# The Parish Magazine

for the Seatallan Benefice Gosforth & Wasdale Beckermet, Calderbridge & Seascale



February 2025

connecting our communities 60p

#### **Seatallan Benefice Directory**

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#### **Seatallan Benefice Directory**

(continued)

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Gosforth, Wasdale & Calderbridge - Steven & Susan Round

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

#### 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.



#### 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.

#### FROM THE RECTORY

#### **Green Shoots**

The other day, barely one day into 2025, I was outside clearing some leaves away from a corner of our garden, and there they were... blunt and determined... green shoots, lying exposed by my efforts to 'tidy things up'. I stopped and looked, unable for a moment to believe what I was seeing. What were those babies doing under there already?I wondered if I should cover them up again, reflecting as I did so, that I wasn't over last Harvest yet, let alone Christmas!... but there in front of me was the first sign of 'Spring'...completely uninvited...irrepressible. Frankly, it felt like seeing tinsel and Christmas decorations in October - just a bit uncomfortable, and a little 'out of control'.

...And that got me thinking, about the experience of 'Christmas just passed', and how I always feel a bit 'out of control' all the way through it. The 'Feast' seems to gestate for weeks, piling on the pressure, be-fore the 'Big Day', and then when it comes, the sheer amount of 'stuff' makes me feel very uneasy. Who makes it all? What will happen to it? The cardboard mountain at the recycling bins is, if you stand-back, and caste your memory back to 1995, simply incredible! In the run up to Christmas this year one local person jokingly called me 'The Grinch'. Perhaps I am!

I suppose that the real problem for me, is that I have not discovered how to relate to the 'Feast' that Christmas has become. I sort of struggle with the whole idea that we are the chief protagonists, instead of the fragile simplicity of Jesus, a figure to be uncovered like a 'green shoot' under a pile of leaves. It is such a simple picture. I don't really know how to be a Vicar at Christmas. It should be so simple.

A parishioner sent me this lovely poem a while back. It is by Howard Thurman. It was, literally an answer to a prayer, because it explains so much better than I possibly could, what I think I feel about Christmas these days.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with the flocks,
then the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost, to heal those broken in spirit,
to feed the hungry, to release the oppressed,
to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among all peoples,
to make a little music with the heart...
And to radiate the Light of Christ,
every day, in every way,
in all that we do and in all that we say.
Then the work of Christmas begins.

...You see, just as the Grinch discovered, there's more to Christmas than tinsel and toys. We all know that. But the real work of Christmas is too precious to forget. It happens in January and February.... and every day.... wherever 'life' is uncovered, and cherished as it should be.

I know that the New Year will be well under-way by the time you read this... but have a good one! May God keep us as the apple of his eye, and may he hide us all under the shadow of his almighty wing as we look forward to 2025!...

#### FROM THE SEATALLAN PARISH REGISTERS

Philip

Occasional Offices conducted between the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024 to 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025

#### **BECKERMET**

24<sup>th</sup> Nov Baptism John Matthew Tyson

9<sup>th</sup> Dec Cremation Brian Bailey

CALDER BRIDGE, PONSONBY and OLD CHURCH

5<sup>th</sup> Nov Burial of ashes Ben Ingall - Ponsonby

SEASCALE

3rd Dec Funeral and Cremation Iris Bearman

GOSFORTH, NETHER WASDALE and WASDALE HEAD

25<sup>th</sup> Nov Funeral and Burial Betty Wilson Nether Wasdale

10<sup>th</sup> Jan Cremation Derek Blencoe Gosforth



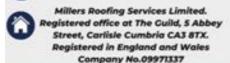
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#### **GOSFORTH PARISH CHURCH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Our meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> November was actually reported on in the Dec/ January magazine but I should have also mentioned that Malcolm Richardson had decided to step down as Chairman of the committee. We would like to thank Malcolm for steering the management team over the past year or two. Although stepping down as Chairman, Malcolm is happy to continue to be a member of the management team and we are happy to report that Rev Philip Dorling will take on the role of Chairman. The first meeting of the GPCMC for 2025 will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> March in St Mary's Room at the earlier time of 4pm.

Susan Round (Clerk to the Committee)

#### **THANK YOU**

From Amanda Keddie – Freewill Offering Officer for St Mary's

A huge thank you to all who have made a financial donation to St Mary's over the past year, whether it be on the collection plate, by using the special envelopes or by Standing Order with your bank.

In addition to ensuring that we have been able to pay all the necessary bills (insurance, utilities etc.) your donations have enabled us to -

- Pay our Parish Offer, contributing to the costs of mission and ministry of Philip and Rachel
- · Maintain and pay for repairs to St Mary's church and the churchyard
- · Make donations to our chosen missions and charities

Your continued commitment and generosity to St Mary's is greatly appreciated and valued.

Could I take this opportunity to remind those that have signed a Gift Aid declaration to keep me updated of any change of address or circumstance that may mean that I cannot claim the Gift Aid on your donations. Please email me at - <a href="mailto:amanda.c.keddie@btinternet.com">amanda.c.keddie@btinternet.com</a>, should there be any change required to your declaration.

If you need to speak to anyone regarding your donations, please contact me or Ali Harlow who will be please to help.

Thank you again, Amanda

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

We missed out in January but this month's date is **Thursday 6**<sup>th</sup> **February**. Everyone is most welcome to come along and enjoy our home baking and a cuppa and a chat! I know that both Seascale and Beckermet have similar groups, also advertised in the magazine, so why not move around and get to know each other better



There is no charge but we always have a collection for a charity and this month our collection will go to Embrace the Middle East to help with aid to Gaza, following the ceasefire agreement.

#### CALDERWOOD HOUSE, EGREMONT



The people at Calderwood House were thrilled when we took in a basket of sweets and a card from St Mary's Church. They sent a very big thank you to all those who donated to make their Christmas a bit special.

Ruth Murray

#### SAINT FOR FEBRUARY - REV. THOMAS BRAY

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of February the Church of England remembers The Revd. Thomas Bray, who died in 1730, although he is, technically, not Saint! He is, however, important for his desire to spread the good news of the Gospel. He attempted it first as a missionary in Maryland, America, but realised that something stronger was needed. He returned to Britain and in 1698 founded the Society for



Promoting Christian Knowledge, known usually by its initials – SPCK. Some may remember the shop in Carlisle, now sadly gone. To give more emphasis to his desire to spread the good news, in 1701 he founded The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, or SPG as it was known, also no longer existing in its original form. It was the first Church of England missionary society. So, can we follow his example of spreading the Gospel?

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#### **GOSFORTH AND SEASCALE BABY AND TODDLER GROUPS**

Both groups enjoyed Christmas Parties, with playleader Heather Charalambous, before they finished at the end of term, and had an opportunity to meet Santa and receive a small gift from him! The new group at Seascale (awarded a grant from GDF) which takes place on Friday mornings in St Cuthbert's Church has been very well attended.

The Gosforth group is held on Tuesday mornings in St Mary's Room and both take place from 10 - 11.30am during term-time. New members are always very welcome.





#### **GOSFORTH KNITTED NATIVITY FIGURES**





We had a busy time before Christmas in Our Curate Rachel, who was Gosforth! taking our Crib Service on Christmas Eve, suggested we should knit our own Nativity figures as the plaster ones we had used for many years were looking very much the worse for wear. Mary's head had fallen off several times during previous services and been re-stuck and some of the animals had disappeared. I managed to find a pattern, bought many years ago with good intentions. and Ann McKenzie rallied the knitters in the congregation and her friends, and we all chose our characters to knit - not quite as easy as we thought! The knitting was in fact the easy part - it was the sewing together

that was the problem – which way round should this head go? However, they were all finished for Christmas Eve and this is the result! Many thanks to everyone who helped.









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#### FEBRUARY SERVICES AT ST OLAF'S

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February – 11am Morning Worship Sunday 23rd February – 11am Morning Praise On Sundays 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February there is a service at Nether Wasdale at 9.30am.

**2024** - St Olaf's draft Financial Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December was published in early January. It was a year of growth, with a substantial increase in income, and reduction in expenses, enabling our treasurer to transfer a further £23000 to the restoration fund. We are also so grateful for grants and donations to the fund and we believe that we can finally reach the £250000 target before the end of 2025, enabling us to start the work in the Spring of next year. At last!

Visitor and pilgrim numbers increased by 11% to over 31000 in 2024 and average attendance at the 33 services held in St Olaf's was slightly up on 2023. The funeral of Joss Naylor, with an attendance of around 1200, almost certainly the largest attendance at any service in Cumbria in 2024, has been recorded seperately in the register, it was a unique and amazing tribute to Wasdale's most famous son.

**NUCLEAR WASTE SERVICES** have kindly awarded St Olaf's a grant of £2700 to cover the cost of the work on the yew trees that needs to be done prior to the start of the restoration project. This will be carried out before the end of this month. We are very grateful to Nuclear Waste Services for the grant.

CHRISTMAS – it was great to see a crowded bar at the Wasdale Head Inn for the annual 'Carols at the Inn', on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, kindly hosted by the Inn, and led by Rev Rachel Cunliffe with Margie Simper on keyboard. And there were no empty seats at the Festival Communion Service at St Olaf's on Christmas Day led by the Rector, Philip Dorling. A memorable Christmas.

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#### **FEBRUARY 2025**

The February meeting will be "Inspired by St David" on **Monday 24**<sup>th</sup> **February at 2pm** in Seascale Methodist Church Hall. If you need transport, please contact Norma on 25366 in Gosforth or Mary on 27641 in Seascale.

If you haven't already paid your membership fee for 2025 please do so as soon as possible. Please pay £30 to Jonathan Falkner or Mary Waterhouse either by bank transfer (details from Jonathan Falkner), cash or a cheque made out to Carlisle Diocese Mothers' Union. Members of the Gosforth Section can give the cash or cheque to Ruth Schofield

**February Prayer** – We give thanks to you Lord, for our membership in the global Mothers' Union. May we be blessed with a sense of connection and belonging. May we accept the call in the power of the Holy Spirit to grow in faith. May we be empowered in all that we do and say to help others. May we bloom where you plant us. O Lord. Amen

#### PRAYER TOPICS - Please pray for: -

- The contribution and commitment of MU's four million or so members as they aim to be effective witnesses for Christ and strive to end poverty, injustice and violence
- The new Worldwide Board of Trustees and the officials of Carlisle Diocese MU as they take up their positions at the beginning of this new triennial.
- The programmes and projects that MU members are involved in as they seek to love and serve their communities.
- We pray for those looking at new ways in which MU can develop to meet the needs of this changing world.
- Those benefiting from the "Away from it All" projects in this country and particularly at the caravan at St Bees.
- The patients and nurses who use the items taken by our deanery branches to the West Cumberland Hospital.

**GIVING THANKS** – the 2025 MU prayer diary encourages us to remember to give thanks in our prayers and has spaces to reflect on and record our thanks. As this is written the news has come that there is a truce declared in the conflict in Gaza. Let us give thanks for this and each of us reflect on what we should give thanks for day by day.

# JJ HRYB

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animals in our care along with any essentials needed by the team for each animals care plan.





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#### ...the 10 Commandments for everyone!

The meetings continue into February on the following dates:



Thursday 6th Feb Week 8 - Take God Seriously

Thursday 13th Feb Week 9 - Know God

Thursday 20th Feb Week 10 - Live by priorities'

All the meetings are held in St Mary's Room, beginning at 7.00 pm

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

#### **ALL WELCOME**

#### WHO WAS ST VALENTINE?

My father died peacefully, aged 85, while sitting in his favourite chair on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1984 – St Valentine's Day. I had visited him that morning and he had asked me that question – Who was St Valentine? He also told me, not for the first time (!), that 14<sup>th</sup> February was the birds' wedding day!

Saint Valentine was in fact a Catholic priest who had also worked as a doctor. He lived in Italy during the third century AD and served as a priest in Rome. After he began working as a priest, Valentine became famous for marrying couples who were in love but couldn't get legally married in Rome during the reign of Emperor Claudius II, who outlawed weddings.

When Emperor Claudius discovered that Valentine was performing weddings, he was sent to jail. Valentine used his time in jail to continue to reach out to people with the love that he said Jesus Christ gave him for others.

He helped his jailer's blind daughter Julia with her lessons and, before he was martyred on 14<sup>th</sup> February 270, he wrote her a last note to encourage her to stay close to Jesus and to thank her for being his friend and signed the note "From your Valentine" – the first Valentine Card!

Norma Hughes

#### **NEWS FROM SEASCALE**

#### **Messy Church**

Our next Messy Church takes place on Saturday February 15<sup>th</sup> at St Cuthbert's from 11am - 1pm and includes lunch. All are welcome to come and join in the craft activities, story, singing and lunch!

Mary Waterhouse



A photo of the Christmas Concert with West Lakes Windband and Tethera Brass held in St Cuthbert's Church in December, which also shows the decorated Christmas Trees from the Christmas Tree Festival.

#### Wednesday afternoon Outreach

A Christmas thank you to the members who decorated our Christmas tree for the Christmas Tree Festival and to everyone who helped in many ways with Christmas activities.

The first **Tea and Chat** meeting of the year was well attended despite the cold weather.

The February Tea and Chat meeting for members will be a shared soup lunch.

We continue to remember all those who are not able to join us for meetings and ensure we keep in touch with them. We extend our best wishes to a couple of our members who have recently moved into care homes and pray for them as they settle into their new surroundings.

#### **Tea Services**

The Carols and Cakes afternoon with Phoenix Praise was once again a special start to Christmas, I quote from someone who attended "That was truly wonderful, I have never been before". We extend our grateful thanks to all the members of Phoenix Praise who willingly give of their time at such a busy time of the year.

The first Tea Service this year will be on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm and will be led by Revd. Dr Kilworth-Mason.

All are welcome at these services.

Saturday Morning Coffee from 10 - 11.30 am in the Methodist Church Hall - All welcome.

#### A date for your diaries

Copeland Crafters for Ukraine Coffee morning Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 10am – 12noon in Seascale Methodist Church Hall – further details next month

Jackie Folkes

#### Over 50's Youth Club

This continues to take place weekly from 2.00 to 4.00 pm in the Methodist Church Hall on Tuesday afternoons and is run by Shackles Off. Everyone most welcome to come along for a games afternoon or just a chat and a cuppa.

#### **NEWS FROM CALDERBRIDGE AND PONSONBY**



In December we held our Carol Service in Ponsonby Church on what was a very wet and windy weekend. Despite the weather warning and it being an evening service lots of people turned out and it was well attended.

The Church was very atmospheric having been beautifully decorated with foliage, candles and lots of twinkly lights and drew lots of appreciative compliments.

After a joyful service given by David Rudd, we enjoyed socialising over

warming Mulled wine and Mince pies, putting us all in the festive spirit.

Services will now resume in the newly refurbished Village Hall beginning on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am with Holy Communion, followed by refreshments.

We hope you will join us and come to see the new improvements.

Future services are: 23rd February

23<sup>th</sup> March

Dates for your Diary:

26th April Easter Afternoon Tea and Raffle

12th July Summer Fayre with all the usual Stalls and Raffles

#### **BECKERMET COMMUNITY NEWS**

By the time you are reading this we will be a few weeks into 2025 but I would still like to wish you all a Happy & Prosperous New Year. We are very fortunate to live where we do, with no natural or manmade disasters, when you see what is happening in different parts of the world.

Thinking of others who are less fortunate than many of us, please can I take this opportunity to remind all members of our community that we are still collecting for the local food bank. Any donation, however small, will be greatly appreciated. (tinned/packet etc. not fresh) and can be left in the porch of the Reading Rooms.

As per last winter, due to the unreliability of the boiler in St John's Church, it was agreed we would once again move our twice monthly services into the village Reading Rooms. A bonus of using the Reading Rooms is the ability to use the large TV screen to display the service for all to see. The services start at 9.30am, with a quick turnaround afterwards to enable the Yoga Group to set up and start their class at 11am. The services each month are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays with Communion on the first of these taken by the Rev Philip Dorling with the second one, taken by the Rev Rachel Cunliffe. Services will continue to be in the Reading Rooms until the 23rd March when we will return to church. It would be lovely to see you at one of these services where you will be made to feel most welcome.

The village Reading Rooms will be closed for a month, starting on the 17th March, while exterior work is undertaken at the front of the building which will include the installation of new double doors and an electric disabled lift. The building has been well used over the past couple of months, covering the Christmas period, including Breakfast with Santa, Children's Christmas Party and a free Pie & Pea lunch for the over 60s. (the latter being provided by the village Social Committee), and our local village choir "Two Rivers Rock" entertained the village on three occasions. Donations received at these events raised over £250, together with a large quantity of tinned food, with both being donated to the local food bank to help those in most need over Christmas.

We now also have a monthly Friday Cinema Night. There is no charge for attending and the bar will be open to buy refreshments, including alcohol. The following films will be shown:

24<sup>th</sup> January – The Lady in the Van 14<sup>th</sup> February – Sightseers

14th March - Back to Black

On the **second Wednesday of each month** there is an **Open Mic Night** where various local musicians come along and play for enjoyment and entertain others. Entry is free and the bar is open.

As well as all these various one-off activities the **Coffee Cake & Chat** sessions continue on Tuesday from 9.30-11.30am and on a Thursday from 1.30-3.30pm. There is no charge for tea/coffee and cakes but a donation is welcome but not compulsory. You don't need to live in Beckermet to come along – everyone welcome.

The **Soup Lunches** on the third Wednesday of the month will start again on **February 19**<sup>th</sup> in the Reading Rooms after having a couple of months break.

Our monthly **Quiz & Bingo Evenings** continue to be enjoyed by our regulars with new comers always welcome. **Quiz Nights: 7**<sup>th</sup> **Feb and 4th March, with Bingo on 21**<sup>st</sup> **Feb and 28**<sup>th</sup> **March**. All on Friday evenings starting at 6.30pm in the Reading Rooms and lasting for approximately two hours.

Our **Village Lottery** continues with the monthly draw taking place at around 10am on the first Tuesday of each month during Coffee Cake & Chat in the Reading Rooms. The next two draws will take place on the **4**<sup>th</sup> **February & 4**<sup>th</sup> **March**. We have around 170 members which will provide over £2,000 in Prize Money during the year, with the same amount available for good causes in the village. Individuals and groups can apply for financial support. If you need help then use the contact details at the end of this article.

For more information about any of the events in the Reading Rooms or village please check either the Beckermet Reading Room or Beckermet Village Facebook pages for details. Please try to support as many of these activities as possible to continue making the Reading Rooms the central hub for village activities.

John Mackay john.mackay52@btinternet.com 01946 841429 0791285948 Our Curate Rachel and husband Chris visited Boston at the end of last year and Chris has written a little about its interesting history in relation to Britian.

#### A TRIP TO BOSTON



The cradle of liberty, birthplace of American independence, the Athens of America and Beantown, are all names used to describe Boston, Massachusetts. With events like the Boston Tea Party, the first battles of the American Revolutionary War and the birthplace of Benjamin Franklin,

it is easy to see why. But why did this revolution happen? Why did it happen here? These were all questions on my mind during a recent visit to the city?

In the 18th century the 13 colonies of British America were, together, about 5 times the size of old England, with a wide mix of size, religion and economic interests. There was little of a pan American identity, and the colonies were just as dubious of each other as they were with Britain. However, during the middle part of the century, a series of events changed the culture of British America and its relationship with the mother country. Spiritual revivals, like The First Great Awakening, created a Christian, and uniquely American, religious atmosphere. Maritime inventions, making voyages of 3 months or more, were connecting the world in a way previously unseen. This new flow of trade and ideas provided the backdrop of events to come.

Like our own times, globalisation globalised conflict, and this came to a head during the Seven Years War (1756-63). Britain, led by William Pitt the Elder, was victorious on 4 continents. Winston Churchill, who resembled Pitt in so many ways, described the Seven Years War as 'the first world war'. And with the removal of the French from Canada, the colonists of British America were one of the key beneficiaries of this war. The issue was that these victories did not come cheap; should the colonies therefore pay for this new level of security? They thought not, but London thought it could and should tap their new-found wealth. Stamp duty was imposed on American legal transactions (Stamp Act 1765) but most famously was the tax on tea.

These actions set British America on fire with a rage of injustice. So much so that on a December night in 1773, fifty 'patriots' dressed as Mohawk Indians, dumped 343 chests of tea into Boston harbour, an event which became known as the Boston Tea Party.



Nobody likes taxes, but why was their attitude so hostile? Ironically it was a deeply British idea which fuelled these opinions. The colonists did think of themselves as British, and therefore the heirs to Magna Carter, the Glorious Revolution, the rule of law, parliamentary constitutional government, and all that comes with it. The idea that taxes could be imposed without any consent or representation amounted to nothing short of tyranny. They viewed the actions of the government in London as contrary to natural law and an offence to their 'unalienable rights' given to them by God. Clearly something had to give.

Initially the colonist's frustration was with the government, not the King, George III, and an early idea of a compromise was to have the monarchy to be the unifying force of free and self-ruling American dominions. Interestingly this became the 20<sup>th</sup> century model of the British Empire but in the context of the 18<sup>th</sup> century it was not sustainable. George III didn't want the hassle of dealing with potentially 13 other parliaments (Westminster was enough!) Furthermore, Westminster didn't want to upset the long-fought balance of power between parliament and crown.

The tensions boiled over in April 1775, when a British patrol, which left Boston Common for Concord to search for rebel military supplies, exchanged fire. This was taken as a declaration of war and subsequently started the siege of Boston. At this time Boston sat at the top of a narrow-necked peninsula surrounded by hills. One of those was Bunker Hill, to the north across the Charles River, and this became the location of one of the first major battles of the war, and was technically a British victory. However, the new Continental Army now under the command of General George Washington, began to surround and fortify the hills overlooking Boston. The British became stuck on the peninsula and unable to move. Their position became untenable and on St Patrick's Day 1776 they evacuated, leaving Boston forever.

A few months later the Declaration of Independence was signed but the war dragged on ending with the British surrender at Yorktown in 1781. It is evident Boston played a key part in these events. Yet the events themselves weren't particularly great in size militarily (122 were killed in



the Battle of Concord compared with 20,000 at Waterloo). But they were great in other ways. The events which happened here formed the creation story of the United States of America and the ideals it enshrines. It is how this story, of rebellion, self-determinism and liberty, is interpreted and reimagined, which makes America what it is today, for better or for worse.

Christopher Cunliffe

#### **HOME FIRE SAFETY VISITS**

Did you know that you can request a home safety visit from the Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service free of charge?

Home safety visits are available to help people live independently and deal with any potential fire hazards in their homes.

During the visit they will carry out a home fire safety assessment where they will help you with a fire escape plan so that you and your family will know how to react and escape if you have a fire. They might also fit a 10-year powered sealed cell smoke detector free of charge after having given you the fire safety information. All personnel carry ID and will never ask for a fee.

To get in touch with Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service call their free phone number – 0800 358 4777 or email: <a href="mailto:hart@cumbriafire.gov.uk">hart@cumbriafire.gov.uk</a>

If you would prefer, you can pop a letter asking for smoke alarms through the Fire Station door (behind the Co-op in Seascale) with your name, address and contact number. They aim to get in touch with you within 2 weeks.

This is a free service and no money will be asked for!

#### West Lakes U3A FEBRUARY events

Full details can be found on our website.

<a href="https://u3asites.org.uk/west-lakes/events">https://u3asites.org.uk/west-lakes/events</a>
Or contact <a href="mailto:smithybrow@icloud.com">smithybrow@icloud.com</a> or 07817499849</a>

Visitors are very welcome to attend a couple of meetings or activities before becoming a member. Current annual membership is £7 There is usually a small charge for indoor meetings.



Cycling – 1st Monday morning - monthly –meet Gosforth

Tai Chi - Monday - weekly Gosforth Public Hall

Chair based exercises – Wednesdays - weekly Gosforth Public Hall

Folk Dancing – Friday afternoon weekly - Gosforth Public Hall at 2pm

**Ukelele** - 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings - Housegroup

**French conversation** – Wednesday morning - weekly – The Kellbank - currently full

**History** – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday morning - monthly. Drigg Village Hall

**Indoor Bowls** – Wednesday afternoon weekly from 8<sup>th</sup> January. Prebooking essential. See website for details

**Foundation recorder** – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly Santon Hall

**Singing for Fun** – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday afternoon - monthly - Seascale Methodist Church

**Strolling** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday afternoon - monthly

**Discussion** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning - monthly. House group

**Art Appreciation** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday morning - monthly. St Joseph's Seascale

**Advanced Recorder Consort** – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday afternoon - Santon Hall

**Intermediate Recorder** – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday morning - Santon Hall **Family History** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday morning - monthly - Santon Hall

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

**Open Mind** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday morning – monthly - Gosforth Public Hall **Chatty Lunch** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday morning to follow Open Mind - Gosforth Public Hall

**Discovery** – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday afternoon - monthly – St Mary's Room, Gosforth

 ${f Reading}-4^{th}$  Thursday morning - monthly - currently full - St Mary's Room, Gosforth

Out and About – dates vary – check website

### **MJH SERVICES**

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#### **GOSFORTH SCHOOL NEWS**



The end of the Autumn term is always a busy one and last term was no exception. Christmas plays were a great success with each of the performances a sell out. Some of the older children were spreading joy with their singing at Bradbury House, outside the bakery and at Morrisons in Whitehaven. The younger children spent the morning at Planet Play as their Christmas treat - Santa popped in to

deliver each of them a present. The older children travelled to The Theatre by the Lake to see The Jungle Book. We ended the term with the Carol and Christingle Service in church.

FOGS also worked hard in the run up to Christmas banking just over £3500! Some of this will go towards buying new curriculum resources this term. Activities planned for the coming weeks include Valentine's discos and an exciting evening of Bingo.

The children in Year 5 will be taking part in Cyclewise training next week. Cyclewise provides essential cycling training, which teaches children how to ride safely on roads and navigate various traffic situations. We are very grateful for this funded initiative.

Mrs S Layzell Assistant Headteacher

#### **GOSFORTH LIBRARY**

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

01946725888



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.

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#### Services

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#### **NEWS FROM GADS** - GOSFORTH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY



By the time you read this, our pantomime will be over and we will be recovering - but not for long.

Our spring production will be one that a lot of people will know - Shrek - The Musical. It's the laughter and song filled story of a little ogre

named 'Shrek'. Based on the Dreamworks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig. There will be a workshop on the 13<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Supper Room at the Public Hall, where you can meet the team and get information about the show.

Auditions will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February in the Public Hall so if you could be our Shrek, Fiona, Donkey or Fairy tale creatures please get in touch for audition information. Show dates will be 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International.

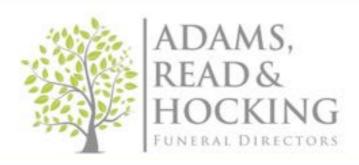
The GADS Youth Theatre have been hard at work getting ready for their productions of Seussical Jr. There is still time for any 8 to 18 year old to join the group for this production, but you will need to be quick. As an experimental first for the Youth Theatre Group, there will be a public performance of the show on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025, so please come along and support their valiant efforts.

This year's Summer Youth Workshop will take place from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025 and will be run by Natasha McGregor. More information will follow, but at least you can hold the date if your youngsters would like to join this popular event.

You can visit <a href="www.gads.org.uk">www.gads.org.uk</a> or email <a href="gadsgosforth@gmail.com">gadsgosforth@gmail.com</a> for more information about anything GADS.

#### **GOSFORTH INDOOR MAT BOWLING CLUB**

The Club meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2 - 4pm in Gosforth Public Hall. £3.50 per session, including refreshments. Please bring clean flat shoes to protect the mats. Spare bowls available for you to try. Annual Membership (Jan. - Dec.) is £8.



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#### 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.

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.

#### **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.

- Saturday 1st February Kendal £10.50
- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February Workington £8.50
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February Egremont Farmers Market £3 donation to the market
- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March Windermere and Ambleside including Hayes Garden World – £10.50
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March Penrith 10.50
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March Egremont Farmers Market £3 donation to the market

David Marsden



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#### REPORT FROM GOSFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Gosforth Parish Council have numerous projects on the go. The two bigger projects are The Public Hall refurbishment and the Parish Plan.

The Public Hall refurbishment will take a number of years to complete as each stage requires us, alongside the Public Hall Committee, to apply for funding from various places. The plans have been drawn up and are available to view in the village Library. The Public Hall are looking for new committee members, if you are interested, or would like to know more, please get in touch with the Parish Council.

**The Parish Plan** is a 10/12 year plan for the Parish. We last completed a Parish Plan in 2012. A questionnaire will be getting delivered to every household and business over the next few weeks and we urge as many people as possible to fill it out and return by the deadline. We will use your answers to make a plan for the parish and publish our findings.

Gosforth Parish Council can be contacted via email gosforth.parish2@outlook.com.

You are also welcome to attend our monthly Parish meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6.30pm in the Village Library.

Rachel Unsworth Chairperson



#### **GOSFORTH WI**

The Gosforth WI will meet at 7.15 pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in Gosforth Public Hall. This month's speaker is Mark Sarrington who will talk to us about the work done by Hospice at Home.



Anyone with an interest in this worthy charity is very welcome to attend as a visitor.

The competition will be: a bright yellow item. Light refreshments will be served, as usual.

Karen Warmoth

#### HOLMROOK READING ROOM AGM

5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7:30pm in the Reading Room

#### 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 2025 are due from 1<sup>st</sup> January. £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 <a href="mailto:drmarsden@outlook.com">drmarsden@outlook.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:stmarys.gosforth.zoom@gmail.com">stmarys.gosforth.zoom@gmail.com</a>

Thursdays at 9.30am South Calder Mission Community Morning Prayer. For an invitation please contact David Davies – <a href="mailto:divord4@gmail.com">divord4@gmail.com</a>

#### 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. These services are services of Seascale Methodist Church and its Gosforth Methodist congregation, and as such are safeguarded by their safeguarding processes.

**2**nd Sunday of the Month: Faith and Fellowship - 7.00pm at Various Locations. Please ring Chris on 07768 421621 for details or email free.c@outlook.com This group has no formal or legal connection with the Church of England or the Methodist Church in England.

### **4<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="mailto:jillhudson@hotmail.co.uk">jillhudson@hotmail.co.uk</a> and for a Zoom invitation email <a href="mailto:khudson@freenetname.co.uk">khudson@freenetname.co.uk</a> or ring 01946 721592 or visit <a href="mailto:www.phoenixpraise.org.uk">www.phoenixpraise.org.uk</a> These services are services of Seascale Methodist Church and its Gosforth Methodist congregation, and as such are safeguarded by their safeguarding processes.

#### 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: <a href="mailto:aitchpateman@gmail.com">aitchpateman@gmail.com</a>

#### **SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY - FEBRUARY 2025**

	Church	Service	Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday			
2 <sup>rd</sup> February	Nether Wasdale	HC	9.30
Candlemas	Waberthwaite	MP	9.30
Gold	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	M Prayer	11.00
	Whicham	HC	11.00
	Bootle	Family Service - Messy Church	3.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Methodist Evening Worship	6.30
			100000
2** Sunday			
9th February	Beckermet	HC - Reading Rooms	9.30
4 <sup>th</sup> Before Lent	arton	HC	9.30
Green	Seascale	Methodist in Methodist Hall	10.30
Proper	Whicham	Bacon + Blather + HC	11.00
	Gosforth	HC - St Mary's Room	11.00
	Wasdale Head	Morning Worship	11.00
	Drigg	Family Service	11.00
	Eskdale Boot	MP	11.00
	Seascale	Faith and Fellowship	7.00
3" Sunday			
16 <sup>th</sup> February	Eskdale Green	MP	9.30
3 <sup>re</sup> before Lent	Nether Wasdale	MP	9.30
The second secon	Waberthwaite	HC	9.30
Green	Seascale	- 512	9.30
Proper	Gosforth	HC at St Cuthbert's	11.00
	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Morning Worship – St Mary's Room	-
	Drigg	Morning Worship	11.00
	Muncaster Whicham	HC South South	11.00
	441030000	Family Service	11.00
	Bootle Code of the	Evening Prayer	4.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Methodist All-Age Worship	6,30
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday			-
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Calderbridge Village Hall	HC	9.30
3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent	Beckermet	Morning Prayer - Reading Rooms	9.30
Green	Eskdale Green	нс	9.30
Proper	Seascale	Methodist in Methodist Hall	10.30
	Gosforth	HC - St Mary's Room	11.00
	Wasdale Head	Morning Prayer	11.00
	Drigg	MP	11.00
	irton	HC	11.00
	Bootle	HC	11.00

Cover photo: A winter wonderland! (N Hughes)