

The Parish Magazine
for the Seatallan Benefice
Gosforth & Wasdale
Beckermet, Calderbridge & Seascale



December 2024 & January 2025

connecting our communities

60p

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Seatallan Benefice Directory

(continued)

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All copy for the magazine needs to be with the Editor by the 15th of the preceding month, by email if possible.

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FROM THE SEATALLAN PARISH REGISTERS

**Occasional Offices conducted between
the 3rd October to the 8th November 2024**

BECKERMET

- No Occasional Offices known

CALDER BRIDGE, PONSONBY and OLD CHURCH

- 22nd October Interment of Ashes at Ponsonby Harold Stewart

SEASCALE

- No Occasional Offices known

GOSFORTH, NETHER WASDALE and WASDALE HEAD

- 5th October Interment of Ashes at Gosforth Joan McIntosh
- 24th October Funeral and Cremation at Gosforth
Thomas Ostle

EPOCH CHANGE

As 2024 comes to a close, it seems almost odd to reflect that just 7 months ago, the United Kingdom had a Conservative government with a large majority and Joe Biden was running for his second term in office as the President of the United States. Now, in what seems to be 'the blink of an eye', our nation has a new Labour Prime Minister with a new direction, and in America, the most powerful person on the planet will soon be a billionaire business man...again! Many people seem to be in shock. It is as if they cannot understand how so much could happen in such a short period of time. To my ears, it has often sounded as if parts of the media are unwilling to accept some aspects of this new world! In Cumbria we look on and wonder about it all. The truth is that, for some time now, the world has been in the midst of what has been called an 'epoch change'.

Why has everything changed in the way that it has? Perhaps the internet is part of it? All the new things that we have been exposed to may have changed us more than we think. Perhaps as a result, we are now less content with life? Perhaps this is why so many people have begun to feel disempowered, overlooked and 'left behind'? I think it is probably quite important to understand some of the feelings involved. Only by doing that can we be sure that we are playing our part in making sure that our communities remain strong, cohesive places where people really do feel welcomed and supported.

But understanding people isn't easy, is it? When we try, we sometimes think we can discern things that may not actually be there. Often, we assume that people will agree with us, only to find they don't. The resulting frustration can lead us to give up. We may get angry, argue or even distance ourselves from other people. Understanding people is surely more about watching and listening than anything else. Pushing big ideas around like a politician, and then expecting people to 'fall in line' simply does not help!... as we now know, this is the recipe for a 'culture war', and they are not much fun are they?

A little while back, I read a quote from Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, which I think contains an absolutely stunning truth. Apparently, in a Christmas message she once said, 'People see things differently through eyes that have wept'. Maybe all this change has come about because some people's tears have made them see things in a truly different way. Maybe that idea needs to be weighed and understood, and not simply dismissed. We also need to remember that Jesus was born into a time like ours – into the midst of an 'epoch change'. In the Bible we read that he saw it all through human eyes that wept both tears of frustration and

love for us. Through his tears he saw the power of death over people that he loved, as well as over the communities that they belonged to. His watching and listening and crying ultimately took him to Jerusalem and on to the Cross. There he made 'a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world'. Take some time to ponder those words. They are not simply religious cant. The tears of Jesus fell on a path that can lead any one of us to eternal life. Tears are powerful – they move people in important ways.

All over the world tears are being shed as this 'epoch change' progresses. This year, as Christmas approaches, we need to remember the displaced, the persecuted, and the refugee. We must remember the disenfranchised and the disillusioned. We need to go on being moved by the sick and the bereaved. We must remember places, where people are surrounded by bombs that fall and buildings that are on fire.

Life-changing tears being cried in all these situations right now. As we remember these things we must remain centred in Christ. 'In Christ' we will be moved – perhaps even to tears - but we will not be confused or lacking in hope. 'In Christ' we will find his strength and courage at work...and that can do immeasurably more than we can ask for or even imagine (Ephesians Ch 3vs20). So, may the light and love of Christ bless you and shine on you as you travel through Advent and Christmas this year.

Happy Christmas to you all from Gosforth Rectory.

Philip

COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT (The Three C's) – 10.30 – 12 noon

On **Thursday 5th December** we will have a special Christmas coffee morning with a Raffle and the proceeds will go to the Children's Society, along with the money raised by the Christingle, which this year the school are organizing and will take place in the Church at their Christmas service on the last day of term.



We have decided not to have a coffee morning in January this year as it would fall on the 3rd and many people are still on holiday and the school doesn't return until the following Monday, so we wish everyone a Happy New Year!



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GOSFORTH PARISH CHURCH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The last meeting of the Management Committee was held on Tuesday 12th November 2024.

The Committee would like to thank those that helped tidy up the Church building as well as the Churchyard at our Boon Day which took place on 31st August. We rely on the support from our local community in keeping St. Mary's looking good, thank you.

The level of 'Giving' coming in to Church is showing a 10% decrease on last years' figures. This is not keeping in line with the rate of inflation. The Committee are looking at ways to encourage an increase in the level of 'Giving' from all.

The fundraising event held on 29th June in Ann & Peter McKenzie's garden raised £578.40 which was a terrific result. The BBQ and raffle, held at the Rectory in September, went as well as could be expected due to the adverse weather conditions. We are pleased to report approximately £180 was raised to go towards the upkeep of our Church.

The Committee are actively seeking a Contractor who could carry out repairs and maintenance to the roof. This is proving to be challenging and we would welcome suggestions of suitable contractors.

We are pleased to report that we are now employing Heather Charalambous as our Playleader for the Tuesday Baby and Toddler Group. The group continues to flourish strongly with new and current members attending.

The next meeting of the Management Committee is to be held on Tuesday, 4th March at the earlier time of 4pm in St. Mary's Room.

Susan Round (Clerk to Committee)

THE LOCAL FOODBANK

Just a reminder to everyone that the local Foodbank (ours is Egremont) is still very much in need of our support, especially at Christmas time.

There are collection boxes at the back of most of our churches and the food collected is taken regularly to Egremont Methodist Church, where the Foodbank is based.



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SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY PRAYERS

These continue to take place on Zoom every Thursday morning at 9.30am and last about 20 minutes. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please contact Jonathan Falkner on 01946 721852 for an invitation on Zoom.



ST MARY'S CHURCH – Christmas Decorations & Flower Fund



We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Thursday 12th December at 10am, ready for the Carol Service on Sunday 15th. Everyone is most welcome to join us – you don't have to be an expert at arranging flowers, we all help each other and enjoy the time together and refreshments are provided.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of flowers this Christmas, please have a word with me.

Decorating the church with flowers throughout the year is funded by voluntary donations and I would like to thank all who have contributed to the flower fund this year. We use garden flowers and greenery when available but of course we do have to buy flowers during the winter months and for special occasions. Our Flower Fund is very low at the moment so donations would be most welcome!

Ann McKenzie – Tel: 25700

SAINT FOR JANUARY - St Aelred of Hexham

If you have been indulging in what P.G. Wodehouse called 'excesses' over the festive period, you might like to consider the life of St. Aelred of Hexham as an antidote. He is remembered on the 12th of January as Abbot of Rievaulx Abbey, a Cistercian foundation in Yorkshire. He possibly was educated in Durham and then spent several years in the court of King Donald the 1st of Scotland, rising to the rank of Master of the Household. He then became a monk at Rievaulx, and rose to become the Abbot. He travelled extensively, including to Rome, and wrote important spiritual works. He died in the winter of 1166-7 and is remembered for his piety and kindness.



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...the 10 Commandments for everyone!



We have already made a start and the December & November dates are as follows:
(Thursdays in St Mary's Room at 7pm)

5 th Dec. -	Week 5 – Manage your anger
12	Week 6 – Keep the peace with your parents
19	Week 7 – Catch your breath
9 th Jan.	Week 8 – Take God seriously
16	Week 9 – Know God
23	Week 10 – Live by priorities'

'... far from being a set of rules to restrict us the Ten Commandments are the key to finding a framework for life'...

ALL WELCOME

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CHRISTMAS

Wednesday 18th December at 6pm – CAROLS AT THE INN, in the bar at the Wasdale Head Inn, led by the Rector, Philip Dorling, and Margie Simper on keyboard. Thanks to the Inn for hosting this popular community event each year, it's a great occasion, everyone welcome! Many stay to eat afterwards.

Christmas Day at 11am – FESTIVAL COMMUNION, led by Rev Philip Dorling. Come and celebrate Christmas morning in the fells!

Forward dates: Sunday 8th December 11am – Morning Worship
Wednesday 18th December 6pm – **CAROLS AT THE INN** (see above)
Christmas Day 25th December 11am – **FESTIVAL COMMUNION** (see above)

Sunday 12th January 11am – Morning Praise

Sunday 26th January 11am – Celtic Praise

See back pages for details of all local services during December & January.

YEW TREE SURGERY – is being carried out in January and February. This is the third phase of the yew restoration that we have been carrying out at two yearly intervals to improve the health and safety of the yews that surround St Olaf's. One failing tree is to be felled and many others will have their crowns reduced.

THANK YOU – it is time to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who has supported St Olaf's this year, and to those who work so faithfully to open the church each day, lead worship and help maintain the church and its churchyard. **Thank you.**

It has been a good year at St Olaf's, everything seems to be moving in the right direction, with attendance at services and visitor numbers increasing steadily. Our plans for the restoration of our 500 year old church have been approved by the Lake District National Park and Carlisle Diocese. Our funds are steadily growing and if current progress is maintained we will reach our funding total by this time next year, enabling us to start and complete the careful restoration of England's smallest parish church, which is also Wasdale's oldest building.

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CHRISTMAS SERVICES and EVENTS in the SEATALLAN BENEFICE

BECKERMET

Friday 29th November at 6.00 pm – Carol Service in St John's Church with Egremont Town Band and switching on of the Christmas tree lights.
Christmas Day at 9.30 am - Christmas Communion

CALDER BRIDGE and PONSONBY

Saturday 7th December at 5.00 pm – The Carol Service in Calderbridge Village Hall has had to be cancelled as the repairs to the hall have not yet been completed.

GOSFORTH

Sunday 1st December at 2.00 pm – Light up a Life Service (Hospice at Home W. Cumbria)

Friday 13th December at 7.00 pm – Candlelit Christmas Concert of music and song by members of school and church in St Mary's Church, with mulled wine and mince pies.

Tickets: Adults £5; Children £1. Proceeds to school and church.

Sunday 15th December – Village Carol Singing and short Service: 6.30 pm – Assemble in Village Car Park and sing carols enroute to church via Meadowfield Grove and Meadowfield. Church Service at 7.00 pm followed by mince pies and mulled wine/fruit juice.

Christmas Eve at 4.00 pm – Crib Service in Church.

Christmas Day at 10.00 am – Family Communion.

NETHER WASDALE

Saturday 14th December at 5.00 pm – Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies and a tattie-pot at Galesyke at 6.00 pm

Christmas Eve at 11.30 pm – Candlelit Midnight Communion.

SEASCALE

Sat/Sun – 7/8th December – Christmas Tree Festival at St Cuthbert's.

Saturday 7th – Christmas Fayre - 11am – 5 pm with Soup Lunch, stalls, raffle and live music.

Sunday 8th – Christmas Tree Carols at 3.30 pm.

Tues 17th – West Lakes Music Centre Windband and Setheria Brass. Christmas Concert. 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's Church.

Christmas Eve – Crib Service at St Cuthbert's at 4pm.

Midnight Communion at St Cuthbert's at 11.30 pm.

Christmas Day – Morning Service in the Methodist Church Hall at 10.30 am

WASDALE HEAD

Wednesday 18th December at 6.00 pm – Carols in the Bar at Wasdale Head Inn.

Christmas Day – Festival Communion at 11.00 am



DECEMBER 2024

As usual there won't be a meeting in December.

The January meeting on Monday 27th January at 12 noon will be the AGM followed by a Bring and Share lunch in St Mary's Room. Drinks will be provided. The programme for the rest of 2025 will be discussed. Please do come along for the fellowship and help to shape the way forward. Friends welcome.

The Membership fee for 2025 will be £30. This has had to be slightly increased to try to cover costs. Members of the Gosforth Section are asked to pay this fee in the New Year either by bank transfer (details from Jonathan Falkner) or to Ruth as cash or a cheque made out to Gosforth and Seascale branch of the Mothers Union.

December Prayer

As we journey through Advent
we praise God for his Word
which leads us to the stable of salvation.
As we draw near to adore the Christ-child,
we share in the joy that the risen Lord
accompanies us every step of the way. Amen

PRAYER TOPICS – Please pray for:

- The MU members and associates in the dioceses in Zone D – Kenya (117,604); Rwanda (27,150); Tanzania (850,000); Uganda (21,500); Jerusalem and the Middle East (3,330) - that they may enjoy Christian Fellowship within the Mothers' Union.
- The MU annual campaign “16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence” continues until 10th December. Pray for the transformation of the culture of gender-based violence. Also, for women you know in positions of influence, whether in the family, in the church or in society in general that they are protected from unwarranted criticism or prejudice and instead have opportunities to influence for good.
- All giving birth and caring for children in less than ideal circumstances, for refugees, victims of war and natural disasters

- Those for whom the Christmas season is a time of sadness rather than joy; for the lonely and bereaved, and those who struggle to provide for their family. Pray for people to draw alongside them who will lessen the pain and provide practical help.
- In this Christmas period, pray for the displaced people far from their homes, for whom this Christmas is a time of sadness and insecurity rather than celebration. The homeless and the various charities such as Crisis and the Salvation Army who work to give them some joy at Christmas. Those living at Calderwood House at this time.
- All those who have to work through the holiday period and particularly on Christmas Day itself. All who selflessly care for the vulnerable at this time - working in the health service, in care homes and in agencies supporting the homeless and depressed. Those working in essential services - to supply our food and medicines, to maintain the communication networks and the supply of various utilities needed in our homes. Also, those in the police and fire services.

January Prayer

Loving Lord, our faith is in you.

We place our future in your hands as we follow where you lead.

Inspire us with your vision and empower us with your Spirit,

That we may walk forward together,

knowing you are our guide and companion. Amen

PRAYER TOPICS – Please pray for:

- The MU members and associates in the dioceses in Zone E – Central Africa (3,650); Nigeria (60,000); South Sudan (53,000); Sudan (386); Southern Africa (137,502); - that they may enjoy Christian Fellowship within the Mothers' Union.
- The nations of the world. For future peace and acceptance of each other and our differences.
- The people of war-torn countries as they face the perils of daily life and worry about their families, thinking especially of those in and from Ukraine, Gaza and Israel.
- Those for whom simply living is a daily struggle and the many MU projects designed to help them.
- The planning which is going on for 2025 and beyond, that the focus will be on what is important and the interests of everyone are taken into consideration.

J J HRYB

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GOSFORTH METHODIST CONGREGATION NEWS

Minister: Revd. Nick Baker
Minister: Deacon Samm Morris
Tel: 01900 823273



Autumn Term with Gosforth Methodists and Phoenix Praise

It's been an exciting term once again for us in Gosforth (sorry, but after 35 years of teaching I reckon I will always think of time 'in terms of terms!'). Evening services have continued to be vibrant and well attended, with plenty of interaction and only occasional anarchy.

For those who are still unsure about what goes on in St Mary's Room on Sunday evenings, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month Gosforth Methodists host a service at 6.30pm. On 4th Sundays Phoenix host a hybrid (live and Zoomed) service at 7pm. All are welcome at both, and the style of worship is broadly similar: an informal and relaxed service where questions, comments and extempore prayer 'from the floor' are welcomed; on 3rd Sundays the service is specifically styled 'all-age' and we often have readings and sometimes sketches brought to us by the young people.

This term it has been our pleasure and privilege to welcome our new Superintendent Rev Nick Baker and our new Deacon Samm Morris to lead services; they both rose to the challenge admirably! Seascale's very own Rev Dr Wendy Kilworth-Mason also led a wonderfully engaging all-age service, and at the time of writing we are very much looking forward to a return visit from the ever popular Rev Ian Parker who is going to tackle the question of what kind of book – or rather, books – the Bible consists of, and how we might approach it in the 21st century.

At our Phoenix services we have been looking at some of the roles of Jesus himself: Jesus as the Word of God, the Lamb of God, and Jesus as King. It was very special to have the lovely Rev Gavin Walker lead one of these services.

Now we are about to embark on the 'silly season': December is always awash with Phoenix events in the lead-up to Christmas. As well as our regular carol services we shall be singing at the Seascale Christmas Tree Festival and at 'Carols and Cakes', Drigg Tea and Chat Christmas Party, Muncaster Castle, Cleator Moor Methodist Church and possibly Whitehaven Library! Some of us will also be joining members of St Mary's Church and other villagers to sing carols around the streets of Gosforth on the evening of 15 December, when instead of our 'normal' evening service we shall be celebrating with our wonderful Anglican friends who so kindly allow us to use their premises on Fridays as well as Sundays.

With all this activity coming up, it's a good job we love Christmas! And who wouldn't, when we are celebrating the miracle of the God who loves every one of us visiting earth in human form. Details of all of Phoenix's forthcoming events can be found here www.phoenixpraise.org.uk

NEWS FROM SEASCALE

Messy Church in December

Craft activities will take place at the Christmas Tree Festival over the weekend of 7/8th December and also at the Christingle at St Peter's Drigg on Sunday 15th December at 11 am.

Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Fair

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December – St Cuthbert's Church

St Cuthbert's Christmas Fair will run on the Saturday alongside the Christmas Tree Festival from 11am to 5pm with a Soup Lunch. Music from Penny and Albert in the afternoon.

On the Sunday, refreshments will be served all day. Mulled wine will be served from 3pm before carols with Phoenix Praise at 3.30pm. The Raffle will be drawn after the carols.

This has been a most enjoyable village event for several years and looks set for yet another, with each of at least 20 trees this year depicting a country (or many!)

Do visit St Cuthbert's at some point over the festival weekend.

Mary Waterhouse

Wednesday Outreach – Seascale Methodist Church

Recently we enjoyed a Christmas craft afternoon with Ruth Waterhouse when we made folded Christmas trees from magazines. Preparations are underway for our Christmas tree at the Christmas tree festival in St Cuthbert's church. We have chosen Scotland as our country and are grateful to our Tea and Chat members who are taking responsibility for our tree.

The next Tea and Chat will be on Wednesday 4th December at 2pm. The January meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month - 8th January at 2pm. As there will not be a Tea Service in January, we will hold a Friendship Hour on Wednesday 22nd at 2pm when we will meet for a chat with tea/coffee and cakes.

We remember all our members who are not well at this time of year and those who no longer feel able to attend our meetings.

As this year draws to a close, we would like to take the opportunity to thank all the people who help in so many ways with our Wednesday afternoon meetings.

We extend our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to everyone.

Tea Services

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our last Tea Service of the year on Wednesday 20th November at 2pm which will be led

by Brian Pateman.

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who gives up their time to prepare and lead our Tea Services, they are much appreciated by all who attend. A special thank you to Sheila, Jonathan and Andrew who provide the music for our services.

There will be no Tea Service in January, but they will return on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in February.

Carols and Cakes

The much anticipated Carols and Cakes afternoon will be on Wednesday 18th December at 2pm. We will be supporting the Growing Well project at Egremont as our Christmas charity. All are welcome.

Jackie Folkes

NEWS FROM BECKERMET SCHOOL

The second half of the Autumn term started with our Year 5/6 class going on a World War 2 residential. The children were 'evacuated' to Keswick train station. They received some lessons in marching from the Home Guard before being marched through the town and taken to Hawse End! They were issued with ID cards and ration books as they arrived and were then sent to make their beds! On their first night there was an air-raid...they had to very quiet while the Wardens patrolled the area! The second day saw the children walking up Catbells and looking for features that had changed since WW2. This was followed by some codebreaking activities...it was just like working at Bletchley Park! On their last morning, the children were involved in a search and rescue mission, finding the 'crew' of a plane that had crashed. Some of the walkers were rather concerned about the number of bandaged children they saw down by the lake! The children were fantastic ambassadors for Beckermest School and had a great time...but were a 'little' tired the next day!!

On Monday 11th November the children took part in a lovely Remembrance service in school. Lots of our school family were able to join us to remember those who have lost their lives for us.

Finally, on Children in Need Day we have Nathan coming in to school so we all have the opportunity to participate in wheelchair basketball!! We're all very excited!!

*Susan Alderson
Senior Teacher*

BECKERMET COMMUNITY NEWS

Christmas can be one of the most magical times of the year if celebrated in the correct way. Unfortunately, as each year goes by it has become more and more commercialised with the emphasis on getting people to spend, even if they can't really afford it. For many have lost sight of what Christmas is all about - the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Christmas is also about sharing time with families and loved ones and a time of thinking about others who are less fortunate than ourselves. Please spare a thought and make a donation to one of the many charities who support the homeless or donate some food items for local families in need during these difficult times. Food donations can be left in the Foodbank boxes in the Reading Rooms and Church porch. If every household in Beckermets donated just a single item then we would have over 300 items!

Forthcoming Village Activities in the Reading Rooms (unless stated otherwise)

Coffee Cake & Chat: Normally on Tuesdays 9.30 -11.30am & Thursdays 1.30 - 3.30pm.

Please note Christmas & New Year changes: - **Monday** 23rd 9.30-11.30am; **Friday** 27th 9.30 -11.30am; **Monday** 30th Dec 9.30 -11.30am; **Friday** 3rd January 9.30 -11.30am

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 29th Nov. | Village Christmas Lights switch on 6pm in Church |
| 30th Nov. | Barley Hop Ceilidh 7-11pm |
| 3rd Dec. | Village Lottery Draw at 10am (12 prizes to be won) |
| 6th Dec. | Christmas Quiz Night 6.30-8.30pm All welcome |
| 7th Dec. | Breakfast with Santa 9.30-11.30am |
| 8th Dec. | Christmas Village Fayre 2.00-4.00p |
| 13th Dec. | Christmas Bingo Evening 6.30-8.30pm All welcome |
| 15th Dec. | Children's Christmas Party 1.00pm |
| 18th Dec. | Two Rivers Rock with mince pies/mulled wine 7pm |
| 21st Dec. | Two Rivers Rock Evening in the Whitemare |
| 22nd Dec. | Children's Christmas Movie Afternoon 2.00pm |
| 6th Jan. | Village Lottery Draw (12 prizes to be won) |
| 10th Jan. | Village Quiz Night 6.30-8.30pm (All Welcome) |
| 17th Jan. | Village Bingo Evening 6.30-8.30pm (All Welcome) |

The latest new activity has been the introduction of a free monthly film night thanks to a grant obtained from the GDF. Our first night was well attended by 30 who enjoyed "One Life" which told the story of how Nicholas Winton saved the lives of almost 700 Jewish children prior to the start of the second world war in 1939. A truly emotional film that left many moved.

Many thanks to all who help with the above village activities and also a big thanks to the small band of volunteers who have been out and cleared away all the fallen autumn leaves.

John Mackay
john.mackay52@btinternet.com
01946 841429 0791285948

VILLAGE CAROL SINGING
and
CAROL SERVICE IN GOSFORTH
Sunday 15th December

Assemble in the Village Car Park for 6.30pm and sing carols on the way to St Mary's Church via Meadowfield Grove and Meadowfield for a Carol Service at 7.00pm followed by mulled wine and mincepies.

**WE HOPE THAT MANY PEOPLE WILL
COME & JOIN IN
AND MAKE IT A REAL VILLAGE EVENT!**



MINIBUS SHOPPING SERVICE
Gosforth – Seascale

Following a fire at the village shop, Gosforth Parish Council has arranged for an 8-seater minibus service from Gosforth to Seascale – free to Gosforth residents - which will operate on a first-come, first served basis. The times are as follows:

The bus will leave Gosforth Car Park at 9.30 am and return from Seascale Co-op at 10.30 am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

No service on Christmas Day or New Years Day

On Wednesdays and Saturdays **Village Wheels** transport is available from Gosforth to Seascale Co-op. For details phone 01228 226430.

Gosforth Parish Council wishes to thank the Mid-Copeland GDF Community Partnership for their support.

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West Lakes U3A DECEMBER events

Full details can be found on our website.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/west-lakes/events>

Or contact smithybrow@icloud.com or 07817499849

Visitors are very welcome to attend a couple of meetings or activities before becoming a member.



Current annual membership is £6 There is usually a small charge for indoor meetings.

Cycling – 1st Monday morning monthly – meet Gosforth

Tai Chi – Mondays - weekly Gosforth Public Hall at 11.30

Chair based exercises – Wednesdays weekly Gosforth Public Hall

Folk Dancing – Friday afternoon weekly Gosforth Public Hall 2pm

Ukelele - 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings - House group

French conversation – Wednesday mornings weekly – The Kellbank

History – 1st Wednesday morning monthly - Drigg Village Hall

Indoor Bowls – Wednesday afternoons weekly from 8th January. Pre booking essential. See website for details

Foundation recorder – 1st Thursday and 3rd Wednesday monthly Santon Hall

Singing for Fun – 1st Thursday afternoon monthly Seascale Methodist Church

Strolling – 2nd Monday afternoon monthly

Discussion – 2nd Tuesday morning monthly - House group

Art Appreciation – 2nd Thursday morning monthly - St Joseph's Seascale

Advanced Recorder Consort – 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons Santon Hall

Intermediate Recorder – 2nd and 4th Friday morning Santon Hall

Family History – 3rd Tuesday morning monthly Santon Hall

IT Drop in – Wednesdays monthly - 4- 5pm Gosforth Library – check website for dates

Open Mind - 3rd Thursday morning monthly Gosforth Public Hall

Chatty Lunch – 3rd Thursday morning to follow Open Mind Gosforth Public Hall

Discovery – 4th Tuesday afternoon monthly – St Mary's Room, Gosforth

Reading – 4th Thursday morning monthly - currently full – St Mary's Room, Gosforth

Out and About – dates vary – check website

NEWS FROM GADS - GOSFORTH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

GADS Pantomime – The Pied Piper, by Alan Frayn. January 2025



This year we have another novel pantomime for you – from one of our favourite and well used authors, Alan Frayn. Although this is a lesser known pantomime and it isn't often seen, this is a real

winner! The performance is full of lots of very funny jokes (?), the usual comedy duo, a motley crew of rats and other people of dubious reputations. We can assure you that no rats (or children) were harmed in any of the rehearsals or performances. Please come along and join in the fun.

This year we will be performing from **Wednesday 22 to Saturday 25 January 2025**. **Tickets will go on sale to groups (Scouts, Guides etc) on 2 December**, to GADS members on 9 December, and to the public from 16 December. Ticket prices have been held once again and remain at £7.50 for adults and £5 for u18 / students, with a 50p per ticket discount for groups of 10 or more. This discount should also be available for online bookings. Wednesday and Thursday shows are usually very busy with several good- humoured groups from the local scouts, cubs, brownies, beavers etc. Either is a great night to come along if you want to support their energetic audience participation. Remember, we now include a Saturday afternoon matinee for those of you with younger children or who prefer a daytime show. Seating plans and ticket sales will be shown on the ticket sales platform TicketSource and there is a link to this on the GADS website. When booking opens, you can still book in person or by emailing gadsgosforth@gmail.com using the Subject "Tickets". Or you can book online at ticketsource.co.uk/gadsgosforth, for which there is a small booking fee. If there are any left, tickets will also be available on the door, where we can take payment by cash, card or phone.

All of the evening shows will start at 7pm and the Saturday matinee show will start at 1pm, **For all shows, booking is recommended, and the doors will open 30 minutes before the start**. We will have the usual complimentary programme and light refreshments during the interval and there will also be ice cream on sale during the interval, thanks to Ravenglass Handmade Ice Creams. We are doing our bit to help raise money for the Public Hall refurbishment project so 50p from each ice cream sale will go towards this worthy cause.

Our Spring Production – Shrek, the musical

Could you be the next Shrek, Fiona, Donkey or Pinocchio? Then join us for auditions for Shrek the Musical at the Public Hall on the 25th and 27th

February for performances on 26 to 28 June. Keep an eye on our Facebook page or contact us to add you to our mailing list so you don't miss any if the audition information. We will also be asking for some sponsors for the show so if you can help with this (any amount big or small) please get in touch

GADS Youth Theatre Group

Calling All Young Stars. Are you aged 8-17 and eager to take to the stage? The GADS Youth Theatre Group is thrilled to announce its first-ever public performance – Seussical Jr. – coming to Gosforth Village Hall on April 4, 2025! This is a fantastic opportunity to bring beloved characters to life, build confidence, and make new friends. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays during term time from 5-6:30 pm. No prior experience is required, just your enthusiasm! If you're ready to be part of something magical, email gadsgosforth@gmail.com to join

Jim Polmear, GADS

GOSFORTH WI

The Gosforth WI bring-and-share afternoon Christmas party will take place on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at Gosforth Public Hall at 1 pm. The competition will be a Christmas table decoration. The Harp Ladies will entertain us with their playing, followed by singing Christmas carols. Always a fun event!



Gosforth WI have entered a tree adorned with hand-made decorations in the Seascale Christmas Tree Festival on 7th / 8th December in St Cuthbert's church. Do come along to see all the beautiful trees entered by us and other local groups.

A Christmas celebration formal dinner will take place on Weds 11th December 2024 at 7 pm at Sella Park Hotel. Menu pre-orders to Ann McKenzie, please.

On 7th January 2025, Gosforth WI will meet as usual in Gosforth Public Hall but in the afternoon, from 1 pm to 3 pm. The speaker will be Dave Allery to talk to us about bell ringing; the competition will be Bring a Bell (real or ornamental).

Visitors are welcome to come for two meetings and hopefully then join as new members. We have lots of events - crafting, trips out, afternoon teas, etc - and speakers every month on a range of subjects.

The Secretary - Gosforth WI

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GOSFORTH SCHOOL NEWS



Year 6 recently spent an afternoon clearing the leaves from the path up to church. The leaves were collected up and will be used to make leaf mould. As part of their Science work, Loweswater spent the morning at Workington Nature Reserve. They looked at habitats and got to do a bit of pond dipping. The children in Year 3 visited Florence Mine for a rock workshop. They got to make their own formations and

bring them back to school.

Fogs held the Autumn Disco which was enjoyed by almost every child in school. They have two crafting workshops planned in the coming weeks and the Christmas Market held in school on Saturday 7th December from 10am until 2pm. Refreshments available and free entry. They are also hosting the Candlelit Concert in church at 7pm on Friday 13th December. Tickets can be purchased on the door.

Our Remembrance Service was held in the church with British Legion representatives in attendance. Children who are part of Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, Beavers and Squirrels all dressed in their club uniform. We reflected on those who sacrificed their lives at war.

Sporting events continue with some of the Year 6 children visiting Whitehaven Academy for a netball tournament and Cross Country. A small team competed through at Hollywood Bowl in Carlisle. They had a game of ten pin bowling with one of our team winning a medal for the most strikes. Our school has also been awarded a plaque from The Football Association and Barclays Football to mark our achievement in providing equal access to girls' football. Reverend Rachel joined us for a morning of maypole dancing with our fantastic new indoor maypole kindly funded by Wasdale May Festival. Each class completed several dances in varying complexity.

The whole school had a visit from local author Scott Findley, also known as The Ambitious Plonker. He shared one of the books he has written with the children and talked about perseverance. The children found the visit hugely inspiring and some have made a start on writing their own book.

As a school we had a non-uniform day to raise funds for Children in Need and marked Anti-bullying Week. The theme this year is Choose Respect. We start the week with Odd Socks Day which is a day when schools, workplaces, and individuals join together to show that it's okay to be different and to stand up against bullying and discrimination.

Mrs S Layzell
Assistant Headteacher



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GOSFORTH LIBRARY

Opening hours as follows:
Saturday: 10.00 – 12.00 hrs.
Monday: 13.00 – 14.30 hrs.
Wednesday: 16.00 – 17.30 hrs.



The library is looking for more volunteers to continue with this village service. You do not need any library skills to be a volunteer and there will always be two on duty. It does not involve a lot of your time – anything from a 2-hour session once a month, or once a week. If you are able to help, drop into the library and have a chat with the volunteers on duty.

MUNCASTER MICROBUS

Demand for the Microbus has never been higher and we could run more services if we had more drivers. We don't mind how often you drive, so if you could only drive for us every few weeks, please do contact us.

If you would like to volunteer as a driver or to book any journeys ring Gill on: 01229-717229

The Microbus can get you there even in these times of dwindling bus services.

Trips coming up are:

Whitehaven shopping trips every Tuesday and Thursday – FREE if you have a NoWcard bus pass.

- Wednesday 27th November – Workington - £8.50
- Saturday 7th December – Carlisle – £11.00
- Sunday 8th December – Taste Cumbria – Cockermouth
- Friday 20th December – Egremont Farmers Market
(£3 donation to the market)
- Saturday 21st December – Workington - £8.50
- Saturday 18th January – Houghton Hall and Lakes Home Centre - £11
- Saturday 1st February – Kendal - £10.50

GOSFORTH INDOOR MAT BOWLING CLUB

The Club will meet on Wed. 4th & Wed. 11th Dec. from 2-4pm in Gosforth Public Hall. £3 per session. Please bring clean flat shoes to protect the mats. Spare bowls available. Re-starts again on Wed. 8th January, 2025.



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HOLMROOK READING ROOM
OUR NEXT COMMUNITY EVENT:

Sat 7th Dec – Christmas Buffet - 6:30pm
£7 for members and £7.50 for non-members

ALL WELCOME – Tickets: E-mail David on
drmarsden@outlook.com or ring 07931-393954

HOLMROOK READING ROOM

Table Tennis Club: Meets on a Wednesday - 6:00pm to 7:30pm. All welcome, young or old. Contact David on 07931-393954. Other times can be arranged.

Playground: Come and see for yourself – A lovely playground in a great setting.

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

Fishing Club: If you want to join this club it's only £11/year. If you want some more information, please contact David on 07931-393954.

Bookings: The Reading Room has a fully equipped kitchen, facilities for people with disability, in fact everything you would need for a great party. £8 / hour. Why not call David on 07931-393954 to see if it is available for your next event?

Membership: Membership renewals for 2024 are due from 1st March. £7 for annual membership and £4 to join a club.

These can be renewed/started any time. If you are an existing member or want to join us contact David on drmarsden@outlook.com or 07931-393954.



SERVICES IN THE SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY

Some Gosforth services and Phoenix services are being 'zoomed' each week. There is also a weekly liturgy available by email each Sunday.

**NB. PLEASE CHECK LOCAL NOTICES
FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE SERVICE INFORMATION**

ZOOMED SERVICES

11.00am Service of Holy Communion or Morning Worship hosted by St Mary's Church am. If you would like an invitation to this service please email stmarys.gosforth.zoom@gmail.com

Thursdays at 9.30am South Calder Mission Community Morning Prayer. For an invitation please contact David Davies – divord4@gmail.com

SUNDAY EVENINGS

1st and 3rd Sunday of Month: St Mary's Room, Gosforth

1st Sunday – Informal Worship at 6.30 pm – Songs/hymns, readings, short talk, discussion and fellowship (with occasional Holy Communion)

3rd Sunday – All-age worship at 6.30 pm – Especially suited to and often led by children + young people (and the young in heart).

Occasionally special events and circumstances may lead to changes in the regular programme.

2nd Sunday of the Month: Faith and Fellowship - 6.45 for 7pm start at various venues. Please ring Chris on 07768 421621 for details or email - free.c@outlook.com

4th Sunday of the Month: 7.00pm Phoenix Praise Informal Evening Worship

St Mary's Room Gosforth. Led by Jill and Keith Hudson. Songs/hymns, readings, short talk, discussion and fellowship followed by refreshments. For more information please email jillhudson@hotmail.co.uk and for a Zoom invitation email khudson@freenetname.co.uk or ring 01946 721592 or visit www.phoenixpraise.org.uk

SUNDAY WRITTEN LITURGY FOR THOSE AT HOME –

Into His Courts with Praise

Compiled and distributed by Brian and Helen Pateman. This weekly liturgy can be read on your PC screen or printed off week by week for use at home in a text size to suit you. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact Helen Pateman: aitchpateman@gmail.com

DECEMBER 2024 CONTINUED

Christmas Day			
25th December	Beckermet	HC	9.30
GOLD	Waberthwaite	HC	9.30
Proper	Gosforth	Family Communion	10.00
	Seascale	Methodist Service in Methodist Hall	10.30
	Drigg	HC	10.00
	Eskdale Boot	HC	11.00
	Bootle	Family HC	11.00
	Wasdale Head	HC	11.00
5th Sunday	Mission Community Sunday		
29th December	Gosforth	HC – Seatallan Benefice	10.30
Christmas 1	Drigg	HC – WLDC Benefice	11.00
WHITE	Bootle	Christmas Celebration	11.00
Proper			

JANUARY 2025

	Church	Service	Time
1st Sunday			
5th January	Nether Wasdale	HC	9.30
The Epiphany	Waberthwaite	MP	9.30
White	Seascale	HC at St Cuthbert's	9.30
Proper	Gosforth	Morning Praise in St Mary's Room	11.00
	Drigg	HC	11.00
	Eskdale Boot	HC	11.00
	Muncaster	Morning Prayer	11.00
	Whicham	HC	11.00
	Bootle	Family Service – Messy Church	3.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Methodist Evening Worship	6.30
2nd Sunday			
12th January	Beckermet	HC – Reading Rooms	9.30
Bapt of Christ	Irton	HC	9.30
White	Seascale	Methodist in Methodist Hall	9.30
Proper	Bootle	Bacon Blather & HC	11.00
	Gosforth	HC in St Mary's Room	11.00
	Wasdale Head	Morning Praise	11.00
	Drigg	Family Service	11.00
	Eskdale Boot	Morning Prayer	11.00
	Various venues	Faith and Fellowship	6.45 for 7.00
3rd Sunday			
19th January	Eskdale Green	Morning Prayer	9.30
2nd of Epiphany	Nether Wasdale	Morning Prayer	9.30
White	Waberthwaite	HC	9.30
Proper	Seascale	HC at St Cuthbert's	9.30
	Gosforth	Morning Worship – St Mary's Room	11.00
	Drigg	Morning Prayer	11.00
	Muncaster	HC	11.00
	Whicham	Family Service	11.00
	Bootle	Evening Service	4.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	All-Age Worship	6.30
4th Sunday			
26th Jan	Calder Bridge Village Hall	HC	9.30
3rd of Epiphany	Beckermet	Morning Prayer in Reading Rooms	9.30
WHITE	Eskdale Green	HC	9.30
Proper	Seascale	Methodist in Methodist Hall	10.30
	Gosforth	HC – St Mary's Room	11.00
	Wasdale Head	Celtic Praise	11.00
	Drigg	Morning Prayer	11.00
	Irton	HC	11.00
	Bootle	HC	11.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Phoenix Praise Evening Worship	7.00

SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY - DECEMBER 2024

	Church	Service	Time
1st Sunday			
1st December	Nether Wasdale	HC	9.30
Advent	Seascale	HC at St Cuthbert's	9.30
PURPLE	Waberthwaite	Morning Prayer	9.30
Proper	Gosforth	Morning Praise – St Mary's Room	11.00
	Drigg	HC	11.00
	Eskdale Boot	HC	11.00
	Muncaster	Morning Prayer	11.00
	Whicham	HC	11.00
	Bootle	Family Service - Messy Christingle	3.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Methodist Evening Worship	6.30
	Gosforth	Light up a Life Service	2.00
2nd Sunday			
8th December	Beckermet	HC	9.30
Advent 2	Seascale	Meth@St Cuthberts-Christmas Tree Festival	9.30
PURPLE	Gosforth	HC – St Mary's Room	11.00
Proper	Wasdale Head	Morning Worship	11.00
	Drigg	Family Service	11.00
	Eskdale Boot	Morning Prayer	11.00
	Corney	CAROLS	11.00
	Whicham	CAROLS	11.00
	Seascale	CAROLS at end of Festival	3.30
	Irton	CAROLS	3.00
	Beckermet	Faith and Fellowship	6.45 for 7.00
3rd Sunday			
15th December	Nether Wasdale	Morning Prayer	9.30
Advent 3	Seascale	HC at St Cuthbert's	9.30
PURPLE	Drigg	Morning Prayer - Christingle	11.00
Proper	Whicham	Christingle	11.00
	Whitbeck	Crib Service	3.00
	Eskdale	CAROLS	3.30
	Waberthwaite	CAROLS	4.00
	Gosforth	Village Carols – Leave Car Park at 6.30	6.30/7.00
4th Sunday			
22nd December	Ponsonby	HC	9.30
Advent 4	Beckermet	Morning Prayer	9.30
PURPLE	Eskdale Green	HC	9.30
Proper	Seascale	Methodist in Methodist Hall	10.30
	Gosforth	HC – St Mary's Room	11.00
	Drigg	HC	11.00
	Bootle	HC	11.00
24th December			
Christmas Eve	Waberthwaite	Crib Service	2.30
PURPLE	Seascale	Crib Service at St Cuthbert's	4.00
Proper	Gosforth	Crib Service	4.00
	Bootle	CAROLS	4.00
	Irton	Midnight HC	11.00pm
	Whicham	Midnight HC	11.30pm
	Nether Wasdale	Midnight HC	11.30pm
	Seascale	Midnight HC at St Cuthbert's	11.30pm

Cover photo: "Our winter garden companion"