The Parish Magazine

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



September 2024

connecting our communities 60p

Seatallan Benefice Directory

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### Does prayer make any difference?

According to a nationwide poll in 2018, 51% of the population pray. People pray for different reasons, often people pray out of desperation, as the saying goes "there are no Atheists in foxholes", when we reach the end of ourselves and have no idea where to turn, we might pray. Jesus seems ok with that as he says in his famous sermon on the mount, "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule". For me these are often my most honest prayers as they can reflect the reality of what I am feeling not just what I am "supposed" to say. Whilst it is common to pray for people, places and things, the reality is we can't control them, and prayer can help us, as in prayer we can try to let go of our desire for control.

Anyone who has been part of the 12-step fellowship can understand this. They will tell you that when they hit rock bottom, they couldn't find a way out and it was only out of that place of admitting that they are powerless to change that they started to find sobriety, which means balance. They had to let go of their control, their way of handling things. Prayer helps us with this as it takes the attention off ourselves and helps us to open up to something greater than ourselves, something that I believe is within each of us.

I have had many conversations with people about spirituality, (it goes with the job) and whilst many don't believe in God, in their own words, they do believe there is something greater than themselves and it is usually something to do with love, that draws us all together. I find this helpful as I believe that God is love, and it is love that binds us together, and this, tied with the Step 11 of AA, helps me to practically see the value of prayer. Step 11 encourages us "through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood God, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out." Prayer is not about saying the right thing, it is about changing us as we try to let go of our will or our control. Maybe this is why it can be hard work, and why we can find it uncomfortable and disappointing at times especially when we don't see prayers answered.

As a Priest, do I feel disappointed at times when I pray? Yes, I don't always feel a sense of the presence of God, I don't always get the outcome I desire and sometimes I don't want to take the right action that I sense I should. Do I always feel safely wrapped up in the love that I speak about? I have to say no, I often feel my own lack and fears and anxiety can take centre stage. Yet most days I will get up and the first thing I do is spend time praying, often in silence. Why? Despite my own doubts and my failings, I have come to believe that a power greater than myself can restore me to sanity (Step 2 AA). Praying helps me to ground myself, it helps me improve my conscious contact with God, if only through acknowledgment, and in doing so helps me to live more consciously in the world. As we look towards Autumn and the change in season, can I encourage you to pray however you see fit, give thanks, sit in silence, ask for help, I do believe prayer changes things, but it probably changes us the most.

Rev'd Dave Pilkington

### EDITORIAL

A lot seems to have happened since I was preparing the last magazine in mid-June!

The most recent happening being the fire at the village shop in Gosforth, which also destroyed the homes of the Ancell family who lived above the shop and the Tyler/Van Bussell family living behind. Thankfully they all survived the fire and everyone was very generous in providing them with emergency clothing, etc.

We hope that they will be able to find temporary accommodation until they are able to return to their homes, which won't be for some considerable time.

The village shop will be a great loss to the local community and those without transport will struggle to do their shopping. Several people from St Mary's Church have offered to take people to Seascale or Whitehaven to shop, so if you would like to accept this offer, do please get in touch with me and I can arrange this.

Included with this magazine is a flyer about our Church Toddler Groups – a new one starting at Seascale and the Gosforth group. If you know of a young family who might be interested, please pass it on to them.

Norma (019467 25366)

### SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY PRAYERS

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





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

This month it will be held on Thursday 5th September. Do come along for a chat and enjoy some lovely home baking.

Admission is free but a donation to our chosen charity is always welcome. This month's donation will go towards St Mary's Church and churchyard.

### MU DIARIES, CHRISTMAS CARDS, CALENDARS etc. -

these can be purchased on line by anyone at <u>www.mueshop.org</u> When ordering please tick/select Carlisle Diocese as they will get a small % payment. You do not have to be an MU member to make a purchase. If you prefer cards with a Christian theme you may well find this is a suitable source.

### **GOSFORTH PARENT & TODDLER GROUP**

It has been a creative and fun end to our summer term. We had great fun building and decorating our entry for the Gosforth Show Community category and look forward to seeing it at the show.

Our final meeting was a day trip to Muncaster Castle for our annual Teddy Bears' Picnic. The children enjoyed playing on the play equipment as well as creating a nature plate using wild natural resources, such as daisies, dandelions, etc., from around the grounds. They also tossed their teddy bears on the parachute too!

It has been great to welcome some new families to our Group. We meet every Tuesday morning, during term time, 10 - 11.30 m in St. Mary's Room at St. Mary's Church, Gosforth. Currently, there is a £2 charge per family for each session, which includes fruit snacks, biscuits and water, tea or coffee. If you feel this might be something you are interested in joining, please feel free to come along and say hello.

We hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 10th September.











### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

This month's meeting is on **Monday 23rd September** when we meet at 2.00pm in Seascale Methodist Room for a talk by Janet Hardy on her visit to The Holy Land. Those wanting transport please contact Norma on 019467 25366. In addition, all Deanery branches have been invited to join Whitehaven Branch for their September meeting which is a service of Holy Communion at 7pm at St James Church, Whitehaven, on Tuesday 10th September. If you want transport to this service, please contact Mary Waterhouse on 019467 27641.

### September Prayer

As the tides of time wash over the shores of our lives, bless us with the joy of living,

As we sift through the shifting sands of our years, bless us with understanding.

As the seasons of budding and fruiting come and go, bless us with a thankful spirit. Amen.

### **Prayer Topics:**

- The MU members and associates in the dioceses in Zone A– South Korea (2,700); Myanmar (8,950); India (1,900,000); Sri Lanka (3,200); Thailand (519) that they may all enjoy Christian Fellowship within the Mothers' Union.
- The leaders of the world be encouraged to seek justice and peace for all, so that the nations of the world can be bound together with the respect and understanding that can end a season of conflict and lead to lasting peace.
- The creation of communities to become bridges of love to feed the needs of those who seek God.
- People everywhere as they use the gifts given by God, every day and every season, to his service
- Those who gather the harvest of the land and seas and those who transport the harvest to enable others to eat Those working for a more equable distribution of this food throughout the world.
- Those starting at school, college or university this month as they prepare for the next stage of their life, and particularly those beginning their school life at Gosforth C of E Primary School.

**MU Diaries, Christmas Cards, Calendars etc.** The range and grouping of cards makes group ordering more difficult. Mary Waterhouse will buy some for resale. Those who have internet access are asked to look on line to view the catalogue at <u>www.mueshop.org</u>. If you wish to place your own order please ensure you find the section on your Diocese and choose Carlisle so that our county MU gets a small % of what you spend. If you only want a few and don't want to pay postage, please contact Mary as soon as possible. Ruth will contact the members without internet personally.

### A thank you from Rachel

It was such a privilege to have my Ordination to the Priesthood at St Cuthbert's in Seascale on Sunday 30th June, and so wonderful to share that special occasion with so many of you who have been part of my journey this last year. But it was more than a service for my ordination, it was a celebration of the ministry and mission of all the churches across the mission community, of which my ministry is a part for a time, and so it was great to have so many people come together from across the mission community to



join in the celebration. Thank you to everyone for your attendance and involvement in the service, it really would not have been the same without you; and for those who were unable to attend, thank you for your prayers.

### 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.

Just so you know, Christine McKinley will collect the items from Nether Wasdale and Gosforth churches on the 3rd Friday of each month, so it would be good if we could all try and put something in the box each month before that date! If you need to contact her for any reason her number is 01946 726267.

### St Olafs, Wasdale Head faith in the fells

### SEPTEMBER SERVICES at St Olaf's:

Sunday 8th September - 11am Holy Communion, celebrant Philip Dorling. Sunday 22nd September - 11am Morning Worship. *Services at Nether Wasdale Church are at 9.30am on 1st & 3rd Sundays monthly.* 

JOSS NAYLOR - much has been written about the remarkable life of Wasdale's most famous son, and one wonders if his greatest long term legacy will be his huge contribution to good health by inspiring so many perhaps thousands - to take up fell running, surely one of the healthiest sports of all. Those present (over 1200 attended the funeral) will never forget the sight of more than 1000 of them running over the fells from all directions to lead the hearse carrying Joss on his final journey from Down'y Dale Bridge to St Olaf's. The moving sound of a solitary trumpet accompanying a young runner chanting 'Swing Low, sweet chariot, coming forth to carry you home', with some approving bleats from herdwicks, were the only sounds in an otherwise silent valley, as the runners 'carried Joss home'. Canon Richard Lee took the service which was expertly broadcast to the many in the churchyard and adjacent field, so with a liberal supply of service sheets everyone was able take part in the service. Joss is buried near the church door, in sight of Middle Row, where he was born.

**LAMMAS DAY** - On Sunday 11th August, with a well-attended church, we celebrated Lammas Day (Loaf Mass Day). It is the festival of first fruits when a loaf baked with flour from newly harvested grain is brought into church and blessed. In our case it was small baps freshly baked by Carolyn, who led the service, traditionally one of the oldest celebrations between the agricultural world and the Church. Big thanks to the many attended this special service.

**BUSY WEEK** - Lammas Day marked the end of a busy week at St Olaf's as we once again welcomed a group of eighteen Polish 7th Day Adventists from Yorkshire, who held their morning and evening prayers, and their main weekly worship on Saturday, in St Olaf's. It is good to hear worship in another language in our ecumenical church, and their enthusiasm is inspiring.

### **Fell Shepherd**

### In memory of Joss Naylor: 'King of the Mountains'

Not conquest, but a partnership of grace, each tip-toe footfall stepping every stone. Now he's returned to dale he never left, the small church crouched below the highest contours.

He shepherded flocks on needle, scree and crags, and spread of fells glanced from his birthplace window. He ran the ridges furrowing the sharpest peaks, a fifty mile a day collie shared his rhythm.

He'd read the fells for forecast, Lingmell fading, Gable Novembered under tonsuring snow. A chime of names, from Red Pike round to Whinn Rigg; sentinels like the yews that now surround him.

He left in longest light; hay-making season. Pause after baling, incense scent of grass. Inside the church few quick steps to the altar; no racing, now, just presence, beckoning.

Plain space no bigger than a lambing barn welcomed him home. Fells gathered in clear visions. Runners came from each angle of the land; thousand, as called to memory of a king. He'd once have given the nod to each of them.

Martyn Halsall, July 2024.

Martyn writes: 'It was moving to see the number of people who turned out for Joss's funeral, particularly as so many of them arrived in his tradition, by running over these majestic fells.

His achievements were as high as the Wasdale tops, and he leaves a huge legacy to all who love the mountains. I wrote these lines as a sort of verbal wreath.



### **GOSFORTH METHODIST CONGREGATION NEWS**

**Minister:** Revd. Paul Saunders **Minister:** Deacon. Kina Saunders Tel: 01900 823273



### Services in September:

1st Welcome service for Nick Baker (4pm Cockermouth) All are welcome. 15th St Mary's Room Gosforth 6.30 pm – Nick Baker

Mid August! Wild wind and heavy rain are battering the dark green leaves on the trees and the tall flowers remaining in the garden. So we're looking forward to golden September and the start of the new year for the Methodist Church (and for students and teachers.)

On September 1st we welcome our new Superintendent Minister Rev Nick Baker and his wife Petra, together with our new Deacon Samm Morris. Here are extracts from "The Link" magazine in which Nick Baker introduces himself:

'How yer fettlin?'is what I was asked when I visited Signpost in Maryport last November. Fortunately, having spent some of my childhood living in Brampton, I was able to respond with 'aye, grand thanks'.....

Having been Superintendent of the Angus, Dundee and Perthshire Circuit I'm aware of some of the challenges of living and working on a 'large map'....

We know change is continuing, but I know the people called Methodist are adaptable for the sake of the gospel. Fettling can mean removing as much of the imperfections as possible without degrading what lies beneath. God is fettling us! (That could be the first line of a hymn!) .....

I'm grateful to the circuit stewards and to Paul and Kina for helping us prepare for our move. Petra and I are excited about coming to live in Cockermouth and getting to know people, communities and churches. I will pray for you as we begin this new chapter together and would welcome your prayers for Petra and myself as we move, and also for Samm Morris and Paul Harold as we begin our shared ministry amongst you.

God Bless.

Nick Baker



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### **BECKERMET NEWS**

By the time you are reading this the school holidays will be coming to a close and most will have enjoyed their summer break whether locally, nationally or internationally depending on choice and affordability. If you are one of the many who have had your summer vacation, I hope that you had a great time and managed to get time away with family and or friends. If you are still to have your holiday then you have something to look forward to before the nights slowly start to get longer.

Recent events in various parts of the country have been awful to watch on the national news, night after night. We in Cumbria have experienced very little of what has been happening up and down the country. It is very sad when a small proportion of the community can do so much damage and destruction to the area/country they say they are passionate about. The one positive outcome has been the overwhelming support shown by all the various communities affected by coming out in support of those members of our society being targeted by this small minority of thugs, hell bent on trying to stir up hatred. As well as the support shown it has also been good to see that the justice system has dealt with those involved swiftly and will continue to root them out.

We all need to work together for the benefit of our communities and it is great to see and hear about what is going on in the various villages in West Cumbria. Whenever and wherever these activities/events take place, it is nearly always down to a small band of local volunteers who freely give up their time for the benefit of the community in which they live. Many have undertaken such tasks for many years, while others may have only recently become involved having moved into the area. These volunteers are the backbone of each village and often go quietly about their activity without seeking anything other than knowing what they have done has benefitted others within their community.

Beckermet is no different from all the local villages with many unsung volunteers always willing to give up their time and energy for the benefit of others. Every week there are numerous activities organised by volunteers for others to enjoy especially in the village Reading Rooms which is at the heart of our village life. With the vast majority of these activities now taking place there, it was decided that a defibrillator was needed. This had been installed outside the entrance to the building which means we have two such machines within the village. Hopefully they may never be required to be used but, like an insurance policy, they are there if ever needed.

As explained in the last magazine, volunteers spent many hours preparing for Cumbria in Bloom. The judges visited the village in early July and appeared to be impressed with all the hard work undertaken. We will now have to wait for their verdict, which will not be forthcoming until 14th October. Regardless of the outcome, the village has seen a lovely transformation with lots of colourful tubs of flowers in various areas of the village, not to mention the community spirit that it created with those who volunteered their services.

The two youngsters of the village who were supported with their experience of spending time in Tanzania, while a third was chosen to represent the sea cadets at the 80th D-Day landings, have returned from their experience of a lifetime and will be giving talks to various groups in the village. I for one am looking forward to listening to their adventures and the knowledge they gained from undertaking such an experience. Our usual village activities continue as normal with Coffee Cake & Chat taking place each Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon. A monthly quiz night and bingo evening also take place, all in the Reading Rooms. Regular adverts of our activities are placed on both the Reading Rooms & Beckermet Village Facebook page, as well as posters in the noticeboards.

St John's Beckermet church services continue at 9.30am on the second and fourth Sunday of each month with Rev Philip Dorling taking the first of these, which includes communion, while the other service is taken by the Rev Rachel Cunliffe or a member of the PCC. Everyone is welcome to attend as the church is open to all regardless of denomination and is a valuable asset of the village.

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

### **NEWS FROM CALDERBRIDGE & PONSONBY**

The Summer Fayre was a big success and  $\pounds$ 1,194 was raised for Church funds. Many thanks to all those who came along and supported us and to those who gave their time and helped in any way. It was very much appreciated

### Services for September

 15th September 3.00pm Evensong at Low Church
22nd September 9.30am Harvest Festival with Holy Communion at Ponsonby

### NEWS FROM SEASCALE

### Notice about the next Messy Church

Everyone is very welcome to a —

Messy Teddy Bears' Picnic in St Cuthbert's church, Seascale on Saturday 21st September from 11am - 1pm.

There will be activities on the theme of Jesus' feeding of the five thousand, a time of celebration and, of course, a picnic! Bring your teddy or another friend along with you to join in the fun!

A very early notice about Seascale Christmas Tree Festival 2024

A weekend to put in your diary - Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December. We plan to hold a Christmas Tree Festival in St Cuthbert's church on these two dates. If a group you belong to, or you as an individual, would like to decorate a tree for this and have not done so before, please get in touch. The more trees the better! All groups who have taken part before will be contacted with details.

> Mary Waterhouse <u>Waterhousemc6@gmail.com</u> 27641

### Wednesday Outreach – Seascale Methodist church

At our August Tea and Chat meeting we had a presentation from Hannah Wright the manager of the Growing Well project at Egremont. It was interesting to hear of the valuable work the charity does to help people with mental health problems.

Our next Tea and Chat meeting will be on Wednesday 4th September at 2.30pm

An advance notice, we will be supporting the North Lakes Food bank with gifts of groceries at our Harvest Service in October.

We extend our best wishes and prayers to all our members who are not well at present and those who are not able to join us for meetings.

### **Tea Services**

Our next Tea service will be on Wednesday 18th September at 2:30pm when we look forward to a visit from the Revd. David Hasson.

The Harvest Tea Service on Wednesday 2nd October at 2.30pm will be led by Jonathan and Sheila.

We would be pleased to welcome anyone who would like to join us for the

services.

# Hospice at Home Coffee Morning - Saturday 28th September 10am – 12noon

We will be hosting the coffee morning in the Methodist church hall. Hospice at Home will have their ever popular cakes and jams available and there will be a raffle.

Please come along and support this worthwhile charity which offers such comfort to people in our communities in their time of need.

Jackie Folkes

### NEWS FROM GADS - GOSFORTH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY



GADS always strives to give our audiences something different and our next production is certainly different. "Sheila's Island" by Tim

Firth (the writer of "Calendar Girls" and "Kinky Boots") is a comedy about four women from the Pennine Mineral Water Co. Ltd on a team building event in Derwentwater. Things go wrong from the start when their boat sinks and leaves them stranded on an island. The situation is made worse when the team realise that all their food has also sunk! How will they cope? Will they work as a team or will things start to fall apart? Truths are told and dirty washing is aired in this hilarious dark comedy. The production contains themes of mental health and is suitable for age 13+. We will have a bar and Ravenglass Handmade Ice Cream on sale too. Tickets will go on sale in mid-September.



Our January pantomime will be "The Pied Piper" by Alan Frayn. If you would like to get involved, the auditions are on Wednesday 11th and Monday 16th September – both at 7:30pm at the

Hall. The first date will be for adult and teenaged parts and the second for all ensemble parts and children.

For more information about GADS, keep an eye on our website or join our mailing list. Our new email address is <u>gadsgosforth@gmail.com</u>

Benita Blacklock / Karen Polmear, GADS



#### HELPING ANIMALS IN NEED IN OUR CARE & COMMUNITY How you can support animals in need & get involved

How the Charity can help you

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- Guidance and support
- Trap-Neuter-Return of ferals
- Supporting Food Banks
- Peppa's Pot Campaign 600



- - Fundraise Volunteer

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Adopt

Foster

- · Join our Unity Lottery Leave a Legacy . Shop our Amazon Wish List
  - Join Pets at Home VIP Club





### West Lakes U3A SEPTEMBER events https://u3asites.org.uk/west-lakes/events

Contact : Marilyn on 07817499849, <u>smithybrow@icloud.com</u> or check website for further details and updates.

Visitors are very welcome to attend a couple of meetings or activities before becoming a member. Current annual membership is £6 There is usually a THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE small charge for indoor meetings.



Cycling – 019467 25831 - 1st Monday morning monthly – meet in Gosforth

Tai Chi - Monday mornings – weekly. Gosforth Public Hall Chair based exercises - Monday afternoons - weekly. Gosforth Public Hall

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

French conversation – Wednesday mornings – weekly. Currently full History – 1st Wednesday morning - monthly. Drigg Village Hall

Foundation recorder - 1st Thursday and 3rd Wednesday - monthly. Santon Village Hall

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

**Stroll** – this month on 16th - usually 2nd Monday afternoon - monthly Discussion – 2nd Tuesday morning – monthly. House group

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

Advanced Recorder Consort – 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon. Santon Village Hall

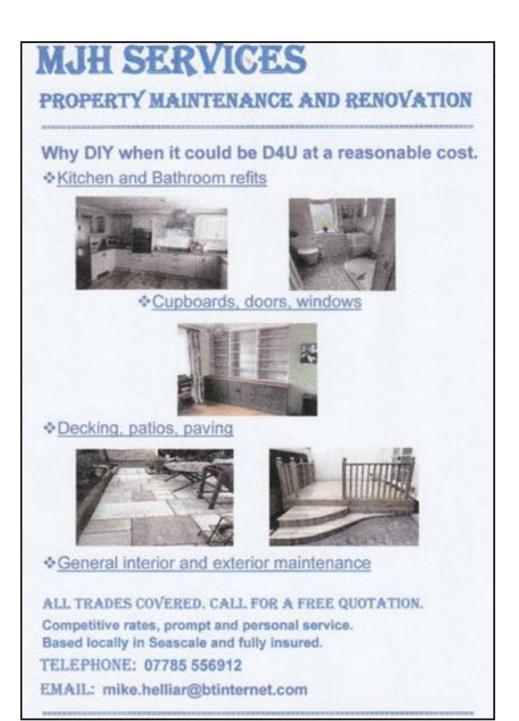
Intermediate Recorder – 2nd and 4th Friday morning. Santon Village Hall

**Family History** – 3rd Thursday morning – monthly. Santon Village Hall IT Drop in – starting on 18th September then fortnightly, 4- 5pm - Gosforth Librarv

**Open Mind -** 3rd Thursday morning – monthly. Gosforth Public Hall Chatty Lunch – 3rd Thursday morning to follow Open Mind. Gosforth Public Hall

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

**Reading** – 4th Thursday morning – monthly. Currently full – St Mary's Room, Gosforth



### **GOSFORTH SCHOOL NEWS**



Before the end of term the last few weeks were very busy. The whole school celebrated all things Mexican during our SMSC Day. Activities throughout the day included learning the Mexican hat dance, listening to a traditional tale about the cuckoo and designing their own Mexican pottery. The children

also enjoyed tacos for lunch!

We had a visit from author Pippa Goodheart (writer of the You Choose series). She worked with each class in school who also got to ask her questions about what it is like to be a published author.

To mark 15 years of North Lakes Foodbank we celebrated Green Day. Instead of coming to school in their uniform the children came in dressed in something green with a donation to the foodbank. We gathered over 30 carrier bags of food which will be sent to Egremont to help our local community.

Year 6 travelled to Carlisle Cathedral for the diocesan leavers service. It is a lovely service with other schools from the diocese. For the majority of the class, it was their first time visiting the cathedral. The transport to the service was kindly paid for by the Kirkstile Trust.

Reception celebrated their mock wedding as part of their RE topic on Celebrations. Philip led the service which saw William and Meadow get married. The service was followed by a party in the school hall and of course a wedding cake!

Pupils got to spend the morning with their new class teachers ready for September. Our Year 6 pupils have spent a day at their new secondary school. They have also been to visit both Seascale and Beckermet School and spent time getting to know the Year 6s there. They are all excited for the next stage in their education and we wish them the best of



luck. Their last trip with us was to Blackpool Pleasure Beach - a fabulous day was had by all!

> Mrs S Layzell Assistant Headteacher

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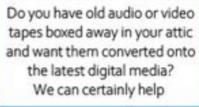
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### **GOSFORTH BROWNIES**

This summer term was a busy one, with trips to Seascale beach litter picking and hosting the Sandcastle competition for the Seascale Gala, visitors from the Police, Hearing Dogs for Deaf

People, Royal British Legion for the D-Day 80th, and Helen's Herbs to make plant Olympic flames in preparation for a mini-Olympics on the new equipment at Gosforth Playing Field. Then we ended on a high note with a camp afternoon at Fisherground, erecting tents, building fires, and cooking smores and chocolate bananas. Several girls have gained their Bronze, Silver and Gold Brownie Awards this term, as well as gaining many other interest and challenge badges.

We have a few vacancies for September, so please register your daughter's interest (girls aged 7-10) on <u>www.girlguSamiding.org.uk/joinus</u> and we hope to see some new recruits then.

Samantha Millener

### **GOSFORTH WI**

The annual trip this year was to Lanercost Priory and we were blessed with a gloriously sunny day. Everyone enjoyed visiting the

beautiful ruined Priory and neighbouring church, and this was followed by a trip to Houghton Hall Garden Centre and Farm Shop with fresh fruit including juicy strawberries for sale.

Our September meeting will take place on 3rd September 2024 at 7.15 pm at Gosforth Public Hall. The subject is Safeguarding and will be given by Kris Longshaw, a WI County Trustee. Protecting children and vulnerable adults is essential and we will be briefed on the WI Policy on Safeguarding. Afterwards there will be a buffet supper for our members and guests from other local WIs.

Anyone who wishes to join the WI is welcome to attend for two meetings as a visitor before deciding whether to join. No pressure (and you don't have to bake!)!

Karen Warmoth







### A Trip to Malta

Rachel and I have recently returned from a holiday to the island of Malta. We spent lots of time exploring the island's history which is outstanding in terms of its breadth and depth. The island was a key trading post in the Mediterranean and its location would shape the history of the island for 3000 years. Phoenician traders first



colonised the island circa 1000 BC before control was replaced by Carthage. The island was absorbed into the Roman empire after the Punic Wars becoming a Roman free town. It is at this point, in 60 A. D., that St Paul the apostle was shipwrecked on the island and introduced the population to Christianity.

The collapse of the Roman empire meant Malta had multiple conquerors until the 9th century when it was conquered by the Arabs. The Arabs left a strong influence on the island's language and place names. From the 11th to the 15th century, the fate of Malta was intertwined with that of many other European monarchies, such as the Houses of Normandy, Aragon and Castile. Until ultimately becoming part of the unified Spanish Empire under the Holy Roman Empire Charles V by 1530. It is at this point that the island's history becomes intertwined with the Order of Knights of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem, or the Knights of St John for short. The Knights began as a monastic order to run hospitals for pilgrims visiting the Holy Land, however with the rapid expansion of the Islamic Ottoman Empire, the Knights were evicted from Jerusalem and moved first to the island of Rhodes and then further west to Malta. The Ottomans tried to take Malta in a giant navel assault in 1565 known as 'The Great Siege', however they were defeated by the Knights, led by Grand Master Jean Parisot de la Valette. The capital of Valetta is named after this Grand Master following it construction after the Great Siege.

With the Ottomans kept at bay, the next few centuries saw a period of stability and growth with the noble families of Europe endowing money on the Knights for the protection of their Christian lands. It is during this time that many of Malta's opulent Baroque churches were constructed, including the co-cathedral in Valetta. The French revolution first deprived the Knights of an income stream and when Napoleon arrived in Malta in 1798 on his way to Egypt with the French naval fleet, he captured the islands. Napolean removed the Knights and stole a lot the island's paintings, gold and treasures, which went to the bottom of the sea when Admiral Nelson destroyed the French fleet at the battle of the Nile.

Following the end of the French revolutionary wars, Malta became a British Crown Colony, which was of strategic importance in the 19th century, especially with the opening of the Suez Canal. The First World War saw Malta used as a military hospital, mainly to help the wounded following the disastrous Gallipoli campaign in Turkey, but it was the Second World War that would really test the island. Malta was essentially a fortified aircraft carrier, used by the Allies to disrupt Axis supply lines from Mussolini's Italy to Rommel's German convoys in North Africa. As a result, Malta received a very high level of bombing as the Axis tried to cut the island off and starve it into submission. Many brave naval convoys battled to get to the island suffering very high casualties. However, the bravery of the island held out and King George VI awarded the whole island the George Cross medal. As a result, the island was instrumental in defeating the Germans at the famous battle of El Alamein in 1942. In 1943 the island was again strategically very important in Operation Husky, the Allied invasion of Sicily, leading to the surrender to the Italian Navy.

After the war Malta focused on rebuilding the island and independence from Britain came in 1964 and 10 years later became a republic in 1974. There is a clear cycle to Malta's history due to its strategic location of regularly being on the dividing line between two competing powers. From Rome and Carthage, Christianity and Islam, France and Britain, and the Allied and Axis powers of World War 2.

Chris Cunliffe

### **SAINT FOR SEPTEMBER - Theodore of Tarsus**

On the 19th of September the Church of England remembers Theodore of Tarsus, who died in 690 at the age of 88. Common Worship describes him as Archbishop of Canterbury, but he was more than that. He is considered to be the second founder of the See of Canterbury (after Augustine). He travelled widely, reinvigorating dioceses as he did at Canterbury, establishing schools, and he is regarded as the first Primate of England. He carried on working into what even today is regarded as old age, and he is said to be one of the great figures in our history.







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### **GOSFORTH LIBRARY**

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



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

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

The Club meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2-4pm in Gosforth Public Hall. £3.50 per session, including refreshments. Please bring clean flat shoes to protect the mats.

Spare bowls available for you to try.

**Restarts on Wednesday 4th September.** 

### MUNCASTER MICROBUS

We continue to urgently need volunteer drivers to help us run our service.

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

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

### Trips coming up are:

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

- Wednesday, 4th September Workington £8.50
- Saturday 7th September Kendal £10.50
- Friday 20th September Egremont Farmers Market

(£3 donation to the Market)

- Saturday 21st September Keswick £9
- Saturday, 5th October Barrow £9
- Friday 18th October Egremont Farmers Market

(£3 donation to the Market)

• Saturday, 26th October – Penrith - £10.50

### HOLMROOK READING ROOM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



bring along something to share - a savoury or dessert, or both(!) and something to drink. A good opportunity to chat and share together.

### SERVICES IN THE SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY

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

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

### ZOOMED SERVICES

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

### 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.

## <u>2nd Sunday of the Month</u>: Faith and Fellowship - 7.00pm at the The Ferns, The Banks in Seascale. Hosted by Chris and Joy Chuter. Please

ring Chris on 07768 421621 for details or email free.c@outlook.com

# <u>4th Sunday of the Month</u>: 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 <u>jillhudson@hotmail.co.uk</u> and for a Zoom invitation email <u>khudson@freenetname.co.uk</u> or ring 01946 721592 or visit <u>www.phoenixpraise.org.uk</u>

### SUNDAY WRITTEN LITURGY FOR THOSE AT HOME –

### Into His Courts with Praise

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

### SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY - SEPTEMBER 2024

September	Church	Service	Time
1" Sunday			
1" September	Nether Wasdale	HC	9.30
Trinity 14	Waberthwaite	MP/HC	9.30
GREEN	Seascale	HC at St Cuthbert's-Patronal Festival	9.30
Proper 17	Gosforth	Morning Praise	11.00
	Drigg	HC	11.00
	Eskdale Boot	HC	11.00
	Muncaster	MP	11.00
	Whicham	HC	11.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	No service here this evening.	6.30
2 nd Sunday			-
8 th September	8eckermet	HC	9.30
Trinity 15	Irton	HC	9.30
GREEN	Seascale	Methodists at St Cuthbert's	9.30
Proper 18	Gasforth	HC – Patronal Festival	11.00
	Wasdale Head	HC	11.00
	Drigg	Family Service	11.00
	Eskdale Boot	HC	11.00
	Corney	HC	11.00
	Whicham	Evening Service	6.00
	Seascale	Faith and Fellowship	6.45
3 rd Sunday			-
15 th September	Eskdale Green	MP	9.30
Trinity 16	Nether Wasdale	HC	9.30
GREEN	Waberthwaite	HC	9.30
Proper 19	Seascale	HC @St Cuthberts - Harvest Festival	9.30
01-039-0392	Gosforth	Morning Worship	11.00
	Drigg	MP	11.00
	Muncaster	HC	11.00
	Whicham	Harvest Festival	11.00
	Old Church	Evening Prayer	3.00
	Bootle	Evening Service	6.00
	Gosforth - St Mary's Room	Evening Worship	6.30
4 th Sunday			-
22 ^{td} September	Ponsonby	MP – Harvest Festival	9.30
Trinity 17	Beckermet	MP – Harvest Festival	9.30
GREEN	Eskdale Green	HC	9.30
Proper 20	Seascale	Methodist at Methodist Church	9.30
	Gosforth	HC	11.00
	Wasdale Head	Morning Worship	11.00
	Drigg	HC	11.00
	frton	HC - Harvest Festival	11.00
	Bootle	HC – Harvest Festival	11.00
	Whitbeck	EP – Harvest Festival	3.00
	Waberthwaite	Evening Prayer	6.00
	Gosforth St Mary's Room	Phoenix Praise Evening Worship	7.00
5 th Sunday			1.0
29 rd September	Seascale	HC and Confirmation	10.30

Cover photo: Joss Naylor on Middle Fell