The Parish Magazine

for the Seatallan Benefice

Gosforth & Wasdale

Beckermet, Calderbridge & Seascale

September 2026

connecting our communities

£1

Seatallan Benefice Directory

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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 10th June 2026 to 1st August 2026

BECKERMET
No Occasional Offices known

CALDER BRIDGE, PONSONBY and OLD CHURCH
3rd July Wedding - Ponsonby Samantha Kate Johnson
Jonathan Robert Burniston

SEASCALE
No Occasional Offices known

GOSFORTH, NETHER WASDALE and WASDALE HEAD
No Occasional Offices known
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‘The Age of Stupid’

I am sure many of you will have read, or heard, the famous little poem by an anonymous British author that runs as follows: ***Whether the weather be fine, or whether the weather be not, whether the weather be cold, or whether the weather be hot, we'll weather the weather whatever the weather....whether we like it or not!***

There can be no getting away from it – so far, the weather has been in the news. From one end of the UK to the other, it has been hot this summer. From north to south, we have experienced some of the highest temperatures this country has ever had. Something is afoot, and it is unpredictable! We have no choice: *We'll weather the weather whatever the weather....whether we like it or not!*

Some years ago, I heard about a film called *‘The Age of Stupid’*. You can watch it for free, on ‘Youtube’. The film is made up of a series of news clips made by the BBC and others, all of which relate to actual weather events, and which, together, point to the emergence of a climate change crisis in the period between 1996 and 2015. The lead role in *‘The Age of Stupid’* is played by the actor, Pete Postlethwaite, a man who was once described by Steven Spielberg as ‘the best actor in the world’, and who will be known to many of you for his roles in films like (1995) and (1996). I found *‘The Age of Stupid’* compelling.

Ever since I watched *‘The Age of Stupid’* I have been haunted by it. It has affected the way I find myself looking at most things around us. From the ‘grey haze’ that I notice as I drive south down the M6, to the chronic traffic jams that afflict people who live south and east of Preston and Barnard Castle, I have found myself thinking, *‘This way of living simply can’t go on!’*. As we have journeyed through the summer, I have sometimes found myself thinking, *‘This really isn’t right!’* As I look around, I also wonder if we aren’t all beginning to feel that way! I feel as if we are starting to see the world around us change climatically...‘on our watch’... and clearly it is happening because of the way we, in the developed world, have been living. Perhaps, there is a sense in which no one knows what to do about such a massive problem. People talk…but does anyone really know what to do?...

…But, then again, in our time, we have more access to information than ever before...so maybe the real problem is apathy, and sheer selfishness. Perhaps, these are the character traits which allow us to ignore our neighbours in the worst affected river delta areas in the world - in India, Bangladesh and China. They are ‘far away’…but in the last 20 years, some of <u>our</u> river deltas have been seriously affected by climate

change as well. Carlisle is built in a river delta area. Who can forget the floods that affected that city and other places like Kendal, Keswick and Cockermouth in our county some years back? Climate change is as real for Cumbrians as it is to anyone. We need to love our neighbours, just as we love ourselves. Our faith tells us to do that.

And then, we have other neighbours, don't we? There are our relatives – the ones who are yet to be born. Surely we need to change our way of living if we are to love them as we should. Loving our neighbours in a globalised world must mean looking back, looking around, and looking forward and then caring enough about it all to actually change our plans… just as the Good Samaritan did, when he looked at that wounded person on the side of the road leading to Jerusalem... and was compelled by the situation to make a plan, out of love for a fellow human being – a person he did not even know. We can't go on being 'stupid' about the way we live in this world of ours. It is selfish. It isn't loving. For those reading who are Christians, Christ calls us to care enough to actually change the way we live!

As the evenings get darker, you might want to watch *'The Age of Stupid'* for yourself. Type it into 'Youtube', and see what you think. If and when you do, be prepared to be challenged! If you are really serious about inclusivity, and loving your neighbour properly, it could be a life changing 'click'.

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 month is for **Hospice at Home – Cuppa for Care** on 3rd Sept.

GOSFORTH PARISH CHURCH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

What a summer it has been! We hope you have all had time to enjoy the good weather.

As the next meeting of the Management Committee will be on Tuesday 8th September, we felt we wanted to let you all know that work on improving the facilities in St Mary's Room is being undertaken. We wish to thank Malcolm for his hard work in painting the foyer to St Mary's Room, improving the lighting and also painting the ladies' toilet. The gents' toilet is a work in progress. The painting of St Mary's Room itself is still outstanding, but will require a team of people to take this on.

As previously reported, we will be holding another **Boon Day** on **Saturday 12th September, 9am – 5pm**. We are looking for volunteers willing and able to help us with these projects. If this is something you feel you could help with, please speak to one of the Church Wardens or simply turn up on the day.

Susan Round (Clerk to Committee)

St. Mary's Church
Gosforth

Boon Day

bring your own tools

Saturday 12th September
9am – 5pm

everyone welcome

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

Light refreshments will be provided

CUPPA FOR CARE

Join us for our Cuppa for Care in aid of Hospice at Home West Cumbria - let's come together to enjoy some delicious treats in aid of our local hospice charity

DATE: Thursday 3rd September

TIME: 10.30 to 12 noon

LOCATION: St Mary's Room

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mwarmoth17@yahoo.co.uk

'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 mostly 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

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.

NEWS FROM NETHER WASDALE

On **Tuesday 1st September** there will be a **Buffet Supper** in the Old School, Nether Wasdale at 7.00 pm. Payment by donation.

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CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SEASCALE AND DISTRICT

Our Churches Together group are holding a **Fund Raising Coffee Morning** on Saturday 26th September in Drigg & Carlton Village Hall from 10:00 – 12:00.

10% - 20% of the UK Population are diagnosed with Dyslexia, the figure worldwide is far higher. This means that traditional standard bibles are difficult if not impossible for a large number of our population to read.

We would like to buy **Dyslexia Friendly Bibles** which will be gifted to our local schools, care homes, hospitals and prisons by our Churches Together Group.

Dyslexia Friendly Bibles are being published by one of the main Christian publishing groups which makes them far easier to obtain at a reasonable cost. The Dyslexia Bibles are around £30 mark. We plan to have them on display at the coffee morning along with Book Dedication Stickers if anyone wants to personally buy one for a particular location.

We will be sending around an e-mail to member churches asking for donations of cakes, raffle prizes and for help on the day, to make the event a success.

What makes them different?

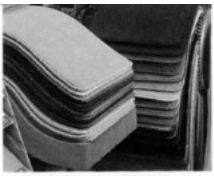
Dyslexia Bibles: Use specialized "sans-serif" typefaces—such as the specially developed Grace Typeface or OpenDyslexic—which feature heavier bottoms to ground the words and prevent letters from appearing to "jump" or flip

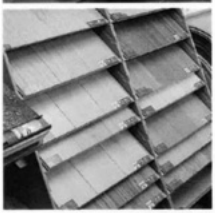
Page Layout: Feature a single-column layout with extra-wide margins and generous spacing between lines, words, and paragraphs. They are printed on thicker, matte, cream-colored paper to improve contrast and eliminate glare

Visual Aids: Often include physical colour overlays that can be placed over the page to reduce visual strain and improve reading comprehension

SOLAR ECLIPSE 2026 – OUTREACH EVENT ON SEASCALE BEACH

Thank you to everyone that came along to Seascale Beach to stand alongside our local community to watch in “awe and wonder” as the Eclipse took place. It was a great opportunity to meet and get to know local people. We were delighted to have Martin Whipp FRAS from Lime Tree Observatory bring along his Telescope and for him to share his knowledge.





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NEWS FROM CALDERBRIDGE AND PONSONBY

The Summer Fair which was held in the Village Hall in July raised £1180.00 for Church Funds. Many thanks to everyone who came, donated and helped out in any way. It was a lovely day and the Community Spirit was shining through.

Church Services

6th September	Holy Communion	9.30am	Ponsonby
20th September	Evensong	3pm	Old Church Beckermet
4th October	Harvest Festival	9.30am	Ponsonby

Dates for your Diary

Benefice Harvest Supper	10th October 7pm	Calderbridge Village Hall
Christmas Fair	21st November 2pm	Calderbridge Village Hall
Christmas Carol Service	5th December 5pm	Ponsonby

Eleanore Glaister

SEASCALE NEWS FROM ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

Workshops leading up to the Seascale Light Works event on December 5/6th:

Any group or individual is invited to take part in music, dance, lanterns, light installation workshops taking place in St Cuthbert's, Seascale and in Beckermet Reading Rooms.
Seascale sessions are 3.30 - 5.30pm and Beckermet sessions are 11-1pm:

Music -13th Oct; 10th Nov
Dance - 2nd Sept; 7th Oct; 4th Nov
Lanterns – 29 Sept; 24th Nov
Light installation - 15th Sept; 20th Oct; 17th Nov
More detail is on the Everyone Here website under events!

We hope to be holding the **Christmas Tree Festival** that weekend too at St Cuthbert's.

Mary Waterhouse

SEASCALE NEWS – Please note all the activities in these notices take place in Seascale Methodist Church Hall

Wednesday Outreach
Looking back, we would like to thank everyone who came along to the Strawberry Afternoon Tea in July, we were delighted to raise £306.40 for the Cumbria Farming Community Network.
Unfortunately Hannah Wright from the Growing Well Project was not able to join us at our August meeting, Hannah hopes to visit us later on this year.

The September **Tea and Chat** will be on Wednesday 2nd September at 2.30pm.
We remember all our members who are not able to join us at meetings at present.
All are welcome to join us at our meetings.

Table Top Sale - Saturday 12th September - 10am-12noon
The Table Top sale will be a fundraiser for the **Great North Ambulance Service.** There will be no charge to hire a table but a small donation to the Air Ambulance service would be appreciated. We will be having a raffle on the day.
To book a table please contact Allison or Jackie

Harvest Songs of Praise and Harvest Lunch – Wed. 16th September 12.30pm
Our Harvest Songs of Praise will be led by Sheila and Jonathan Falkner. We will be having our usual Harvest Table when we would welcome gifts of edible treats such as sweets, biscuits, chocolate etc. which will be donated to **Calderwood House at Egremont**.
We would be pleased to welcome any visitors who would like to join us.

A Cuppa for Care - Monday 21st September 2pm-4pm
Seascale WI members are supporting the Cuppa for Care fundraiser for **Hospice at Home West Cumbria** as suggested in the recent WI County News. We invite you to join us for tea/coffee and cakes, we will also have a raffle on the day.

Jackie Folkes

NEWS FROM GOSFORTH METHODIST CONGREGATION AND PHOENIX PRAISE – JULY 2026

One of the themes which has always played a large part in the services and activities of Gosforth Methodist Church and Phoenix Praise is our appreciation for the glories of God's creation and the vital role of humanity in stewarding it responsibly. Right back in Genesis 1, even before the story of Adam and Eve, humanity was entrusted with care for the natural world, and today our influence over it is so great that we have it in our power to protect or to destroy the very eco-systems we all rely upon.

So, Gosforth Methodist Congregation is delighted to announce that we are now officially an 'Eco Church'! We have received a Bronze Award from A Rocha, an international family of Christian conservation organisations. To receive this award we had to explain some of the steps we have taken as a congregation and as individuals to reduce our carbon footprint and to protect and enhance our local environment in all the ways we can. Examples include lots of everyday decisions and actions that many churches – and readers of this magazine - will already be taking: sharing of transport, minimising the need for single-use service sheets and hymn sheets, recycling resources, making ethical choices about what we buy and where – and, arguably the 'greenest' decision we have made, selling our building! As a class of Seascale Methodist Church we no longer have our own church finances, but individual members of our congregation donate - and/or belong - to conservation organisations such as the RSPB, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, CPRE and the National Trust. Many of us grow our own food (as organically as possible), garden for wildlife, and/or volunteer for social and environmental projects. For example, Keith and I volunteer regularly for Natural England on Hallsenna Nature reserve as well as helping in the gardens at Muncaster. We also joined up with Katie and Alistair Bell and Egremont Methodist Church's Eco-Group last year to help plant new trees along the edge of woodland above Calder Bridge.

One of our younger members, Eleanor, has also stepped up to be our 'eco-champion', a role which involves keeping ecological issues at the forefront of our minds. In a recent service she played a beautiful piano piece for us, Elegy for the Arctic by Ludovico Einaudi, which was composed as part of a campaign calling for protection for the Arctic from inappropriate development.

There's nothing new about Gosforth Methodists' concern for environmental issues. Over twenty years ago, Lorrie, Lynn and the two Marys were regularly exploring these themes with their All Stars

children's group, and staging exhibitions for local primary schools to raise children's awareness of everyone's environmental responsibilities. Beginning in July 2004 a number of Environment Days were held, with visits from representatives of the Environment Agency and various environmental charities. At the time, very few churches were thinking seriously about climate change and their carbon footprints, so this was truly pioneering work.

As part of next season's Phoenix worship programme, we hope that Katie and Alistair will be able to bring some of their eco-group along to share some more thoughts and ideas with us. Every small step each one of us takes in the right direction can help us co-operate with God in seeing 'Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'

Jill Hudson

BECKERMET COMMUNITY NEWS

By the time you are reading this edition of the Parish Magazine most of you will hopefully have enjoyed a pleasant summer break with family/ friends wherever that may have been. Children having enjoyed the long summer break from school will now be back in class. For many it will be just moving up a year while for others it will be a major change, especially for those who have moved on to secondary school and all that entails. For some they have waited many weeks for exam results which will enable them to further their education in the sixth form or move on to college or university. Hopefully everyone has achieved what they required but if not, there is always other opportunities available. Good luck to all who are moving on to face these new challenges whether in their new school, onto further education or starting a job for the first time. As parents and grandparents, you all have an important role to play in supporting them in what can be a stressful time.

Cumbria & Britain in Bloom
Throughout the past months many volunteers, guided by Claire Dunn, worked tirelessly to make sure that our village looked the best it could ready for the judges in July, who were impressed with the improvements made to a number of aspects of our village. We will not know the outcome of their judgement until early October. Following last year's award of gold in Cumbria-in-Bloom, Beckermet was asked to represent Cumbria in Britain-in-Bloom. With this came even more work for the volunteers as more is expected when entering the national award system. Various extra areas of the village were greatly enhanced with new flower beds whilst maintaining all that was undertaken last year. I personally believe they have done a wonderful job throughout the

village. Again, the judges have been and we await their verdict which will also be in October. Whatever the outcome they have done our village proud with all the floral displays which are well worth a visit.

Reading Rooms
The Reading Rooms continue to be at the heart of our community where a wide range of activities take place on a regular basis. The rooms can be hired out for regular events or for a one-off event. If you are interested log into the Reading Room Beckermet page where you will find all the information required to be able to make a booking or request further details.

Coffee Cake & Chat
Our sessions continue throughout the year on **Tuesday mornings from 9.30-11.30** and on **Thursday afternoons from 1.30-3.30**. All refreshments are free of charge but if you would like to leave a donation that would be gratefully received. We often have visits from places like Citizens Advice who come along to talk to members about various aspects of their work.

St John's Services.
Our regular church services take place on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at St Johns Church in the village, starting at 9.15am followed by refreshments in the church after the service. The September dates for these services are the **13th& 27th Sept.** I am delighted to announce that due to fundraising activities over the past two years, together with grants from the diocese, we have now replaced the defunct gas boiler with electric under pew heating which will enable us to hold our services in St John's throughout the year without having to move out to the Reading Rooms, for which we have been grateful for their support over the past two winters.

Quiz & Bingo Nights (All Friday Nights 6.30-8.30pm)
Quiz - 18th Sept. Bingo Night - 25th Sept.
Everyone is welcome to come along and join us on these evenings. Apart from our village members we have regulars who join us from Braystones, Egremont, Seascale, Gosforth, Thornhill & Haile so why not come along and sample one of these sessions which are often full of fun and laughter.

St John's Soup Lunches
Following a couple of months break the regular Soup Lunches start again on **Wednesday 16th September** at the usual time from **12-1.30pm.** Excellent value at **£6 per head** which includes a bowl of soup or two even, home-made cakes plus copious tea/coffee. A great way to meet up with friends & even make new ones.

J J HRYB

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Open Mic Nights (usually 2nd Wed each month 7-10pm**)**
The Open Mic Nights continue to be popular each month with the next night on **9th Sept.** All of these sessions are free to enjoy with the bar open to purchase refreshments.

Beckermet Village Show (Sat 11th July)
The annual village show took place in the Reading Rooms in July. The afternoon was well attended and it was nice to have our local MP Josh MacAlister attending to award the various Trophies which were won by: - Jean Slater (Atkinson Trophy), Marilyn Mackay (Walker Trophy), Lydia Simmons (Janet McNee Trophy for U11's) & Freya Worsell (Gough Shield for U5's)
Upcoming Village Events in the Reading Rooms:
Youth Club: - Monday & Thursday evenings 6-8pm
Two Rivers Rock: - Wednesday Evenings in the Reading Rooms.
Entertainment Night - Saturday **Sept 26th** Justin Bell with 3 singers for a music medley evening

Beckermet Village Lottery
The last lottery draw of the 3rd year of undertaking this village activity took place on the 1st September. Subscriptions of £25 are now due to be paid prior to the first draw which will take place on Tues 6th Oct in the Reading Rooms during Coffee Cake & Chat at around 10am. During the past year £2,210 has been paid out in prize money while payments have been made towards helping with Cumbria/Britain-in-Bloom, replacement defibrillator pads, a village youngster to attend Tanzanian exchange with another to attend the Scout Jamboree in Poland, Christmas tree lights, new flags for the village, new hoover for the church, the annual service of the church clock, donations to the Reading Rooms for general repairs and to the annual fundraising coffee morning for Hospice at Home. Come October more funds will be available to help either individuals or village groups with their projects. Please consider keeping your membership in this worthwhile village activity and if you haven't been in it before then please consider joining. Need more information then use the contact details below.

For further Information about these events and others in Beckermet please check either the **Beckermet Reading Room or Beckermet Village Facebookpages** for details.

John Mackay
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Date	Group	Contact
Monday 7th Sept	**Cycling:** Gosforth Public Hall; 10 am	John ☎ 019467 25831
Mon 7th / 14th / 21st / 28th September	**Tai Chi** Calderbridge Village Hall; 11.30 am	Michael westlakesU3A@gmail.com
Wednesday 2nd September	**History:** Online Safety by S. McNichol Drigg Village Hall; cost £2; 10.30 am	Vera ☎ 019467 25213
Weds 2nd / 9th / 16th / 23rd / 30th Sept	**French Conversation** Kellbank, Gosforth; cost £4; 10.15 am	James ☎ 07931 996742 **Group Full**
Weds 2nd / 9th / 16th / 23rd / 30th Sept	**Chair Based Exercises** Calderbridge Village Hall; 11.30 am	John ☎ 019467 25831
Weds 2nd / 9th / 16th / 23rd / 30th Sept	**Indoor Bowls** St Mary St Michael's Church Hall; 2 pm	John ☎ 019467 25831
Tuesday 1st September	**Discussion of Current Affairs** Kellbank; coffee £4 (option); 10.45 am	Bridget ☎ 07594 167575
Thurs 3rd / 10th / 17th / 24th September	**Eskdale Exercise Class** Eskdale Village Hall; 10.30 am	Sherill **New weekly class** ☎ 07484 384640
Fri 4th / 11th / 18th / 25th September	**Folk Dancing** Calderbridge Village Hall; 2 pm	Vera ☎ 019467 25213
Tuesday 8th Sept **Theme: Colour**	**Photography** St Mary's Room; 2 pm	Nigel ☎ 07774 673461 **Submit photos by 4th Sept**
Monday 14th September	**Walking for strollers** 2 mile stroll from 2 pm; **No dogs**	Valerie ☎ 07796 527876 **Location notified day before**
Thursday 10th September	**Art Appreciation** DVD: Katsushika Hokusai (1760 - 1849)	Margaret Mbakerphoto999@gmail.com
Friday 11th / 25th September	**Intermediate Recorders** Santon Village Hall; 10 am	Marilyn ☎ 07817 499849 smithybrow@icloud.com
Tuesday 15th September	**Family History Group** Santon Village Hall; cost £2; 10 am	Hilary westlakesu3afhg@gmail.com **Bring Laptop / electronic device**
Thurs 3rd – 10 am Weds 16th – 2 pm	**Treble recorders** Santon Village Hall Supper room	Marilyn ☎ 07817 499849 smithybrow@icloud.com
Thursday 10th / 24th September	**Advanced Recorders** Santon Village Hall; 2 pm	Marilyn ☎ 07817 499849 smithybrow@icloud.com
Thursday 17th September	**Open Mind**: Uzbekistan by A Payne C'bridge Village Hall; cost £3; 10.30am	Alan **Cost includes Chatty Lunch**
Thursday 17th September	**Chatty Lunch** - to follow Open Mind Calderbridge Village Hall	Vera ☎ 019467 25213 **Pre-booking essential**
Thursday 24th September	**Reading** St Mary's Room; cost £2; 10.30 am	Norma ☎ 019467 25366
Tuesday 22nd September	**Discovery:** Practical radioactivity St Mary's Room, cost £2; 2 pm	Ben ☎ 019467 24791
Thurs 24th Sept Seascale 9.15 am Gosforth 9.30 am	**Out and About:** *The Farmer's Wife* – Helen Rebanks' Memoir Theatre by the Lake; cost £50	Vera ☎ 019467 25213 **Pre-booking essential**

Queries regarding **Events** should be sent to:
westlakesu3a@gmail.com or see the website

GOSFORTH SCHOOL NEWS

We had the usual busy end of summer term which saw Wilson winning Sports Day, a host of talented performers on the stage of the Village Hall for Gosforth's Got Talent and a sunny afternoon spent on the school field for the now annual Gosfest.

The pre-schoolers at Nursery celebrated their Graduation in the church with families in attendance. This was followed days later with our Year 6 hosting their Leaver's Service. We would like to wish our wonderful Year 6 pupils every happiness and success as they leave us and begin their next adventure. It has been a joy to watch them grow in confidence, independence and character during their time with us. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved and the kind, courageous young people they have become.

The new term will see seventeen new starters in Reception with Mrs Whitham. Starting school is such an exciting milestone, and we look forward to getting to know each child, watching them grow in confidence and helping them begin their learning journey with us.

September will see a staffing change as Mrs Hilton is due to give birth early in the month. We welcome Miss Gilmore to Ennerdale and look forward to working with her - I'm sure Year 4/5 will make her feel very welcome.

FOGS first event of the new year will be the 5km Fun Run and Colour Run which will take place on Wednesday 9th September.

Mrs S Layzell Assistant Headteacher

BECKERMET SCHOOL NEWS

After a stunning summer of weather, we are all raring to go again at Beckermet School! We warmly welcome our new Reception children and hope they settle in quickly with the help of their amazing Year 6 buddies. We also look forward to our Welcome Service and Harvest celebration. Once again, we are celebrating International Day of Peace in September with a day of mindful and creative activities across the school. Here's to a happy start to the new school year!

Sue Alderson – Senior Teacher

GOSFORTH BROWNIES

As the new term begins, 2nd Gosforth Brownies is looking forward to welcoming back our girls for another fun-filled term.

Open to girls aged 7 to 10 years, we have spaces in our small group to welcome new members. Now is a really exciting time to join, with GirlGuiding recently revealing a new uniform and, even more exciting, new interest badges. So, if you know a girl who would like to join, please feel free to get in touch with us at gosforthbrownies@gmail.com

Last term, we worked on various badges, including the Kindness interest badge. As a local resident you may have discovered our painted pebbles around Gosforth back in April. We also worked on the Imagination badge which was great fun, as well as looking at the Explore theme, learning about map reading and how to cope in a crisis when you're out and about. We took our last meeting, before the summer break, to Seascale beach for play and ice-cream! Some of our girls were presented with their Bronze, Silver and even Gold Brownie Awards.

For the upcoming term we are planning a variety of activities which will include crafts, learning new skills, remembrance activities, and Christmas carols, to name just a few.

To help us deliver our weekly activities, we would also welcome new adult volunteers to join us as Leaders or Unit Helpers. This is open to women aged 18 or over, whether you have previously been involved in GirlGuiding or not.

Our regular meetings are on a Monday evening (term time only). If you have a potential new Brownie or would like to become a volunteer, please contact us to enquire: gosforthbrownies@gmail.com. Enquires can also be made on the girlguiding.org.uk website.'

GOSFORTH WI

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 1st September 7.15 – 9.15 pm in St Mary's Room. This month the theme is Laughing Yoga and our competition is "something that makes you smile".

If you are interested in joining us, please come along, we're a friendly group and we love to welcome new Members.

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NEWS FROM GADS – GOSFORTH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

As the refurbishment work at the hall continues, we are doing our best to keep our members busy and entertained. By relocating to the school, we managed to run our popular summer youth workshop week from 17 to 21 August. With limited access to scenery, props, costume, lights and sound equipment, the week was able to focus on the fundamental bit of theatre – the acting. We kept 17 youngsters busy for the week with mini workshops on characterisation, blocking, diction and projection, as well playing a lot of games and learning the script and song for our short play – "Three Characters in Search of as verdict" by Sue Gordon. The play was performed to an invited audience on the Friday evening.

Our Youth Theatre Group then takes a break until the New Year while we find a suitable alternative location to use during the hall refurbishment work.

For our slightly older members, we continue to run Plays for Pleasure and a series of adult workshops. Plays for Pleasure runs monthly at the Kellbank on a Tuesday evening at 7:30pm. On 8 September we will be reading "Cash on Delivery" by Michael Cooney. This riotous farce has all the ingredients for rib-tickling hilarity, offering a colourful selection of character roles. On 6 October we will be reading "2:22 A Ghost Story" by Danny Robins. Jenny and Sam - and their baby Phoebe - have recently moved into their new home, but something feels frightening and very wrong. Over one adrenaline-filled night - as the foxes scream outside - secrets will emerge and ghosts may appear... Spine-chilling, funny and scary. These are all free to attend so just come along and you will be welcomed.

On 22 September, we will be running our next workshop - "Acting Through Song", for those aged 14+ and led by Arien van den Elzen. Then on 20 October, Benita Blacklock will lead another workshop for those aged 8+ - topic to be confirmed. The workshops will be held in St Mary's Room starting at 7:30pm (time to be confirmed). Your first workshop is also free to attend, but after that we simply ask that you join us as a member or patron.

To find out more about these and all matters GADS, follow us on Facebook (gads1948), Instagram (gads-gosforth), the Website (gads.org.uk) or by emailing gads_gosforth@gmail.com. Best of all, why not join our mailing list? You won't get bombarded, but you will be the first to find out what's happening. There is a link to sign up on the website home page.

WEST LAKELAND ROTARY CLUB NEWS

In the Rotary Organisation, the Club President serves for just 1 year before handing over to his or her successor. This takes place at the end of June. This year our outgoing President David (Fred) Lord handed over the Terry Dixon, who has served as President before, and this took place on 30 June. We thank our outgoing President for all his hard work and wish President Terry every success in the coming year.

Rotary Clubs can appoint honorary members, in recognition of an individual's special relationship with a club, for example assisting or promoting a club for its contribution to the community. This year we decided to appoint Joanne Crowe, an employee of Cumberland Council, for her role in encouraging and valuing our members for their work in support of the Phoenix Pantry foodbank based in Cleator Moor. Joanne was delighted to be invited to receive this honour, and we look forward to working with her in any future voluntary roles.

The Club has enjoyed some excellent speakers over the last few weeks:
On 7 July we heard from Dr Tim Gregory, of National Nuclear Laboratories, who explained why complete conversion to nuclear power, in his opinion, is the only way to eliminate the emission of greenhouse gases, and help combat climate change. He's even written a book on the subject: 'Going Nuclear' (Vintage Press). Not bad going for someone in his early 30's.
And then, to ensure impartiality, on 4 August we heard from Dr Ruth Balogh a tireless supporter and member of Friends of the Earth who gave us an update on some of the many campaigns her organisation is working on; an excellent presentation and she was well received.

And to close, our annual Rotating Wheels show held at Gosforth on Sunday 19 July under cloudless skies was an enormous success. A wonderful community atmosphere pervaded the whole day, and over £6000 was raised for local charities. Well done to all who helped with the show – including the many non-Rotarians and, especially, the ladies of Inner Wheel who served food throughout the day.

Malcolm Richardson

GOSFORTH LIBRARY

The internal and external plaster/render is almost complete, painting is progressing well on the inside and we are waiting for the external render to dry enough to paint the walls. Electrical work has progressed and some lighting and heating circuits are working, but there is a lot of work to do on the sockets and the fire alarm system.

Plumbing work has progressed and is almost complete, allowing heating to be put on and help dry out the old thick walls of the library. The floors have dried enough to allow sealing and leveling to start soon.

The joiners have made progress on internal doors, architrave and skirting boards.

We are several weeks behind the original program but things are speeding up and we expect the library to re-open in late September.

John Reed

MUNCASTER MICROBUS

Could you drive once a month for the Microbus?
Also looking for drivers to assist with a routine Gosforth to Seascale journey.
If you would like to volunteer as a driver or to book any journeys ring Gill on: 01229-717229
The Microbus can get you there even in these times of dwindling bus services

Trips coming up are:
Whitehaven shopping trips every Tuesday and Thursday (Except Bank Holidays) – FREE if you have a NoW card bus pass.

Other Trips:

- Saturday 5th September – Lancaster £13
- Friday 18th September - Egremont Farmers Market
  £3 donation to the market
- Saturday 19th September – Keswick £9
- Saturday 3rd October – Kendal £10.50
- Friday 16th October – Egremont Farmers Market
  £3 donation to the market
- Saturday 17th October – Barton Grange Garden Centre £12.50
- Wednesday 28th October – Workington £8.50

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HOLMROOK READING ROOM

NEXT EVENT - PIZZA EVENING
Saturday 17th OCTOBER at 6:30pm
Members: £7.50; Non-Members £8.50; U/12 £5
All welcome - Ring 07931-393954 to book

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 now
£9 for annual membership and £4 to join a club. These can be renewed/ started any time. If you are an existing member or want to join us contact David on drmarsden@outlook.com or 07931-393954.

GOSFORTH PUBLIC HALL REFERBISHMENT UPDATE

The external render is now complete. We have specialist paint to go on the render which can't be applied until at least 28 days after the last render coat. This means external painting should start this month but some will have to wait until early September. The paint, if applied when the render is ready, will provide a guaranteed 15 year protection. Internally, the upstairs Supper Room, and store room decoration is nearly complete and the Library and old Kitchen decoration is progressing well. Damp within the concrete floor structure of the Library and Kitchen means additional work is needed to dig out damp areas, apply screed and a damp proof membrane before floor coverings can be laid. A new Fire Alarm also needs to be fitted and commissioned before the Library and rooms above can be handed over for use. We expect this hand over to be by the end of September. The delay means the main Hall will be available for hire throughout September.

Karen Russ
Chair, Gosforth Public Hall Management Committee

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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

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

SUNDAY EVENINGS

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

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

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

Occasionally special events and circumstances may lead to changes in the regular programme. *These services are services of Seascale Methodist Church and its Gosforth Methodist congregation, and as such are safeguarded by their safeguarding processes.*

2nd Sunday of the Month: Faith and Fellowship – 6.45 for 7.00pm at Various Locations. Please contact Jill Hudson on 019467 21592 – jillfhudson@hotmail.co.uk *This group has no formal or legal connection with the Church of England or the Methodist Church in England.*

4th Sunday of the Month: **7.00pm Phoenix Praise Informal Evening Worship** St Mary's Room Gosforth. Led by Jill and Keith Hudson. Songs/hymns, readings, short talk, discussion and fellowship followed by refreshments. For more information please email jillfhudson@hotmail.co.uk and for a Zoom invitation email khudson@freenetname.co.uk or ring 01946 721592 or visit 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

SEATALLAN BENEFICE SERVICES - SEPTEMBER 2026

	Church	Service	Time
1st Sunday			
6th September	Nether Wasdale	Iona Service	9.30
14th of Trinity	Ponsonby	Holy Communion	9.30
Green	Seascale St Cuthbert's	Holy Communion	11.00
Proper 18	Gosforth	Morning Praise	11.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Rm	Methodist Evening Worship	6.30
2nd Sunday			
13th September	Beckermet	Holy Communion	9.15
15th after Trinity	Seascale Methodist Church	Methodist Morning Worship	10.30
Green	Gosforth	Holy Communion	11.00
Proper 19	Wasdale Head	Morning Worship	11.00
	Seascale	Faith and Fellowship	6.45 for 7
3rd Sunday			
20th September	Nether Wasdale	Holy Communion – Harvest Festival	9.30
16th after Trinity	Seascale St Cuthbert's	Holy Communion	11.00
Green	Gosforth	Morning Worship	11.00
Proper 20	Old Church Beckermet	Evening Prayer	3.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Methodist All-age Worship	6.30
4th Sunday			
27th September	Beckermet	Holy Communion	9.15
17th after Trinity	Seascale Methodist Church	Methodist Morning Worship	10.30
Green	Gosforth	Holy Communion	11.00
Proper 21	Wasdale Head	Holy Communion	4.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Phoenix Praise Evening Worship	7.00
Every Sunday	Seascale St Joseph's RC Church	Mass	9.00

SAINT FOR SEPTEMBER - ST BIRINUS

Some Saints appear to have only local significance and Birinus is one such. His entry in Common Worship for the 4th of September says only that he was Bishop of Dorchester (near Oxford) and Apostle of Wessex, and that he died in 650. His importance in the conversion of the people of Wessex is also remembered by the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches, though not in September. He is one of the great founders of Christianity in this country and he deserves to be remembered.

Cover Picture: A painting of Calder Abbey Woods, painted by Philip's Gt. Grandmother while on holiday in the area around 1890.