

SEASCALE GOSFORTH  
DRIGG  
& CARLETON

LINKING  
THREE  
PARISHES

# TETHERA

WINTER  
2020-2021



DRIGG  
SCARECROWS  
SEE p20

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| <b>TUESDAY</b>                                    | <b>8:30am – 5:30pm</b> |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>                                  | <b>8:30am – 5:30pm</b> |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>                                   | <b>8:30am – 5:30pm</b> |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>                                     | <b>8:30am – 5:30pm</b> |
| <b>Saturday and later appointments at request</b> |                        |

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PARISHES

# TETHERA

WINTER  
2020-2021

# PARISH NEWS

Publisher: Trevor Preece  
019467 28449 07791 636407  
trevor@trpub.net  
2 Sella Bank, The Banks,  
Seascale  
Cumbria CA20 1QU

You don't need me to tell you that it has been an interesting and challenging few months since the last Tethera was published. And as I write this, there are further uncertainties and challenges looming. One thing we have been able to rely upon has been the resilience of the community with many stepping forward to meet the challenges faced and helping others wherever possible. Further detail is given in this edition of the valuable work undertaken by volunteers in the community supported and coordinated by the Parish Council and others in the Gosforth area. Special thanks should be given to Cllr Rachel Unsworth and Cllr Dawn Pennington who both received the High Sheriff of Cumbria Special Recognition Award for being instrumental in setting up the Gosforth COVID support group.

The speed at which this support network was set up and how many volunteered to help those in difficult circumstances really does deserve great praise and embodies what communities are about. It also gives an indication as to what can be achieved when we work together and I'm hopefully that this ethos will help with other community-based projects in the future. This should certainly be viewed as a significant 'silver lining' to what has been a very difficult period. People have reached out to help others in need and we have generally looked out for one another.

Our local area has seen a surge in visitors during recent months which in itself has brought about additional challenges. Although these have caused much frustration at times selfless acts have shone through which show the community in a very positive light. One individual of note is Lindsay Buck who has continued to clear the fells of rubbish and work tirelessly to raise the profile of the importance of looking after the fells and leaving no trace. On the topic of our surrounding fells, praise must also be given to those in our community who are members of the Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team who have been severely stretched in recent times often due to irresponsible behaviours of others and all whilst themselves being subject to the same day to day challenges posed by COVID 19.

It is great to see that once Government guidance has allowed, the Parish Council, Public Hall Management Committee and library volunteers have been able to safely reopen facilities to enable some normality to return to the community. They will collectively continue to review guidance with safety as its paramount concern.

Who knows what the next few months will bring but if the support seen within the local community is anything to go by, I have no doubt that we will rise to the occasion.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped in any way during the COVID situation on behalf of the Parish Council and wish you all the best for the coming months.

*Mark Fussell, Chairman – Gosforth Parish Council*

## PARISH COUNCILLORS & CONTACT DETAILS

### DRIGG & CARLETON

John Jennings **(Chair)** 24321  
 Andy Pratt **(Vice-Chair)** 24097  
 Suey Browne  
 Keith Hitchen 24710  
 Howard Lace  
 Jimmy Naylor 27841  
 Keith Murray  
**Clerk**  
 David Millington 24272  
**Financial Officer (RFO)**  
 Vacancy see page ??  
**CBC Councillor**  
 Andy Pratt 24097  
**County Councillor**  
 Keith Hitchen 24710

[www.drigg.org.uk](http://www.drigg.org.uk)

D&C PC meet at 7pm on the 2nd  
 Tuesday of each month, except  
 Aug. & Dec. Drigg Village Hall

### GOSFORTH

Mark Fussell **(Chair)**  
 Rachel Rowe **(Vice-Chair)**  
 David Ancell  
 Mark Burrows  
 David Gray  
 Graham Hutson  
 Mike McKinley  
 Tyson Norman  
 Dawn Pennington  
 Paul Turner 07795 169637  
**Clerk**  
 Jacqueline Williams 01229 717551  
 gosforth.parish2@outlook.com  
**County Councillor**  
 Paul Turner 07795 169637

[www.gosforthpc.org.uk](http://www.gosforthpc.org.uk)

Second Wednesday of each  
 month at 7pm (online)

### SEASCALE

David Halliday **(Chair)** 28027  
 Elizabeth Mawson **(Vice-Chair)**  
 Eileen Eastwood  
 Catherine Harvey-Chadwick  
 28908  
 David Moore 27674  
 Ken Mawson 29786  
 David Ritson 21668  
 Julie Savage  
**Clerk**  
 Jill Bush  
 clerkseascalepc@gmail.com  
**Copeland District Councillors**  
 David Moore  
 Andy Pratt 24097  
**County Councillor**  
 Paul Turner 07795 169637

[www.seascaleparish.com](http://www.seascaleparish.com)

First Wednesday of the month,  
 except Aug., 7pm, currently in  
 the Methodist Church Hall, then  
 in the Library as soon as is  
 possible.

## STOP THE TREADMILL I WANT TO GET OFF!

We've all said this at some point in our hectic lives haven't we? Well, our collective wish came true in March when the entire world came to a shuddering halt and for the first time in human history, we all stood completely still at the same time.

Not since WWII have we experienced such incredible fortitude, kindness and support from our neighbours, families and even complete strangers.

I am extremely proud of our communities and thankful that I live here instead of in a big city.

My situation is that I'm looking after my elderly mother and every now and then I need help with lifting something heavy, unblocking a drain, stopping a leak in the kitchen, and more often than not, catching monster spiders that hold mum and I hostage! I'm very grateful for our neighbours Maxine and Keith Holland who choose to be in lockdown with us so that they could help me with all these essential things including shopping so that

I could continue to shield my mother.

However, my story is not unique, similar accounts are happening all the time in Gosforth, Drigg and Seascale.

As a marketeer my heart goes out to businesses and individuals not able to earn a living and may be struggling to put food on the table for their families.

Commerce is what makes our country work financially, without businesses doing business and people shopping everything will come to a grinding halt, as it almost has. Since records began the UK has been known as a nation of shop keepers, and it's these millions of small businesses that will once again bump-start our economy. Never before has supporting local businesses meant so much and been as important as today.

I popped into a few businesses to find out how they've been coping.

### Spindle Craft in Drigg

Kathleen has used the lockdown time wisely by spring cleaning and decorating her entire gift shop; a huge job and one that she's been meaning to do for a while.

When the restrictions were eased a little, Kathleen was ready to open, but sadly not her little coffee area. However, this has not stopped her serving coffee and cakes from the front door in takeaway mugs. However, customers have also been bringing their own mugs or thermos flasks and sit outside in her lovely garden. This has enabled people to chat across the divide to others they haven't seen for a long while, a vital lifeline for her elderly customers.

It's not until something devastating like this happens that we realise how important businesses like Spindle Craft are to the community.

### **The Woodlands Tea Rooms**

The Woodlands Tea Rooms are also a cornerstone to our community, they provides that little bit of pleasure, a delicious cuppa and slice of cake, that has the power to lift our mood and make the world seem right again.

Paul and Kelly launched into their new venture only seven months ago and were not expecting to close down. In their first year they had anticipated breaking even, or perhaps a small loss, but hadn't planned or budgeted for having their source of income suddenly stopping.

After the awful start of needing a new roof, discovering a large hole which closed the car park and having to replace several large items of kitchen equipment, a pandemic was the last thing they needed and its truly tested their resolve.

"Luckily we were able to furlough the staff which protected their jobs. It was a lifeline for us. We weren't able to be furloughed ourselves and as a new business didn't qualify for much help," said Kelly who thankfully remained in full time employment while Paul was lucky enough to source employment with his previous client in the IT industry. However, the overheads at the tea rooms didn't reduce meaning they needed a way of ensuring they could meet these commitments.

"When some of the initial lockdown restrictions were relaxed at the end of April, we were able to offer a delivery service for afternoon teas on Fridays and Saturdays. The support we received from the local community was overwhelmingly positive and saved the business from collapse. It was unbelievably hard work, working full time and doing this to keep the business operational. Lucy, who works for us on the weekend, was furloughed from her Monday to Friday job so she was able to

provide vital support and help with all the baking. We weren't able to unfurlough anyone else who didn't have full time hours available, so we had to put in some very long shifts and kept ourselves fed on the baked goodies we were creating!"

Kelly and Paul are very worried that the business won't survive the winter. "It is upsetting and stressful to think that the gift shop and tearoom has been in Santon Bridge since 1954 and we might be its custodians when it closes its doors. We really don't want that to happen, it's an asset to the community and provides employment for 14 local people," said Kelly.

This couple have worked really hard to find local suppliers and now over 85% of the gift shop stock is sourced locally from Cumbria, the surrounding counties and Scottish borders. The Woodlands is a great outlet for these local products and a source of income for them, so the knock-on effect to other businesses if the Woodlands were to close would be devastating.

"The challenges we face now is that everything takes longer," says Kelly "It's not just about washing our hands ALL the time, we're also doing table service, thoroughly cleaning menus and tables in between customers, regularly cleaning touch points, along with numerous other changes. It all adds up and things just take longer. Thankfully the majority of customers recognise this is for their safety and are understanding."

"With the social distancing they have put in place, the tearoom has gone from 10 tables down to 4! On wet weather days we often have to turn customers away or offer takeaways. Whilst the weather remains good, customers have been enjoying the tables which we spaced out over the car park. We have fantastic neighbours who've been superb about the cars parking down the road."

Their main concern now is getting through the winter with this reduced capacity. But I have a cunning plan, if everyone reading this today makes a note to order take-away cakes at least once a week throughout the winter, and let's face it wintertime is cake time, that would make a huge difference to this business that we really don't want to lose. And if you are worried about putting on weight, then don't worry, just tune into Shameem Arnold and her free online MOKY fit classes and you will work off those calories. It

► would be like you never ate them at all. So, come on folks 'let's eat more cake', your country needs you.

### **Moky Fit**

Talking of knocking off the pounds, Shameem and her husband Matt have been keeping us all fit and healthy with their FREE online sessions every single day during lockdown. She runs different classes catering for all types of abilities so there's no excuse, just follow her on Facebook at Moky with Shameem, push the chairs out the way and start moving. And the best part is, you're in the privacy of your own home so no one can see you!

### **Tethera Magazine**

I also have to mention that this free community magazine costs money to produce and relies on contributions from the three parish councils, and advertising which is the cheapest around, to pay for it all. So, while you are thinking about supporting your local businesses please remember to support us too please. I hope you value our little magazine that brings you news and features about your community, as well as lots of information about What's On (usually!). Thanks, and stay safe everyone.

### **Anyone for Ice Cream**

In the words of Lizzy Mawson, who I bumped into on her way to deliver a prescription to a neighbour, as if she's not busy enough! "Adapt, Overcome and Conquer, you know me, I love a challenge, and I wasn't going to let a pandemic beat me." Lizzy has worked extremely hard developing and providing a take-out service while also adapting her ice cream parlour to the new regulations so that customers feel comfortable.

She's done all the shifts herself in order to furlough her staff and make sure they were ok. Seeing the huge, long queues snaking up the road outside her business every time the sun comes out means all her hard work has paid off. "We are so thankful for all the support we've had from local people" said Lizzy just before she sped off in her little black mini to do her good deed with a smile and wave.

### **Note from the author**

They said the world will change and that we will see a new 'normal' and I believe that is happening. From what I see our new 'normal' is a more caring, supportive community and I hope we can retain this silver lining. Stay safe everyone.

*Vivienne Tregidga*



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**'Spindlecraft' Drigg,  
'Tynedale' Holmrook  
& The Village Pantry, Seascale  
Price £7.50**

All proceeds for St Peter's Church funds  
and Drigg Churchyard

# WHAT HAVE OUR CHURCHES BEEN DOING DURING THE PANDEMIC?

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Normal life everywhere was brought to a halt by the full lockdown announced on 23 March. Churches nationally closed and everyone was forbidden entry, although it had been hoped that some could remain open for those who wanted to come in for private prayer. Funerals, with only half a dozen mourners, could only be held at gravesides or crematoria and there were to be no gatherings afterwards. No weddings or baptisms could be held, so sad events were sadder than ever and happy events were cancelled.

It was only in mid-June that churches were able to re-open, and services were limited to a total of 30 attending and no singing was allowed. All our churches drew up rules for safe reopening; social distancing, one way systems and hand sanitation were introduced, and the use of toilets was strictly controlled. There were stringent rules for cleaning and ventilating between services. Many churches remained closed for a while longer; there was a good deal of flexibility for churches to re-open only when their officers and congregations felt it was safe to do so, and with so many elderly members, some of whom were shielding, it took a while for confidence to be restored.

When new laws on gatherings were announced on 9 September there was a worry that we would have to close again, but were assured that places of worship would be exempt provided the strict safety measures already in existence remained in force.

What follows is an outline of what our churches, that is the Anglican churches of the Seatallan Benefice (the parishes of Gosforth and the Wasdales, Beckermeth, Calderbridge and Seascale) and the parish of Drigg, the Seascale and Gosforth Methodist churches and St Joseph's Roman Catholic church in Seascale, have been doing.

For the Anglicans Revd. John Riley and his wife Revd. Lesley put together each week a pastoral letter, prayers and reflections, with a list of the set bible readings, emailed to regular attenders and then posted on the Gosforth & Seascale Matters

Facebook page and on the respective church websites of A Church Near You. This ended in early September just prior to their retirement. Revd. Alison Riley, Temporary Curate to the benefice, recorded a number of short talks which she posted on social media. The lay team at St Mary's Gosforth used their first Sunday of the month 10am slot to provide a service on Zoom, inviting everyone in the Seatallan Benefice to attend. From July a second Zoom service was added on the third Sunday of each month, and this will continue. St Mary's, the Wasdale churches and St Cuthbert's Seascale remained closed until mid-July and in spite of a number of the regular members still shielding the attendance as normal services resumed was encouraging. St Peter's Drigg also re-opened for weekly services in July; until then the Anglican weekly Lectionary readings and prayers had been printed and delivered to parishioners. Gosforth continued to produce and distribute The Parish Magazine, encouraging as many recipients as possible to take the electronic version, and it was posted on their website and on the villages' Facebook page. St Cuthbert's Across the Parish ceased, as the physical distribution of 800 plus copies became impossible. A new version is planned with electronic distribution and less content, and some printed copies being available.

National guidance from the Methodist Church encouraged the Circuits to take local conditions and preferences into account and only to open churches when officers and members were happy with this. Gosforth Methodists were unable to organise their building to comply with safety measures but the congregation were invited to attend St Mary's services. From September onward Methodist services alternated with Anglican services at St Cuthbert's Seascale, returning to the pattern in operation before. Prayers and bible readings are regularly printed, some in large-print format, and delivered to many of those who are still housebound. Beginning at Easter, Gosforth Methodist worship leaders Jill and Keith Hudson and the Phoenix Praise band hosted "Phoenix Zoom" at 7pm every Sunday evening, open to everyone. This has attracted a wide range of

participants, from several different churches both local and from outside the area, and including some who would not be regulars in church. "Phoenix Zoom" looks set to continue for the foreseeable future, especially as the Sunday Methodist/Anglican United Evening Services in Seascale will not resume for some months. The Methodists' magazine In Touch appeared again in September after a break and will next be issued at the end of the year.

While churches remained closed St Joseph's in Seascale relied on its members' closeness and interdependence to stay connected. Their weekly bulletin is being sent by email to most families, and delivered to those who do not have the technology at home. Since June they have held regular services each Sunday and Wednesday, and have adapted the church to cope with services where social distancing is observed, but their numbers are well down as many are still shielding. They rely on parishioners to keep in touch with those who do not come, and alert church officers of parish problems.

The pastoral care provided by churches always operates below the radar; the spiritual and practical support offered to those who need it is a permanent element of the ministry which is a duty for all Christians. Clergy and church members have been among the bands of volunteers who kept watchful, caring eyes on those self-isolating and shielding, and delivered shopping, medication and other necessities to them directly as well as offering spiritual support. As far as possible all the churches continued to support the North Lakes Foodbank and the sale of Fair Trade goods.

The South Calder Mission Community, which

includes all our churches plus the churches in Eskdale and Black Combe, loses John and Lesley Riley at the end of September as they retire, and Alison Riley who moves to a new post at Harrington. Revd. Philip Dorling will be licensed and take up the position of Rector of the Seatallan Benefice and will move with his family into the Rectory at Gosforth some time in October.

The latest information on services and further changes in regulations can be found on the following websites:

**Gosforth Methodist Church:**

<https://www.westernfells.uk/our-churches/gosforth/>

**Seascale Methodist Church:**

<https://www.westernfells.uk/our-churches/seascale/>

**St Mary, Gosforth:**

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12451/>

**St Cuthbert, Seascale:**

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12463/>

**St Peter, Drigg:**

<https://www.eskdalebenefice.org.uk/monthlylist>

**St Joseph, Seascale:**

<https://www.stmarystjoseph.org.uk/meetings.htm>

**Phoenix Praise:**

<http://www.phoenixpraise.org.uk>

**Gosforth & Seascale Matters Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1441093089458857/>



On 29 August Black Five  
Sherwood Forester thundered  
through Seascale Station.

Photo by David Culley



# EVENTS CALENDAR

in and around Drigg, Gosforth & Seascale  
ALAS THE LISTING IS ON HOLD  
UNTIL WE CAN RID OURSELVES OF  
COVID-19



## SANTA EXPRESS

28th November 2020 to 29th November 2020  
5th December 2020 to 6th December 2020  
12th December 2020 to 13th December 2020  
19th December 2020 to 23rd December 2020

While we are still ironing out details of this year's event you can sign up to our Mailing List to ensure that you are the first to know when tickets go on sale!

Visit

<https://ravenglass-railway.co.uk/events/>  
and click the 'Book Online' button to sign up.

## HELP WANTED – THE IRTON RIGHT OF WAY CASE

Between 1897 and 1907, a dispute between Thomas Brocklebank and local people about rights to use footpaths between Irton Hall, St Paul's church and Holmrook involved a public inquiry held at Irton School, a lengthy trial at Carlisle Assizes, a second trial in London, and enforcement proceedings. Over 200 people, mainly from Irton, Eskdale, Drigg and Gosforth, gave evidence at one or more of these hearings. Paul Pharaoh is researching the case and hopes to produce a book about it. He would be very interested to hear from anyone who has documents, photographs or family memories relating to the dispute.

Please contact him at  
[paulpharaoh@btinternet.com](mailto:paulpharaoh@btinternet.com) or on  
07771 859590.

# REGULAR EVENTS

Please check with contacts for any of these entries to find out if they are still happening

- Badminton – Seascale.** Ladies Wednesdays from 6pm. Mixed Thursdays 7pm. Beginners very welcome. Seascale Sports Hall. Details from 019467 28435
- Blengdale Runners.** First Tuesday each month from Gosforth Car Park at 9.30am; other Tuesdays from Seascale Car Park. Absolute beginners welcome – we will train you up to run 5k or further... eventually. If there are no races or events we sometimes run from Seascale beach at 9.30 on Sundays too.
- 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 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](mailto: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 Beckermet School. Thursdays 7.15-8.05pm Kettlercise, 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.
- 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 Marlene Partridge. [marlene.partridge@btinternet.com](mailto:marlene.partridge@btinternet.com)
- 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 Marlene Partridge. at [marlene.partridge@btinternet.com](mailto:marlene.partridge@btinternet.com)
- Gosforth Brownies (2nd Gosforth).** For girls aged 7-10. Meet term-time Mondays 6.00-7.30pm in Gosforth Scout Hut, next to the school. Contact Samantha Milliner at [sam.milliner@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sam.milliner@hotmail.co.uk) or register interest on [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)
- Gosforth Guides (1st Gosforth).** For girls aged 10-14. Meet term time 6.00-7.30pm in St Joseph's Church Hall, Seascale. Contact Abi Waller at [Abi.waller@hotmail.com](mailto:Abi.waller@hotmail.com) or register interest on [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)
- Gosforth Karate.** Wednesday classes. 4.45pm. One free taster class available. to book call 01946 694751 or visit [www.eskk.co.uk](http://www.eskk.co.uk)
- Gosforth Scouts, Cubs and Beavers.** Scouts Tuesdays 7pm to 9pm, contact Dave Marsden 24632. Cubs Wednesdays 6.15pm to 7.30pm, contact Jackie Harper 27211. Beavers Wednesdays 5pm to 6pm, contact Kathryn Ketchen 25912. In the Scout Hut next to the school.
- Gosforth Short Mat Indoor Bowls Club.** Every Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm in Gosforth Village Hall. New members welcome, spare bowls available. Flat soled shoes preferred.
- 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.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

**Holmrook Reading Room Bookings.** The Reading Room has a fully equipped kitchen, facilities for people with disability, in fact everything you would need for a great party. See if it is available for your next event? To book the room please contact David on 019467 24632.

**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.** Fish on our Reading Room stretch of water. 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.

**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.

**Line 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 Blast.** Seascale Sports Hall. Monday 10-10.30am. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

**MokyZEST.** Seascale Sports Hall. Monday 10.45am. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

**MokyHIIT/Core Blast.** Gosforth Public Hall. Thursday 5.45-6.15pm. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

**Moky HIIT Class.** Seascale Sports Hall. Friday 10.00am-10.30am. Contact info@mokyfit.co.uk, 01946 721166 or 07724 240179

**Muckyppys Baby and Toddler Group.** Thursdays 10-12 during term time, Drigg Village Hall. Friendly group with baby zone, craft activities, messy play, ride-ons, dress-up and more! £2.50 for first child, 50p for additional children.

**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 Social Run.** First Sunday every month, 9.30am. Seascale beach or cinder track, starting from car park. Organised by Blengdale Runners and open to all who can run 3 miles or more 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. jillhudson@hotmail.co.uk

**Pilates Class (mat based).** Mondays, 6.00pm (beginners/intermediate) 7.15pm (intermediates). Gosforth Public Hall (Main Hall). £5 per week or £25 for 6 weeks. Contact Amy on 07510 104508 or amyflsher@hotmail.co.uk (note 1 not 1). Now also qualified to teach Pilates to ladies at all stages of pregnancy and postnatally.

**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.

**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 of every month at the Clubhouse at Curwen Hall Park Track starting 7pm. If you are interested contact Tom Jones on 019467 28938.

**West Lakes USA.** Membership is £5 which covers membership of all West lakes USA groups. For further information www.u3a.sites.org.uk/west-lakes. Contact: Vera Lowrey 25213 or Membership Tony Bagnall 25595.

**West Lakes USA Open Mind.** A General Meeting on the third Thursday every month at Gosforth Public Hall 10.15am for 11am start.). Contact: Vera Lowrey 25213 or Alan Bell 24250.

**West Lakes USA Art Appreciation.** Second Thursday every month at St Joseph's Church Hall Seascale 10.30am. Contact: Jean Taylor 28713.

**West Lakes USA Discovery Group.** Fourth Wednesday every month at St Mary's Church Hall 10.15am for 11am. Contact: Graham Hutson 25477.

**West Lakes USA Discussion Group (House Meeting).** Third Tuesday of the month 10.45am to 12 noon in a private house contact Graham Brassington 25794.

**West Lakes USA History Group.** First Wednesday every month at Drigg Village Hall 10.15am for 11am start. Contact: Mary Holbrook 25466.

**West Lakes USA Reading Group (House Meeting).** Fourth Thursday every month at Gosforth 10.45am until 12 noon in a private house. Contact: Jean Taylor 28713.

**West Lakes USA Singing for Fun.** First Thursday of the month at Seascale Methodist Hall at 2.15pm. Contact: Xandra Brassington 25794. To attend you will need to join the Open Mind Group of West Lakes USA for £5.00 per annum. Contact is Xandra Brassington: 019467 25794.

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



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## 100 YEARS OF GOSFORTH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On looking back through the Archives of Gosforth Women's Institute I wondered if the founding ladies: Mrs Wrigley (President), Mrs Parker and Mrs Keene (joint Vice Presidents) Miss Shanks (Secretary) and Mrs Dipon (Treasurer) together with Committee members Mrs Birak, Miss Hartley, Miss Brown, Mrs A. Jackson and Mrs Postlethwaite would recognise our W.I. today? The clothes have changed and so has the venue. They first met in the school room and we meet in the Public Hall. In total 43 ladies met on 7 December 1920. Our core values are the same. We aim to enjoy ourselves, sharing support and experiences, being educated and raising awareness of the issues in the world today.

Recycling has always been a theme of our W.I. In 1944 we collected rabbit pelts, treated them and turned them into gloves and waistcoats to send to our Russian Allies for the war effort. We also collected rosehips to be made into rosehip syrup to give children the vitamins they needed. We also collected foxglove leaves for the pharmaceutical industry to make digitalis a drug used as a heart stimulant. A big part of our recycling efforts was focussed on collecting paper and card from houses and the shops all-round the village, store them and send them off to raise money for various good causes; this continued for many years.

The aim of the national W.I. was to revitalise

rural communities and encourage women to be more involved in producing food during the First World War. These aims have changed and are now to advance the education of women and girls, to promote sustainable development and to advance health for the public benefit.

Through the years we have had large numbers of members, rising to 100 ladies at one stage. Over time, membership has declined owing to more women going out to work, the setting up of other organisations and calls on their time. Over the years we have celebrated lots of anniversaries, usually with a party, and sometimes dressing up, homemade entertainment, acting, singing, poetry reading, always good food and a cake. Baking is a skill of our W.I. and we have hosted many coffee mornings and afternoon teas which both members and the community have enjoyed. We have taken part in lots of village events. A popular 'Exchange and Mart' was held for a long time. We took part in both the Jubilee and Millennium celebrations, dressing up in outfits from the past. We had hopes of taking part in the VE day celebrations but sadly these have been postponed as have our own centenary celebrations.

On 11. 6. 2003, Joan McIntosh, who is still a member, brought Gosforth to the attention of the nation by presenting a resolution at the Annual General Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall where it was accepted and passed. Joan spoke at the

meeting, a great achievement for her and our W.I. The resolution she presented was "This meeting calls on the Government to concentrate its efforts on promoting and strengthening modern apprenticeship schemes to provide skilled workers for the future". A theme that still has relevance today.

Several members have reached their 90th birthdays and beyond while still being active members. Doreen Gleadon remembers moving into her new house on Meadowfield in 1965 and going with a group of new young wives and mothers to join the W.I. where they were warmly welcomed and swelled the membership.

The cancellation of Gosforth Show owing to the Covid-19 virus means that our members have not been able to demonstrate their skills in baking and handiwork. Each year we have entered and enjoyed some success in the cooperative entry along with individual members winning cups and certificates.

Over the years we have organised numerous trips to a variety of locations – trips to stately homes, exhibitions, mills, garden centres, exhibitions and Lowther Castle. We still bake cakes, make jam and sing Jerusalem at our AGM but also do a lot more. At our monthly meetings we arrange for speakers on various diverse subjects such as 'laughing Yoga', flower arranging,

cooking, magic, travel talks, etc. We have a monthly competition which we usually get our speaker to judge. Subjects are 'a funny postcard, a posy of flowers, photo of a pet animal' etc. Looking back at some of them in the past would raise an eyebrow or two. One was entitled 'hints on keeping your husband happy'. Another was, following a talk by a police officer, 'a weapon'.

The Covid-19 worldwide pandemic has set many challenges to our members and our village. The founders of our W.I. would have known of the effects of worldwide events having just experienced the Great War to end all wars. Lockdown has presented us with a whole set of new challenges. We have tried to maintain contact with all our members. We have sewn face masks, delivered flowers to some, organised and delivered an afternoon tea to them all. One member has been sewing 'scrubs' for the NHS. We hope to resume our meetings in the not too distant future and are working hard to get everything in place to achieve a healthy environment for this to take place. I would like to thank all members past and present for their contributions to our organisation and hope to welcome new members in the future.

I am proud to be President in our 100th Year and look forward to the future.

*Ann McKenzie*





# TRUDY'S VISIT TO THE SAWMILL

L to R: Julius and Kirsten Manduell, David Moore, Amanda Milling, Trudy Harrison, Paul Turner, Mike Starkie and Andy Pratt

As the darker nights approach and we learn to navigate the newest Covid-19 restrictions, it is incumbent on us all to continue following the scientific advice. Encouragingly, across Copeland, the situation has remained at a stable level according to the most recent local data. However, it is vital that we do not become complacent. We know there are difficult months to come, but, if we follow these simple rules; the new rule of six, as well as washing your hands, covering your face, making space, and self-isolating if you have symptoms or if you have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace, together, we will get through this winter period.

One of the latest initiatives aiming to support the NHS test and trace response is the Government roll out of the Covid-19 app, a practical and important step helping to minimise the risk of a further lockdown, which would have a catastrophic effect on our local businesses. Rather than filling out a check-in book, the app will allow customers and visitors in Cumbria to check-in on entry with their phone, ensuring NHS Test and Trace are able to contact customers with public health advice in the event of an outbreak. Time is of the essence and the more businesses who download the app, the better chance we have of keeping the virus under control.

I absolutely commend the way in which our community has adapted since the start of the

pandemic. Part of my role as Copeland's Member of Parliament allows me to showcase businesses within my constituency to my Parliamentary colleagues, a part of the job that always fills me with great pride. I recently had the pleasure of a socially-distanced visit to the newly established café and farm shop, The Sawmill in Nether Wasdale with the Conservative Party Co-Chairman, Rt Hon. Amanda Milling MP, along with my colleagues, Mike Starkie, Elected Mayor of Copeland and Councillors David Moore, Andrew Pratt and Paul Turner. It is truly a fabulous example of hard work and determination, restoring an old unused building and giving it a completely new lease of life; and, despite a challenging beginning, it is fabulous to see another thriving business which provides a wonderful new reason to visit the Wasdale Valley.

The community spirit in Copeland can always be counted on and I would like to express my sincere thanks to all business owners and staff for always going above and beyond in their services, following the guidance and putting in place the necessary precautions to ensure we all remain safe whilst out and about. The best way we can fight this virus is for everyone to follow the rule of six and remember, hands, face and space. If anyone is experiencing Covid symptoms and having issues in booking a local test, please do let me or my team know.

*Trudy Harrison*

*National Fishmonger of the Year 2018 and 2019.*



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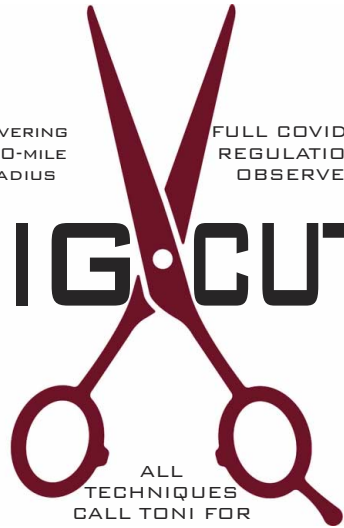
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**Emergency calls: 999**



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3:00pm – 6pm

Tuesday & Thursday

8:45am – 1:00pm

2:00pm – 6:00pm

Anyone living further than 1 mile from a community pharmacy can use Seascale's Surgery dispensary.

The Seascale dispensary phone 019467 27451 to order repeat medication is available

9:30am – 12:00noon

2:00pm – 4:00pm

The phone system is in the process of being changed to an answerphone service to allow requests to be left anytime that is convenient for the patient.

### TRAINING DAYS

Bootle closes at 12:30pm on Wednesdays

and 12:00noon on Thursdays

Seascale closes at 1:00pm on both days

Wednesday 14 October 2020

Thursday 19 November 2020

No December

Thursday 21 January 2021

Wednesday 10 February 2021

Thursday 18 March 2021

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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 of Tethera will be available to view and download about 10 days before the printed copy publication date.

The next Spring/Easter edition of Tethera is scheduled to be published for the weekend of 26 March, in time for Easter weekend following.

We are always on the lookout for stories and event dates which hopefully will be possible this time.

The closing date for contributions will be Thursday 18 Feb 2021.

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# DRIGG & CARLETON HARVEST & SCARECROWS FESTIVAL

The spell of warm sunny weather during the weekend 18-20 September brought out the scarecrows in Drigg & Carleton! This bi-annual festival, which is organised by members of Drigg Church, brings together residents and the people who work in businesses in Drigg and Carleton Parish. This year, with so many events having to be cancelled due to the Covid restrictions, we were determined that our fun (socially distanced) community event should be held, to give people a reason to smile in these uncertain times. Lots of locals, people from all over West Cumbria and tourists also came to enjoy the scarecrows and it was lovely to hear the squeals of delight from young children playing among 'The Mister men' and meeting other favourite characters from stories and TV.

This year, there was a competition for the best scarecrows in three classes. The judges spent Saturday afternoon visiting all of the scarecrows around the Parish and with so many fantastic and varied entries, choosing the winners was a very difficult task. The results were: 'Our heroes' winner was 'The Doctor and Artist at work'; 'Tide Farm' won the 'Caring for our World' class; the 'Fun and Entertainment' class was won by 'The Circus', a showstopping trio of circus performers featuring Superman flying through a ring of fire! Highly commended entries included: 'So that's where all the flour went' at Stubble, 'Drunk wild camper' at Saltcoats Caravan Park and a lonely scarecrow on Irton levels, who was, 'self-isolating



so I can't get to Drigg'.

Another judges' favourite was the 'Cow' with the endearing smile! Thank you to 'Tynedale', Holmrook Services and the Church members who donated the prizes. Also, a big 'thank you' to all the creative scarecrow makers, who gave us a splendid display and a joyful weekend. Photos of all the 2020 scarecrows will feature in the 2021 Scarecrows Calendar, to be enjoyed throughout the year. The calendars will be available in local shops in October.

The Harvest celebrations continued at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, held in Drigg Church on Sunday 20th. The Church was decorated with window displays and some lovely harvest artwork by pupils at Gosforth CE Primary School. The service, which was led by Revd. Canon Gill Hart, was adapted to meet current social distancing and hygiene measures. Many of you will know that at present, church congregations are not permitted to sing, so instead, we enjoyed listening to the Harvest hymns and songs, led by musicians Jill and



Keith Hudson and friends in Phoenix Praise Choir. Powerpoint presentations were used to share photographs and pictures sent in by parishioners for a Harvest collage, to give thanks for God's gifts. Instead of the usual report given by members of Drigg Young Farmers at this service, the group had compiled a slide presentation to share their events and achievements during the past year, including the Tractor Trundles through



▶ the villages during lockdown, to support the NHS.

Donations of groceries were received in Church for the local Foodbank charity and following the service, the bags of donations were taken to 'The Hub' in Egremont, to be distributed to needy families. The harvest produce, kindly donated by local farmers and gardeners, was distributed to parishioners and neighbours who were unable to attend the service. So, although this year's Harvest Thanksgiving celebration was different from our traditional services, it was meaningful, enjoyable and very relevant in today's world.

*Adrienne Millington*



## A WASDALE LAD DURING COVID-19

For those of you who read my last Tethera article, you might remember that I reported that the Spring 2020 Tethera coincided with “A Wasdale Lad” rolling off the presses and hopefully also being available for the spring.

Although this in fact still happened, unfortunately, it also coincided with COVID-19 lockdown, so many of the plans we had put together had to be postponed, this including the official launch of the book which was going to take place at The Wasdale May Festival. I had this banner (slightly lower right) made for the launch and hope that I will still be able to use it whenever this now takes place.

However, the book still did roll off the presses and, partly due to the last Tethera article, orders started coming in. We offered a free delivery service during the lockdown, this being achieved by both Trevor and I delivering the books during our permissible exercise and I am pleased to say that this all worked very well.

I also started “A Wasdale Lad” Facebook page where people could order books as well as leave comments/reviews. This also helped with sales as I could offer a postal service and apart from receiving orders from the UK, I also started getting them from abroad from countries as far away as Australia and Ireland. Several people kindly sent in photos and I include a couple here.

Towards the end of April, I went on Radio Cumbria’s Bis-Quiz with Caroline Robertson and was able to talk about “A Wasdale Lad” to promote the book – and I even managed to win the quiz!

Then in June, Hill’s book wholesaler in Workington, agreed to distribute “A Wasdale Lad” and has put it into several local shops where I am pleased to say that, in spite of COVID-19, it is selling well.

Also in June, Norma Hughes kindly reviewed “A Wasdale Lad” in the Gosforth and Wasdale Parish Magazine, I am sure that this also helped in spreading the word. (see right)

I am pleased to report that the book is selling well, we are still offering the mail order service through “A Wasdale Lad” Facebook page and we also offer a free local delivery for anyone who is unable to get to the shops.

*Best Wishes, Rob Steele.*



### BOOK REVIEW

“A Wasdale Lad” by Rob Steele of Gosforth  
(a pictorial history of Lakeland farming life)

After setting the scene by introducing some of his forbears, namely the Steele and Martin families, Rob goes on to tell the story of growing up in this part of West Cumberland in the 1950s and 1960s, when life was very different for everyone.

Rob spent his first six years on a Wasdale fell farm until his father John was tragically killed, just before Christmas 1962, in a tractor accident on the farm, leaving Rob and his mother Mildred (Millie to all her family and friends) to find a new home for them both, and a job.

This small book contains some wonderful photos (or snap-shots as we used to call them!), many of them taken by Millie herself, as well as stories and anecdotes of everyday life. Having been born and brought up in this area myself, it was a lovely reminder of my early life. There were many family connections that I wasn’t aware of, especially all the people who were Rob’s cousins. At the back of the book you will find a Glossary of Terms, which explains all the words in the book marked with \*. This is very necessary for those who weren’t born and bred around here!

Being very interested in local history myself, I found this book wonderful, but did wonder how interesting it would be to those who weren’t born and bred around here? However, everyone who I have spoken to have found it fascinating, whether Cumbrian or not.

Well done Rob! I know many of you, like myself, have thought we should write down our life stories for future generations, but few of us actually get around to putting pen to paper. I hope this book might inspire some of you readers to do the same.

The book costs £10 and can be bought directly from Rob (Tel: 25623) or from one of our local shops – when they reopen!

*Norma Hughes*



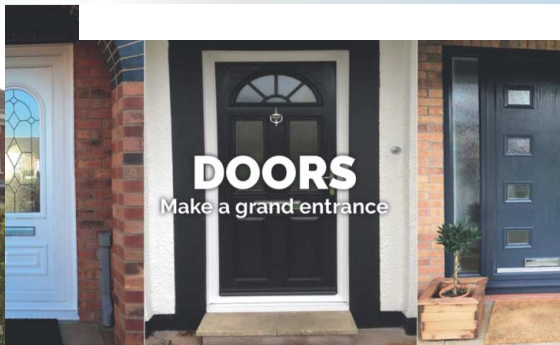
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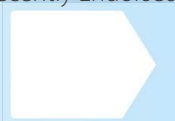
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## THE VILLAGE PANTRY

Paula Leggett took over the shop on the corner that was McColl's, right in the middle of the pandemic! "I had put in my bid to lease the business from them last year," says Paula who had been working in the shop for two years becoming the Manager. "When we heard the news of the sale it was a huge blow and I felt as if I had done something wrong and let the team down. Then I thought seriously about putting in an offer because I felt confident that this team could turn the business around. Our experience was that McColl's didn't listen to us. They would stock the shelves with generic produce and the layout of the shop was standard across all their businesses. So, we all felt we could do a better job, because we knew what our customers want."

But having never run a shop before what made Paula take such a huge step into the unknown? "I was conscious that I was turning 30 and, in my head, I hadn't really achieved much in my life, I have never found a job that I really like and wanted to stay with. When I came here, I really enjoyed it and quickly developed a great working relationship and strong bond with the rest of the team."

Paula took a leap of faith in her team and, including a loan, she found the finances to put in an offer.

Was it not scary to take over the business during a pandemic? "There were more challenges than normal," laughs Paula who wears a smile easily. "It's been difficult I can't say it hasn't. Lots of things were delayed, like getting the internet in for example. It was delayed so long that in the end, I just had to open and ask customers for cash only for a few weeks. I felt we just had to get on with it." Getting-on-with-it seems to be the mantra Paula lives by, she is a woman on a mission.

Paula grew up in Cumbernauld in Scotland and in 2012 she moved to Carlisle where she met her husband and eventually, they moved to Beckermest for his job. "He is very supportive of what I'm doing, even when I come home tired and doubting myself."

"I hope one day this will once again become the village shop that everyone loves. I know it's not like that at the moment, but I believe we can turn it around and win the local support back



**Paula took a leap of faith in her team and, plus a loan, she got the finances to put in a successful offer.**

again. This shop has been here for so many years that I'm determined it will continue to be here for many more years to come."

So how does she plan on doing that? "We are trying to introduce new items that you don't see anywhere else, and especially local products. We know we can't compete with the Co-op or Mawsons and the Bakery, so we aim to do something different from them."

Paula has big plans for the future of this little shop that has been mismanaged for so many years by big conglomerates. You can almost hear walls sigh with relief that finally someone has arrived who loves it enough to realise its true potential as a seaside village shop.

Good luck Paula :-)

*Vivienne Tregidga*

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How's your posture, your back?

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Full details on booking website (see below). Fully qualified and insured instruction.

### FROM 5th OCTOBER: Mat-based Pilates in the hall.

Places are now limited and online booking is mandatory.

1) Mondays 6pm (beginners/intermediates)      2) Mondays 7:15pm (intermediates+)

Gosforth Public Hall. Spare mats available but please bring your own if you have one. Wear something comfortable. Bring own water.

### FROM 22nd OCTOBER: Mat-based Pilates online.

Thursdays at 7:30pm live (or anytime as a recorded video).

Live Pilates class streamed from my home to yours. Two-way stream will allow for initial 'check-in' communication with the group, followed by a 55-minute Pilates class (beginner-intermediate level). Only one payment required per household so you can get others to join in if you wish (the dog?!)

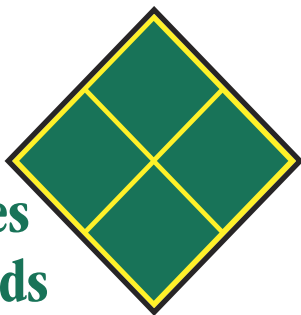
£5 per class in the hall or online, pay as you go. Bargain subscriptions to follow.

To book any class go to: <https://bookwhen.com/gosforthpilates>

For further info, please contact Amy on 07510 104508 or [amyf1sher@hotmail.com](mailto:amyf1sher@hotmail.com).

Facebook: Gosforth Pilates – Cumbria

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# GOSFORTH COVID-19 VOLUNTEERS

In March, the Government announced a national lockdown would begin on 23rd of the month. On hearing this news Gosforth Parish Council held an emergency meeting before lockdown commenced to discuss what the parish council could do to help those that would be left isolating and vulnerable. It was decided that letters would be sent to every household within the parish. The letter was written overnight and printed the following day by Barneys Printshop and after a Facebook plea for volunteers all 630 letters were delivered over the following two days.

Apologies are offered to all Tethera readers for the loss of the summer 2020 edition, and a reduced pagination for this winter offering. As you may well suspect it was caused by the financial knock-on effects of the Covid-19 Virus during 2020, and hopefully won't extend too far into 2021. We all desire some degree of normality, be it a new one or close copy of the one we once knew. Here's hoping you enjoy what we've provided this time!

## **Drigg & Carleton Parish Council** *Financial Officer Required*

The Council is seeking to appoint a Responsible Financial Officer who would also serve as the Treasurer for The Drigg Charity

Duties would involve:

- keeping records of transactions
- preparing regular financial statements
- processing invoices

The position is part time with remuneration on a nationally agreed pay rate. If required, familiarisation and training for the role could be made available.

To express interest or, for more details please contact the Parish Clerk on 019467 24272 or email: d.millington@hotmail.co.uk

The letter asked for volunteers to come forward and assist with various task such as prescription collecting, grocery shopping, phoning people living alone for a chat etc. It also gave phone numbers to contact for the group co-ordinators if you required help. Gosforth Parish Council wanted no one left feeling alone and without anyone they could turn to.

In total 41 volunteers came forward and helped 40 households. Each volunteer was assigned a household and kept in regular contact with each other. Some of our volunteers, who were isolating themselves, were making phone calls to households to have weekly chats to prevent loneliness.

Gosforth Covid-19 volunteer group was a huge success and Gosforth Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every volunteer, without you many a household would have been left without regular contact. The volunteer group has been put on standby in case of local lockdown, but hopefully this will not happen.

As well as the volunteer group we have seen the village come together, looking out for each other. We have seen so many acts of kindness during this time. Some of the residents have been making scrubs, face mask and face mask headbands for WCH and surrounding practices. Lucy and Jack Jones (age 9 & 7), along with Mum Rachel, distributed anti boredom packs to those living alone. These were kindly donated by Copeland Age and Advice Service. The Simpson family, like many others, made and distributed afternoon teas on VE day to the elderly. Gosforth School donated over 30 lunches to those isolating. Mr Raymond, a teacher at Gosforth School, made over 80 face visors on the school 3D printer using money kindly donated by local residents and FOGS (Friends Of Gosforth School) committee; some of this money also went to buy material so that Paula Waite could continue making scrubs for Scrub Hub. These are just a few acts of kindness shown during lockdown.

A real sense of community spirit has been felt by many. Keep on looking out for each other during these unpredictable times.

*Rachel Unsworth*



Face mask head bands for WCH made by Val Atkinson.



Jack and Lucy delivering anti boredom bags.



Jack delivering afternoon teas on VE day to his neighbours.



Scrubs made by Paula Waite.



Mr Whitney receiving his afternoon tea donated by neighbours.

Gosforth VE committee, run by Rachel Rowe and Sam Milliner were very disappointed that they had to postpone the original plans for Friday 8 May 2020. They do plan on organising VE75+1 for Saturday 8 May 2021 with a parade, picnic in the park and village showcase as originally envisaged.

However, the day did not pass by unmarked. The committee wanted the village still to come together as best they could in a socially distanced manner. The parish was encouraged to decorate its houses in red, white and blue, display photos of loved ones that had served or are serving and take part in a socially distanced street party from their own front gardens. It was also suggested that at 6pm everyone raised a glass to their neighbours and at 9pm joined in with the nations sing a long to Vera Lynn "We'll Meet Again". Wow the Parish did not disappoint – we were a beautiful sea of red, white and blue with some lovely photos of loved ones displayed in windows. The garden picnics were also a huge success with many people taking part. Some of the residents of Meadowfield with the help of Oliver Hodgson clubbed together to hire a PA system to play music which could be heard by many. Gosforth WI decorated the War Memorial with knitted poppies that had been donated by residents of Gosforth. It was such a lovely sight to see the parish united to honour our heroes.

We also had the pleasure of Ex-Soldier Corporal Andrew Jackson of the Kings Own Royal Regiment (now disbanded) march through the village as a lone soldier. Andrew came to the committee with the idea as he wanted to lift spirits of the residents whilst honouring the war heroes and current heroes the NHS and other keyworkers. Andrew with the help of Gosforth Taxis (Shaun and Dawn Pennington) and the VE Committee devised a route that would go around as many houses as possible, for those that would not see the march go pass their home it was live streamed to Facebook.

Andrew set off from Wellington at 2pm, led by Gosforth Taxis playing the music Andrew liked to march to. He marched for 45 minutes around Ellerslie Park, up to Bradbury House, Denton Park, Meadowfield, and as far as the Lion & the Lamb, saluting people as he went. Andrew finished at the War Memorial where he laid a wreath to



honour all soldiers. Cllr Paul Turner also laid a wreath. Jodie McQuinsten then played The Last Post. It was a lovely sight to see, with so many people lining the streets and clapping at Corporal Jackson as he passed by.

The VE Committee have received some beautiful cards from residents to express how much they had enjoyed the day. £665.67 was raised on the day in the collection buckets and on the Just Giving Page and a further £500 was donated by Andrew's work, Wates Construction Ltd, bringing the total to £1165.67. This amount will be split between Bradbury House and West Cumberland Hospital.

The VE committee is currently gathering photos of the day so as they can display them in the library once able to. If you have any photos of the day that you are happy to share please email [rachelunsworth79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rachelunsworth79@yahoo.co.uk).

Don't forget to mark Saturday 8 May 2021 in your diary for VE75+1...





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# A DAY TO REMEMBER

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My interest in browsing through old newspapers has been an invaluable hobby during recent lockdown months and I would love to share this article from a newspaper now defunct called 'The Carlisle Patriot' dated May 26th 1849. This report is simply headed WHITEHAVEN AND FURNESS RAILWAY and I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did.

*"On Monday afternoon last, a trip was made on the above line of railway commencing at the WHITEHAVEN station and running direct to RAVENGLASS a distance of just over 16 miles. The trip was altogether of a private and select nature, given more with the view of satisfying a few of the directors and friends and affording them proof of its entire fitness for being opened for public traffic.*

*The train consisted of the engine and 4 or 5 lorries, heavily laden with materials used in the course of erection over the rivers Ehen and Calder and an open waggon temporarily fitted up for the party. To the engine were attached several flags and on the other carriages were appended a large Union Jack and a monster flag, all floating beautifully in the breeze. The whole started from WHITEHAVEN at 3 ' o'clock.*

*From ST. BEES the line diverges towards the south from when a grand and noble view of the expansive ocean is presented to the eye of the beholder. Along the coast the whole line is formed on a level of something like 20 feet about the shore and the sea is seen altogether with a few exceptions on the right.*

*The rural districts of NETHERTON, CALDERTON and the romantic mountains in the neighbourhood of, GOSFORTH, DRIGG, HOLMROOK and MUNCASTER are picturesquely arranged on the left hand with mighty BLACK COMBE right ahead.*

*From ST. BEES the speed of the train was moderated so as to afford the party an opportunity of examining the line. The bridge across the Ehen which is of stone, is in a state of great forwardness as are also the one across the Calder and the viaduct towards RAVENGLASS,*

*The railway is at present formed with a single line of rails but there is sufficient width of land*

*throughout to enable them to lay down another line when needful to do so.*

*All stations will be able to transport agricultural products with a quick and ready transit to the market of WHITEHAVEN or to shipments there from other ports. For the present, the line will open as far as RAVENGLASS for goods and eventually will be open to BROUGHTON.*

*In every available spot from which a view could be found, on every bridge and roadside gate the peasantry were collected in vast numbers to catch a glimpse of the train as it went past. There were plaudits and huzzas accompanied by the waving of hats, handkerchiefs and flags. On nearing RAVENGLASS the crowds of country people increased, all anxious to witness for the first time in their lives the arrival of a train from WHITEHAVEN. Amongst them was Jonathan Whinnerah that worthy and esteemed landlord of the Queen's Head in RAVENGLASS.*

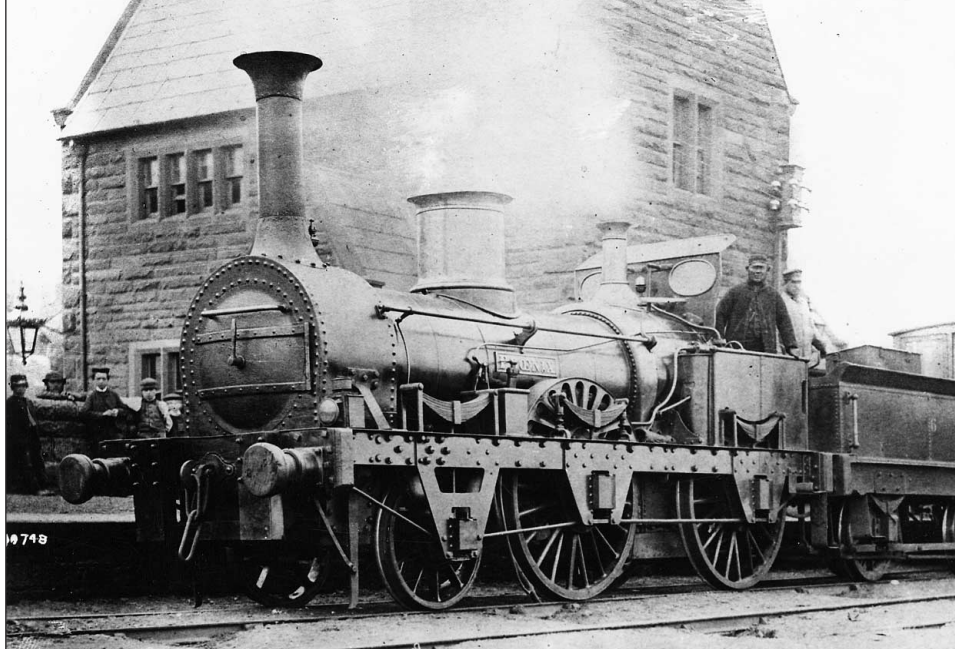
*Having arrived at RAVENGLASS about five o'clock the party were invited to partake of an excellent dinner provided by Mr. Dees the engineer at The Queen's Head Hotel.*

*The company quitted the festive board about 8 o'clock and returned to the train. The steam being up and in all readiness, everyone having respectfully taken leave of Mr. Dees. The engine was set in motion and steadily pursued its way homeward reaching WHITEHAVEN in safety."*

It's exciting enough these days to see a steam train passing through Seascale but to experience the thrill of seeing and hearing a train clanking along for the very first time would have been amazing and almost unbelievable. What a day that must have been. And truly, a day to remember.

**Pam Clatworthy**

Peter Holmes adds: The locomotive belonged to the company, as distinct from the contractor, as the first W&FJR locos were supplied in 1847 and the excursion described took place in 1849. The W&FJR from Whitehaven to Ravenglass was officially opened on 1 June 1849. The newspaper extract is dated 26 May 1849, which was a Saturday, so the 'Monday last' referred to, the date of the 'jolly', would have been 21 May 1849.



Phoenix leaving St Bees for Whitehaven. Phoenix was originally called Lonsdale which was one of locos available when the line opened (and who knows, may have hauled this train?). Accreditation and copyright is to Cumbrian Railways Association – The Geoff Holmes Collection. According to *Rush* the locos at that time were No.1 *Lowther* and No.2 *Whitehaven*, both locally built by Tulk & Ley at Whitehaven in 1847, and No.3 *Lonsdale* built by R & W Hawthorn also in 1847. No other locos were supplied until 1850. *Graham Worsnop*

## Myles Crowe, smuggler from the Isle of Man

Maybe you have and maybe you have not heard of the famous smugglers of old England, men who brought tax free brandy, tobacco, tea and rum into the country, who had little mercy on those who crossed their paths. Men like Cruel Coppinger, Captain Yawkins, Isaac Gulliver and the dreaded Hawkshurst Gang. They roamed the British coasts at night when all honest citizens were tucked up cosy-like in their beds and few people were willing to betray them to the local excise officers. Cumberland was famous for rum, tea and spices smuggled in along the coast, most of the contraband goods coming in by way of The Isle of Man.

Ah yes! It is said that if you are West Cumbria born and bred you will have had one of these smugglers as an ancestor and I can only hope that it was not one by name Myles Crowe.

Myles Crowe a Manxman by birth was a smuggler in the 18th century. His profession was a schoolmaster but he realised that he could make easy money by investing his hard earned savings into smuggling. At first, he was quite successful but

his smuggling career took a dive when he was informed on and an excise man found his contraband hoard. He was a marked man and unable to operate alone, so he moved to Kirkcudbright and worked as an assistant to more successful free traders.

Every year he returned to the Isle of Man to collect rent for a small property that he owned there. Old ways die hard and soon he was investing this income in contraband once more. Alas, he was an inept smuggler. He once stuffed his britches full of tea but as he was boarding a ship in Douglas Harbour his trousers burst open and tea leaves cascaded down onto the deck. He was immediately arrested. Another time, he decided to wrap tobacco leaves around his body and suffered the effects of nicotine poisoning when the tobacco rubbed against his skin. Then finally ended the sad tale of Myles Crowe, smuggler and he became an assistant ferryman in Kirkcudbright. He suffered a miserable death being poisoned by a rogue who sold his body for dissection. Poor Myles Crowe. In his case crime did not pay. © Pam Clatworthy



Tosh, Mary and the cast of the GADS Summer Workshop in August.

**Summer Youth Workshop  
Scenes from a Quarantine,  
by Lindsay Price**

Let’s face it, there isn’t much good news these days, so let’s begin with some – despite the odds, we managed to run our Summer Youth Workshop in August. We have run these workshops for over 10 years now - all pretty much to the same format. But this year had to be totally different, thanks to coronavirus. No props, no scenery, no costume, no make-up, no stage, no proper play, no live performance and no audience. How boring was this week going to be? Well, thanks to the brilliance of Tosh McGregor and Mary Wake, not boring at all. Armed with an appropriately named script “Scenes from a Quarantine” by Lindsay Price, Tosh and Mary loved creating some digital theatre with 15 of our young members. It was a smaller group than normal (thanks to Covid-19 restrictions) but just as enthusiastic – the hall was filled with smiles and laughter all week. Although we missed our usual Saturday night performance, we premiered our first ever digital performance on our YouTube channel. The youngsters did an amazing job rehearsing, directing and filming the whole show before Tosh compiled the footage. It was a brilliant opportunity for everyone to get

back to doing something we all love, and we really hope that we get to do it again soon. Just to cap it off, we have had some really positive feedback from participants and parents alike for the little slice of normality returning to a rather strange summer.

**GADS Youth Theatre Group**

Sadly, we haven’t been able to meet since the Covid-19 restrictions began in March. YTG is a very interactive experience so we are not risking anything – especially when there is the threat of tighter restrictions being introduced, perhaps for the next six months. We will resume as soon as we think we can do so safely, but this won’t be until the New Year at the earliest. On a brighter note, we have cleared our waiting list so we should have a few places when we resume, subject to any number restrictions forced by this darned coronavirus. We will meet at 7pm in the main hall at Gosforth Public Hall, weekly during term time, except for half term. New members are always welcome, no matter what your experience or confidence. If you are interested in joining this lively group for 8-18 year olds, get in touch first with Director Tosh McGregor using [yt@gads.org.uk](mailto:yt@gads.org.uk).

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**GADS Pantomime:  
Beauty and the Beast, by Tom Whalley**

Guess what? Along with so many other local and national groups and after an attempt at first auditions, we have been forced to abandon our pantomime for Jan 2021. Rehearsing and preparing within the current restrictions are just not practical and the thought of social distancing on the stage and in the audience is even worse. However, we think it's a great script (Tom Whalley wrote Alice in Wonderland that we performed in Jan 2019) so we will be holding it over for Jan 2022. Where will those Covid restrictions be by then?

**They're BEHIND YOU, hopefully.**

## *Plays for Pleasure*

Plays for Pleasure (P4P) has also been on hold. We do intend to resume as soon as we can, but not this side of Christmas. When we do, we meet on the last Tuesday evening of the month at 7:30pm. If you are not familiar with P4P, you may fancy getting out, having a laugh and meeting new friends or even catching up with old ones. You may want to have a go at reading or listening to a play. If so, P4P is for you and we'd love to see you at our sessions. We read a variety of plays and it's always a fun, relaxed evening. Just turn up on the

night, you will be warmly welcomed. Who knows, we might even persuade you to get on stage with us in one of our productions! If you want any further information please contact [p4p@gads.org.uk](mailto:p4p@gads.org.uk) or via the gads website. Keep an eye on the website for a start date and our new location.

### **Spring Play**

We weren't able to run our Spring Play in 2020 so we held it over as our Autumn Play. But we couldn't run that either so we held it over as our Spring Play for 2021. Or maybe our Autumn Play? We've got a script lined up for that too – a

wildly imaginative comedy "Dead Man's Cell Phone" by Sarah Ruhl. To run this in Spring, we will need to audition in March to begin rehearsals on 20 April 2021. So if you would like to get involved in this, please get in touch – it may be too late if you wait for the next Tethera.

### **For more information**

You can tell that we are raring to go once the Covid restrictions permit – we just don't quite know what and when yet. So please keep an eye on our website and social media for more details. Even better, you might want to get out and do something social and creative when you are allowed to – and we have opportunities for everyone aged 8 and over. To get involved with GADS, find out more about what we get up to or contact us, please see our website [www.gads.org.uk](http://www.gads.org.uk).

On Facebook we are [gads1948](https://www.facebook.com/gads1948) and you can follow us on Twitter [@gadsgosforth](https://twitter.com/gadsgosforth). We're also on Instagram.

### **Events/dates for the Calendar. Oct 2020 to the end of March 2021.**

GADS don't have any firm dates for anything in this time frame, so the dates in this article are the best estimates we can provide at the moment.

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**Julie Dickinson**

**PJ's Nursery**

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## CATERING FOR OUR LITTLE ONES

Running a nursery for children is one of the most regulated industries in the UK, requiring the owners and staff to have the right up-to-date qualifications, be DBS cleared, trained to a high standard including paediatric first aid and have level 2 food hygiene. Of course all this is completely expected in order to keep our little ones safe. In addition to the day-to-day running, there is a huge amount of government rules and regulations to comply with, and these change year on year. Keeping up with it all is a major headache for anyone wanting to be in this business and means it's only the highly dedicated and the very best that make a success of it. Here in Seascale we are lucky to have one of those successes – PJ's Nursery.

But what's it been like for them during lockdown?

"We have overcome all the challenges the pandemic has thrown at us and worked hard to comply with all the new regulations so that we could continue to provide childcare for key worker parents during the lockdown," said Julie Dickinson, owner of PJ's Nursery. "It's been incredibly stressful, but at the same time very rewarding knowing that we have been able to help those parents."

On the 17th of September PJ's celebrated their 13th anniversary. "We wouldn't be here today if it weren't for the support of our dedicated team

and our 'outstanding' parents" said Julie. "The parents have been wonderful during these difficult times when we've struggled financially to keep things going due to the lack of any help from the government and bank."

Small businesses like these that have felt the full brunt of the lockdown, and PJ's have demonstrated without a shadow of doubt just how valuable to our local economy and infrastructure they are.

"We currently care for children from Bootle to St Bees aged from 3 months to 12 years with nursery, before and after school clubs as well as school holiday club."

The facility on Gosforth Road in Seascale is a lovely converted 3-bedroom house that provides a warm homely environment for babies and children where they have everything their little hearts desire to feel comfortable and cared for. They have an indoor and outdoor playing area, and one undercover for those occasional rainy days! PJ's services can also provide breakfast, lunch, snacks and drinks. "We also offer both privately funded for all ages and government funded places for 2, 3- and 4-year olds."

"We've been happy to provide childcare for those whose current providers are closed," said Julie. "This has been a very difficult time and one the team and I will never forget. But I would like to thank all the wonderful parents for their support. Thank you."

If you would like more information and read testimonials, visit their website at [www.pjsnursery.co.uk](http://www.pjsnursery.co.uk)

*Vivienne Tregidga*

# 1ST GOSFORTH SCOUT GROUP

Well, we're back! That's the exciting news! After so many months of virtual meetings with "zoom", we're back to having proper Scouty meetings, outdoors in the lovely area where we live.

"Zoom" was fun – we made things, learned about people and places, dressed up, baked, shared our pets, had a spy mission, and did lots of escape rooms – but we missed being together.

Our leaders have spent the spring and summer learning lots of new skills – new ways with social media, thinking of socially distanced activities, writing risk assessments, planning a way forward, and now we have two weeks of happy meetings, outside our hut, at Drigg Beach, and at the lake, under our belts. We've used lots of hand gel, got rather wet, made sandcastles, played games, been excited to see each other – and we're slowly starting to feel a bit more like our old selves.

We've been very lucky – the weather has been kind to us so far, and as a youth organisation, we're still exempt from the new regulations.

So we're hoping for lots more good weather, and we plan to have as much fun as possible in the weeks to come. We'll hopefully be able to move inside in the near future too, just for when the weather's bad and the nights are dark. All we'll need then to make us happy are new batteries for our torches and the chances to go camping again!

*Jackie, Kathryn and Dave*

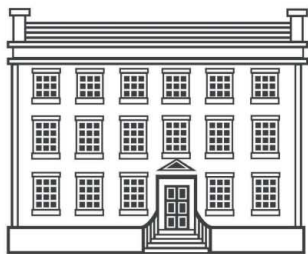
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# OUR ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



It was double success for the Cumbria's newest Royal British Legion Branch during the past summer.

The Seascale & Sellafield Royal British Legion, formed this year as a focus for ex-forces personal at Sellafield and the surrounding villages, found that they had two good reasons to be cheerful one Sunday during the summer.

They had their new Standard blessed and dedicated at St Cuthbert's Church, Seascale, and received their first big donation of funds on the same day.

The Standard, which is the flag carried at ceremonies around Seascale, Gosforth, Drigg, Colder Bridge, and Wasdale, got its official start in life by being blessed by the clergy on behalf of its patron Her Majesty the Queen. Then they were presented with a cheque for £500 to fund the very first humanitarian outreach work that the new branch will take on.

The cheque came from the Order of Saint Joachim. James Dickaty – both a member of The Order of Saint Joachim and an Armed Forces veteran, as well as an employee of Sellafield Ltd said, "I am one of many who greatly support the formation of this new branch, that can help veterans working at Sellafield. I am keen to see the Legion develop and thrive, I can see its

importance to those who have served in the armed forces.

The Branch President – Cumbria County Councillor Paul Turner – said, "We look forward to seeing what good works we are able to do for our local veteran community around the area, some of whom are in great need at this time."

Branch founder and Chairman Jason Rushworth invites you to mark this year's Remembrance Sunday on 8 November in one of two ways. Either socially distanced at St Cuthbert's Church war memorial within the new guidelines or watch on the facebook live streaming service – on the Gosforth and Seascale Matters facebook page. Additionally, don't forget to like the Seascale and Sellafield Facebook page for all the news and events. Also to say that to become a member of the Seascale and Sellafield Royal British Legion branch, you no longer have to have served in the armed forces first, just a willingness to help veterans is all you need to commit to. Go on line and pay your £17 for the year and select our branch name as the branch you wish to join. We are Branch Number BR4033, registered Charity number 219279.

It's the first time in 72 years that a new British Legion branch has formed in the county.

*Jason Rushworth*

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## GOSFORTH BAKERY CELEBRATES 40 YEARS!

June 15, 2020 saw owner Gill Unsworth celebrate 40 years in business.

Gill started Gosforth Bakery in 1980 from her parents' home across the road from its current location, before transforming her family home and moving the business to its current site. Gill has always worked full time and loves what she does and has no plans to retire just yet!

Gill has raised a family of three, whilst running a very successful village bakery. She now has five grandchildren and loves to spend time with them. She made the decision in 2011 to cut her working week from Monday to Saturday down to Tuesday to Friday, giving her more time with her family. In 2010 Gill's second child Rachel came to work for her, taking on a role within the bakery as well as doing all associated paperwork for the business.

Gill said her success is down to loyal, hardworking staff and of course her customers who come back time and time again.

During the recent Coronavirus Pandemic, the bakery has had to adapt to survive. Gill said, "we have been busy, but a new kind of busy". The Bakery began to offer a delivery service and revised its menu ideas to offer things like afternoon teas. Gill also said, "it has been lovely to have the support of the villagers, and I have gained some new customers who I hope will continue to support the bakery into the future".

Gosforth Bakery continues to thrive and looks forward to seeing new and old customers.

Join Gosforth Bakery Facebook Page or contact them on 019467 25525.





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