Upper Weardale Benefice Newsletter

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF DURHAM

25th October 2026
Dedication Festival for St Thomas' Stanhope

Collect

Almighty God, to whose glory we dedicate this house of prayer:
we praise you for the many blessings you have given to those who worship you here:
and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you,
and, being filled with the Holy Spirit,
may become a living temple acceptable to you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Bible Readings

1 Kings 8:22-30
Matthew 21:12-16

What's On This Week

Sat 24th Oct		10am	Cowshill	Churchyard Tidy Up weather permitting
Sun 25th Oct	Dedication Festival	10am	Stanhope Church	Benefice Joint Service
		2pm	Eastgate Hall	Pumpkin carving
Mon 26th Oct		9.30am	Stanhope	Morning Prayer
Tue 27th Oct		5.30pm	Durham	Archdeacon Licensed
Wed 28th Oct		10am	Stanhope	Eucharist
Thu 29th Oct		9.30am	Stanhope	Morning Prayer
Fri 30th Oct		6pm	St John's Chapel	All Souls' Service
Sat 31st Oct		10-12pm	St John's Chapel	Churchyard Tidy Up
Sun 1st Nov	All Saints	10am	St John's Chapel	Eucharist
		10am	Stanhope	Eucharist
		3pm	Stanhope	Service of Praise

A full and up-to-date calendar of church events can be found on the **Benefice website**.

For Your Prayers



We keep in our prayers all in our community who are in any kind of need. Our prayers are asked particularly for Kathleen Kirby. We pray too for others who are sick and for the bereaved. We remember our new Archdeacon Stephen, asking that God will bless him and us through his ministry.

News

Installation of the Archdeacon of Auckland



On Tuesday 27th our new Archdeacon the Ven. Stephen Edmonds will be installed at 5.30pm in Durham Cathedral. All are welcome to attend, tickets are not required.

Next Bishop of Jarrow Announced



Hot off the presses comes the news that our new Bishop of Jarrow will be the Rev'd Dr Jitesh Patel, who describes himself as having once been 'a very unlikely would-be disciple of Jesus, yet encountering the pursuing love of Christ through the mission of the local church'. We look forward to welcoming him to the Diocese in due course.

Coming up This Week

Churchyard Tidy-Ups



Work parties have been planned to tidy up the churchyards in Cowshill (24th) and St John's Chapel (31st) from 10am-12 noon.

All very welcome, please bring your own hand tools. May be postponed if the weather is very poor.

St Thomas' Church Stanhope – Sunday 25th 10am



It is planned to celebrate the re-opening of the church for worship on Sunday October 25th at 10am with a Dedication Festival which will be a Joint Benefice Service. Please try to be there if you can!

No service in Cowshill or St John's Chapel this week.

Pumpkin Carving All Saints' Eastgate – Sunday 25th 2pm

Creative fun at Eastgate on Sunday afternoon. Please email allsaintseastgate@gmail.com if you would like to join in.



Please note the wreath making workshops at Eastgate featured in last week's newsletter will happen in November, not October!

Looking Further Forward



Save the date – Christmas Gift Fair at Cowshill

Saturday 7th November 12.30-4pm

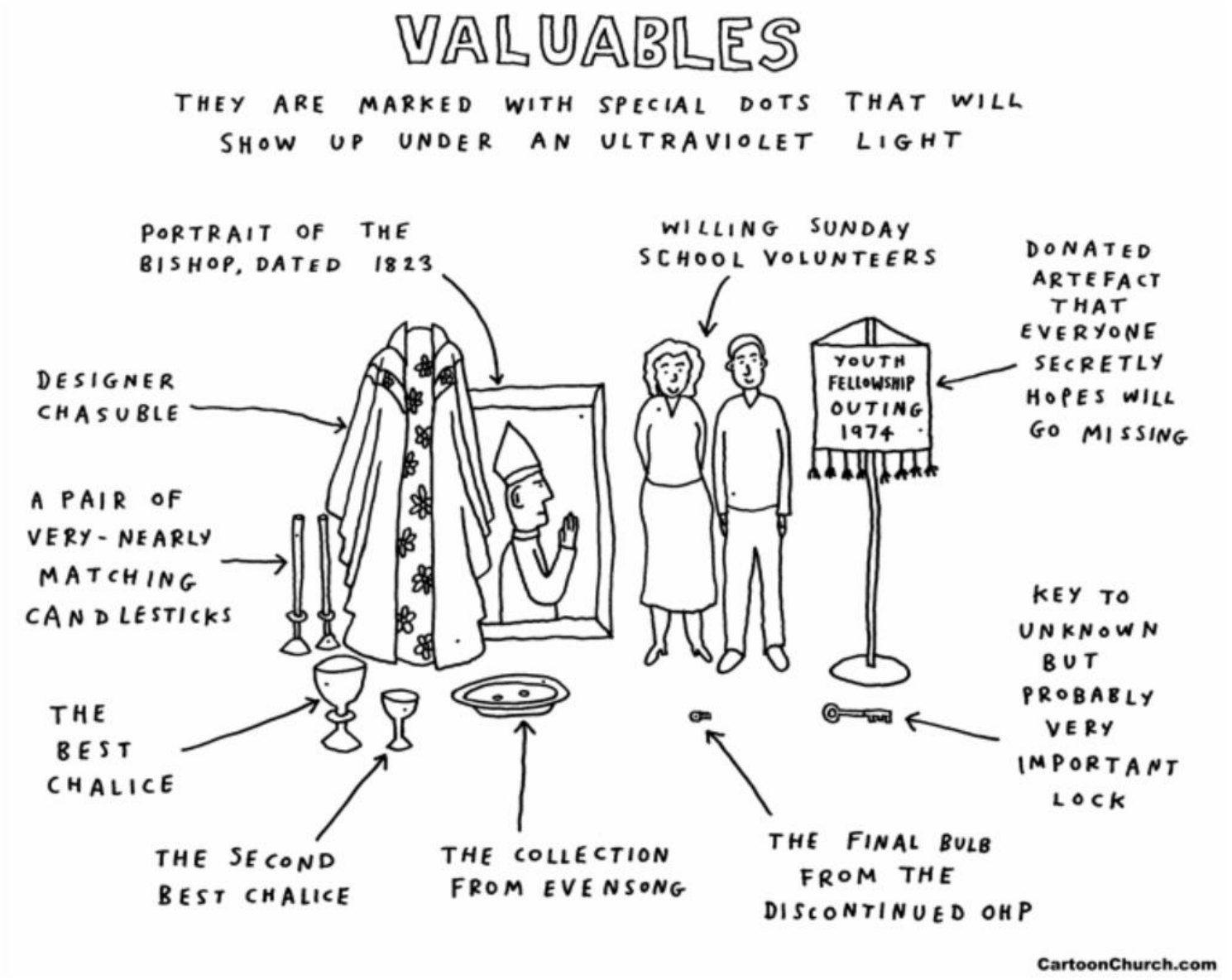
Poster attached

Remembrance Day Services in Upper Weardale



8	NOV, SUN	All day	Remembrance Sunday
		09:15 – 10:00	BCP Holy Communion (Stanhope)
		09:30 – 10:15	Copt Hill Remembrance
		10:00 – 11:00	St Johns Chapel Remembrance
		10:30 – 11:30	Eastgate Remembrance
		10:30 – 11:30	Frosterley Remembrance
		10:30 – 11:30	Stanhope Remembrance
		10:30 – 11:30	Wearhead Remembrance
		10:30 – 11:30	Westgate Remembrance
		15:00 – 16:00	Rookhope Remembrance

And finally…



This cartoon by Dave Walker originally appeared in his book "The Exciting World of Churchgoing" and is used by permission

General Information

To add any items of news to this newsletter please contact Sandie Barton at westweardalenews@gmail.com. Photos of church events etc. would be lovely (but do make sure any people in the photos have given their permission!)

The deadline is 3pm on Thursday for issue by email on Friday. Sandie is also happy to add people to the circulation list, on request.

Durham e-News: a regular email from the Diocese for worshippers and people with an interest in the diocese. It contains the latest news and features from the Diocese, and can be delivered directly to your inbox. To sign up simply fill in your details via this link: Diocesan newsletter.

Contacts

Priest-in-charge: The Rev Graeme Holdsworth
01388 531460 rev.holdsworth@pm.me

Associate Priest: The Rev. Heather Ross
01388 537439, 07713 388106, heather.ross9@btopenworld.com

Parish Safeguarding Officers:
Stanhope: Katharine Adams 07783659089

Eastgate: Liz Curry 07921 176012 safeinupperweardale@outlook.com
West Weardale: Jan Wright 07415 046392
safeinupperweardale@outlook.com

To arrange a baptism, marriage or funeral please contact Rev Heather Ross as above.

Facebook Weardale Parish News: to keep up to date, join Weardale Parish News on Facebook

Basic information on all churches is available at www.achurchnearyou.com

Our **Benefice Website** can be found at

https://upperweardalebenefice.org