

The Parish Magazine

for the Seatallan Benefice

Gosforth & Wasdale

Beckermet, Calderbridge & Seascale



May 2026

connecting our communities

£1

Seatallan Benefice Directory

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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 6<sup>th</sup> March to the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### BECKERMET

No Occasional Offices known

### CALDER BRIDGE, PONSONBY and OLD CHURCH

No Occasional Offices known

### SEASCALE

|                             |                         |                       |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 | Patricia Ann Batty      | Funeral – Seascale    |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 | Patrick Graham Anderson | Funeral – Crematorium |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2026  | Paul Ferdinand Rode     | Baptism               |

### GOSFORTH, NETHER WASDALE and WASDALE HEAD

|                            |                  |                    |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2026 | Margaret Blencoe | Interment of Ashes |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|

## DIGNITY

Sometimes, you really need a holiday. Several years ago, this was absolutely the case for me and my family. It had been an exhausting Easter, so we went to Scotland, to stay on the Mull of Kintyre just to the North of Tarbet. It was years since I had been up that way. As we were travelling through Glasgow, all sorts of events from my past flew through my mind, including a concert I attended by Deacon Blue. In my 'demob-happy' mood, I remember being overwhelmed by a desire to hear one of their songs ... a song, which I suddenly remembered, had some words about being on holiday '*up on the West Coast*' in a small boat. Despite our search for a CD shop in the lovely area of the city surrounding the University - we came away empty handed.

A week later, my wife, Jacquie, reminded me that our wedding anniversary was coming up, and handed me a small flat package, with a Deacon Blue CD in it. The next day, I put it on in the car, and remember being told rather too quickly by my daughter that it was '*Not that good*'. My son said it was '*Too eighties!*' What the children couldn't see from the back of the car, was that I was crying as I listened, for the first time in years, to the story of a refuse collector, nearing retirement, who did his job without complaining, who ate his lunch from a Sunblest bread bag, and who was teased by the children who saw him as he worked. But this man had a secret..... he was saving his money to buy a boat – a boat that he was going to call '*Dignity*'.

It is a great story, and a fabulous series of images. Stories about the dignity of human beings stir something deep inside me. The idea of dignity is why I found being a Christian minister in Africa so profound. There can be such dignity among those who have very little. We all long for the dignity and self-respect that a solid home and a good job can bring to a person. I guess that is why the events of the last few years have been so disturbing. We have all realised afresh that these things are not to be taken for granted. They are precious. Every person should know dignity as part of their human birthright.

On the first day I ever went to church on my own, and for my own reasons, I remember being overwhelmed by the sight of 100s of young, bright, successful people, who seemed to move effortlessly from friend to friend, in a way that I had never known. I probably would never have returned, if it had not been for the fact that one of the vicars there asked me my name during the service, and then, two hours later, at the end of the service, said '*See you again, Philip*', as I hurried out of the building. I remember looking at him and saying '*You remembered my name*'... to which he replied, '*That is the least that we can do*'. I recall looking around and thinking – '*Imagine a community where you count ... imagine people*

*knowing your name, in a place like this!* I walked out a foot taller, and then, very soon afterwards, began to hear Jesus calling my name.... calling me to follow him, and to serve the people he loves, for his name's sake. Three years later, I was training to become a priest.

Day by day, as we work amongst the people and churches of this beautiful part of Cumbria, what I long to be part of, is a community that knows people by name – and that loves them because they are alive, rather than because they are clever or beautiful or wealthy. Being alive should be all about dignity. Bad things happen in societies where some people are excluded from knowing about this vital thing. Dignity counts on the streets. A stable home, and a good job can give a person a good start in life... but what really matters, is that people have the chance to develop an understanding of the dignity which is theirs by virtue of the fact that they are alive... that God has made them, and that he knows them, and calls them, by name, into existence for him. There is not a person alive who would not benefit from knowing, and understanding that. There never has been.

I am not very good at remembering names – but fortunately God is - and that is what really matters. As we move into the summer months, please let me encourage you to come along to one of the house group sessions that have begun to happen in our area in recent months. The one that meets at the Rectory is called 'Belonging' - you would be very welcome to join in - it meets on Wednesdays and is organised through a Whatsapp group. Please be in touch with me if you are interested. My telephone number is 07500239684.

*Philip*

## **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.



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

This will take place as usual in St Mary's Room on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May (the first Thursday of the month).

Everyone is most welcome to come along for a chat and a cuppa and enjoy a selection of delicious homemade biscuits and cakes! There is no charge but donations this month will go towards our collection for Christian Aid, which takes place during the week 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May.





# Looking for a nursery?



Full day care available from 7.30am  
for children aged 6 months - 4 years

Out of school provision for primary aged children  
(Breakfast, After School and Holiday clubs)

Contact us:

Gosforth C of E Primary School and Nursery

Tel: 019467 25800

Email: [nursery@gosforth.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@gosforth.cumbria.sch.uk)

# J J HRYB

## Plumbing & Heating

Bathrooms, showers, wet-rooms

Underfloor heating

General plumbing requirements

Installation and servicing of gas,  
oil fired central heating and appliances



Irton, Holmrook, Cumbria  
tel: 019467 24175  
mobile: 07855 806637  
[john@hrybltd.com](mailto:john@hrybltd.com)

# GOSFORTH PARISH CHURCH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Since the Sunday after Mothering Sunday (22/3/26) the new AV equipment has been used with some degree of success. We have had some positive feedback regarding the size of font and the ease of following the service.

Thanks to the "Property Team" and their assistants, the two remaining glass panels in St Mary's Room have now been removed and work can now take place to repair the plasterwork. There are plans to raise the screen to the highest position possible.

We will be holding two 'Boon Days' this year. The first of these being **Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 9am – 5pm** and the second will be on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 9am – 5pm**. We are looking for volunteers willing and able to help us with these projects. Please check out the next magazine for more information. In the meantime, if this is something you feel you could help with, please speak to one of the Church Wardens.

We have been extremely grateful in the past that Ann and Peter Mckenzie have opened their house and garden to hold a fundraising event for St Mary's and also Norma Hughes for holding an Easter event. This year Norma is hoping to hold a summer fundraiser in her garden (weather permitting), the date of this event has yet to be decided.

*Susan Round (Clerk to Committee)*

**St. Mary's Church  
Gosforth**

**Boon Day**

Saturday 16th May  
9am - 5pm

Can you spare some time to help  
clean your Church and Churchyard?

bring your own tools

everyone welcome

Light refreshments will be provided



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Gosforth and Low  
Seaton, Cumbria but we  
accept UK wide orders.



# Concerts and Events at St Cuthbert's Church Seascale in 2026



**Whitehaven Male Voice Choir**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – 7.30pm



**West Lakes Windband and Tethera Brass**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026 – 7.30pm



**Whitehaven Solway Shanty Crew**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026 – 7.30pm

Free Admission - Donations welcome



At St Cuthbert's Church, Seascale CA20 1PU

## BECKERMET COMMUNITY NEWS

The days are certainly slowly increasing in length as each day passes while the nights are getting shorter. This change may only be by a couple of minutes each day depending on the weather but it is certainly better for everyone's well-being. We all feel the benefit of longer daylight hours which hopefully encourages us all to spend more time out walking or doing jobs in our gardens that have been neglected for many months. The wonderful spring flowers certainly lifted our spirits with their wonderful displays and now the blossoms are opening up along with the buds on the trees. This time of year, brings forth all the new growth along our hedgerows and gardens, more often than not despite any intervention by man. Nature is a wonderful aspect of our planet giving us new life blossoming before our eyes.

No doubt many of you will be thinking about where you will be spending your summer break this year if you have already booked it. However, this summer may see many of our travel plans having to be changed unless the dreadful conflict in the Middle East is resolved. It is always important that we have something to look forward to but many are much less fortunate due to lack of finances while for others their situation is even worse living with the fear of war and all that entails. If you are one of the fortunate in this world, please think of others by either donating food items to the local food bank (**boxes in Reading Rooms & St John's Church**) or by donating to one of the many humanitarian charities who are desperately trying to help those in greatest need at this moment in time.

### Reading Rooms

As a village we are very fortunate to have these facilities which are at the heart of the majority of activities that go on in Beckermet. Some are regular weekly events while others are monthly with some just one offs. Whatever events that are put on they are all organised by volunteers in the village who work hard to give our community a wide variety of activities/events to enjoy. All events are advertised through the Reading Rooms and Village Facebook pages which give details of these events. If you still have not managed to attend to see for yourself this valuable village asset then I strongly recommend that you do so. The rooms are also available for private functions and ideal for parties of all ages but especially for young children as there is no worries about cake or drinks being spilt at home on your carpets. These events bring in the vital income which enable the small group of directors to fund all that is required to enable the rooms to meet the legal requirements of a publicly used building. Please help support these activities in the Reading Rooms.

### **Coffee Cake & Chat in the Reading Rooms** (supported by the GDF)

These weekly sessions take place on **Tuesdays from 9.30-11.30** and on **Thursdays from 1.30-3.30**. They continue to be very popular and well supported by many local residents together with a growing number of people from outside the village. Apart from attracting regular individuals from other villages, we often get walkers, passing cyclists and visitors to the area on holiday. A new initiative in recent months has been the members of the GDF team who come once a month taking their turn behind the counter to serve at our sessions. This has had two positive outcomes. Firstly, it has enabled them the opportunity to chat to all who attend making them feel an integral part of our community while secondly it has enabled our volunteers a greater opportunity to sit and chat with everyone who attends the sessions. This has been a great success and as such will continue in the months ahead.

There's no charge for the refreshments available but if you would like to leave a donation that would be gratefully received. The sessions are a great way of meeting up with other members of the village with many making new friendship links beyond the Reading Rooms. Recently around 40-50 people have attended over the twice weekly sessions. These sessions have now been going for over three years with numbers attending increasing. If you have never been before then why not come along as you will be made most welcome.

### **Two Rivers Rock: - Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm**

Two Rivers Rock our local village choir meet in the Reading Rooms. They are a great group of individuals who are always looking for new members to join, especially men. You are most welcome to come along and join in their practice sessions in preparation for future events that they are invited to entertain both in the village & wider community as required. Unsure if it is for you then go along and see for yourself.

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

The volunteers under the guidance and leadership of Claire Dunn continue to carry out work in our village in preparation of their entry representing Cumbria in Britain-in-Bloom. This band of volunteers meet regularly to improve various aspects of the village. This year they are planning on significantly improving two areas of the village to really lift the appearance of both which will hopefully stand them in good stead when they are judged in the summer. If you feel you would like to support then contact **Claire Dunn** or myself.

### **St John's Services - New start time 9.15am** (usually on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays).

Please note that all services at St John's Church in Beckermest now start at the slightly earlier time of **9.15am** The dates of the services over the

next two months will be the **10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> May** and **14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June**. If you haven't been to a service before then why not come along. We will be delighted to see you and you will be made most welcome. Free refreshments are available after the service if you wish to participate.

**Beckermet Village 50/50 Lottery**(now with **178** members with draw on 1<sup>st</sup> Tues of each month)

The draw in April held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April saw twelve lucky winners sharing £260 between them. The next monthly draw will be on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May** in the Reading Rooms at around 10 am during our Coffee Cake & Chat session when there will be another six prizes to be won. Half of monies received goes in prizes with a winners list placed on the two village Facebook pages while the rest goes to good causes in the village. Some will support the entry into Britain-in-Bloom while an individual is being supported with their involvement in the Tanzania link. Like to take part - please use the contact details at the end of this article.

### **Friday Quiz & Bingo Nights**

**Quiz** nights are on **Fri 8<sup>th</sup> May & 5<sup>th</sup> June** while **Bingo** nights are on **22<sup>nd</sup> May & 26<sup>th</sup> June** all at the usual time of **6.30-8.30pm**. Everyone is welcome to attend wherever you live. 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 but if you can't make a full team still come, as we will join you into one on the night. 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 Beckermet.

### **St John's Soup Lunches** (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month)

The next St John's Soup lunches will be on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May & 17<sup>th</sup> June** so please add these dates into your diaries starting at the usual time of **12.00-1.30pm**. For **£6 each** you will be able to have a lovely bowl or even two of delicious home-made soup (four to choose from) followed by delicious home-made cakes and a raffle ticket included. If you have not had the opportunity to come to one of these then why not add these dates to your diary. It is another great way to meet up with friends & even make new ones.

**Youth Club Evenings:** - on **Mon & Thurs** evenings from **6-8pm**.

**Art Group:** -Mondays 10.00-12.00

**Yoga Group:** -Sundays from 10.30-11.30am

**Two Rivers Rock:** - Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May **7.00-10.30pm**

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

**Beckermet Village Annual Plant Sale: - Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2pm** in the Reading Rooms

**Live Music with Erin Collins : Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 7-11pm**

**Live Music with Don Mackay : Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 8pm**

**Additional Details: - available from Beckermet Reading Room or Beckermet Village Facebookpages**

*John Mackay 01946 841429 07912859480*



**'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)**

# SEASCALE METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

## Wednesday Outreach

We were all saddened to hear of the passing of Jenny Jones, a lovely lady who attended Tea and Chat and the Tea Services regularly for many years. We extend our condolences to Tom and family.

Tea and Chat this month will be on Wednesday 6th May at 2.30pm.

All are welcome to join us at our meetings.

## Lunch Service followed by a Hunger Lunch for Christian Aid

### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 12.30pm in Seascale Methodist church hall

The Lunch Service will be led by Sheila and Jonathan Falkner. Following this we will have a very simple bread and cheese lunch accompanied by a glass of water as we remember all the people in the world who do not have enough food.

## Family Craft Afternoon - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2-4pm in Seascale Methodist church hall

Please come along and try various crafts or just drop in for a cup of tea or coffee. Squash and biscuits will be available for children.

This will be a community event provided by Seascale Methodist Church and there will be no charge for the crafts.

*Jackie Folkes*

# Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2026



Each year, we are encouraged to support the work of Christian Aid by making a donation during Christian Aid Week, which this year takes place from 10 to 16 May.

The easiest way for most people to give is to go online at:

[caweek.org/donate](http://caweek.org/donate)

But if you wish to make your donation by cheque or cash you can also collect Giving Envelopes from any of the Seascale and Gosforth Churches.

Any donation, large or small, will be welcome to support this vital work.

## **SEASCALE WI**

**'Hope Happens Here' Coffee morning supporting Calderwood House  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 10 -12noon in Seascale Methodist church hall**

The 'Hope Happens Here' events are part of a nationwide initiative for charities, community and faith groups, to come together to make 'A Million Acts of Hope.'

We invite you to join us as we offer our act of hope to the homeless people who need help from Calderwood House. We plan to have a cake stall and a raffle on the day.

*Seascale WI members*

## **NEWS FROM ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH**

Thank you to everyone who supported St Cuthbert's Easter Fair. A total of £491 was raised for church funds.

We have three concerts coming up during the next two months –

Whitehaven Male Voice Choir – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – 7.30pm

We are delighted to welcome Whitehaven Male Voice Choir to perform a concert for us.

Come and join us for an evening of choral music. See the advert elsewhere in the magazine.

In July there will be two more concerts - West Lakes Windband on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Whitehaven Solway Shanty Crew on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>. Watch out for details nearer the time.

*Mary Waterhouse*

## **NEWS FROM CALDERBRIDGE AND PONSONBY**

Our service of Holy Communion in May will be at Ponsonby Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 9.30 am and a service of Evening Prayer will take place at the Old Church, Beckermest, on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 3.00 pm.

The Spring Afternoon Tea last month was very well attended and was another big success. £1,034 was raised for Church Funds.

Many thanks to everyone who supported us, for giving so generously and helping in any way. It was very much appreciated.

*Eleanore Glaister*



in SEASCALE and DISTRICT with PHOENIX PRAISE  
A Celebration of



## *PENTECOST*

Sunday 24 May 2026  
3 pm  
St Cuthbert's Church  
Seascale  
ALL WELCOME



**Slimming World Egremont & Cleator Moor**  
Come and join our warm and friendly group and  
**Feel Real Good.**



St Mary & St Michael's Church hall,  
Egremont

**Tuesday:** 5pm & 6:30pm  
**Wednesday:** 7:30am & 9am

Civic Hall,  
Cleator Moor

**Thursday:**  
9am & 10:30am

**Kelly: 07817 263 801**

**Slimming  
World**

**West Lakes U3A – May 2026 Events**

| Date                                                                                              | Group                                                                                                                                              | Contact                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday<br>4 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                     | <b>Cycling</b><br>Meet Gosforth Public Hall at 10 am                                                                                               | John<br>☎ 019467 25831                                                                        |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> / 11 <sup>th</sup> / 18 <sup>th</sup> / 25 <sup>th</sup> May                      | <b>Tai Chi</b><br>Gosforth Public Hall; 11.30 am                                                                                                   | Michael<br><a href="mailto:westlakesU3A@gmail.com">westlakesU3A@gmail.com</a>                 |
| Tuesday<br>5 <sup>th</sup> / 19 <sup>th</sup> May                                                 | <b>Ukulele</b><br>21 Gosforth Road, Seascale; 10.30 am                                                                                             | Contact Janet Hardy on<br><a href="mailto:janethardy36@gmail.com">janethardy36@gmail.com</a>  |
| Wednesday<br>6 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                  | <b>History:</b> Dyed for Britain by C Forster<br>Drigg Village Hall; cost £2; 10.15 am                                                             | Vera<br>☎ 019467 25213                                                                        |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> / 27 <sup>th</sup> May                      | <b>French Conversation – Weds weekly</b><br>The Kellbank; cost £4; 10.15 am                                                                        | James <b>Group currently full</b><br>☎ 07931 996742                                           |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> / 27 <sup>th</sup> May                      | <b>Chair Based Exercises – Weds weekly</b><br>Gosforth Public Hall; 11.30 am                                                                       | John<br>☎ 019467 25831                                                                        |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> / 27 <sup>th</sup> May                      | <b>Indoor Bowls – Weds weekly</b><br>Gosforth Public Hall; cost £3; 2 pm                                                                           | John <b>Soft shoes required</b><br>☎ 019467 25831                                             |
| Tuesday<br>5 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                    | <b>Discussion of Current Affairs</b><br>The Kellbank; coffee £4 (optional)<br>10.45 am – 12 noon                                                   | Bridget<br>☎ 07594 167575                                                                     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup> / 22 <sup>nd</sup> / 29 <sup>th</sup><br>May | <b>Folk Dancing</b><br>Gosforth Public Hall; 2 pm – 4 pm                                                                                           | Vera<br>☎ 019467 25213                                                                        |
| Monday<br>11 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                    | <b>Walking for strollers</b><br>2 mile stroll from 2 pm; refreshments<br><b>NB: no dogs allowed</b> on these walks                                 | Valerie<br>☎ 07796 527876<br><b>Location notified day before</b>                              |
| Thursday<br>14 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                  | <b>Art Appreciation</b><br>St. Joseph's Hall; cost £2; 10.15 am                                                                                    | Margaret                                                                                      |
| Friday<br>8 <sup>th</sup> / 22 <sup>nd</sup> May                                                  | <b>Intermediate Recorders</b><br>Santon Village Hall; 10 am                                                                                        | Marilyn<br>☎ 07817 499849                                                                     |
| Tuesday<br>19 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                   | <b>Family History Group</b><br>Santon Village Hall; cost £2; 10 am                                                                                 | Hilary<br><a href="mailto:westlakesu3afhg@gmail.com">westlakesu3afhg@gmail.com</a>            |
| Thursday<br>7 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Weds<br>20 <sup>th</sup> May                                   | <b>Treble recorders</b><br>Santon Village Hall Supper room<br>Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> May: 10 am – 12 noon<br>Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> May: 2 pm – 4 pm | Marilyn<br>☎ 07817 499849<br><a href="mailto:smithybrow@icloud.com">smithybrow@icloud.com</a> |
| Thursday<br>14 <sup>th</sup> / 28 <sup>th</sup> May                                               | <b>Advanced Recorders</b><br>Santon Supper Room; 2 pm – 4 pm                                                                                       | Marilyn<br>☎ 07817 499849                                                                     |
| Thursday<br>21 <sup>st</sup> May                                                                  | <b>Open Mind:</b> History of explosives<br>Gosforth Pub Hall; cost £3; 10.30 am                                                                    | Alan<br>Cost includes Chatty Lunch                                                            |
| Thursday<br>21 <sup>st</sup> May                                                                  | <b>Chatty Lunch</b><br><b>Pre-booking essential</b>                                                                                                | Vera<br>☎ 019467 25213                                                                        |
| Thursday<br>28 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                  | <b>Reading</b><br>St Mary's Room; cost £2; 10.30 am                                                                                                | Beneta<br><b>This group is currently full</b>                                                 |
| Tuesday<br>26 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                   | <b>Discovery:</b> Colour of Stars by K Payne<br>St Mary's Room; cost £2; 2 pm – 4 pm                                                               | Ben<br>☎ 019467 24791                                                                         |
| Thursday<br>28 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Seascale 9.15 am / Gosforth<br>9.30 am                        | <b>Out and About</b><br>Ambleside / Bowness Theatre – <i>Fourteen Again</i><br>by Victoria Wood<br>Cost: depends on the ticket price               | Vera<br>☎ 019467 25213<br><b>Pre-booking essential</b>                                        |

Any queries regarding Events should be sent to: [westlakesU3A@gmail.com](mailto:westlakesU3A@gmail.com)



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## NEWS FROM GADS - GOSFORTH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY



Our next major production will be a “21<sup>st</sup> Century Showcase” of songs from modern musicals. 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. Furthermore, the Hall is still in use so the shows will be held there. There will be 3 performances – Thu 14 to Sat 16 May. Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30 start. Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £5 for u18 / full time student and are available now.

You can book online at [www.ticketsource.com/gadsgosforth](http://www.ticketsource.com/gadsgosforth) or through the gads website [www.gads.org.uk](http://www.gads.org.uk). Or you can email [gadsgosforth@gmail.com](mailto:gadsgosforth@gmail.com).

With phase 2 of the refurbishment work beginning soon, this could be our last show for some time, so why not make the most of it? Plays for Pleasure is our informal play reading group where we just get together, read a play, have a drink and have a laugh. These sessions are held in the Kellbank and will return after 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).



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## Gosforth Public Hall Refurbishment Update March 2026

Most of the external work has been completed. We are waiting until there is better weather (consistently higher temperatures) to undertake the external render, and for Electricity North West contractors to move the incoming electrical supply. Internally, lime plastering is progressing well although it is taking a long time to dry (approx. 20 days) due to ambient temperatures. Three layers are needed and the previous layer must be dry before the next layer can be applied. Final decorating, carpeting etc. cannot start until the final plaster layer is dry.

Construction of the new kitchen and store at the rear of the Hall is expected to commence in early July, and the main hall itself will remain in use until at least the end of August.

*Karen Russ  
Chair, Gosforth Public Hall Committee*

## GOSFORTH LIBRARY



In general, the library refurbishment is progressing well considering the weather we have had. The high slate roof at the front of the library is complete and the junction with the lower rear roof section is also complete. All the roof timbers above the inglenook gable end have been replaced and we are awaiting the transfer of the electrical supply off the chimney to complete this section. Internal plastering is progressing but long drying times are delaying this phase of the work, ceilings are getting their final coats and walls are on to their second coat. This is delaying other internal work of finishing electrics and painting.

With improving external temperatures, progress with plaster drying times should improve.

*John Reed*

## GOSFORTH WI

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 7.15pm, in St. Mary's Room.

This will be our AGM, which will be followed by a historic talk by our speaker Alan Cleaver on Postal Paths – mail delivery routes and the lives of those who walked them, especially La'al Hannah Knowles, Eskdale's postwoman from 1912 – 1973.





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## GOSFORTH SCHOOL NEWS



School reopened after the Easter break and we now begin the final term of the academic year.

A team of ten Year 5 and 6 pupils travelled to Lakes College to compete in the Lego League regional final. They have been preparing for this day since September. The competition involves them carrying out a research project, preparing a presentation and programming a robot to complete missions. We are

very proud of their performance.

Our Reception class visited Farmer Kev at Strudda Bank farm to find out where their food comes from and spent time with the animals. Crummock and Ennerdale travelled to Whitehaven to Levels (the new immersive education and entertainment centre). This was part of their History topic on the Romans.

We had a morning of maypole dancing to prepare for the Wasdale May Festival. We will have another session to perfect the performance. Hopefully, lots of our pupils will attend the Festival on Saturday 2nd May.

We had a visit from Music Services for Percussion Day. Each class worked together to produce a final piece of music. The day was kindly funded by FOGS.

Year 6 have been out and about again. The first visit was to Whitehaven Archives Office as part of our History topic on the Census. The pupils had the opportunity to check out the strong room and look at some very old documents. They then spent time looking at photographs and census returns from Gosforth. The second trip out was to Workington Magistrates Court where they acted out a mock trial based on cyberbullying and learning about the judicial system in the UK.

Three teams of 6 travelled to Penrith Leisure Centre for the gymnastics county final. The competition was strong and we are incredibly proud of the children's performance and how well they represented our school.

We have had two workshops. The first one was for our Year 1 and 2 children and was all about Road Safety covering crossing safely and understanding traffic risks. Year 6 had an Electricity workshop as part of their Science topic. They had the opportunity to build circuits and learn about the potential dangers of electricity.

*Mrs S Layzell*  
*Assistant Headteacher*

## **WEST LAKELAND ROTARY CLUB**

We've had some really excellent presentations during March and the first half of April: Justin Bell a 'detectorist' from Beckermet spoke to us about his well-publicised discovery of Viking silver ingots, the 'Viking Hoard' in a field near Braystones; The ingots are believed to have been used as currency during the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> C. The ingots are now housed in the British Museum.

Nigel Entwistle, from Ravenglass, gave us a very informative presentation about prostate cancer – a common condition among middle and older male age groups. Nigel, who had been treated successfully for the disease a few years ago, strongly advised seeking medical advice should any of the usual signs he described be presented.

Three young people, one female, two males, members of local Scout groups, who have been selected to attend the International Scout Jamboree in Poland next year, told us a bit about themselves and what they expect to be doing at the event. They each need to raise £3500 towards the cost of their visit, some of which will go towards supporting Scouts from 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries who are also attending. West Lakeland Rotary have agreed to donate £200 to each of these speakers, and hope they will speak to us again, after their visit next year.

Steve Dickenson, a local archaeologist, told us a bit about his theories on Viking settlements in West Cumbria, and his interest in a particular geological feature on the coast south of St Bees which he believes could be a Viking burial mound, aptly referred to as the 'Kings Mound'. Steve has made similar presentations to members of U3A in recent months.

And finally, we had another excellent presentation, this time by Hannah of Growing Well, a charity providing opportunities for people suffering mental health conditions to spend 1 day a week working with others in a local greenhouse facility, in this case Egremont. Here, clients receive some instruction, meet others with, perhaps similar problems, and can spend some time discussing their issues with a mental health specialist. They enjoy growing their own food, develop a sense of achievement and, best of all, sell the vegetables through local retailers.

However, the highlight event in our calendar for the year so far, was the annual Pensioners' Party held on Saturday 28 March at Calderbridge Village Hall. Over 80 guests sat down to an excellent tea of sandwiches and home-made cakes. Entertainment was provided by Ged Hagan from Cleator Moor, and by our very own Rotary member Pat O'Kane, and, last but not least, 16 year old Lucy Dixon who delivered a delightful selection



of songs from the musicals accompanied by her father William Dixon. Lucy has a very fine, sweet voice. All of our performers were much appreciated by their audience. Our thanks go to the ladies of West Lakeland Inner Wheel for their hard work making and delivering the refreshments. A total of £335 was received by donations at the door and will be split between the Inner Wheel's and Rotary charity accounts.

And, for your diary, the Club's Annual Plant Sale will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May, again, at Calderbridge Village Hall

*Malcolm Richardson*

## NETHER WASDALE NEWS

### **Wasdale May Festival - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

Starting at 2.00pm on Nether Wasdale village green.

Children's fancy dress & posy competition - judging at 2.15pm.

Parade & maypole dancing, with music from Whitehaven Town Band.

Sit down & takeaway teas (free for children). Raffle, cake stall, tombola, lucky dip, face painting, coconut shy & local craft stalls.

### **The Garden at Galesyke Open Days - 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> May**

The Garden will once again be open to the public over the weekend for charity as part of the National Garden Scheme.

Entry is £6 per adult - children go free & dogs on leads are welcome.

Teas featuring legendary cream scones are available. Open 10 - 5pm.

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## Trips coming up are:

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

Other Trips:

- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Workington £8.50
- Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> May - Egremont Farmers Market  
£3 donation to the market
- Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> May – Mystery Trip £12.50
- Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> May – Solway Coast £12.00
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Windermere and Ambleside £10.50
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Egremont Farmers Market  
£3 donation to the market

## SAINT FOR MAY - ST DUNSTAN



Dunstan is remembered by the Church on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May as Archbishop of Canterbury and restorer of monastic life - he died in 988. This description leaves out almost everything about him, but he has been described as one of the great people in English history. He was Abbot of Glastonbury, Bishop of Worcester, then London, and finally Archbishop of Canterbury. In addition, he was a statesman, serving several Anglo-Saxon Kings. He was also a silversmith and is patron of silver and gold smiths, and also bell ringers, locksmiths and musicians. He is buried in Canterbury Cathedral and is sometimes shown holding the devil's nose with his blacksmith's tongs, to make him holier!

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# HOLMROOK READING ROOM

## ANNUAL BARBEQUE

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 6:30pm**  
**ALL WELCOME**

**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 £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 07931-393954.

## PLANT SALE IN GOSFORTH



**The Lion & Lamb Onion Club**  
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## 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

**11.00am 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 9.30am 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 services 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 for 7.00pm at Various Locations.** Please contact Jill Hudson on 019467 21592 – [jillhudson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jillhudson@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: 7.00pm 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](mailto:jillhudson@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 - MAY 2026

|                                 | Church                  | Service                                | Time         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>       | Nether Wasdale          | Iona Service                           | 9.30         |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b> | Calder Bridge           | Holy Communion at Ponsonby             | 9.30         |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Seascale                | Holy Communion at St Cuthbert's        | 11.00        |
| <b>Proper</b>                   | Gosforth                | Morning Praise                         | 11.00        |
|                                 | Gosforth St Mary's Room | Methodist Evening Worship              | 6.30         |
|                                 |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>10<sup>th</sup> May</b>      | Beckermet               | Holy Communion                         | 9.15         |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b> | Seascale Methodist      | Methodist Morning Worship              | 10.30        |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Gosforth                | Holy Communion                         | 11.00        |
| <b>Proper</b>                   | Seascale                | Faith and Fellowship                   | 6.45 for 7   |
|                                 |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>17<sup>th</sup> May</b>      |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b> | Nether Wasdale          | Holy Communion                         | 9.30         |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Seascale                | Holy Communion at St Cuthbert's        | 11.00        |
| <b>Proper</b>                   | Gosforth                | Morning Worship                        | 11.00        |
|                                 | Old Church Beckermet    | Evening Prayer                         | 3.00         |
|                                 | Gosforth St Mary's Room | Methodist All-age Worship              | 6.30         |
|                                 |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>24<sup>th</sup> May</b>      | Beckermet               | Holy Communion                         | 9.15         |
| <b>Pentecost</b>                | Seascale Methodist      | Methodist Morning Worship              | 10.30        |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Gosforth                | Holy Communion                         | 11.00        |
| <b>Whit Sunday</b>              | Gosforth St Mary's Room | Phoenix Praise Evening Worship         | 7.00         |
|                                 |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>31<sup>st</sup> May</b>      | <b>Nether Wasdale</b>   | <b>Holy Communion Benefice Service</b> | <b>10.30</b> |
| <b>Trinity</b>                  |                         |                                        |              |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    |                         |                                        |              |
|                                 |                         |                                        |              |

## THE LOCAL FOODBANK

Just a reminder to everyone that the local Foodbank (ours is Egremont) 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 Egremont Methodist Church, where the Foodbank is based.

