or

[dnjwebster@ktdbroadband.com](mailto:dnjwebster@ktdbroadband.com) if you would like to join us.

THE NEW HEDGE

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March some 20 volunteers (including members of the Lake District National Park Voluntary Rangers – one of whom had travelled all the way from Blackburn) turned out to plant over 700 hedging plants along the boundaries of the new car park and the road-edge visibility splay.

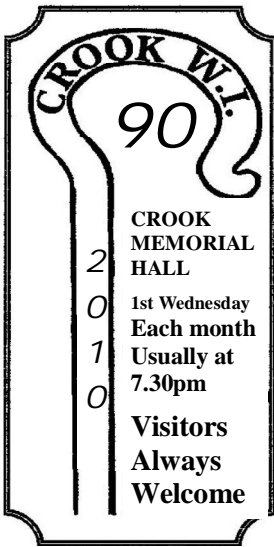


The weather was fine and the job was completed in just over two hours, with welcome refreshments at mid-time from the church kitchen.

The new hedge (like the one round the new burial ground) is a “mixed native wildlife hedge,” with plants supplied by Weasdale Nurseries of Newbiggin-on Lune, Kirkby Stephen, and comprises some 22 different species, including Hazel, Hawthorn, Whitebeam, Sweet Briar, Blackthorn, Ash, Oak, Rowan, Crab Apple, and Honeysuckle.

The hedge planted round the new burial ground two years ago seems to have been 100% successful and it is hoped that we shall achieve the same with this latest enterprise.

A big thank you again to all those who helped



**April 7th**

**Speaker:- Terry Bond**

**“The History of Lancaster Castle”**

**Competition:- A Castle**

**May 5th**

**Speaker:- Sue Mulvany**

**“Jerusalem & Blake”**

**Competition:- An Illustrated Poem**

We could hardly believe our ill fortune when after some days with clear roads and skies, snow begin to fall again on Wednesday 3rd February. This led to limited numbers attending a fascinating meeting provided by the well known story teller Jean Hilton. Using a basket of groceries as prompts, without notes, she delivered seven very detailed factual stories about the origins of very known well companies like Chivers, Coleman, Heinz. It was fascinating. Jean has many titles in her repertoire and members are asking for another visit when Jean has the time. At the end of February, quite a number of us attended a talk at the Memorial Hall, given by Rachael and Paul Milling. With the help maps and slides, they illustrated the developments (if you could call it that) of the Gaza Strip since the '67 war. We saw how the area available to the Palestinians has diminished since that time and the graphic accounts of their personal encounters along with slides of the devastation left us with an overwhelming feeling of frustration that the complex situation seems to have no ending.

In March, Charlotte Widgery from the 'Red Squirrel Project' treated us to some delightful photographs but also to a detailed scientific report on the evolution of the squirrels and the difficulties faced by the 'Reds'. A cull of grey squirrels is apparently now underway in order to limit their spread and that of the pox they carry which is fatal to the 'Reds'. With her degree in Zoology and later qualification in Conservation Charlotte gave us a very logical insight into the problems involved in trying to achieve balance in nature. At the end of this meeting, we were delighted that our two visitors decided to join us and so increased our numbers to 51. Inspired by recent sunlight, we are about to embark on a group triathlon and are endeavouring to dig out bikes from the back of sheds and test our swimming arms and walking gear. Who says we're too old!

## RUMMAGE SALE

**Crook Memorial Hall  
Saturday 1st May  
at 1pm**

**Items may be brought to the Hall at 7.30pm on the Friday night or given to Mrs Jackson at Ellerbeck Farm or any other member of the Memorial Hall committee.**

The Memorial Hall Committee wish to thank everyone who supported the 'Afternoon Tea and Get Together'.

It was a huge success, so please continue to save Books, DVD's and Jigsaws as we hope to have another one.

*CROOK MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE*

**Saturday, 5th June**

***Village Walk (suitable for all the family)  
followed by a Ba-Ba-Q***

*Meet at Atkinson's Tarn at 6pm. If wet in the Memorial Hall.  
Approx. Number of people coming would make catering easier  
Contact:- Kath Jackson 821415 or Kath Boyd 821049  
(P.S. Tray bakes would be most welcome.)*

## Church Cleaning Rota

### April

3rd Joan Matthews  
10th Ann Clarke  
17th Audrey Rowlinson  
24th Sandra Lauder

### May

1st Lillian Atkinson  
8th Thelma Brown  
15th Ann Heap  
22nd Ann Underwood  
29th Sylvia Girdam

### June

5th Marian Porthouse  
12th Mary Allcock  
19th Jennifer Gorst  
26th Hilary Fitch

## Church Flower Rota

### April

Jean Filkin  
Joan Gunning

### May

Vivienne Ford  
Ann Underwood

### June

Ruth Hunter  
Margaret Dickinson

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Clive will be relinquishing his overall responsibility and will become an active member of the congregation . He and Marian intend to continue to worship with us at Crook and be part of our fellowship. Marian will continue in her role as Reader until such time as they move south.

As all the community in Crook fully appreciate, Clive and Marian have given generously and selflessly of their initial retirement years and in particular, many hours of careful and valuable work, love, guidance and preparation to our Sunday services, co-ordinating themes, readings and hymns, and delivering many excellent sermons.



In addition they have served on our PCC, overseen a number of important projects, joined in village activities, and have visited parishioners in their homes.

Above all Clive and Marian have been great facilitators, and have built up a church in which the talents and gifts, however great or small, of the whole community have been encouraged.

The joy and fellowship in Christ at St Catherine's is much appreciated by all who participate in our services and meetings, and we have Clive and Marian to thank for their part in bringing this about.

We wish Clive and Marian a happy new life in Beckenham, and our thoughts and prayers are with them as they prepare to take up their new home and next stage of their life together.

Our vicar Tim Montgomery will resume the week to week administration of our services at St Catherine's after the 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

**The service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May will be a time to celebrate all that Clive and Marian have done for us as a community and as individuals. This will be followed by an informal lunch at the village hall.**

Tony Fitch, Don Webster: Church Wardens