

The Parish Church  
of St Paul  
Grange-over-Sands



December 2025

£1

**Benefice of Grange-over-Sands & Field Broughton with Lindale**

**THE PARISH OF ST PAUL, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS**

*MISSION STATEMENT*

To proclaim the Good News of God  
and to draw others into a life-changing encounter  
with Jesus

**Vicar - The Rev'd David Wilmot**

The Rectory, Hampsfell Road, Grange-over-Sands, LA11 6BE

([davidmwilmot@gmail.com](mailto:davidmwilmot@gmail.com))

Tel No

**07305777113**

**Associate Priest - Rev'd Annette Miller**

Airton, Eden Park Rd, GOS, LA11 6BW

([miller3637@btinternet.com](mailto:miller3637@btinternet.com))

**015395 33840**

**ENQUIRIES**

**Contact Linda in the Office (Tel: 015395 35560) or David.**

**He is always happy to visit. His rest day is Friday.**



**Normal services at The Parish Church**

Sundays - 11 am - Parish Service

Wednesdays - 10 am - Holy Communion

**and at The Fell Church, Grange-over-Sands**

**9.30 am Second Sunday - Matins (BCP)**

**9.30 am - Fourth Sunday - Holy Communion (BCP)**



**\*\*Saints Days and Holy Days - See Notice Board/Pew Sheet\*\***

**Visit our website [www.grangepec.co.uk](http://www.grangepec.co.uk)**

**[www.facebook.com/StPaulsGoS](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsGoS)**

## From the Rectory

### When longings become prayer

This year was something of a record for me. I heard my first Christmas Carol in a Coffee shop at the beginning of November. It was just a bit early, I thought. When I asked a member of staff about it, she told me that the next eight weeks of Carols would probably drive her to distraction!

Each year I find myself making a similar observation. The professionally religious like me attempt to remind everyone that it's not Christmas ... just yet. First, comes this season of Advent, which has its own gifts to give, not least the capacity to wait.

At its best, Advent is a time to get in touch with our sense of 'longing'. There are many of us whose prayers are just like the prophet Isaiah who pleaded with God: "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence" (Isaiah 64.1). During these days it's time to give voice to the sense of dissatisfaction we feel that the world and our lives are not as they should be.

So, in Advent, we find ourselves alongside those who not only waited but found their longings met in the coming of Christ, the Saviour; all of which helps us understand more fully what it means for Him to be called 'Prince of Peace' and 'Emmanuel: God is With Us'.

And Advent also helps us to appreciate why Jesus taught us to pray "Thy Kingdom come". When we say the Lord's Prayer, we also acknowledge our sense that things (in our lives and the wider world) are not as they should be. We understand that, although in one sense Christ HAS come, we continue to live with a certain 'not yet'. In other words, the Kingdom, the reign of God HAS come and yet we await its fulfilment.

So, this leaves us with two pieces of encouragement. Firstly, Advent tells us that we and God's world are 'a work in progress'. St. Paul tells us, "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1.6). In other words, God understands our incompleteness but he doesn't leave us to our own devices. We are invited to co-operate with the work of His Spirit.

Secondly, Advent teaches us to turn our longings into prayer. As someone said: "When we pray, we are at our strongest because we have surrendered the false notion that we are facing a problem AS God and instead we are finding the blessing of facing it under God".

*Continued overleaf*

God, grant me the serenity  
to accept the people I cannot change,  
which is pretty much everyone, since I'm clearly not you, God.  
At least not the last time I checked.

And while you're at it, God, please give me the courage  
to change what I need to change about myself,  
which is frankly a lot, since, once again,  
I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect.  
It's better for me to focus on changing myself  
than to worry about changing other people,  
who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying,  
I can't change anyway.

Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up  
whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter  
than everyone else in the room,  
that no-one knows what they're talking about except me,  
or that I alone have all the answers.

Basically, God, grant me the wisdom to remember that I'm not you.

Amen

*James Martin SJ*

A very Happy Christmas. David & Margaret

## FROM THE REGISTERS DECEMBER 2025

### BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Louis Pateman	20th December 2022
Fredrick Jake Anderson	12th December 2024

### YEAR'S MIND

Barry Turner	4th December 2020
Alan Matthews	16th December 2020
Victoria Holt	30th December 2021
Barbara Wainwright	7th December 2022
Leonard Geoffrey Hill	4th December 2022
Peter Black	21st December 2022
Geoffrey William Caseley	10th December 2024
Nevil Newman	4th December 2024
Ivy Fowler	13th December 2024



*"In sure and  
certain hope of the  
resurrection to  
eternal life through  
our Lord Jesus  
Christ"*

*Deaths in the previous five years are included in the magazine, but each name in our remembrance book for the last 10 years is read out in the intercessions at St Paul's Sunday morning service.*

## **What am I experiencing in my life, as Advent begins?**

**Many of us are in an ideal place to begin Advent but we don't know it.** It can be tempting to think that, because we are struggling these days, we can't enter into Advent without a big change in our mood or without distancing ourselves from our real experience. Nothing could be further from the truth. Advent is about letting God come to us. We do the letting and God does the coming. In fact, the whole mystery of our faith is that God is not reluctant to come into an unusual relationship (like that of Mary and Joseph) or to be born in the poverty of a makeshift stable. We are tempted to prepare for Advent by cleaning everything up first – by, in effect, saving ourselves first. Our opening to Advent is to realize we need saving and to accept the saving love of our God.

**So, what are we experiencing?** That is the first Advent question. If we chew that question, then the Isaiah reading will sound so good to our ears. Are we the people “who walk in darkness” or have “thick clouds” over us? Is the way before us full of valleys and hills? Does it seem like we are in a desert? Are there wild beasts out there who are ready to devour us? Have we been guilty of some things we aren't proud of? Have we lost touch with who we really want to be? Has our fidelity become a bit shabby? Then, Isaiah proclaims that our God is ready to come and save us. And, none of the things that I see as barriers even matter to God.

**Then, is Advent a passive season?** No, we have work to do but it is different from what we first think it is. It starts with understanding what our preparation is. If we haven't prepared our hearts to be open to asking for salvation, we'll never shout, beg, plead, “Come, Lord, Jesus!” Our work is to become who we are. Advent is a humble season, a season of self-awareness. To say it another way; before we decorate our homes for Christmas, we have to clear away some of the false masks we might wear. These made-up identities often help us be more “presentable” to others and at times they even fool us. So, when I look in the mirror, which “me” do I see? There is nothing wrong with putting our best foot forward in public and it is quite understandable when we want others to see our best selves. But, before our own consciences and before God, we want to be transparent and real. We want to have no illusion. If there is struggle in my life – and there has to be some struggle in all our lives – then we want to acknowledge that before our God and to let that struggle be the door into Advent's graces.

**How can we have hope and expect God will come to us?** The readings of Advent open up a whole series of promises, full of powerful images, that keep reminding us that our God will come to save us. They free our imaginations to see and experience that coming with drama and joy – a banquet with “choice wines and rich, juicy food”. They invite us to imagine when “a time will come for singing”. They give us the opportunity to hope beyond our wildest hopes in the past – “the lion will lie down with the lamb” and “they will prepare for war no more”. They open our hearts to imagine the love of our God embracing us in the coming of one like us, who knows

our life and its struggles and offers us the hope of the Spirit's presence with us every day, in every moment.

**What are the key first steps to enter into Advent?** We can all slow down. We can all breathe more deeply. We can all begin to trust that this will be a blessed time. Then, when we let ourselves be who we are, and hear the Scriptures, we can begin to quietly pray, "Come, Lord, Jesus." We might expand that prayer, in quiet moments of our days ahead, "Come into my life. I trust you don't mind if it is still messy. I believe you love me, because I need your love. I don't fear that you can't find the way to my heart. Come and fill me with peace and the love only you can give." Some of us will want to open our hands on our laps or hold up our arms in the privacy of our rooms and say out loud, "Come, Lord, Jesus, come into this house, into my family, into our struggles. Come and heal us and give us joy again. Come and unite us and let us experience, each in our own way, a bit of the joy you are offering me now."

**And, before a single decoration goes up, we have prepared for the Christmas' message with the foundation of faith, with the mystery of Advent's gift. God wants to be with us. Advent is letting God's will be done in our hearts and in our everyday lives.**

### OUR ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS CARD



This Christmas Penny and I are again supporting WaterAid (we started this idea in 2007). This year's campaign is to stop 13-year-old Angeline and her family having to risk their lives to collect clean water. Their village, Taranty Bas in Madagascar, has no clean water, no taps and no toilets. Villagers need to fetch water from the Taranty river two or three times each day, carrying the water in 20-litre cans on their heads. The path to the river is narrow and steep with cactus spines pressing in on either side. The water is often infected with cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, typhoid and polio, but the villagers have no choice.

It's difficult to believe that, in this day, so many people still have no access to clean water.

Please add your greetings to members of our congregation on our Christmas tree on the notice board by the organ, and give any donation to Penny, myself or John Millican, gift-aided if possible.

**Wishing all our friends at St Paul's and the Fell Church  
a very happy Christmas, with many thanks for your support.**

Sue Fleetwood

PS A borehole costs £2413.79, taps £56.90, water testing £620.69

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - DECEMBER 2025

<b>Monday 1st</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's 12 noon - Grange Primary School Church Club
<b>Tuesday 2nd</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's
<b>Wednesday 3rd</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's 12 noon-4 pm - Trees up for Tree Festival
<b>Thursday 4th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's 10 am-1 pm - Trees up for Tree Festival <b>6.30 pm - Opening of Christmas Tree Festival</b>
<b>Friday 5th</b>	<b>10 am-4 pm - Christmas Tree Festival Open Daily</b> 5-7 pm - Repair Café at Methodist Church, Grange
<b>Saturday 6th</b>	9.30 am-12 noon - Advent Quiet Morning at Methodist Church, Grange
<b>Sunday 7th</b>	2.30 pm - Concert at St Peter's Church, Field Broughton 6-7 pm - Stillness & Song at Methodist Church, Grange

<b>Monday 8th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's
<b>Tuesday 9th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's 10 am - Clergy Chapter
<b>Wednesday 10th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's 2 pm - Concert with the Sands Band, Fell Church 7 pm - PCC Standing Committee, St Paul's
<b>Thursday 11th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's

<b>Monday 15th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's 4 pm - Mother Teresa, Father Magner Room, St Charles
<b>Tuesday 16th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's
<b>Wednesday 17th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's
<b>Thursday 18th</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's
<b>Friday 19th</b>	8.45 am - Grange Primary School Nativity Service end of Term
<b>Sunday 21st</b>	4 pm - Carol Service, St Paul's

<b>Monday 22nd</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's
<b>Tuesday 23rd</b>	8.30 am - Morning Prayer, St Paul's
<b>Wednesday 24th</b>	4 pm - St Paul's Christingle Service—NB Change of time 11 pm - Midnight Mass, St Paul's Church
<b>Sunday 28th</b>	<b>4 pm - Christmas Tree Festival Closes</b>

<b>Monday 29th</b>	10 am-4 pm - Taking down of Christmas trees
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## HARVEST THANKSGIVING

## RENEWAL OF GIVING

Regular, faithful and committed giving maintains our much-loved churches, pays our ever-increasing bills and makes ministry possible.

To everyone who renewed their pledge of regular giving, to everyone who increased their regular giving, and to everyone who pledged for the first time this year, on behalf of St Paul's and the Fell Church,

### A Very Big Thank You To You All!

Harvest Thanksgiving is a time when we are particularly conscious of the generosity of God, and so it is a good time for us to reflect on our generosity to the Church and its work.

The Church relies heavily on your generosity and giving, not just financial, but your time, talents, commitment and hard work! Through these many and varied gifts you give the Church is able to commit to its work in local schools, pastoral care in the community, and so much more.

The work and preparation behind every Church service and its day-to-day running by committed volunteers is inspiring.

So **Thank You All** for your generosity to the Church that you show in so many ways, and which enables the ministry that leads us in the worship of our Lord.

Chris Brown

ST PAUL'S CHURCH GRANGE OVER SANDS

### Christmas Tree Festival 2025

Opening Reception  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 7pm

To be opened by Tim Farron MP  
with musical entertainment from

Vocal Joy and pupils  
from Grange Primary School Choir.

Mince pies and seasonal punch will be served

St Paul's Church will be open daily from  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December  
10am - 4pm

Closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day  
and for any Services

Entry by voluntary contribution  
Proceeds to chosen charities.



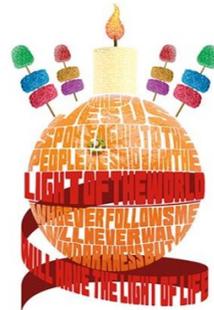
### St Paul's Church, Grange over Sands

Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December

at 4.00 pm

Christingle Service

With the Christmas Story



# NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

## *NATIONAL CHURCHES SURVEY*

The National Churches Survey 2025 was a major project by the National Churches Trust to understand the challenges and role of church buildings in the UK. The survey, which ran from May to July 2025, found that about 5% of churches believe they may close within five years and revealed that a significant barrier to growth is a lack of volunteers. Key issues highlighted include the condition of buildings, especially roofs and heating, and the financial strain of maintenance.

### **KEY FINDINGS**

- **Threat of closure:** Around 5% of churches surveyed fear they will no longer be in use as a place of worship within five years.
- **Building maintenance:** Roofs, guttering, and heating systems are the most urgent repair needs, with the condition of roofs having significantly deteriorated since 2010.
- **Volunteer shortage:** A lack of volunteers was identified as a major barrier to expanding community activities, with 45% of churches citing it as a significant obstacle, up from 22% in 2010.
- **Community role:** The survey confirmed that churches are vital community hubs, with the majority providing essential local support and many having accessible entrances, toilets, and kitchens.

### **AT THE HEART OF COMMUNITY: WHY WE NEED CHURCHES**

Churches are among the most accessible community buildings in the UK and their presence fosters a sense of belonging and continuity that few other local spaces can match. What makes churches distinctive is the way in which their spiritual, social, and cultural purposes come together.

They remain, first and foremost, places of worship. In 2025, 80% of churches hold services at least weekly, confirming their ongoing role as spiritual centres at the heart of local life. They are sustained by volunteers who pour time and energy into keeping doors open, they provide spaces where the most vulnerable are welcomed and supported, and they house treasures that connect us to the past.

But their story does not stop at the altar: 58% are open beyond services, and 42% are open daily, offering a welcome that is rare among historic buildings. In rural areas especially, they are often the only space consistently open to and offered to all. This centre of community life is as relevant today as at any point in our history, with many churches extending their mission to include foodbanks, engagement programmes, concerts, art exhibitions and more.

*To read the full report, google National Churches Survey*

**WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY SERVICES  
DECEMBER 2025**

<b>DATES</b>	<b>ST PAUL'S GRANGE-OVER- SANDS</b>	<b>GRANGE FELL</b>	<b>ST PETER'S FIELD BROUGHTON &amp; LINDALE</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER</b>	<b>10 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot		
<b>7TH DECEMBER SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>11 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot		<b>9.30 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot
<b>10TH DECEMBER WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot		
<b>14TH DECEMBER THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>11 am</b> Holy Communion Rev'd David Wilmot	<b>9.30 am</b> Mattins BCP Rev'd Annette Miller	<b>4 pm</b> Christingle Service Rev'd Annette Miller
<b>17TH DECEMBER WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot		
<b>21ST DECEMBER FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>11 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot <b>4 pm</b> Service of Lessons & Carols Rev'd David Wilmot & Rev'd Annette Miller		<b>6.00 pm</b> Traditional Carols & Readings by Candlelight Rev'd David Wilmot
<b>WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	<b>4 pm</b> Christingle/Crib Service Rev'd David Wilmot <b>11 pm</b> Midnight Mass CW Rev'd David Wilmot		
<b>THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	<b>11 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot		<b>9.30 am</b> Holy Communion with Carols Rev'd Annette Miller
<b>SUNDAY 28TH DECEMBER FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b>	<b>11 am</b> Holy Communion CW The Ven Penny Driver	<b>9.30 am</b> Holy Communion BCP Rev'd Annette Miller	<b>9.30 am</b> Holy Communion BCP Rev'd David Wilmot
<b>31ST DECEMBER WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10 am</b> Holy Communion CW Rev'd David Wilmot		

# A busy morning at our Christmas Fair



Raffle	428
Cakes	323
Café	240
Jewellery	120
Books	119
Tombola	63
Cards	20
Donations	20
Stall fees	20
Bric-a-brac	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>1366</b>



## Holly's tribute to her Grandad Harry (Barker)



The love we have for Grandad  
Will never fade away.  
We'll think of him, our very special friend  
Throughout each passing day.  
We'll walk into the room  
And see his empty chair.  
Although we know he's resting  
We'll feel his presence there.  
The memories of his laughter,  
His warmth and loving smile,  
His eyes so full of happiness,  
His heart that of a child.  
Memories are for ever  
Be they laughter or of tears,  
Memories we will treasure  
Through all the coming years.

***We are very grateful to Harry and the Barker family for gifting us our Church Christmas tree each year***



What a fascinating talk from Helen and Rob Cooper about their time volunteering in Uganda at the Kyaninga Child Development Centre. Helen was a physiotherapist in the NHS and spent time in Africa working with disabled children. Rob is an engineer who helps to design bamboo wheelchairs.

They first went out to Africa in 1992 and plan to go again, this time spending time in Uganda and Kenya. Their enthusiasm was amazing.

*And a note from Helen & Rob*

*We are going again in the New Year and, if you would like to donate, here is a list of the type of toys and equipment we will be taking with us.*

*Toys: coloured necklaces, light balls, easy-grasp toys, teething toys, big make-up brushes, small dolls, stacking cups, sensory toys*

*Steel rulers, quality tape measures, spanners, extra-long jigsaw blades for metal (used for cutting cardboard, used stockings and tights (any colour) used for ties for cardboard structures*

*Thank you for the collection from our talk—£165 was raised. If anyone wishes to donate using JustGiving, we have a new page within the Kyaninga Centre charity (RCN1164706)*

*[www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com) Donate to a cause: Kyaninga*

**CARTMEL PENINSULA CHURCHES TOGETHER**



**A Quiet Morning for Advent  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**9.30am – 12noon**

***'O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!'***

You are welcome to come to this 'Quiet Morning' at the beginning of Advent, in preparation for Christmas. Coffee is at 9.30am and is followed by worship at 10am. Then there is a time of quietness, with some notes for guidance if you wish to use them, before a celebration of Holy Communion, finishing at 12noon. There is no need to book a place.

Anyone who would like to stay on afterwards for lunch is welcome to do so - please bring your own food, drinks will be provided.

**Grange Methodist Church,**

**Kents Bank Road, Grange-over-Sands LA11 7EY**

Please come up the left side of the building and into the hall, unless you need slightly easier access which is up the right side and round the back.

Contact Revd Sue Nicol for further information: 015395 31044

The October 2025 Newsletter for Churches Together in Cumbria is now available on our web site under Community

**Actively Promoting God's Love for Everyone**



Loweswater in Autumn, with thanks to Tim Thornton.

Pamela Brook writes on behalf of CPCT:

“We are very grateful to Revd Sue Nicol for leading this ecumenical Quiet Morning for us. It really is a special time that marks the season of Advent and focuses our minds on the importance of the time of year and what it heralds.

Coffee at 9.30 am followed by worship at 10 am. Then there is a time of quietness, with notes for guidance if you wish, before a celebration of Holy Communion, finishing at 12 noon.

No need to book a place.

Anyone who would like to stay on for lunch is welcome – please bring your own food, drinks will be provided”.

# Stillness & Song

**Grange Methodist Church**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

**6-7pm**

Quiet, reflection and song  
in the style of the Taizé community  
Music led by local musicians

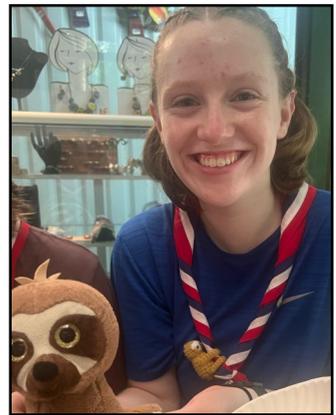


## LILY – ONE OF OUR OWN!

Please do take time to have a look at her display on the big notice board.

Lily Lloyd (one of our Edward Bear children, and the granddaughter of Sandra and Derek Barton) has sent us her written account of the time she spent in Costa Rica with Girlguiding North West England.

You may remember that we offered financial support from church for her trip but she had already reached her target with donations and her own fund-raising efforts.



Lily is 16 and has just started studying her A-Levels of Maths, Geography and German at Lancaster Girls' Grammar School. She is a Young Leader at 1<sup>st</sup> Grange Guides and has been involved with Girlguiding since she was 5, as a Rainbow, including being on the national youth steering group Amplify for the past three years. She was fortunate to be selected to join a group of sixteen 16-18-year-olds from North West England to visit Costa Rica, volunteering at "Kids Saving The Rainforest" wildlife rescue centre. Read all about her amazing experiences, and how she is now fired up to advocate for protection of our vital rainforest ecosystems, many of which are being destroyed by the palm oil industry.



When we hear and read so much bad press about our youngsters it is wonderful to see the enthusiasm and determination Lily has shown, and learn of the amazing life-changing opportunities offered by Guiding.

**From Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

**Goodness is stronger than evil**

**Love is stronger than hate**

**Light is stronger than darkness**

**Life is stronger than death**

**Victory is ours through Him who loves us**

## "Love Came Down at Christmas"

This is a Christmas poem by Christina Rossetti. It was first published without a title in *Time Flies: A Reading Diary* in 1885. It was later included in the collection *Verses* in 1893 under the title *Christmastide*.

The poem has been set to music as a Christmas carol by many composers and is also sung to the traditional Irish melody *Garton*. More recently, the poem was given a modern treatment by Jars of Clay on its 2007 album, *Christmas Songs*.



American composer Jennifer Higdon set the text for solo soprano, harp and four-part chorus. A new setting by British composer David J Loxley-Blount was performed in Southwark Cathedral on 8 December 2014 by the Financial Times Choir, and was repeated by the Trafalgar Square Christmas Tree on 11 December 2014.

### Love came down at Christmas,

Love all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
Love incarnate, love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus:  
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,  
Love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and all men,  
Love for plea and gift and sign.



## Welcome to St. Paul's Church CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December**  
**4.00pm - Christmas Carols & Readings**  
by Candlelight

### Christmas Eve

**4.00pm - Christingle Service**  
with a telling of the Christmas Story  
For children and the young at heart, in support of the Children's Society

**11.00pm – Midnight Mass**

### Christmas Day

**11.00am – Holy Communion**  
with Christmas Carols

## A busy Sunday at St Paul's

At the start of the morning service a recording of the last post was played before the two-minute's silence, and the church's wreath was presented at the altar.

In the afternoon the church was filled for the annual civic service, led by the Revd David Wilmot. Official guests included the Deputy Lieutenant, Tim Farron MP and his wife, Roger Handley (Town Mayor), along with representatives of the District and Town Councils. The Union Flag and the Standard of the Royal British Legion led the procession of clergy, followed by the banners and colours of the uniformed organisations, and finally the wreaths from the various organisations in the town were presented.

Representatives of the other churches took part in the service, and three children from the Primary School carried to the sanctuary the wooden cross that once stood over the battlefield grave of a soldier from Grange, and a choir from the school sang 'Let there be peace on earth'. The names of the men listed on the town's war memorial were read out by the Mayor.

After the church service everyone made their way down to the ornamental gardens where Flookburgh Band was already assembled for the short act of worship before the wreaths were laid on the memorial. A very wet and sodden gathering.

On Tuesday, the 11th, at 11 am on another damp day, year 6 pupils from the Primary School joined over 40 Grange residents at the war memorial in an Act of Remembrance led by the Revd Annette Miller.





## MUSICALS, MOVIES AND MORE ...

An evening of classic songs and instrumental themes was promised with vocalist Amy Cockett (a busy working mother with a young family who is also a qualified vet with her own practice near Leyburn) and Mal Carruthers (an accomplished and experienced organist with a previous career in the centralized UK music industry). The interest of the audience was immediately piqued as we entered the church to a darkened auditorium with additional sound equipment, an electronic keyboard, a large video screen, and the chancel tantalisingly illuminated in a silvery-blue and white wintry light with various poppies on the Remembrance Sunday fall glowing redder than others.



There followed an eclectic and disparate selection of slides and videos, organ renditions, and vocal or electronic renderings, with a pithy and apposite video commentary from Mal, all projected through their powerful sound system. Was there a link, we questioned, as we moved from the 007 James Bond theme to *Love Actually*, *The Mission*, John Williams's *Ode to the Fallen*, a *Riverdance* line-dance, *Ave Maria*, Kate Bush, and the 633 Squadron's theme for a raid on a Nazi V2 rocket launch pad on a Norwegian fiord? Amy's voice was powerful and tuneful, Mal's artistry on the organ superb, the additional sound effects from a side drum were riveting, and the slides full of colour and memories of our cinematic past.

The second half of the programme continued with increased variety: more of John Williams, Ennio Morricone's wild themes using harmonica and güiro, Andrew Lloyd Webber's 1993 version of *Sunset Boulevard*, *Gladiator*, *Highland Cathedral* (played on the organ rather than bagpipes), Judy Garland's theme song from *The Wizard of Oz* (1938), *The Magnificent Seven* and an encore of *My Fair Lady* as Amy crooned that she "could have danced all night".

Amy sang, Mal played, the slides flashed, the amplifiers amplified, all in a seemingly wild frenzy – and then the metaphorical penny dropped. There was no over-arching theme except a serious and deep-rooted love for music and the cinema and a realization that many various arts were now, as a matter of course, combining to stimulate and please an audience's senses. There is electronic music, themes and tunes are borrowed and developed from others, music made in different ways, ideas spread and changed internationally – we saw how *The Magnificent Seven* with Yul Brynner was a take on a Japanese *The Seven Samurai*, and Lloyd Webber's 1993 *Sunset Boulevard* was openly billed as "based on the Billy Wilder (1950) film".

So, thank you to both the artistes and their wonderful sound and visual supporter Mike, for a sensually stimulating evening. We wish them "Good Luck" on their forthcoming tour of other church venues.

MH

## NEWS FROM ST PETER'S, FIELD BROUGHTON

### FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Quiz Night at the end of November was just about a sell out with 9 teams enjoying a two-course supper before the fun started. An excellent and varied quiz went right down to the last round to decide the winning team.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES AND CALENDARS

- **Monday 1 December and Wednesday 17 December** – Indoor carpet bowls/table tennis/social evening. No need to book, just come along any time from 7 pm. Drinks and nibbles are available for donations to keep your stamina up!
- **Wednesday 10 December** – A White Christmas Party with live music from Men in Hats. There will be a special buffet and a glass of fizz included as we enjoy good food, wine, company and music.
- **Wednesday 11 February 2026** – Save the date - Curry Night!

The indoor carpet bowls/social evenings have proved to be very popular and to add to the “offer”, a table tennis table is now also available. Great fun on cold, dark evenings. Talking of which, I realise that some parishioners are not keen on driving out in the dark and if anyone wants to come along and would appreciate a lift, please get in touch with me ([louiseshrapnel@gmail.com](mailto:louiseshrapnel@gmail.com) or via messenger).

Please book or ask any questions via [fieldbroughtonsocial@gmail.com](mailto:fieldbroughtonsocial@gmail.com)

Don't forget to let us know of any dietary requirements and remember that only cash can be taken. Wines and beers are also offered at events on a donation basis.

### BROUGHTON EAST PARISH COUNCIL

Broughton East Parish Council website can be found at [www.broughtoneastpc.org.uk](http://www.broughtoneastpc.org.uk) and the next meeting is scheduled to take place on **Monday 8 December 2025 at 6.30 pm** in Field Broughton Parish Rooms. A new Clerk to the Council has been appointed to start in January 2026 and she has good plans and ideas to improve engagement and increase visibility of the Council.

### AND FINALLY

It is planned to hold a boon/cleaning day in St Peter's on **29 November** – keep an eye out for details. All help welcome.

Another date for your diary is an Epiphany Lunch in Field Broughton Parish Rooms on **Sunday 4 January 2026**. Please book with Louise, [louiseshrapnel@gmail.com](mailto:louiseshrapnel@gmail.com).

Field Broughton Parish Rooms will be getting new windows. A grant has been received from the National Lottery Fund to further improve the rooms for all users.

**Louise Shrapnel**



## Have an eco-Christmas

### 10 TIPS

Is it too late now to do anything to 'cut the carbon' this Christmas or can we still make a difference?

1. Turn off your Christmas lights when you're not in/overnight
2. Go green with your gift wrapping – no foil or glitter
3. Ditch the sellotape – use string
4. Use last year's cards as gift tags
5. Shop locally
6. Do a meal plan for Christmas week
7. Love your freezer
8. Go plastic-free with your crackers
9. Recycle well
10. Give yourself a pat on the back



### Some disturbing facts (extracted from *The Wonder of Wool*)

- Globally 20% of 100 billion items of clothing go unsold and are buried, shredded or incinerated.
- In the UK around 9,500 garments are dumped into British landfill every five minutes, making textiles the country's fastest growing waste stream.
- A worldwide desire for cheap cashmere means that goats have taken over much of the flatlands of Mongolia, putting its human population at risk of famine.
- Farmers with vast flocks in Australia now give their sheep artificial feed as there's no more grass.
- In 2023 a sheep cost £2 to shear, but 130 fleeces sold to British Wool fetched just £17.50—barely enough to cover the £15 cost of delivery, so many farmers simply bury or burn their fleeces.
- A 2024 study found that the average litre of bottled water contains some 240,000 detectable plastic fragments that pass into human blood with unknown health effects.

## ST PAUL'S CHRISTMAS TREE

Our church tree this year has been placed in the sanctuary, near to the 'stable' where we believe the **'Greatest Gift'** (the theme of our Christmas Tree Festival this year) was born. As St John tell us:

**"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life".**

**God gave us the perfect Gift when He gave us Jesus!**

As last year the tree is dressed in white representing the purity and perfection of God, and the decorations were hand-made by members of the congregation, mostly from recycled materials, each representing a Christian symbol: Alpha & Omega, Angel, Chalice, Crosses, Crown, Dove, Fish, Heart, Lamb, Shell, Star, Triquetra.

And as we receive this 'Greatest Gift' what can we give in return? In the words of a favourite carol:

**What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring Him a lamb  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part  
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.**



### Christmas Collection

We are again appealing for goods for the Food Banks at Ulverston, Barrow and Millom

*Recent research shows that 14.1 million people, including 3.8 million children, faced hunger in the UK last year, because they did not have enough money for food.*

Christmas can be very hard for the people who use our service, so it would be good if we could give them some

#### Christmas goodies

Christmas selection boxes, Christmas biscuits, Christmas cakes/puddings/mince pies, tins of ham

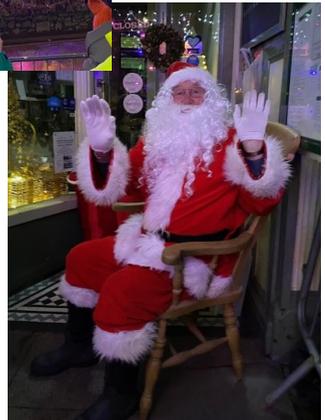
#### as well as the usual items

baked beans, UHT milk & juice  
pasta sauces, tinned fruit,  
tinned rice pudding & custard  
small jars of coffee, tea, jam, biscuits, toilet rolls

Father Magner Room, 1-3 pm  
behind St Charles Church, Kents Bank Road  
**Sunday, 7th December 2025**



The lighting of the Grange Christmas Tree



Guess who was Santa?

## A TAPESTRY OF WORDS AND MUSIC TO CELEBRATE ST CECILIA

What a superb concert Charles had arranged for us and how we all enjoyed the selection of tunes and readings by Audrey. It was all absolutely wonderful.



St Cecilia, the virginal patron of music and musicians, is remembered as having sung in her heart throughout her marriage ceremony in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, and we hummed and tapped and nodded our heads to familiar tunes brilliantly executed on the piano by a team of three accomplished pianists – Charles plus David Edmonds and Wendy Nicholas – playing as a team of six hands or occasionally as duets. And this is to

ignore the seventh hand, namely Joan the page-turner, who managed to flick the pages and keep everyone playing in time and at the right place in the music.

Most of the tunes were familiar to the audience and ranged from Mozart and Boccherini (remember *The Lady Killers* with Alec Guinness, Peter Sellers and Katie Johnson – “You naughty men?”) to Bizet, Grieg, and many others.

Audrey had chosen a number of beautiful, as well as amusing, pieces, starting with Joyce Grenfell’s *Stately as a Galleon* and she sailed through the musical numbers with pieces from Charles Dickens and Thomas Hardy, plus Jerome K. Jerome and others, to give a verbal feast of humour and evocative description as vital interludes to the music. All her pieces were carefully chosen, all most apt and perfectly delivered. We almost wept as she described how she had taken her harp to a party but nobody asked her to play.

It was all great fun and had clearly taken a great deal of time, selecting, putting together, rehearsing and polishing, and we are grateful to Charles and the three artistes for their time and dedication. We were reminded at the end that the next “show” is 6<sup>th</sup> June when we shall celebrate the inauguration of the church organ some 150 years ago. Please note the date in your diaries and come along for a further feast.

And, on that note, we also thank our catering team who provided soup, scones, beverages and biscuits beforehand. It was a wonderful and most agreeable afternoon in every way.

MH



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<b>GRANGE OVER SANDS MONTHLY RAINFALL (MM) - ANDREW LITTLE</b>								
	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
January	142	73	107	186	58	174	<b>229</b>	151
February	69	99	<b>263</b>	139	171	42	161	52
March	60	<b>182</b>	75	134	48	173	134	31
April	98	39	12	12	40	84	<b>149</b>	23
May	37	52	26	101	68	34	<b>110</b>	91
June	19	91	99	30	79	87	63	200
July	33	134	169	70	80	<b>226</b>	111	125
August	108	180	<b>188</b>	63	78	143	176	115
September	133	177	66	62	112	<b>189</b>	154	<b>254</b>
October	131	160	165	<b>304</b>	158	144	183	139
November	62	85	114	71	177	<b>227</b>	64	* 172
December	160	155	126	153	162	<b>259</b>	153	
<b>Annual Totals</b>	<b><u>1,052</u></b>	<b><u>1,433</u></b>	<b><u>1,408</u></b>	<b><u>1,325</u></b>	<b><u>1,231</u></b>	<b><u>1,782</u></b>	<b><u>1,687</u></b>	<b><u>*1353</u></b>

\* = incomplete total till next month; bold = highest rainfall of that month/year



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**Chair Yoga:** Every Monday starting from 28<sup>th</sup> April – Booking essential  
*Grange* 11am–12 noon at the URC, Kents Bank Road  
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**Allithwaite Lunch Club** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, Pheasant Inn

**Cark Lunch Club** – 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month, Pheasant Inn, Allithwaite

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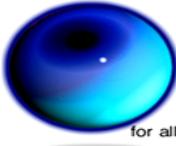
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