



**\*new\***



# PARISH NEWS

of

**St Peter's Church, Heversham  
St John's Church, Levens and  
St Thomas' Church, Milnthorpe**

**February 2005**

The 1st issue  
Of the new  
Parish News

free

# The Ministry Team - Who's Who

## Vicar

The Revd Canon John Hancock (Tel: 015395 63125)

## Vicar's Admin Assistant

### Assistant Curate (NSM)

The Revd Ron Rutter

### Assistant Clergy

The Ven Peter Dawson

The Revd Bob Wilkinson

The Rev Canon Tom Thompson

### Licensed Readers

Mr Chris Bennett, Mr Roger Bingham, Mrs Dorothy Maudsley  
Mrs Elizabeth Bennett, Dr Dorothy Williams, Miss Frances Makin

### Reader in Training

Mrs Mary Orr

### Readers Emeritus

Mr Gerald Crossley , Mr Donald Gain

### St Peter's Heversham

### St Thomas' Milnthorpe

### St John's Levens

### Church Wardens

Mr Tony Hesmondhalgh  
Mr George Handley  
Miss Joan Anderton

Mr John Ricketts  
Dr John Thorley

To be advised

### Bookings

Old School  
Mrs Louise Budd  
(Tel 60099)

Church Centre  
Prof Geoffrey Gregory  
(Tel 64082)

Levens Institute  
Mrs Dorothy Routledge

### PCC Secretaries

Mr Peter Clarke

Mrs Linda Baverstock

Mrs Doreen Hughes Gain

### PCC Treasurers

Mr Mike Robinson

Mr Jim Robson

Mr Chris Band

### Gift Aid Co-ordinators

Miss Joan Anderton

Mrs Joan Thorley

Mr Richard Jones

### Electoral Roll Officers

Mrs Jane Fell

Mrs Mary Davidson

Mr Richard Jones

### Organists

Mr Arthur Dewhurst  
Mr Robin Orr

Mr Glyn Hopkins

Rota

### Parish News Co-ordinators

Mr Alan Wynne

Mrs Mary Wills

Mrs Mona Forsyth

### Parish Visitor Co-ordinators

Mrs Audrey Wynne

Ven Peter Dawson

Miss Frances Makin

### Bell Captains

Mr George Handley  
(Tel 63571)

Dr John Thorley  
(Tel 62076)

Not applicable

for Parish News Editorial Team contact details : see page 17

**A letter from the Vicar,  
The Revd Canon John Hancock**

**The Vicarage, Woodhouse Lane,  
Heversham, Milnthorpe .  
Tel: 015395 63125**

My Dear Friends,

How have our New Year's resolutions fared? That is assuming that we made any! Usually these resolutions survive for the briefest of times because they are not made all that seriously.

The failure is down to a misunderstanding of the word 'resolution'. Basically there is little or no resolve and we are certainly not resolute. We lack determination and sticking power. However this is not limited to the New Year variety.

There is an old hymn which is sung with great fervour, and it includes the line 'I've decided to follow Jesus'. Many say this at various points in their lives, particularly at Confirmation and when being a godparent at a Baptism but it would appear to lack resolve and it evaporates as quickly as the New Year variety. So was it said all that seriously in the first place?

To follow Jesus does require resolve and a resolute approach but it can be made at any time of the year and at any time of day or night. There is another vital difference from the New Year's kind. In New Year's resolutions we are making statements about what we in our own strength are going to do or not do. Following Jesus is just that - following; following his way, his teaching and believing in him but in the strength he gives us. Jesus goes ahead of us clearing the way and we follow in his footsteps drawn along by him. If something is to be done we have available to us the One by whom all things were made and if it is not to be done we have available to us the strength of the One who overcame all evil on the Cross.

It is clear that there is only one resolution really worth making and that is to follow Jesus.

May we all decide to follow Jesus and encourage others to do the same.

Yours in His service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Hancock', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned to the left of a vertical line that extends from the top of the signature area down to the bottom of the page.

# PARISH CALENDAR

## Regular Services

Tuesdays:	Holy Communion	10.00 am	at Heversham
	Healing Prayer Ministry	10.35 - 11.45 am	at Heversham
	Informal Prayer Gathering	1.00 pm	at Milnthorpe
Thursday :	Holy Communion	11.00 am	at Levens
Saturdays:	Informal Prayer Gathering	7.45 am	at Heversham

## February

1st Holy Communion at both Plumtree and Heversham House 1.45 pm

4th - 6th Diocesan Healing Ministry at Workington

### 6th Sunday next before Lent

	Holy Communion	8.00 am at Milnthorpe
	Family Service	9.30 am at Heversham
	Parish Communion	11.00 am at Milnthorpe
	Parish Communion	11.00 am at Levens
	United Sung Evensong	6.30 pm at Heversham
7th	WOW Meeting (See page 9)	7 for 7.30 pm
10th	Kendal Deanery Clergy Chapter	12 noon at Burneside
11th	'Indonesian Evening' in the Old School (p8)	7.00 pm

### 13th First Sunday of Lent

	Holy Communion	8.00 am at Heversham
	Parish Communion	9.30 am at Heversham
	Family Service with Holy Baptism	11.00 am at Milnthorpe
	Family Service with Communion	11.00 am at Levens
	Praise and Worship	6.30 pm at Heversham
14th	Concert (see page 16)	7.30 pm at Milnthorpe

### 20th Second Sunday of Lent

	Holy Communion	8.00 am at Milnthorpe
	Family Communion	9.30 am at Heversham
	Parish Communion	11.00 am at Milnthorpe
	Parish Communion	11.00 am at Levens
	A Concert by the Allegri Singers	7.30 pm at Levens
22nd	Guides and Brownies 'Thinking Day Service'	6.30 pm at Milnthorpe

### 27th Third Sunday of Lent

	Holy Communion	8.00 am at Heversham
	Morning Prayer	9.00 am at Hincaster
	Parish Communion	9.30 am at Heversham
	Parish Communion	11.00 am at Milnthorpe
	Parish Communion	11.00 am at Levens
28th	Kent Estuary Parish Reps Meeting	7.45 pm in the Old Sch, Heversham

# March

## 6th Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday



Holy Communion  
Family Service  
Family Service  
Family Service  
United Sung Evensong

8.00 am at Milnthorpe  
9.30 am at Heversham  
11.00 am at Milnthorpe  
11.00 am at Levens  
6.30 pm at Heversham



**Girlguiding UK**

GUIDES AND BROWNIES,  
KENT/LUNE DIVISION  
from Crosscrake, Levens,  
Arnside, Kirkby Lonsdale,  
Burton, Holme, Endmoor and  
Milnthorpe

A CELEBRATION OF WORLD  
THINKING DAY  
in St Thomas's Church on  
Tuesday 22nd Feb at 6.30 p.m.  
All parents & supporters  
are welcome.

St. Thomas' Parish Church, Milnthorpe

'MEETING WITH JESUS

.. THEN and NOW !'

6 WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES  
**FOR LENT**

at 7.45 pm

with hymns, prayers and an address  
(together lasting no more than 50 mins)

Starting on Ash Wednesday,

February 9th at 7.45 pm

A warm invitation to  
everyone . . .  
in preparation for Easter

### Levens Methodist Church February Sunday Services

(all at 10.30 a.m.) :-

6th (Education Sunday)	Mr Stuart Helliwell (Kendal)
13th (1 <sup>st</sup> in Lent)	Rev. Andrew McCall (Milnthorpe)
20th (2 <sup>nd</sup> in Lent)	Rev. Bill Seville HOLY COMMUNION
27th (3 <sup>rd</sup> in Lent)	Mr Edwin Holwell (Kendal)

**Milnthorpe  
Methodist  
Church:**

Sunday  
Service  
Times:  
10.30 am

**Catholic Churches:** Father Dan Darragon Tel: 62387

**Christ the King, Milnthorpe & Our Lady of Lourdes, Arnside**

Mass Times:	Saturday	5.30 pm Milnthorpe
	Sunday	9.00 am Milnthorpe
		10.30 am Arnside

Confession: Wednesday after 10.00 am Mass (Arnside)  
Saturday 11.00 am – 11.30 am (Milnthorpe)

Details from  
Anne Marie  
Whitfield  
Tel: 63179

# St Thomas' Church, Milnthorpe

## Special Services, Events and News

Christmas, with all its ethereal magic, has come and gone, overshadowed by the tragic Tsunami disaster – too terrible for us living here in safety, to even imagine the devastation with loss of thousands of lives. We pray for those countries involved and give thanks for our own lives in this beautiful area of England. May we give generously to the Tsunami fund.

Now the New Year is here, with February 'full dyke, black on white' and our own verse telling us that – 'it brings the rain – thaws the frozen lake again.' But we have had little or no frost, only deluges of rain, causing severe local floods at the present time, especially at Carlisle, with the deaths of three people, damage to houses and electricity cut off.

### St Thomas' Festivities

began with the Advent services, led by the Ven Peter Dawson, followed by an indoor (should have been outdoor) Carol Service. The church was packed for both the Christingle and the Candlelit Service of lessons and carols.

We celebrated our eleven years with St Peter's Church, and our first year with St John's Levens with a United Service followed by Jacob's Join lunch in the church centre.

### The Methodist Church

completed its Centenary Celebrations, which included another special service and meal, concert, and floral weekend.

Congratulations from us all.

### The Eversley Choral Union Concert

was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all present.



Milnthorpe-with-Heversham Mothers' Union members enjoyed lunch together at the Flippin Fluke, Sandside, and also organised our own Service of Carols and Readings at St Thomas' Church. We also visited Crosscrake Church, at the invitation of Crosscrake MU and Vicar, for their service followed by tea.

The service preceding the Annual Meeting of Milnthorpe-with-Heversham MU was led by Judy Dyer, with a reading by Audrey Wynne. A report on the year's activities was given by retiring Secretary Dorothy Hornby. Sadly, member Betty Hayhurst has died – also past longstanding member Kathy Mason. The treasurer's report was given by Audrey Wynne, who later presented Dorothy Hornby, and retiring leader Gwen Tuer, with Mothers Union gifts along with thanks for all their past work.

Officers elected were: Secretary Judy Dyer; Treasurer Audrey Wynne; Committee Joan Atkinson, Joan Ellam, Pat Radcliffe and Mary Davidson.

Subscriptions were collected and new programmes given out. Overseas boxes to be returned by the next meeting please.

Thanks are expressed to the Milnthorpe Family Centre, who delivered local cards over a wide area, the first one having been posted by the Vicar.

### Christmas on the Green

This 4<sup>th</sup> annual event, organised by Mark James and his committee was another memorable event and another stupendous

success. It commenced with the ringing of St Thomas' Church Bells. A CD has been recorded of the whole event.

### Croftside and Hartland House

residents enjoyed the festive season, welcoming many visitors who entertained with songs and music.

*Mary Davidson*

### The Church, Light and Christmas

For several years now there has been a practice at St Thomas' Church to festoon the two yew trees by the front steps with coloured lights over the Christmas period. The lights provide a central link to the cheerful spectacle of the lights on the trees tastefully and generously displayed around the village.

This year was no exception. The church's lights were hung during the first week of December; by the following Friday 6 or 7 of them had 'gone' and were replaced in time for the Christmas on the Green event. By the time of the removal on Twelfth Night a further 17 lights had disappeared out of a total of 48. All but one of the lights had been unscrewed, clearly a deliberate act of vandalism, or to put it bluntly, theft.

The lamps are expensive, and the effort entailed hanging them and taking them down is not negligible. It is tempting to say 'why bother?' But to surrender to these forces of darkness would be to go against the concept of light as a key symbol of the Church's teaching; moreover it would deprive the community of a worthwhile measure of innocent pleasure. We shall probably continue. If however this note strikes a chord somewhere in the village, you know what to do. We also had one of the lanterns lighting the way to the Christmas Carol Service stolen, and the plants uprooted in the tubs outside the Church entrance. These are not hanging crimes, but they do mean a lot to many.

*Geoffrey Gregory*



**Poppy Appeal 2004** raised £2,872 reports organiser Sheila Ashburner, who thanks all collectors and those who donated.

### New additions to St Thomas'

We are grateful to Brenda Gregory for arranging the purchase of the smart new pew runners.

You may have noticed the new yellow information sheets at the back of the church, which have been updated by Jane Cushnie with the help of John Thorley.

*Linda Baverstock*

### MILNTHORPE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

on Christmas Day was once again a great success. Eighteen people sat down to a generous and traditional lunch, and enjoyed carols and Christmas cake before returning home, probably for a good snooze! Many thanks to the team of helpers on the day: Celia, Gladys, Elizabeth, Eric, Carolyn, and Peter whose hard work helped to make it go swimmingly. And to Marjorie for her delicious trifle, and Margaret for the lovely Christmas cake. We all had a great time.

*Joy Bell*



**MOTHERING SUNDAY**  
**6th MARCH**

There will be a family service  
for Mothering Sunday  
at 11.00 a.m.  
at St Thomas's Church,  
Milnthorpe.

We still maintain the tradition  
of giving posies of flowers on  
this occasion to  
all ladies present

**Please do join us at this  
Celebration.**

# St Peter's Church, Heversham

## Special Services, Events and News

### Heversham Groups

After a brief pause the groups are resuming under a new name - Cell Groups. The word 'cell' as used here is of the biological variety and is definitely not of the penal variety. In the biological sense cells grow, develop and multiply and that is the emphasis when applied to the groups which themselves have developed and grown out of the previous Home Groups. The Cell group adds a new dimension to our former groups, namely witness. Groups members are encouraged to pray for their neighbours, friends, work colleagues and those they meet socially. A Lancashire church adopted this approach to groups and in the space of three years it grew from a congregation of 60 to over 300. Were that to happen in our three parishes what an impact it would have on our communities. There is no reason why it cannot happen here.

*Revd Canon John Hancock*

### Heversham St Peter's CE Primary



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has made me so welcome at Heversham St Peter's at the beginning of the term.

*Hazel Blakeley Headteacher*

### Putting on a Show—thanks

'Last night we had a great show;  
Just letting all of you know!  
T'was a really good treat,  
Kept us pinned to our seat  
And we all went home with a glow.

The parish produced a fine cast  
Who sang, played and fooled to the last.

We enjoyed all the fun  
And were sad when t'was done;  
It really was quite unsurpassed!

### SERVE INDONESIA 2005

I am hoping to return to Northern Sumatera, Indonesia next summer to work with some students at STT Abdi Sabda, Medan with OMF Serve Indonesia. The course consists of an intensive English course and also daily Bible study. Many years ago we used to sing a chorus at Sunday School which **incorporated the books of the bible in order**. Does anyone remember this, or have any suggestions of anything similar? There was also a chorus which began 'ABCDEFG, Jesus died for you and me'.

If you can remember the words **and** tune, or even have the music, I would be **very** grateful to hear from you.

Email me on [thelma@123supanet.com](mailto:thelma@123supanet.com) or telephone on **01539 725195**.

Join us in the Old School  
at Heversham for  
an **INDONESIAN EVENING**  
**FRIDAY 11th Feb 7pm**

There'll be Indonesian-style food, a lively talk & pictures of the 'Serve Indonesia' work **with OMF in Medan**, Northern Sumatra - and some singing in various Batak languages!!

Tickets are on sale - cost **£5**  
All proceeds via OMF to the theological college in Medan for urgent local needs.

*Thelma Mitchell* 01539 725195



## Heversham Sunday Coffee

Another year has gone by and once again it is time to thank everyone for contributing to our 'Coffee Fund', be it monetary or in the form of delicious cakes and biscuits. We like to start the year with something in our purse in case of some emergency. Following the Dimpleby Appeal for the Asian Tsunami disaster £50 was immediately donated. This was given instead of going towards books for our Church Library.

Our standing donations to SWT and the Bible Society were £108. £27.66 was given for the Christmas cards to those imprisoned for their Faith and, following Baroness Cox's visit, £150 was given to CSW (Christian Solidarity Worldwide).

Small donations were made to 'Going for Gold' (a fun day for children), NISCU & the RLI brain scanner.

Our giving this year has risen by about £150. This is all thanks to you.

*Celia Whitton and Sue Tallis*

## WOW -

WINDOW ON THE WORLD is the monthly meeting to hear updates on, and pray for, the mission organisations that our churches support. If you have a heart for supporting this work and would like to be involved, please come along and join in - it is a very necessary (and often very exciting and encouraging) work in which to be involved. **It would be wonderful to have people involved from our three churches.**

The organisations we support are:-

**NISCU** - Northern Inter-Schools Christian Union working with young people in our Primary and Secondary schools in our area via clubs, assemblies and camps.

**SAMS** - South American Mission Society working in S. America and Spain via church-planting, social and medical projects. Northern Argentina is one of our Link Dioceses. Terry and Panha Barratt in Chile are linked with us.

**CSW** - Christian Solidarity Worldwide

working to support Christians persecuted for their faith in many parts of the world.

**ELLEL MINISTRIES** - an international ministry of teaching, discipling and healing whose headquarters are at Ellel Grange, Lancaster

**HOPE NOW** - working in hospitals, orphanages, prisons and spreading the Good News in Ukraine and S. Africa.

**BIBI NEDELLEC** - working for Wycliffe Bible Translators in Togo and Benin in West Africa

**WOW** - meets on the first Monday of the month 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Dates and venues can always be found in the Parish News.

**Mon 7th Feb** at Chris and Elizabeth Bennett's home, Bridge House, Woodhouse. (focusing on NISCU, Ellel and Bibi Nedellec)

**Mon 7th March** at Jill Shaw's home, 25 Dugg Hill, Heversham.

## **TSUNAMI DISASTER - MADRAS**

As part of the Tithe given to Charities, the sum of £545.00 was sent to our Link Diocese of Chennai (Madras) to help relieve the suffering there. Additional donations from the collections in the churches will be sent later.

## **LENT PROJECT 2005**

Our Lent Project this year will be in support of **SAMS** (South American Mission Society) - to support the building of two new churches:-

1. Cabanaconde (Peru) - a church for a very remote rural community in the high Andes, with outreach to surrounding villages.

2. Santa Cruz (Bolivia) - a church in a poor area of this big city pastored by Lico and Rosa Bascunan, who visited us last year.

Please look out for posters giving more details about the Project for prayer support and envelopes for giving as Lent approaches.

For more information, please contact Rhona Rutter on - 64260



**St John's Church, Levens**  
**Special Services, Events & News**

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* Welcome to all the new \*  
 \* readers in Levens parish. \*  
 \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**St John's Levens PCC**  
**Meeting on 6 January 2005:**

The first meeting of the calendar year but the last but one of the church's administrative year, so we looked backwards and forwards. Backwards we reviewed recent services and decided if these were alright or not, and if not, why not. It was decided to continue with the recently introduced changes to the Family Service – now on the second Sunday of each month instead of the first and with a slightly different format ending with Communion (except for Mothering Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March). Forwards our main concern was how the parish continues without churchwardens now that Moira Tombs has moved on to develop her life in Scotland. Churchwardens are legally necessary officers. Without them the church and parish may not be able to remain a separate entity. This can probably be coped with until the Vestry and Annual Parochial Church meetings at 7.30 on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March in the Institute.

So the parish hopes and prays that there will, by then, be two people willing to undertake this office. Elections for deanery synod representatives (3) and PCC members will also be on the agenda so it's an important evening.

*Doreen Hughes Gain,*  
*PCC Secretary (015395 60368)*

**Levens events**

The Readings and Carols at the Heaves Hotel on 17 December was well attended and much enjoyed, as was the Levens Party at Levens Hall on 13 January. The two events raised £406 and £581 respectively for church funds.

*Chris Band*

**Christians Together in Levens**

A gathering of villagers enjoyed an almost traditional service of Carols and Readings which was presented in St John's church on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December by Kendal Choral Society under their conductor Alan Gardner. Representatives from different denominations and members of the choir read the various readings and special choral presentations were offered by the excellent singers. Tea/coffee and mince pies rounded off a lovely pre-Christmas event.

Our next joint event will be a United Service (see below). Future joint events will be arranged and will probably include a fund-raising event for the Indian Ocean Disaster Areas, as well as more United Worship Events.

**WATCH THIS SPACE...**

Open-Air Summer Event? If you have an idea for an event and a suggested venue for it please contact me with your ideas

*Brian Gray (015395) 61105*

**Christians Together in Levens:  
 Joint event**

a United Service in the Methodist Church  
 on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30 p.m.  
 With Rev. Bill Seville, Rev. D. Darragon,  
 Miss Frances Makin and Mr Brian Gray

**All Welcome**

Levens Church flower rota is  
 displayed at the back of the church.

### **Levens Parish Pastoral Visiting**

Please note: if you hear of anyone who needs a visit, either because they are ill or in any other need, please let FRANCES MAKIN know on 015395-61417. She will then alert the person on the visiting team who would help. This arrangement will be ongoing, so please make a note of it for future reference.

**Car transport for St John's Levens church services:** if anyone has difficulty in reaching services or other events at St John's, whether regularly or occasionally, they are invited to contact Donald Bissett on 015395-60097, as he may be able to arrange for one of the parishioners to take them there and bring them back home

### **News snippets from Levens Methodist Church members**

Carols by candlelight on Sun 19<sup>th</sup> December was enjoyed by a packed Chapel and the collection raised £68.96 for NCH-Action. The service was arranged and presented by Church Members.

Christmas Day at 10 am saw an almost full Chapel enjoy some traditional carols and a TV report-style presentation of eye witnesses of the Christmas story by Brian and Margaret Gray.

In response to the Tsunami Disaster Appeal, retiring collections on Sundays 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> January raised a total of £140.30 which has been forwarded via Christian Aid to support this vital work.

### **Levens Over 60's Club**

Mr Walter Johnston's slide talk, "Witherslack & the Winster Valley", was greatly enjoyed by members at the November meeting. His exploration of this gem of our local landscape took us along its network of narrow lanes, one of which was once a bronze age track, to visit many of its fascinating old buildings, and discover their history.

We followed the fortunes of the Earls of Derby, who picked the winner at the Battle of Stoke & acquired the estates of Thos. De Broughton, who didn't. Thus the Stanley monogram & ducal crest adorn an outbuilding, once the Manorial court, at the Derby Arms (one of three turnpike era inns in the valley). Witherslack Hall, built in 1874 for a Stanley heir, incorporates a 13<sup>th</sup> C Pele tower, as does Cowmire Hall, whose present owners supply damson gin to Fortnum & Mason's! Thorphinsty Hall (1275) is the oldest. There are some fine 19<sup>th</sup> C buildings by local architects & builders, such as Birkett House (Daniel Gibson/Thos. Mawson) & Winster House, by George Webster, now recognised as an architect of national importance.

We heard tales of the famous occupants of several farms, such as the Atkinsons & Pearsons at Pool Bank, where George Fox preached; William Gibson, a self taught mathematician who lived at Hollins & later Tarn Sveen; & and many amusing stories of other well known characters & visitors to the valley. Witherslack Church (1669-70) has many fine features & many historical relics, while the little Holy Trinity Church at Winster has some magnificent embroidery on display.

Outdoors, the woods around Witherslack are a delight, especially in spring – as are the magnificent gardens at Halecat, and the award winning garden created by retired farmer Mr Watson & his late wife, in 1975, at Holme Crag nearby. Both are open (free) to the public.

In December members enjoyed a splendid buffet supper at our Christmas party. The cake was a gift from the Dobson family. Mr & Mrs Smith, from the Unitarian Church in Kendal, entertained us with some "Country & Western" songs & humorous readings. We ended as usual with some carols.

*P.C. Edwards*

# More News



## MILNTHORPE & HEVERSHAM FIRST RESPONDERS

### Youth Group

Plans for a new youth group in Milnthorpe are moving ahead in early 2005. Three training events will take place - two in January and one in February - for adult volunteers to prepare them for the launch of the youth group at the end of February. A number of important matters need to be gone through before the youth group can start, such as police checks for volunteers, health and safety training and the setting up of a club constitution and bank account. The young people of the village will be actively included in drawing up the rules of the new group. I have been writing to those local young people who have expressed an interest to let them know how things are progressing. If you are a young person or know a young person who may be interested, please let me know and I will happily keep you up to date about developments including details of when the group will launch. Alternatively, if you are an adult and would like to volunteer to help out, either regularly or occasionally, please contact me. We are making good progress towards having a local youth group in Milnthorpe and I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those who have volunteered, to the young people, to the local churches and especially to Janet Sullivan of Crusaders and Matt Taylor of NISCU who have given us much needed professional direction.

*Tim Farron*  
*Tel - 64665*

**PS.** We have people interested in being Treasurer and Secretary. We are still looking for someone to take the role of Chairperson. This is an administrative role rather than running sessions. We do hope someone will step forward soon.

The First Responders became operational at the end of January 2004. Since then they have attended over 60 calls. This figure indicates what a very necessary service the volunteers provide.

We would particularly like to hear from any new volunteers from Hincaster, Levens and the Beetham area who would like to join us. More volunteers from Heversham and Milnthorpe would of course also be welcome. Please phone Pat Barnes, Secretary on 015395 64272.

**We would like to remind all residents again to make sure that the your house number or name can be seen from the road side.**

*Pat Barnes , Secretary*

### **Milnthorpe Residents Association**

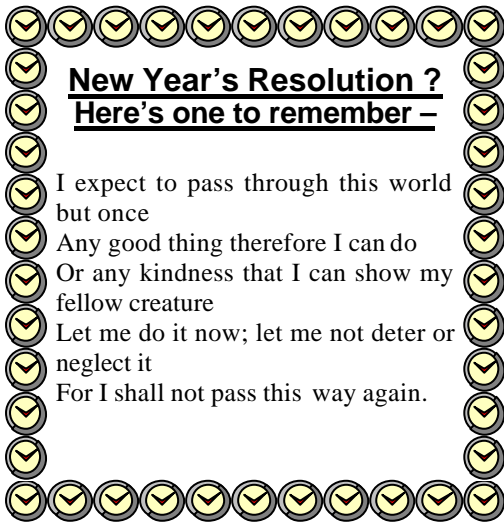
next meeting  
Tuesday 15 February at 7.30  
at the Cross Keys, Milnthorpe.

All welcome

### **The Cover Story:**

A new cover is being designed to reflect the fact that this Parish News is now being produced by and for our three parishes, Heversham, Levens and Milnthorpe.

One of our Levens representatives has pointed out that **HILM means forbearance in Arabic, a very good word to have in mind for this new venture.**



**New Year's Resolution ?**  
**Here's one to remember –**

I expect to pass through this world but once  
Any good thing therefore I can do  
Or any kindness that I can show my fellow creature  
Let me do it now; let me not deter or neglect it  
For I shall not pass this way again.

**Fish Club 4 + and Junior Salt 8 +  
@ The Old School, Heversham  
from 9.30–10.30 am  
Sundays term time  
except 1st Sunday in the month,  
which is Family Service  
More details from Jane Fell 63174  
or Christine Gibson 62231  
Come and Join in !**



Thank you to everyone who donated money or gifts to sell and supported the Marie Curie Coffee Morning at St Thomas' Church Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> Jan - £69.30 was raised. *Barbara Burton*

**INVITATION**

Milnthorpe-with-Heversham  
Mothers Union  
Meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
in the month

The next meeting is on  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00 pm  
at St Thomas' Church Centre  
Speaker: Mr J T Hughes  
Speaking on Old Kendal  
Any questions please phone  
Judy Dyer 63900

**This invitation to the meetings is  
extended to our new readers in  
Levens**

Have you picked up your latest copy of  
**The Way** yet ?  
They are in church and they are free .

**What's for lunch today?**

Once again, at Heversham St Peter's CE Primary School, we need help with lunchtime supervision. We would really appreciate anyone who can give up just one lunchtime per week. We presently have some parents who do one session alternate weeks which really helps out. If you could do something similar for us it would be really supportive. Sessions are 11.45 am – 1.15pm paid at £8.00 per sessions, please contact Mrs Crosby-McCann in the office for more information. Tel: 015395 62514

**A date for your summer diary –  
'Songs of Praise'  
on Milnthorpe Green,  
Sunday 3rd July at 6.30 pm  
with Flookburgh Brass Band  
Full details in the May edition**

## Even More News

### SPOTLIGHT ON SPORT

#### Levens Tennis Club

We are a small club with plenty of room for new members, so we welcome players of all abilities from **Milnthorpe, Heversham** and nearby villages as well as **Levens** residents. We have two excellent courts and play tennis throughout the year, weather permitting. Club sessions during the winter months are on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons and for those who enjoy the challenge of match play there is the chance to play in the Lancaster and Morecambe tennis league. At present we are halfway through the winter veterans' season (for over 40s) and have had some very enjoyable matches although we lost more than we won this year (not altogether surprising as we have several match players over 60 and at least two over 70).

If you are interested in playing tennis do come and join us. You can 'pay as you play' each time and decide later whether to join the club. (Our fees are very reasonable.) Those coming on their own to a club session should first ring Alison or Susan to check if other people will be there.

Enquiries to Alison Edwards on 60840, Susan Coates on 60369 or Bill Warrender on 61249. Coaching enquiries to Alan Robinson on 61183.

*Alison Edwards*

#### Lancaster Samaritans

There are very many people for whom this festive time of year is not a good time. Samaritans has been, and always is, available to offer confidential emotional support to people in crisis or despair, by listening and being there for them whenever needed. At our local branch, trained Samaritan volunteers do this by answering

telephone calls, or e-mails – no answer-phones or recorded messages – 24/7. We also receive personal callers at 21 Sun Street, where the door is open usually 12 hours a day. In total we had more than 29,000 contacts last year, over 80 contacts a day.

We are an entirely volunteer-led organisation, with 80-100 Volunteers giving about 3 hours a week of their time. Many of our Lancaster team come from the Lakes and Kendal area. All Volunteers are trained in listening skills, but some Support Volunteers use their skills to do jobs in areas other than the listening role, for instance office work; fund-raising; or maintenance work. We need more volunteers to share in this rewarding activity – anyone interested in exploring the possibility can phone 01524 61666 to make a first contact.

We rely strongly on donations – we at the Lancaster & District Branch are a charity in our own right, and have to pay our way as a Branch, although we pay no salaries. Our phone bills alone exceed £4,000 a year, and other costs include training and support costs for volunteers as well as the normal household bills for 21 Sun Street.

It maybe that you have had reason to be grateful to Samaritans in the past, or wish to help us in this way. Any gift is gratefully received and acknowledged, but for your information we operate a **Pay For A Day** scheme, whereby a supporter will elect a particular day of the year (maybe a birthday, or in memory of someone they have lost), and gift us the running costs for that day annually (currently £60). Please also remember us in your will. Thank you for taking the time to read this. It may be that with your support in one way or another you may help to save the life of someone who is in despair. It won't be a Happy New Year for everyone.

*Joy Bell*

## Levens Women's Institute

28 members and 2 guests attended the November meeting at which Mrs Liz Smith presided and explained that Mr Lowe had been unable to come, so would give his talk on Lakeland Churches next year and Sally Beaumont would show her slides on Iceland instead.

Mrs Doreen Hughes Gain reported on the enjoyable Group Meeting at Cartmel Fell, and Mrs Krysia Brodie reported on a walkround Rydal Water under cloudy skies but with magnificent autumn colours. Eight members had enjoyed a relaxing swim at Holgates, this time in the afternoon. This will continue throughout the winter to avoid driving at night.

Sally Beaumont then showed her slides, taken on two visits to Iceland in 2003 and 2004. The first had been with an astronomical party to observe a solar eclipse, but she had been so captivated by the island's beauty, enhanced by its purity and freedom from pollution, that she had returned this year, joining various tours by plane, boat and minibus. She described the geography and geology, caused by Iceland being one of the most volcanic regions on earth with an eruption on average every five years, and illustrated this with slides of volcanoes, craters, geysers, lava-fields, hot springs and solfataras.

She then dealt with the history, from the Greek explorer who visited an island he called 'Ultima Thule' in the 4<sup>th</sup> century B. C., through the Irish monks of the 6<sup>th</sup> century A.D. to the real settlement of the country by the Norsemen from 874 A.D. when Ingolfur Arnason founded the place he called Reykjavik (Smoky Harbour) destined to become the capital. 'Thingvellir', the open air parliament set up by Norse chieftains, was the first of its kind in Europe, as Iceland was the first republic – it never had a monarchy. From Iceland, Leifur Eriksson discovered America in 1,000 A.D.

and Christianity was adopted. Sagas – stories of heroes, battles, and feuds – were written in the next few centuries and were the first literature to be written in prose; the forerunners of the novel. They can still be read in the original by modern Icelanders, as Icelandic is the oldest European language and has changed very little over the centuries.

Fish and lamb were the main sources of food and fish sales still account for 70% of the national income, but more products are now available through imports and the use of greenhouses. Natural sources have been harnessed to supply heating through geothermal power and hydro-electric schemes, keeping the environment relatively free from pollution. The population is only 289,000, over half living in Reykjavik, now a modern city with a friendly feel and excellent facilities. Mrs Beaumont ended by showing slides of the excellent opportunities for tourists and saying that she would return, despite the high prices for beer and wine!

*Sally Beaumont*



### **Levens Women's Institute**

15<sup>th</sup> Feb (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday) at 7.30 pm  
at Levens Institute

Speaker: Mrs Elizabeth O'Neill  
'Making a Splash'  
\*\*\*\*\*

### **Milnthorpe Women's Institute**

10<sup>th</sup> Feb (2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs) at 7.30 pm  
at Milnthorpe Methodist Church Hall

Speaker: Dorothy Hornby  
'Childhood on a Westmorland Farm'

Any questions, please call the  
Secretary Gilliam Mumby 64083  
\*\*\*\*\*

### **Heversham Women's Institute**

9<sup>th</sup> Feb (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed) at 7.15 pm  
at the Athenaeum, Leasgill

Mr David Nowell - Location Location



# The Pinboard



Fairtrade Food and Gifts Stall  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday in the month  
at the Coffee Mornings  
at St Thomas' Church Centre

Heversham St Peter's CE Primary School  
H.P.S.A.

## Quiz Night

Friday 4th February  
further details from the school office  
Tel: Dorothy Crosby McCann on 62514

Valentines by Candlelight  
An Evening with Tracie Penwarden  
(Soprano)

And Glyn Hopkins (Piano)  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 pm

St Thomas' Church

Programme to include  
Schumann's Frauenliebe und Leben  
With selected popular romantic songs

Tickets £7 on the door  
or £6 if bought in advance  
Phone Glyn Hopkins 015395 63030

## British Legion

meet in Levens Institute  
second Monday of the month  
please note 7 pm (not 7.30 pm)  
for this month 14th Feb only.

## Church Bell Ringing

Both Milnthorpe and Heversham



have Church Bells  
and ringing teams.  
If you would like to  
learn to ring please  
phone the Tower  
Captains:

Heversham Mr George Handley  
63571  
or Milnthorpe Dr John Thorley  
62076

Crossways Crafts meet in  
Levens Methodist Church  
every Wednesday  
from 10 am to 12 noon  
– coffee served –  
all welcome.

Levens Over 60's  
Club meeting  
in The Institute at 2.00 pm  
22nd Feb (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday)  
Speaker: Mrs Bette Kissack  
California –The Golden Circle

Pancake Party  
Coffee Time @ The Old School  
Nx to St Peter's Church, Heversham  
Shrove Tuesday 8th February  
10.00 - 11.45 am

Cup of Fairtrade Coffee / Tea 50p  
Pancakes too!



Traidcraft Stall  
ALL WELCOME



This Parish News publications is run by the Parish Churches of St Peter's Heversham, St John's Levens and St Thomas' Milnthorpe by :

**The Parish News Editorial Team:**

Revd Canon John Hancock, Jane Cushnie, Jane Fell, Mary Davidson, Linda Baverstock, Andrew Lucas, John Cushnie, Jill Butterworth and Gill Rodd

**Please submit articles and notices in writing (including email) to the Parish News committee Mrs K.J. Cushnie, Dallam Barn, High Haverflatts, Milnthorpe LA7 7DG**

**Email: parishnews@heversham.org**  
( Successful emails receive a confirmation email )

**Fax: 07092-348544 Tel: 015395 64582**

The Ed Team may have to **edit**

due to space restrictions.

The next 2 deadlines are  
**13th Feb**  
**10th March**  
due to school holidays

**For Levens News:**

**Please submit articles and notices in writing (including email) to Mrs Jill Butterworth, 3 Greengate Crescent, Levens, LA8 8QB  
Tel: 015395 61676**

**£s, \$s and pence**

This Parish News is funded by our local advertisers, local groups who regularly have articles published and events advertised, and at the year end topped up by the three churches, If you would like to send a donation please contact the Ed team (64582).

**Weather in LEVENS in Nov and Dec 2004 (recorded at Wedgwood, Levens)**

**Temperature**

	Lowest Minimum	Average Minimum	Average Maximum	Highest Maximum
November	-4°C	3.6°C	10.0°C	13°C
December	-5°C	2.3°C	8.7°C	11°C

**Rainfall** November 69.6 mm December 188.3 mm

Recorded during 2004: highest daytime temperature 31°C in August, lowest night-time temperature -5°C in February and December. Total rainfall 1623.3 mm (second highest in the last 20 years). Wettest month August 232.6 mm (cf. August 2003 13.9 mm – driest of any month ever).  
*Dermot Barton*

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