

St James the Less Church

Lower Tatham



Autumn/Winter Newsletter

2017

www.lowertathamchurch.co.uk

It's been another busy year of prayer, friendship and celebration at St James The Less as friends and visitors alike have been able to enjoy shared experiences and the improvements to the church itself.

The Jumble Sale

The autumn events began on September 9th with Linda Kirkby's eagerly anticipated, annual Grand Jumble Sale at Hornby Village Institute. With tables groaning beneath vast amounts of donated clothing, shoes, toys, books and bric a brac over a 100 people came for a bargain and few went away empty handed! Over £1500 was raised, a fantastic achievement and testament not only to Linda's incredible enthusiasm and her wonderful team of helpers but also to the many people who so generously donated to the sale.

The Harvest Festival

On September 24th Revd. Mark Cannon delivered the annual Harvest Festival Service to a congregation of over 50 people. The readings were put together by local historian Mike Winstanley and detailed the history of harvest festivals. Readings quoted contemporary newspaper accounts of harvest services from Wray & Lower Tatham in the late 1880s.

The Wenning Voices performed their rendition of "The Garden Song".

The collection was donated to the Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Appeal, which this year supports Tree Aid and the Christian Aid partner in Burundi, AgriBusiness Services.

After the service John & Phyllis Holt laid on a wonderful lunch and welcome at The Old Rectory.

Dates for your diary....

Now with autumn over and winter here we have some lovely events planned.

Wenning Voices - Thursday 21 December 5:30pm - Wennington Village Green

Wenning Voices would be delighted if you could join them in carolling round the Christmas Tree. Villagers from Wennington & our surrounding communities will gather together to sing Christmas carols & songs, whilst enjoying complementary mulled wine & mince pies. Soft drinks for children & grandchildren. Hope to see you there.

Christmas Eve Crib and Carol Service - 6.30pm

On such a special night we look forward to welcoming you and members of your family to the Crib and Carol service followed by seasonal refreshments at The Old Rectory by invitation of John and Phyllis.

In advance of the service, on Thursday 21 December at 10am, we would welcome any volunteers to help decorate the church with ivy and candles.

Plough Sunday Service - Sunday 14 January 2018 - 11am

Celebrate the start of the agricultural year with us at our Plough Sunday Service with a plough being brought into church and prayers being said for the blessing of the land. It is a chance to celebrate farming and the work of farmers and St. James the Less has its own rather special tradition of scrumptious, bacon butties and a cup of tea / coffee after the service.

Levens Choir - Sunday 25 February 2018 - 2:30pm – 4pm

The Friends of St. James the Less, Tatham invite you to join them at the Church for an Afternoon Concert in the company of Levens Choir, Cumbria Life's Choir of the Year 2017. Under their musical director Ian Jones, the Church will resound with pieces from their "Music in Quiet Places" programme. Light refreshments will be served after the performance.

Tickets: £10

Contact Sue Wood 015242 21170 or Rita Murphy 07962710078

or friendsofstjamesthelesschurch@gmail.com

World War One Exhibition - Saturday 17 March from 1pm

An exhibition in the church devoted to the memories of the First World War and in particular the involvement of local people. The event, which will be starting at 1.00pm and finishing at 4.30pm is being staged jointly by the Tatham History Society and the Friends of St. James The Less. The exhibition will include army uniforms and other items of kit, medals, documents and weaponry. Attendees are also invited to bring along their own items of memorabilia and tell us about their ancestors who may have had an involvement in WW1.

During the day there will also be 3 talks given by Stephen Roberts, Mike Winstanley and John Wilson.

Stephen will talk about the particular battles during the war in which local people were involved.

Mike will recall those listed on the Roll of Honour in the church and on other local war memorials while John Winson will remember those on the Roll of Honour in the Good Shepherd Church, Tatham Fells.

JMW Turner and his local art legacy - Sunday 22 April 2pm - 4pm

Tatham Church

One of JMW Turner's most famous paintings is "**Hornby Castle from Tatham Church**" and so an image of our church is held at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Join art curator Rhian Addison as she explores Turner's life and the legacy of this painting. Using visual analysis and archival records to explore Turner's tour of Lancashire, she will explore his interpretation of Tatham and Hornby, the work's origins and how it had previously been misinterpreted.

A Message of Thanks from the Friends of St. James the Less

Another busy, successful and rewarding year for The Friends draws to an end and provides the opportunity to recall the events held this year including a visit from The Levens Choir back in February, for a winter's afternoon concert. In July, Friends wined and dined over lunch, in the glorious setting of Raw Ridding House . Our final event of the year took place in October when we welcomed The Lancaster and District Male Voice Choir for an evening of popular classics and a Last Night of the Proms finale followed by canapés.

Your valued support for these events, together with the monthly draw of our 100 Club has raised over £7000 during 2017. Much of this money has already been channelled into further improvements at the church. An unobtrusive sound and microphone system has been fitted which gives an 'easy listening' sound for all . The lighting in the North aisle has been upgraded as the first part of a general enhancement of the lighting throughout the building. The small external door beside the new brew station now has elegant, bespoke, oak doors fitted across the useful storage space behind. The final addition for the church this year arrived in October. A handsome set of solid oak framed chairs with seats upholstered in vivid red for use in the North aisle.

The result of this collective effort is a comfortable and vibrant resource now used by a number of community organisations. Wenning Voices practice every Thursday evening in the church and continue to go from strength to strength. Sue Marsden's upholstery classes are extremely popular on Wednesdays and are delighted with the new lighting in the North aisle.

The Tatham History Society and the Wennington Neighbourhood Plan group have held meetings in the new space where the organ used to be. The Friends continue to promote the availability of the church and we hope to see further usage during 2018.

We continue to work with the PCC in identifying the next tranche of improvement works and in particular examining ways of making the church even more welcoming to visitors. Another busy year is ahead of us!

Thank you again for your continued support. On behalf of The Friends of St. James the Less I wish you a happy Christmas and a healthy and successful 2018.

Colin Burford, Chairman.

100 Club

The lucky winners of the November draw were:

1st prize: £105 won by Jane Roscoe

2nd prize: £52.50 won by Isobel Hilton

3rd prize: £26.25 won by Linda Kirkby

Regular Church services

1st Sunday in the month - 9am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday in the month - 11am Morning Service

3rd Sunday in the month - no service

4th Sunday in the month - 11am Holy Communion

When there's a 5th Sunday a joint service is held at one of the six churches in the Benefice.

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Offers of help and enquiries to:

**Phyllis and John Holt, The Old Rectory, Tatham, LA2 8NH
015242 21443**

**The Vicar Rev Mark Canon, The Vicarage, Wray, LA2 8QF
015242 21030**

**Margaret Whatmough : Secretary to The Friends
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