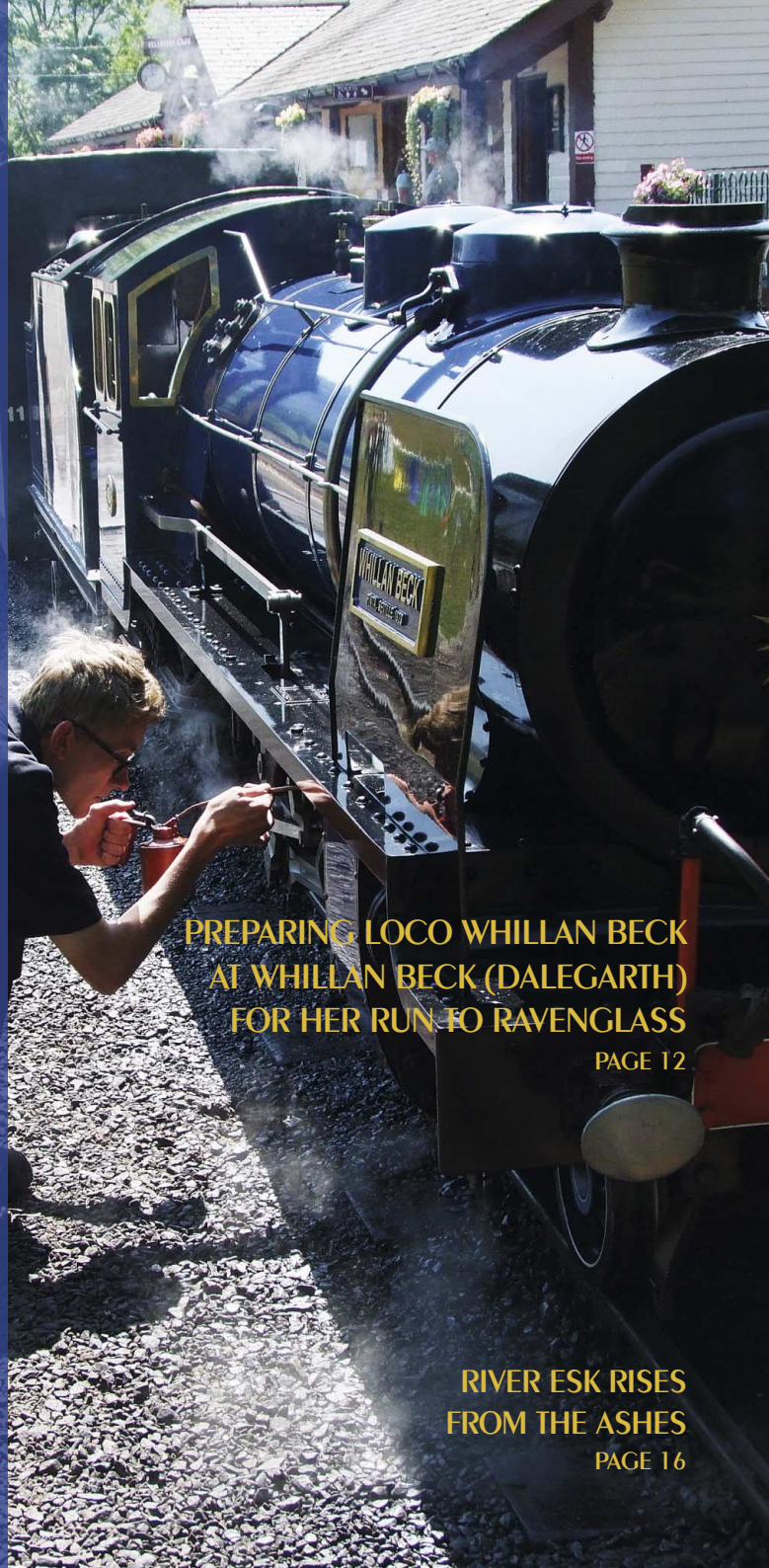


SEASCALE GOSFORTH
DRIGG
& CARLETON

LINKING
THREE
PARISHES

TETHERA

SUMMER
2018



PREPARING LOCO WHILLAN BECK
AT WHILLAN BECK (DALEGARTH)
FOR HER RUN TO RAVENGLASS

PAGE 12

RIVER ESK RISES
FROM THE ASHES

PAGE 16

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THURSDAY

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FRIDAY

8:30am – 5:30pm

Saturday and later appointments at request

SEASCALE GOSFORTH
DRIGG
& CARLETON

LINKING
THREE
PARISHES

TETHERA

SUMMER
2018

PARISH NEWS

Editor: Eileen Eastwood
019467 28653
eileeneastwood@hotmail.co.uk

Publisher: Trevor Preece
019467 28449
trevor@trpub.net

Seascale Parish Council thanks everyone that is using our cycleway/footpath between Seascale and Gosforth.

It is making the road safer for everyone. I think that once the play park is officially open and established it will be used more than ever.

I worried when we first started the Newsletter many, many years ago, a lot of people said it would not last. The first ones were just one foolscap sheet – now it is a magazine. Thanks to all who made it a success – long may we keep the news and articles coming in.

Special thanks to Trevor who could see its potential to grow and encompass three adjacent villages. Please keep the news coming in and if you are free we are always looking for volunteers to deliver in our zone of West Cumbria – contact myself or Trevor.

*Eileen Eastwood
Seascale Parish Council*

On that note Eileen, I thank you. It has been a very interesting period from producing the skimpy 12-page black & white Seascale Parish Council Newsletter back in 2002, when I was volunteered (!) for the job having just moved here, to this 72-page colour production of Tethera (having in between also produced some separate newsletters/magazines for Gosforth and Drigg Parish Councils too).

It has of course crossed my mind that social media has a potential to replace physical paper local publications, but this edition of Tethera has rather confounded that prospect a bit because I have had more editorial 'copy' supplied than can be fitted into the 72 pages pages comfortable for our stalwart volunteers to distribute! Apologies are due to those whose contributions have not made it into print this time.

Trevor Preece



The next edition of Tethera is scheduled to be published late in October. We are always on the lookout for stories and event dates. The closing date for contributions will be Thursday 27 September.

SEASCALE PARISH COUNCILLORS

Brian Goulding (Chair)	21641
Dr Craig Ashton	
Catherine Harvey-Chadwick	28908
Eileen Eastwood	28653
David Halliday	28027
Elizabeth Mawson	
Ken Mawson	29786
David Moore	27674
David Ritson	21668
Clerk	
Jill Bush	clerkseascalepc@gmail.com
Copeland District Councillors	
David Moore	27674
Andy Pratt	24097
County Councillor	
Paul Turner	07795 169637

GOSFORTH PARISH COUNCILLORS

Tyson Norman (Chair)	25646 (home)
	01946 841413 (work)
Chris Walton (Vice-Chair)	25526
Councillors	
David Ancell	25232
M. Fussell	07812 174199
David Gray	25318
Des Hobson	25454
Graham Hutson	25477
Alan Jacob	25356
Iain King	07753 602264
Mike M. McKinley	26267
Clerk	
Jacqueline Williams	01229 717402
County Councillor	
Paul Turner	07795 169637

Tethera 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 printed publication date

GOSFORTH PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Gosforth Parish Council has recently welcomed two new councillors and we look forward to benefiting from their fresh input. It's still fair to say that the make up of the council does not match the parish in terms of gender, age, race etc, which means that we could be missing out on different insights and perspectives. We always welcome parishioners to our meetings if you want to pass on your opinion on any of the agenda items or want to talk to us about a particular idea or issue.

The Parish Council will also be welcoming a new Clerk, Mrs Jacqueline Williams. Our thanks and best wishes for the future go to the outgoing Clerk, Mrs Jane Murray. Jane has worked hard to represent the parish and its parishioners and also to modernise the way the Council works and to improve transparency. We had several good candidates wishing to take on the role and are confident that the new Clerk has the experience and energy to maintain the momentum. As a result of the change, the Parish Council email address is now: gosforth.parish2@outlook.com.

We've responded to a number of consultations during the past few months. The Government is again seeking an answer to the long-term management of nuclear waste and has recently sought views on how potential host communities should be defined and engaged. We felt it important that communities are defined at a parish level so that those living closest to any proposed site have a strong voice in the process. We have stressed the importance of the A595 and its need for major investment in our response to the Major Road Network consultation and have given our opinion on how Copeland Borough Council should re-organise itself so that our area can be properly represented following the reduction in councillor numbers. And by the time this magazine is published we will have responded to the Lake District National Park Authority's consultation on its local plan which, amongst other things, aims to identify land where future development could take place to allow our village to grow.

The Parish Council reviews planning applications where these concern property or

land within the parish. Our policy is to inform near neighbours of the application as we recognise that publication from the authorities can be easily missed. This is done via hand delivered letters, which also inform as to when the application will be considered by the council. We do not post public notices about applications, as this is the responsibility of the planning authority. Written responses, for or against, can be sent to the Clerk or people can give their views in person at the meeting. Plans to be reviewed are listed on the agenda for the relevant Parish Council meeting.

People may be aware that Sellafield Ltd are restricting access to their site by car. To compensate, they are providing a number of alternatives, one of which is a bus from Gosforth to the site. This is proving helpful to many people in the village. The risk is that people drive into the village and park up before catching the bus, and so reduce parking for others who want to use village facilities. We would welcome feedback on any problems encountered as these new arrangements bed in.

*Chris Walton
Vice Chair, Gosforth Parish Council*

A Church Service at 15.00 (3pm) on Remembrance Sunday 11 November at Saint Mary's Church in Gosforth will celebrate the cessation of hostilities at the end of The Great War (WW1).

This Church Service will be the final "Gosforth and District Royal British Legion" Service which had unfortunately fizzled out rather ignominiously a couple of years ago and also commemorate all the work done raising money by local people for the Poppy Appeal.

Refreshments will be served in Saint Mary's room after the service. ALL WELCOME

Rob Steele

There is to be a Great North Air Ambulance Strawberry Coffee Morning Saturday 21 July 10am-12noon in Seascale Methodist Church Hall. Gluten free and dairy free options will be available. There will be a raffle, cake stall, tombola and bric- a- brac stall. Please come along and enjoy some strawberry treats to support this vital charity.

DRIGG & CARLETON PARISH COUNCILLORS

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	
Clerk	
David Millington	24272
County Councillors	
Keith Hitchen	24710
Andy Pratt	24097

LEGAL DROP-IN DAYS

We at Brockbanks are running legal drop-in sessions in Egremont, Gosforth and Seascale. Our aim is to provide a more convenient opportunity for you to meet our staff and have a chat about any legal issues that you may have. Each session is staffed by fully qualified solicitors and legal executives and no appointment is necessary.

We've found that the sessions have been most popular for people wanting to talk about Wills or Lasting Powers of Attorney. Other areas of law can be covered by arranging an appointment in advance.

These sessions will be taking place at the following locations:

Seascale – Methodist Church Hall on the first Friday of every month

Gosforth – Methodist Hall on the second Friday of every month

Egremont – The De Lucy Centre on the third Friday of every month

For more information please just drop in, or call 01946 692194, and we hope to see you there. We are also able to provide home visits, so if you are unable to travel to our office or one of the drop-in sessions, then please contact us on 01946 692194, and we can arrange to come and see you at your home.

Denise Osborn



BEACH PARK OPENS – OFFICIALLY!

The 30th of June was the date of the Grand Opening of the new Beach Park in Seascale – a day to celebrate a fantastic new community asset and reflect on what has been achieved. As I write this article ahead of the opening I'm doing my own reflecting. There is a saying that it takes a village to raise a child, it also takes a community to build a play park as I know only too well! I feel like I should, before I go on, apologise to anyone who knows me, that if there was a favour I could have asked for I probably did!

I want to take this opportunity to tell the story of how the play park came to life and thank everyone that made it happen.

After two long years of fundraising we reached £130,000, which was enough money to buy the play equipment and have it installed; but we still needed concrete for foundations, plant hire and site fencing. We were delighted when DDP, a collective of contractors working with Sellafield, stepped in to supply these and we could finally begin. The order was placed and we eagerly awaited its arrival. We had to wait a bit longer than expected because the factory where our

play equipment was being made had just received a larger order from Euro Disney!

On 29 January the site was fenced off and work began, firstly with the site clearance and landscaping, again courtesy of DDP who also provided 80 tonnes of topsoil. The new equipment arrived on 13 February. It was snowing and blowing a gale but it was so exciting to see our designs coming alive – it was here! It was big! Our install team Stephen and Paul worked in really challenging conditions, sand blasted and weather-beaten on a daily basis. They were extremely well looked after by the staff at the Bailey Ground Hotel who provided their food and accommodation for the duration of their seven-week stay for free.

By 6 April the equipment was all installed and we waved the guys off; this is when you realise you don't have a play park just yet ... you have a building site with play equipment on it. The weather was still bitterly cold – too cold for grass seeds to establish – so the turfing began, 1130 square metres of it to be exact. John Whittam



from Seascale Golf Course provided a master class one snowy Saturday, and the tools to get the job done, and over the next few weeks we turned our building site back into a play park. It was back-breaking work, not just the laying of the turf but removing the tonnes of stones that had been left when the foundations were dug, and the concrete that had to be raked from the grass. The grass was now growing and need cutting. At this point I was feeling defeated.

All of this work was done by volunteers; a call for help was sent out and although there are too many of you to mention all by name I couldn't have been more grateful for all the hours and hours of work put in on site by you all. Thank you turfers, thank you gardeners with lawnmowers and strimmers, thank you stone pickers, thank you painters. You saved my sanity and shared my blisters.

The fence was removed on 29 May, just in time for the half term holiday so that the children who have waited so patiently could finally enjoy their new play park. I'm sure they will continue to do so for a great many years.

There have been many people involved in the delivery of this project, these are those that deserve a special mention.

Sarah Autie is a local landscape architect who designed the park. She has given her time to fundraise, liaise with suppliers and contractors, source materials and work for many hours on site as a volunteer. We were the ones having coffee and having bright ideas two and a half years ago and it's been a long hard journey to this point!

Lizzy Mawson

Our funders:

Copeland Community Fund, Sellafield Ltd, Community Choices, LLWR, Sir John Fisher Foundation, The Hadfield Trust, The Co-op, Persimmon Community Champions, CN Group, Seascale Parish Council.

DDP, for project support and in kind contributions.

J D Moore Joinery at Gosforth, for giving their time and expertise for free and at very short notice.

Seascale Parish Council, for your support of our vision.

Sellafield Firemen, for rescuing our distressed turf during our freak drought!

Bailey Ground Group, for accommodating the contractors.

Blondie Jackson (I felt at one point we had our own personal park keeper!), thank you for all the hours of work you put in.

Jason Rushworth, for the money raised through sales of the Atom Kids book.



EVENTS CALENDAR

in and around Drigg, Gosforth & Seascale

- 14 July – Saturday.** Gosforth Public Hall 7pm. GADS Youth Theatre Group perform Roald Dahl's "James and the Giant Peach".
- 15 July – Sunday.** Ravenglass Railway Museum Boot Centenary Celebration. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.
- 15 July – Sunday.** Muncaster Castle. Afternoon Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.
- 18 July – Wednesday.** Drigg Village Hall 6-8pm. Quarterly Meeting of the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group LLWR Working Group. Members of the public are invited to attend. Elected representatives, regulators and senior managers from LLW Repository Ltd will be on hand to discuss topics of mutual interest or concern about the Repository Site.
- 19 July – Thursday.** Gosforth Village Hall for 11am start. Open Mind West Lakes U3A General Meeting. "Age of Empire, Renwick, 1840-1900" by Richard Brockington. Admission charges: Members £2.00. Visitors £3.00.
- 21 July – Saturday.** Seascale Methodist Church Hall 10-12noon. Great North Air Ambulance Strawberry Coffee Morning.
- 22 July – Sunday.** Gosforth Playing Field from 10am. Rotary Club "Rotating Wheels Rally". In aid of the Great North Air Ambulance.
- 24 July – Tuesday.** Seascale Beachfront Car Park 7pm (runners must be there by 6.45). Blengdale Runners. Seascale Beach Handicap Run. Approximately 8km. Open to club members and any local runners. No entry fee, but all runners must bring a prize and predict your own finishing time. Most accurate gets first choice of prize, second most gets second choice etc.
- 25/26 July – Wednesday/Thursday.** Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway. National Trust Activity Days. The National Trust returns to Dalegarth Station for hands on fun; find out how to build a den, create a dry stone wall, learn about species and their habitats plus lots more! This event is free and part of our scheduled service. www.ravenglass-railway.co.uk
- 27 July – Friday.** Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway. It is Summer and that means Kids Free Fridays are back! Kids travel for free every Friday during the July & August School holidays. Just bring along an adult with a valid Calling All Stations ticket and get FREE child entry! www.ravenglass-railway.co.uk
- 2 August – Thursday.** Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Steam to the Hills. Take a steam train to Eskdale Green and then walk back to the sea over Muncaster Fell with your Lake District National Park Ranger guide. Meet at Ravenglass at 10:15am. £5.00 per adult for the guided walk (train fare is payable upon arrival). To book please go to lakedistrict.gov.uk/events or call 0845 272 0004.
- 3 August – Friday.** Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway. Kids Free Fridays. See 27 July entry for details.
- 3/4 August – Friday/Monday.** Woolpack Inn, Eskdale. Vodka Party. See web site for more details: www.woolpack.co.uk.
- 5 August – Sunday.** Muncaster Castle 6pm. Shakespeare on the Lawn. 'Midsummer Night's Dream'. See website for more details: www.muncaster.co.uk
- 6/10 August – Monday/Friday.** GADS Summer Youth Workshop. For more information on how and when to enrol, email workshop@gads.org.uk
- 10 August – Friday.** Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway. Kids Free Fridays. See 27 July entry for details.
- 10 August – Friday.** Muncaster Castle from 7pm. Picnic Cinema. "The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" (15) www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.
- 11 August – Saturday.** Muncaster Castle from 7pm. Picnic Cinema. "The Big Lebowski" (18) www.muncaster.co.uk. 01229 717614.
- 11 August – Saturday.** Windscale Club, Gosforth Road, Seascale, 2pm. Seascale Horticultural Society's Annual Show.
- 11 August – Saturday.** Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Ravenglass Cafe. Arts & Craft Fair. We are joined by local Cumbrian arts & crafts designers with goodies ranging from art to handcrafted handbags. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.
- 16 August – Thursday.** Gosforth Village Hall 10.45am for 11am start. Open Mind West Lakes U3A General Meeting. "Eric Morecambe" by Mrs Susan Wilson. Admission charges: Members £2.00. Visitors £3.00
- 17 August – Friday.** Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway. Kids Free Fridays. See 27 July entry for details.
- 18 August – Saturday.** Gosforth Agricultural Show. For details visit www.gosforthshow.co.uk or email gosforthshow@hotmail.com phone 07856 162 428
- 19 August – Sunday.** Muncaster Castle. Afternoon Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.
- 24 August – Friday.** Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway. Kids Free Fridays. See 27 July entry for details.
- 25 August – Saturday.** Hosted by Muncaster Castle: "Race the Tide" adventure race. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.
- 25/27 August – Saturday/Monday.** Muncaster Castle. Medieval Muncaster with the Red Wyvern re-enactment society. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.
- 25/27 August – Saturday/Monday.** Gosforth Hall Beer/Music Festival. 019467 25322.
- 27 August – Monday.** Bootle Village 12noon – till late. Black Combe Country Fair. Entry £5 and under 16's accompanied by an adult go FREE!
- 30 August – Thursday.** Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Steam to the Hills. Take a steam train to Eskdale Green and then walk back to the sea over Muncaster Fell with your Lake District National Park Ranger guide. Meet at Ravenglass at 10:15am. £5.00 per adult for the guided walk (train fare is payable upon arrival). To book please go to lakedistrict.gov.uk/events or call 0845 272 0004.
- 31 August – Friday.** Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway. Kids Free Fridays. See 27 July entry for details.
- 31 August/1 September – Friday/Saturday.** Woolpack Inn. Lagerpocalypse. See website for details www.woolpack.co.uk.
- 4 September – Tuesday.** Gosforth Playing Field 6.30pm. Blengdale Runners. Gosforth 10K Road Race under UK Athletics Rules. Enter on line at 222.Bookitzone.com, or on the night from 5pm.
- 14 September – Friday.** Woolpack Inn. Mickey Jupp & Friends. Live Music. See website for details www.woolpack.co.uk.
- 16 September – Sunday.** Muncaster Castle. Afternoon Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.
- 20 September – Thursday.** Gosforth Village Hall 10.45am for 11am start. Open Mind West Lakes U3A General Meeting. "The National Parks in Britain" by Dr Malcolm Petyt. Admission charges: Members £2.00. Visitors £3.00.
- 21 September – Friday.** Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Fish & Chip Train. Take an evening steam journey from Ravenglass to Dalegarth and enjoy the views of Eskdale Valley at dusk. Upon arrival at Dalegarth Station you will be served a fish and chip supper, made freshly in our café, before returning down the valley to Ravenglass. The train departs from Ravenglass at 6pm and returns from Dalegarth at 8pm. £18.00 per person. Dogs not permitted. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.
- 28 September – Friday.** Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. MacMillan

Coffee Morning. Head to Turntable Café at Ravenglass for our fundraising coffee morning. Help raise monies for a great cause with all proceeds going to MacMillan Cancer Care. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>

29 September – Saturday. Eskdale Show.

6/7 October – Saturday/Sunday. Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Peppa Pig at the Railway. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.

13 October – Saturday. Wasdale Show

14 October – Sunday. Blengdale Runners. The inaugural Viking Way 5K race, held under UK Athletics Rules, from Gosforth to Seascale and back, 10.30am. Entry limited to 80 runners, enter on line at www.Bookitzone.com. Refreshments at the finish kindly provided by Westlakes Hotel.

18 October – Thursday. Gosforth Village Hall 10.45am for 11am start. Open Mind West Lakes USA General Meeting. "300 Years of Schooling in Satherthwaite and Rusland" by Dr Suzanne Tiplady. Admission charges: Members £2.00. Visitors £3.00.

21 October – Sunday. Muncaster Castle. Afternoon Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

23/28 October – Tuesday/Sunday. Muncaster Castle. Halloween. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

26/27 October – Friday/Saturday. Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Ghost Trains. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.

2/3 November – Friday/Saturday. Woolpack Inn. Whisky Weekend. See website for details www.woolpack.co.uk.

15 November – Thursday. Gosforth Village Hall 10.45am for 11am start. Open Mind West Lakes USA General Meeting. "The Flour Power Challenges in Restoring the Derelict Acorn Bank Mill" by Bob Price. Admission charges: Members £2.00. Visitors £3.00.

15/18 November – Thursday/Sunday. Woolpack Inn. Woolpack Wine Festival. See website for details www.woolpack.co.uk.

24/25 November – Saturday/Sunday. Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Santa Express. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.

1 December – Saturday. Muncaster Castle. Owls by Moonlight. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

1/2 December – Saturday/Sunday. Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Santa Express. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.

2 December – Sunday. Muncaster Castle. Christmas Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

9 December – Sunday. Muncaster Castle. Christmas Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

8 December – Saturday. Muncaster Castle. Owls by Moonlight. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

8/9 December – Saturday/Sunday. Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Santa Express. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.

15 December – Saturday. Muncaster Castle. Owls by Moonlight. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

15 December – Saturday. Muncaster Castle. Christmas Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

15/16 December – Saturday/Sunday. Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway. Santa Express. For details see website: <https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk>.

16 December – Sunday. Muncaster Castle. Christmas Tea in the Castle. www.muncaster.co.uk. Telephone 01229 717614.

REGULAR EVENTS

Badminton – Seascale. Ladies Wednesdays from 6pm. Mixed Thursdays 7pm. Beginners very welcome. Seascale Sports Hall. Details from 019467 28435

Blengdale Runners. First Sunday every month, 9.30am Gosforth car park. And every other Sunday, 9.30am on Seascale beach.

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.

Craft Fairs in Gosforth Public Hall. 2nd Saturday of every month (Lauren Hufton)

Depression Support Group. Day Centre, Bradbury House, Gosforth. Third Tuesday every month at 7.30pm.

Depression Support Group. Bailey Ground ice cream parlour, Seascale. First Tuesday morning each month 10.30am-12.00noon.

Drigg and Holmrook Family Group. Mondays 9.30-11.30am (term time only) in Drigg & Carleton Village Hall. Bring babies, toddlers and pre-school children for a variety of play, crafts, snacks.

Drigg Young Farmers. Tuesday nights, 7.30-9pm in the Methodist Hall at Gosforth. Membership age = 10-26 years. If you would like to join or find out more about Drigg Young Farmers please contact us on the club mobile 074961 26771 or email driggycf@yahoo.co.uk

Fishing Club. Holmrook Reading Room. Contact David on 24632 for details or to join.

Fitness Classes. Tuesdays 6-7pm, Seascale Sports Hall. Tuesdays 7.30-8.20pm Beckermest School. Thursdays 7.15-8.05pm Kettleercise, Seascale School. £4 a class. Contact Gill 07511 995184.

Flo Jazz. Third Friday every month, Florence Mine Art Centre, Egremont. 7.30pm for 8pm start. All welcome to listen or contribute.

Freestyle Fitness Yoga. Tuesdays 6pm. Gosforth School. £4 each.

GADS Youth Theatre. Weekly workshops Friday evenings, 7-9pm, during term time. Gosforth Public Hall. £3 per session. First free.

GADS Plays for Pleasure. We meet in the Supper Room at 7.30pm on the last Wednesday of each month; dates booked to end July. Please see our website www.gads.org.uk for more information.

Gardening Club. Holmrook Reading Room. Contact Henry Stewart on 24652 for details or to join.

Gosforth and District Art Society. In Gosforth. Every Monday but with breaks for Easter, summer and Christmas. 6.30-8.30pm, Gosforth Village School. Contact Jakki Barratt: jakki@karletta.co.uk.

Gosforth Craft Fairs. Gosforth Public Hall. Second Saturday of every month (Lauren Hufton)

Gosforth and District Art Society. In Seascale. Every Thursday morning 10am to 12am in Seascale Methodist School Room but with breaks for Easter, summer and Christmas.. Contact Jakki Barratt: jakki@karletta.co.uk.

Gosforth Karate. Wednesday classes. 4.45pm. One free taster class available. to book call 01946 694751 or visit www.eskk.co.uk

Gosforth Rainbows. Every Monday, term time, 5-6pm in Gosforth Public Hall. Come along or register interest at www.girlguiding.org.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.

Gosforth WI. Monthly meetings are held in the public hall on the First Tuesday of the month at 7.15pm March-October, 2pm November-February.

Guides. Every Tuesday during school term time. 7.15-8.45pm, usually

at Gosforth Public Hall. Contact: Sue Smith 019467 28265.

Holmrook Reading Room Table Tennis Club. Meets on a Wednesday – 6:30pm to 7:30pm. All welcome, young or old. Contact David on 019467-24632. Other times can be arranged.

Holmrook Reading Room Fishing Club. If you want to join this club, or simply want some more information, please contact David on 019467-24632.

Holmrook Reading Room playground. Come and see for yourself – the upgraded playground.

Holmrook Reading Room Wild Flower Meadow. Enjoy a walk or just sit and relax in the peace and quiet of the meadow. Supervised children are welcome.

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.

Lane Dancing. Every Monday. 7.30pm, Windscale Club, Seascale. £3 pp donation to charity. Contact 019467 28849 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 HIIT/CORE. Seascale Sports Hall. Monday 10-10.45am. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

MokyZEST (New). Seascale Sports Hall. Monday 11-11.45am. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

Moky HIIT/CORE. Seascale Primary School. Wednesday 7.30pm-8.15pm. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

Moky HIIT Class. Seascale Sports Hall. Friday 10.00am-10.30am. Babies and toddlers are very welcome to use the soft play. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

MokyZEST. Seascale Sports Hall. Friday 10.45am. Babies and toddlers are very welcome to use the soft play. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

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 Mic Night – Calder House Hotel. Last Wednesday of each month. From 7.30pm. To book a slot call Sonia on 019467 28538.

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 More Singing for Fun. This is a new U3A Group which meets on the first Thursday in each month at the Methodist Church Hall, Seascale. Times are 2.15pm for 2.30pm. All are welcome. 2018 dates are 6 September, 4 October, 1 November and 6 December. To attend you will need to join the Open Mind Group of West Lakes U3A for £5.00 per annum. Contact is Xandra Brassington: 019467 25794.

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 Reading Group (House Group Gosforth). Fourth Thursday every month between 10.45am and

12.00noon in a private house. Contact: Jean Taylor 019467 28713.

Open Mind West Lakes U3A Discussion Group. Third Tuesday every month between 10.30am and 12noon in a private house. Contact: Xandra Brassington 25794.

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.

Phoenix Praise Worship Band. Meets in Gosforth Methodist Church Schoolroom, 7pm Fridays during school term-time. Come along and sing, play or help technical support. All welcome – no church affiliation necessary. Jill or Keith Hudson 019467 21592. jillfhudson@hotmail.co.uk

Pilates Class (mat based). Mondays, 6.30pm (beginners/intermediate) 7.35pm (intermediates). Gosforth Public Hall (Main Hall). Bring mat or towel. £5 per week or £24 for 6 weeks. Contact Amy on 07510 104508 or amyflsher@hotmail.com. Now also qualified to teach Pilates to ladies at all stages of pregnancy and postnatally.

Accessible Pilates. TBC. Please let Amy know if you are interested on 07510 104508 or email amyflsher@hotmail.com.

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.

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 Men's Keep Fit. Tuesday, 10.30am. 45-minute session in the Sports Hall. Target range is 55-85 years. Work at your own rate and set your own goals. One free session available. Alan Bell, 24250 or John Calvert 28936.

Seascale Parish Council Meetings. First Wednesday every month. 7pm in the Methodist Schoolroom. No meeting in August unless there is urgent business.

Seascale Tea and Chat. Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall.

Seascale WI. Seascale Methodist School Room. Mondays 7pm every month except January. Details from Allison Hanshaw, 21935, ajhanshaw@outlook.com

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.

Shackles Off Baby Group. Mondays, 11am-1pm. See page 53.

Tuesday Chat. First Tuesday every month. 2-4pm. Drigg & Carleton Village Hall. Special events and entertainment. All welcome.

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.

Wild Flower Meadow. Holmrook Reading Room. Phone 24632 to be involved. Supervised children welcome.

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Month	Day	Date	Destination	Price
July	Friday	20	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
	Saturday	21	Coniston / Hawkshead	£8.00
August	Saturday	4	Keswick	£9.50
	Friday	17	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
September	Saturday	18	Kirby Lonsdale	£10.50
	Saturday	1	Grange/Cartmel	£10.00
	Saturday	15	Coniston / Hawkshead	£8.00
	Friday	21	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
October	Saturday	29	Lancaster	£10.50
	Saturday	13	Penrith	£10.00
	Friday	19	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
November	Saturday	27	Ambleside/Windermere (Hayes Garden Centre/Lakeland)	£9.50
	Wednesday	31	Blackpool Illuminations	
	Friday	2	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
	Saturday	10	Carlisle (Christmas Shopping)	10.00
December	Friday	16	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
	Saturday	24	Ulverston Dickensian Fair	£8.50
	Friday	7	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
	Saturday	8	Kendal	£9.50
	Friday	21	Egremont Farmer's Market	Free
	Saturday	22	Keswick/Cockermouth (Christmas Lights)	£9.50

Muncaster Microbus runs Whitehaven shopping trips on Tuesdays and Thursdays which can call at Gosforth and Seascale. Details from . Bookings: 01229 717229.



¡BIENVENIDO A RAVENGLASS, WHILLAN BECK!

It's not every day you see a new steam locomotive at work in this country – not unless you're visiting the Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway, that is. The R&ER Preservation Society (RERPS) has recently launched into traffic its Train From Spain Appeal locomotive, Whillan Beck. Although not new, exactly, the 1929-built engine has survived scrapyards and wartime to be with us today. "It's like new", said the boiler inspector, on seeing it just over two years ago...

Discussions over the prospect of a new locomotive for La'ál Ratty began some five years ago, with various – if in some cases fanciful – propositions mooted. One such proposal (perhaps the most outlandish!) was to purchase from Spain a locomotive which had no prior link to our line, nor any 'track' record in the UK. Locomotive builder Krauss of Munich, in Germany, built 15 such engines between 1925 and 1950, while Krupp of Essen built a further three in 1937 to a very similar design. One of those three – Black Prince – has enjoyed successful visits to Ravenglass, thereby providing, sort of, that link. The locomotives' designer was Roland Martens, a contemporary of Henry Greenly, who designed other infrastructure at Ravenglass including our own River Esk.

These links were arguably insufficient persuasion, until one of the trio of engines for sale in Spain was snapped up by the park railway

in Stuttgart, Germany. This spiked our interest anew, as the collection of part-restored engines suddenly began to look rather sought after. These engines had other advantages, such as relative cheapness over new-build machines, and a fascinating history all of their own.

Ordered by no less than the King of Spain himself, four steam locomotives were built in Munich and shipped to Seville for the Ibero-American Exposition, which took place from 1929. The engines were put to work transporting the masses around a substantial site, similar perhaps to the railways of the UK garden festivals in the 1980s. Our locomotive had amassed probably only 14 months' work until 1932, following which storage beckoned. The Spanish Civil War kept the engines out of use, and they might never have seen use again were it not for a chance encounter

photo: Jan Fialkowski



in a scrapyard where they awaited their fate.

Instead they were put to work around a park railway in 1960s Madrid. Our Train From Spain – No.8457 Pinta (named after one of the great explorer Columbus' ships) – was not steamed in the park, but its wheels were swapped in and out of use with sister engine No.8473, which had, to its detriment, been turned into a diesel.

Ultimately the engines wound up in the hands of enthusiast engineers based in Mataró, just outside Barcelona. These men hoped to build their own seafront pleasure line on the Maresme coast, but their dream was not to be. Undeterred, they restored one locomotive (No.8455, which went to Stuttgart) and then continued work on the others.

The lead engineer in the project had an affection for British steam and was sculpting No.8457 to look like a British main line 'Duchess' – its anglicized appearance now making it an easy fit alongside the rest of our steam fleet.

With contracts signed the engine was brought to the UK for the first time in January 2016, to Old Hall Farm at Bouth, South Lakes. This historic working farm uses steam engines for everything from sawing timber to ploughing fields, and makes for a worthwhile, family-friendly trip on a sunny day.

Bouth's work included boring out the cylinders, general mechanical refurbishment, and the constructing of a brand new tender to trail behind the locomotive and accommodate the water, coal and driver. Doubtless it sounds so easy, typed out using just a few words, but the work took two years amongst other projects and a testing regime for the engine at Ravenglass that required it to run for 250 miles before it would be accepted into service.

That day would finally come on 17 March 2018, when Radio Cumbria joined us at Ravenglass to thank many of the donors who had contributed to our fundraising, the Train From Spain Appeal, and welcome the new engine to the fleet. Battling sunshine and snow showers, the journey into the Esk valley was both a spectacle and a relief! Thereafter running for nearly 30 days consecutively, it was withdrawn for only a day or two for a few

final tweaks and the fitting of the all-important nameplates.

The name was chosen by a ballot of RERPS members, Whillan Beck fitting the 'river' theme shared by stablemates River Irt, River Esk and River Mite. On 5 May Trevor Stockton, now former General Manager of the La'al Ratty, and himself a steam driver since 1974, did the honours, unveiling the new name for the Train From Spain before a crowd of delighted onlookers, gathered in Ravenglass in glorious sunshine to celebrate our fine achievement of restoring this engine to working condition.

The official launch day train was well-laden with enthusiastic passengers, and the engine has continued in service, virtually trouble-free, since then. Journey to Ravenglass tomorrow and the chances are you'll see Whillan Beck at work. We have transformed it from dormant to dominant, have swapped its Midland Railway red colours for striking Caledonian Railway blue, and added a new sound to echo among the fells of Eskdale thanks to its delightful South African Railways chime whistle.

Thanks to parishioners who have supported our worthy cause to keep the Ratty in steam long into the future. Any others wishing to revel in the success should treat themselves to a ride one sunny day this summer – we hope you'll like it as much as we do.

It is some years since I took Spanish night classes in Seascale, pero recuerdo how to say en español ¡Bienvenido a Ravenglass, Whillan Beck!

Keith Herbert, Editor, R&ER Magazine



▶ I have the great honour and privilege to not only be handed the new engine to look after, but also potentially be her first regular driver in her 89-year life. I'm often asked how she compares with the other engines and in reality it is very hard to compare exactly where she fits in the lineup – she has certainly surprised us all. On paper her dimensions suggest she wouldn't be as powerful as the others, but modifications to her main axle boxes and rods by the replacement of oil bearings with grease roller bearings allows her to roll very freely. Her extra weight and precision German engineering heritage has certainly set her up well. Anyone visiting could be forgiven for thinking she was built for the railway; fitting in, in the shed, in a heartbeat.

So far, she has shown the capability to pull the heaviest trains we have on a regular basis, with more in reserve for an 11th or 12th coach should the need arise. From a driver's point of view, she is very easy to use, and particularly notable is how smooth a ride we get. One of the luxuries of the rebuild was the designing of a brand new tender to our specs, one which has been the model for the new Esk's tender too. It includes lots of elbow

and leg room, storage space, and an inbuilt speaker for our radio system. The new paint job finishes her off to a very high standard: resplendent in blue she certainly looks magnificent. Of course, no engine is complete without a good whistle, and I suppose I should apologise in advance for using it with such gusto. Her South African chime whistle, kindly loaned to the project, sounds wonderful bouncing off the Cumbrian fells as we cut up through Eskdale.

Her first official foray up the railway was on 17 March pulling around 50 of her monetary supporters. Since then she has worked nearly every day, only stopping at the beginning of May to allow time for her name, works, builder and owner plates to be mounted. A round of polishing later and on 5 May she was officially launched as Whillan Beck to a throng of cheers. That weekend she was centre stage, the same day hauling two trains, followed by an evening photo charter around Ravenglass station. The following day gave me a very early start, 5am, to get her ready for a full line photo charter. She worked all day from 7am until 10pm, double-heading with Northern Rock and River Mite during the day and again with

River Mite for an evening charter.

Despite effectively working out of the box, she has barely faltered – breaking a spring early along might be forgiven, given they're original. Fortunately, a spare was sourced from sister engine Sevilla until we could have a new set made. Already gaining much favour with the drivers, she certainly seems to enjoy galloping, something you do have to keep in check! Perhaps after 85 years sitting in a shed she's just so happy to be free she doesn't want to put a foot wrong! Either way, I can't help feeling how lucky we are to have stumbled across such a gem. The right faith was put in her and the proof, as they say, is in the pudding!

Will Sands





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THE LOCO RIVER ESK RISES, LIKE

Overhaul of the Ratty locomotive "River Esk" was very different from any earlier one because the majority of the fittings and components were wrecked in a fire which totally destroyed the workshop early in 2013. The heat from the fire and the effect of the salt water used by the fire brigade rendered everything stored in the workshop unusable. This meant that the locomotive could only be rebuilt with many new and improved components. All of the brass fittings, water injection valves, gauge glass fittings, regulator controls etc at the back end of the boiler were reconstructed, from scratch, from brass bar and castings specially made for this project. The *piece de resistance* of the new brass components are the two safety valves and dual whistles, the locomotive previously only having one whistle. All connecting rods and cylinders were remade and the finish machining done at Ravenglass.

A major improvement, which will be unseen to the passengers, is a complete redesign of the steam exhaust system. It incorporates a Lempor and Kordina in the smoke box, which are designed to optimise the vacuum in the smoke box thus reducing the back pressure which increases the overall efficiency. This is claimed to deliver a 100% improvement in draughting capacity and up to a 30% increase in locomotive power, as well reducing fuel consumption. The boiler was undamaged by the fire, as it was off site at that time having work done on it, including a new fire box and fitted with new tubes. The steam brake on the locomotive has been changed to an air brake. Fortunately, the main frame fitted with the driving wheels were stored on a flat wagon which was pushed out of the workshop when the fire started so they were not affected, the overhaul work on them having been finished at that time.

The tender has been completely rebuilt with a new braking system, with only the original bogies being salvaged. All of this work was carried out by and under the direction of Nigel Day, an internationally recognised steam locomotive engineer who joined the Ravenglass staff specially for this project. He was assisted by the regular



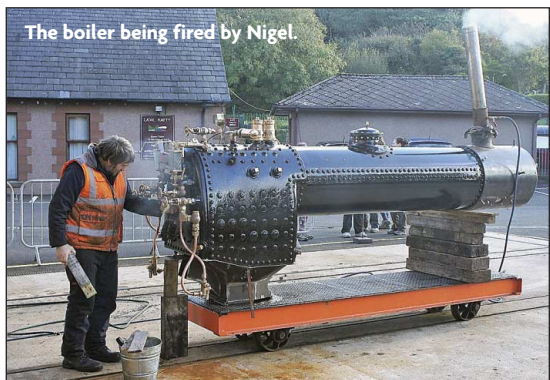
Main frame and driving wheels which were saved from the fire.

Ratty engineers and numerous engineering volunteers both young and old who have put in many hours of work supporting the project. Nigel says, "It has been a great pleasure to have had a number of young volunteer engineers here learning about working on steam engines."

A total of 45 people were involved in the rebuilding of the River Esk following the damage done by the fire. Sam Wake, one of the young volunteers, has now been recruited by the Ratty as an engine driver/engineer. Another, Clement Holland is now employed by the Kirklees Light Railway in West Yorkshire, also a 15in. gauge railway.

The River Esk has now completed a number of test runs between Ravenglass and Dalegarth so it could well be in regular service when you read this.

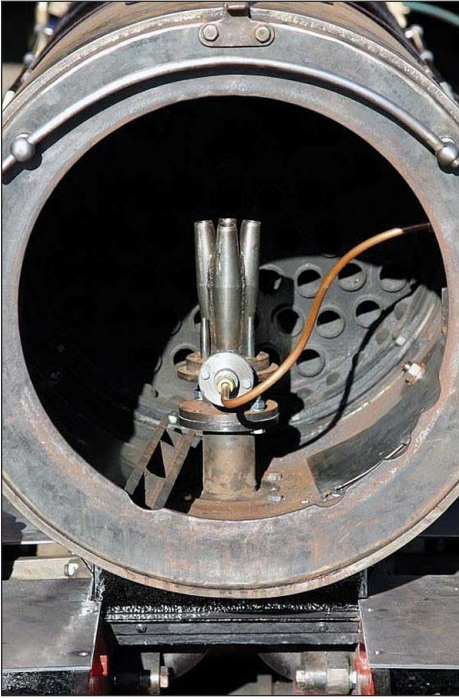
David Gray



The boiler being fired by Nigel.

THE PHOENIX, FROM THE ASHES...





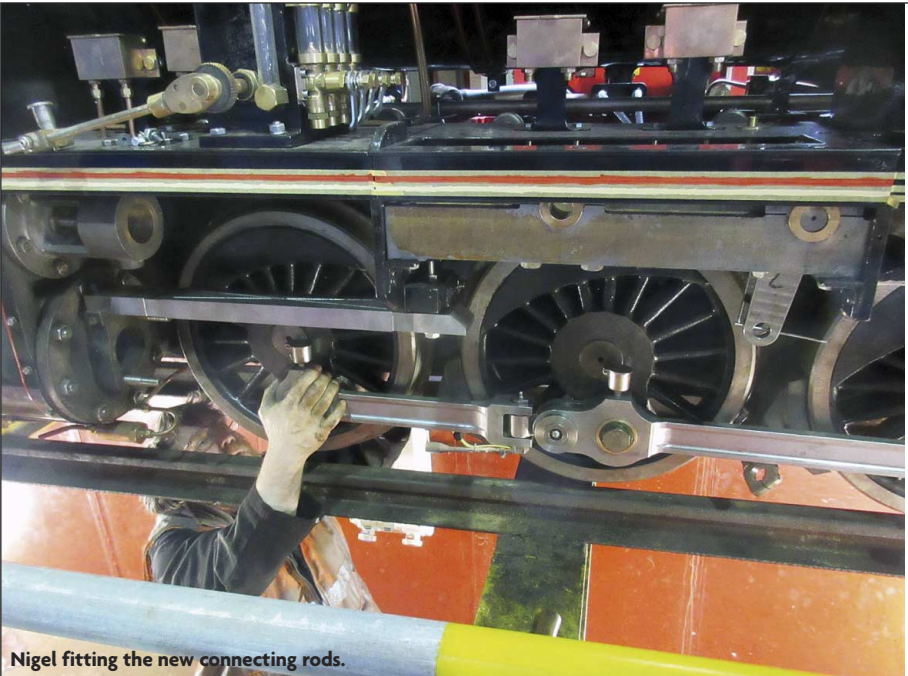
The Kordina.



Graeme lapping the regulator.



Christopher working on the lining.



Nigel fitting the new connecting rods.



Nigel and Clement lower the smoke box into position.



Safety valves and the dual whistles.



Sam milling a boiler fitting.

Photos by Nigel Day and David Gray



Your scribe David plays his part.



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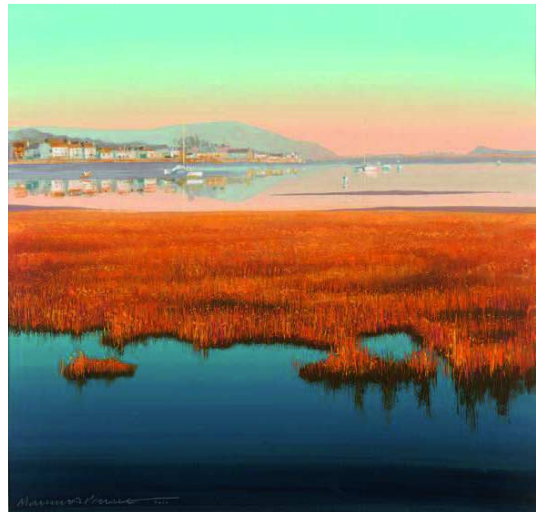


INVITATION:

Sat 25th Aug 5.00pm

Come and join Mark for a drink in
the Garth Suite at the Pennington
Hotel. Leaf through his sketch
books and talk through some of
the techniques he uses.
For more events and information
please visit his website

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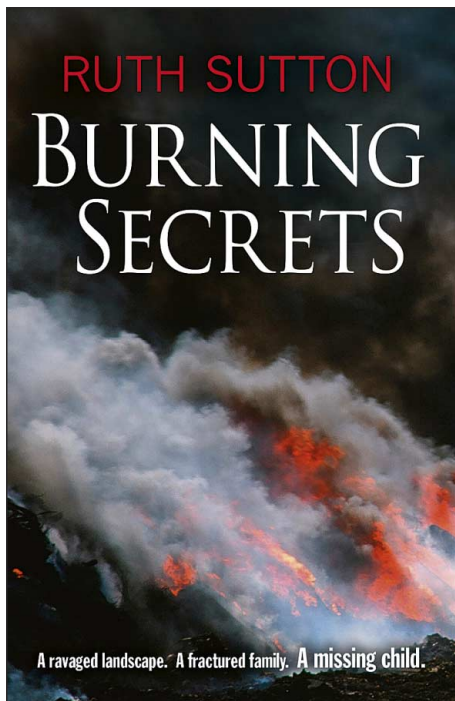


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CHOCOHOOLIC BROWNIES!



Second Seascale Methodist Brownies have had a fun and varied time since our last report. Chocolate has become a common (and popular) theme in 2018. They started with a visit to a chocolate making workshop where the girls got to make and take home their creations (the ones that didn't get eaten!).

Both Brownies and Guides went on fun-packed camps in April. They did all sorts of activities such as crafts, archery, geocaching, and Laughing Yoga. They had a fabulous time.

They brought London's fashion week to Seascale with a fashion show which they all really enjoyed. Maybe next time we should open it up to the public and charge entry!



We couldn't let the Royal Wedding pass without doing something wedding related. There were Royal Family related games and puzzles (not sure Camilla would be too pleased that everybody thought she was Mary Berry!). They each designed and made a crown to wear while watching it on TV.

The local community has been very generous to the Brownies and Guides this year – the Methodist Church held a coffee and toasted teacake fundraiser for Seascale Guides which raised a whopping £237.60. A big thanks to Jackie Folkes and Allison Hanshaw for organising this.

The Brownies then held a coffee morning in conjunction with Seascale Guides in Gosforth Library which was a great success. They ran a chocolate Tombola, with chocolate prizes very kindly donated from Seascale Co-op and LLWR Ltd. Everybody worked really hard, serving cakes, clearing tables, and washing up. It was a busy morning but raised money for both Seascale Brownie and Guide Funds – thank you to everybody who supported this event.

Seascale Stompers also made a kind donation which has really helped the Brownie and Guide funds.

Fiona Robinson



Planning Branch Ltd.

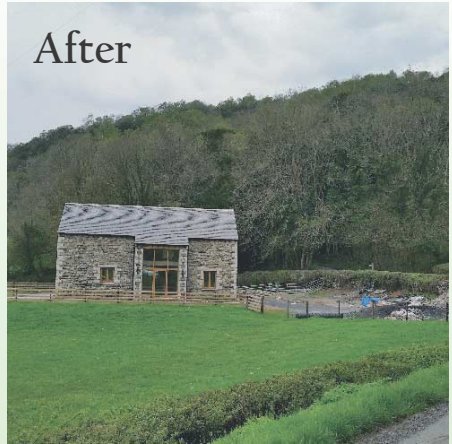


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ME AND TIGER WOODS...

...have won 14 major titles between us!

Let's be honest, he's done most of the work, but I live in hope.

Before I took up golf in my 60's I thought golf clubs were full of stuffy, rich folk wearing plus fours playing a gentleman's way of passing time with their likeminded buddies. So I tentatively poked my head in Seascale's Golf Club door fearful of feeling dreadfully out of place. It is an imposing building with a noticeboard full of papers about 'competitions', results and local rules – all a bit frightening as I plucked up courage and went in further.

To my great relief there was a 'well stocked bar' – I felt better – at least we had something in common – drinking!

There were "ordinary" people sitting at tables – not what I expected. No colonels quaffing pink gins, just folk clutching pints intent on explaining their score, which seems can be blamed on a variety of factors, non of which can possibly be related to their own inadequacies. The wind, the ball, the grass, the greens, sun in their eyes, the golf clubs, the heavy bags!

It seems I can't lose – I don't need to be good – I too can blame any bad shot on anything but me!

So, it should be easy – I quaffed my next pint (one of several that Sunday lunchtime) and paid my fee.

In subsequent weeks I learned that I could do several things better than my friend Tiger – things like hook shots, shanking, slicing, losing any number of golf balls in a single round. On the plus side, I discovered all the people I played with were experts at all these – AND they could explain what I had done wrong and how NOT to do it again!

It's an entertaining to watch – first drive – in the field – second a bit of a scuff but making progress towards the 'green'. Oh – preserve me from those bunkers. They look like mineshafts with sand at the bottom.

Photos by Geoff Ledgard.



Pot bunker.



White flag "surrender!"

Why, oh why make the bl...dy hole so small?

The golf ball only just seemed to fit in, except my ball seems have an aversion to actually going in, wandering anywhere else on the green.

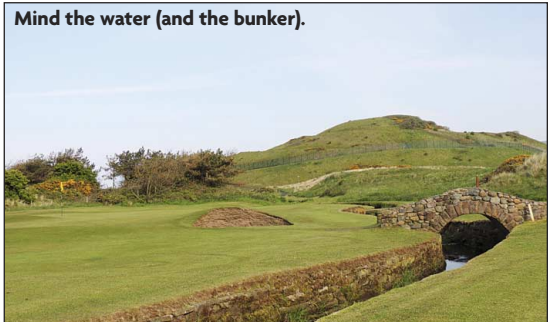
None of this is my fault if course. I've learned all the excuses well. I'm well versed, clutching my pint, sitting in a window seat (watching others hacking along), in the reasons why my score didn't live up to my masterful play today.

On the upside, I have made lots of new friends, eaten fantastic meals, had more exercise, hit the occasional good shot and have been made to feel at home in Seascale golf club.

Oh yes, my long suffering wife, determined not to be a 'golf widow' joined as a social member, so is entitled to use my "Loyalty" card to pay for her drinks!

David Ritson

Mind the water (and the bunker).



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BLOOD BIKES

Blood Bikes Cumbria is group of volunteers who perform a vital role of transporting blood, tissue samples, medical records, medical equipment and X-rays for free between hospitals in Cumbria, 365 days a year, in all weathers. Blood Bikes Cumbria was founded by Bill Bertham in 2014.

We have riders, drivers and controllers, all volunteers, who help the group move blood and medical samples between the West Cumberland Hospital in Whitehaven, the Cumberland Infirmary in Carlisle and the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle. In 2015 we were asked to help service both of the Great North Air Ambulances. Blood Bikes Cumbria and Northumbria Blood Bikes work together to provide blood and frozen plasma 365 day a year to both of our air ambulances.

All of our riders and drivers are advanced motorists and this is a requirement of our group. The training they receive helps them become safer riders and drivers. It's important to the group that not only do we make sure the package gets where to it needs to be in the correct time frame but also that the rider gets home safe.

Blood Bikes Cumbria is one of 38 such groups across the country operating under the auspices of the Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes (NABB).

The group operates motorbikes and cars, and needs to raise over £37,000 a year to cover running costs. We spend a lot of our weekends fundraising so that we can keep our fleet on the road and provide this essential service to our hospitals. The cars are used for when there are more than one sample box to be collected and also for when we have adverse weather.

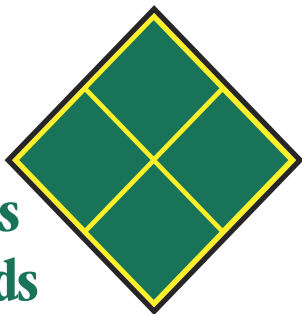
We have received a motorbike from the Rotary and the Freemasons have provided us with a bike and a car, which has enabled us to replace some of our older vehicles. Myers and Bowman have also provided us with a Toyota Aygo.

If you would like to volunteer or get more information about our group please contact David Goodfellow on 07763 922519 or Anne Marie Moffatt on 07929 253822

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GOSFORTH & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

They do say that from tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow, and that has certainly been the case with Gosforth and District Art Society.

Started with just a very few like-minded individuals some years ago, it has grown to be one of the best local art groups in the area, and for the last ten years has held an annual art show over the August Bank Holiday week-end (we are still calling all artists to get involved – please get in touch with Jakki Barratt on 01946 592159, 07719 781448 or jakkibarratt@hotmail.com), which acts as a showcase for members' art, and always attracts many visitors, with some coming year after year for the opportunity to buy genuine pieces at very reasonable prices.

Run for many years by local artist Jakki, she really helped to put the group on the art scene for the area, and she remains responsible for organising the annual show, although the job of Secretary has now been taken by me, Marlene Partridge.

The group meets every Monday at Gosforth village school between 6.30 and 8.30pm and Seascale Methodist church on Thursdays between 10.00 and 12.00am.

Members have various abilities and use different mediums, so even if you have never painted before there are plenty of people always willing to help and give advice if you wish.

And if you think to yourself, "I can't draw" or "I can't paint", then please think again – if you can write then you can draw and paint – it just needs time and practice.

The joining fee for the year is just £15 and you can attend just one or both meetings each week for a small fee, which goes towards refreshments on the day and a Christmas lunch.

Several times a year the group arranges for talented and often famous artists to attend and provide the members with expert tuition. These



workshops are held on a Saturday at Gosforth school, and are well worth attending if you can – as they say you are never too old to learn.

If you are interested in joining just come along one Monday or Thursday for a chat and socialise with the members; you will be made very welcome – or alternatively contact me, Marlene on 019467 25924 or marlene.partridge@btinternet.com

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Rob Steele



TRAVEL TIPS

4

WALKING WITH A STICK

It's almost 25 years ago since I discovered the advantages of walking with a stick and I would like to say that "I have never looked back" – But I probably have ;-) So, the following little story is to try and share these benefits with you all.

First of all, like my old farmer friend Stan Wilson (Senior), sadly no longer with us, said "Walking with a stick is like having a third leg" and over the years, I have come to realise what he meant by this!

My first time was in 1994 when I was about one third of the way around The Annapurna Circuit on my first visit to Nepal. On the sixth day of my trek I had reached Manang at 3540m and was having my acclimatisation day. I had planned a walk up to the Gangapurna glacier. I saw an enterprising young chap selling walking sticks which looked sturdy enough and the price of 10 Nepali Rupees (About 12p) seemed reasonably priced. As I had heard that the path to the glacier was steep and narrow, I thought that the stick might come in



Ga'an T't Fell – The seed of the idea of using a stick planted at an early age :-)

handy – and it did. In fact it was so handy that from then on I tended to walk with a stick on all but my shortest of walks.

Going uphill, you can use your arm muscles to help power you up steep sections and coming down hill it can be handier still acting as a brake. It's an aid to balance when crossing rivers and on rough ground and can be a good deterrent when there are nippy dogs or other animals around that you aren't entirely sure about ;-)

When walking on good level ground a stick can act as a pace-maker and on wet/muddy sections of trails, it can be used to gauge the depth of the problem.

But – The Most Important Use of All is, particularly once you have reached a "Certain Age", is for leaning on and taking in the scenery J

I kept my Manang walking stick for a number of

Robin Hood's Bay at the end of Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk in 1995. LtoR Stevie, Rob, Rachel and Tom – all with sticks – Stevie with the one that gave him the blister and mine from Nepal.



When walking Wainwright's Coast to Coast, my friend Stevie Hufton, who accompanied me, picked up a stick while hiking through the forests of Ennerdale. Maybe a week later, still on the walk, we were chatting to a couple of young ladies and one of them asked us if we had suffered with any blisters. I said that thankfully nothing serious and Stevie chipped in saying that he had one bad one on the palm of his right hand – I couldn't help laughing and the young lady smiled as a red faced Stevie hurriedly went on to explain that this had been caused by his walking stick being very rough when he had initially found it – that was over 20 years ago and we still laugh about it today!

The Most Important Use of All – leaning on my stick and taking in the scenery.



years but then exchanged it for a three-part telescopic trekking pole for convenience, as these are far easier to transport and carry when not in use.

Most of the time I use one trekking pole, but occasionally two can also be useful. Whether you choose to use one pole or two comes down to your own personal preference. *Rob Steele*

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It was all in fun at a junior competition at Seascale Golf Club. Each junior had an adult partner and played against another couple. It's a kind of fun day for adults and their partners with handicaps making things equal (but not between a 78 year old and a 4 year old). I'm not rankled about it – honestly I'm not. I was just unlucky!!

Being serious there was a good turnout (see photo) of all ages and it was fabulous to see the young golfers giving support to their friends and competitors.

My partner Ben, aged 10 deserves a special mention – firstly for being brave enough to be my partner and secondly he had never played competitive golf before. Our fellow players Benjamin and “Grandad Alan Isherwood” never stopped encouraging Ben and I through our trials and tribulations – thanks guys.

The Ladies (June, Viv and Sally) deserve applause for their tremendous support, done with winning smiles – thanks to you too.

Melvin our “backstop” supported acting as our rear guard played a blinder. Thanks Melvin.

Everyone played their part in a super day out, encouraging young people of all ages and abilities to ‘get out there’ and have fun in sport.

Although he will hate this – I'm sure all of us owe a big THANKS to Steve Pritt, who not only organised the day, sorted out the prizes (all the young competitors got a prize), but gives freely of his time on a weekly basis to help young people enjoy their golf. Thanks for a great day pal.

All the juniors say thanks to John Roper for the magnificent work he has put in over many years in building up the junior section. “It would not have happened without you John.”



Dave Ritson



PILATES IN GOSFORTH

WHAT IS PILATES?

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- 2) Mondays 7:35pm (intermediates+)

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Watch this space for news of specialist classes!

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For further info, please contact Amy on 07510 104508 / amyf1sher@hotmail.com

Facebook: Gosforth Pilates - Cumbria



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MAYOR MIKE STARKIE SAYS...

It was three years ago in May that I took office as elected mayor of Copeland with great optimism of what this borough could achieve and become.

I am delighted at the progress which has been achieved on so many fronts and that we as a council are delivering against our corporate plan fulfilling the pledges I made in my election manifesto.

Among those pledges was to endeavour to take party politics out of the equation with everybody focussed on putting the best interests of the people we represent first and generally, with a few exceptions, this has been the case.

Throughout my term of office, my executive has reflected the political balance of the council with two Labour, one Conservative and myself as an independent.

The three budgets I have brought to council have only been opposed by four out of 51 councillors, and the most recent budget was supported unanimously.

Despite receiving the lowest amount of central government funding ever, we have not cut any of the services we provide to our residents.

Indeed for the last two budgets we have been reversing previous cuts, investing in services delivering a balanced budget and this year for the first time in memory have not used any of the reserves to balance our budget.

We have actually strengthened our balance sheet.

My election pledges were to carry out a forensic audit of council finances and to strengthen the way we operate thereby turning your council into a modern 21st century business, operating within our means and taking a commercial approach to controlling our own destiny.

We have reduced the number of directors by half and the highest paid officer in the council earns 15 per cent less than was the case when I came into office.

This year we have been able to significantly invest in and improve the terms of all our staff bringing their earnings in line with similar organisations. This, in turn, will help attract and retain staff thereby reducing the reliance on costly interims and consultants.

I also made an election pledge to reduce the number of councillors which has now been achieved.

At the next election in May 2019, there will be 33 councillors instead of the current 51.

The Boundary Commission supported the independent report which was commissioned in agreement with both party political leaders Lena Hogg and Dave Moore; two people from different parties who both deserve great credit for the significant progress we have made in Copeland.

The progress that has been made was highlighted at the Copeland Open for Business Conference at Whitehaven Golf Club on April 19 when plans for over half-a-billion pounds of new investment into Copeland were unveiled.

There were in attendance over 300 people from a whole range of businesses from nuclear, mining, health, construction, engineering, tourism and more.

The feedback has been fabulous and there is a growing feeling of optimism that Copeland is very much on the up and that its best days really are yet to come!

Most importantly over the last three years, in conjunction with our partners, we have rolled out numerous projects aimed at improving the lives of our most vulnerable with significant investment into tackling social isolation, children living in poverty, domestic violence to name just some.

Three years in, I remain as focussed and I am optimistic as ever that Copeland will continue on the journey to become the very best place to live, work and visit.

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THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT TO MARKET

If you haven't been to Egremont's Farmers, Craft and Fairtrade Market then you're missing out on some wonderful local produce.

I popped in for a cuppa with Helen Shipton Smith, or as I've always known her as Helen Herbs, for a chat about the market. Helen lives in a charming old farmhouse on Parkside, Cleator Moor, and this is also where she grows all of her herbs and vegetables for her business.

Helen got involved with the Farmers Market in 2008 when it was in danger of closing down after two of its volunteer board members moved on to other jobs, and Reverend Peacock, who was one of the mainstays, moved away. "It was originally called 'Made in Cumbria,' but we decided to go along the Fairtrade route, which has turned out to be really good for the Market. Some of the volunteers have businesses, others have charity stalls and there are people who help out just for the community spirit the Market creates."

Helen has been the Chair of the Egremont Fairtrade Town Campaign group since 2008. "We raise lots of money for local causes and schools, like Ennerdale School and also Hospice at Home," explained Helen, who is an affable lady with a kind generous nature and a warm smile. "We ask a different charity to run the refreshments stand each month which makes them anything up to £300. We totalled up last years takings from the refreshments stand and it came to £2,500, which is well worth it." Helen is rightfully proud of this.

They also raise much needed funds to help keep the Market financially viable by selling local pies and bread donated by Banks Wilson Pies and Sue Ellen's Bakery. "This is a godsend and is always very popular with the customers."

Helen's voice is soothing, just like the herbs that are her stock and trade. I've enjoyed many of her 'Cooking with Herbs' demonstrations that she holds regularly around the county.

The Farmers, Craft & Fairtrade Market is now in a solid financial position. "We are very pleased to be able to pay for the Muncaster Micro Bus that picks people up from around the district and brings them to the market." Explained Helen. "All we ask for is a donation of about £2. That money

Helen with
Charlie
Dimmock



doesn't cover the entire cost of the bus, but it does help out. I feel it's so important for our

outlying communities to be able to come here to the Market and meet up with friends and relatives."

The Muncaster Micro Bus has disabled access. "So has the Market Hall," says Helen.

Helen is passionate about keeping the market viable, and a showcase for local craft and food producers. "It is so important to give local businesses this outlet. We are always pleased when local businesses sponsor and support us – every little helps."

I couldn't leave Helen's without having a tour of her Polytunnels; although she doesn't have a shop here she was very pleased to show me around. And of course I bought some lovely herbs.

Vivienne Tregidga

Market dates: 20 July. 17 August. 21 September. 19 October. 2 and 16 November. 7 and 21 December. Times: 9.30am – 1pm.

The Muncaster Micro Bus will pick up by arrangement. It starts at 9.30 from the Old Butcher's shop in Bootle and can call into all villages along the way, arriving at the Market at 10.15. The bus leaves the Market at 12 noon.



WEST LAKELAND ROTARY'S ANNUAL PARTY

Over 60 senior citizens from Holmrook to Egremont attended the annual party at Calder Bridge village hall, organised by West Lakeland Rotary Club.

Food and refreshments were provided by Ladies Circle. During the afternoon, West Lakeland President Alan Lowrey was pleased to accept a cheque for £200 from Rotarian Robert Douglas on behalf of the Prospect Union from their Community Fund.

Rotary also laid on entertainment provided by Roger Lomas, Marie Parry, Walter Wright, Graham Ball, Michael Buske, Eileen Lithgow and Aileen Rule for their guests.



Robert Douglas presents the cheque to Alan Lowrey.



Photos courtesy David Culley

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PLEASE MEET OUR WEST LAKES FOOTPATH TEAM!



The English Lake District sits as the crown on the top of England, and as a jewel in the crown of planet earth. The magnificent fells, rugged mountain tops and deep narrow valleys of the Lake District have been elevated on to the world stage following its UNESCO award of World Heritage Status. The Committee praised the Lake District for its outstanding beauty, traditional farming practices and its capacity to inspire renowned artists and tourists alike. We at the National Trust strive to both nurture and enhance this natural brilliance particularly through our efforts in conservation, being active in our community and supporting our tenant farmers. We have dedicated Lowland Ranger teams to carry out this work, but who cares for our fells and peaks?

The National Trust has been committed to combating the effects of erosion on the Lakeland fells for nearly 30 years. Across the Lake District there are four teams of highly skilled Rangers whose job is to build paths and safeguard our upland landscapes. They work tirelessly through all weathers using traditional stone pitching techniques, path definition and re-vegetation of damaged areas to counteract the effects of erosion scars on the Lake District Fells. Stone pitching gives fell walkers a solid and sustainable surface to walk on, while skillfully built drains shed water away from the walking surface. A combination of millions of boots, temperate weather and steep slopes means that the fells are particularly susceptible to developing erosion scars. These scars look unsightly and contribute to soil run off and loss of vegetation. There is little doubt that our Upland Footpath Teams are made of stern stuff, but they couldn't do it alone.

Our Upland Path Rangers are part of an

initiative called Fix the Fells which is a partnership between the National Trust, National Park, Natural England, Friends of the Lake District and the Lake District Foundation. Fix the Fells is now in its 11th year and is a Lake District based initiative that is solely concerned with making our mountain paths sustainable for generations to come. They have a large team of volunteers called 'Lengthsmen' who come out on work parties to join our Rangers and help with the work. The Lengthsmen can both undertake stone pitching and drain building alongside our Ranger teams or can work autonomously to clear the paths and drains of debris. This is known as a 'drain run'. In 2017 alone 130 Lengthsmen gifted 2237 days to Fix the Fells in which they completed 644 drain runs and numerous work parties. The result of all of this selfless effort is clearly visible across our fells.

This summer our Upland Path Team along with the Lowland Rangers and volunteers will be playing a large part in what is known as 'The Great Gift'. During the spring and summer of 2018 the National Trust West Lakes Ranger team are working on Scafell Pike as part of the "Great Gift" project, which commemorates the great gift of 14 mountains to the National Trust in memory of those who lost their lives in the First World War.

Scafell Pike was gifted to the National Trust by Lord Leconfield in 1919; in 1920, Castle Crag in Borrowdale was gifted to the Trust by Sir William Hamer. Then, in 1923, there was a gift of breathtaking generosity in the shape of 12 summits, including Great Gable, which was given by the Fell & Rock Climbing Club for people to have the freedom to enjoy the fells.

Throughout May 2018 our teams in the West Lakes painstakingly dismantled and rebuilt the summit cairn. The work was hard and required a

great deal of skill but we are happy to say that it is finished and that we are delighted with the results. Some of our Rangers were even brave enough to endure the upland elements overnight by camping for the duration of the works.

Supervising the West Lakes team of Upland Path Rangers is Liam Prior. Before joining the Trust Liam worked across the UK, mainly for a contracting firm that undertook large scale upland footpath work using heavy machinery. He is a keen fell walker and is the guardian of the Upland Path Team's sixth member, Riley the spaniel.

In 2013 Jon Lavender swapped the hustle and bustle of being a white van man around Manchester for the tranquility of being a National Trust volunteer. During his time with the Trust Jon learned lots of skills and in 2015 became a full time member of our Upland Path Team.

In 2017 Lewis Roberson joined us from the Brecon Beacons Footpath Team, Wales. With originally being from the Scottish Highlands Lewis is no stranger to fell walking and is also a keen skier.

The newest member of the team is Nathan Haley. Nathan has also joined us following time spent volunteering in the Brecon Beacons. Previous to this Nathan has had a career as a TV producer and has spent time travelling around South America on his bike.

Last, but by no means least, there is Iain Gray. Iain joined the National Trust on 8 August 1988 and has been tirelessly building mountain footpaths ever since. 2018 marks Iain's 30th year in his role as an Upland Ranger which is a truly exceptional achievement. Iain's skill and strength in the field of path building is second to none and he has been a mentor to a countless number of trainees. Through his years at the Trust Iain has become something of a celebrity following several television and radio appearances. Iain is a talented musician and you may have heard the sound of his bag pipes ringing out across Cold Fell. Iain is also a keen historian.

If you are out and about in the fells this



The completed cairn. Photo Jo Haughton

summer you might see one of our path teams at work. You might see the West Lakes team on Scarth Gap in Ennerdale/ Buttermere, but you will primarily see them completing Great Gift work on Scafell Pike between Hollow Stones and the summit. Please stop to say 'Hello'. Most of all do enjoy getting out and about among the amazing Lake District fells by using the wonderful paths that our Upland Rangers build.

The team is planning to spend approximately 200 days working on both the cairn re-build and the erosion repair, working with volunteers from Fix the Fells & the Fell & Rock Climbing Club, while legacies and donations to the Lake District Appeal help fund this valuable work.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/a-great-gift-in-the-lake-district>
www.fixthefells.co.uk

To follow the work that our West Lakes Upland Rangers do you can follow them on twitter at: @NTScafellpike

Jonathan Metcalfe



The upland team: from left to right Iain, Nathan, Lewis, Jon and Liam.

DRIGG & CARLETON GALA 2018

The gala was officially opened by this year's Gala Queen Charlotte Whyte, on a bright sunny Saturday, 9 June. The near perfect weather, and firm ground under foot, was probably enjoyed most by the Step by Step dancers. Last year's dancing in the straw-covered swamp was probably one to forget. Use of the field for the gala was courtesy of Gordon & Belinda in the adjacent Victoria Hotel. The Fancy Dress competition was keenly contested, and posed a challenge to the judges, Councillor Keith and Mrs Freda Hitchen.

Around the gala field there were many attractions to entertain the good turnout from the supportive local community. Egremont Town Band played several sets, Two Headed Sheep (morris dancers) provided a demonstration of their talents, Jason the Juggling Jester worked his way around the field, entertaining young and old, Seascale Scouts were cooking up treats for the passing crowds on their open fire. Lake District Motorhome Hire had a display of vehicles, with guided tours of the vehicles. The ladies of the Drigg Firework Committee did a great job in the tea tent, providing a nice selection of cakes and drinks. The LLWR sponsored Art Competition proved popular, with a high number of good quality entries, from local primary schools in Gosforth and Seascale, and pre-school groups (Mucky Pups, Drigg and Pj's, Seascale) and the local community. These entries were a good test for the judges Dennis and Julie Thompson, across all the categories to place the rosettes. The races proved again to be popular, with every race keenly contested for the medals. The sack races saw some interesting and varied techniques being employed by the children, some more successful than others; I don't think the 'rolling' technique will be repeated. The penultimate event saw arguably the most popular sporting event of the afternoon, the Tug'o' War. This saw around 50 participants, from the very young, right through to folk who should know better. In the third and decisively pull, the 'Boys' were narrowly victorious over a spirited 'Girls' team, avenging last year's reverse.

The afternoon was rounded off with the Grand Gala Raffle outside the marquee; thanks to the generous local business' for their donations. And finally, many thanks to all the volunteers who helped out on the day, and this year's gala organising and fund raising committee; Fiona Roberts, Terry Wake, Peter Simcock, Sharon Gallagher, Helen Bracegirdle and John Jennings.



Charlotte Whyte — this year's Gala Queen opened the gala.

Drigg & Carleton Gala 2018: Grand Gala Raffle Results

Prize	Donated by	Winner
1 Amazon Fire Tablet	PPS Electrical	Jacquie Milton
2 Meal for Two	Victoria Hotel, Drigg	Fiona Roberts
3 Meal Voucher £25	Lutwidge Arms Hotel, Holmrook	Fiona Roberts
4 Afternoon Tea for Two	Woodlands Tea Rooms, Santon	Sally Bradbury
5 Meal Voucher	Irton Hall, Irton, Holmrook	Dennis Thompson
6 £50 Voucher (food/drink)	Seascale Golf Club, Seascale	Carol Tyson
7 Spindlecrafter Voucher	Spindlecrafter, Drigg	Wake
8 Bottle of White Wine	Holmrook Service Station & Shop	Rod Chilton
9 Round of Golf	Eskdale Golf Club, Muncaster	Karen Wake
10 Landrover Farm Toy	Tynedale Agri Shop, Holmrook	Sarah Purdham
11 Fruit & Veg Hamper	Andy Pratt Ltd, Carleton, Holmrook	Simcock
12 1 Litre Bottle of Gin	Lake District Motorhome Hire, Drigg	Laura Harrison
13 Car Cleaning Kit	Riverside Garage, Holmrook	John Roberts
14 Wilson's Butchers Mixed Grill	J Roberts & Sons, Drigg	Sue Ross
15 Bottle of Red Wine	Gosforth Shop, Gosforth	Tony Jennings
16 Book, Tea Towel & Note Cards	Barn Door Shop, Wasdale Head	Diana Strong
17 Basket of Fruit	Seascale Chemist, Seascale	Harvey-Chadwick
18 John Deere Tractor Farm Toy	Furness & South Cumbria Supply	Yvonne Taylor
19 Toiletries Set	Coop, Seascale	Mary Wake

Art Competition 2018 sponsored by LLWR: Judged by Dennis & Julie Thompson

(A1) Pre-school & Reception

1st Joe Walker	2nd Ava Bowden	3rd Raven Dickaty
Seascale School	Gosforth School	Mucky Pups

(A2) School Years 1 & 2

1st Jacob Clarke	2nd Ellie Savage	3rd Jake Phizackley
Gosforth School	Seascale School	Gosforth School

(A3) School Years 3 & 4

1st Annie Fawcett	2nd Emily Gray	3rd Kallie Trohear
Seascale School	Gosforth School	Seascale School

(A4) School Years 5 & 6

1st Izzabella Whitfield	2nd Morven Marshall-Madan	3rd Haidee Trohear
Seascale School	Gosforth School	Seascale School

(A5) School Years 7 +

1st Sienna Tyler	2nd Mary Wake	3rd Sam Pratt
Drigg	Drigg	Carleton



Fancy Dress 2018 judged by Councillor Keith & Mrs Freda Hitchen

Age group: Pre-school

1st Katie Jennings	2nd Aidan Pyke	3rd Lottie Pyke
Princess Anna (Frozen)	Fireman	Elephant

Age group: Reception - School Year 4

1st Bradley Roberts	2nd Pippa Pyke	3rd Evie Clarke
Krone 1100 (tractor)	Scarecrow	Snow White

Age group: Reception - School Year 5+

1st Sam Pratt	2nd Freya Gray	3rd Cairnan Watling
Russian Footballer	Dorothy (Wizard of Oz)	Skeleton



Drigg & Carleton Gala 2018: Children's Races

Race Category R1 Age group: Pre-school & Reception

Boys – running	1st Jason Trohear	2nd Edward Norcross	3rd Joe Walker
Girls – running	1st Lily Roberts	2nd Evie Clarke	3rd Millie Mawson
Bean Bag	1st Jason Trohear	2nd Danny Price	3rd Annie Lawson

Race Category R2 Age group: School Years 1 - 3

Boys – running	1st Freddie Strong	2nd James Hook	3rd Arla Sutton
Girls – running	1st Erin Ferris	2nd Chloe Ireland	3rd Scarlett Williamson
Bean Bag	1st Erin Ferris	2nd Mark Fawcett	3rd Mark Roberts
Sack Race	1st Chloe Ireland	2nd Pippa Pyke	3rd Elliot Ireland

Race Category R3 Age group: School Years 4 - 6

Boys – running	1st Stephen Fawcett	2nd Mattie Price	3rd Aaron Beattie
Girls – running	1st Isla Davies	2nd Layla Wilson	3rd Charlotte Whyte
Bean Bag	1st Joseph Pringle	2nd Isla Davies	3rd Abigail Oliver
Sack Race	1st Joseph Pringle	2nd Isla Davies	3rd Joshua Pringle

Race Category R4 Age group: School Years 7+

Boys – running	1st Sam Pratt	2nd Thomas Strong	3rd Edward Wake
Girls – running	1st Isla Henderson	2nd Tasha Whyte	3rd Sarah Mawson
Bean Bag	1st Isla Henderson	2nd Edward Wake	3rd Thomas Strong
Sack Race	1st Sam Pratt	2nd Edward Wake	3rd Lucy Norcross



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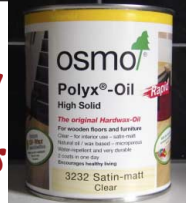
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OUR MP TRUDY HARRISON'S COLUMN

Every time I drive between Seascale and Gosforth my spirits are lifted at the sight of the now completed Viking Way, a brilliant project absolutely inspired and championed by local residents and used by pedestrians, equestrians and cyclists. And on Saturday 23 June, I'll be in Seascale again waving off my husband Keith as he joins over two thousand other cyclists on the epic Coast to Coast in a day... that's 150 miles between Seascale and Whitby – seems far too much like hard work to me, but I am incredibly proud of him and commend the way in which Seascale supports this nationally recognised event.

As we celebrate 70 years of the NHS I have been keeping up with our local media who are highlighting the exceptional dedication and truly inspiring work of many local NHS staff, here in Copeland and beyond. Throughout the summer months I'll be in the hospital visiting the wards, GP surgeries, care homes and will be on the ambulance joining forces with North Cumbria University Hospital Trust to better communicate the brilliant work of our health, medical and social care teams across the area. Steps towards improving patient care are well underway with Seascale Surgery recently joining seven other Copeland based GP practices, each working together as part of an integrated care community. By understanding the challenges in each area, communities can work together with health and care organisations to improve the overall health and wellbeing of residents and through a joined

up approach to local healthcare, patient needs can be addressed much more effectively and efficiently.

In Parliament, I was pleased to meet with North Cumbria Hospital Trust's senior leadership team, the Trust responsible for running both the West Cumberland Hospital and Cumberland Infirmary. The meeting followed a special event at Rosehill Theatre hosted by the Working Together Group welcoming aboard new recruits – we know one of the greatest challenges for our local NHS remains retention and recruitment and events such as these are imperative in helping to encourage new recruits to our area. I know that the Trust is working incredibly hard and in just a few weeks will be hosting its annual 'career in medicine' event at Carlisle Infirmary, seeking to inspire potential medical students to take up the profession.

It was tears of joy when one of my own daughters, 16 year old Francesca, rang me at work to tell of her exciting news. Since being a little girl, and very much inspired by visits to West Cumberland Hospital to see her grandparents, Fran has dreamed of a career in nursing. She was absolutely thrilled to be accepted on the Lakes College Nurse Cadetship programme, in partnership with the NHS and West Cumberland. I'm sure many of you may remember her nana and grandad from Seascale, Bill and Alice Hartley of Stoney Howe Farm. I know they would be very proud. Growing our own health and social care workforce is absolutely essential, but we cannot rely on this alone.

The Home Secretary's recent announcement that measures are set to be taken to review the current Tier 2 Visa Cap system for highly-skilled workers after expressing concerns to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt is a positive move and I will be encouraging the department to follow through on his commitment. In recent months, our local NHS Trusts have seen an alarming number of applications rejected under the Tier 2 Visa Cap which is understandably having a detrimental effect on our hospital and community services in filling critical positions. The NHS as a whole is being deprived of hundreds of health



Trudy Harrison MP meets new hospital recruits at tea with the team event.

▶ professionals from across the globe due to the current system and with the addition of a £13m medical training facility opening in partnership with UCLan we must ensure that all current barriers to success are quickly eradicated so our communities have access to the standard of care they deserve and require.

There has been notable progress on our Cumbria Coastal Line as I joined councillors for a whistle-stop tour of the line following the highly anticipated return of the Sunday rail service. It was wonderful to see so many passengers making the most of this new service, however, the good news must not stop there. While the return of this much-needed service clearly highlights a positive step in the right direction, there is still much need to provide a more consistent and reliable service. One in 25 trains being significantly delayed or cancelled is not the service we deserve and is causing unnecessary frustration and disruption for passengers on a daily basis, a situation far from ideal. I will be joining my Northern colleagues in Parliament for a Cumbria Rail Summit meeting to press the Department for Transport, Northern Rail



Copeland MP celebrates the return of a Sunday train service.

and other rail bodies for their consistently slipping standards and the urgent need to put in place a robust plan for remedial action.

DRIGG YOUNG FARMERS CLUB'S YEAR

It has been another great year for Drigg YFC. After another successful Field Day, several members went on to compete at the Northern Area Field Day.

Our AGM was held in September and our new top table were elected. Competitions soon began, and we competed in the Quiz, Just a Minute, Brainstrust and Call My Bluff, to name a few. Our juniors have been very successful, with new members getting involved and taking part in competitions, including Junior Public Speaking. A huge well done to Rosie Pratt, Billy Sibbald and Sam Pratt who made it all the way through to the Junior Public Speaking semi-finals. Well done also to Emily Pratt who competed at the Northern Area Finals in Junior Member of the Year.

After the New Year, practices began for the Pantomime. The first round was held at the Carnegie Theatre where we placed 3rd with our performance of 'Panto-monium'. We then ventured to Theatre by the Lake for the County Round where we placed 2nd. Our journey came

to an end at Northern Area where we placed a very respectable 3rd place, with Ellie Naylor placing 2nd in Best Actress.

In March we held our charity Entertainments Evening, where we raised money for Age UK and Wasdale Mountain Rescue. The evening was well attended, and a fantastic amount of money raised.

We then held our Clay Pigeon Shoot in memory of club member, Matthew Tyson. The day was a success with Mark Steele winning the Juniors, Lydia Rowell winning the Intermediates and James Hilton winning the Senior section. Lydia also won overall. Thank you to Adam Sim and the Egremont Gun Club who organised the day.

As a club, one of the proudest moments this year was at the Northern District Field Day held at Brampton, where Frank Gate who is not only one of our advisory members; but someone who has always gone beyond his line of duty not just for Drigg's benefit but to help any other club in need in any way he can. This year he was awarded the Blamire Medal in recognition of the hard work



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and commitment he has put into the Young Farmers movement over the years. This medal is awarded to only one person per year and the deserving recipient of the award is chosen by the Blamire Trust panel. In the words of the members on the day "There's only one Fanky G, he's walking along, signing a song walking in a Fanky Wonderland!" Congratulations Frank.

Here's to the next year!
 Rebecca Hocking
 Contact is the Club mobile: 07496 126771

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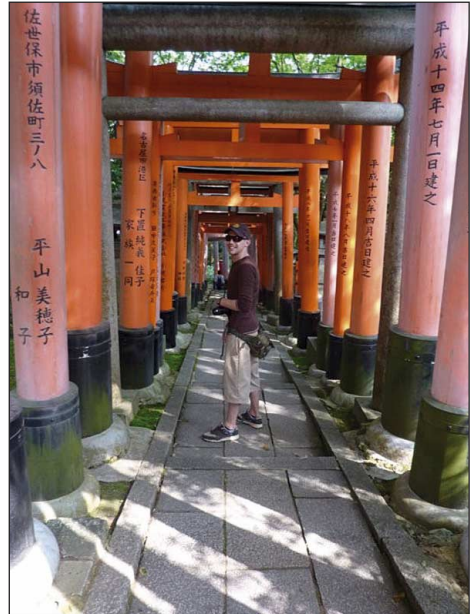
JAPAN RECOLLECTIONS

THEN AND NOW – PART TWO

Continuing the memories of living and working in Japan published in our Spring Tethera, by David Gray, Gosforth Parish Councillor, who was a commissioning engineer at the Japanese Tokai Mura Nuclear Power Reactor in the 1960s and Joshua Smales who taught English and nursery in Japan from 2008 to 2014 and now runs Gosforth's Denton House café. David's stories are headed 'DG' and Josh's 'JS'

DG: We found cameras and accessories very cheap. The camera which I bought in Japan cost the equivalent of £30 while the same camera in the UK was selling for £120. We all had access to a darkroom, so were able to develop and print our own photographs, resulting in amassing a large collection of black and white photographs. We had to discipline ourselves to limiting the numbers of photographs we took. This we did by having camera-free trips. Among the souvenirs and presents we were able to purchase at reasonable prices were ivory figures and traditional wood block prints. It was very common when leaving a restaurant, bar or hotel to receive a small present such as an ashtray or a sake cup. One had to be careful when drinking sake as it came in different levels of quality, drinking low quality sake had a very bad effect on me.

JS: As David found, almost 40 years earlier, Japanese brand cameras and camera equipment are noticeably cheaper in Japan than they are here. In fact most Japanese brand electronics are cheaper. Being a fan of gadgets and electronics, one of my favourite pastimes on a weekend was going to a district in Tokyo called Akihabara or Electric Town as it is otherwise known. After the Second World War, Akihabara became the area of Tokyo to buy electronic goods and was a post-war black market. Along the central strip of Akihabara you are faced with huge buildings, emblazoned with neon lights, Manga characters and all things geek. If you wander from the main drag into the back streets it still has very much a black market feel, small streets packed with little shops selling all manner of new, used and knock off electronics. I had always been interested in taking photographs but had always balked at the price of a good, SLR cameras but one day whilst



Josh trying out his new camera.

rooting around in the back streets of Akihabara I found a little shop in the basement of an unassuming building, packed full of cameras. There I was fortunate enough to find a new, Nikon D40 SLR for £70, less than half the price that they were in the UK at the time. If you ever visit Japan and like electronics or gadgets, go to Akihabara!

DG: Earthquakes were common, occurring at least once a month “*I experienced my first earthquake at 7am this morning (near the end of a night shift). The whole reactor building shook for about 30 seconds and at one time it felt as if the whole building was afloat as it rolled and tilted a bit*”.

JS: Although it was almost ten years ago I can still remember, quite vividly, my first experience of an earthquake. I actually heard the earthquake before

I could feel it. There was a slight murmur as everything in my apartment, from the mugs on the side in the kitchen to the pictures on the wall, began to vibrate. Having not experienced an earthquake before and not being told to expect any, never mind what to expect, I wasn't entirely sure what was happening. After a couple of seconds of uncertainty though it suddenly became very evident that it was an earthquake as the wooden apartment began to shudder and creak. I could physically feel the ground shifting beneath my feet.

It soon became apparent that earthquakes are a regular part of life in Japan, sometimes you can go a few weeks without any but at other times you may have 2 or 3 a week. After a while, just as we do here with the rain and wind, one can become quite used to them. At first I would run to the nearest door frame every time there was an earthquake but after a while I would just carry on with what I was doing regardless. This all changed though with the big one in 2011. I was teaching a class of 6 year old children when the earthquake struck. It started out like most earthquakes, the murmur and the gentle shaking. After a 5 seconds or so the gentle shaking turned to violent shuddering, the TV fell off the side and the piano began to jump across the room. At this point I realised that this was no ordinary earthquake and I rushed outside with the students to the evacuation zone. Outside I could see the school buildings physically shifting from side to side as well as the school buses and parked cars rocking backwards and forwards with their handbrakes on. You could also tell that this was an exceptionally large earthquake by the fear and shock on the faces of the Japanese staff at the school who were usually so calm and controlled during earthquakes.

"Although it was a very tragic time with the earthquake followed by the tsunami and nuclear disaster, it was also quite a unique experience to have lived in Japan through that time. Much like we have seen in this country recently with the terrorist attacks. One thing that really struck me at the time and has stayed with me ever since is how the Japanese people pulled together and looked out for each other during a time of great difficulty. For example, unlike we saw with the flooding in Carlisle and riots in London, even

though there were hundreds if not thousands of businesses and houses left damaged or abandoned there was very little looting reported."

DG: Going out with Japanese girls was problematic. On arrival we were all advised not to enter into a regular relationship with a girl as she would assume you wished a permanent relationship. One British engineer did try to have a regular relationship, taking out the same girl once a week. After a few weeks he tired of the relationship and stopped planning to meet her. However the girl couldn't accept the situation as one would have expected in the UK. She continued to turn up every week at the house I was sharing with this engineer, beautifully dressed in a kimono carrying a present. I had to explain the engineer had gone out and wouldn't be back till late. He must have done so deliberately to avoid the girl. She would sit in the house for about 4 hours and eventually I would persuade her to leave and phone for a taxi to take her home. I also had to promise her faithfully that I would get the engineer to phone her the next day, which I don't think he ever did. I myself took the same girl out on trips only three times in the whole time I was in Japan, spread out with many months in-between, that was probably the most you could risk without showing a permanent commitment. The trick when socialising with bar girls and hostesses was always to show it was a business arrangement and pay them a sum of money. A Japanese friend told me when at school if he became closely involved with a girl he would give her a single yen!



David having fun in a sushi bar.



Bon Odori dancing.

► Nights out for me as a bachelor in Japan were very frequent. The recording of my first night out reads *“we visited 3 bars or clubs; in each the hostesses came and joined you and poured your beer and kept your glass topped up. In one larger club obviously more popular with young people we had a hostess each.”* *“Afterwards we went to a café and were joined by two of the hostesses and had a Japanese meal and I had my first experience of chopsticks”*. Later when I was more settled in Japan these night outs often ended at 2am in the morning in an “ONSEN” – a type of sauna where there were rooms each with a large wooden square box which opened with a hole at the top for your head to stick out. A towel was wrapped round your neck then the steam turned on; this was followed by a bath and a full body massage. What was interesting – these were in private rooms but because there had been moves prior to the 1964 Olympics to “clean up” the country, windows had to be fitted on the doors. However, towels or clothes were being conveniently hung on pegs above the windows to maintain privacy.

One night out saw me joining in BON ODORI, the summer dance which was held in a large hard surfaced area possibly a playground where the group providing the music was on a high platform

in the centre of the area with what must have been almost the entire local population dancing slowly round the bandstand in many concentric circles, gracefully waving their arms. Everyone wore traditional clothes. I probably wore a yukata which was tied round my waist with a ribbon-like belt.

JS: I was a 21 year old graduate, straight out of university when I first moved to Japan. After growing up going to the Park nightclub in Whitehaven and the Wheatheaf on a Saturday night, the bright lights of Tokyo were quite a lure. As with David, nights out were frequent for me too. Nights out in Japan are very different from nights out at home. Besides the The Hub, “British” pub chain and the odd Irish bar here and there, there are very few pubs, as we know them, in Japan. In fact there are very few places that have a proper bar where you can chat and mingle with people. There are some places though called standing bars, they are usually quite small and cramped with tables at chest height and as the name suggests, not a seat in sight.

The most popular destination for people going out in Japan is an Izakaya. This is like a restaurant but rather than sitting at a table in an open room, each customer has their own booth. There are smaller booths for up to 6 people and larger rooms for bigger groups, they are often closed with a door or curtain. In many Izakayas each booth has a buzzer that calls a waiter or waitress to take your order and in some there is even a touch screen interface where you can order directly. Rather than ordering one large meal each as we often do here, the Japanese style is to order a few smaller dishes to share, have a few drinks, then order a little more food, more drinks, more food and so on. One meal can take up to 4 or 5 hours.

As well as the Bon Odori summer festival, the Japanese have many other festivals or Matsuri as they are called, throughout the year, just as we do with May Day and the Harvest Festival for example. My favourite of which is Hanami. Usually starting around the end of March in Kyushu (the south Island), then hitting Honshu (the main island) in April and finally Hokkaido (the north Island) in early May, cherry blossoms bloom all across the country. The life of the cherry blossom or Sakura, holds great meaning to the people of Japan. Their blooming signals the beginning of

spring and the fact that they bloom, peak and then disappear in as little as two weeks symbolises the fleeting nature of life. During this time people gather in parks and other areas with lots of cherry trees with their friends and family under them to drink, eat and barbecue. There are often large street parties along streets that are lined with cherry blossom trees. If you go to Yoyogi park in central Tokyo on any weekend during Hanami you will be hard pressed to find an empty patch of land to sit on. Thousands of people descend on the park to celebrate Hanami, many even go days before and lay down a blanket or mat to claim a space!

DG: I only had one encounter with the police, I lost my Japanese driving licence and had to go to the local police station to have it replaced. The desk sergeant who looked like an ex sumo wrestler arranged the replacement but said as a reprimand that I couldn't drive a car for a month. The interpreter with me frantically explained this is not the way to treat a foreigner and that I had a 60cc Honda motor bike. The sergeant replied that it was OK to drive the bike but not a car. Typical face-saving solution.

I must end with notes on Tokai Mura the nuclear power station which I was working on. Over the years due to a number of reasons the project had fallen behind programme so a call went out in the UK for engineers to go to Japan to give a boost to the final commissioning and to allow construction staff to return home. I arrived there when I was 26 after a spell as a Shop



Yoyogi Park during Hanami.

Manager at Chapelcross looking after the mechanical workshop there. When it came to the fuel loading of the reactor the Japanese sub-contractor brought a special team of workers onto site which were of a higher grade than those we normally dealt with, they had to be specially booked and were only available for the booked period. Specially designed counterweighted rigs were provided for lowering the fuel into the reactor. These workers quickly found they could set the counterweights, so the fuel could effectively be dropped into the reactor, they did this so well that no fuel element was damaged as a result. The Japanese newspaper YOMIURI just after the reactor went critical published an article outlining all the problems there had been, some of which were anything but complimentary to us. However thanks to good judgement by all parties concerned and encouragement by a special

UKAEA team which arrived for a few weeks to help there was a turnaround. I still have the relevant translation from that newspaper. Some quotes from it are *“Penalty negotiations between JAPC (Japan Atomic Power Company) and BGEC (British General Electric Company)”* concluded *“it is better to complete the job as quickly as possible”* and finally stated *“the interest charges which are £200 thousand per month are being paid by JAPC regardless of who is to blame.”* That's equivalent to £3.5 million in today's money.



Reactor during fuel loading.

FIVE DAYS IN MAY – A FEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEVA DIARY

It was pouring with rain when the Sims minibus carrying eleven weary French visitors and an accompanying WEVA* member rolled up to Drigg and Carleton Village Hall in the late afternoon of Wednesday 9 May: not an auspicious start for 2018's visit by our friends from St Martin d'Auxigny, near Bourges in central France. Inside the said accompanying member's house, however, the reception was warm and sunny, as WEVA hosts met their guests, renewed old friendships and embarked on new ones.

Fortunately, the rain disappeared overnight and the remaining five days of the visit (10- 14 May) were filled with, if not always warm, certainly mainly bright sunshine, which helped show our magnificent county at its best.

After the Thursday morning spent with their various hosts, the afternoon was a memorable and somewhat poignant one as participants, members and friends gathered in Nether Wasdale for a "David" afternoon, the David in question being the late David Killick, WEVA's first chair and, to many, "Mr Nether Wasdale". At David's passing in June 2016, CJSMA (Comité de Jumelage de St Martin d'Auxigny – WEVA'S French equivalent) sent a generous cheque in his memory. This cheque turned into a memorial plaque, which was dedicated that afternoon and now hangs in the Old Schoolroom in Nether Wasdale. CJSMA member Marie-Noëlle, who stayed with David two years ago, spoke movingly about his many attributes, summing them up in just seven words: faithful believer, man of peace, generous and uncomplicated. The full tribute, with translation, may be accessed via the WEVA website.

There was then the opportunity to spend a reflective hour in Nether Wasdale before returning to Gosforth for a guided tour round St Mary's, a visit to the specially-opened library, where CJSMA gifts to WEVA were on display and, finally, a very English tea with bone china crockery in the house and garden of two extremely hospitable WEVA members.

If any day out ever ran like clockwork, then Friday 11th was one of them. From the first pick-up



to the final drop-off in Gosforth, the day glided along. Full details are available if required, but in outline, we visited the Lakes Distillery, had a quick look at the new viewpoint on the shore of Bassenthwaite Lake, enjoyed lunch at Theatre by the Lake and cruised around Derwentwater on the launch before having time some shopping in Keswick. It was a full, and tiring day, but...

Everyone who wanted to walk assembled at Loweswater the following morning for a choice of two routes: along the lake and back or up onto the terrace and back via the waterfall in Holme Wood. Organised activities then ceased until Sunday evening, when the now traditional social evening took place at St Joseph's, Seascale. This year WEVA was fortunate in being able to secure the multi-talented Alison Riley, a one-woman ceilidh accordionist, who supplemented her dance music with folk songs from both sides of the Channel. No wonder it was a very tired but happy group who were reluctantly taken back to Manchester Airport on the Monday morning, leaving behind them a very warm and sunny Cumbria and many happy memories.

Of course, visits like this, even when they do run like clockwork, don't just organise themselves, so special thanks locally should be given to all the hosts who received, wined, dined and generally looked after our guests; to non-hosting WEVA members and friends who supported and even made possible, some of the activities; to the staff at Gosforth Library who opened specially for WEVA; to Alison for a superb evening's entertainment; to the Sims Coaches drivers for their excellent service throughout, always on time, always polite, always ready to change plans

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slightly; to Pudding Lane Seascale for the scrumptious Sunday buffet and, to anyone else who may have been inadvertently overlooked, apologies and thanks.

By the time the first copies of this July "Tethera" land on your doormats WEVA's Eskdale Discovery Trail will, hopefully, have happened, but how about coming to the barbecue at St Joseph's on Wednesday 1 August – or even to the AGM and Annual dinner at the "Kellbank", Gosforth on Monday 12 November? Both of these events will enable you to find out more about WEVA and to meet some members (whom you may well know already) without committing yourselves to anything. Next year (2019), a group from West Cumbria will be going to France, probably either in May or early September. If you would like to consider joining us, or if you would like to know anything else about WEVA, please look at the website, e-mail: westernvalleys2@gmail.com or ring 01946 820426. Be assured that WEVA warm welcome for you if you do.

*Western Valleys of Cumbria Twinning Association .

Rosalind Amey (WEVA chair)



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ESKDALE ART SHOW A HUGE SUCCESS

Yet again this year's Exhibition of paintings, prints and crafts over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend at St. Bega's school in Eskdale was fantastic. There was a huge variety of art on display making it impossible for me to choose which photo to feature in this article. Please forgive me for not including more, but we are pressed for space. So, I have picked out a couple, and not because I thought them better.

It takes a small army of volunteers to get this show up and running, in fact 50 in all. These are made up of parents and grandparents to pupils, past and present, and villagers. There is a plethora of jobs from baking, gardening, signage, and admin to physically installing the stands and hanging the paintings, it's all really hard work. But it was all done seamlessly, and the show, as usual, looked very professional.

All the funds raised from this show goes directly to providing trips for the children of St. Bega's school, to places such as Theatre by the Lake, days out at adventure centres and other excursions, plus subsidising the annual residential.

This year the funds raised were in excess of £5500, and all of the volunteers should be very proud of their amazing effort.

Make sure to put next year's exhibition date into your



Children's art.



'Just Friends'
by Rose
Bradbury.

diaries, Saturday 25 May to Monday 27 May 2019.

P.S the cakes were delicious but don't tell my hips!

Vivienne Tregidga

ART IN IRTON EXHIBITION

I always look forward to this exhibition at Santon Bridge Village Hall, and no it's not just because the home baked cakes are far too delicious, I enjoy having a look at what this group of very talented artists have been producing. I dropped in on the first day of their three-day exhibition on 5 May.

The group has about twenty members of diverse artists from west Cumbria, and this year the exhibitors included, Dot Gould, Gareth Harrison, Jacqui Flynn, Deborah Madell, Mike Fulker, Mick Blamires, Jill Davis, Madeleine Warren, Margi Foots, and Liz Remyne.

Everyone chips in to help make the exhibition happen, creating a very personal feel to the event. During the exhibition there are a number of volunteers who help out, Pam Eilbeck, Eileen

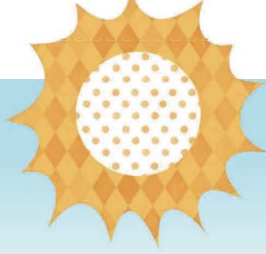
Turner, Beneta Livesey and Mu Putnan.

As usual there was lots of inspiring work that threw me into a quandary about which photos to use for this article.

This art group meets once or twice a month at Santon Bridge village hall and welcome new members, so if you would like more information contact them by email artinirton@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 019467 26287.

Vivienne Tregidga





Gosforth Agricultural Show

Saturday 18th August 2018

*A great day out to catch up with
old friends*

**2018 Main Ring Attraction
Xtreme Stunt Team**

For details visit - www.gosforthshow.co.uk
or email gosforthshow@hotmail.com or
phone 07856162428



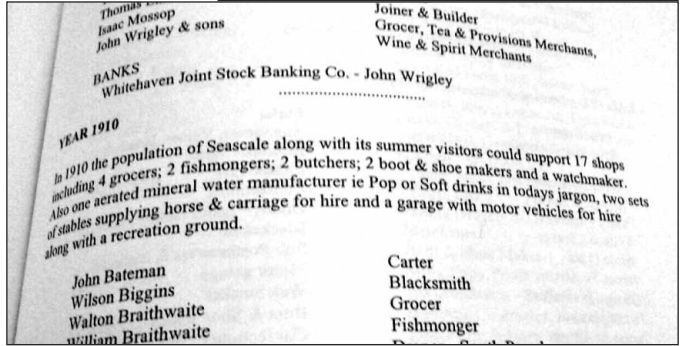
A QUESTION ABOUT TWO BOTTLES

The photograph (right) shows an old bottle which was dug out of the garden during the recent work to divide Whingarth (The Banks) into Whingarth House and Whingarth Cottage. The name on the bottle is "Ennerdale Whitehaven" and we were wondering whether anyone knows the history of this brewery or a possible date for the bottle. Whingarth was originally built in the early 1900s but has undergone several major extensions since then.

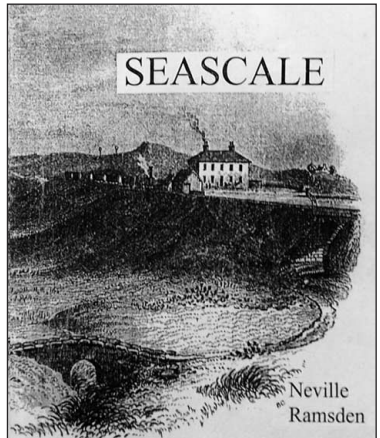
Gill and Roger Milburn

Can any one provide any additional information on the Seascale bottle which was given to Tony Holman by his father? Neville Ramsden's book on the history of Seascale suggests that there was an aerated mineral water (pop and soda water) manufacturer in Seascale. Could this bottle be from that facility?

Lois and Tony Holman



Top right – the Ennerdale bottle. The Seascale one left and below. Extract from Neville Ramsden's book above (and its cover right.) If you have further information please send to trevor@trpub.net



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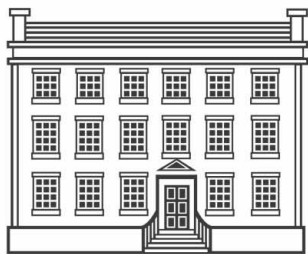
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A NEW NAME AND A NEW TIMETABLE

From Copeland Rail Users' Group to Cumbria coast Rail Users' Group – and MORE TRAINS

Our name change reflects what has already been happening for some time. Our purpose is to reflect the opinions, and strive to enhance the needs, of rail travellers using the whole length of the railway between Carlisle and Barrow.

In the new time-table we are at last beginning to see improvements we have been pressing for. Readers will have noticed that from Sunday 20 May we now have trains running between Whitehaven and Barrow later in the evenings and also – for the first time for over 40 years – on Sundays! One CRUG officer recently wrote 'we now have a grown up railway'.

I am not so sure about that though as yet; is it really 'grown up'? Perhaps, with the problems experienced during the first weeks, a 'teenage railway' might be more apt. Some teenage characteristics being unexpected things happening and, more frequently, things that ought to happen not happening. As in the previous timetable there have been some cancellations – largely caused by a shortage of train crew.

The new timetable is far from perfect, but some of the important changes are outlined here. Generally times are quoted from Seascale: times at Drigg being a few minutes either way.

Mondays to Saturdays. (times quoted are for Mondays to Fridays; some Saturday times differ). Northbound trains to Whitehaven and Carlisle.

Previously there were 11 trains from Seascale and Drigg each day. With the new timetable this increases to 16 from Seascale and 14 from Drigg. The last train North to Carlisle is the 21.11 (previously 19.21).

A new feature is that not all trains allow a stop at Drigg – so the increase at Drigg, as with other request stops, is less.

Southbound trains to Barrow. Previously there were 12 trains from Seascale and Drigg each day. In the new time-table this increases to 17 from Seascale and 13 from Drigg. These include five through trains to Lancaster; one of which (the last train of the day) goes on to Preston. This last train leaves at 20.44 (previously 19.21).



Sunday train north at Seascale on 20 May.

Connections:

Connections at Carlisle are largely unchanged (some good, some poor). The biggest change is that the last train to Seascale and Drigg now leaves Carlisle at 19.09 (previously 17.37).

Connections at Barrow have shown some improvement, though in general terms they are poor Southbound; but quite reasonable Northbound.

Connections at Lancaster Northbound are mostly good; and an easy change from platform 3 to 2. Southbound at Lancaster most connections are poor, but there is one very useful train (Mondays to Fridays) for passengers travelling on to Manchester or London. This is the train that leaves Seascale at 08.47 and Drigg 3 minutes later. This arrives at Lancaster platform 5 at 11.07. It is then an easy change to platform 4. The 11.30 from platform 4 is a First Transpennine express from Glasgow which only stops at Preston (11.47); Manchester Piccadilly (12.27); and Manchester Airport (12.48).

This will be a popular train and standard class is likely to be crowded when it arrives in Lancaster – so book a seat well ahead. First class is well worth thinking about – often not too much more expensive. If you are unsure about how to book ahead the staff in both Whitehaven and Millom ticket offices are always very helpful and efficient. For London the next train from Lancaster platform 4 is the 11.38 Virgin train, which arrives London

► Euston at 14.10. Again it's essential to book ahead to get a reserved seat and the cheapest fare.

Interestingly, you can now leave Euston as late as 16.30 and Manchester as late as 18.01, and get to Seascale, that evening, at 21.11.

Sundays.

All new! Previously – before this May – the Barrow to Whitehaven line had the unusual reputation of being the longest line in Europe without any Sunday trains!

The new time-table is eccentric, but could be described as a 'fairly good start, with plenty of room for improvement!'

Northbound there are 7 trains which stop at both Drigg and Seascale.

The first is at 10.41 from Seascale and the last at 18.09. One train – at 15.43 – goes only to Sellafield! The rest go on to Whitehaven and Carlisle.

Southbound there are 10 trains that stop at Seascale and 9 at Drigg. The earliest is 10.11 and the latest 18.43. All go on to Barrow, and two are through trains to Lancaster. Also there is an unusual one: this leaves Seascale at 16.46; does not stop at Drigg; arrives at Barrow at 17.40; Lancaster at 18.49 and then goes on to Preston arriving there at 19.25.

Also on Sundays; for an experimental period until 15 July, Whitehaven ticket office is open from 09.30 'til 16.30.

Now back to CRUG – we are still using CRUG for short even though our new full title is 'The Cumbria coast rail users group'.

Local readers of Tethera are lucky in that most of our meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month in Seascale Methodist Church Hall. All interested are welcome to attend – (membership costs just £5 per year).

If you wish to hear about the latest rail news or wish to have your say about the new timetable or any other issue, please join us.

The next meetings at Seascale are on Saturday 14 July, Saturday 11 August and Saturday 8 September. Start time 13.50 – or 'Ten to Two' if you prefer!

Martin Bibby. Photo: Tom Jones

Shackles Off

Shackles Off has been very busy since September and now the summer is upon us it is coming to our quieter period of the year. The clubs are quieter and we tend to do more outreach work out on the streets where the young people are.

In October 2017 we received The High Sheriffs award for 'outstanding contribution to community safety'. This was in recognition for all the work we have done with children and young people over the last 10 years. Earlier in the year we received the Police Crime Commissioner (PCC) Award for 'Outstanding Community Project'. To receive not one but two awards in a year is absolutely fantastic and recognises the hard work that volunteers and staff put in to the project to achieve the best outcomes for young people.

Shackles Off is celebrating its 10th year of operation this year, although it hardly seems two minutes since we first started!

When we began we had no paid staff and a handful of volunteers staffing four sessions a week with 40 young people. Fast forward 10 years and we now have 15 sessions a week, four part time staff, numerous volunteers and 153 children and young people.

We are very grateful for everyone who supports us especially our grant funders and members of the local community. Without the community support we receive we couldn't achieve the things that we do. There will be a weekend of celebrations Friday 28 to Sunday 30 September. We will publicise events nearer the time.

Mandy Taylor

Friday youth club session.



Drigg Local History Group

DATE: TUESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2018

TIME: 7PM FOR 7.30PM

The Great War's impact on Drigg & the Local Area: a talk by Alan Bell

To be held at Drigg Village Hall
Refreshments 7.30pm
All welcome
Members £1 Visitors £2

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

World War 1 it's Impact in Drigg

Drigg Local History Group

DATE: TUESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2018

TIME: 7PM FOR 7.30PM

Cumbrians in the Arctic (Inc. Cap't Lutwidge): a talk by Rob David

To be held at Drigg Village Hall
Refreshments 7.30pm
All welcome
Members £1 Visitors £2

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

Cumbrians in the Arctic

Drigg Local History Group

DATE: TUESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2018

TIME: 7PM FOR 7.30PM

Deer Parks of Cumberland: a talk by Harry Hawkins

To be held at Drigg Village Hall
Refreshments 7.30pm
All welcome
Members £1 Visitors £2

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

Deer Parks of Cumberland

The latest quarterly meeting of the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group LLWR Working Group will be held on Wednesday 18 July, and, as usual, members of the public are invited to attend.

Elected representatives, regulators and senior managers from LLW Repository Ltd will be on hand to discuss topics of mutual interest or concern about the Repository Site.

Drigg Village Hall plays host to the meeting, which runs from 6pm to 8pm.

SEASCALE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SHOW

The show takes place in the Windscale Club, Gosforth Road, Seascale, on Saturday, 11 August 2018 at 2pm.

There are number of classes for young and old, in horticulture, crafts, produce and flower arranging. New exhibitors are very welcome, with FREE entry in all classes. There are trophies and prize money to be won, so come along and take part.

Schedules are available from Seascale Library, Seascale Pharmacy & Post Office, McColl's, or Mr G. Anderson, Show Secretary on 019467 29525.

Entry to the Show is £1 for adults and FREE for children. Refreshments available from 2pm and there is an auction of produce at 4pm.



A NEW walking group has been set up in Gosforth aimed at those who prefer easy, short walks rather than long hill-climbing treks.

Gosforth Amblers – Not Ramblers – will target those who prefer just to go for a short stroll, meet other people and perhaps end the walk with a coffee or pub lunch.

The first walk was on Monday, 9 April and went along the new Viking Way towards Seascale. It was free – everyone turned up at the car park in Gosforth village centre at 10am.

The newly-laid path means it's suitable for all abilities and even walking boots won't be essential.

All walks will last no more than two hours and are suitable for all ages and abilities. Search Facebook for 'Gosforth Amblers Not Ramblers' for more details or watch out for posters and announcements locally.



Alan Cleaver

SEASCALE'S SWIFTS



Swift numbers are falling at an alarming rate and a local group of people (West Cumbria Swift Group) is trying to slow down this process by protecting known nest sites and providing new ones. Swifts are the fastest bird in level flight and, uniquely, never land from birth until they nest three or four years later. This means that they eat, drink and mate on the wing. Look up into the late evening sky over the road up to Seascale golf course to see a group of swifts in spectacular high speed flight, screaming to each other as they shoot past before rising up into the darkness in a column to sleep on the wing two miles up into the Earth's atmosphere.

Have you noticed anything new on the Sports Hall wall?

Over the winter, with the swifts away in South Africa between August and April, a major project took place in Seascale. In the recent past, fascias had been put onto the Sports Hall blocking off several Swift nest sites. Only two remained. Ken Mawson, local councillor, encouraged the Parish Council to back a project to put six swift nest boxes on the hall in the hope of getting more swifts back into the building. The Sports Hall management were keen and the Parish Council gave a grant to pay for the boxes.



Members of the West Cumbria Swift Group, along with a friend who had scaffolding, erected the boxes on 3 May, just before the expected return of the swifts. The boxes chosen were ordered from John Stimpson via the www.swift-conservation.org website. They are made from exterior plywood with a plastic waterproof roof. Nest forms were also purchased and fixed in the corners furthest from the entry holes. Right angle brackets were fixed to the back of the boxes after being bent to enable them to be hooked over a 2cm thick plank. A further bracket was screwed to



the underneath of the box. This would fix the box to the plank. This preparation meant that the work to be done on the scaffolding was made easier and only two holes were drilled into the sandstone wall to support the whole terrace of boxes.

Future removal of the boxes will be easy. It has proved to be a good method, if anyone reading this is contemplating a terrace of their own.

The ideal conclusion would be to attach a call system with the sound of swifts on the nest. As this was not possible here, we are hoping that the presence of the last two established nests further along the building will be sufficient encouragement.

Historically, there were far more swifts in Seascale than are now in evidence and we hope that this project will help to re-build local numbers. If you do watch the swifts, please try not to stand under the nest boxes and stare, but remain at a distance and hidden, if possible, so that the returning young who are looking for a nest site are not frightened away.

We would be thrilled to hear of any other sightings of swifts in the area. Please ring Lesley Anne on 07826 746174 or email westcumbriaswifts@outlook.com



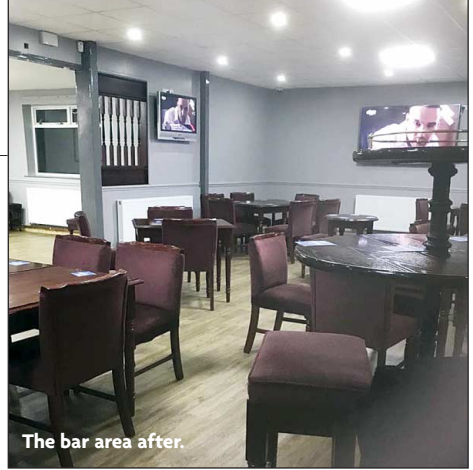
SEASCALE COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTRE...

...opened its doors six years ago and has been a roaring success, with over 600 members using the facilities. The facility is managed by fitness instructor Linda Winder and she has a dedicated team, delivering over 14 classes a week to members from 14-90+years of age!

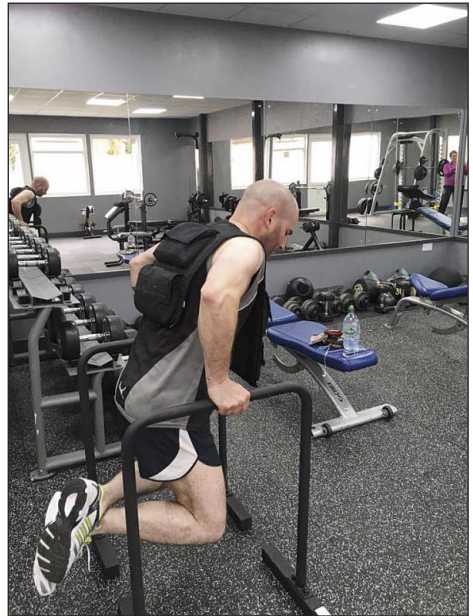
The gym had started to outgrow the original space and SASRA applied for funding from 'Community Choices' to be able to extend the gym to provide a designated weights area. When looking for a space to extend to there were a few options considered, but it was decided that the best was to utilise underused space in the bar. One third of the area was given over to the new weights area leaving the remaining two thirds for the bar. As a result of developing the space, it meant that the bar area would also need to be refurbished. SASRA invested match funding to ensure that the bar area could be refurbished at the same time. Here are some before and after pictures and I hope you will agree that the result is fantastic. Phase 1 and 2 are now complete with phase 3 (the new toilets) starting on 16 July. Phase 3 is expected to last approximately 10 weeks and will see new gents and ladies toilets, as well as a refurbished disabled toilet. For information on opening times for both the club and the fitness facility access the SASRA website on www.sasra.co.uk, or via the dedicated SCFC and Windscale Club Facebook pages.

We would like to thank Community Choices for the grant funding and the practical support we received from the local community. In particular we would like to thank Steve Hall who was the volunteer project manager for the project. Steve has worked extremely hard over the last year and has done so completely voluntarily. We couldn't have done it without him.

Mandy Taylor, SASRA General Manager



The bar area after.



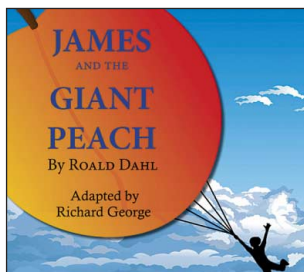
The bar before...

GADS CELEBRATES 70 YEARS OF DRAMA

Gosforth Amateur Dramatic Society was formed in May 1948, so this year we celebrated our 70th birthday, but in rather quiet style at our AGM. In fact the year from February to July is usually a quiet time of year for GADS as we recover from pantomime, enjoy the spring and early summer months and prepare for the next round of activity – which is just about to begin.

GADS Youth Theatre Group

After much hard work and preparation during the summer term, GADS Youth Theatre Group concludes for the summer with a showcase of their work. On Saturday 14 July at 7pm, YTG performs Richard George's adaptation of Roald Dahl's "James and the Giant Peach". The performance is mainly for friends and family of YTG members, but will also be open to members of the general public – especially those who are thinking of joining the group. After the summer holidays, we resume on Thursday 6 September and meet at 7pm in the Public Hall at Gosforth, weekly during term time, except for half term. We always welcome new talent so if you are interested in joining this lively group for 8-18 year olds, just come along to one of the sessions or get in touch with Director Tosh McGregor using yt@gads.org.uk



Summer Youth Workshop

Youth Theatre Group stops for the summer holidays, but the youth opportunities certainly do not. Our 12th Summer Youth Workshop will run daily (10am to 4pm) for the full week from Mon 6 to Fri 10 August, with a performance for friends and

family on the evening of Sat 11 Aug. It's specifically for 8 to 18 year olds,

very popular, and although we limit numbers to about 25, it's not too late to sign up for this year. Participants always have great fun learning about all aspects of staging a show. We are particularly grateful to our local PCSO Dawn Lowerson and the Police and Crime Commissioner Peter McCall for a grant to help fund the week. This year we have a script that has been written specifically for our group by one of our members, David Rounce. Humans have blown up Earth and are now on intergalactic trial. All that stands between them and total annihilation is a group of historians who have only hours to show the best of humanity by flicking through history, but it's not as easy as it seems. Pirates, Highwaymen, Neanderthals, Spacemen, Witch Hunters – there has to be SOMETHING that will convince the Martian jury to let humanity live – it's sheer Lunarcy! Plenty of opportunity for set and costume creativity there. If you want to register, or just want to find out more with a view to joining in, email workshop@gads.org.uk or see our website, Facebook page or Twitter for updates.

Autumn Play, 2018

As we write, we haven't finalised our choice of Autumn Play, although a strong candidate is Samuel Beckett's tragicomedy "Waiting for Godot". It is a much studied work, and was voted

GADS
Youth Theatre





Waiting for Godot.

the “most significant English language play of the 20th century” in a poll conducted by the British Royal National Theatre in 1990. If you are interested in joining us for this classic, auditions will be held in the Supper Room at the Public Hall, Gosforth at 7:30pm on Thursday 9 and Tuesday 14 August. But it’s not just about acting – there is so much to do putting a production together and we are always pleased to see new faces to help out with costume, set design, construction and painting, props, lights, sound, publicity, refreshments... If you want to get involved in any way at all, on or off stage, please come along to one of the audition evenings to meet us and find out more. Rehearsals begin at the end of August and will be on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If you just want to come and watch the performance, they will be from Thursday 18 to Saturday 20 October in the Public Hall. Doors open at 7pm for 7:30 pm and tickets will be available on the door at £6 (adults) and £4 (u18/students).

GADS Pantomime – January 2019

As you may have read in the previous Tetheras, Pantomime takes more planning and effort than



anything else we do, so we have to start early. The auditions (acting parts and back stage again) will be on Thursday 16 and Tuesday 21 August – both at 7:30pm in the Supper Room, Gosforth Public Hall. Again, we haven’t finalised our

choice of panto yet although we are looking at various scripts for either Snow White or Peter Pan. Whichever we choose, there will be plenty of acting parts for adults and children (aged 8 and over). Rehearsals (Tuesday and Thursday evenings) begin early in November and the performances will be from Wednesday 23 to Saturday 26 January 2019. Lots more about that in the next Tethera, but come along to one of the audition evenings if you want to join in.

To get involved with GADS, to find out more about what we get up to, or just to look for family and friends in our ever growing library of photographs going back over the decades, please see our website www.gads.org.uk. On Facebook we are gads1948 and you can follow us on Twitter @gadsgosforth. We’re also on Instagram.



Back to School

2nd Seascale Scout Group was back again this year at Seascale School's wonderful activity week; running fire cooking sessions. Around 40 students had the opportunity to gut and cook fish; wrapping them in wet newspaper and cooking them in the embers.

District Camp

2nd Seascale Scout Group has been at Western Lakes Scout District Camp at Ennerdale. The Beaver Scout Leaders' words of reassurance to the Beaver Scouts – some away from home for the first time – are from our Chief Scout Bear Grylls – “butterflies in your stomach are the tell-tale signs that an adventure is about to begin”. There were many exciting new challenges for them to try: Archery, Low Ropes, Water Rockets, and also many things for them to watch and look forward to trying when they move into Cubs and Scouts like Air-rifle shooting and Axe throwing.

During a short walk, after posing for a photo, the Beaver Scouts turned as a barn owl appeared – it was a lovely moment as they got excited at seeing the owl for quite a long time. It's not just the adventurous activities that give us memories.



Low ropes.

Good Deeds

As part of *Challenge Cumbria*, Beaver Scouts (6-8 years) raised money by doing good deeds for family and friends. The Beaver Scouts raised £85.74, which they presented to St Bees RNLI when they went to visit them. They were shown around the lifeboat station and learnt about what happens when the volunteers get “a shout”. They got to try on some of the safety equipment the crew wear, learned about water safety, and thoroughly enjoyed their visit.



Life Boat Visit.

Baloo Joins Cubs

Scouting relies on volunteers and the Cubs (8-10½ years) are delighted that David Taylor has volunteered to join the team. He has chosen the name *Baloo*; an appropriate choice as *Baloo* was the teacher of the cubs of the *Seonee* wolf pack in Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*. David was a Scout, Venture Scout and Assistant Scout Leader before taking a break from Scouting.

Investiture in a goat field

Recently we were able to invest our new cubs in a goat field. We were invited to visit Seascale Hall, where the farm's children explained why the lambs were in the barn. The cubs had fun being sorted through the sheep pens, and feeling how warm fresh cows' milk is.



Challenge Cumbria

The Cubs have completed a number of challenges – set by Scout Groups across the county – including meeting in fancy dress, making rope from spaghetti, and balancing jelly-babies on your face (the most was 49). Recently we were on the



Beach dam.

beach building a dam and trying out semaphore. We have more challenges planned over the summer months including climbing the equivalent height of Everest.

Eskdale Adventures

During Summer term the Scouts (10½ -14 years) have rightly spent lots of time outdoors: *Eskquest* involved the patrols navigating the wilds of Eskdale to find checkpoints. Later we hopped over a valley to carry out a manhunt in Miterdale. The younger scouts particularly enjoy hunting down the patrol leaders in the escape and evasion game.

Rafting and Climbing

Our friends at West Lakes Adventure ran two sessions of rafting and climbing. Half of the troop constructed and sailed rafts on Wastwater. All three rafts stayed in one piece – more or less – whilst the climbers tackled three challenging routes in Eskdale. Such adventures are simply not possible without experts to lead them for us.

Fire! Fire!

We want to thank the team Seascale Fire Station



Rafting.



Climbing.

for showing us around. The Scouts had a great time going through all the interesting kit carried on the appliance, spraying the hoses and doing some classroom work – learning about the importance of smoke alarms and of having a fire safety plan in place at home.

Skills for Life

The Scouts UK has recently launched its new initiative for 2018 and beyond. Skills for Life is what it's called; and it is what we do. With more than 80 young people in the group, we are at capacity – with a growing waiting list for the Beaver section.

2nd Seascale Scout Group meets Seascale School on Thursday, 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



Tractor wheel!

1ST GOSFORTH SCOUT GROUP

At our recent AGM, I was handed a bag by someone I recognised as being on the committee several years ago, containing an intriguing-looking file and book. The next morning, curiosity got the better of me and I sat down to see what was inside.

The book makes fascinating reading. It's all carefully filled in in beautiful handwriting, and is the original accounts of the group. The current leaders have no idea of the history of the group, with the whereabouts of the records being a mystery until now. From this book I've found out that Scouting in Gosforth started in spring 1961, with rent being paid to the public hall.

The first few months seem to have been very busy with fundraising – bob-a-job week and sales of work, but the following year there was enough money to buy a Scout flag! Our current Scout flag does actually look as if it's that very one!

Fundraising seems to have continued over the next few years, with expenses for activities such as car treasure hunts, a teenager dance, tents being purchased, a Danish trip(?), and capitation fees of £7 5s 6d (this is money we pay for our membership of the Scout Association, mainly for insurance, and nowadays is well over £1000!)

And then suddenly in 1967 there is talk of water supplies and legal fees, which suggests that this is when our beloved hut appeared on the scene, with rent being received from Guides, Brownies, Playgroup and Mother and Toddler.

I wonder if the people who set up the group could imagine that we would still be meeting in Gosforth nearly sixty years later? That we would still be carefully looking after their hard-won hut? That it would still be the centre of meetings, sleepovers, cooking competitions, and busy, noisy young people, learning about our world.

This year we're still camping, still fundraising, still having meetings outside on the field and away from the hut. We've had a sponsored swim, swimming 11km (the distance around Wastwater) as a group in the swimming pool, and raising well over £900, with which we hope to buy a bench for the village and some camping equipment. We've enjoyed District Camp at Ennerdale, where



Beavers loving water.

we took part in a low ropes course, archery, slippery pole, water rockets, craft activities, a bungee run and much more. We've learnt some first aid, sailed our boats down a beck, lit fires and cooked food. We've other camps planned, with shelter building, a manhunt and paddle boarding.

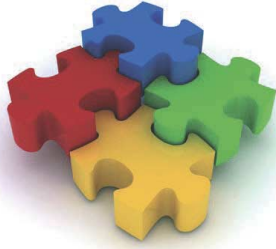
At a leaders' meeting I mentioned this book. It was quickly worked out that we need to start planning for our sixtieth birthday celebrations. I wonder what we'll think of? I wonder if there's anyone out there who was involved at the beginning, as a Scout, Cub, parent, or leader?

We are carefully looking after our little group in the hope that it will still be here for the young people of Gosforth in sixty years' time.

If you would like to be part of Scouting in Gosforth, please contact Jackie Harper, longreens@btinternet.com or phone 27211.

The sponsored swim earlier this year.





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