

# St. Catherine's Church, Crook

June - July 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

<b>Vicar:</b>	Rev. Canon Tim Montgomery
<b>Associate Minister:</b>	Rev. Tim Harmer
<b>Licenced Readers:</b>	Mrs Marian Porthouse Mr Reg. Bradby
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Mr Tony Fitch Mr Don Webster
<b>Hon.Treasurer:</b>	Mrs Hilary Fitch
<b>P.C.C Secretary</b>	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

### JUNE

- 6th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
The message of the Miracles  
1 Kings 17:7-24 Luke 7:11-17
- 13th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
Following Jesus -  
saved by faith  
Gal. 2:15 to end  
Luke 7:36-8:3
- 20th **MORNING WORSHIP (BCP)**  
Following Jesus -  
not always welcome  
1 Thess.2:1-6 Luke 8:26-39
- 27th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
Following Jesus –  
a costly decision?  
1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21  
Luke 9:51-62

### JULY

- 4th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
Following Jesus– going out  
2 Kings 5:1-16 Luke 10:1-20
- 11th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
Following Jesus-  
together as a church  
Col.1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37
- 18th **HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)**  
Following Jesus -  
Keeping Christ at the centre  
Col.1:15-28 Luke 10:38-end
- 25th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
Following Jesus - in prayer  
Gen.18:20-23 Luke 11:1-13

## Heartfelt

Well, three months of sabbatical can certainly go very quickly! But Sue and I had a wonderful time seeing great bits of God's creation in England, Scotland and America – the Pacific Ocean is truly amazing and the waves are quite awesome – as well as spending time with old friends, some of whom we haven't seen for many years. We visited several churches and can assure you that the fellowship at St Catherine's is still the best in the world (well, the bits of the world we visited anyway!) We also attended a couple of conferences – in California and London – and were blessed with good teaching, encouragement and renewed faith.

Of course, as you would expect, the highlight was our time in California divided between visiting the Bethel Church in Redding and then a coastal drive all the way from Eureka in the north down to Los Angeles in the south (just over 700 miles) starting in the majestic redwood forests and ending up in the rather tacky centre of the movie world! The coastal drive was a real highlight and we drank in the beauty, enjoyed wonderful hospitality, and fought over who should drive the large car on the very wide roads! We wandered around small towns and large cities – we especially loved the few days we had in San Francisco – and marvelled at the most amazing sunset over Monterey Bay. Our time with the Bethel church was very special and we enjoyed great favour from the leadership team and all the members of the fellowship we spoke with (very many!)

Visiting another church always makes you reflect on your own! There is much to share with you that Sue and I learned from a huge church committed to serving and blessing the local community – a truly fantastic work of God in word and deed ... with much faith and reliance on the work of God's Spirit through each member of the church – but one thing I am certain of as I come back to minister in Kendal, Crook and the Two Valleys team is that we have the heart that is needed for ongoing ministry in our churches and communities. This is first a heart for God who has made us, called us and invited us to join him in his work in the world today, and, secondly, a heart for one another, to care, support, encourage and help whoever needs our time and focus each day.

As we say every Sunday in our churches, these are the two greatest commandments, to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind, and to love your neighbour as yourself. Let us hold fast to these two central themes of being and living together and let us continue to love and serve with all of our hearts.

May God bless you as we step on with Him this summer.

Revd Canon Tim Montgomery

## Curates

On July 4<sup>th</sup> in Carlisle Cathedral we will hold the annual ordination of deacons and priests in our diocese. This year we are very pleased to be welcoming Matt Allen, Brian Crowe and Michelle Woodcock as deacons in our Two Valleys Team. Please pray for them and their spouses at this time as they get ready for the ordination service. Matt is married to Naomi and they will be living in Kendal; Brian is married to Hilary and they are already part of our ministry being members of St Catherine's church and living in Underbarrow; Michelle is married to Michael and is also already embedded in our local ministry alongside her husband! Please also pray for Michelle and Michael's children, James and Eleanor, as they adjust to life with both parents wearing dog collars!

Curacy is not what it was! You may remember that curates used to arrive in parishes as "an extra pair of hands" for the vicar and, often, would quickly take over part of the ministry and maybe even one of the churches in the group. This is no longer the case and the Church of England has an updated and more focused training package for curates that enables them to continue learning and developing their gifts over the three years they spend in their training parishes. More time is devoted each week to ongoing study, project work and even gaining an extra qualification. Hence, less time is available to take up specific duties in the parish but, over the three year training period, each curate will probably focus on one or two parts of ministry for a time to help them gain confidence and hone their gifts and skills in that area.

So, as we welcome Matt, Brian and Michelle, please encourage and support them in these last few years of their training. Please pray for them and help them in whatever ways you can. Remember that they are with us to learn and grow in their ministries as leaders of mission and ministry. Ask not what they can do for you but what you can do for them! We will obviously benefit from their growing ministries but this will be just a bonus as we help and encourage them to grow.

And spare a thought for the training ministers who will also need much prayer! Tim Montgomery will have the overall training charge for the curates with much help and assistance from Tim Harmer and Michael Woodcock. This is a great opportunity for all of us together to learn and grow as we help and support Matt, Brian and Michelle.

## One Life At A Time

“When you help to transform a child through sponsorship, you begin to change the world”  
(Compassion UK)



### Child Poverty facts:

- Of every 100 children in the World, 16 are child labourers and many will never go to school.
- There are approx. 250 million child labourers in the World.
- 186 million child labourers are under 15 years old.
- 170 million children are doing hazardous work.
- An estimated 1.2 million children are being trafficked every year as cheap labour or for sexual exploitation.

Understandably we may ask, what can we do? World poverty is such a vast problem that we often feel that our meagre individual contributions are just a drop in an ever expanding ocean and may well be lost or misused.

**Compassion** has been working for 50 years in child sponsorship and they support more than one million children in 25 countries in the developing world. It is a Christ centred, child focused and Church based charity working to tackle poverty at its root. It does this by asking us to sponsor a child in the developing world.

**Cost of Sponsorship** just 70 pence a day (less than buying a cup of coffee) or £21 each month which can be gift aided. Your money is used directly to help the individual development needs (education, health and spiritual) of your chosen child and thereby breaking the cycle of poverty for that family. You have regular contact with your child through photos and letters.

**Jesus said “Whatever you do for one of the least of my brethren, you do it for me”.** That’s an amazing thought.

To find out more information and details of children waiting sponsorship please call T. 01932 836490 or visit the website: [www.compassionuk.org](http://www.compassionuk.org).

Thank you,

Ann Keene.

**BBQ - Middle Blakebank** (the home of Hilary and Brian Crowe)

The daffodils and lambs encourage us to look forward to a warm sunny summer and we will have our annual church BBQ on **Sunday 27th June** after Church at Middle Blakebank Crosthwaite.

Summer will have arrived by then, so please put the date in your diary and plan on bringing deck chairs so you can sit and enjoy the sun and the garden.

Brian (Crowe) is being ordained deacon on **Sunday July 4th** in Carlisle Cathedral. The service is at 10.30am. All parishioners are welcome to the service.

There will of course still be a service at St Catherine's at 10.00am.

We are investigating arranging some group transport for those who would prefer not to drive or worry about parking. Details available later.

Absolutely everyone is invited to Middle Blakebank later in the day.

It will be a beautiful sunny warm Cumbrian evening!

There will be an 'Open House' from 4 pm to 7pm. Tea, cake, and canapes. Please come.

*Brian and Hilary*

Marian and I would like to say a very big "thank you" to all the kind people who attended our Farewell Sunday in Crook church and at the Memorial Hall. We are also so grateful for the hard work put in by the ladies for providing such a lovely meal and cake, and for your farewell gift; it has all quite taken our breath away and we feel humbled by your generosity!

We have felt very much at home in Crook from the start of our retirement ministry among you and it is incredibly difficult to leave. However, time marches on and we are glad that Brian Crowe will eventually replace us as the next "Shepherd" of Crook church.

We intend to visit this beautiful area frequently, so you will see us from time to time. Meanwhile we send you our love, prayers and good wishes for the future.

Clive and Marian Porthouse

Clive and Marian's last service as pastoral leaders at St Catherine's church was a very happy day, although tinged with sadness that these two selfless workers for Crook were now taking their third retirement.

Clive chose the theme from Galatians 5:6, "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through Love", for his thoughtful sermon and delivered it with his usual self depreciating humour. Marian had chosen the hymns with care, as always, to suit the subject.

The church wardens presented Clive and Marian with a shepherd's crook each; the traditional leaving present from Crook church. Canon Tim Montgomery and Sue had joined the congregation, following their sabbatical, and led everyone in thanking Clive and Marian for all their work for St Catherine's church, completing Clive's 50 years of ministry.

There had been much laughter and spontaneous applause during the service, especially when Clive said "I am now looking older than I feel!" Following the service of Holy Communion and fellowship afterwards, everyone gathered at the Memorial Hall for lunch and were joined by many well wishers.

A delicious buffet meal, organised by Judi Webster and helpers, was enjoyed by 120 people. To everyone's relief there were enough puddings for second helpings!

A cheque was presented to Clive and Marian from St Catherine's church with much love, gratitude and good wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement in Beckenham. Anne Poynter had made a lovely card which was filled with goodwill messages.

Clive and Marian cut the celebration cake, which had been beautifully made and iced by Kath Jackson.



Everyone drank a toast to a well loved couple who will be deeply missed, but, by God's grace will visit St Catherine's church, Crook frequently whenever they visit their family up here.

**May God bless them and their family.**

*Lilian Atkinson*

## SNIPPETS OF HISTORY

### CROOK VILLAGE SCHOOL – Part 2

In my previous article I mentioned that in the early 1960's a member of the Poynter family found in a wall of an outbuilding at Yew Tree Farm handwritten pages from the Day Book kept by the masters of Crook School in 1877 and 1878. Below I set out some of the more interesting entries. Note the frequent attendances of the vicar, the Reverend Thomas Brassington who was the Manager of the school, and of his wife who gave sewing lessons there:-

Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> 1877

Rev T Brassington called on the afternoons of Monday & Friday.

Mrs Brassington called on Wednesday afternoon. Samuel Jackson absent this week for want of Shoes. Nathan Fleming for inciting to & Frederick Hutchinson for throwing stones, both chastised. Ordinary progress.

Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1877

The mother of Samuel Jackson called on Monday to enquire for his cap (lost on Sunday) an unsuccessful search was at once made. The bad weather kept many children from School in the morning. John Mason being told to open the doors ran off before the proper time of dismissal (on Thursday).

Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 1877

Thomas Handley played truant yesterday, for which he was punished today & his uncle intends additional punishment to-night.

February 1<sup>st</sup> 1878

Wm Johnson & R Blezard broke a pane of the School window. Mr & Mrs Brassington called on Thursday afternoon. A good attendance this week.

February 8<sup>th</sup> 1878

R Blezard paid his share of the expense for pane of glass. Mr Brassington called on Thursday. Master reprimanded Thomas Knowles & William Fleming for disrespectful behaviour & dwelt on its evil consequences in the School. Mrs Brassington called in the sewing class today.

March 8<sup>th</sup> 1878

“Child's School Books” not yet received from Clerk to “Kendal School Attendance Committee”.

Mr Brassington called every afternoon this week. Sewing Mistress attended only on Thursday afternoon this week on account of sickness. School door key broke on Wednesday afternoon.

Sadly, the School Inspector's Report (also in the Day Book) doesn't sound good :-

## Report June 15th 1878

The discipline is lax there being a good deal of talking and whispering among the children and the attainment in all Classes and in all subjects, except the Reading of the Second Standard are simply miserable. The inferior state of the School's efficiency is greatly due no doubt to the crowded state of the Room and the insufficiency of the Staff but there is abundant evidence that the conduct of the School is deficient in organisation method and grasp. The School Drill was smartly performed and the singing, except that the songs are begun badly, is fair.

The infants must know four songs. The needlework is pretty good. A second set of Reading Books is required for the fourth, fifth and sixth Standards. Maps of Asia Africa and the County should be supplied.

This poor performance resulted in "Their Lordships" deducting one tenth of the school's grant for "faults of instruction" and withholding further money "on account of the unsatisfactory instruction of infants."

In my next article we shall see what action the Reverend Brassington takes to deal with these problems.

*Tony Fitch.*

*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*

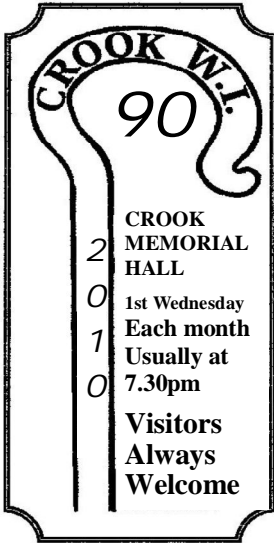
*Contact:- Kath Jackson 821415 or*

*Kath Boyd 821049*

*(P.S. Tray bakes would be most welcome.)*

A member of the congregation recalled that one morning Gordon Swindlehurst announced on Radio Cumbria that the bonniest churchyard in the South Lakes was in Crook!

**Thank you to all the helpers- keep up the good work.**



**June 2nd**  
**GARDEN MEETING & PLANT**  
**BRING & BUY**

**Speaker:- Don Webster**  
**“First Responders”**

**Co-operative Supper**

**July 7th**

**Speaker:- Val Stewart**  
**“Vintage Clothing”**

**Competition:- Item of Vintage Clothing**

As the better weather improves slowly we are becoming more involved with our activities for the triathlon challenge. The cyclists are beginning to be more adventurous in their distances and one member at least has bought a new bike. Walkers and swimmers are also underway.

At our April meeting, Terry Bond gave us a fascinating insight into not only the layout of Lancaster Castle and its development over time, but also his working life in the castle as a probation officer. While members were intrigued by the history of the castle, questions revealed their concern for the lives of those imprisoned there.

Quite a number of the members of Crook WI attended the Federation half yearly council meeting at the Town Hall and watched in fascination as a hearing dog for the deaf went through her paces faultlessly and her owner explained her dependence upon her for everyday aspects of life. We were also treated to an interesting account of women coping with the return of their men folk after the WWII as both parties, having had life changing experiences tried to settle down into times of rationing and scarcity. Not always with success!

Most recently, our own Sue Mulvany used art work and fascinating details to explain the schizophrenia of William Blake and revealed to us the meaning of the poem 'Jerusalem' as Blake intended and his anguished visions and delusions. We were mesmerised by the revelations and will see our WI anthem in an entirely different light.

*Ann Underwood*

**Crook and Winster Parish Council.** The Annual Parish Assembly Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council were both held on the same evening in May. There was a good attendance of both Councillors and members of the public. Due to the resignation of Councillors T Flitcroft, E R Holliday and Mrs E Stowe, three new Councillors were co-opted, namely John J Leigh, Patrick Sefton and George W Taylor. We welcome them to the Council and express our thanks for the long service by those who have retired. Councillors J M Allcock and R E Rowlinson have also tendered their resignations to make way for new blood on the Council and we expect to be in a position to co-opt two further Councillors at the next meeting, scheduled for Monday 6th September at Crook Memorial Hall. Anyone who is interested in serving the community in this way should get in touch initially with myself.

The Council considered and adopted its annual accounts and made a further donation of £300 to the Lyth Valley First Responders. There has been no increase this year in our Precept (this is the amount the Parish Council request from SLDC to pay for the running of the Council). It was reported that the notice board outside the Sun Inn is badly in need of replacement and this matter is to be addressed as soon as possible. The usual 'old chestnuts' concerning the condition of roads in the parish, litter on the B5284, and overhanging trees on the same stretch of road, were again aired and the Council hopes its voice will be heard as it seeks to make Crook and Winster a more attractive place to live in and to raise the profile of the Parish Council in our villages.

Kevin M Price. Parish Clerk. 07798-797033

### Church Cleaning Rota

#### June

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

#### July

3rd R&E Bradby  
10th Judi Webster  
17th Mary Simm  
24th Cherry Burgess  
31st Diane Holt

#### August

7th Vivienne Ford  
14th Joan Matthews  
21st Ann Clarke  
28th Audrey Rowlinson

### Church Flower Rota

#### June

Ruth Hunter  
Margaret Dickinson

#### July

Judi Webster  
Hilary Crowe

#### August

Mary Simm  
Cherry Burgess

## Whit Sunday.

Why celebration? Why Brass Bands? Why thanksgiving?

All through the Bible, God makes promises and, keeps them.

In St. John's Gospel, Jesus' promises on four occasions that although He will be away for a time, the Holy Spirit will come to his disciples.

So, no surprises, fifty days after Jesus' resurrection the Holy Spirit came to Jesus' followers; there was no wind but the sound of a wind, there was no fire but light, like a fire, rested on each of them. Immediately they all knew the closeness of the Lord and were energised and ready to share the good news.

For those of us who trust the Lord Jesus the promise of the indwelling Spirit is still true and it is He that enables us to serve our Lord.

J.G.

Some churches in the North West organise Whit walks. The processions start from the local school, the band in the lead ahead of the church banner. Then come the church dignitaries, assorted choirs, scout and guide troops. Finally the local families, the boys in their best suits and the girls all in white - this is the annual occasion for new clothes

The procession marches to a church service on the market ground usually starting with "Hail Smiling' Morn" before going around the parish.

In 1849, Charlotte Brontë described the Whitsuntide walks as "a joyous scene, and a scene to do good."

I have done 8 Whit Walks between 1952-1960 when we lived at Greenfield (Saddleworth) and I was a teenager. It was a wonderful day starting at 8.30am and finishing off late in the evening with the Brass Band contests.

A.P.



Friezland Christ Church with Lydgate. St Anne's Church accompanied by Lydgate Band - Whit Friday morning 2005.