

Ascension Day

marks the day when Jesus Christ ascended up into Heaven. It was 40 days after his resurrection from the dead. Begin with Easter Sunday, 4th April 2010, count 40 days, you will reach Thursday 13th May.

to Pentecost

Christians celebrate Pentecost,

23rd May this year, (so called because it is 50 days after Easter Day) as the day on which the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples

Celebrate !



Why the image of fire ??? Read Acts 2: from verse 1 in the Bible

Saint Thomas' Church, Milnthorpe of Saint Peter's Church, Heversham Saint John's Church, Levens and

St Peter's Church, Heversham

and St Thomas' Church, Milnthorpe

Priest-in-charge

The Reverend Susan Wilson The Vicarage, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham, Milnthorpe, Cumbria LA7 7EW Telephone: 015395 63125

The Revd Bob Wilkinson

Assistant Curate (NSM) The Revd Ron Rutter

Assistant Clergy

<u>, </u>	<u>iololani ololgy</u>	The Revd Monica Web		
	iy Ministers eader Emeritus	Mrs Elizabeth Bennett Mr Roger Bingham Mrs Linda Cooper Prof Anne Garden Mrs Dorothy Maudsley Mr Chris Bennett	Miss Fran Mrs Mary	ces Makin Orr
	<u>S</u>	t Peter's Church Heversham	<u>St Thomas' Church</u> <u>Milnthorpe</u>	<u>St John's Church</u> <u>Levens</u>
	Churchwardens	Mr George Handley Miss Sylvia Read Mrs Sue Tallis	Mr John Ricketts Dr John Thorley	Mr Barrie King
	PCC Secretaries	Mr Peter Clarke	Mrs Linda Baverstock	Mrs Liz Addison
	PCC Treasurers	Mr Mike Robinson	Mr Jim Robson	Mr Chris Band
	<u>Bookings</u>	Old School Mrs Louise Budd Tel. 60099	Church Centre Prof Geoffrey Gregory Tel. 64082	Levens Institute Mr Frank Routledge Tel. 60640

The Parish News is run by the Parish Churches of St Peter's Heversham, St John's Levens and St Thomas' Milnthorpe by The Editorial Team: Linda Baverstock, Jill Butterworth, Revd Ruth Crossley, Jane Cushnie, Gill Rodd, & Revd Susan Wilson

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For news from Levens: Please submit articles and notices in writing or email to Mrs Jill Butterworth, 3 Greengate Crescent, Levens, LA8 8QB Tel: 015395 61676 jill.butterworth@btopenworld.com

JUNE ISSUE PLEASE SEND ARTICLES NOTICES BY IOTH MAY

in arial no. 10 if by email please (this is "arial 10") PLEASE SEND ON TIME AND IN A SIMPLE, **CONCISE** FORMAT

St John's Church, Levens

Priest-in-charge

The Reverend Ruth Crossley The Vicarage, Vicarage Road, Levens, Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 8PY Telephone: 015395 60223

The Revd Canon Tom Thompson

My dear friends,

Over the last few issues of this magazine I've had a short series of questions printed, just to stimulate your thinking! Hopefully they have done that, even though it's difficult to find clear-cut answers.

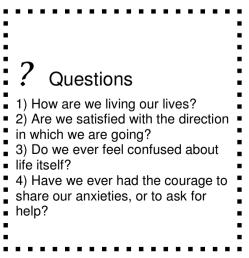
That isn't at all surprising because they are all questions about life and living, and I believe that to live a fulfilled life in this world is not at all easy. I don't think it was ever meant to be! It's never easy when we all have decisions to make – not least about our intentions, our hopes, our faith.

At the beginning of his large book *A history of Christianity* (which some of you may have seen serialised on BBC television), Diarmaid MacCulloch writes: *As well as telling stories, my book asks questions. It tries to avoid giving too many answers, since this habit has been one of the great vices of organised religion.* I believe that he is right, and that most people are helped much more by attending to their doubts than being protected by certainties.

After all, didn't the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews in the New Testament declare: - *faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen*? "To have faith" means to trust in the unseen God, from whom we have received the gift of life, That in itself begs many questions!

So, at this time of year, when Christian people reflect on the risen life of Christ, and on his total availability at all times and in all places, following his return to the heavenly Father on the first Ascension Day – at this time of year it is quite appropriate to be asking questions of ourselves and how we are handling our God-given lives.

Canon Tom Thompson



You are most welcome to Sunday Services in May *St Thomas' Church, Milnthorpe*

Sunday 2nd	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	Family Service with Baptism
Sunday 9th	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday 16th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday 23rd	11.00 am	Parish Communion - Pentecost
Sunday 30th	<u>10.30 am</u>	United Service of Communion at Heversham

St Peter's Church, Heversham

Sunday 2nd	9.30 am	Family Service
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sunday 9th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
	6.30 pm	Prayer and Praise
Thursday 13th	7.00 am	Service of Communion on Heversham Head—p9
Sunday 16th	9.30 am	Communion Praise
Sunday 23rd	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Communion - Pentecost
Sunday 30th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	<u>10.30 am</u>	United Service of Communion at Heversham
	6.30 pm	Healing Service

St John's Church, Levens

Sunday 30th	<u>10.30 am</u>	United Service of Communion at Heversham
Sunday 23rd	10.00 am	Parish Communion
		Barrie King & Peter Martin will be admitted
Thursday 13th	7.30 pm	Natland Church. Newly elected Church Wardens
Sunday 16th	10.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday 9th	10.30 am	All Age Worship for Rogation at Lord's Plain Farm
Sunday 2nd	10.00 am	Parish Communion

Prayer Gatherings at St Peter's, St Thomas' & St John's Churches

Do feel welcome to come along

Mon-Thurs:	Morning Prayer		at St John's, Levens
Monday Group	Christians Together in Levens		
Tuesdays	Communion (Common Worship)		
	Prayer ministry is available dur		
2nd Wednesdays	Prayers for Healing Service	6.30 pm	at St John's, Levens
Fridays	Informal prayer	10.00 am	at St Thomas' Milnthorpe
Saturdays:	Informal Prayer Meeting	8.00 am	at Heversham .

Please see notice boards outside church or weekly notice sheets for any additions/changes

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Everyone is welcome. Bring folding chairs if you can. Barn Dance at Park House Farm on Saturday 5th June You asked for another Barn Dance + We listened! = It's happening! Bar. Band, Pie and pea supper. Tickets from:63191, 64083, 65845 £12.50 adults. children: Under 5s free, Under 12's £5, 3rd child free!!! Everyone welcome across our 3 parishes - phone for tickets asap! Live Band, good food, excellent dancing, summer sitting, great fun. Service on a Farm at Heversham Hall Farm Sunday 6th June at 10.30 am A Joint Family Service for St Peter's and St Thomas' Churches, Bring chairs if possible to this open air service. \mathbf{c} Levens Methodist Church What are Services for "Rogation" ? 10.30 am Sunday Services To celebrate young life, new planting HOLY COMMUNION and ask for God's blessing on the land 2nd and on those who work on our farms! with Rev. Gary Ridley UNITED FARM SERVICE 9th 16th Mr Chris Fawcett ************ 23rd PENTECOST Rev. Michael Fielding Christ the King RC Church, 30th Mr Peter Storey

Service on a Farm for Rogation Sunday 9th May10.30am A United Service for St John's & Levens Methodist Churches at Lord's Plain Farm. Levens by kind invitation of Mr David Martin

Milnthorpe Methodist Church 10.30 am Sunday Services in May

2nd Rev Don Cross Mr Wilf Barron 9th 16th Dr Tom Frvers 23th CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY: 10.30 am Rev W Riley 4.00pm Afternoon Tea Service (Rev Riley) Wed19 May 2pm. MEETING POINT - informal devotional with Rev Garv Ridley. ALL WELCOME Contact info: 015395 62985

Milnthorpe Fr. David Burns T: 62387

Sunday Mass 9.30 am and Weekday Mass: Friday 9.30 am Sunday 7.30 pm Ecumenical Renewal Praver Meeting - all welcome

Confessions Saturday 11 -11.30 am with Exposition and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament any time on request.

ONCE A CATHOLIC?

Feel like you want to come home? Heard of the Landings Programme? Contact Fr. David Burns: or Landings Coordinator, Mr. W. Gill 01524 762124.

Sat. June 19th... coach trip to Edinburgh....by popular request.

Depart Milnthorpe at 7-30am Heversham at 7-35am Levens at 7-45am

Return from Edinburgh at 5-45pm arriving back sometime after 9pm. Cost £15 - Reserve your seats please telephone Peter Taylor 65832

Date for your diary: Oct 16th to Liverpool events run by St Peter's Church

Coffee Time at the Old School

Heversham

Call in for coffee, homemade scones and chat Tuesday 11th May from 10.30 am

"Coffee Time in a Garden " is back this summer! Tuesday 8th June Tuesday 6th July





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The Consumer Credit Counselling Service is a registered charity

whose purpose is to assist people who are in financial difficulty by providing free, independent, impartial & realistic advice.

STεPS

(Saints Thomas' ε Peter's Strollers - and friends from around the Kent Estuary) Saturday May 15th at 2 pm Please see notice sheets for details.

COFFEE MORNING

every Friday St Thomas' Church



The next coffee morning run by Mothers' Union will be on the 21st May at St Thomas' Church. Do call in for a coffee and to the "New Stall".



Carlisle Cathedral welcomed about 65 parishioners from the Kent Estuary parishes for the morning Eucharist on Sunday April 18th. The sermon was preached by Canon Michael Manley who talked about the limits of imagination. He highlighted the difference that knowing God fully made to a person's life and implored all present to ensure that they truly felt that presence and did not just leave it to their imagination. Those who feel fully changed just cannot help going out and sharing such good news with others. Children in the group were able to join in a session of Godly Play.

Next Joint event - **Songs of Praise on Milnthorpe Green, July 11**th 6.30pm. This will have a theme of Restorative Justice and there will be an article about 'Step by Step', the charity we will be supporting, in the June edition of the Parish News.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Meals-on-Wheels is now desperately short of volunteers.

We deliver hot meals 3 days per week around the local area. The round takes a maximum of 90 minutes, starting at 12midday, from the Cross Keys Hotel in Milnthorpe, and volunteers are only required to do 8 rounds per year. Please can you help? For further information telephone Ailsa Brookes on 015395 63964 or Sylvia Ham 015395 62218.

Christian Aid week is 9th -15th May



<u>רטטטטטטטטטטטט</u> The D Sina in Carlisle Cathedral Saturday 22nd May at 6.30 pm A Pentecost Celebration for all Christians in Cumbria!! Conducted and led by Roger Jones & his team of soloists. No ticket required!!! Come and Join us as we celebrate Pentecost together. J 7 t 2 ù Christians Together in Levens Big Sing (2) (2) (2) (2) around the World 4pm 30th May on Levens School Playground

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Saint Thomas' Church: Milnthorpe

<u>Milnthorpe Cemetery</u> There are problems ! The first problem is that, though we all call it 'Milnthorpe Cemetery', it is actually an extension to St Thomas's



churchyard, since it was given to the church in 1904 by Mr Bromley-Wilson when the churchyard became full. So whereas most cemeteries are paid for and run by local authorities, ours is still the responsibility of St Thomas's Church. The result is that the church has to pay for grass cutting and any other maintenance and has done so for the past 106 years. The bill is now around £2,000 a year.

Recently another problem has developed. The water supply to the cemetery is currently cut off because there is a leak in the supply pipe that runs for 150 yards from the main road all the way up Pig Lane to the cemetery. This water supply was installed in memory of Robert Wilkinson in 1934, and has certainly done good service for 75 years, but the pipe has not been renewed since it was put in. To reconnect the water supply would mean digging a new trench along Pig Lane (which is, incidentally, not owned by St Thomas's) and laying a new pipe. We are getting estimates for this, but the cost is likely to be in the thousands of pounds.

The cemetery, which is of course used (eventually) by many people in our community, is a considerable drain on the church's finances. The income from burials no longer covers the costs of maintaining the cemetery and means that we may no longer be able to afford to cut the grass on a regular basis. To open up the church each week costs around £700 and we need to find almost £45000

a year to meet our 'have to' commitments. In 2009, St Thomas's church had a deficit of almost £4000. We are doing all we can to avoid another deficit in 2010, but it has to be said that this means that renewing the water supply to the cemetery cannot be a high



priority. Anyone with practical ideas about the cemetery maintenance or about the water supply, please contact Linda Baverstock, PCC Secretary.

<u>St Thomas' Annual Meeting</u> took place after a shared lunch. Churchwardens, John Ricketts and John Thorley were re-elected as were the Treasurer, Jim Robson and the Secretary, Linda Baverstock. The Chairman, Sue Wilson, gave her report and was pleased to note the new notice boards made for us by CM Signs, which give a friendly welcome to the church: details of the next Sunday's services can be inserted each week. Almost £1000 raised by the Harvest Appeal and the recent Lent Lunches has been given to educational hostels in Chennai and this is to be an on-going project. We discussed the three areas that churches are asked to develop this year: Ministry needs are met by the priest and readers, and the congregation were also encouraged to take advantage of the many discipleship courses on offer in the two parishes. It was disappointing that because of financial constraints, we were not able to proceed with the appointment of a curate for the Benefice. Young People are served by our village Youth Group which is allied to Urban Saints, and a café church with informal worship takes place once a month. (Report continues on page 9)

Saint Peter's Church: Heversham

Milnthorpe-with-Heversham Mothers' Union

Marion Douthwaite introduced a video and gave a talk about the origin and influence of the most inspirational poem of aviation history at the April meeting. High Flight. Pilots and many astronauts have been struck by the poem's opening and closing lines

"slipped the surly bonds of earth and touch the face of God" A copy of the poem was taken by the crew of Apollo 15, the first to land on the moon in 1967. Copies of the poem were distributed to members. Jane Clarke



the next coffee

morning will be on the 21st May at St Thomas' Church. "New Stall" .Do come and see us!

Report continued from page 8...

The Sunday Circle caters for varying numbers of children on Sunday mornings. And regarding Rural Issues - we go to a farm for rogation where we pray for a good growing season, and then celebrate at harvest time.

And for our local rural community we provide the Friday Coffee Morning which is a much valued meeting place. The state of the church building is a perpetual concern, due to the fragile state of our finances (see the report about the cemetery). We concluded that in order for the church to continue to exist for the village, we must make a concerted effort to increase our giving.

LMB

Ascension Day

early in the morning **Thursday 13th May**

meet at Heversham Head at 7.00 am for informal Communion Walk back to the Old School together for breakfast

How about:

If you are not able to join us in the morning, read at your breakfast table the account of

Jesus taken up to Heaven

in the Bible from the book of **Acts** Chapter 1 verses 1 –11.

ACTS tells us how the Christian

faith spread to the whole world and was written for everyone who wants to know what happened after Jesus returned to Heaven.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's breakfast 'group' meet on alternate months (approx) on a Saturday morning at 8 am for about an hour. Breakfast comprises bacon butties, toast and tea / coffee for which we contribute £5 each - proceeds to the relevant church and/or a particular charity. It is an informal time which is open to any man living in the parishes of Heversham & Milnthorpe. Apart from an opening grace, there is no direct Christian input. Conversation topics have (and no doubt will continue to be) varied. Numbers so far have varied between 8 and 18.

The next breakfast will be on Saturday 8th May at 8 am - interested in coming along ? Please phone me on 64260 or email ron rutter@hotmail.com for venue details. Ron Rutter

A Mexican Experience

Café Church at St Thomas' Church Centre on April 18th was full of young people, families and many others who enjoyed a lively worship session. An excellent talk was given by Pastor Cristi Murgu of Carnforth Free Methodist Church, which also provided the musicians. And several young people recently returned from a trip to Mexico to build new houses for the homeless gave a presentation about their experiences. Oliver, Marcus and Robbie, together with Milnthorpe Youth Club leaders Keith Powell and Janet Sullivan were with a large group of Urban Saints (Crusaders) from all parts of the UK. Our lads, with some girls from Staveley, built their house in just four and a half days and spoke of the moving moment when it was blessed and handed over to the family that was to live in it. All said they would not hesitate to go again.

Green corner - What is in our clothes?

The WI nationally is proposing we should run clothes swap parties, for garments not wanted or loved. The fashion industry is not squeakyclean on the environment. Unless grown organically, cotton is the world's most polluting crop, accounting for 25% of all agrichemicals used world wide. It takes ten times more energy to make a tonne of synthetic textiles than a tonne of glass. On the other hand it only takes 25 two-litre plastic bottles to make an adult-sized fleece jacket. Bamboo and hemp are both are fast growing plants that absorb aboveaverage levels of CO2 and require minimal fertilisers and pesticides. Even in our clothing choices we can make a difference!

Levens Institute Committee

are launching a Monthly Draw in aid of Institute funds for an annual subscription of £12 for 12 draws.4 cash prizes per month, amounts depending on popularity of the draw. Application Forms are available from Levens Post Office or Peter Smith, Fourwinds, Church Road. The first draw will take place on Friday 11th.



Giant Sunflower Challenge

Milnthorpe & District Allotment Association (MDAA) are having their **first ever** Giant Sunflower Challenge

this year, to encourage all budding young gardeners who aspire to greater heights!

Judged purely on height, sunflowers will be measured by our judges at the end of August and the prizewinners will be announced at MDAA's Annual Show on Saturday September 4th at St Thomas' Church with winner's and runners up trophies and a £10 prize for the winner.

Entrants should be less than 16 years of age, and a live within 1.5 miles of Milnthorpe.

Seedlings and more info will be available at our Plant Sale see p12 and through the schools.

A Message of Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who sent cards, condolences and donations to me after the death of Eric.

Your prayers and support were a great comfort. *Elizabeth Bramley*

Saint John's Church: Levens

St John's Annual Church and Vestry meetings 11 April

31 parishioners attended. Barrie King and Peter Martin were elected churchwardens. The annual report is available in church.

It includes some of the work in the parish:

People's generosity showed an increase in giving, much gift aided.
We have had a busy and eventful year, with several alterations in the church building. We had a new lighting system installed. To facilitate this the pews were removed for about 6 weeks. It was amazing the space that was then available. Many people rallied round each week to prepare our new found space for worship, then when the job was finished rallied again with major painting cleaning and polishing .

•We had a data projector installed which we use regularly in our worship. The church in a village is defined not only by its building but by its people and their life action; as part of our Christian witness and faith, we engage with other communities local and further afield. We supported the Village Fun Day, Manna House a local charity that works with homeless people, also Farming Crisis Network (an organisation that helps farmers in need by providing money and support), the Children's Society and the Cumbria Flood Appeal. We also give regularly to other charities both home and away.

•Levens and St John's have a care for the world around them and last year we agreed to apply for parish eco-status; following an eco-audit; we wait the results of our application,related, although separate, Cumbria Wildlife Trust carried out an audit of the churchyard a list of the flora and fauna in the churchyard will soon be on display.

•Social events organised by the church and enjoyed by many include the Parish Party at Levens Hall, Passover meal in Holy Week, the Spring Fair, Harvest Supper and Heaves' Carols.

•At Pentecost in May we held a service in the school yard. in August we ran a children's holiday club in the school - 18 children attended.

Bibles were given to the primary school leavers. The Christmas Day and Carol services were shared with the Methodists.

Our churches as buildings are built for the worship of God and their presence in the community are a constant reminder of the love of God The building is a place where prayers are said each day for the world and our community; it is a place where we celebrate joys and stand with those who weep. It is where young ones are brought to be baptised, where older ones are brought to say farewell and where couples celebrate their love. It is where we give thanks to God through the seasons of the year. Faith remains a key underlying theme in our society. The love of God in the Christian, tradition, cannot be separated from the love, of and care for all people, whatever their status, race or creed. As Christians in Levens we need to seek a vision for the future for ourselves and for our building.

Prayer Cycle

We invite you to join us in praying for our village; for those who live in it, those who work in it, and those who visit. In May we think especially of Underhill and Whitbarrow Grove.

Christians Together in Levens

Monday Group continues to meet each Monday for coffee at 10.15am followed by a weekly bible-based activity,10.30am

PINBOARD

OTTOVOCE,

directed by Tracie Penwarden, and THE LAKES ENSEMBLE present 'A BUNCH OF THYME' A mixture of

Sacred & Secular music for Voices, Flutes & Pianoforte. at Christ the King, Milnthorpe on Friday 4th June, 7.30pm

A fund-raising event to help pay for the repairs to the church hall. Admission free:retiring collection Refreshments available

plants:cakes:coffee

Milnthorpe Allotment Association



invite you Sat 8th May St Thomas' Church Centre from 10 am

Open Garden **ngs** Lower Rowell Farm

Sat 22nd May & Sun 23rd May 1 - 5 pm admission £3

Also - A date for your diary: Thurs evening 8th July 6 - 9 pm £4.50 with wine



Guides Big Plant Sale Levens Institute Saturday 22nd May

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Levens Bank Holiday Car Boot in Levens School Playground Monday 3rd May - sellers set up from 8am gates open to public at 9 am. Carboots - Prebooked £5, on the day £7 Entry 50p. Refreshments available. Enquiries/bookings Pete Abernethy 61048. Proceeds split between PTA & Playing Fields.

Boogie in the Barn

at Ninezergh Farm, Levens Sat 8th MayDisco, Bar & BBQ Tickets £10 inc. food Proceeds to Great North Air Ambulance & Milnthorpe First Responders Contact 015395 63274 for tickets

Levens Open Gardens Saturday 26th June 12.30 – 5.30 £3.50 entitles visits to 14/15 gardens Refreshments £1.50 – available at three locations in the village. Some of the old favourites will be open as usual, but there are also some new gardens open for the first time.

Levens Institute Coffee Morning on Saturday 15th May from 10.30 am Cakes, raffle, games and more Entry 50p. Your support is always appreciated.

Heversham Village Annual Sports Day Saturday 19th June at Dallam School Heversham site. Children's Fancy Dress Competition starts 1.30 pm with races planned to start from 1.45 pm Everyone welcome!

Then that evening....

The Village BBQ at The Athenaeum Saturday 19th June Licensed bar & live music Food served from 5pm. Raffle draw @ 8pm Tickets (inc 1st burger/hotdog) £2.50 fromTom: 62125 Roger & Pam 62170



GATES – RAILINGS ON SITE WELD	FELD LTD 688 or 015395 65720 B – BALCONYS – FIRE ESCAPES ING - WROUGHT IRON WORK ITO WELDING	VFMS Hard and soft landscaping, Maintenance and tree work Ring Kevin 015395 52063 Mob 0777 345 3548 www.landscaperwindermere.com
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Leaflets, business cards & stationery. Tel: 015395 52280 Mob: 07737 808735 Moss Lea, Levens, LA8 8EJ E:mossleasign@btinternet.com	Connect 2 HEATING & GAS EN Your friendly, local ,reliqble PLUM Hamish Mulliner 07875 479	BING SERVICE

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Home cooked food - open all day - beer garden - function room CAMRA Good Beer Guide Robinsons Best Kept Cellar 08/09	ANDREW LISHMAN Plumbing & Property Maintenance Small jobs preferred 015395 65768 andrew@lishman21.wanadoo.co.uk	Fitness Dynamics FILATES Improve Core Strength & Flexibility DANCE A EROBICS Salsa, Disco, Bollywood & Street BODY CONDITIONING
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Sandham's Tearoom at Milnthorpe Memorial Hall open Mon – Fri good homemade food Tel: 07854 724391	Improve posture Relieve stress and tension Increase strength & flexibility Develop breath awareness Benefit from relaxation Weds 7 - 8.30 pm Levens School Classes restart 9th Sept Joyce Whitwham 015395 60679 British Wheel of Yoga Diploma Course Teacher	CALL - ALAN
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At this time of sowing, consider this planting plan handed to the Ed Team. We don't know who wrote it - if you did, please let us know....

For the Garden of your Daily Living

Plant three rows of peas Peace of mind Peace of heart Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash

Squash gossip Squash indifference Squash grumbling Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce

Lettuce be faithful Lettuce be kind Lettuce be patient Lettuce really love one another

No garden is without turnips

Turnip for meetings Turnip for service Turnip to help one another

We also need thyme in our garden

Thyme for God Thyme for family Thyme for friends











Water freely with patience & cultivate with love

There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow