

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



March 2026

connecting our communities
£1

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(continued)

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 11<sup>th</sup> Jan and the 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026.

### BECKERMET

6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 - Betty Saxton - Crematorium

### CALDER BRIDGE, PONSONBY and OLD CHURCH

No Occasional Offices known

### SEASCALE

No Occasional Offices known

### GOSFORTH, NETHER WASDALE and WASDALE HEAD

22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2026 - Clive Tranter - Funeral and Burial - Gosforth  
23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2026 - Graham Hutson - Funeral and Burial - Gosforth  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 - Terence Billington - Funeral and Burial - Gosforth

## LENTEN GIVING

Just lately I have often found myself thinking about giving. The main reason this has happened is because there is a lot of grand scale 'grabbing' going on at the moment, isn't there? It is happening all over the world...and frankly, it is not much better closer to home. All this bad behaviour is so disappointing. It has left many of us at a loss, and asking, 'What can we do to be different?'...

When there is a lot of bad news around, I often find myself looking out of the window at the birds feeding outside. I love it at this time of year... but, feeding birds isn't cheap... get it? What happens as you feed birds is that you give - and they eat! Sometimes all the giving encourages rodents, but - never mind - we push on... they will always be with us. Then we go to Pelleycounters to get more bird food, and it is always a shock. As I go to the till to pay, I realise for the umpteenth time that 'they want folding money for this hobby!' Why do we continue despite the cost of it all? Well... because the effect is amazing! The more we give to the birds, the more the birds begin to flit around the garden. To begin with there is a Robin and a lot of House Sparrows. Then we get Long-tailed Tits, the odd Nuthatch, a Bullfinch... and even a Woodpecker now and again. As we watch these little 'Jelly Beans' - that is what Jacquie calls them - all sort of thoughts come to me. I want to see these birds thrive... and I want to know where they go when it rains. I want to know where the Long-tailed Tits hang those long tails when they sleep in the darkness of winter.

Giving makes us care. The more a person gives, the more they care. The more a person cares, the more they want to give. Suddenly it is a new and much better world all over again.

But that's 'for the birds' isn't it? After all, everyone loves the little song birds. don't they? Have you ever wondered why it is so much harder to give yourself away... your rights and your things... especially to other people and to public projects that will benefit those beyond our own family. The truth is that giving things up for the sake of other people is hard because it changes things permanently for us. It is a real risk. We might lose out to another person... but we might also make a truly enormous spiritual step forward. Every great religious tradition has recognised this, and even ardent humanists can see that there is something interesting to learn here!

At the start of Lent, the Christian Church has always pictured a dripping Jesus, emerging from the River Jordan, and striding off into the desert. He had just been given everything. The whole of creation was his. And, of course, the first thing that happened was that he was tempted. He was tempted to keep everything for himself - by hook or by crook! Of course, in the end, we discover that he resisted this temptation. It was a

crucial victory for us all, because in defeating his temptations in the wilderness, Jesus discovered the spiritual strength to give up his life on the cross. He became the gateway to a selfless life rather than just another endlessly selfish one. This is salvation. It is Jesus Christ's gift to us... and through it, we know that we are worth more than many sparrows!

I guess that as we step into Lent this year, one good challenge might be to learn something new about the spiritual power of giving. If we want to grow spiritually, then we need to be prepared to give what we know, and have, away. We need to do this to help other people. We also need to do this so that we have 'space' inside ourselves to receive new things from God, and from one another, rather than being trapped by our own opinions about the things we witness in life. A key to spiritual growth is the 'wide horizon' of giving... your time, your tithes, and your talents... completely away. Forget counting the cost. The result will be new life. If you give... God will magnify your gift in the most surprising ways.

But what a struggle we all have in this area! Everything we encounter in the West underrates the importance of spiritual growth in a person's life. Instead, we are encouraged to race each other... to compete... and to 'get' ahead. But there is a problem with this way of looking at life. It is such complete nonsense!... as soon as a person gets everything they want... they quickly discover that none of it has any real value... unless, of course, they start to think about what it would be like to give it away! Enough of me... be blessed this Lent!

Philip

## **SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

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

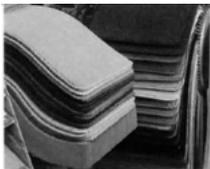


## **COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT (The Three C's) – 10.30 am – 12 noon**

This will take place as usual in St Mary's Room on Thursday morning 5<sup>th</sup> March.



Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy our home baking and either coffee or tea and have a chat! There is no charge but donations to one of the charities we support are always welcome. This month donations will go to our local Foodbank at Egremont.



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## SEASCALE NEWS FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH

### Wednesday Outreach

The Winter Lunch on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February proved to be very popular. There was a lovely atmosphere in the church hall as people enjoyed a meal together. We can highly recommend West Coast Catering who supplied Baked Potatoes together with a good selection of fillings and side salads. A week later people are still talking about the wonderful Baked Potatoes.

**PLEASE NOTE** – Our meeting times return to 2.30 pm in March so **Tea and Chat will be on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30 pm.**

All are welcome to join us at our meetings,

### Tea Service

The **March Tea Service on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30 pm** will be led by our minister the Revd Nick Baker.

All are welcome!

Jackie Folkes



## NEWS FROM CALDERBRIDGE AND PONSONBY

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March - 9.30 am Holy Communion - Village Hall - followed by refreshments

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April - 9.30 am Morning Prayer – Ponsonby Church

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March - 7.30 pm APCM

Open to all but only those on the Electoral Roll are entitled to vote.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April - 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall. All welcome!

Eleanor Glaister

## **ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH – SEASCALE**

### **Lent Lunches in Seascale during March**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March in the Methodist Hall

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March in St Joseph's Hall

Everyone is very welcome to a soup, cheese and bread lunch between 12 noon and 1 pm

Donations will go to Cafod and Christian Aid.

### **World Day of Prayer Service - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

This year's service will be at 10.30 am in St Joseph's Church, Seascale.

The service has been planned by an ecumenical group of Christian women from Nigeria.

The theme is "I will give you rest, come" from Matthew's Gospel, chapter 11.

Everyone is invited to come along to this service here in Seascale and be part of a worldwide day of prayer.

### **Easter Fair at St Cuthbert's – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March from 11 am**

Soup lunches, cakes, teas and coffees will be served. There will also be a raffle and various stalls including produce (marmalade, chutney, etc.) books and crafts.

Mary Waterhouse

**For Maundy Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**A performance of Fauré's Requiem**

**in St Bees Priory at 19:30**

**St Bees Parish Church Choir plus Friends**

**Director: Margie Simper**

**Organist: Frank Bowler**

**Baritone Soloist: Nick Simper**

**With instrumental ensemble**

**Entry free / donations welcome**

# BECKERMET COMMUNITY NEWS

*John Mackay*

[john.mackay52@btinternet.com](mailto:john.mackay52@btinternet.com)

01946 841429 07912 859480

I am pleased to say that the signs of Spring are really beginning to brighten up our borders and the entrances to our villages with spring flowers. There is little to beat the arrival of the snowdrops and daffodils.

## **St John's Services (usually 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays) - Reading Rooms**

As per last year St John's services will take place once again in the Reading Rooms as the heating system in our church still needs to be replaced. The next services will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March. They will follow the same pattern of services as would be held in St John's itself. Following all services there will be refreshments available should you wish to participate.

## **Coffee, Cake & Chat (supported by the GDF)**

These sessions are on Tuesdays from 9.30 am - 11.30 am and on Thursdays from 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm and continue to be very popular and well supported by many local residents and visitors. In recent months we have also had visits from the local village nursery. Refreshments, cakes and biscuits are free of charge but if you would like to leave a donation, that would be gratefully received.

## **Beckermets Music Marathon in Aid of Bowel Cancer.**

This twelve-hour music event held on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan was a great success with all hourly sessions having between 40-60 people attending, listening to several dozen different artists throughout the day. All said how much they enjoyed the event and with raffle ticket sales and donations received, the total raised for Bowel Cancer screening hit the magnificent sum of £1,300 on the day. Since then, Justin has received further donations from parents and pupils at the school where he teaches, bringing the total to £1,500. A magnificent achievement! Many thanks to Justin for organising the event, all the artists who gave freely of their time and all who attended and parted generously with their money.

## **Ramblings of a Retired Vet**

Steve Smith gave his talk to a well packed Reading Room with every seat taken, sixty in total. With the sale of raffle tickets and donations the evening raised £270 for St John's Church Beckermets. A good evening all round!

## **Two Rivers Rock (our local village choir)**

Meet in the Reading Rooms on Wednesday evening from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm. They are always looking for new members to join, especially men. All are most welcome to come along and join in their practice sessions in preparation for future events. Unsure if this is for you? Then come along and see for yourself.

## **Cumbria / Britain-in-Bloom**

The second meeting for Beckermets entry into Britain in Bloom took place on Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Feb when around a dozen village members attended to discuss options of how best to prepare for the event. A number of suggestions & ideas for improving on last year are being developed by different volunteers in the village. The next meeting will be on 10<sup>th</sup> March in the Reading Rooms from 6 pm - 7 pm. All welcome to come along to this one. The more volunteers we have the more improvements we can make and the greater the chance of doing Cumbria proud with our inclusion in Britain-in-Bloom.

## **Saturday Café**

The café, which is open on some Saturdays, has been a great success with lots of people making the most of the wonderful cakes and sausage rolls all freshly baked by Tina. Check on the Facebook pages to confirm that it is open on the day you plan to visit.

## **Beckermets Village 50/50 Lottery**

Our village lottery with 175 members continues with its monthly draw on the first Tuesday of the month in the Reading Rooms at around 10 am during our Coffee, Cake & Chat session, with six prizes to be won. On at least four months of the year there are twelve prizes making almost 100 prizes available during theyear ranging from £10 to £50 each month. The other 50% of the money is given to good causes in the village. If you would like to take part then please use the contact details at the end of this article.

## **Friday Quiz & Bingo Nights**

Bingo nights on the 27<sup>th</sup> February, 27<sup>th</sup> March & 17<sup>th</sup> April while the Quiz nights are on 20<sup>th</sup> March & 10<sup>th</sup> April all at the usual time of 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend wherever you live. Why not come along and sample one of these sessions which are often full of fun and laughter. The bar is available for both alcoholic, soft drinks and tea and coffee. Quiz teams of around 4, with prizes for the winning team, while at bingo there are 10 houses to be played during the evening, plus the 11<sup>th</sup> game and a raffle plus a prize for the lucky bingo book, all included in your entry of £10 (entry fee for both includes tea / coffee).

All proceeds in aid of St John's Church.

**Little Mesopotamia Walks (£5 fee)**

For those who may not be aware there is an experimental arboretum between the two becks in the village with different microclimates, managed for environmental benefit and to provide habitat to encourage wildlife, flowers and birds. Walks are being organised on the following dates starting from the village car park: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April & Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April from 4.30 pm - 6.30 pm.

Booking is essential via: [www.littlemesopotamia.co.uk](http://www.littlemesopotamia.co.uk) which provides much more information.

**St John's Soup Lunches: 12.00 noon - 1.30 pm**

These take place on the third Wednesday of the month, so add Wednesdays 18<sup>th</sup> March, 22<sup>nd</sup> April & 20<sup>th</sup> May to your diaries. Come and enjoy a lovely bowl of delicious home-made soup (choice of 4) followed by home-made cakes and a raffle (ticket included) all for the excellent value of only £6 per head. Hopefully see you on the 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**Youth Club Evenings:** on Mon & Thurs from 6 - 8 pm  
Free entry, with tuck shop available

**Art Group:** meet every Monday morning 10 am - 12 noon

**Yoga Group:** meet Sunday morning 10.30 am - 11.30 am or 11.00 am - 12.00 noon

**Open Mic Night:** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March & 8<sup>th</sup> April from 7.30 pm - 10.30 pm with bar open for refreshments

**Jazz Club Nights:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March & 24<sup>th</sup> April from 7 pm - 10 pm with bar open for refreshments

**Additional details:** please check on Beckermets Reading Room or Beckermets Village Facebook pages.



John Mackay  
[john.mackay52@btinternet.com](mailto:john.mackay52@btinternet.com)  
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# Mothering Sunday



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Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March



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# West Lakes U3A - MARCH 2026 Events



Full details can be found on our website: <https://west-lakes.u3asite.uk>  
Or contact [westlakesU3A@gmail.com](mailto:westlakesU3A@gmail.com)

## West Lakes U3A – March 2026 Events

Events: [westlakesU3A@gmail.com](mailto:westlakesU3A@gmail.com)

Membership: [wlu3amembership@gmail.com](mailto:wlu3amembership@gmail.com)

| Date                                                                                                                    | Group                                                                                                             | Contact(s)                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> March                                                                                         | <b><u>Cycling</u></b><br>Meet at Gosforth Public Hall at 10 am                                                    | John<br>☎ 019467 25831                                                                        |
| Mondays - March<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> / 9 <sup>th</sup> / 16 <sup>th</sup> / 23 <sup>rd</sup>                              | <b><u>Tai Chi</u></b><br>Gosforth Public Hall; 11.30 am - 12.30 pm                                                | Michael                                                                                       |
| Tuesday<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> / 17 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                     | <b><u>Ukulele</u></b><br>21 Gosforth Rd, Seascale; 10.30 am - 12                                                  | Janet Hardy<br><a href="mailto:janethardy36@gmail.com">janethardy36@gmail.com</a>             |
| Wednesday<br>4 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                      | <b><u>History</u></b><br>Drigg Young Farmers' Fundraiser<br>Drigg Village Hall, 10.15 am – 12 noon                | Vera<br>☎ 019467 25213                                                                        |
| Wednesdays<br>4 <sup>th</sup> / 11 <sup>th</sup> / 18 <sup>th</sup> / 25 <sup>th</sup><br>March                         | <b><u>French Conversation</u></b><br>Kellbank, Gosforth; 10.15 am - 12.15 pm;<br>Cost £4                          | James<br>☎ 07931 996742<br><b>Currently full with waiting list</b>                            |
| Wednesdays<br>4 <sup>th</sup> / 11 <sup>th</sup> / 18 <sup>th</sup> / 25 <sup>th</sup><br>March                         | <b><u>Chair Based Exercises</u></b><br>Gosforth Public Hall<br>11.30 am - 12.30 pm                                | John<br>☎ 019467 25831                                                                        |
| Wednesdays - March<br>4 <sup>th</sup> / 11 <sup>th</sup> / 18 <sup>th</sup> / 25 <sup>th</sup><br>6 <sup>th</sup> March | <b><u>Indoor Bowls</u></b><br>Gosforth Public Hall; Cost £3; 2 – 4 pm                                             | John<br>☎ 019467 25831                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                         | <b><u>Discussion of Current Affairs</u></b><br>Kellbank, 10.45 am – 12 noon, coffee £4                            | Bridget<br>☎ 07594 167575                                                                     |
| Fridays - March<br>6 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> / 27 <sup>th</sup>                             | <b><u>Folk Dancing</u></b><br>Gosforth Public Hall; 2 pm – 4 pm                                                   | Vera<br>☎ 019467 25213                                                                        |
| Monday<br>9 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                         | <b><u>Walking for strollers</u></b><br>2 mile stroll from 2 pm; <b>no dogs</b>                                    | Val<br>☎ 07796 527876                                                                         |
| Thursday<br>12 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                      | <b><u>Art Appreciation</u></b><br>St. Joseph's Hall, Seascale; 10.15 am                                           | Margaret                                                                                      |
| Thursday<br>12 <sup>th</sup> / 26 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                   | <b><u>Advanced Recorder Consort</u></b><br>Santon Village Hall; 2 pm – 4 pm                                       | Marilyn<br><a href="mailto:smithybrow@icloud.com">smithybrow@icloud.com</a>                   |
| Friday<br>13 <sup>th</sup> / 27 <sup>rd</sup> March                                                                     | <b><u>Intermediate Recorders</u></b><br>Santon Village Hall; 10 am - 12 noon                                      | Marilyn<br><a href="mailto:smithybrow@icloud.com">smithybrow@icloud.com</a>                   |
| Tuesday<br>17 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                       | <b><u>Family History Group</u></b><br>Santon Village Hall; 10 am - 12 noon                                        | Hilary<br><a href="mailto:westlakesu3afhg@gmail.com">westlakesu3afhg@gmail.com</a>            |
| Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar 10 am<br>Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2 pm                                                       | <b><u>Treble recorders</u></b><br>Santon Village Hall<br>Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> 10 am / Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> 2 pm | Marilyn<br>☎ 07817 499849<br><a href="mailto:smithybrow@icloud.com">smithybrow@icloud.com</a> |
| Thursday<br>19 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                      | <b><u>Open Mind</u></b><br>The rise of Chinese Electric Vehicles<br>Gosforth Public Hall, 10.15 am, £3            | Alan Bell                                                                                     |
| Thursday<br>19 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                      | <b><u>Chatty Lunch</u></b><br><b>Pre-booking essential</b> via Vera                                               | Vera<br>☎ 019467 25213                                                                        |
| Thursday<br>26 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                      | <b><u>Reading</u></b><br>St Mary's Room; 10.30 am - 12 noon                                                       | Beneta Livesey<br><b>This group is currently full</b>                                         |
| Tuesday<br>24 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                       | <b><u>Discovery</u></b><br>Cumbria Biodiversity & Wildlife Recording<br>St Mary's Room, Gosforth; 2 pm - 4 pm     | Ben<br>☎ 019467 24791                                                                         |
| Thursday<br>26 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                                      | <b><u>Out and About</u></b><br>Talk on Miterdale / Bower House meal<br>Coach from Seascale 9.15 / Gosforth 9.30   | Vera ☎ 019467 25213<br><b>Pre-booking essential</b>                                           |



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## NEWS FROM GADS - GOSFORTH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY



Our Youth Theatre Group are preparing well for their second show that will open to the public - **The Phantom and the Phoenix** by Geoff Bamber. The public performance will start at 6 pm on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March with doors opening at 5:40 pm. Our youngsters would love your support and

encouragement. This will be free to attend although you are welcome to make a donation afterwards if you enjoy it. So that we get an idea of numbers, please reserve your tickets online if you can, at [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or email us at [gadsgosforth@gmail.com](mailto:gadsgosforth@gmail.com). But don't delay - there will be limited seating as many of the Hall's chairs are still in storage. The show will last about an hour.

Our Youth Theatre Group members would like to say a massive "thank you" to Day Cummins – the architects behind the Hall refurbishment programme. Day Cummins sponsored the group's new tee shirts and don't they look smart with the new YT logo?

Our next major production will be a "21<sup>st</sup> Century Showcase" of songs from modern musicals and we are even looking at alternative venues if our hall is unavailable for the show dates in mid May. This will be a dazzling, fast-paced musical revue celebrating the best of 21<sup>st</sup> century musical theatre. With a set list drawn exclusively from shows written and first performed since the year 2000, this production pays tribute to the bold voices, fresh stories, and innovative sounds that have reshaped the Broadway stage for a new era. We held an open night and auditions in February and the rehearsals are underway from March. More information about dates, times and tickets will appear next month.

Plays for Pleasure is our informal play reading group where we just get together, read a play, have a drink and have a laugh. The sessions are currently on hold while we prepare for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Showcase.

To keep up to date with anything GADS, you can visit the website [www.gads.org.uk](http://www.gads.org.uk), follow us on Facebook (GADS1948), Instagram ([gads\\_gosforth](https://www.instagram.com/gads_gosforth)) or email us using [gadsgosforth@gmail.com](mailto:gadsgosforth@gmail.com).



## GOSFORTH SCHOOL NEWS



*Mrs S Layzell*  
*Assistant Headteacher*

At the end of this half term, we will be officially halfway through this academic year which is crazy!

Our Year 5 pupils have recently completed their Bikeability course. Bikeability is the UK Government-recognised cycle training programme, often described as "cycling proficiency for the 21<sup>st</sup> century". It equips children with the skills, confidence and safety

knowledge to ride bikes on modern roads.

Sporting events have continued and started with our Year 2 pupils competing in a Multi-sport festival at Whitehaven Academy against other local schools. We then had four children travel to Sedburgh for a very wet and muddy Cross Country County Final. Our three older classes were lucky enough to receive a visit from E.S.K.K Martial Arts & Fitness who delivered 30-minute taster sessions. Our Year 6 children logged in to a one-hour online Introduction to ballet which was delivered by Royal Ballet and Opera. A group attended the Change 4 Life festival which involved four of our Year 6 pupils acting as young leaders for our Year 3 pupils. We were very impressed with their organisation and leadership skills. We attended the annual Key Steps Gymnastic Competition and for the first time entered all three phases. We were excited to learn that we have made it through to the county finals in Penrith next month.

Our children in Reception have been learning about people who help us and have received visits in school from a doctor and a police officer who talked about how they help people. They children also visited Seascale Fire Station and Wasdale Mountain Rescue's Headquarters.

We marked World Religion Day with a range of activities based on religious symbols and beliefs. Our Reception and Year 1 children played dominoes, Year 2 children thought about what could make the world a better place and the KS2 children matched symbols with descriptions. The week it was time for our first of two SMSC Days. This time we visited Italy. Activities included Mosaic art, learning a traditional dance, learning about the geographical features, making Venetian masks and finding out about volcanoes.

Our Year 5 children travelled up to Miterdale one morning to help with some tree planting. This follows on from the Year 6 children clearing the area last year. As part of their Geography topic, Crummock and Ennerdale visited Branthwaite Scout Camp with the Rivers Trust to carry out a river study. They found out about freshwater wildlife and some of

the risks the wildlife is facing.

We marked Safer Internet Day with age-appropriate activities for the children, including learning about online safety for the younger children and the use of AI with the older children. This fell in the same week as Children's Mental Health Week when we had a visit from Simone from Scared Space who delivered yoga sessions to each class followed by a sound bath - a relaxing experience where the pupils lay down and were "bathed" in sound waves, using singing bowls, gongs and chimes.

FOGS continue to work hard to raise funds for school. They held a Ukulele Workshop with a Fused Glass Workshop planned for next month. They will be attending the Farmer's Market in Egremont to hold a tombola. The children enjoyed the Valentine's Disco and our two older classes are receiving weekly ukulele lessons.

Mrs S Layzell  
Assistant Headteacher

## **GOSFORTH LIBRARY**

Work has progressed at the Library - the external render is now about 60% removed. This has shown several new issues caused by the very wet walls giving rise to damaged roof timbers above the inglenook fire place and the need to take down and rebuild the 3 chimneys. The replacement of the lintels is now complete and patching of the walls prior to re-rendering is finished. The extra work due to water damage was not included in the initial grant application, or the program of works, so both are becoming very tight and the contingency fund has now gone.



The recent fundraising event in the hall was well supported. Photo displays of the inside and outside of the Library were prepared by the Architect firm and can now be seen in the pop-up Library and by the disabled entrance to the hall. Work has slipped behind the initial program due to the additional repair work but it is hoped this can be caught up in the coming weeks.

Replacement of the slate roof should start soon, weather permitting.

John Reed



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## LOCAL FOODBANK

Just a reminder to everyone that the local Foodbank is still very much in need of our support. There are collection boxes at the



back of most of our churches and the food collected is taken regularly to Eremont Methodist church where the Foodbank is based.

## NETHER WASDALE EVENTS IN MARCH and APRIL

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Pancake Lunch** (instead of Shrove Tuesday!)  
Sweet and savoury pancakes will be served from 12 noon in the Old School. Come and enjoy!

**Good Friday, Easter Sat & Easter Sunday (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April)**  
An Exhibition of Local Arts and Crafts to be held in the Old School, Nether Wasdale over the Easter Weekend.  
Anyone interested in exhibiting should contact Julia Wrigley on 07941 172963.

## BECKERMET SCHOOL NEWS

The first half term of the new year has flown by at Beckermat School! The children have been very busy and engaged in their learning. Last week saw the whole school highlighting the importance of Mental Health week. We had a lovely visit from Emma, a very talented author, who spent time with all the classes looking at crystals and meditation... it was a calm morning across the school!

We also held our first Oracy afternoon to showcase the children's presenting skills. Parents and grandparents joined us to take part in research and, in Year 5 and Year 6, a debate about Ancient Greece! The children were amazing and got some great feedback from our visitors on their Oracy skills.

Well done everyone!

Susan Alderson – Senior Teacher

## YEOWART, GILL & RUDD

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## WEST LAKELAND ROTARY CLUB

*Malcolm Richardson*  
March 2026



It has been a fairly quiet few weeks since Christmas for our members.

On 27<sup>th</sup> January: Ian MacPherson, gave an excellent illustrated talk on his and his wife's recent walking holiday in Vietnam.

17<sup>th</sup> February: Chris Gigg spoke to us about his career in pneumatics engineering – design, servicing and sales. A very interesting presentation; his skills and experience are a big asset to our Club.

24<sup>th</sup> February: Joanne Crowe updated us on the future of Phoenix Pantry, a local foodbank distribution organisation based in Cleator Moor, which several of our members served as drivers for over the last 3 years.

28<sup>th</sup> February: several of our Rotarians helped with tree planting at Irton Church.

A wonderfully illustrated information board has been delivered and is awaiting installation at a suitable location along the now fully restored footpath from Holmrook to Irton Hall via St Paul's church. Well done to Rotarian Sandie Borrowdale for her work obtaining funding and driving this project forward these last 2 years.

Malcolm Richardson

## GOSFORTH WI

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 7.15 pm in St. Mary's Room

Speaker - Shelly Hewitson from Citizens Advice: Avoiding Scams  
Competitions:

1. Small Spring Posy
2. A few words about Inspirational Women  
(8<sup>th</sup> March is International Women's Day)



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# GOSFORTH PUBLIC HALL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT UPDATE

*Karen Russ*  
*Gosforth Public Hall Management Committee*  
[Treasuregwi@gmail.com](mailto:Treasuregwi@gmail.com)

## Gosforth Public Hall Refurbishment Update - February 2026

With a major grant from Historic England and the Copeland Community Fund, the refurbishment is moving from removing the old to replacing with new. A new roof is being completed over the front of the building which has been challenging given the wind, rain and cold weather since Christmas. Internally ceilings and electrics are going in.

The main hall remains open for use and can be booked via [GPHbooking@gmail.com](mailto:GPHbooking@gmail.com).

### Belonging

'Belonging' is a small group designed to help churches to build communities in which people can thrive, feel seen, heard and understood. We hope that it will lead to the formation of a regular home group for anyone that is interested in that form of discipleship.



'Belonging' is open to all and will happen in the homes of church members from across the Seatallan Benefice of churches. At present the sessions are happening at the Rectory in Gosforth.

Do come along if you are interested

Each session will begin at 7pm

For more information please ring the Revd Philip Dorling on

07500 239684

or email him on

[philipdorling123@btinternet.com](mailto:philipdorling123@btinternet.com)

# Whispers *of* Spring



St Paul's Church, Irton

An evening of story and song  
to welcome the warmth back  
to our northern lands

Sat 7 March 2026, 7:30pm

Tickets £10

booking: 07811284877, and from Tynedale  
Farm Services, Holmrook



## Whispers of Spring

Jessie McMeekin is a storyteller, singer and musician.

Since moving to West Cumbria in 2008 she has immersed herself in researching traditional folklore and stories that connect and respond to the Cumbrian landscape of the fells and the coastline. She is passionate about the outdoors and the natural world, local history, arts and culture, and has written and performed in three shows as part of the Arts Out West rural touring scheme.

Audience feedback from Jessie's most recent tour included "Phenomenal, inspiring, beautiful, magical, imaginative, hopeful".

## MUNCASTER MICROBUS

Could you drive once a month for the Microbus?

Also looking for drivers to assist with a routine Gosforth to Seascale journey.

To volunteer as a driver or to book any journeys on the Microbus **ring Gill on 01229 717229**

The Microbus is a lifeline for our passengers, so please help us help them.

### **Trips coming up**

Whitehaven shopping trips every Tuesday and Thursday (Except Bank Holidays) – FREE with a NoW card bus pass

**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Cockermouth / Keswick – £10.50

**NEW DATE: Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March** – Carlisle and Option of Dobies Garden Centre – £10.50

**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March** – Egremont Farmers' Market – £3 donation to the market

**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March** – Appleby and Sedbergh – £13.00

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> April** – Maryport and Silloth – £10.00

**Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> April** – Egremont Farmers' Market – £3 donation to the market

**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – Workington – £8.50

## HOLMROOK READING ROOM

### AGM

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30 pm  
ALL WELCOME – REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

A talk and presentation on:  
INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES AND THE IMPACT ON OUR RIVERS  
BY CHRIS WEST

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 6:30 pm

COFFEE MORNING AND BOOK SALE  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

1

**Table Tennis Club:** Meets on a Wednesday - 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. 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 £12 / 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. £9 / hour. Why not **call David on 07931 393954** to see if it is available for your next event?

**Membership:** Membership renewals for 2026 are due from 1<sup>st</sup> January. £8 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](mailto:drmarsden@outlook.com)** or call him on 07931 393954.

## WEST LAKES U3A INDOOR MAT BOWLING CLUB

This club is now part of the U3A and its new title is **West Lakes U3A Indoor Mat Bowling Club**. The club continues to meet every Wednesday afternoon in Gosforth Public Hall from 2 pm – 4 pm.

Cost £3, including refreshments. Spare bowls available.

Please bring clean, flat shoes.

## ZOOMED and EVENING SERVICES IN THE SEATALLAN BENEFICE

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

**11.00 am Service of Holy Communion or Morning Worship** hosted by St Mary's Church Gosforth. If you would like an invitation to this service, please email [stmarys.gosforth.zoom@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys.gosforth.zoom@gmail.com).

**Thursdays at 9.30 am South Calder Mission Community Morning Prayer**  
For an invitation please contact David Davies – [divord4@gmail.com](mailto:divord4@gmail.com)

### SUNDAY EVENINGS

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Month: St Mary's Room, Gosforth**

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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 are services of Seascale Methodist Church and its Gosforth Methodist congregation, and as such are safeguarded by their safeguarding processes.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month: Faith and Fellowship - 6.45 pm for 7.00 pm at various locations.** Please contact Jill Hudson on 019467 21592 or [jillfhudson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jillfhudson@hotmail.co.uk). 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: 7.00 pm 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 [jillfhudson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jillfhudson@hotmail.co.uk) and for a Zoom invitation email [khudson@freenetname.co.uk](mailto:khudson@freenetname.co.uk) or ring 01946 721592 or visit [www.phoenixpraise.org.uk](http://www.phoenixpraise.org.uk). 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: [aitchpateman@gmail.com](mailto:aitchpateman@gmail.com).

# SEATALLAN BENEFICE SERVICES - MARCH 2026

| MARCH SERVICES                | Church                     | Service                              | Time         |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>  |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>1<sup>th</sup> March</b>   | Nether Wasdale             | Iona Worship                         | 9.30         |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Lent</b> | Calder Bridge Village Hall | HC                                   | 9.30         |
| <b>PURPLE</b>                 | Seascale                   | HC at St Cuthbert's                  | 11.00        |
| <b>Proper</b>                 | Gosforth St Mary's Room    | Morning Praise                       | 11.00        |
|                               | Gosforth St Mary's Room    | Methodist Evening Worship            | 6.30         |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>  |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> March</b>   | Beckermet Reading Room     | HC                                   | 9.30         |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Lent</b> | Seascale Methodist Hall    | Methodist Morning Worship            | 10.30        |
| <b>PURPLE</b>                 | Gosforth St Mary's Room    | HC                                   | 11.00        |
| <b>Proper</b>                 | Seascale                   | Faith and Fellowship                 | 6.45 for 7.0 |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>  |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>15<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | Nether Wasdale             | HC                                   | 9.30         |
| <b>Mothering Sunday</b>       | Seascale                   | HC at St Cuthbert's                  | 11.00        |
| <b>PURPLE</b>                 | Gosforth Church            | Mothering Sunday Family Service      | 11.00        |
| <b>Proper</b>                 | Gosforth St Mary's Room    | Methodist Evening Worship            | 6.30         |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>  |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>  | Beckermet Reading Room     | HC                                   | 9.30         |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> of Lent</b> | Seascale Methodist Hall    | Methodist Morning Worship            | 10.30        |
| <b>PURPLE</b>                 | Gosforth                   | HC                                   | 11.00        |
| <b>Passiontide</b>            | Gosforth St Mary's Room    | Phoenix Praise Evening Worship       | 7.00         |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>  |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | <b>Gosforth Church</b>     | <b>Seatallan Benefice Service HC</b> | <b>10.30</b> |
| <b>Palm Sunday</b>            |                            | (only service in Benefice today)     |              |
| <b>RED</b>                    |                            |                                      |              |
| <b>Passiontide</b>            |                            |                                      |              |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |
|                               |                            |                                      |              |

## SAINT FOR MARCH – St Chad

Chad is remembered by the Church of England on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March as Bishop of Lichfield and as a missionary. He died in 672 or 673.

He had connections with Ireland and with Lindisfarne in his early life, and became an Abbott before consecration as a Bishop.

He was known as Cedda in his own time and was an active missionary. He is often shown in art today holding a church and/or a vine to show his enthusiasm for his desire to spread the Faith.



Cover photo: Great Gable from Lingmell, J. Stalker