

Stitch and Chatter



Stitch and Chatter have begun a new project – making bunting for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and future events held by the Friends, PCC and Stitch and Chatter. This project has been organised by Sandy Hutchins and the group spent an enjoyable morning cutting, stitching and ironing the newly created pieces.

The group meets once a month on Friday morning from 10.00-12.00 and enjoys tea and biscuits, conversation and stitching together. If you would like to join us on Friday 8 April or just come and share refreshments and conversation please do come along.

If you have any queries please contact Mel Winstanley on 015242 21277 or melandmike73@gmail.com.

Look forward to meeting you there.

The Friends of Tatham Church

Chair – Paul Whatmough
Secretary – Margaret Whatmough
Trustees – Rita Murphy, Mel Winstanley

It is with great pleasure and excitement that the Friends can report that we are, once again, resuming meetings and planning activities for the forthcoming year and beyond. We are so very grateful to our 100 Club members for their loyal support during the pandemic which has ensured that a healthy bank balance has been maintained. The result of the February draw is as follows:

1st Prize of £114: the winner lives in Wennington
2nd Prize of £57: the winner lives in Wray
3rd Prize of £28.50: the winner lives in Millhouses

New members are always welcome so please contact me at friendsofstjamesthelesschurch@gmail.com or on 07796 661891 if you are interested in joining the 100 Club at an annual cost of £60 and I will pass your details on to Sue Wood, the 100 Club administrator.

We have a confirmed date for your diary of Saturday, 22nd October 2022 when the popular Leyland Brass Band will be returning to St James the Less to entertain us. Their visits to Tatham are always greatly enjoyed and their previous concerts have always been a sellout.

The Friends are a registered charity with the aim of preserving the church for use by the community for present and future generations and should you be interested in supporting our activities, I look forward to hearing from you.

Margaret Whatmough
Secretary to the Friends of St James the Less Church



Church Services

We always have tea/coffee and biscuits after each service to have time to chat and enjoy the community spirit.

Sunday 27th March – Mothering Sunday Service at 11am
Sunday 10th April – Palm Sunday Morning Service at 11am
Sunday 17th April – Easter Sunday Communion Service at 11am
Sunday 24th April – Holy Communion Service at 11am
Sunday 8th May – Morning Service at 11am
Sunday 22nd May – Holy Communion Service at 11am
Sunday 5th June – Jubilee Service at 1pm followed by a Community Garden Party
Sunday 12th June – Morning Service at 11am
Sunday 26th June – Holy Communion Service at 11am

If you have any contributions for the next Newsletter – anything from recipes, announcement, news or anecdotes please email to tathamchurchnews@gmail.com.

Contact Details

Church Contact – Phyllis Holt
Tel 015242 21443

Secretary to the PCC – Sarah Rycroft
sarah.rycroft@yahoo.co.uk

Secretary to the Friends – Margaret Whatmough
Tel: 07796 661891 friendsofstjamesthelesschurch@gmail.com

Church website
www.lowertathamchurch.co.uk

St James the Less Church Lower Tatham



Spring Newsletter 2022

Welcome to the Spring Newsletter

It is lovely to start this Newsletter with some positive and exciting news in welcoming our new Vicar, the Reverend Jane Lee. She and her family have now moved into the vicarage in Wray and we look forward to them settling into our community. We feel very fortunate to have such a warm, friendly, approachable Vicar in our midst. When you see her out and about do say hello!

It was a time of welcome and celebration for everyone when Reverend Jane was instituted by the Bishop of Blackburn and inducted by the Archdeacon of Lancaster as Vicar of East Lonsdale Benefice. Representatives from each Church attended the wonderful Service on the 21st February at St John the Baptist, Tunstall. The Bishop spoke of a new chapter in the life of the Benefice as Reverend Jane takes up her position as the full time vicar for our six parishes.



Reverend Jane Lee, our new Vicar

Things are getting back to normal at last as the regular services, meetings and activities at the Church have all restarted. Our first service of the new year was Plough Sunday in January which is a traditional English celebration for farming and the work of the farmers. We welcomed a good attendance of 26 people including members of the local farming community. Two local farmers carried the stitch plough into the Church along with some soil from the land. Prayers were said and the plough and soil were blessed by Peter Osborne who was taking the service. Poems and extracts were read whilst the smell of bacon wafted round the Church.

Mothering Sunday is our next special service on 27th March and there's plenty more to look forward to in the next few months as you will read in this Newsletter and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Future events

Wray Scarecrow Festival is back and the Church have their usual catering slot in the institute on Sunday 24th April so it's all hands on decks. Can we remember how it worked? Of course we can and we pride ourselves in a good team and yummy food. Are you free on that day anytime between 9am to 5pm? We would be very grateful for any offers of baking/soup and/or help.

The church is also having their usual stall of bric a brac/plants/books etc. on Wray Fair day on Monday 2nd May along with our popular jam jar bola and tin can side show. Again can you help please? And/or have you anything for the stall or items that fit in jam jars?

Please contact Linda Kirkby on 07843729229 or email lindakirkby3@gmail.com

Open Garden on Sunday 19th June

Rebecca and Richard Sanderson are opening their garden at Raw Ridding, Tatham, for the National Gardens Scheme from 10am to 4pm. It is a really interesting garden which they have created themselves over the past 12 years. You can park at the Church and then it is a 5-minute walk up the track. There will be signs to help you. They have kindly offered the proceeds from the refreshments as a donation to the Church.

Rebecca provided some information about their garden: "We started with a blank canvas in 2010 and built the garden from scratch. We have fantastic views but catch the wind so I designed the spaces to maximize the views but provide some pockets of shelter. There are several seating areas, none of which get much use because, as soon as you sit down you see a job that needs doing. The garden is sloping so we built terraces on which to sit and these also create sunken areas to give a feeling of enclosure. The shapes are geometric creating the beds and borders but the planting is loose and billowing, predominantly herbaceous with simple flowers to attract wildlife. We created a small native wildflower meadow, a pond and many nesting sites for birds and currently have up to 40 frogs spawning which later move into the meadow for the summer.

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 25th May at 7pm at the Church. This is open for everyone to attend to hear about the Church business for the last financial year. We need new PCC members. Would you be interested in joining? We would be glad of your help even if you do not want to join the PCC. Would you be able to help with the church cleaning, the flowers, making coffee or doing a reading? Just contact Linda Kirkby or any PCC member to offer your support.

Wenning Voices

The fun and joy of singing together as *Wenning Voices* lightened the grey days of autumn and winter and here we are emerging into spring with some of our favourite songs well-rehearsed and new songs being added to our songbook. Although Covid 19 limited attendance to two thirds of previous rates we persevered with relevant health precautions and were delighted to emerge from the pandemic without any members succumbing to the virus.

Despite the restrictions we have been heartened by the attendance of new members and the return of some stalwart *Voices*. We have some exciting invitations to sing in prospect and hope to make a choral contribution to the Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations.

Wenning Voices comprises a group of beginners at various stages of development who, under excellent guidance, enjoy the benefits of singing together. We meet every Thursday at 7.30pm in the lovely church of St James the Less, Tatham, and we are always pleased to give new members a warm welcome. *Come along soon – it's never too late to learn!*