

# St. Catherine's Church, Crook

April - May 2009

Photograph taken in Witherslack Woods by Margaret Blades

*We all owe everything to Almighty God;  
Come and worship Him at St Catherine's.*

*A warm welcome is given at 10 am each Sunday.*

# WHO'S WHO at St Catherine's

**Vicar:** Rev. Canon Tim Montgomery  
**Associate Minister:** Rev. Tim Harmer  
**Two Valleys Curate** Rev. Steve Moorcroft  
**Hon. Asst. Minister** Rev. Canon Clive Porthouse  
**Licenced Readers:** Mrs Marian Porthouse  
 Mr Reg. Bradby  
**Church Wardens** Mr Tony Fitch  
 Mr Don Webster  
**Hon. Treasurer:** Mrs Hilary Fitch  
**P.C.C Secretary** Miss Margaret Blades

**Two Valleys Team  
 Churches' Office**  
 c/o St Thomas' Church  
 Stricklandgate  
 Kendal  
 LA9 4QG  
 01539 730683

**Revd Tim Harmer**  
 015395 68865  
[revtim.harmer@virgin.net](mailto:revtim.harmer@virgin.net)

*Please do not hesitate to contact us for baptisms, weddings, funerals or any pastoral need. Please ring Tim Montgomery or go via the churches' office.*

We are grateful to those who care for our church and grounds week by week – cleaners, flower arrangers, gardeners. Let us know if you want to help!

## Church Services Every Sunday at 10.00am

### APRIL

5th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
**PALM SUNDAY**  
 The Cross  
 Isai.53:1-12 John 19:14-30

12th **HOLY COMMUNION**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**  
 Resurrection  
 Acts 10:34-43 Mark 16:1-8

19th **MORNING PRAYER (BCP)**  
 Powerful sharing in the  
 Church  
 Psalm 133 Acts 4:32-37

26th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 Powerful action in the  
 Community  
 Luke 24 36b-49 Acts 3:1-19

### MAY

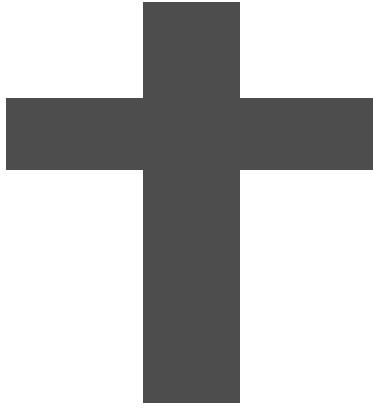
3rd **HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)**  
 The Good Shepherd  
 Psalm 23 John 10:11-18

10th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 The transforming power  
 of Christ in us  
 John 15:1-8 1 John 4:7-21

17th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 The blessings given to  
 All believers  
 John 15:9-17 Acts 10:39-48

24th **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 God's Gift of Life  
 Ezek.36:22-28 1 John 5:9-13

31st **MORNING WORSHIP**  
**WHIT SUNDAY**  
 The Holy Spirit  
 Acts 2:1-21 Rom.8:1-17



*"He is not here  
He is Risen"*

*Luke 24:6*

# Happy Easter

**Join us at 10am  
on Easter Sunday - 12th April  
St. Catherine's Crook**

*A Challenge for April and May.....*

*"Always be prepared to give an answer to every  
one who asks you to give the reason for the hope  
that you have."  
( 1 Peter 3:15 NIV )*

**St. Catherine's Church**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday, 26th April 2009**

**In Church after the Morning service.**  
**ALL WELCOME**

**This is the time when St. Catherine's church elects its Officers and the PCC. We look back over the past year and make plans for the future.**

**Please come to support the life of your church.**

**Sunday Lunch Sunday**

Thanks to all those who helped with Sunday Lunch Sunday on the 15th. Over 40 of us enjoyed beef casserole and a huge array of delicious puddings in the Memorial Hall on one of the first really spring like days this year. The daffodils and lambs encourage us to look forward to a warm sunny summer and we will have our annual church BBQ on Sunday 21st June after Church at Middle Blakebank. Summer will have arrived by then, so please put the date in your diary now and plan on bringing deck chairs so you can sit and enjoy the sun and the garden.

**Advance notice:-** Ladies outing on Tuesday June 2nd. We plan to be spending the day in Kirkby Lonsdale with lunch out and a chance to look round the town and enjoy the riverside walk and Ruskins View. Details to follow shortly!

**RUMMAGE SALE**

**Crook Memorial Hall**  
**Saturday 9th May**  
**at 1pm**

**Items may be brought to the Hall at 7.30pm on the Friday night or given to Mrs Jackson at Ellerbeck Farm or any other member of the Memorial Hall committee.**

The Memorial Hall Committee wish to thank everyone who supported the 'Afternoon Tea and Get Together'. It was a huge success, so please continue to save Books, DVD's and Jigsaws as we hope to have another one.

**Dates for your Diary:-**

Village Walk & Ba-Ba-Que - June 20th -  
(Details to follow)

Troutbeck 'Gardens Open Day' (12 to see)  
Monday, 25th May.

This is a photograph of the old mill that used to be in the Mill Yard at Crook. It is surprising how big it was. There was a fulling mill operating on this site in the mid 1500's, and probably earlier. In the early 1800's it had given way to a fully mechanised spinning and weaving mill and had three water wheels. Around 1849 it had come into the ownership of a Quaker family called Harrison, who lived at the nearby big house, Highfield. The Harrison's closed the mill in the 1920's and went to settle in the USA. The mill was demolished soon afterwards and some of the stone was used in the construction of Rock Mount, next to the Sun Inn, and other local buildings. All that remains of the old mill now is, just below the bungalow, a large stone block which used to carry the end-bearing of one of the water wheels.

Opposite the mill, and in the foreground on the photograph, you will see the old mill warehouse that subsequently became the Victoria Hall (predecessor to the Memorial Hall) and is now the residence Mill Slack.

Tony Fitch (with acknowledgment to the late Reid Yuen)



## QUANTATIVE EASING

We are in mess. Politicians can use all sorts of labels but, it's probably best summed up as 'a mess'. We have borrowed too much, spent what we haven't got, gambled on things getting better, and been greedy for more.

But now we have less. Less money in our pockets, less worth in our house, less interest in our savings, less value in our shares and less hopefulness in our lives. Less is a mess.

So, what to do? The latest answer is called 'quantative easing' which is actually a code for 'printing money'. It means putting more cash into the system to encourage lending and spending. It might help get us out of the mess ... or it might help us make more of a mess. History doesn't offer much hope for this idea.

History does offer us hope in the bigger story of life. The one that looks at who we really are, what life is really about and how to live in peace in the midst of turmoil, hopefulness in the midst of despair and joy in the midst of sadness. It's God's story – 'His story' – the real understanding of the way the world was made and how to best live in it.

Jesus came to reveal God to us and to show us this better way of life. Fishermen left their boats, tax collectors walked away from their money, zealots turned from their politics. An encounter with Jesus meant a whole new lease of life.

Jesus spoke more about money than anything else. He could see that it was blinding people from seeing the truth. He spoke about storing up treasure in heaven, but knew that the lure of money, the security of having it, the fear of losing it, were strong alternatives to his way and, when one rich young ruler walked away, he said, "it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven".


Jesus loved the world so much that he gave up everything for it. He died for it. Amazingly, this act of dying was the greatest bit of saving anyone has ever done. The investment Jesus made was done for us – on our behalf – and offers us security now and forever if we take hold of this inheritance on offer to us.

Easter brings us back to earth with a bump. We encounter death and life – which puts things starkly into focus. But we will probably spend most of Easter eating chocolate, gathering with family and friends, talking about money and hoping that it will just all get better and easier ... quantitatively.

It isn't easy to lift our heads and see Jesus on the cross, or open our eyes to see into his eyes, or prick up our ears to hear the good news, or tune our minds to the reality of the resurrection and the restoring of eternal life to humanity. But the choice is there – and it's a choice that must be made. Choose the way of the world or the way of God. The world's way is to print more money. God's way is to nail the whole lot to the cross and start again with Jesus. His way is the only true way to life in all its fullness. You choose.

*Revd Canon Tim Montgomery (Vicar)*

**L e t M y P e o p l e G o !**  
**A musical based upon the life of Moses**  
**Presented by St Thomas' Church**



**7.00 p.m. on Saturday 4th April**  
**At St Thomas' Church**

**Tickets FREE — retiring collection for**  
**'Bread of Life' Kenya**  
**and to cover production costs**

## Good News and Sad News from Zimbabwe



When John and Mary Allcock visited their daughter Rachel and her family who work in Zimbabwe, they took with them a gift of money which had been collected by friends of Hilary Crowe at her birthday lunch last November. There is a cholera epidemic in that sad country. Over 90,000 people have been infected with over 4000 deaths. Water pollution is a huge problem. Rachel heard that the borehole pump at a Women's Refuge Centre had broken and so the gift of American dollars was given direct to the Centre for the repair of the pump.



GOAL is one of very few aid agencies allowed to work in Zimbabwe. The young daughter of one of their junior members of staff became ill. Brain cancer was diagnosed by a hospital in Botswana requiring emergency surgery at a specialist cancer centre in South Africa. With no insurance cover, a plea for financial help was requested so that this operation could go ahead. If the tumour were removed the child had an 85% chance of a full recovery. In one week many family, friends, and acquaintances here in the UK raised enough money to ensure the treatment could go ahead. The little girl was flown down to Pretoria but, very sadly, the journey proved too much and she died on arrival. She was a first and only child. Those who donated with such speed and generosity have agreed the money should be given direct to a suitable project where other children might benefit.



**Maundy Thursday** – also called Holy Thursday is the day before Good Friday and commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the apostles. On this day, Christians remember the Last Supper and during the meal Jesus took bread and wine and shared them with his disciples. Christians continue to share bread and wine as part of their worship in church. The name ‘Maundy’ is derived from the command or mandatum by Christ at the Last Supper, to love one another:

**And now I give you a new commandment: love one another.**

**As I have loved you, so you must love one another.’**

**John 15:12**

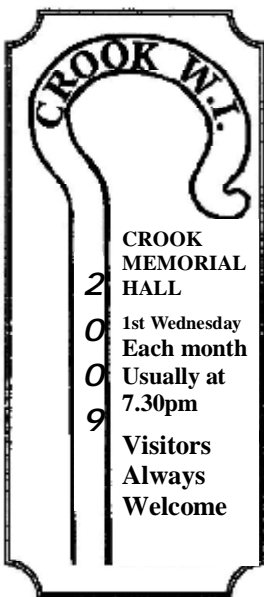
During the Last Supper, Jesus washed his disciples feet. The act has sometimes been followed literally in history as a good way of reminding rulers that they are here to serve their subjects. In England, the custom of washing feet by the Monarch was preserved until 1689. Up until then the King or Queen would wash the feet of the poor on Maundy Thursday in Westminster Abbey. (However, the feet were first washed by Yeoman of the Laundry before the monarch had to wash them and kiss them). Food and clothing were also handed out to the poor.

In England today, the Queen follows a very traditional role of giving Maundy money to a group of pensioners. The tradition of the Sovereign giving money to the poor dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Every year on this day, the Queen attends a service in one of the many cathedrals throughout the country. ‘Maundy money’ is distributed to male and female pensioners from local communities near the Cathedral or Abbey where the Royal Maundy Service takes place.

The amount of Maundy Money handed out is equal to the age of the monarch. This year 83 men and 83 women will receive 83 pence - this being the age of the Queen. The men and women who receive the coins are all retired pensioners recommended by clergy and ministers of all denominations, in recognition of service to the Church and to the community.



Maundy coins are specially minted for the occasion and are legal tender and, as they are produced in such limited numbers, they are much sought after by collectors. A complete set of Maundy money consists of a groat (4p), a threepence (3p), a half-groat (2p) and a penny (1p) – totalling 10p.



**April 1st**  
**OPEN MEETING**

**Speaker:- Andy Lowe**

**“Lakeland Villages”**

**Competition:-**

**An Old Map or Document**

**May 6th**  
**RESOLUTIONS**

**Speaker:- Rosemary Webster**

**“Operation Christmas Child”**

**Competition:-**

**A Powder Compact**

**President:- Mrs Ann Underwood**

**Secretary:- Mrs C. Raafat**

**Vice President:- Mrs J. Gorst**

**Treasurer:- Mrs S. Ferguson**

We were saddened to hear at our February meeting of the death in January of Freda Hopkinson who had been a WI member for many years. When Freda was with us, we were all aware of her radiant smile and distinct sense of fun. Sadly at our March meeting too, we heard of the death of Min Hazelhurst who was President of Crook WI from 1985 for three years. Min was always deeply interested in the international aspect of the WI movement and went on to play her part in the Associated Country Women of the World organisation. We were very pleased to be able to make donations to WI special funds in memory of Freda and Min and all appreciate the support and goodwill which these two ladies brought over the years to our group in Crook.

In February, after Sue Mulvany had given us a thorough briefing about the Resolutions being considered at a National level for support by WI members. Anticipating a lot of interest in the talk by Cedric Robinson, 'Queens Guide to the Sands' we specifically designated the March meeting as an 'Open' meeting and were extremely pleased that so many visitors were able to join us to hear Cedric and his wife Olive deliver a fascinating double act revealing their tasks and experiences associated with the Kent Sands Morecambe Bay. .

There is much interest too in April's meeting, when our speaker will be Andy Lowe and we welcome anyone who would like to join us for this and indeed any of our meetings.

*Ann Underwood*

## **Crook and Winster Parish Council.**

The February meeting was well attended and we were pleased once again to welcome a number of members of the public. Andy Lloyd of Cumbria Rural Housing Trust gave an interesting presentation on the setting up of Community Land Trusts to assist in the provision of Affordable Housing. A lively discussion followed and, following further consultations with the Planning Authority, it will be decided at our next meeting whether to form a group of interested people in the parish to take the matter forward or not. Felicity Thompson of the Planning Authority was present and answered a number of questions concerning planning control in Lake District parishes, as well as responding to enquiries about specific cases.

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting which is to be held on Monday 18th May at 7.30pm at Crook Memorial Hall. This is a public meeting, when the accounts of the Parish Council will be presented, together with a report on the year's work. We also expect to hear from our County and District Councillors. There will be an opportunity for questions and comments.

This will be followed by the AGM of the Parish Council, when officers will be elected for the forthcoming year. The Council will also discuss an application from Crook First Responders for financial assistance.

We hope to have a speaker from the Highways Department of the County Council (subject to confirmation).

Come - and welcome!

Kevin M Price. Parish Clerk. (01539-821596).

### **Church Cleaning Rota**

#### **April**

4th Sandra Lauder  
11th Lillian Atkinson  
18th Thelma Brown  
25th Ann Heap

#### **May**

2nd Ann Underwood  
9th Sylvia Girdam  
16th Marian Porthouse  
23rd Mary Allcock  
30th Jennifer Gorst

#### **June**

6th Hilary Fitch  
13th R&E Bradby  
20th Judi Webster  
27th Mary Simm

### **Church Flower Rota**

#### **April**

Audrey Rowlinson  
Hilary Fitch

#### **May**

Aileen Lewis  
Jennifer Gorst

#### **June**

Mary Allcock  
Jennifer Willink

*It was the usual custom - nothing special, nothing fancy.  
Two young pigeons, the minimum requirements, they  
weren't rich. A baby to be dedicated - the formalities at  
the Temple. Get the baby done and we'll be on our way  
But God made it special.*

*It was the usual custom - nothing special, nothing fancy.  
Bar-mitzah boy, a trip to Jerusalem. The age of  
adulthood - some prayers and a family celebration.  
Move past another milestone and get on with our lives.  
But God made it special.*

*It was the usual custom-nothing special, nothing fancy.  
Cousin John with his wild shaggy beard, dunking the  
crowds - they queued for miles - into the water.  
Join the new movement - the latest hot preacher.  
But God made it special.*

*It was the usual custom-nothing special, nothing fancy.  
A wedding in the village. A family occasion - laughter  
and singing, far too much drinking - the wine has run  
out, what a disaster!  
But God made it special.*

*It was the usual custom - nothing special, nothing fancy.  
A Roman crucifixion - whip and nails, taunting crowds,  
left hanging to die.  
But God made it special.*

*Lord - such ordinary things, a dedication, a coming of  
age, a baptism, a wedding, a death - but you filled each  
one with hope and promise. So in the ordinary things of  
our lives - may we see you, and in seeing you - may the  
ordinary things in our lives become heavenly encounters  
special moments, not to be missed. Amen.*