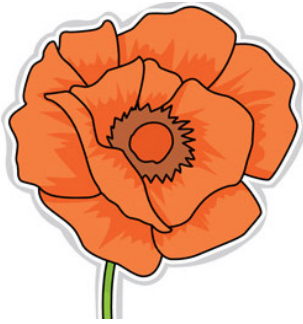


UPPER WANSBECK NEWS



NOVEMBER 2020

NEWSLETTER
for the area around

Bolam Belsay Middleton Angerton
Hartburn Meldon

Whalton Ogle Netherwitton Nunnykirk Longwitton Harnham



Autumn Bonfire at Bolam. Times past!

**Upper Wansbeck
Parishes of St Andrew's Bolam, St Giles Netherwitton,
St Andrew's Hartburn
St John's Meldon, St Mary Magdalene Whalton**

Our ministry team

Priest in Charge

Revd Jonathan Mason
The Vicarage, Kirkwhelpington, NE19 2RT
(currently off sick)

Associate Priest

Revd Fiona Sample*
South Middleton, Morpeth, NE61 4EB
01670 774245
f.sample@btinternet.com

Associate Lay Minister

Mrs Pam Walker MBE
The Tower House, Hartburn, NE61 4JB
01670 772301
pam.hartburn@gmail.com

Our PCC officers (CW = Churchwarden, T = Treasurer, Sec = Secretary)

BOLAM:

CW Bobbi Goldwater bobbisglass@sky.com 01661 881908

T Simon Roberson simon.roberson@btinternet.com 01670 772331

Sec Roisel Thompson roisel@btinternet.com

HARTBURN & MELDON:

CW, T, Sec David Moon david.moon@msd.com 01670 772636

NETHERWITTON:

CW Val Windle valeriestanton@btinternet.com 01670 772352

CW Val Vaughan valerie.vaughan@correslaw.co.uk 01670 772686

T Michael Windle windlestanton@btinternet.com

WHALTON:

CW Marlene Young marleneyoung1@hotmail.com 01670 775403

T James Rainbow james.rainbow@brewin.co.uk

Sec Wendy Sheldon gsheldon@waitrose.com

***Pastoral Care:** contact Revd Fiona Sample for someone in need.

Sunday 18th October was the feast day of Luke. In my sermon on that day I considered what it means to give our lives to God as a living sacrifice, just as had St Luke and his companions, who had been sent out by Jesus like “lambs among wolves”. Jesus asked that they leave their current situations, leave behind all their possessions and go out with only what God had provided them. To live as Jesus did, hand to mouth not knowing where food or shelter would come. This took enormous courage, trust and great faith.

And there are times when we need to display those same qualities, of sacrifice, of subordinating our own needs and desires and having the courage to do things differently, and in doing so model the sacrificial love expected of us. We all long for things to be back to normal, to hold community events and plan Christmas activities with music and light and people everywhere. But sadly that is not to be, instead we must be creative and inventive, find new ways of doing things without putting others in danger. This year we cannot say “but this what we always done” and allow ourselves to feel lost and bereft when that is denied us, but must instead recognise the command to leave behind what we had and trust that God will give us what we need. We will keep our Christmas schedule of services, if permitted, knowing they will be different but that the joy and love will still be present, it is after all love that God gives us when we have nothing and it is love above all we share with our communities.

It will be a different Advent and Christmas season this year and as we prepare for it we need to remember the best gift we can give is to keep each other safe.

Pam Walker

Recognising that not everyone will be willing or able to access our services in church, on line Zoom services continue as follows:

Zoom services:

Sunday 1st November 10am Family Service % **Bolam**

Sunday 15th November 9.30am Mattins % **Bolam**

Christingle at 10am for the first Sunday in December *Contact Simon*

Roberson simon.roberson@btinternet.com

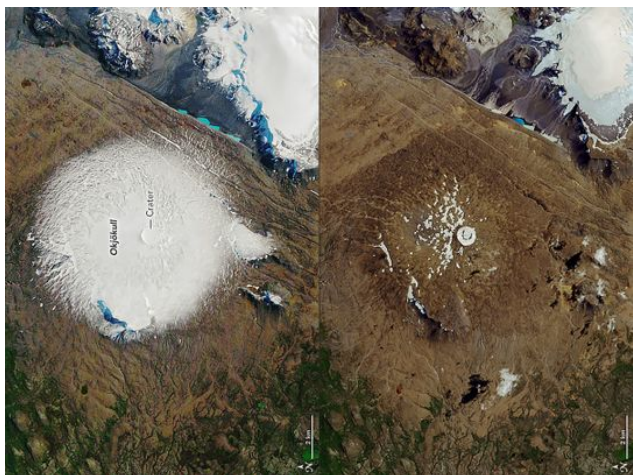
for your invitation to these services.

Sunday 29th November 6pm Evensong % **Meldon**

Contact David Moon for an invite: david.moon@msd.com

Okjokull- remember the name.

In western Iceland there is a glacier called Okjokull. It is the first of the country's glaciers to be completely lost to climate change, and was officially declared "dead" in 2014, when it was no longer thick enough to flow across the landscape as it had done for centuries. A plaque was installed next to it in 2019, written in Icelandic and English, as a letter to the future. It reads:



IN THE NEXT 200 YEARS ALL OUR GLACIERS ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW THE SAME PATH. THIS MONUMENT IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. ONLY YOU KNOW IF WE DID IT.

The memorial also carries the words "415 ppm CO₂" which was the measure of atmospheric carbon dioxide in 2019, higher than at any point since humans have lived on the earth. At the start of the industrial revolution it was about 280 ppm. By 1958 it was 315 ppm.



Climate change is a disaster in slow motion, yet "slow" is a good deal faster than many people seem able to comprehend.

Data from an article in The Economist, August 2020.

Services

During November the Bolam team will continue to hold on-line services, using Zoom, on Nov 1 at 10 am, Family service children especially welcome, and on Nov 15 Matins at 9.30am.

For details and the sign in information, please let Simon Roberson know by email on simon.roberson@btinternet.com or 01670 772331
Everyone is very welcome!

Update on the Upper Wansbeck Nature Group

Membership is growing and new members are welcome. As you will realise, the activities of the group are somewhat limited by COVID and meetings and talks are online. Before the current regulations came into force, we were able to have some small group activities: a walk around some fields and woods in Middleton, a trip to Druridge Bay, a moth trapping evening and a fungal foray. If you are interested in joining, please contact me on hazeltinegate@hotmail.com

Hazel Nieuwkoop



Thicken Up, People!

The great British hedge is doing grievous bioharm to the habitats of wildlife on the farm. Intensively managed it's so thin it's just not there for the insects, birds and mammals as they pair.

Creation is withering, emptying of life; metre after metre cleared away. For our progress and profit the farmer must pay with the nest and the scrape and the hive.

But there are places with hedges made thicker again where Creation reignites overnight. Let's grow triple wide boundary margins again. Can't our farmers be paid to do right?

Tony Thick, May 2019

Win some money and help a good cause!



We are running a lucky numbers “100 club” to raise money to pay for a new wheelchair friendly path up to and around the War Memorial at Bolam Church. Each week from the subscriptions raised the winner gets a quarter and up to 5 others each get another quarter between them, thus leaving half the money raised that week to pay for the path.

Subscribers pay £1 each week for a numbered ticket in a weekly draw, and we hope eventually 100 tickets will be bought, but of course you can buy as many numbers (ie chances to win) as you want.

We suggest you pay £26 for 26 weeks for each number. When we reach 100 subscribers the prizes will be one of £25 a week and 5 more of £5!

At present (end of October) we have 18 subscribers, so every week someone gets £5 and 4 others get £1. The draw will be made under a licence from the County Council, and administered by Bolam Parochial Church Council.

Numbers may be bought by anyone, winners will be notified, and the Bolam newsletter will regularly list the lucky prize winners.

When you pay, you will be told which number you have been given.

If your number wins the top prize in any calendar month, it will only be eligible for the lower prize for the next 3 weeks of that month, so more numbers have a chance at the top prize!

Start now by sending your entry money- £26 for 26 weeks, £52 for a whole year, for each number to:

Bolam PCC War Memorial account

40-51-62

14450218

and send an email to Jim Grant storiesfromjim@gmail.com with your name and the amount paid, and we will give you the number.
Thank you!





100 CLUB
WINNERS

BOLAM 100 Club

Numbers drawn for week ending:

Oct 4 £5: 12 £1: 3 4 7 18

Oct 11 £5: 18 £1 : 6 8 13 17

Oct 18 £5: 6 £1: 1 2 5 8

Oct 25 £5: 8 £1: 2 11 14 16



October 2020

Whalton Church of England Primary School

As our new term begins and we adjust to our new schedule, Class 3 has brought with them the mindset of what it takes to break World Records!



The unit of work, currently being studied in Year 5 & 6, is 'Extreme Earth' which goes hand in hand with our Commander Joe, military-inspired fun and fitness programme! So far, we have worked as a team, showing great determination and resilience, as we work together to build our Growth Mindsets, to achieve great things, just like those who have broken World Records. We have been inspired by our key explorer, Ranulph Fiennes, who has used his achievements to help raise money for Charity; something we would like to organise to do ourselves.

Adam Bushnell, who is an established author and storyteller, has been working alongside us, to enthuse us in exploring with a range of literary devices. Since coming back to school, we have already evaluated pre-existing

World Record Medals before making and evaluating our own, but why stop there?

Adam got us thinking about robots - how could they help if caught in a natural disaster? How could they defeat nature's brutal storms? How could they beat World Records which seem, to us, impossible? The creativity and buzz of discussion and ideas from the children was immense.

Using our creative, descriptive writing techniques, Class 3 demonstrated that we were working with, not only Adam who was an author, but a class of authors! The use of metaphor, expanded noun phrases and similes (to name a few), allowed the children to bring an element of extreme weather to life, thinking about what the earth would say in response to our super-human robot.

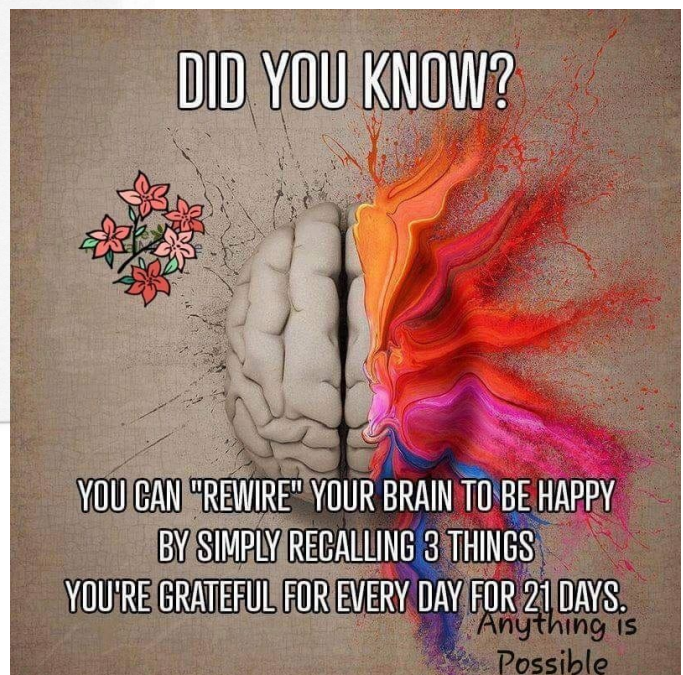


If this is the first half term back to school, we are on the edge of our seats waiting to see what other Commander Joe missions and adventures we get up to, leading up to Christmas and into 2021! Miss Robyn Anderson, Class Teacher

We plough the fields with tractors,
With drills we sow the land;
But growth is still the wondrous gift
Of God's almighty hand.
We add our fertilisers
To help the growing grain;
But for its full fruition,
It needs God's sun and rain.
All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
For all his love.

With many new machines now
We do the work each day;
We reap the fields with combines,
We bale the new-mown hay.
But still it's God who gives us
Inventive skill and drive,
Which lighten labour's drudgery
And give us better lives.
All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord,
O thank the Lord
For all his love.

*You know
the tune to
this harvest
hymn, but
the words
are
refreshingly
new!*



Zoom Family Christingle Service



Sunday December 6th December 10am
for an invite contact Simon Roberson
simon.roberson@btinternet.com

No list of services in church for November has been received for publication here, but the information will no doubt be available on a weekly basis in the excellent news page and pew sheet.

Margaret Elliot, longtime organist at Hartburn church was interred in Hartburn Churchyard 30th September 2020. Margaret was a cheerful person with a lovely singing voice, and was a gifted and enthusiastic performer of traditional music.

Go forth upon your journey from this world,
In the name of God the father who created you,
In the name of Jesus Christ who died for you,
In the name of the Holy Spirit who shines through you:
In friendship with God's saints
Aided by the holy angels.
May you rest this day
In the peace and love
Of your eternal home.

Traditional

Useful contacts:

Bolam Oil Group- join the regular bulk orders to gain a good discount!

bolamoilgroup@outlook.com Used by many of our churches and parishioners.

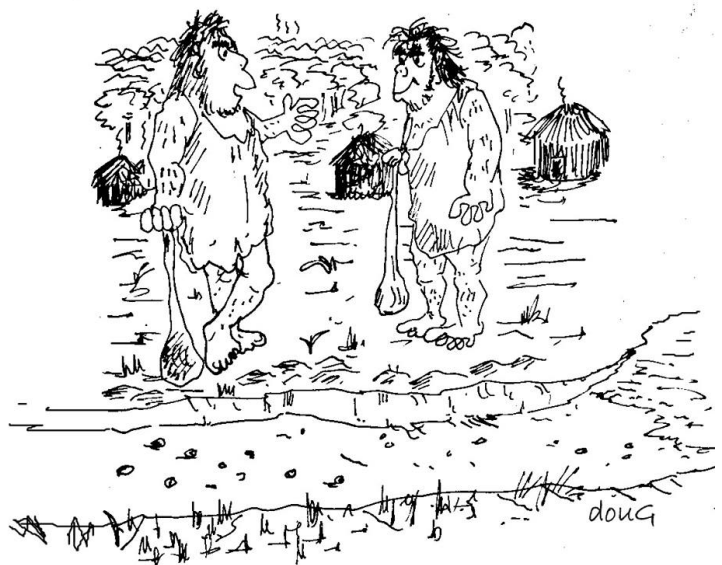
Interesting Statistics:

From figures given at Bolam's PCC meeting. The rotating church Communion services average 30 to 40 people, The Bolam on line Zoom Family Services average 30 including several children, and Bolam Zoom Matins average 20.

Do join us! See the weekly information sheet for how. Comment from one regular participant "I'm so pleased to be part of an on-line community" (We do singing and participation from the safety of your own homes!)



A scene from *The Wasteful Daughter*, in one of our family Services. Luke 15 11-32



Please send in your photos, articles, comments, to wansbeckchurch@gmail.com

This is your newsletter!

Thank you

when the channel we've dug is filled with water we'll be an island and we can make our own rules about how many mammoths we can catch and when we can gather roots and berries

Upper Wansbeck News

Deadline for items for December 2020 edition is 6pm Nov 20th.

Feedback always very welcome!

Editor: *position vacant* wansbeckchurch@gmail.com

Distributor: Mrs S Stafford poohstafford@btinternet.com

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