

THE  
MAGAZINE  
LINKING  
3 PARISHES

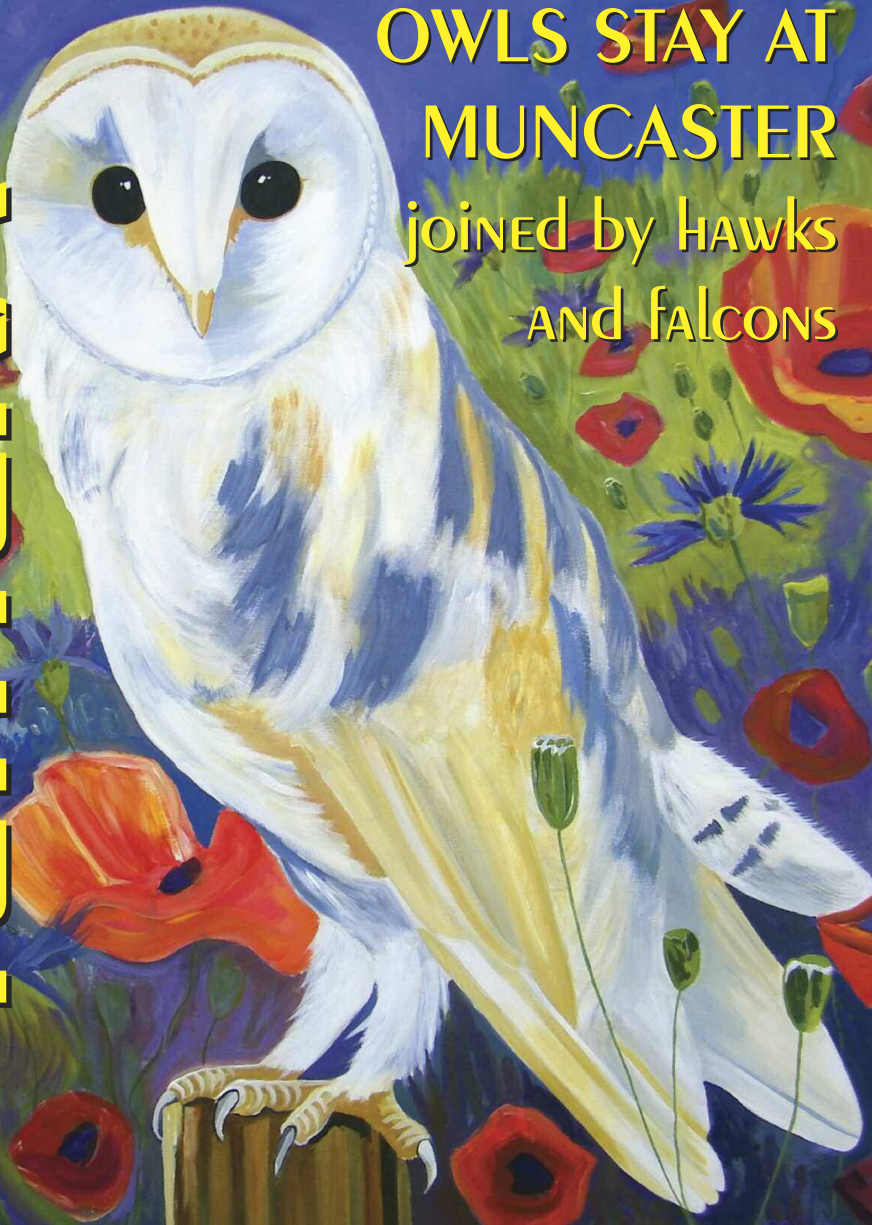
SEASCALE GOSFORTH  
DRIGG  
& CARLETON

JULY  
2015  
SUMMER  
EDITION

OWLS STAY AT  
MUNCASTER  
joined by hawks  
and falcons

TETHERA

ACRYLIC PAINTING BY PAULINE SANDERS  
DISPLAYED AT ESKDALE ART SHOW IN MAY





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# PARISH NEWS



Editor: Eileen Eastwood 019467 28653  
eileeneastwood@hotmail.co.uk  
Production: Trevor Preece 019467 28449  
trevor@trpub.net

## SEASCALE

On 1 June I ceased being a District Councillor and the Mayor of Copeland. It has been a privilege to serve the community over the last 12 years and to finish my time as a Copeland Councillor as the last Mayor of Copeland. My thanks to everyone in the community who has baked, given prizes, run a bingo session, having a coffee morning, opening a garden to the public – you were all stars. Individuals gave me donations and I have not got the final figure yet, but it is over a thousand pounds.

I am writing this time on the first day of June and the weather is awful. The last time it was like this was in 1976 – but became one of the hottest summers on record. Let us hope history repeats itself!

We are now the owners of the car park, toilets and some of the foreshore. You can keep up to date with everything on our website:  
[www.seascaleparish.com](http://www.seascaleparish.com)

The last time we updated our foreshore play area was for the millennium 15 years ago. There are plans to have a new play area in the near future. See page 46.

We used to boast one of the best served villages in Cumbria. It was sad the bank closed and so many businesses came up for sale. We are only just hanging on to our bus service. It's a case of use it or lose it.

We are still a hard working parish council and we appreciate all of the voluntary work that happens in Seascale. David Morgan is still keeping the beach and village clear of litter.

One of the problems for villagers is rabbits. They are spoiling residents' gardens and digging round our community area on the beach. We are trying to work with residents to control them.

Unfortunately we seem to have more obstacles stalling the Viking Way for Seascale and Gosforth, hence there is nothing I can report at the moment.

We know that parking near the chemist is a problem. But there are no yellow lines there now so parking on the road is no longer a problem.

However parking in the entrance to the fire station is. You could be putting lives at risk if the fire engine has difficulty getting out.

We hope you have an enjoyable summer on the beach, watching or playing cricket or bowls.

Our parish council meetings are on the first Wednesday every month (except August) in the Methodist School Room at 7pm. The notice board is outside the library.

*Eileen Eastwood*

The next edition of this magazine is scheduled to be published on the last full weekend in October. We are always on the lookout for stories and event dates. The closing date for contributions will be 26 September.

## SEASCALE PARISH COUNCILLORS

Eileen Eastwood	28653
Brian Goulding	21641
David Halliday	28027
Ken Mawson	29786
David Moore	27674
David Ritson	21668
Andrew Williams	28203

### Clerk

Ian Turner 01946 430887

### Copeland District Councillors

David Moore	27674
Andy Pratt	24097

### County Councillor

Norman Clarkson 01946 841126

### Other Useful Numbers

Cumbria Highways Hotline	0845 609 6609
Copeland Direct	0845 054 8600

## GOSFORTH PARISH COUNCILLORS

### Chairman

Tyson Norman 25646 (home)  
01946 841413 (work)

### Councillors

David Ancell	25232
David Gray	25318
Graham Hutson	25477
Alan Jacob	25356
Mike M. McKinley	26267
Graham Parker	25470
Ian Rae	25393
Chris Walton	25526

### Clerk

David Polhill 24327

Tether and previous issues of Seascale, Gosforth and Drigg Parish Council magazines are available to view and download in PDF format at <http://www.trpub.net/>  
The next issue will be available to view about 10 days before the publication date

# REVIEW OF GOSFORTH PARISH COUNCIL YEAR 2014/15

Most of you will know that Gosforth has a Parish Council, but perhaps not as many know what we get up to. This article gives a summary of the things we have been doing over the last year.

One of our core activities is to manage assets on behalf of the parish. Amongst others, we look after the car park and toilets. We know that the car park seems to be used by contractors during the day, taking up spaces whilst bringing no benefit to the village. Whilst this is not illegal, we are trying to resolve this by asking the NDA and Sellafield Ltd to use their influence to reduce it.

We arrange for several of the grassed areas within the village to be cut, and we manage to get this done more regularly than the areas which Copeland Council are responsible for! We have also set up an 'adopt a bench' scheme where local residents and business have agreed to look after particular benches, ensuring that they continue to be available for everyone to use.

Another activity we are involved with is the magazine which you are now reading, which has evolved from the Gosforth parish magazine in conjunction with neighbouring parishes. The Parish Council provides an editor and members regularly contribute articles. We are also the people who deliver the magazines to your letterbox – whatever the weather!

One of our successes was helping to get an alternative bus service for the village to replace the Stagecoach service which was stopped following the withdrawal of the County Council subsidy – although we can't take all of the credit and we would like to acknowledge the hard work and perseverance of a former member of the council, Mrs Cornall (now resident in Seascale) in this matter. We would urge parishioners to continue to use this service as we will lose it if it is not viable for the operator commercially.

Many people will know all too well the problems we have had with floods in a number of areas of the village. The County Council is responsible for remedial and preventative works and we have spent a lot of time ensuring that they have the correct information and local knowledge on which to base their assessments; otherwise we'll end up with the wrong solutions.

Traffic issues continue to occupy a lot of our time. We have nagged and nagged and finally we have had our road markings refreshed; however, we have no enforcement powers of our own. This means we are as frustrated as everyone else by selfish and inconsiderate parking and can only ask that people respect the parking restrictions, particularly around the bakery and the village shop. It is often said that “contractors” are the worst offenders, but we know that it is villagers too. There’s a similar story around speeding through the village which remains an issue despite the new 20mph limit.

We have responded to a number of consultations in the last year. We found that storing submarine fuel at Sellafield would bring no local benefits and were surprised to find that the Copeland Land Allocation plan didn’t even mention Gosforth. Parishioners are always welcome at our meetings, which are held at 19.30 every second Wednesday of the month in the Supper Room at the Village Hall and you can help shape responses to issues such as these.

Finally, we try and work with other local groups and our neighbours for the benefit of the village and surrounding area. This includes regular meetings with Sellafield Ltd and the NDA, as well as the Mid-Copeland Partnership, Cumbria Association of Local Councils and the LDNPA. Members also sit on the Village Hall, Playing fields and Church committees and one of the councillors is also a Governor at the primary school.

We’re looking forward to another busy year. Following the recent elections we still have four

vacancies on the council. Anyone interested in joining us should speak to the Clerk (David Polhill) or Chair (Tyson Norman) for further information.

*Chris Walton*

## GARDEN BONEFIRES

We have had some enquiries about garden fires. It is antisocial to light fires during the day if you live close to your neighbours. Advice is to wait until early evening and tell your neighbours first before setting them alight so that they can bring in their washing and close their windows.

*Eileen Eastwood*

### Drigg Local History Group

DATE: TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

TIME: 7.PM FOR 7.30PM

**Cumbrian Vikings  
an in-costume talk  
and display by  
Terry Harvey-  
Chadwick**

To be held at Drigg Village Hall  
Refreshments 7-7.30pm  
All welcome Members £1 their  
children 50p Visitors £2

Further Information  
John Dell (25492)  
Alan Bell (24250)

The Vikings in Cumbria

## DRIGG & CARLETON

The Drigg & Carleton community is starting a new Community Led Plan to replace the previous Parish Plan.

The steering group is made up with representatives from Drigg & Carleton Parish Council, The Drigg Charity, LLWR, Graham Construction, NSG Environmental and Action Cumbria.

Initial short questionnaires have been sent to every household in the parish to help form the main questionnaire which will be getting sent to all homes and businesses in the parish in the coming months.

As well as the short questionnaire, the steering group had a stall at the recent Drigg & Carleton Gala to further canvass the community to help form the main questionnaire.

Please watch for developments via the new parish web site [www.drigg.org.uk](http://www.drigg.org.uk) or the parish magazine Keynotes.

<b>DRIGG &amp; CARLETON PARISH COUNCILLORS</b>	
John Jennings (Chair)	24321
Andy Pratt (Vice-Chair)	24097
Gary Creaser	
Val de Gaspari	
Keith Hitchen	24710
Rob Little	24376
Jimmy Naylor	27841
Keith Murray	
<b>Clerk</b>	
David Millington	24272
<b>Finance Officer</b>	
Alan Bell	
<b>County Councillor</b>	
Keith Hitchen	24710



**Cheque Presentation, featuring from left to right – club Chairman Bob Quayle, Stacey Hucker from Great North Air Ambulance, Claire Gallery-Strong from Gosforth Playing Field, Debs Cripps from the Harbour Project, Dave Willey from Wasdale Mountain Rescue, Ian Simpson from First Responders at the back, Ian King, one of the race sponsors who presented the cheques, Julian Carradice of Gosforth First Responders, and Liz Norcross of Seascale School.**

## BLENGDALE RUNNERS DONATE £1600

Following the success of the Gosforth 10 road races in 2014, the organisers Blengdale Runners AC have this year been able to donate a total of £1600 to local charities and good causes. The money was raised directly from the races and sponsorship from local companies including Amec Foster Wheeler and Robinson+Co.

Blengdale Runners AC took the opportunity at their recent AGM to present cheques to several of the recipients. £400 was presented to David Willey from Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team, £300 to Ian Simpson and Julian Carradice MBE from Gosforth First Responders, £200 to Claire Gallery-Strong from Gosforth Playing Field Committee, £200 to Stacy Hucker from Great North Air Ambulance, £100 to Debs Cripps from Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project and £100 to Liz Norcross from Friends of Seascale School. Many of these organisations support the Gosforth 10 races, with the Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team providing a tail vehicle and water stations, the First Responders providing first aid cover and the playing field providing the finish area. The organisers also invited Ian King, Amec Foster Wheeler Supply Chain Manager who kindly helped to present the cheques to the charities, and also presented an Amec Foster Wheeler sponsorship cheque for £500 to the race organisers.

The other beneficiaries of the fund raising are the ICU unit (£100) and the Henderson Suite (£200) at West Cumberland Hospital.

The organisers thank their main sponsors Amec Foster Wheeler, Robinson+Co and Riverside Garage (Holmrook) as well as all the club members who work so hard to ensure the events are a success and the local runners who compete each year.

Blengdale Runners meet every Sunday at 9.30am on Seascale beach for an hour's informal training run, catering for all ages and speeds. There is also an organised run every Tuesday night at 6.30pm led by Ben Seed and Amy Fisher.

The club supports the beginners' running session held every Tuesday at 4.30pm at the Seascale Sports Centre at the Windscale Club, which consists of a half-hour run followed by a conditioning exercise session led by the Gym's qualified instructors. For more details about these events contact Mel Gould (27486).

For 2015, the first organised event of the year was the Bleng multi-terrain 10K Handicap Race on 18 April, which was won by Chris Cripps in 50 minutes 2 seconds, although the fastest time of the day was by Dave Atkinson, returning from injury with 46 minutes 49 seconds.

The Gosforth 10-mile road race and Fun Run was taking place on Wednesday 10 June, followed by an informal Beach Handicap Run on Wednesday 24 June, starting at 6.30pm from Seascale Beach Car Park. This run was open to any local runners or friends.

The very popular Gosforth 10K road race is on Tuesday 1 September.

Later in the year there will be a 9-mile Irton Pike Handicap Run, setting off from and returning to Gosforth Hall; and a shorter 4.2 mile Cross Lanes Handicap Run after Christmas.

Online entries for the 10-mile and 10K races are now available via [www.runnersworld.co.uk](http://www.runnersworld.co.uk); alternatively entry forms are available on Blengdale Runners Facebook Pages and on [www.gosforthvillage.net](http://www.gosforthvillage.net)

# SATURDAY 15 AUGUST

## Gosforth Agricultural Show

opens 9am. Adults £7, Children £3. Cars £7 on field  
(free parking adjacent to show field)

[www.gosforthshow.co.uk](http://www.gosforthshow.co.uk)

[gosforthshow@hotmail.com](mailto:gosforthshow@hotmail.com) or 01786 162428

Traditional agricultural competitions for horses, cattle, sheep, poultry, dogs show, vintage cars, tractors & machinery, handicraft, horticulture. 11-stone Cumberland & Westmorland Wrestling championship. Tug of War for teams of 8.

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# EVENTS CALENDAR

in and around Drigg, Gosforth and Seascale

For events farther afield in Cumbria  
go to: [www.golakes.co.uk/](http://www.golakes.co.uk/)

- Until 12 July.** West Lakes Wildest Walks Week including walks with National Trust's Martin Clayton. Details from the Woolpack Inn. 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk)
- Until 31 July.** Exhibition of paintings and photography by Seascale's Gareth Harrison at The Woolpack, Hardknott.
- 5 July – Sunday.** La'al Big Band jazz. Whitehaven Golf Club.
- 7 July – Tuesday.** Gosforth WI "Herb Cookery Demonstration" by Helen-Shipton Smith. 7.15pm, Gosforth Public Hall.
- 9 July – Thursday.** U3A Art Appreciation. "Line - the Basis of Art". St Joseph's Church Hall, Seascale, starting 10.15am. Contact Jean Taylor: 019467 28713.
- 10 July – Friday.** U3A Harder Walk to Whinrigg. Park at quarry below Irton Pike. Straight up via Irton Fell and return same way. Bring food and drink for 20-minute stop midday. Info from Beneta Livesey 019467 25381.
- 13 July – Monday.** Seascale WI "Archery" by Jackie Wilson. 7pm, Seascale Methodist School Room.
- 14 July – Tuesday.** U3A Photography Group meeting in Beckermet Reading Room, 10.15am. Contact Tony Bagnall: 019467 25595 or email: [photo-westlakesu3a@mybtinternet.com](mailto:photo-westlakesu3a@mybtinternet.com)
- 13-19 July – Monday to Sunday.** "All About Herdwick" Farm visits, lambs and more, and a BBQ with Herdwick mutton every day subject to weather. Meet and eat with Tim Brown of Amazing Grazing. Details from the Woolpack Inn. 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk)
- 16 July – Thursday.** U3A Open Mind talk "Current American Politics" by Joe Ravetz. Gosforth Public Hall, 10.15am for 10.45am. Main speaker starts just before 11.00am. £1.50 for members and £2.50 for visitors.
- 17 July – Friday.** U3A Easy Walk in Egremont area starting from public car park 10.00am. via East Road to Longlands Lake then visiting Clintz Quarry and return along River Esk. Contact Joan McIntosh: 019467 25459 or Jean Taylor: 019467 28713.
- 17 July – Friday.** Egremont Farmer's, Crafts and Fairtrade Market, 9.30am to 1pm.
- 21 July to 31 August.** Summer Activities with West Lakes Adventure. Details from the Woolpack Inn 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk) or West Lakes Adventure 019467 23753 or [www.westlakesadventure.co.uk](http://www.westlakesadventure.co.uk)
- 22 July – Wednesday.** U3A Discovery Group talk "Motoring in the 1960s and 1970s" by Malcolm Bobbitt, motoring journalist. St Mary's Room, Gosforth. 10.15am for 10.45am until noon.
- 24-25 July – Friday & Saturday.** Annual Exhibition of Embroidery, Fobbles, Gubbergill, Holmrook CA19 1YQ. Entrance £2.50.
- 24 July – Friday.** Comedy Night at the Woolpack Inn, Hardknott, with John Lebbon, Jellybean Martinez and Steve Haze. Details from the Woolpack Inn. 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk)
- 30 July – Thursday.** Steam to the Hills with an LDNP Ranger at the Ratty. 10.45am departure from Ravenglass, alight at The Green, walk back to the sea over Muncaster Fell. £12 adult and £6 child. Ticket includes donation to the Lake District National Park. Book through [ravenglass-railway.co.uk](http://ravenglass-railway.co.uk)
- 1 August – Saturday.** Fun day at The Woolpack Inn with DJ entertainer Paul Seath. Details from the Woolpack Inn. 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk)
- 2 August – Sunday.** Colour Run for Hospice at Home, 9am-5pm, Muncaster Castle. Choice of 1km or 5km routes. To enter visit [www.hospiceathomewestcumbria.org.uk](http://www.hospiceathomewestcumbria.org.uk). For spectators go to [www.muncaster.co.uk](http://www.muncaster.co.uk)
- 5 August – Wednesday.** U3A History Group talk "Chanel and the Tweedmaker" about Linton Tweeds in Carlisle, by David Ramshaw. Drigg Village Hall, 10.15am for 10.45am. Speaker begins just before 11.00am.
- 8 August – Saturday.** Seascale Horticultural Society Show. Windscale Club, Seascale, 2pm. Show schedule for exhibits available from Seascale Post Office, Beach Store, Library and Pharmacy.
- 9 August – Sunday.** Open air Musical "Robin Hood", 10.30am-7pm. Muncaster Castle outdoor event by the Cambridge Touring Company. Tickets £14 adults and £10 children. Book online at [www.muncaster.co.uk](http://www.muncaster.co.uk)
- 10 August – Monday.** Seascale WI "Quantumistic Art" by Lesley Connolly. 7pm, Seascale Methodist School Room.
- 10-16 August – Monday to Sunday.** When in Rome. All about the Romans in Cumbria. Details from the Woolpack Inn. 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk)
- 11 August – Tuesday.** U3A Photography Group meeting in Beckermet Reading Room, 10.15am. Contact Tony Bagnall: 019467 25595 or email: [photo-westlakesu3a@mybtinternet.com](mailto:photo-westlakesu3a@mybtinternet.com)
- 12 August – Wednesday.** Family Fun Day on Seascale seafront, organised by Messy Church and Shackles Off. Lots of crafts, dressing up, sideshows, games, face painting etc.
- 13 August – Thursday.** U3A Art Appreciation. "Shape and Shadow" - towards three dimensions. Contact Jean Taylor: 019467 28713.
- 13 August – Thursday.** Hardknott Roman Fort Walk and Chariot Race with the National Trust. Details from the Woolpack Inn. 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk)
- 14-15 August – Friday & Saturday.** Picnic Cinema at Muncaster Castle. Tickets valid from 10.30am. Film will be shown at 10pm. Two all-time favourite films on a massive screen on the front lawn.
- 15 August – Saturday.** Gosforth Agricultural Show.
- 15 August – Saturday.** Fun day at The Woolpack Inn with DJ entertainer Paul Seath. Details from the Woolpack Inn. 019467 23230 or [www.woolpack.co.uk](http://www.woolpack.co.uk)
- 17 August – Monday.** CFM Cash for Kids at Muncaster Castle. 10.30am - 5pm. Circus skills, face painting, arts and crafts, magic and more! Book in advance for 15% discount at [www.muncaster.co.uk](http://www.muncaster.co.uk)
- 21 August – Friday.** U3A Easy Walk from Nether Wasdale in the "walkers" car park, past Eastwaite Farm to the lake. Leave the lake to climb to the Wasdale Hall Lodge, back to Ashness How then back to car park. Contact Joan McIntosh: 019467 25459 or Jean Taylor: 019467 28713.
- 21 August – Friday.** Egremont Farmer's, Crafts and Fairtrade Market, 9.30am to 1pm.
- 23-31 August – Sunday to Monday.** Living History Week at Muncaster Castle, 10.30am-5pm. Discover how Britain became what it is today. Normal entry rates apply. Book online and save 15% at [www.muncaster.co.uk](http://www.muncaster.co.uk)



- 27 August – Thursday.** Steam to the Hills with an LDNP Ranger at the Ratty. 10.45am departure from Ravenglass, alight at The Green, walk back to the sea over Muncaster Fell. £12 adult and £6 child. Ticket includes donation to the Lake District National Park. Book through [ravenglass-railway.co.uk](http://ravenglass-railway.co.uk)
- 28 August – Friday.** U3A Harder Walk to Devoke Water. Park on Birkter Fell Road 2.6 miles SE of King George IV pub. Walk anticlockwise around the tarn, ascending 3 tops. Total ascent 346m. Return is along path other side of tarn. Bring food and drink for 20-minute stop midday. Info from Beneta Livesey 019467 25381.
- 28-31 August – Friday to Monday.** 100th anniversary of being a 15"-gauge railway at the RATTY. There will be visiting engines, a special gala timetable and a special double-header journey from Ravenglass to Muncaster Mill. Bookable in advance £20 adult and £10 child (5-15). Full details at [ravenglass-railway.co.uk](http://ravenglass-railway.co.uk)
- 29-31 August – Saturday to Monday.** Gosforth & District Art Society Exhibition and Sale. Free admission 10am to 4pm, Gosforth Public Hall. Refreshments and raffle. All original paintings for sale.
- 1 September – Tuesday.** Blengdale Runners Gosforth 10k road race.
- 1 September – Tuesday.** Photography Day at the RATTY. Meet 8.30am at Ravenglass, have a safety meeting and then walk the 7 miles to Dalegarth. Catch the 3.50pm train back to Ravenglass. 16 years and over. £40 per person. [ravenglass-railway.co.uk](http://ravenglass-railway.co.uk)
- 1 September – Tuesday.** Gosforth WI "Trilogy set in the Lakes" by Ruth Sutton. 7.15pm, Gosforth Public Hall.
- 2 September – Wednesday.** U3A History Group talk "Going for Gold" an 1850s Cumbrian farmer seeks Australian gold by Cathy Smith. Drigg Village Hall, 10.15am for 10.45am. Speaker begins just before 11.00am.
- 5 September – Saturday.** La'al Big Band jazz performance. Seacote Hotel, St Bees.
- 10 September – Thursday.** U3A Art Appreciation. "Composition – The Big Picture". St Joseph's Church Hall, Seascale, starting 10.15am. Contact Jean Taylor: 019467 28713.
- 11 September – Friday.** Guitarist and song writer Steve Tilston performs in Drigg Village Hall, 7.30pm for Arts Out West. details at [www.driggevents.co.uk](http://www.driggevents.co.uk) or email [contactus@driggevents.co.uk](mailto:contactus@driggevents.co.uk). 019467 24321 or 24177.
- 11 September – Friday.** Fish'n'Chip Supper at the RATTY, Dalegarth station. Diesel departure from Ravenglass at 6pm. Return train to Ravenglass. £10.50pp. Book via [ravenglass-railway.co.uk](http://ravenglass-railway.co.uk) or 01229 717171.
- 12-27 September – Saturday to Sunday.** C-art at several venues in West Cumbria.
- 12-27 September – Saturday to Sunday.** Gosforth Artscape, Gosforth Public Hall. 10am - 4pm each day except the final Sunday which closes at 3pm.
- 12 September to 1 November – Saturday to Sunday.** Exhibition of paintings by Seascale artist Pauline Sanders at The Beacon. In association with photographer Iain Taylor.
- 13 September – Sunday.** Antiques and collectables valuation day by PFKThe Sale Room in aid of St Paul's Church. 10am - 4pm, Irton Hall marquee, Holmrook. Donations of £3 per item, limited to 3 items. £1 admission for those with no items.
- 15 September – Tuesday.** Drigg Local History Society talk by Terry Harvey-Chadwick on the Vikings in Cumbria. In costume and a display of every-day objects and weapons. 7pm for 7.30pm, Drigg Village Hall.
- 18 September – Friday.** U3A Easy Walk from Gosforth car park, past Globe Hotel and turning right up to Blennerhazel. Then Wind Hall, join bridleway to Whinnerah and back to car park. Contact Joan McIntosh: 019467 25459 or Jean Taylor: 28713.
- 18 September – Friday.** Egremont Farmer's, Crafts and Fairtrade Market, 9.30am to 1pm.
- 18-19 September – Friday & Saturday.** Egremont Crab Fair and World Gurning Championships. Established in 1267 making it one of the oldest fairs in the World.
- 26 September – Saturday.** Eskdale Show, near King George IV Inn, Eskdale. A leading show of Herdwick sheep bred on the surrounding fells.
- 26-27 September – Saturday & Sunday.** Taste Cumbria Food Festival, Cockermouth.
- 30 September – Wednesday.** U3A Discovery Group talk "The Rise and Fall of Leyland National Bus Factory at Lillyhall, Workington" by David Quainton. St Mary's Room, Gosforth. 10.15am for 10.45am until noon.
- 6 October – Tuesday.** Gosforth WI "Essential Oils" by Susan Naylor, 7.15pm, Gosforth Public Hall.
- 9 October – Friday.** Fish'n'Chip Supper at the RATTY, Dalegarth station. Diesel departure from Ravenglass at 6pm. Return train to Ravenglass. £10.50pp. Book via [ravenglass-railway.co.uk](http://ravenglass-railway.co.uk) or 01229 717171.
- 10 October – Saturday.** Wasdale Show.
- 12 October – Monday.** Seascale WI 93rd birthday party. 7pm, Seascale Methodist School Room.
- 16 October – Friday.** Egremont Farmer's, Crafts and Fairtrade Market, 9.30am to 1pm.
- 30-31 October – Friday & Saturday.** Halloween Ghost Train at the RATTY. Travel in darkness and keep eyes peeled for fiendish friends! £15 adult and £7.50 child (3-15). Ticket includes all-day travel and a reserved seat on the Ghost Train home from Dalegarth at 6pm. Book in advance at [ravenglass-railway.co.uk](http://ravenglass-railway.co.uk) or 01229 717171.
- 20 October – Tuesday.** Drigg Local History Society meeting and talk. 7pm for 7.30pm, Drigg Village Hall.
- 23 October – Friday.** U3A Harder Walk to Sale Fell, near Bassenthwaite. Take A66 towards Keswick, turn right at Pheasant Inn, then towards Wythoff Mill for about a mile. Park on RHS before church. Bring food and drink for 20-minute stop midday. Info from Beneta Livesey 019467 25381.

## REGULAR EVENTS

- Badminton – Seascale.** Ladies Wednesdays from 6pm. Mixed Thursdays 8pm. Beginners very welcome. Seascale Sports Hall. Details from 019467 28435
- Children's Craft Club.** Meets every Wednesday during term-time for children in the infant classes, from 5pm to 6pm, at Seascale Methodist Church Hall. Contact Jackie on 29785 or Allison on 21935.
- Gardening Club.** Holmrook Reading Room. Contact John Dutton on 24317 for details or to join.
- Fishing Club.** Holmrook Reading Room. Contact Syd Roberts on 28655 for details or to join.
- Fitness Classes.** Tuesdays 6-7pm, Seascale Sports Hall. Tuesdays 7.30-8.20pm Beckermet School. Thursdays 7.15-8.05pm Kettlelicrise, Seascale School. £4 a class. Contact Gill 07511 995184.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

- Flo Jazz.** Third Friday every month, Florence Mine Art Centre, Egremont. 7.30pm for 8pm start. All welcome to listen or contribute.
- Gosforth and District Art Society.** Every Monday but with breaks for Easter, summer and Christmas. 7-9pm, Gosforth Village School. Also Thursday mornings 10am to 12am in Seascale Methodist School Room. Contact Jakki Barratt: jakki@karletta.co.uk.
- Gosforth Scouts, Cubs and Beavers.** Scouts Tuesdays 7pm to 9pm, contact Dave Marsden 24632. Cubs Wednesdays 6.15pm to 7.30pm, contact Jackie Harper 27211. Beavers Wednesdays 5pm to 6pm, contact Kathryn Ketchen 25912. In the Scout Hut next to the school.
- Gosforth Short Mat Indoor Bowls Club.** Every Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm in Gosforth Village Hall. New members welcome, spare bowls available. Flat soled shoes preferred.
- Guides.** Every Tuesday during school term time. 7.15-8.45pm, usually at Gosforth Public Hall. Contact: Sue Smith 019467 28265.
- Jam Side Up Jazz Jam Session.** First Friday every month. The Kellbank Hotel, Gosforth. From 8.30pm. www.jamsideup.net or 01967 28619 for more details. Admission free.
- Keep Fit Classes.** By Kay Wayman. Every Monday Monday at 9:50 to 10.50am and Thursdays 6-7pm. Santon Bridge Village Hall. £6. 019467 24226 or 07707 408799. Or just turn up.
- Line Dancing.** Every Monday. 7.30pm, Windscale Club, Seascale. £2 pp donation to charity. Contact 019467 28449 for details.
- Messy Church.** Run jointly between St Cuthbert's and Seascale Methodist Church and meets on the third Saturday of each month in school term in the Methodist Church Hall at 2pm to 4pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Moky Fit Class.** Seascale Primary School, 6.30pm. Contact Nicola Tubman at nicat1206@gmail.com
- Music Jazz Club.** Thursdays. Holmrook Reading Room, 7.30pm. Own instrument needed. Contact Peter Smith on 01946 822489.
- Music Jam.** Jam at the Wheatsheaf in Egremont. Come along and join in the fun if you can, between 7pm Tuesdays and let's say ... late. Ask for me when you arrive, if you want to play. Bring your gear. Val. 07974 418325.
- Open Mic Night – Strands, Nether Wasdale.** First Wednesday every month. 9pm start. Live music by various singers and groups.
- Open Mic Night – Florence Mine, Egremont.** Third Wednesday of each month. Great atmosphere, all gear provided. Just turn up.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A General Meeting.** Third Thursday every month 10.15am for 10.45am in Gosforth Public Hall. Membership is £5 per year which covers membership for all the groups. In addition there is a small admission charge for each U3A meeting. Contact: Graham Brassington 25794.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A History Group.** First Wednesday every month at 11am in Drigg Village Hall. Contact: David Huyton 01946 841362.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Discovery Group.** Fourth Wednesday every month 10.15am for 10.45am in St Mary's Room. Contact: Graham Hutson 25477.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Singing for Fun Group.** First Thursday every month 2.30pm to 4pm in St Marys Room, Gosforth. Contacts: Tim Austin 26778 or Xandra Brassington 25794. The change in venue applies from September.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Art Appreciation Group.** Second Thursday every month 10.30am in St Joseph's Church Hall Seascale. Contact Jean Taylor 28713.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Mah Jong Group.** (House Group Gosforth) Second and fourth Mondays every month from 2pm to 5pm. Contact Xandra Brassington 25794.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Reading Group.** (House Group Gosforth) Fourth Thursday every month between 10.45am and 12.00noon in a private house. Contact: Jean Taylor 28713.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Discussion Group.** Third Tuesday every month between 10am and 12noon in a private house. Contact: Graham Brassington 25794.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Photography Group.** Second Tuesday every month in the Beckermet Reading Room at 10.15am for 10.30am. Contact: Tony Bagnall 25595.
- Open Mind West Lakes U3A Walking Group.** Third Friday each month. Easy walks are regularly arranged usually starting at 10.00am and last about 2 hours. Contact: Joan McIntosh 25459.
- Over '60s Lunches, Strands, Nether Wasdale.** Monday to Thursday, noon to 2.30pm. One course £5, 2 courses £7, 3 courses £9. 019467.
- Open Social Run.** First Sunday every month, 9.30am. Seascale beach or cinder track, starting from car park. Organised by Blengdale Runners and open to anyone who can run three miles or more at any speed.
- Play Club.** Holmrook Reading Room Play Park Contact Caroline Marsden to let your children use it.
- Rangers.** Every Tuesday during school term time. 7.15-8.45pm, usually in supper room at Gosforth Public Hall. Contact: Sue Smith 019467 28265.
- Saturday Coffee Morning.** Seascale Methodist Church Hall, 10-11.30am.
- Scottish Country Dancing.** Windscale Club, Seascale. Every Wednesday from September to April at 7.30pm. Beginners very welcome.
- Scouts/Cubs/Beavers:** 2nd Seascale Scout Group. Every Thursday night in school term time. St Cuthbert's Hall. Beavers (6-8 years), 5-6pm. Cubs (8-10 years), 6-7.30pm. Scouts (10-14½ years), 7.30-9pm. Contact: 28296 or info@seascalescouts.org.uk
- Seascale Art Group.** Monday mornings (except Public Holidays) 10am-12noon in the Games Room at the Windscale Club. Call in if interested.
- Seascale Knitting Group.** Fortnightly meetings on Wednesdays 6.30-8pm at the Windscale Club. £1 per session. For more information contact Penny Cater penelope\_cater@btinternet.com
- Seascale Parish Council Meetings.** First Wednesday every month. 7pm in the Methodist Schoolroom. No meeting in August unless there is urgent business.
- Seascale Women's Outlook.** Alternate Tuesdays in term time at 8pm in the Methodist Hall. All ladies welcome. Contact Glenda on 28404 for programme.
- Table Tennis Club.** Wednesdays. Holmrook Reading Room, 6.30-7.30pm. All welcome to turn up or contact David on 24632.
- Tuesday Chat.** First Tuesday every month. 2-4pm. Drigg & Carleton Village Hall.
- West Cumbria Guild of Model Engineers meetings.** Second Wednesday every month. Harrington Fishing and Sailing Club, 7.30pm. Visitors welcome. Details: 019467 28938.
- West Cumbria Guild of Model Engineers train running on Curwen Hall Park track.** Sundays 2-3pm in fine weather.
- WI, Seascale.** Seascale Methodist School Room. Mondays 7pm each month except January, February and December at 2pm.
- Wild Flower Meadow.** Holmrook Reading Room. Phone 24105 to be involved. Supervised children welcome.

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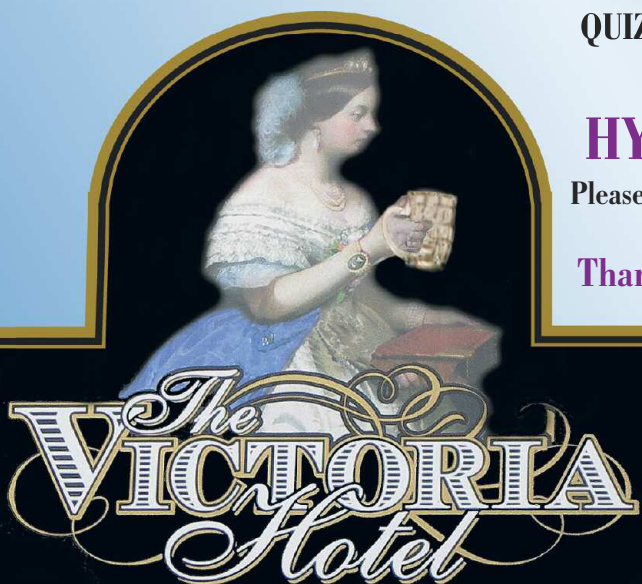
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# SEASCALE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW



The society has been in existence for well over a hundred years now and the highlight of each year is the horticultural show. There is a large number of categories to enter in the show – everything from the heaviest marrow to the most delicious cakes. Full details can be found in the show schedule which is available now from Seascale Post Office, Beach Store, Seascale Library and Seascale Pharmacy.

This year the show will be held once again in the Windscale Club, Gosforth Road, Seascale on Saturday, 8 August at 2pm. There is no fee for entering your exhibits (unlike most other shows) and entries can be accepted on Friday evening or on the morning of the show. The ever popular tea and cakes will be on sale during the show.

Pick up a schedule now to see which categories you would like to enter. We look forward to seeing you there.

Pictures seen here are from last year's show.



## MIKE STARKIE, ELECTED MAYOR OF COPELAND, INTRODUCES HIMSELF TO TETHERA READERS

I have now completed a very busy first five weeks as Copeland's Elected Mayor. It has involved many meetings both internally and also with external bodies, strategic partners, local media and neighbouring councils which has enabled me to absorb a lot of information and carry out a thorough fact find of council activities, responsibilities and relationships. I have also been able to engage with significant numbers of the general public.

I had a clear policy framework in mind for the future direction of this council and feel as a result of the groundwork and research of the first few weeks I am now in a position to begin adding in the detail to start moving the plan forward.

The Council Executive has been appointed and all the committees have been put in place. I am delighted to say that political interest has taken a back seat to the best interest of Copeland and the community, as the whole council has come together as one with cross party representation in Copeland's first ever Rainbow administration.

I have appointed a first class political adviser in Mike Graham, who is highly respected across the

political divide and a successful businessman in his own right. I am also fortunate that I have a first rate team of council officers and really good staff, all who have been involved in briefings where the Council's ambitions, aspirations and direction has been outlined.

We have also taken the first steps towards setting up the Business Network, a voluntary team of some of best business brains and entrepreneurs in the area who will work with the council to assist in finding ways of tapping in to the supply chain and extracting maximum value and a lasting legacy from the huge inward investment coming into Copeland in the coming years.

I am now looking forward to the first public meeting of the executive and the first full council meeting. These meetings will be rotated around the Borough in Whitehaven, Cleator Moor, Egremont and Millom and will hopefully attract members of the public to attend.

I am very keen to encourage positive public engagement – you can follow events, contribute ideas and join in discussions on the Elected Mayor Facebook page.

# CHEERS!

West Cumbria CAMRA says “thank you” to the people of Seascale for helping make the Seascale Beer Festival in March the huge success which we very much hoped it would be. Most obviously, this would be all the people at the Windscale Club who provided endless support throughout, but also Pudding Lane and Pops for helping feed staff and customers alike, Trevor and all at this very publication for helping promote the event and, last but not least, those from Seascale and the surrounding area who came along to support and hopefully enjoy the event.



**David Powell Thompson (right) opens the Seascale CAMRA Beerfest...**



**...and Peter Smith approves!...**

**...as does Ian at the Strands' Beerfest in May!**



We had more than 500 persons through the door from Thursday afternoon through to Saturday evening. That was very early Saturday evening as the festival was all but a sell-out – that is the equivalent of more than 1,500 pints of real ale and cider sold over the course of the event. We are very proud to be able to say that the beers and cider were in excellent condition, a fact that was widely recognised by seasoned beer festival-goers and those attending for the first time alike.

Which leads me to the question I have been asked many times since we called ‘last orders’ at our bar for the final time – ‘Will you be doing the same again the next year?’. The answer, I am happy to say, is quite possibly yes! There is a great deal of planning and approvals required for a CAMRA beer festival but, such was the success of this spring’s event we are definitely minded to go for a repeat performance around the same time in 2016. Watch this space for confirmation and further details!

Finally, a special mention to David Powell-Thompson for opening the event, and also to Wasdale Mountain Rescue for agreeing to be Charity of the Festival: the fact that we had raised £228.80 thanks to the generosity of the attendees really was the icing on the cake.

*Brian Maudling  
Treasurer – West Cumbria CAMRA*



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**MUNCASTER MICROBUS DAY TRIPS 2015-2016**

Date	Day	Destination	Price	
July	8 Wed	Workington	£8.50	
	18 Sat	Ullswater Steamer	£10.00	
August	1 Sat	Mystery Trip	£9.50	
	15 Sat	Keswick/Cockermouth	£9.50	
	29 Sat	Central Lakes Tour	£9.00	
September	12 Sat	Heritage Open Day (TBA)	£9.00	
	26 Sat	Penrith	£10.00	
October	10 Sat	Coniston/Hawkshead	£8.00	
	24 Sat	Kendal	£9.50	
November	7 Sat	Carlisle	£10.00	Shopping
	21 Sat	Barrow	£9.00	
December	5 Sat	Keswick/Cockermouth	£9.50	
	9 Wed	Workington	£8.50	
	19 Sat	Ambleside/Windermere	£9.50	
<b>2016</b>				
January	16 Sat	Carlisle	£10.00	Shopping
	30 Sat	Keswick	£9.50	
February	13 Sat	Ulverston/Buddhist temple	£8.00	
	27 Sat	Kendal	£9.50	Shopping
March	12 Sat	Penrith/Rheged	£10.00	
	26 Sat	Coniston/Hawkshead	£8.00	

Muncaster Microbus runs Whitehaven shopping trips on Tuesday and Thursdays which can call at Gosforth and Seascale. Details from [www.muncastermicrobus.org.uk](http://www.muncastermicrobus.org.uk). Bookings: 01229 717229.

# STAY, DINE AND DRINK IN STYLE

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# GOSFORTH SHOW HISTORY 1919-1945

**In 1919 with the revival of the show after a break for the First World War a new show ground was found at Harecroft Park on the opposite side of the road to Harecroft Hall.**

One of the competitions was for horse drawn carriages and the winner was Miss A.S. Brocklebank of Irton Hall who also won at the Royal Dublin Society's Show in 1919 with her carriage pulled by four horses. An elderly man told us that the horses were trained to high step in a specially ploughed field on Irton levels where Miss Brocklebank and her two grooms worked the horses. The Brocklebanks were involved in shipping.

The local Women's Institutes started in the early 1920s and the Industrial and Handicraft tents included members' classes in fine embroidery, canvas work, wool rugs, leather work and of course produce such as cakes, jams and preserves. The farmers wives, sisters and daughters still continued to exhibit their butter, bread and dressed poultry and in the early

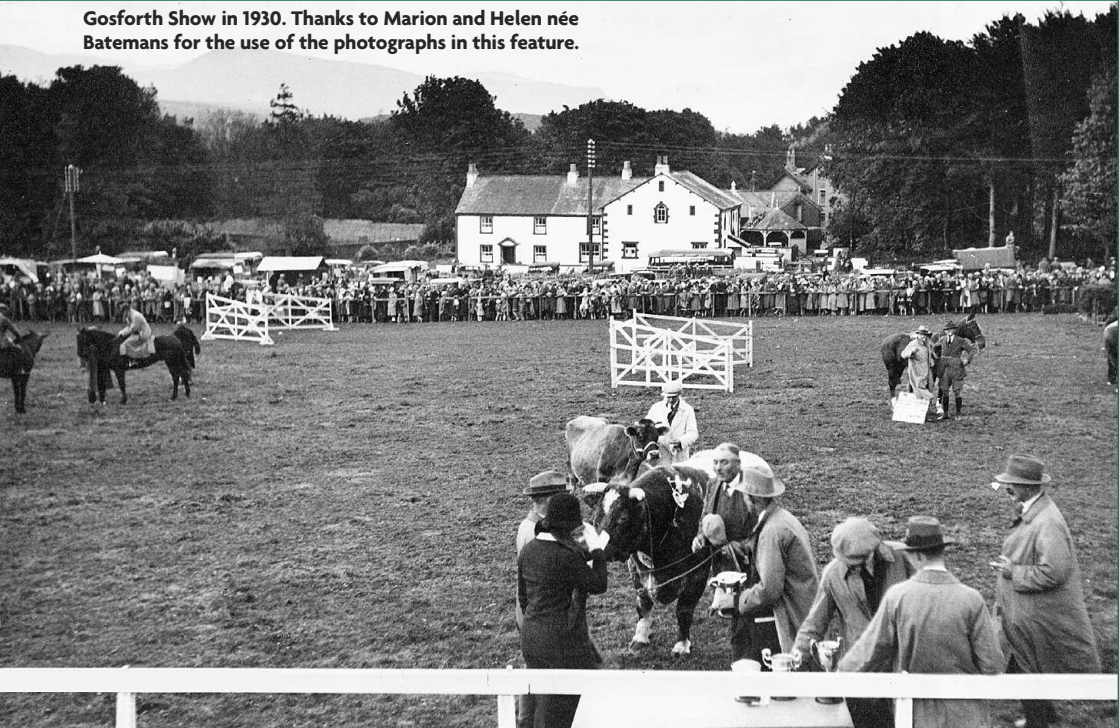
part of the show and during the first quarter of the 20th century the prizes were substantial. In 1897 the *Whitehaven News* gave a lady's silver watch valued at £2.10s as a prize for the best 3 pounds of fresh butter and in 1904 upped the prize to a lady's gold keyless watch valued at three guineas.

The final show on this field was a memorable one but not for the best of reasons being the day Germany invaded Poland – Friday 1 September 1939.

The *Whitehaven News* reported:

"Spectators at Gosforth show on Friday were calm but anxious. Few took any interest in the judging, the majority standing in groups discussing the war news. Every new arrival was besieged with questions about the latest information about the outbreak of hostilities.

**Gosforth Show in 1930. Thanks to Marion and Helen née Batemans for the use of the photographs in this feature.**







hundreds of children have entered and left this school since that date; kings have followed each other; wars have been fought and won. And here we are in the midst of the greatest of all wars. In school we have children from Newcastle, Glasgow and other areas which have felt the weight and severity of bombing raids. Some have been here since the war began in September 1939. Now they are our children – part of

The gloom of the proceedings in the early part of the day was heightened by a steady dismal drizzle which persisted until after lunch. Brilliant weather in the afternoon did little to enliven the proceedings, and the number of arrivals diminished instead of increasing. Curtailed bus services, combined with the gravity of the situation resulted in an attendance much below average and one that was less than 50 per cent of last year's."

A visitor to that show remembers: "At 3pm that afternoon Tommy Bragg, Livestock Remover from Egremont and two more lorry drivers were summoned over the loudspeaker system, to set off at once off the field to London to collect supplies to bring back up north as war was about to be declared on Sunday 3 September."

Another visitor remembers leaving the show field with other girl guides to go to Seascale railway station to meet the evacuees who were to be billeted in the area.

The final entry in the school log book on 9 December 1941 is interesting.

*Vera Lowry & Sheila Lawson*

**Final Entry in the first School Log Book  
19 December 1941**

*Closed at noon for Xmas holiday – and so I close this book which was first put into service on April 1 1897.*

*Many teachers, heads and assistants – many*

*our happy family. Many old boys and girls of this school are away – serving in H.M. forces and so far all are safe and well.*

*The Rev. T.O. Sturkey is Chairman of the Managers, and other managers are Mr J.B. Wrigley, Mr Squance, Mrs F. Barnes, Mr J. Dixon (Galeholm), Mrs Hall-Smith. Will Wilson, Headmaster*

This year Gosforth show is on 15 August 2015. Please visit the website and enter your dog sheep, horse, cakes, hens, flowers, crafts or children and enjoy this community event, or volunteer to help set up the show or on show day – we would love your involvement.

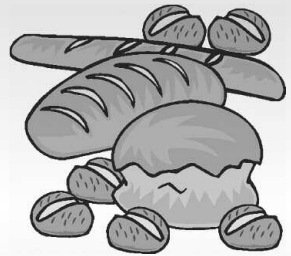
This year the *Whitehaven News* has generously supported the show with a donation to purchase three picnic tables to be used for free children's craft activities on show day so that parents can sit down with their children and enjoy together half an hour or so of free fun time. Any organisation that would like to promote theirs or any retired person willing to help by running a craft one hour session at the show please contact 019467 25213 – we would love to welcome you to take an active part in our show in 2015.

This year's attraction is 'BIG PETE' and monster trucks team.

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Photographs by  
Chris Himsworth  
and  
Trevor Preece



# SEASCALE KNITTING CLUB'S YARN BOMBS III

The busy knitters have produced a lovely summer display for the Seascale foreshore! The theme is fauna, flora and food... The items were put up on a sunny afternoon with lots of pleasant comments from locals and visitors. A few items have been recycled from last year's summer and Christmas displays but the majority are new for this year. A lot of effort goes into the display and it is a pleasure to see the smiles on folk's faces! Keep a look out for the knitted adder, quite life like but not at all dangerous...

The group continues to grow in number and still meet at the Windscale club fortnightly (Wednesdays 6.30 to 8.00pm) and anyone is welcome to join us. The charge remains at £1 which covers the cost of the room hire. We continue to accept donations of yarn and a lot has gone towards this year's project. If a member wants the yarn for themselves then a donation is made, as last year, all our donations and left over 'subs' money will go to charity.



So, if you haven't knitted or done crochet before or would like to renew your interest in yarn work then do come and join us !!  
*Penelope Cater*



# “ROB’S BIG WALK” D-DAY AND BEYOND

After over a year in the planning, too many setbacks to mention and a training schedule that, apart from a couple of day walks on the fells, mainly consisted of walking to and from The Lion and Lamb for the weekly Dart’s and Domino’s match, Suddenly D-Day was upon us.

Rod had asked me if I would like to start the walk from The Gosforth Hall Inn, and as he had given us so much help with lending us his old courtesy bus, as well as helping with the fundraising, we decided to set off on the “Big Walk” from there. Lots of my friends came to see us off including Shaun from Gosforth Taxis who kindly gave me £100 towards the diesel for the support vehicle.

Myself, Sid, who was joining me for the first two weeks of the walk and Jo with her dogs headed off passing even more friends in Wellington who had turned out to wish us well, up Leagate, then up Guards Lonning and eventually down into Wasdale where we were joined by Kerry. Then up the road to Wasdale Head, meeting Joss Naylor on the way at Greendale who wished us “Good Luck”.

The 8¾ miles to Wasdale Head seemed like a long way – But a leg massage from Kerry helped, and it meant that there was only around 991¼ to go, so the first of many nights to come in the bus at Wasdale

Head followed by a beautiful morning and up and over the fells to Elterwater on day two. Our support vehicle driver for the first week was Ken who met us there then followed us through Windermere, Sedburgh and eventually to Malham.

The walking got easier as we slowly became trail fit, the weather was kind and all systems were go. Geoff then took over as driver as we followed The Pennine Way south, now in less than ideal weather through endless miles of bog, bog and more bog. Eventually we had enough of this and opted to walk on the road through Glossop, New Mills and eventually Macclesfield where we picked up the canal system.

Following this through Stoke and down to Stafford, where both Sid, my trek-mate, and Pete, the then driver, departed. I was now walking solo along the Staffordshire and Worcester Canal and Dot had taken over driving the bus. Towpath walking was infinitely easier than what I had experienced earlier in the walk and the weather was again kind to me. I then had some walking company for three days from



**Arriving at Wasdale Head, with only 991¼ miles to go!**

**On The Pennine Way, Bog, Bog and more Bog.**





**Crossing the Clifton Suspension Bridge.**

the Rotary Club, now following the River Severn down through Worcester and Gloucester, then eventually up the river Avon to Bristol. By this time Chris had taken over as driver and he helped me out as far as Glastonbury, and from there I was on my own for a while, walking solo with no driver for the support vehicle, so a bit of creativity was required – walking in the day and catching buses in the evening to retrieve the support vehicle and then driving it back to where I had finished walking that day. After a few days of this Barry took over as driver and then Stevie joined me walking. Now in Devon and after crossing Dartmoor, sidestepping the long term accommodation available there, we continued on to Plymouth where we would catch the ferry over to Santander for the

On returning home after successfully completing my “Big Walk”, to further increase the money raised for Cancer Research and Drug Development at The Royal Marsden Hospital, I put on a series of slideshows around West Cumbria.

When The Rotary Club hadn't been able to offer us overnight parking at one of their member's homes, it was while putting on these slideshows that I couldn't help notice how many times we



had parked up outside public conveniences. This was because the support vehicle didn't have washing and toileting facilities, so it was handy to have them as nearby as possible.

However, with hindsight, it's a wonder that we weren't questioned by the police, or even arrested, as even though it was entirely innocent it still must have looked rather odd with often several males appearing to be doing a tour of the public conveniences throughout England ;-)



**The Mighty River Parrett at Langport – one month earlier the route would have been impassable.**

remaining 400+ miles of the walk to Santiago de Compostela.

The highlights of the walk thus far were certainly the help and support provided to me by the Rotary Club with many of their member opening up their houses to us, providing us with showers as well as often feeding and entertaining us. Thanks are due to all my friends and family for supporting me in the venture, driving the support vehicle or accompanying me on sections of the walk and to everyone that sponsored me, helping me to raise money for Cancer Research and Drug Development at the Royal Marsden Hospital which, after all, was what the walk was all about. Also, not forgetting the in the main good weather and beautiful countryside that I was privileged enough to be able to walk through.

The downsides, at least at this stage, were simply too few to mention!

*Rob Steele*



**The long road over Dartmoor.**



**Myself and Stevie at the Ferry-Port in Plymouth – End of the UK leg. Spanish sections – the Camino de Santiago coming soon.**

# PRO-TECTOR GB – PROUD TO BE ETHICALLY MANUFACTURED IN NEPAL

As you will know, Nepal has recently suffered two major earthquakes and Pro-Tector would like to extend sympathy to all our Nepali friends who have suffered immensely during these tragic times. We continue to support just-one, the charity that we contribute to in Nepal and hope that normality soon returns to that wonderful country.

Pro-Tector Great Britain ([www.pro-tector.co.uk](http://www.pro-tector.co.uk)) came into being 11 years ago, the idea having come about after having two expensive rucksacks destroyed by airlines, and after unsuccessfully trying the available products to help ensure that your luggage arrives safely at its destination, I thought I could do better myself.

First of all I designed my first “Rucksack Pro-Tector” and had a prototype made locally, then after thoroughly and successfully testing this, it was a case of deciding where to go into production with them.

Back in 1994, a group of us had bought an old Land-Rover and driven overland to Nepal and I had fallen in love with both the country and its people, so having my Pro-Tector products produced there seemed like the obvious solution, because I would then be able to put something back into Nepal by providing a little bit of fairly paid employment. So in 2004, armed with my now well used prototype, I headed back to Nepal to carefully select the people who would produce them.

I soon became aware of certain drawbacks in basing the manufacturing part of my new venture there, the first big downside is that Nepal is a land-locked country, and therefore all my products have to be air-freighted back to England which is obviously a lot more expensive than shipping them by sea. Also, as the political regime is, to put it mildly, a bit unstable, I also risked losing any money that I have there on deposit.

However, in spite of these and many lesser restrictions, I decided to follow my heart and go ahead with production in Nepal, as at least by providing some employment, at a fair rate, I felt then, and still feel that I am doing my small part to improve the people’s lot over there. I talked to several manufacturers and inspected their factories as I wanted to ensure that employees were fairly treated and paid at least the going rate. I didn’t want



**The Rucksack Pro-Tector Range.**

my products manufactured under a “piece work” arrangement as I believed that this would be both to the detriment of the employee and the product. I eventually settled on a family run, Kathmandu based company called P.G. Garments, to manufacture my products as they pay their staff slightly above the average, they don’t employ child labour and every time I visited the factory there always seemed to be a happy atmosphere.

I returned home with some sample pieces of my Rucksack Pro-Tector and the rest of the order followed a couple of weeks later by air-freight. I went live with my website in the summer of 2004 and traded slowly but surely for a period of 12 months before disaster struck. I was defrauded out of my original [www.pro-tector.com](http://www.pro-tector.com) name and there was no way of me being able to get it back. The British police were involved and the person who defrauded me, I am pleased to say, served a custodial sentence in one of Her Majesties Prisons, But all this didn’t get me control of my website back and therefore I had to register my current .co.uk website!

In 2006 I returned to Nepal and ordered another batch of my Rucksack Pro-Tectors and also two new lines which I had designed, the Pro-Tector Wallet and the Pro-Tector Travel Pouch. As some of you will no doubt know, Nepal was in political turmoil at this time with a civil war, but in spite of this, my good Nepali friends manufactured my order and air-freighted it back to England. Also on this trip I met a guy called Declan Murphy, an ex school teacher from Ireland who had set up his own charity in Nepal – <http://www.just-one.org/> and as I was so impressed with the work Declan was doing, I decided to offer as much support as I could (and I am pleased to say ▶

that I am still supporting just-one by sending them a proportion of Pro-Tector profits).

In June 2006 my new [www.pro-tector.co.uk](http://www.pro-tector.co.uk) website went live and again, slowly but surely orders came in.

In 2008 I returned to Nepal to place another order and again to expand my product range to include the Trekking-Pole Protectors and a choice of colour for the Pro-Tector Wallet and the Pro-Tector Travel Pouch.

In 2012 I returned to Nepal as I had decided to try a different factory to produce the Pro-Tector range, the main reason for this being to improve the quality of my products. Again I chose carefully and settled on a very small company that consisted of two brothers and additional two machinists and I have to say that I am sure I made the right choice. Every single piece was quality checked before they were air-freighted back to UK so that quality control couldn't be better.

The Pro-Tector GB name is slowly becoming synonymous with ethically produced quality products and for a fast and reliable service. Please check out my testimonials web page where customers have sent me feedback and photos of their Pro-Tector products in action all over the world.

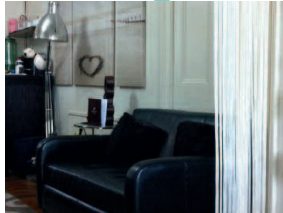
*Rob Steele, MD, [www.pro-tector.co.uk](http://www.pro-tector.co.uk)*



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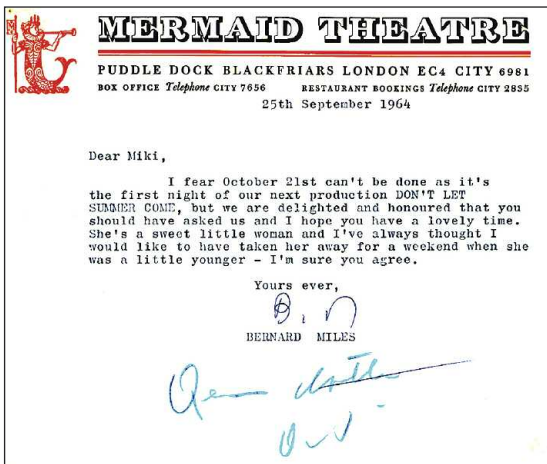
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# 'OPENING THE JEWEL BOX': THE ROSEHILL ARCHIVE CATALOGUING PROJECT

Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre successfully bid to the National Cataloguing Grants Programme for over £15,000 for 'Opening the jewel box' – a project to catalogue and make available to the general public the fascinating archives of the Rosehill Theatre, Whitehaven. I was delighted to be appointed as the part-time Rosehill

Project Archivist at the beginning of the year. Some of you may recognise my name as I work part-time in Whitehaven Archives and also in Seascale Library. I am now looking forward to this chance to see a project through from start to finish (fingers crossed!).

Rosehill is a place I grew up with and I feel very privileged to get this chance to 'peep behind the curtains'. Although it is early days I've already had a glimpse of the world in which Miki Sekers circulated. The invitation list for the opening weekend which includes royalty, fashion designers, artists and press from both home and abroad is just one item which illustrates the breadth of his contacts and of his ambition for providing a cultural venue for the local



population which could be compared the best in the country. He felt that to attract the best people [and to keep them] you need to offer more than work and a lovely landscape.

Letters from Bernard Miles, who had opened the Mermaid Theatre in London, are fascinating and full of character. He had a real interest in the

development of the project, from his comments about the colour scheme ["I would plead for some rose colours in the general decor – I mean rather pastel blues, duck egg green, and so on. In other words great warmth and cosiness as well as elegance."] to his lovely non-PC comment about Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, "She's a sweet little woman and I've always thought I would have like to have taken her away for a weekend when she was a little younger".

It is clear however that it has always been hard work to keep the theatre viable. Those involved with the building over the years have had to evolve and as we in local government know learn "to do more with

less". It is heartening to see that Rosehill has continued to offer a varied programme and attract audiences over the years and to know that Miki Sekers would still recognise his 'silk lined miracle' as an article from HOUSEWIFE magazine called it in 1960.

It will take time to work through the boxes and boxes of records generated by the Theatre since its inception; in fact I will be sorting material, arranging an order, and describing it on our electronic catalogue a few hours a week until well into 2016. Updates will follow!

Barbara Clark





**MERMAID THEATRE TRUST**  
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TRUSTEES: *Sir Colman Welch Bt. O.B.E. M.C. Degr. King-Farlow M.B.E.*  
*Bernard Miles C.B.E. Major Richard Smith M.C.*

P. / M 12th November, 1956.

M. T. Sakers, Sec.,  
 1, Harriet Walk,  
 S.W. 1.

Dear Nicky - (I hope we may, even on this very brief acquaintance, abandon the formalities and plunge into what we call the theatrical-familiar!)

That was a delightful evening; you gave us and late as it was when we left you we both felt it had broken up far too soon.

and you certainly warmed all our hearts here at the theatre by your generous enthusiasm. Believe me all our lurches are by no means as felicitous.

We are all naturally delighted at your generous promises of further help, and we shall certainly strain every nerve to produce productions worthy of your skills, talents and brocades. We already have two projected musical plays which will need glorious costumes. But as you will understand at the moment their titles are jealously guarded secrets - surprise is half the battle in these matters.

I have your own theatrical project well placed in a corner of my mind and am already turning over ideas for a possible Producer who could take it in hand and do you credit. I know exactly the sort of glorious evening you want to lay on for its opening. At the moment my only reservation, if I may so call it, is that Oliver Messel might make it a little too refined for the general use you might wish to put it to. Certainly I would plead for some rose colours in the actual decor - I mean rather than pastel blues, duck egg greens and so on. In other words great warmth and coziness as well as great elegance. I know only too well how easily elegance ousts those warmer virtues. Anyhow, none of this anon, and for the moment greetings to you both and our warmest thanks.

Yours  
*Bernard Miles*  
 Bernard Miles,  
 Trustee.

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- Italy: Luciano Mourner  
 Carlo de Rocca
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MUNCASTER?



Linford and Christie the two little Burrowing Owls

**There have been rumours and speculation flying around about the owls at Muncaster – have they gone? Does this mean there won't be any more owls?**

Whippet the Boobook Owl



I decided to investigate and get to the bottom of what's happening up at the castle and went in search of Peter Frost-Pennington to get a definitive answer once and for all. I found him coming out of a meeting with the Chief Exec of The Hawk Conservancy Trust, Penny Smout. The plot thickens!

Peter greeted me with his usual good humour and introduced Penny. "Great timing Vivienne, because we have just launched our new venture and it would be nice to get the word out."

We were standing by the Coachman's Quarters at the Castle where usually you can hear lots of distinctive owl vocals but today there was a very different sound coming from the aviaries!

"Come let me introduce you to our new stars." Peter guided me towards the new 'Muncaster Hawk and Owl Centre' where the Owl Centre used to be.

As we entered the enclosed Owl Garden I was greeted by a majestic hawk and a couple of falcons sitting on their perches in the glorious sunshine, that one day we had during the late May bank holiday week!

"We still have owls here, but they have been

joined by a squadron of elite athletes who are simply stunning," explained Peter proudly.

Penny Smout Chief Exec of The Hawk Conservancy Trust added "we are absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to work in partnership with Muncaster Castle because this has got to be one of the most stunning locations for flying displays in the country."

The new venture between Muncaster and the Hawk Conservancy Trust is still in its early days. "Already the new falconers have done an amazing job so much so that we are thinking of expanding the flying displays earlier than we had anticipated," said Peter.

The HCT helped Muncaster to recruit a team of falconers to work with the Muncaster Hawks and Owls. "It's very much a collaboration," explained Peter "the HCT will continue to guide us to ensure we retain their high standards."

## Conservation is at the Heart of Muncaster

For many years Peter and Iona have been dedicated to conservation work not only on the Muncaster Estate but also in and around Cumbria. Muncaster works with the Red Squirrel conservation initiatives in the county, puts up and maintains nest boxes and works closely on habitat restoration work including removing invasive plant species.

"We were very interested in the conservation work that the Hawk Conservancy Trust do in the UK and worldwide and realised they had lots of experience and knowledge that we could bring to Muncaster.

## The Hawk Conservancy Trust

It was founded by Reg and Hilary Smith in 1965 at their farm after they gained a reputation for caring and rehabilitating injured animals and birds. After appearing on BBC's Blue Peter they were inundated by people wanting to come and see their animals and this was when they decided to open a zoo.

Their son Ashley had a passion for birds of prey and it was this interest that created the 'Hawk Conservancy'.

Diego – the  
Blue-winged Kookaburra



“Every year we can care for over 200 birds of prey who have been injured,” explained Penny “and that is just from the south of England.”

There are no immediate plans to open a hospital here at Muncaster like the one they run in Hampshire, “But it’s something we might consider in the future” says Penny.

Another big part of what the Hawk Conservancy Trust are passionate about is education, “we really like the work they are doing in this field as it’s something we want do expand on here at Muncaster” Said Peter. “Already at our new flying displays the falconers are providing an interactive show that explains and provides lots of educational information to visitors in a fun and interesting way.”



Conan the  
Peregrine Falcon



Lead Falconer Tom Morath with Mighty Mite and Moriarty the two Hooded Vultures

## The Sky Hunters Display 2.30 every day

I have seen the owls flying at Muncaster for many years and so knew that this new show would have to be something very special to win me over.

The location of the display has moved on to the wild flower meadow overlooking the castle. "This gives us more flexibility and means we do not have to cancel shows when we have a festival or event on the lawns," explained Peter as we walked across from the aviaries.

From the moment Tom Morath the Lead Falconer came out with Herriot the Steppe Eagle on his arm the audience were aghast and amazed as the eagle was sent soaring high above the castle to circle on the wing. We all thought he was off and wouldn't come back. But one whistle from Tom and he went into a stoop and swooped low over our heads to land back on his arm where a treat was waiting.

Stuart Lambourne was next out with Nutmeg the Lanner Falcon. From then on the show just got more fantastic with each new bird from Mighty Mite and Moriarty the Hooded Vultures who walked amongst the kids in the front row – to Diego the Blue-winged Kookaburra who enjoyed posing for the camera. Resounding "Ahhhs" chorused from the crowd when the cute little Burrowing Owls Linford and Christie came out of their boxes.

I won't tell you any more about the show because you will just have to go and find out for yourselves. But with stars such as William, Fox-Pitt and Banded the Yellow-billed Kites I can guarantee you will be thoroughly entertained.

"The best thing is that every show is different because all these birds are free and independent beings. This is great for locals who enjoy being part

**'Friends of Muncaster' tickets allow you to visit all year round as many times as you like, and it also provides discounts in the café – £31 per adult or £65 family.**

**When you join online there is a further 15% discount.**

**Check out [www.muncaster.co.uk](http://www.muncaster.co.uk) to keep up to date with all the amazing events.**

of our 'Friends of Muncaster' scheme and visit regularly."

Muncaster still runs the Heron Happy Hour at 4pm and here again Peter has made some changes to invigorate the experience.

## The Ritz for Birds

"The main changes of our new venture," explained Peter "are the exciting flying displays." I asked Peter how they can stop these very fit birds from just flying off and never coming back. "We can't. However if you were waited on and fed daily at the Ritz Hotel for free would you then want to go the supermarket and buy your own food then cook it?" Peter laughed. "Well these birds are not stupid they know this is like the Ritz. They also seem to love their handlers and enjoy being pampered and fussed over."

"This is a new chapter in our lives here at Muncaster and we're really excited" said Peter "we already have plans to expand into 'Taster Sessions' for people over the age of 12 who would like to go out with the falconer and fly a hawk."



## Twit Tawoo

As for my question, thankfully owls are still at Muncaster and with creative names like Whippet the Boobook Owl, Cavalli the Verreaux's Eagle Owl, Gucci the Brown Wood Owl, Mulberry the Barn Owl, Sage the Tawny Owl and the two cute little Burrowing Owls Linford and Christie they are all unique.  
© Vivienne Tregidga 2015

# SEASCALE SCOUTING

## Storage

You may have noticed the arrival of a couple of green storage containers next to the Sports Hall. These have been generously donated to 2nd Seascale Scout Group by LLWR.

With the uncertain future of St Cuthbert's Church Hall, we have had to start making contingency plans. Where we might meet on a Thursday night is one question but the bigger problem was where to store all of our camping kit and other equipment. LLWR came to our rescue with these two, 20ft containers; freshly painted in scout-green. Thank you too to Seascale Parish Council for the land to put them on.

## Skills

During Summer term the Scouts (10½-15) have spent a week on each of five challenges. Tent pitching attracted points for the perfectly pitched patrol tent. A Ready Steady Cook style cooking on stoves session resulted in a delicious chicken stir-fry. On the beach, every scout had the chance to prepare and light their own fire. Up by golf course, scouts took bearings and sightings learning several different compass skills. The final skill was uniform maintenance; that's ironing and sewing on badges to you!

## Fire at School

Seascale School run an Activity Week each year, just after SATs week. This year pupils were once again treated to some scout activities provided by leaders of Seascale Scouts. Nearly half the school had a chance to develop their knotting skills tying Bear Grylls style survival bracelets and beautiful beaded Shamballa bracelets.

Then they had the chance to gut a fish and then cook it on a fire in newspaper. Sausages, egg-in-orange, and strawberry and banana cones were also rustled-up on the fire.

## Drigg Gala

Continuing on the community theme, Seascale Scouts are looking forward to the annual Drigg and Carleton Gala. The Beavers (6-8), Cubs (8-10½) and Scouts (10½-15) will enjoy taking

part in the races and hopefully taking home several medals.

Building on the skills learned at the school Activity Week, the Group will run a bracelet making workshop; adding Kumihimo bracelets to the list.

## Circus Camp

The first of two camps in the early summer will be a first for Seascale Scouts. The Circus is coming to town – or at least to Branthwaite Scout Campsite near Workington. The girls and boys, and leaders, of the Group will learn how to juggle, spin-plates, unicycle, tight-rope walk and do many other circus skills. No lion taming this time.

## Family Camp

We are also looking forward to family camp shortly after publication of Tethera. Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and leaders, will be joined by their non-scout brothers and sisters and parents.

The theme will be family fun with everyone staying in their family groups for the activities. Hopefully one or two new leaders will emerge from the ranks of parents.

## Join the Adventure

In the UK there are 500,000 members; consisting girls and boys from age 6 to 25 and adult leaders and supporters. 2nd Seascale Scout Group meets on Thursday and caters for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, and has links with the local Explorer Scout unit. To find out more, please contact:

*Neil Henderson, Scout Leader*  
*Info@SeascaleScouts.org.uk*





Artist's impressions  
of the new  
La Vista Brasserie



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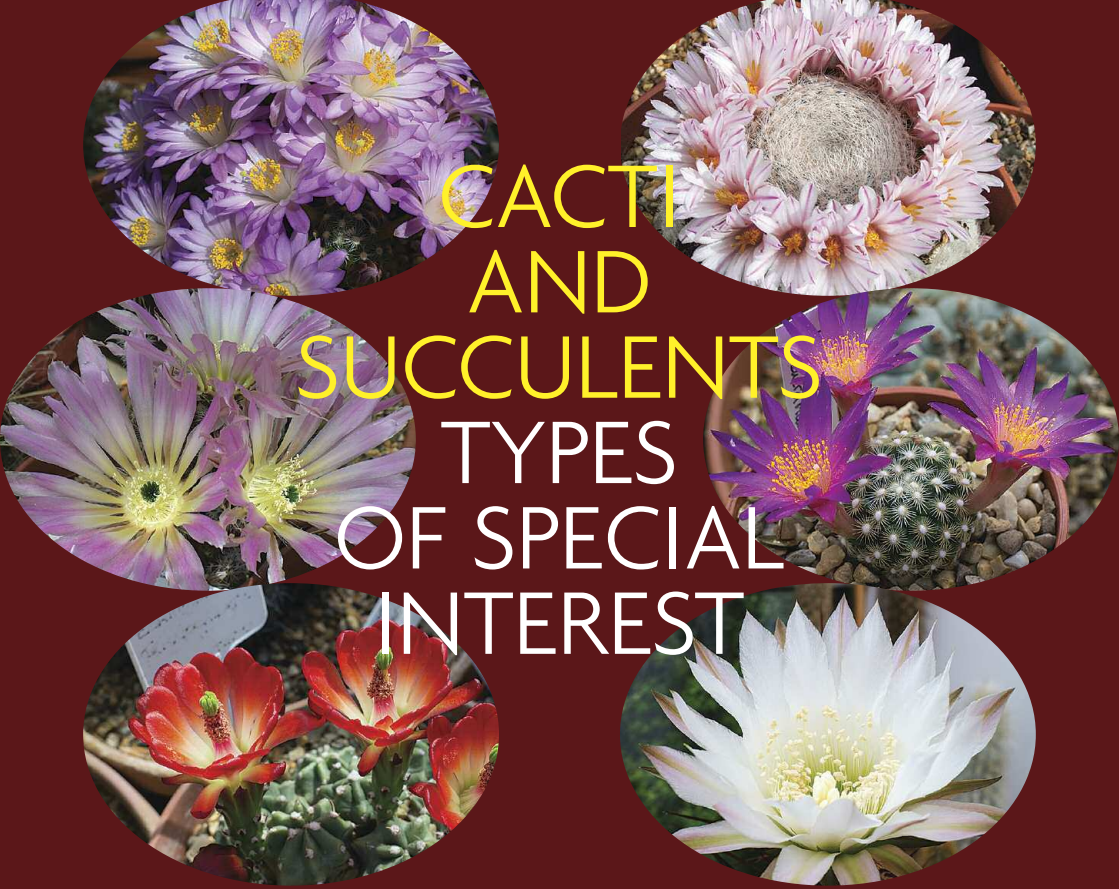
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we wish you a very warm welcome to customers  
and friends old and new*

## CALDER HOUSE HOTEL ~ SEASCALE



# CACTI AND SUCCULENTS TYPES OF SPECIAL INTEREST

The cultivation of cacti and other succulent plants has been the subject of two articles I have written for this publication albeit under its earlier title the *Seascale and District Magazine*. The first article (Autumn 2009) dealt with the hobby in general terms and in the second (Spring 2014) I wrote about magic mushrooms which are a spineless cactus from Mexico containing an hallucinogenic drug used by the local Indian population. The objective of these articles was to encourage more local people to take up this hobby, especially youngsters. Many present day collections in the UK are worth many thousands of pounds and were started by young people growing plants on window sills and expanding into greenhouses and conservatories as they grew older.

The hobby in the UK is catered for by the British Cactus & Succulent Society Unfortunately membership is dwindling with the passing of older members and the lack of younger people to replace

them. A membership of over 5000 in the sixties and seventies has now fallen to about 2000.

For this article I have used a title which has often been used in Cactus publications where enthusiasts have described, with photographs, some of the more interesting plants in their collections.

## **Echinocereus lindsayi**

Echinocereus species are to be found in eleven States of the USA and twenty three in Mexico and are popular with growers on account of their ease of cultivation and sumptuous

**Echinocereus  
lindsayi.**



flowers. This particular species occurs in Baja, California and has an interesting history. It was discovered in a relatively small area in the early 1970s. The precise details of the location were published with the unfortunate result that the site was rapidly denuded by avid plant collectors. For some time it was thought to have been wiped out. Later searches revealed further populations of the plant on higher ground not too distant from the original site. Whilst the unauthorised collection of these and other cacti was made illegal some seeds became available and plants were propagated by mainly professional growers. In 1994 I visited a well known cactus nursery in Germany and was pleasantly surprised to see dozens of small, seed-grown plants offered for sale at reasonable prices. Needless to say I purchased several of these which now thrive and flower in Gosforth. I find it a very slow growing, globular plant but the colour intensity of the eventual flowers is adequate reward for patience. Like most species from Baja they need to be kept snug in winter with a minimum temperature of 5°C.

**Cleistocactus strausii**

According to the literature this plant originates in the mountainous regions of Bolivia and is rightly popular with collectors on account of its ease of growth and glossy snow white

appearance. In cultivation it is tolerant of

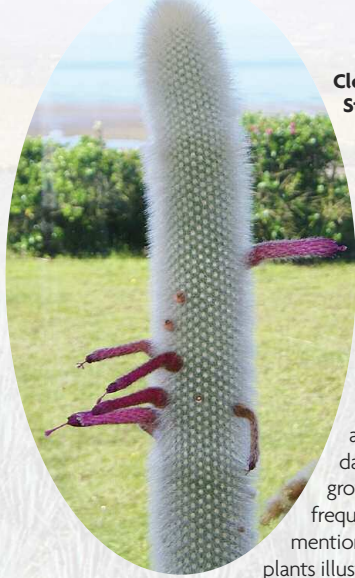


**Cleistocactus strausii cristate.**

temperatures down to 32°F and freely produces red flowers. On the down side it can grow too tall for a normal greenhouse. If this should happen and you want to keep the plant, simply lop off the top foot or so, let it dry out and re-root it which is a quick process at the right time of the year. The plant shown in here is an 'emigrant' from Gosforth now growing in Trevor's collection in Seascale.

One of the fascinating aspects in the cultivation of cacti, and other plants, is their ability to produce cristate growths. This occurs when a plant starts to grow at a multitude of growing points as opposed to

**Cleistocactus Straussii.**



the single point at the head of the plant. To the best of my knowledge no adequate explanation has been forthcoming although damage to the growing point is frequently mentioned. The two plants illustrated are exactly the same plants

botanically although the cristate specimen has not yet flowered.

**Ferocactus rectispinus**

Ferocacti are a genus of large globular/columnar plants to be found in the US states of New Mexico Arizona, Texas and in many areas of Northern Mexico. Some rare species only occur on specific islands in



**Ferocactus rectispinus.**

**Ferocacti.**

the Gulf of California.

These islands are difficult to access and licensed seed collectors need to plan their visit to coincide with the period after flowering to collect viable seeds. I have two specimens of one of these plants. Many of the others are fairly common in cultivation. The group photo shows a number of young plants in my collection. Plants marketed as Ferocactus rectispinus are very variable in character as are the descriptions of the plants in the abundant





**Ferocactus rectispinus curved spines.**

literature on the topic. Some authors ascribe hooked central spines to the plant whilst others specify perfectly straight ones. These are typified here. The differences are thought to be caused by



**Ferocactus rectispinus straight spines.**

hybridisation during the flowering and seed-setting process. Whatever the spination they are all attractive plants and worthy of a place in my overcrowded greenhouse.

**Tephrocactus geometricus**

In simplified terms Tephrocacti are members of the Opuntia family some of which are known as Prickly Pears. They grow essentially in South America with this particular species being native to Argentina where it grows at an altitude of about 8,000 feet which suggests a degree of cold tolerance. In one specialist publication it is described and depicted as growing in dense groups close to the ground with a



habitat photograph showing this mode of growth. My plant obviously hasn't read this description of itself and it is currently 15 inches tall with no sign of offsets at the base of the plant. It will be interesting to see how the growth continues next year. There is not much more I can say about the plant except, to me, it's a cracker!

**Tephrocactus geometricus.**

**Agaves and Aloes**

Agaves originated in the South West states of USA, Florida, throughout Mexico and the Caribbean. They consist of symmetrical spirally arranged rosettes of fibrous leaves. The size of these rosettes can be up to 3 metres diameter dependent on species. The plants are famous for their flower spikes which grow very quickly from the centre of the rosettes and can extend many feet above the plants. The conventional wisdom is that this rapid rate of growth drains the plant of energy to such an extent that the individual rosette dies. All is not lost however as most plants reproduce themselves by producing numerous offsets which can quickly root and thus extend the life of the plant. Cultivated specimens are often used for ornamental purposes and in cultivation the golden rule is don't over water. I am not that knowledgeable about Aloes apart from the fact that they originated in Africa, Madagascar and some Arabian countries. There is a theory that these plants and Agave are examples of parallel evolution in their two different continents. For this article I will mention two plants of each genus. Whilst some of the plants may look superficially alike there are great differences in plant and leaf structures and in flowering characteristics. It is of interest that there is a specialist Agave nursery in Nottinghamshire that provided ornamental plants for the Beijing Olympics in 2012.

**Agave tequilana**

This is, no doubt, one of the most famous of the species on account of the fact that it is the source of the alcoholic beverage tequila. The use of this name is restricted to the distilled product from selected clones grown in and around the town of Tequila in the state of Jalisco. Despite the fact that the plants are as closely guarded as possible I have read of instances of 'cactus rustling'.

**Agave victoriae-reginae**

English gardener/botanist Thomas Moore paid his respects to Queen Victoria by naming this regal species in her honour. This is probably the plant most used for ornamental purposes. It is extremely hardy and

**Agave victoriae-reginae.**



providing that it is kept dry it will stand temperatures down to 10°F (-12°C). If anybody is interested I have several seedlings freely available. Having said that I should add that the plants take 20-25 years to reach flowering size. By this time the plant will be up to 2 feet in diameter and over a foot tall. Paradoxically whilst the species has been given the protection of CITES because of its rarity in certain areas of Mexico and considered in danger of extinction there is a valley in the country near Monterrey where plants occur by the tens of thousands.

(CITES: The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Fauna and Flora).

Since compiling this article I have been in touch with a fellow cactophile in Barrow and he informed me that he had actually flowered this plant himself on Walney Island last year. He noticed the first sign of a flower spike when it protruded by six inches from the centre of the rosette. During the next two days it grew a further two feet, ie approximately half an inch an hour! It eventually grew to about eight feet. No wonder the plant died! It is a great pity that my friend did not keep a photographic record of this amazing growth. I have urged him to do this with another agave species which is now growing producing a spike as I write.



**Aloe suzanne.**

a rudimentary trunk starting to form. Its interest lies in the fact that land clearance in the developing Madagascar has eliminated most of the natural habitat of the plant and it was thought to be in danger of extinction. To avoid this happening a group of enthusiasts imported plants and seeds into South Africa where they thrived. It was the intention of these people to reintroduce the species into

### **Aloe suzanne**

This plant has an interesting history. It is endemic to Madagascar only, as are some other species of succulent plants. Mature plants are known as Tree Aloes which is self explanatory. My plant is quite young with only

Madagascar But the authorities there refused to allow the importation of foreign plants! I accept that this only the bare bones of the story and I don't know the current situation.

### **Aloe arinacea**

This species grows in the diamond mining area of South Africa and is quite a common plant there, however access to the area is strictly controlled. I am fortunate in having one such plant which has flowered for the last two years. The dead seed head contains some seeds and I will sow these, more in hope than in anticipation of obtaining seedlings.



**Aloe arinacea.**

Lastly a few words on **Trichocaulon simile** which belongs to the Stapelia family and to the best of my knowledge comes from the Transvaal in South Africa. The minute purple flowers are clearly visible and the V-shaped object is not a rude sign to passers-by, but a seed pod, which is typical of the genus. Again there will be more hopeful sowing of seeds.

*Ken Smith, Gosforth. 019467 25313*

*Photography: Sandra Sharpe*

*And guess what? The faded background to this feature is of a tequila (Agave tequilana) plantation!*

### **Trichocaulon simile.**



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# The Great Iron Horse

I'm a very old loco, my name's Galatea,  
I take lots of tourists from there up to here.  
As far as I can and then all the way back,  
rattling merrily along on the track.

Through embankments all covered with hawthorn and thistle,  
I funnel out smoke as I blast on my whistle.

Built by William Stanier at his works down in Crewe,  
since nineteen thirty six I've been working for you.

I know I look pleasing as a matter of course,  
for I'm a steam engine the great iron horse.

I don't run on diesel but power by steam,  
I run on ten wheels and my driver's a dream.

I thundered through Seascale, then hurtled through Drigg.

I'd love to stop for you but I guess I'm too big.

I slowed down at Ravenglass, saw the la'al Ratty,  
where my little relations all stood being chatty.

Cars all slowed down and the people all looked,  
from layby or passing place and viaduct.

I hammered through Bootle and then Silecroft too,  
until finally Millom would come into view.

Past Haverigg crossing and under Moor bridge,  
round a sharp bend there and over a small ridge.

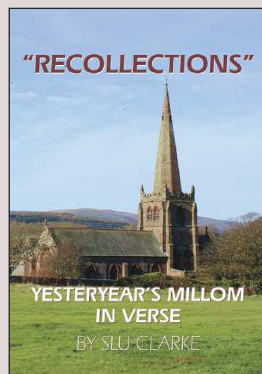
Through Millom station then out past the Green,  
billowing smoke out for miles to be seen.

A tight bend at Foxfield, then Kirby goes by,  
my smoke rising slowly up into the sky.

Flat out now to Askam I happily zoom,  
as I take one last look again, back at Black Combe.  
Then it's off through to Dalton as I leave Duddon bay,  
but I want to return on this journey one day!

On 30 May we witnessed what is probably the last steam-hauled passenger excursion train to run down our West Cumbrian Coast line this year. It was organised by The Railway Touring Company, 01553 661500 [www.railwaytouring.net](http://www.railwaytouring.net)

The photo and poem here are the work of Slu Clarke, Millom, who we helped publish a book of poems seen below. He still has a few copies for sale at £10.00 each + postage. Available too from Millom Post Office.  
e: [sluclarke@gmail.com](mailto:sluclarke@gmail.com)





## LIZZY'S SKY DIVE

As many of you may have read I recently did a tandem skydive to raise money for The Brain Tumour Charity. Firstly I would like to say how overwhelmed myself and Jennie have been by everyone's generosity, kindness and encouragement which has brought our total raised to over £2000.

So after receiving the voucher for a skydive at Christmas from my loving(!?) husband (goodness knows why – I usually get kitchen appliances!?) and

the long wait until the 23 May this is my account of the day, for those that fancy a go. And also those that defiantly don't!!

The weather could not have been more perfect. A light breeze, beautiful cloudless blue skies and glorious sunshine – if there ever was a good day to jump out of a perfectly good airplane this would be it! We set off for the airfield at Flookburgh and arrived at my scheduled jump time of 2.30. Unfortunately so had a lot of other people – far too many. To cut a very long day short I will fast forward to 8.15pm when under instruction from Brian, who was lovely (I think in his job you can spot a nervous person a mile away, and he was VERY experienced with over 7000 jumps to date!) I walked across to the landing strip, flight suit on, harnessed up and sporting a rather fetching leather skull cap and goggles!

During a tandem dive you are strapped to an instructor who will operate the parachute. We were jumping from 11,000 feet and we climbed circling Morecambe bay as we flew higher and higher. The view was amazing. I could clearly see the Blackpool tower, the north coast of Wales, down the valleys to Lake Windermere and as far north as Black Coombe; not quite as far as home but I didn't want to go any higher anyway!

Then the scary bit. The harness is tightened, the door opens and I inched closer to the drop with my legs hanging out of the open door. Before I knew it I was out, the wind rushing in my face taking my breath away and the ground looks a long way away! We were in free fall for around 35 seconds. Brian had an altimeter on his wrist and when we were nearing 6000ft he gave me the thumbs up and opened the parachute. A sudden jolt and everything is silent, the whistling of the wind in my face stopped completely and the only sound is the slight creaking of the canopy above me. The lakes, coast and fields are spread all around and it's beautiful (this may also be the feeling of blessed relief that the parachute has opened!)

The parachute is guided by two handles – pull down to the right and you spin downwards in a corkscrew motion. The harder you pull down the faster you drop. Believe it or not this was the bit I liked least – the feeling you get when you go over a bump too fast or on a rollercoaster! So we sailed slowly down to earth to my amazing friends and family who spent 6 and a half hours waiting with me, legs up and a rather undignified landing on my bottom! It was amazing, a real experience but one that I don't think I'd rush back for! I'm going to think of something new for my next adventure!

*Lizzy Mawson*



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**2015 Gala Queen  
Sophie Hoyle**

## FANCY DRESS

1st	2nd	3rd
<b>Age group: Pre-school</b> Mark Roberts – ‘Crocodile’	Lily Roberts – ‘Fifi Flowertot’	Lily Wegener – ‘Ballerina’
<b>Age group: Reception – School Year 4</b> Molly Little – ‘Princess’	Charlotte Whyte – ‘Cat’	Sam Pratt – ‘Flower Pot’ Bradley Roberts – ‘Farmer’

## ART (LLWR SPONSORED)

1st	2nd	3rd
<b>Age group: Pre-school &amp; Reception (Judges: Dennis &amp; Julie Thompson)</b>		
Elsa Norcross	Freya Gray	Mark Fawcett
<b>Age group: School Years 1 &amp; 2</b>		
Charlotte Whyte	Abigail Oliver	Alexis Fleet
<b>Age group: School Years 3 &amp; 4</b>		
Aleishia Peckham	Jessie Autie	Charlotte O’Connor
<b>Age group: School Years 5 &amp; 6</b>		
Sam Potter	Becky Cormack	Ella Buckley
<b>Age group: School Years 7 - 11</b>		
Sienna Tyler	Emily Pratt	Emily Pratt

## CHILDREN’S RACES

### Race Category R1. Age group: Pre-school & Reception

Boys – running	1st Freddie Strong	2nd Matty Fawcett	3rd Bradley Roberts
Girls – running	1st Martha Wake	2nd Anna Lynes	3rd Lily Roberts
Bean Bag	1st Matty Fawcett	2nd Bradley Roberts	3rd Mark Roberts

### Race Category R2. Age group: School Years 1 - 3

Boys – running	1st Aaron Beattie	2nd Bertie Moore	3rd Stephen Fawcett
Girls – running	1st Sophie Hoyle	2nd Gracie Ross	3rd Abigail Oliver
Bean Bag	1st Mitchell Hill	2nd Lewis Henderson	3rd Abigail Oliver
Sack Race	1st Aaron Beattie	2nd Stephen Fawcett	3rd Lewis Henderson

### Race Category R3. Age group: School Years 4 - 6

Boys – running	1st Oliver Denvir	2nd Sam Pratt	3rd Alex Rhodes
Girls – running	1st Shannon Hill	2nd Isla Henderson	3rd Lucy Fox
Bean Bag	1st Arthur Chadwick	2nd Oliver Denvir	3rd Mitchell Hill
Sack Race	1st Isla Henderson	2nd Billy Strong	3rd John Oakes

### Race Category R4. Age group: School Years 7+

Boys – running	1st Tom Jennings	2nd Max Tyler	3rd Aiden Henderson
Girls – running	1st Lucy Simons	2nd Lizzie Rhodes	3rd Laura Teasday
Bean Bag	1st Tom Jennings	2nd Colin Rhodes	3rd Aiden Henderson
Sack Race	1st Tom Jennings	2nd Aiden Henderson	3rd Max Tyler

# RUN RABBIT RUN

---

**The last few decades have seen a big increase in the rabbit population in the UK. And it's been very obvious in our area during recent months, observes Brian Goulding.**

Rabbits are considered a pest because they eat root and arable crops and damage grassland used to feed cattle and sheep. Recent figures are based on surveys by officials, farmers and hunters, but the UK population was once much easier to calculate.

Our country is teeming with wild rabbits. There are an estimated 38 million in the UK and their population grows by around 2 percent every year. That old maxim 'breeding like rabbits' is still apt, as from six months old the female rabbit, or doe, typically produces six different litters, each with five baby rabbits, all within one season. Half of her offspring will be females, who then, in turn, will breed within the same season.

That's a lot of rabbits!

## Reasons for Control

Despite the rabbit's cute reputation as a much loved cartoon character in the form of Bugs Bunny or Peter Rabbit, they are also a major pest species in the UK. This mammal is largely underestimated by most but their capabilities to breed as well as chew, eat and dig through most landscapes is second to none.

For those whose property falls victim to the destruction caused by rabbits it poses problems in a variety of ways depending on the land use. The problems will only multiply if the rabbit population is left unregulated.

## Farmland, Estates

Seven rabbits will eat as much as a sheep. With this in mind it doesn't take much to understand how even a small population of rabbits can decimate a colossal amount of crop. It is estimated that rabbits cost the British agricultural industry £100million a year through crop damage. Without doubt they are the number one pest species for farmers.

## Gardens

Rabbits cause all sorts of problems in gardens, as residents in the Links area of Seascale will confirm. They love eating plants and flowers (normally ones of value), so cause great annoyance to those who like to keep their garden aesthetically pleasing. Such targeted plants need to be replaced once rabbits have relied upon them as a food source. Their droppings and urine also taint and burn lawns

meaning they often look unkempt where rabbits frequently graze.

They also dig scrapes in search of young shoots, so in time this can often mean lawn replacement is needed at great expense to the owner. As in forestry, ornamental garden trees will also be attacked again causing considerable expense for replacements.

Their burrows provide the risk of injury to humans and pets alike. Burrows often increase in size annually, if the rabbit numbers are not controlled, meaning a garden could soon resemble a war zone. Rabbits are resourceful creatures and often take up residence in places other than in holes such as under decking, garden sheds and even houses. This could potentially cause issues such as subsidence and the risk of fire if they chew through electrical wires. Wild rabbits can also pass on diseases to unvaccinated pet rabbits, which might result in the loss of the pet.

## Sports Grounds and Public Areas

These are often favoured habitats for rabbits in both urban and rural areas. The most likely reason for the need for rabbits to be controlled in such places is mainly due to digging. As rabbits continue to dig scrapes and burrows this heightens the chance of a member of the public falling and injuring themselves – which could potentially result in a lawsuit against the landowners or managers. Cricket squares prove irresistible and overnight can become unplayable. Rabbits can also cause damage to sports equipment such as football and cricket nets as well as posing a fire risk if they take up residence under buildings in the vicinity – through chewing wires.

In such areas rabbits can be very much a Health & Safety issue. Other areas that rabbits cause damage are conservation areas, industrial areas, railways and places where horses and other livestock are kept.

## Disease

Rabbits can contract a variety of diseases and viruses – none of which fortunately can be passed on to humans – here are the main two:

Myxomatosis is the most common disease that rabbits catch, which is carried via fleas that pass from rabbit to rabbit. There are many different strengths and strains of this disease. In more severe cases rabbits become blind, lose weight and die slowly.

Rabbits are, however, showing a certain amount of immunity to this man-made disease which was introduced in the 1950s.

VHD (Viral Haemorrhagic Disease) is second to myxomatosis and is passed from rabbit to rabbit in many ways – the virus can be airborne as well as by physical contact. It normally kills within 48 hours and those rabbits who succumb to such ill fortune can be diagnosed by blood visible from their orifices.

## RECIPES FOR RABBIT

---

### RABBIT STEW

*About this recipe:* Succulent chunks of rabbit are stewed with bacon, shallots, red wine and herbs. It's the perfect winter warmer. Serve with mashed potatoes or hunks of crusty bread.

**Serves:** 4

**Ingredients:**

1.35kg rabbit meat, cleaned and cut into pieces  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
5 tablespoons plain flour  
225g streaky bacon, diced  
80g finely chopped shallots  
1 clove garlic, finely chopped  
250ml dry red wine  
250ml water  
1 tablespoon chicken stock granules  
1 tablespoon redcurrant jelly  
10 black peppercorns, crushed  
1 bay leaf  
1/4 teaspoon dried rosemary, crushed  
1/8 teaspoon dried thyme, crushed  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
3 tablespoons water

Disease and viruses can quickly infect densely populated areas of rabbits, which in turn causes much distress and suffering to those infected.

Effective control measures and management are the best way forward to avoid disease and viruses spreading. On an animal welfare issue it's better to have two healthy rabbits on land than 200 sick ones!

Seascale Parish Council will continue its attempt to control rabbits in the areas it is responsible for.

2 tablespoons plain flour

Place bacon in a large, deep frying pan. Cook over medium high heat until evenly brown. Drain on kitchen towels and set aside. Sprinkle rabbit with salt and coat with 5 tablespoons flour, shaking off excess. Brown rabbit in remaining bacon fat. Remove from frying pan, along with all but 2 tablespoons of the fat and reserve.

Sauté shallots and garlic in frying pan for about 4 minutes, until tender. Stir in wine, 250ml water and stock granules. Heat to boiling, then stir in jelly, peppercorns, bay leaf, rosemary and thyme. Return rabbit and bacon to frying pan. Heat to boiling, then reduce heat to low. Cover and let simmer about 1½ hours or until rabbit is tender.

Remove bay leaf and discard. Place rabbit on a warm plate and keep warm while preparing gravy.

To make the gravy, stir lemon juice into frying pan with cooking liquid. Combine 3 tablespoons water with 2 tablespoons flour and mix together; stir mixture into frying pan over low heat. Finally, stir in thyme. Pour gravy over stew and serve or pour into a gravy boat and serve on the side.

### BUNNY BURGERS WITH CHUNKY CHIPS

This is a great recipe if you haven't tried rabbit before – juicy rabbit burgers with homemade chips.

Wild rabbits have firm, meaty flesh and a subtle, gamey flavour. They can be likened to a particularly flavoursome free-range chicken. Farmed rabbits lack this depth of flavour and can be fatty and bland compared to the wild rabbit. Wild rabbits will have firm, pinkish-brown coloured flesh and are generally smaller than farmed rabbits, which are flabbier with paler grey flesh. They are generally sold whole but skinned and gutted; you can ask your butcher to joint them for you. Wild and farmed rabbits are available year round, although wild rabbits are best from August to February. Recipe by The Barber Family. From *The Hairy Bikers' Cook Off*

Less than 30 mins preparation time. 30 mins to 1 hour cooking time.

**Serves** 2

**Ingredients:**

**For the chips**

2-3 medium sized baking potatoes, peeled, cut into chips

3 tbsps olive oil

**For the burgers**

1 onion, finely chopped

350g/12oz minced rabbit

100g/4oz minced pork belly

4 fresh sage leaves, finely chopped

3 tbsps olive oil



Some members of the new junior youth club showing off their masks.

# Shackles Off

## Session Times

### Monday Morning 11.00–13.00

Babies & Bumps – Small informal group for those expecting babies or have babies, to come and chat to other mums over a coffee to give each other support and advice.

### Monday 16.30–18.00

Guitar Workshop after school

(11+) Free guitar workshop for those wanting to learn or improve their skills on the guitar. Delivered by an experienced volunteer.

### Monday & Wednesday 14.00–16.00

Drop in for those 16 – 25 years who aren't in education, training or employment and those with any problems or issues. Session designed to meet the needs of local young people in need of support in looking for work, employment and training. Specialist support is also available on request either in-house or by referral.

### Wednesday 14.00–16.00

(16-100+) Members of the drop in group help and support older people with their computers, laptops, tablets and phones. This is an intergenerational project designed to bridge the gap between the older and younger members of our community, as well as giving practical help to older people and confidence building to the younger people. You are welcome just to pop in for tea and a chat as well.

### Wednesday 18.00–20.00

Midweek Youth Club (11-18) Young people come and take part in informal workshops and accreditations to gain points for trips and outings which we plan throughout the year with the help of the young people.

### Friday Evening 18.00–19.00

Junior Youth Club (7-11) Junior Youth Club is especially for those aged 7-11 still in primary school. There are organised games, crafts, table tennis, table football and a small tuck-shop. The club is free for all the children

### Friday Evening 19.30–21.30

Youth Club (11-18) A safe place to come and play pool, tables tennis, game consoles, take part in arts and crafts or relax with friends over a takeaway.

### Saturday 9.30–11.30

Train Your Brain. Run by the West Cumbria Dyslexia association (Contact Shackles Off for more details). The West Cumbria Dyslexia association, facilitate this club where a qualified teacher and support teacher help young people with dyslexia using specialist resources and equipment.

### Sunday Morning 10.00–11.45

X-treme. All Ages Expect the unexpected! If you want to find out more about the Christian Faith, X-treme meet on Sunday morning to discuss and take part in lively worship.

Shackles Off continues to build on its success and we have had another good year. We have worked with 94 individual children and young people between the ages of 7-25 years with a mixture of gender and needs. This is spread across 10 sessions, detached work and one-to-one support. We have extended the sessions we offer and now have a mid-week youth club and a new 7-11 junior youth club on a Friday evening. The mid-week youth club programme alternates between one week of fun and games and the next week being issue based workshops. The young people earn points for attending the workshops to use for trips and activities throughout the year. This group of young people also take part in community tasks and have done various activities to encourage them to take pride in their local community.

The intergenerational afternoon on a Wednesday has now been running for a year. It started off as helping those older people who were having trouble with their computers and gadgets. It is now just a general session where the young and old mix, play games, chat and also receive advice and support on modern day technology! This has been a great project for helping build relationships between the younger and older people in our community; it also has given new skills and confidence to those young people who attend the sessions.

We have recently been recruiting new volunteers, for without volunteers we could not provide the level of service that we currently do. We need more so that we can do more things with young people in our community. Volunteering is very rewarding and age is not a barrier – our youngest volunteer is 18 and our oldest is 70! You may only have an hour a month spare or a few hours a week, but we welcome everyone. In return for your hard work we offer Job satisfaction, training opportunities and social events with other staff and volunteers. For more information contact Mandy on 019467 27887 or [mandy.taylor@shacklesoff.org.uk](mailto:mandy.taylor@shacklesoff.org.uk)

In September we received a grant from the Crime Commissioners fund towards employing a youth work apprentice. We are very excited to have Lauren Oaten aboard the staff team alongside the existing two full time staff members and seven regular volunteers. We are also excited to announce that Our Lead Youth Worker, Jacq Cardy is expecting her first child in September. Lauren will be covering some of Jacqs hours when she finishes her apprenticeship in September. We wish Jacq all the best and look forward to welcoming her back next Summer.

*Mandy Taylor*

# HEAD FOR THE BEACON THIS AUTUMN

Seascale artist Pauline Sanders (who's colourful painting of an owl adorns this issue of Tethera's front cover) is having an exhibition of her paintings in the Beacon, Whitehaven, from 12 September to 1 November, concurrently with the C-art programme throughout Cumbria. Her exhibition of paintings runs in parallel with a display of prints by creative photographer and digital artist, Egremont's Iain Taylor, at the Beacon. Iain has his unique style of photography using various post production

techniques, inspired by the Lake District and especially West Cumbria.

It's going to be well worth a visit there during that period. Pauline is probably best known in our neck of the woods as former florist Rapunzel in Seascale, and then in Cleator Moor. And later she created Crazy Horse's jewellery shop in Egremont with a spectacular variety of wares.

Pauline is now devoting her life exclusively to painting, especially on large canvases.

Pauline at Paintfest 2013, with her 'Elephant Red'



Iain Taylor's 'Liquid Art'



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**Sunday 20th Sept**      **OPEN 10AM – 4PM**

**Thursday 24th Sept**      **OPEN 10AM – 4PM**  
**Friday 25th Sept**      **OPEN 10AM – 4PM**  
**Saturday 26th Sept**      **OPEN 10AM – 4PM**  
**Sunday 27th Sept**      **OPEN 10AM – 3PM**



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## BARROW STUDENTS PRESENT SUBMARINE RESTOCK IDEA

Five Barrow Sixth Form College students showcased an engineering project they have worked on to help BAE Systems improve the way it restocks its submarines. The students were challenged to make the resupply of food and drink to a submarine more efficient and designed an electronic system that focuses on the smooth transition from land to submarine to prevent any damage to the seal on the hatchway while restocking.

They presented their product – which uses a combination of ultrasonics and induction sensors to keep a loading cylinder away from the edges of the hatch seal – at the Engineering Education Scheme Celebration Assessment Day at Newcastle University.

The initiative is part of the Royal Academy of Engineering's Best Programme and sees teams of year 12 students from across the region partnered with an engineering company and given a 'live' project on which to work over a period of six months.

The students – James Atkinson, Ben Campbell, Matthew Hillman, Callum Moore and Ben Turnough – are all in their first year of A-Levels at the College.

## SEASCALE COMMUNITY BEACH PARK PROJECT

Mums, dads, grandparents and community minded people of Seascale, we need your help! As I'm sure you will have noticed our beach front play park has seen better days, with a lot of the equipment looking shabby. Ravenglass, Gosforth and St Bees have all in recent years had their play parks redeveloped and it is time our own was brought up to a similar standard.

We have formed a committee to raise funds, secure grant/match/lottery/community project

(etc) funding to renew and improve the play park, the Seascale Community Beach Park Project.

The project's aim is to provide the village and its surrounding communities with a well designed and landscaped play area to appeal to a wide age range and remain sympathetic with the existing landscape and amenities. Initial thought are along the lines of a seaside/beach theme as in keeping with the area.

We plan to work closely with the village school both in our design ideas and also as part of their "Beach School" initiative.

We have provisionally approached Seascale Parish Council who are more than happy for us to pursue this while working closely during the design and development process. They have also offered to set up some small scale funding to get the process started.

Unfortunately this is going to cost a lot of money; our initial research has led us to a figure in the region of £60k. We would love to talk to anyone with experience of community fundraising and grant application or any local business that may be able to help us.

Contact *Lizzie Mawson*  
 (elizabethporter279@btinternet.com)  
 or *Sarah Autie* (sarah\_autie@hotmail.com)



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## BIG BAND MUSIC IN WEST CUMBRIA

A Herdwick sheep blowing a trumpet, the emblem of the La'al Big Band, is only slightly less fantastic than an effective jazz big band operating in West Cumbria. Yet that is what we have in the La'al Big Band which has now been running for about four years thanks to the vision of its trumpet playing, train driving leader Paul Marks. Paul somehow manages to balance living in Gosforth and Southport with a full time job, numerous gigs as a trumpet player and

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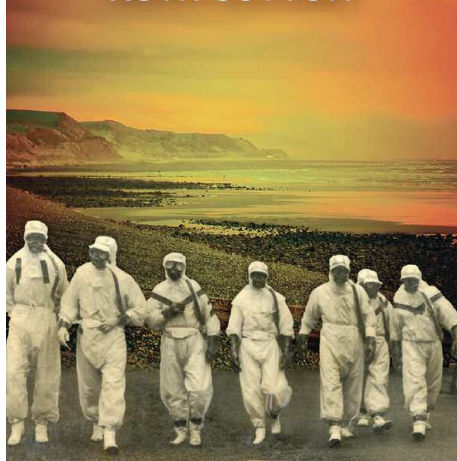
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Photo by Brian Sherwen



keeping the band 'on the road'. He has assembled players from the length of the county to form a classic jazz big band.

The band rehearses in Gosforth and although a few band members have inevitably come and gone, there is a strong, consistent core of players whose technical abilities and empathy with this music has grown considerably over the years. If you have only seen the band in its early days you will be struck by its improvement. If you have not seen them at all, perhaps you should give it a try – at least once!

You may think big band music is not for you, or that it was for your father's or even grandfather's generation, jitterbugging into the night while the lights went out over Europe. However, the music is just as vibrant and exciting now as it was then and has broadened with time to incorporate a range of new material. You will still get the classic Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Count Basie pieces, but also Amy Winehouse, Nora Jones and even Oasis (although currently no rap!). In fact many contemporary acts draw much material from the big band repertoire though you might not know it.

You can catch the band at regular gigs in St Bees and Whitehaven and occasionally in Gosforth and other West Cumbrian locations with jaunts into jazz festivals and even Keswick's Theatre by the Lake. So please look out for the posters with the horn-blowing Herdwick sheep and come out and give it a try whether you like to listen or dance or both. You can get more details by "googling" laalbigband.co.uk or looking up the band on Facebook. Without your support there will be no Laal Big Band and the musical vitality of the county will be that much poorer.

Scheduled local dates for the rest of the year are as follows. Whitehaven Golf Club, Sunday 5 July and Sunday 25 October. Seacote Hotel, St Bees: Saturday 5 September, Saturday 5 November and Sunday 20 December.

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## WELL, THE SUN SHONE — EVENTUALLY!...

...for the Eskdale Art Show from 23 to 25 May. Fortunately, the overcast conditions didn't seem to deter visitors. Numbers enjoying the delights of the art show, the mouthwatering delights of the café, and strolling around the open gardens were on a par with last year. The amount of money raised for the benefit of the children of St Bega's School has turned out to be £4,900, and the endeavours of Eskdale's gardeners certainly paid off with £660 also raised for the Great North Air Ambulance!

The weekend got off to a cracking start with Friday's preview evening; supported most generously by Irton Hall, whose head chef, Darren Pilling, laid on a splendid selection of canapés. Not forgetting, of course, the kind donation by the Brooke House of several bottles of wine.

This year's art show attracted several new artists in addition to those who have loyally supported the event over many years. The wide and diverse range of art on display received many complimentary comments from the visitors, some of whom travelled from far and wide.

One of the highlights for me was the look of excitement and achievement on the faces of the school children as they exercised their entrepreneurial skills selling the large number and wide variety of plants grown for the occasion.

May next year seems a rather long way off, but it won't be too long before planning for next year's show gets underway. Running the show is a bit like the Clapham omnibus, but with art and gardens a plenty!



I must end by on behalf of the organizing committee, thanking all those who worked so hard to make the Art Show and open gardens a resounding success.

*Richard Hutchings*

**Even a painting with an African theme on elephant dung paper was exhibited!**





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From picnics to punts, gardens to gastronomy and châteaux to chattering, the dozen denizens of Gosforth and district who took part in this year's visit to the **WE**stern **VA**lleys of Cumbria's twin town of St Martin d'Auxigny in central France certainly came back with plenty to talk about – the weather for one.

While West Cumbria apparently shivered in unseasonal single-figure temperatures, the skies around St Martin were mainly blue with le soleil (sun) making a fair number of appearances. Admittedly, it did rain while we were in punts on the “marais” (a labyrinth of small waterways, somewhat akin to a mini Norfolk Broads on the outskirts of Bourges), but this did not stop us admiring the plethora of plants vying for our attention from every aquatic allotment.

Our picnic spot was dry, albeit a little chilly, but, positioned as we were on the banks of the River Allier, very near its confluence with the much bigger and better-known Loire, we were so taken with the unusualness of the bridge (a “pont-canal”, where the river flows underneath the lock), the breadth of birdlife (terns, herons, cranes and egrets, to name a few of the less familiar species), and the lusciousness of the lunch itself that a few whispers of wind scarcely bothered us.

Following the picnic, some of us walked along the river in the company of a local wild-life expert, while others visited the castle and gardens of Apremont-sur-Allier, considered to be one of the finest gardens in France. Even if the wisteria arch was the only

feature worthy of mention, Apremont would still deserve its high-ranking position.

After a free sunny Saturday with our host families, Sunday too dawned warm and sunny for a visit to Guédelon Castle, just over the border in the neighbouring province of Burgundy. Guédelon is unique in France, if not in Europe, or even the world. Someone, about twenty years ago, decided they would like to build a mediæval castle from scratch, using only the tools and knowledge available in the twelfth century and, with the bare minimum of input from the Health and Safety people, this is exactly what they are doing. A fascinating tour guided us through the techniques and methods used to erect the main part of the castle with its keep, moat and drawbridge (still unfinished), before we were free to wander and explore the mediæval village which is growing up around the castle, view some of the crafts, such as weaving (very appropriate!) and dyeing or, for the more energetic, walk the kilometre-long forest path to see the water-mill, now in its final stages of construction.

Were there any drawbacks? Yes. We had to come home! However, e-mails are buzzing backwards and forwards and plans are already underway to welcome our French friends to West Cumbria next spring. If you are tempted to see and experience France the real French way please contact WEVA chair, Rosalind Arney on 01946 820426/westernvalleys2@googlemail.com



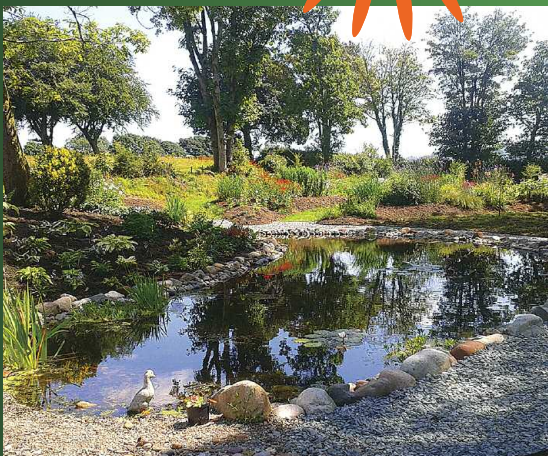
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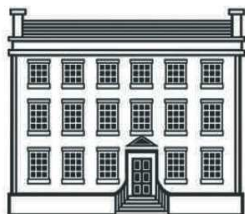


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# LONGER TRAINS AND CHANGES FOR CUMBRIA'S COASTAL RAIL ROUTE

A new timetable for the Cumbrian Coast was launched on Monday 18 May with the introduction of two locomotive-hauled trains along the route adding much needed seats for travellers.

Longer trains with more space provide additional capacity on this popular route and have been provided by a partnership deal brokered by the Department for Transport and Northern Rail.

Nine loco hauled services are operating per day, supported by 44 Northern diesel services delivering 80,000 additional seats per year.

Arrival and departure times have changed and the loco hauled trains also look completely different. Colleagues from Direct Rail Services (DRS), who are providing the trains and Northern, who are operating the services, are working together to support the new venture.

Customers are being reminded that stepping distances between the train and platform edge will be noticeably different at some stations and customers should take care when opening and closing the “slam-doors” on the train. Customers are also being reminded to listen out for announcements about which carriages will be on the platform and which won't – a result of the extra capacity brought by the length of these DRS locomotives is that the trains can be too long for the platforms.

Alex Hynes, Managing Director for Northern Rail, is passionate about the additional capacity on the line: “The improvements along the Cumbrian Coast do mean changes to a number of services and we appreciate it will take time to get used to them. However the addition of the locomotive trains brings thousands more seats every day, improving journey experiences for our commuting customers and offering more space for visitors to this fantastic region throughout the summer.”

Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin said: “A quality rail service is vital to the local economy and tourism industry in Cumbria, which is why we have worked with Northern to bring these much-needed improvements to the region.

“As part of our long-term economic plan, we are transforming rail travel across the north by providing more seats, more services and better journeys for millions of passengers.”



Timetables can be downloaded from [northernrail.org](http://northernrail.org)

Customers are advised to check the new timetables before travelling.

## Service Summary: Monday to Friday

- The 05.19 Preston – Carlisle service is split into two different services on arrival at Barrow. Through customers are required to change trains with connections available.
- The 10.02 Morecambe to Carlisle starts from Preston at 10.04 – a separate train running between Morecambe and Lancaster – and splits at Barrow. Through customers are required to change trains with connections available.
- The 15.12 Carlisle to Preston splits at Barrow. Through customers are required to change trains with connections available.
- A new 18.30 Barrow to Workington service is in operation, providing a later final service from Millom, replacing the original 18.05 Barrow to Millom.
- The 21.20 Lancaster to Barrow service starts from Preston at 21.09.
- The 11.08 and 21.13 Preston to Morecambe services now starts from Lancaster.
- The 05.59 Maryport to Preston starts from Carlisle at 05.15 and the 06.22 Whitehaven to Barrow starts from Maryport at 06.46, providing new journey opportunities for commuters to Sellafield.

## Saturday

- The 11.26 Barrow to Whitehaven and 12.54 Whitehaven to Carlisle are combined to a through train at 11.38 from Barrow to Carlisle.
- The 05.59 Maryport to Preston starts from Carlisle at 05.15 and splits at Barrow. Through customers will need to change but connections are available.
- The 11.38 Carlisle to Whitehaven and 12.54 Whitehaven to Lancaster are combined to a through train at 11.56 from Carlisle to Lancaster.

All customers for Nethertown and Braystones should check all journey times as there are changes to services calling at these stations.

## MEET THE STOMPERS

---

Monday is a good day – oh, yes it is! Monday is Stomping day and it, literally, kick starts the week.

Thanks to Mim, Chris and Janet, who between them turn up every week to play the music, teach us the steps and show us how it should be done, we have a great get-together, some tuneful exercise and a good dose of fun.

It has to be admitted, to start with, it's not so easy. All those grapevines, kick balls(!), shuffles and sailor steps can be confusing, not to mention the jazzboxes, scuffs and hitches! But it's not long before you're away and stepping out with the rest.

Besides which, we are a jolly lot and mistakes are a source of great amusement and definitely part of the fun. Sometimes we may look quite dour as we concentrate on a new dance – a few wrinkled brows and looks of pure bewilderment – but it pays off and you should see the delight when we get it right!

Mim has endless patience. How she remembers it all never ceases to amaze us. When we bump into each other or end up facing the wrong way (a favourite of mine!) she gently takes us through it all again. She is elegant and makes it look so easy that we want to get it just as she does.

(Tip. For extra help stay near Frances or Janice. They know what they are doing!)

Chris – our DJ – is in charge of the music! She combines this with alternate trips onto the dance floor demonstrating her rhythmic dancing – with attitude – how it should be done. If we've forgotten how it starts there could be two or three times



before we actually get going. In fact, she probably covers twice the ground as the rest of us in sorting the music alone.

Janet has sway and rhythm and has great teaching style. She'll get you through the tricky bits and turning the right way. She likes to step out and cover the ground in her funky red shoes, showing us how to really enjoy the dance.

For £2 each Monday we have fun, relax and have one of the best social evenings and the money goes to charities both local, national and international. We also have a weekly raffle for amazing prizes! Organisations such as Seascale School, Gosforth Nursery, NW Air Ambulance, Macmillan Cancer Support and, recently, the Nepal Earthquake appeal have received donations and a total of over £18,000 has been raised in the last 10 years.

There's room on the floor for more so why not give it a try? You only need a comfortable pair of shoes, a sense of humour and before long you'll be shuffling and jazzboxing happily along and even end up facing the right way!

Monday evenings at the Windscale club at 7.30pm. See you there.  
*Pam Mullineaux*

---

## IN CELEBRATION OF AN OLD FRIEND

---

Last year "Ginge" Higham from Drigg died and in his will left £1000 to the Silecroft Scottish Country Dancing Club, and also £1000 to the Seascale English Country Dancing Club. Ginge's idea was that this would enable each of the clubs to have a good party with a live band.

Recently on Friday 1 May the Silecroft Club did just that. All the neighbouring SCD Clubs, including the Seascale Scottish Dancing Club, had some of their members at this party.

Ginge's widow, Margery, was invited and presented with flowers from the Silecroft Club and a floral arrangement from Seascale members. As a keen dancer Ginge often attended Seascale meetings.

In 2010 the Seascale Scottish Dancing Club

celebrated 50 years of dancing and for this occasion Ginge devised a dance called "Brenda's Bicycle". Brenda is Brenda Rhodes from Seascale, then the Secretary of the club, who travelled everywhere (and still does) on her bike. The dance was on the program, a reel performed at a frantic pace.

The party was a great success, live music, an excellent supper with wine and dancing to 11:30pm. It was a fitting tribute to a generous man.

We have finished dancing for the summer, but if you would like to join us this autumn we start dancing again on Wednesday 9 September, at 7:30pm in the Windscale Club Seascale. All you need to start dancing is a pair of soft shoes or trainers. Everyone is welcome, ladies and gentlemen, beginners or experienced dancers. It's great fun, good exercise and an enjoyable social evening.

If you want any information contact me 019467 25459.  
*Joan E. McIntosh Hon. Secretary*





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# SEASCALE BROWNIES

What do bandages, Two Headed Sheep and Passports have in common?

In answer to the above question is they have all featured in our Brownie meetings during the past term. The term has flown by and we seemed to have covered lots of different activities.

Everybody successfully completed their First Aid Badge which covered several meetings; the girls found it all very interesting and worked very hard.

We celebrated St Patrick's day by having an Irish themed evening, learning all about St Patrick and also had crafts and games connected with Ireland.

Next we were busy making Mother's day cards for the 'Best Mums in the World' and one evening we had a visit from Ethel's Mum and Grandma who are part of the dance group 'The two headed sheep' – we had a lot of fun learning a new dance .Thank you for coming Ladies!

We are delighted this term that Laura Woolas has joined us to help at Brownies –Laura was a Brownie here at Seascale and we are thrilled to have her back. I think we have been very lucky in Seascale that over the years so many Brownies have returned years later to become Leaders – truly a case of home-grown talent!

Laura was able to join the big event of this term – the Brownie Pack Holiday. This year we headed to an Activity Centre on the shores of Windermere . Unfortunately owing to a prior commitment I was unable to join them (or even visit for the day).

I believe a marvellous time was had by all. Erin who was attending her third (and last) pack holiday said "this was the best ever" and Beth attending her



first pack holiday described the poly tunnelling as "awesome" – they seem to have had an action-packed time! On behalf of the girls thank you to Lynn, Maggie, Joan, Laura and Sarah H (who returned from Silloth just to attend) for giving up a weekend to give the Brownies such a wonderful time.

More recently we have been working on our 'Brownie World Traveller Badge' Everybody brought in souvenirs from their holidays throughout the world (Brownies really do travel far and wide!) and had fun telling of their adventures. They learnt about passports and even made their own. We looked at several more countries in detail learning to count to ten and say "Hello" and "Goodbye" in different languages. However it wasn't all hard work because learning about USA involved sampling doughnuts!

So another school year is almost over and some of

our Brownies will be leaving to join Guides and some Rainbows will be joining us. Although we are almost up to having a full pack, if you have a daughter or grand-daughter who would be interested to join us please get in touch with one of the Leaders (she can always come along for a taster session to see if she likes it).

All that remains is to thank everybody who has helped us during the last year in many different ways and also to thank my fellow Leaders Lynn, Maggie, Joan, Sarah and Laura for their continued commitment and support.

Enjoy the summer. Brownie Greetings.

*Jennifer Matches*



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## 1ST GOSFORTH SCOUT GROUP

At Gosforth the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers have had a busy couple of months, and we have lots of exciting plans for the future.

With the longer days, everyone's trying to go outside as much as possible. The Scouts had a very busy evening one week making very carefully measured kites from bin liners, and wooden winders for the string. Then followed an evening on Drigg beach, trying to fly them without much wind!

The Cubs have been learning to do some pioneering, learning enough knots to make big wooden catapults for launching water-filled balloons. They've also had a go at fire lighting, and done some trailing at Giggie Alley in Eskdale.

The Beavers have been doing lots of crafty things. Last week they made puppets to perform a play at our AGM next month. They've also shared a trip to the beach with the Cubs, where they learnt some desert survival skills, and had an Easter egg hunt at Wasdale Youth Hostel with the Beckermert Beavers.

Our new roof is now finished, and is looking really smart. We're looking forward to a much drier future and to showing it off properly at our AGM. We're also looking forward to taking the Scouts camping in July, to taking the Cubs to Bassenthwaite to do some water activities, and to our whole group camp at Great Tower in October where we hope to do lots of really good outdoor activities such as climbing, crate stack and low ropes.

There are places available for girls and boys aged six to thirteen years in all three sections, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, if anyone would like to join, and we're always hoping for more adult help. If you're interested, phone Jackie Harper on 27211 – we'll be pleased to meet you!

## NEATE CRAFTS & C-ART

As you may know from my previous article, Neate Crafts participates in C-art each year. You may have noticed each September yellow and black road signs pointing the way to my studio/shed.

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If there is anything you would like but can't find – please ask, I can probably help!

C-art is an Art trail through Cumbria where you can visit as many or as few places where crafts people who are hard to find or don't open to the public do so for two weeks each year.

I take part but I am open all year round – just a quick phone call to see if I am available is all it takes. There is no obligation to buy – just come for a chat, or you may see something you like!

This year C-art is 12 to 27 September. I am open each day 10.30-4.30pm except Monday 21.

Also I am holding a workshop on 22 September 10.30-12.30pm 'Simple flower drawing for beginners'. The price is £20 and all materials are included. This is an informal workshop but must be booked and paid for in advance before 10 September. Just get in touch if you are interested. Phone 019467 27131 or email [susan194@outlook.com](mailto:susan194@outlook.com) or visit my website [www.neatecrafts.co.uk](http://www.neatecrafts.co.uk)

I look forward to chatting to you!

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