

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



May 2025

connecting our communities

60p

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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 12<sup>th</sup> March and the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### BECKERMET

- No occasional Offices known

### CALDER BRIDGE, PONSONBY and OLD CHURCH

- 20<sup>th</sup> March Funeral and Burial Mary Edmondson (Low Church)
- 25<sup>th</sup> March Interment of Ashes Francis Tracey (Ponsonby)

### SEASCALE

- No Occasional Offices known

### GOSFORTH, NETHER WASDALE and WASDALE HEAD

- No Occasional Offices known

## FROM BECKERMET VICARAGE

Have you ever been up in a hot air balloon? I have not, but I do like to see them in the sky and wonder what perspective of the earth they get from the basket – it must be spectacular!



At the end of May, the Church celebrates Ascension Day. Marking the time when Jesus, having risen from the dead and made many appearances to his disciples, leaves earth to go and be with his Father in heaven. In the Bible, Jesus is depicted as being lifted up from earth, a cloud taking him out of sight, an upward movement which left the disciples staring into the sky.

We often think of heaven being above earth, God looking down on us from above. In April 1961, the Soviet Cosmonaut and Airforce test pilot Yuri Gagarin became the first man to ever go into space. It was claimed that whilst he was up there, he said, "I see no God up here." Though these words are generally considered atheist Soviet propaganda rather than Gagarin's, it is interesting that the expectation was that God would be visible as a physical being, to be found in the skies above the earth, the heavens. Where is God? And where did Jesus ascend to?

Christians believe that God is with us on earth as well as being in heaven. Jesus came as God in human form to live among us on earth, and when he had ascended to be with his Father God in heaven, God the Holy Spirit came to dwell in us. Heaven is not a place as we conceive place, it is beyond our comprehension, and all we truly know is that it is a place where God dwells and where Jesus reigns as Lord and King. We might not be able to find God sitting on a cloud in the skies above us, at least not in any physical form we might sometimes picture in our heads, but he is present on earth and in heaven, and he sees and knows all that is happening.

Jesus having gone to be with the Father in heaven, has brought a unique perspective to God of what it is like to live on earth. We have a God who through Jesus Christ knows our joys and delights, our struggles and sufferings, as human beings. He is perfectly positioned to intercede to God the Father in prayer for us, as we pray to him through the Holy Spirit. In heaven, seated at the right hand of the Father, Jesus hears our prayers, he feels our prayers, and he joins us in praying our prayers.

When you next see a hot air balloon slowly moving across the sky above you, let it remind you that Jesus our Lord and King is seated high above the earth watching over us each and every day. He sees, he knows, he loves, and he cares.

*Rachel*

## **GOSFORTH PARISH CHURCH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The last meeting of the Management Committee was to be held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, however, the meeting was cancelled. A meeting took place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 at which Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Hall hire terms and conditions were discussed.

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, Norma Hughes very kindly organised a fundraising coffee morning and afternoon tea with raffle and bring and buy items. It was well attended and all the money raised (£510) will go towards the upkeep of St Mary's Church and Churchyard. We look forward to inviting everyone to attend our next fundraising event at Ann and Peter McKenzie's summer garden party, where you will be able to enjoy lots of cake and tea/coffee with raffle on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am to 1pm, again all proceeds to go towards the upkeep of St Mary's Church and Churchyard.

We are hoping to hold 2 Boon Days this summer to keep the church and churchyard clean and tidy and the first will be on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May. We hope that many people will come along and join us. Refreshments will be provided!

*Susan Round (Clerk to the Committee)*

## **ELECTORAL ROLL GOSFORTH AND WASDALE PARISH**

Thank you to all who completed a form for the new electoral roll. The total for the parish was 113.

## **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.





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## FROM THE EDITOR

Firstly, I want to thank everyone who came along to my Easter Celebration, and also those who weren't able to come but made a contribution towards it. I think everyone enjoyed the chat and we raised a total of £515 for the upkeep of St Mary's Church and Churchyard.

Having said that, I just wanted to share with you my concerns about the churchyard. As you will know, it looks amazing during the Spring as it is full of snowdrops, followed by crocus and then daffodils. We start cutting the grass every two weeks in April, but only cut the areas that are frequently visited by family members, and this goes on until the end of October. The other areas are cut twice a year only.

At one time we had enough burials during the year for the fees to pay for the cutting of the grass, but nowadays most people opt for cremation so we only have two or three burials a year. The churchyard is the burial ground not only for Gosforth but also half of Seascale and for all denominations. We receive small contributions from Gosforth and Seascale Parish Councils and Seascale Church but not nearly enough to cover the costs, so St Mary's has to cover the rest. Last year each cut cost us £222 with the 2 big cuts costing £420, making a total of £3504 for the year.

The first cut this year costs £234. On 31<sup>st</sup> March we had £183 in our Churchyard account!

*Norma Hughes*

## GOSFORTH BOON DAY for the Church and Churchyard



At our recent Management Committee meeting we decided to have 2 Boon Days this year and the first will take place on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May**. Anytime from 9am – 5pm.

It would be great if you could come along and bring your own tools to give us a hand with cleaning and tidying the church and churchyard. Everything is growing rapidly at the moment, especially the weeds and briers!

You don't have to stay all day – just an hour or two would be great. Light refreshments will be provided and there will be a list of jobs to choose from.

Hope to see you on the day – everyone welcome!



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## 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.



Food is usually collected from Wasdale and Gosforth on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month.

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

This will take place in St Mary's Room on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May** – May Day - always the first Thursday of the month! Do come along and join us. As always, the chat will be good and the cakes as delicious as usual! Our donations this month will go to Christian Aid as May is the month when they hold their annual appeal.



## Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 6 May at 7.30 pm  
in Seascale Methodist Church Hall

followed by

## Church of Games

(a sort of quiz, with apologies to Richard Osman)

## Refreshments

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## **MAY 2025**

**May Meeting** will be on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May** and will be a lunch at Seascale Golf Club at 12.30pm. Members and friends are all welcome. Please let Mary know if you would like to come (27641).

**May Prayer** – Lord, as we gather in prayer across the world, we remember your plan of salvation where there are no barriers to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. Come, Holy Spirit, as we pray “Thy Kingdom Come”. Father, we pray that it will bring us closer within our worldwide family of Mothers’ Union so that “Thy Kingdom Come” resounds around the corner and around the world. Amen

**PRAYER TOPICS** – Please pray for:

- The contribution and commitment of MU’s four million or so members as they aim to be effective witnesses for Christ and strive to end poverty, injustice and violence.
- Pray that God will help MU members to love others as he has loved us and that he will use us as peace makers in this world where people are desperately searching for true and lasting peace.
- The MU social justice projects working in communities both in the UK and abroad.
- The last few days of May are at the start of the worldwide ecumenical prayer initiative “Thy Kingdom Come” which runs from Ascension Day (29<sup>th</sup> May to Pentecost Sunday (8<sup>th</sup> June). We are asked to choose 5 loved ones and pray daily, that they might come to know the love of God for themselves and where possible invite them to a Christian based event or activity.
- On the 8<sup>th</sup> May as the nation marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day, pray that the leaders of all nations will learn and heed the lessons learnt from previous wars and the futility of them. That all will work for peace and reconciliation by diplomacy and discussion.

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# *St Olaf's, Wasdale Head*

## *England's Smallest Parish Church*

### **MAY SERVICES AT ST OLAF'S**

SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> May – 11am Morning Praise

SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> May – 11am Morning Worship.

*Sundays 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May – 9.30am Holy Communion at Nether Wasdale church.*

**CUMBRIA CRACK** – the Cumbria news feed picked up details of our planned restoration and their short piece brought an amazing response via JustGiving with some £2500 raised in four days, plus a number of local donations via the JustGiving link on our own website [www.wasdalehead.church](http://www.wasdalehead.church) and by cheque. So big thanks to Cumbria Crack. We need to become more PR conscious!

**TRUSTEES MEETING** - The bi-annual meeting of the Trustees of St Olaf's PCMC was held at the Inn on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. The Treasurer, Carolyn, had promptly produced accounts for the 3 months ending 31<sup>st</sup> March. These showed a healthy surplus, which has now been transferred to the restoration fund. The other matters discussed at the meeting concerned the tender for the restoration work and two potential timescales for it to be carried out – this autumn or next spring. In either case it is expected to take 12 weeks. The timing will depend on when the remaining funds are secured, but we are close enough to be sure it will be one or the other! We've waited long enough.

The meeting was the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of St Olaf's PCMC becoming a Registered Charity, requiring the re-election of Trustees: Jo Balmer, Tim Brooks, Keith Amey, Rosalind Amey (Secretary), Carolyn Foulerton (Treasurer), Andrew Lopez, Angie McGill, Heather Naylor Lopez, and Hugh Foulerton (Chair). We are able to elect three further trustees, and these will be sought to fill our skills gaps – one is public relations/promotion/marketing and anyone reading this who feels they could help fill this particular gap should get in touch with us.

*Hugh Foulerton*   [www.wasdalehead.church](http://www.wasdalehead.church)   *Registered Charity: 1199377*

*Faith in the fells*

## MAY GOSLING

Has anyone heard of the 1<sup>st</sup> May being called 'May Gosling'?

My father, born and bred in Ravensglass, always referred to it as May Gosling but, as I hadn't heard of anyone else calling it that, I decided to 'google' it. Apparently, it was a northern custom, similar to 1<sup>st</sup> April being called 'April Fool'.

*'A May gosling on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May is made with as much eagerness in the North of England, as an April fool, on the 1<sup>st</sup> April'. (Gentleman's magazine of 1791)*

In Nicholas Rhea's diary, from the early 1920's (The Rhea family built and lived at Gatehouse, Eskdale, now the Outward Bound School) a blog site records:

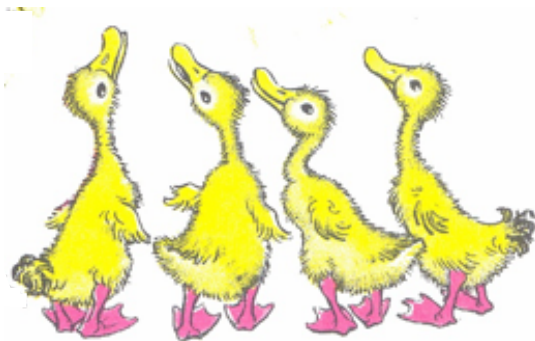
*"One very popular May Day game when I was a child in Eskdale was May Gosling. It was rather like April Fool pranks played on April 1<sup>st</sup> because children played jokes upon each other. Anyone who fell victim was known as a May Gosling. Just like April Fool jokes, the pranks had to be perpetrated before noon."*

If the pranks were not completed by 12 noon, then you would be taunted with:

*"May Gosling's dead and gone, You're the fool for thinking on."*

Alan Titchmarsh, gardener and TV celebrity, also commented in 2012:

*"As a Yorkshire lad, born on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, my Yorkshire grandmother would ask me 'Have you been christened a May Gosling?' I wondered what she meant then I discovered there had been a Northern custom, akin to April Fooling, which took place on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Tricks were played and successful perpetrators would cry 'May Gosling!', presumably implying the victim was as silly as a young goose. The response would be: 'May Goslings past and gone. You're a fool for making me one!'"*



*Norma Hughes*

# NEWS FROM NETHER WASDALE

## **The May Festival**

This is usually held on the first Saturday in May, which this year falls on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, and has been part of Netherwasdale life since early in the 1800's, if not earlier. Plaiting the Maypole originally took place on May Day, the 1st of May, when the children danced around an old oak tree to which ribbons had been attached, but in 1897 a Maypole was erected in its place to commemorate the 60-year reign of Queen Victoria. The children from Netherwasdale School spent the weeks before May Day practicing their dancing and singing in preparation for this very special day. Not only was the dancing important but also the excellent tea provided by Mrs Smith from the Strands Hotel.

This year the children from Gosforth School will be busy practicing their dancing as they now have their own maypole, presented to them by the May Festival Committee. There will also be an excellent tea provided by the committee with many lovely home-baked cakes.

You will see from the flyer on page 19 that the afternoon starts with a children's fancy dress and posy competition, followed by maypole dancing and sports. Music will be provided by Whitehaven Town Band and there will be various stalls.

The festivities start at 2.00pm – an hour later than usual – so we hope many of you will join us for a family fun day and a chance to meet up with old friends and make some new ones!

## **The Garden at Galesyke Open Days** (see front cover of magazine)

The garden will be open to the public over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 24/25<sup>th</sup> May for charity as part of the National Garden Scheme.

Galesyke is the home of Christine McKinley and family, surrounded by a beautiful formal garden with an extensive collection of azaleas and rhododendrons, dissected by the River Irt which can be crossed by a wooden suspension bridge, leading to a less formal woodland garden.

Entry is £5 per adult - children go free and dogs on leads are welcome. Teas featuring legendary cream scones are available.  
Open from 10am – 5pm.

## **NEWS FROM SEASCALE**

### **Wednesday Afternoon Outreach**

At our May Tea and Chat on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm we will be having a V E Day Afternoon Tea. We plan to have some food that would have been available in wartime and to hear of some wartime memories. We will be having a quiz prepared by Glenda Davies.

### **Tea Services**

At our March Tea Service Jonathan gave us an interesting insight in to the lives of St. Cuthbert and St. Herbert.

Our May Tea service will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm and will be led by Revd. Nick Baker.

All are welcome at these services.

### **Easter Fair supporting Cumbria Agricultural Chaplaincy**

There was a good atmosphere in the Church Hall as people enjoyed doing their shopping and a social time with coffee and cakes. We were delighted to raise £501 for the Cumbria Agricultural Chaplaincy which included the offering from the March Tea Service.

*Jackie Folkes*

**The Hospice at Home West Cumbria Coffee Morning**, held in Seascale Methodist Church Hall, which had to be changed for Friday 11<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April, raised £545. Thanks to all who helped and supported.

### **Imagine Festival at Seascale – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May – 12 – 5pm**

A free day festival where you can let your imagination run wild....

Poet in Residence, Storyteller, Graffiti Tiles, Belonging Exhibition, Folk Bands, Muncaster Medieval Swords, Nature's Algorithms, Beastie Collective, Make it with Hannah, Playscape: How to Build a Galaxy, Beach Boats, The Imaginary Lost Bus of Seascale, Flash Mob – The Knotted Project, Cocker mouth Rock Choir.

All happening in different venues around Seascale.

### **Messy Church**

There will be no Messy Church in May because of the arts festival – Imagine on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

However, Messy Church will be at Drigg Gala on 14<sup>th</sup> June with craft activities.

*Mary Waterhouse*



# NEWS FROM CALDERBRIDGE AND PONSONBY

## Services for the Summer months for Ponsonby and the Old Church

Summer Evensong Services - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 3pm.

May 18<sup>th</sup> Old Church  
June 15<sup>th</sup> Ponsonby  
July 20<sup>th</sup> Old Church  
August 17<sup>th</sup> Ponsonby  
September 21<sup>st</sup> Old Church

Holy Communion - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month - Ponsonby 9.30am

25<sup>th</sup> May  
22<sup>nd</sup> June  
27<sup>th</sup> July  
24<sup>th</sup> August  
28<sup>th</sup> September

## Calderbridge Summer Fair – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July



Raffle, tombola, cake stall and more in the Village Hall at 2.30 pm.  
Homemade Teas - £7.

Please come along and join us – everyone welcome.

Our Easter Afternoon tea made £870.

## SAINTS FOR MAY - JOHN AND CHARLES WESLEY (not officially saints)



On the 24<sup>th</sup> of May Common Worship remembers two brothers, both of them Church of England clergymen. They are John and Charles Wesley, who lived in the Eighteenth Century. John was a noted Evangelist and was well known for travelling all over the country. His methodical way of worship was influential. Charles provided the soundtrack, as it were, writing many hymns, including 'And can it be'; 'Love Divine all loves excelling'; 'O for a thousand tongues to sing'; 'Christ the Lord is risen today'; 'Hark the Herald Angels sing;', and 'Lo, He comes with clouds descending'. There are many more - perhaps over six thousand! So, whilst not saints, in technical terms, they are remembered today by many.

## BECKERMET COMMUNITY NEWS

We have certainly been blessed with the showing of the spring flowers in recent weeks. The displays have lifted our spirits and with the weather improving the winter months are slowly fading from our memories. The sound of lawnmowers, which have been idle in the shed, can be heard once again as the grass needs it's first cut of the year. Many will be busy planting out their bedding plants but we need to be aware that the odd frost is still possible.

### **Cumbria in Bloom**

Volunteers in our village are busy preparing for their entry into Cumbria in Bloom again this year. To enhance their chances of improving on their Silver Award gained last year, a number of activities will be undertaken to improve the village even further. The first of these saw the group plant four trees in our village park, acknowledging 40 years of Cumbria in Bloom as representation of four generations in our village. Such activities not only improve the appearance of our village but is also an opportunity to meet new members of our community. On behalf of the village, I would like to say a big thank you for all their work, which we can all enjoy. If you are interested in being part of this team of volunteers then please contact either Claire Dunn or myself via the details at the bottom of this article.

### **Reading Room Re-opens.**

By the time you are reading this article the alterations to the frontage of the Reading Rooms will be completed and all activities will have recommenced as normal. Thanks to a further grant from the "GDF" the area has been transformed with the addition of patio doors and a new disabled lift. If you haven't had the opportunity to see the changes then why not go along and see for yourself.

### **Coffee Cake & Chat**

Now back in the Reading Rooms at the usual times:

Tuesday mornings 9.30–11.30am; Thursdays afternoons 1.30–3.30pm

### **Quiz & Bingo Nights**

The next quiz night will be on **Fri 9<sup>th</sup> May** with **Bingo** on **Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> May** all at the usual time of 6.30-8.30pm.

### **Special Fundraising Evening Talk**

A special fundraising evening in aid of the work required to be undertaken on St John's Church Beckermest will take place on **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May** at 7pm in Beckermest Reading Rooms when there will be a talk given by a retired headteacher entitled "**38 Years of GBH in Education**" There will be no charge for entry although a donation will be gratefully accepted towards building costs. The bar will be available on the night for refreshments. Places limited, so reserve your seat using the contact details at the end of this article.

## **St John's Church Services**

Our regular church services are back in St John's on the second and fourth Sunday of the month starting at 9.30pm. The problem with heating the church still exists so come suitably dressed with regards to the weather on the day. Following each service refreshments will be available. The church heating system along with other pressing repairs and improvements are being addressed by the members of the PCC, who are in the process of trying to raise funds. We are in the early stages of obtaining a potential grant which will greatly help us achieve our aims'

## **St John's Soup Lunches**

The next two will be on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May & Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June** 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 cake plus copious tea/coffee. A great way to meet up with friends & even make new ones.

## **Film Nights**

The next two dates are **16<sup>th</sup> May & 14<sup>th</sup> June** so add them to your diary. These cinema evenings are free for all to attend and the bar will be open.

## **Open Mic Nights**

On the second Wednesday of each month there is an evening where various local musicians come along to play for enjoyment and entertain those who attend. Entry is free with the bar open to purchase refreshments.

## **Beckermet Village Lottery**

This activity continues with monthly draws taking place around 10am on the first Tuesday of each month during Coffee Cake & Chat sessions. The next two draws will take place on the **6<sup>th</sup> May & 3<sup>rd</sup> June**, so if you want to join there is still time. At present we have just over 170 members which will provide over £2,000 in Prize Money during the year with the same amount available for good causes in the village which both individuals & groups can apply for. If you would like to join or need financial support then use the contact details at the end of this article.

## **Additional Details**

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

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**Saturday 3rd May from 2:00pm on Nether Wasdale village green.**

**Children's fancy dress & posy competition,  
judging at 2:15pm**

*Parade & maypole dancing, music from  
Whitehaven Town Band*

**Sit down & takeaway teas, free children's teas**

*Raffle, cake stall, tambola, lucky dip, face painting  
coconut shy & local craft stalls*

**This is a cash only event.**

For more information, check out @Nether Wasdale May Festival on Facebook.



# Gosforth Nursery



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## West Lakes U3A MAY events

Full details can be found on our website.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/west-lakes/events>

Or contact [smithybrow@icloud.com](mailto:smithybrow@icloud.com) or 07817499849

**Visitors are very welcome to attend a couple of meetings or activities before becoming a member.**

Current annual membership is £7 There is usually a small charge for indoor meetings.



**Cycling** - 1<sup>st</sup> Monday morning monthly - meet Gosforth Public Hall - 10am

**Tai Chi** - Monday- weekly Gosforth Public Hall – 11.30 – 12.30

**Chair based exercises** - Wednesday weekly Gosforth Public Hall - 11.30 – 12.30

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

**Ukelele** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday mornings. Seascale House group - 10.30-12

**French conversation** - Wednesday morning weekly - The Kellbank. Currently full

**History** - 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday morning monthly. Drigg Village Hall - 10.15 for 10.45

**Indoor Bowls** - Wednesdays weekly. 2pm. Pre booking essential.

See website for details.

**Foundation Recorders** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly - Santon Village Hall - 2pm

**Singing for Fun** - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday - monthly - Seascale Methodist Church - 2pm

**Strolling** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday afternoon monthly - 2-mile stroll – See website

**Discussion** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning monthly. Gosforth House group - 10.30

**Art Appreciation** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday morning monthly. St Joseph's Seascale -10.15

**Advanced Recorder Consort**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday afternoons. Santon Village Hall

**Intermediate Recorders** - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday mornings - Santon Village Hall

**Family History** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday morning monthly. Santon Village Hall - 10am

**IT Drop In** - Taking a summer break – may resume in Sept. if requested

**Open Mind** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday morning monthly - Gosforth Public Hall 10.15 for 10.45

**Chatty Lunch**

- often 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday morning to follow Open Mind Gosforth Public Hall

**Discovery**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday afternoon monthly - St Mary's Room, Gosforth - 2 for 2.30

**Reading**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday monthly - 10.30 – 12 - currently full - St Mary's Rm, Gosforth

**Out and About** - dates vary - check website

**Theatre visits** - dates vary - check website

## GOSFORTH SCHOOL NEWS



To celebrate Science Week the children in KS2 joined the BBC for a live online lesson to find out what it takes to become an astronaut. From understanding the effects of space on our bones to learning how astronauts manage food and hydration, the children explored the challenges of living in space.

Loweswater have been learning about what school was like in the past in History, so they invited in a grandparent to share their memories from school. Wastwater have been studying census returns this half term. They ended the unit with a visit to Whitehaven Archive and Records office where they got to look at Gosforth census returns from the early 1900s.

It has been a busy half term for sporting events. Year 6 got to spend the day at Muncaster Castle and completed two orienteering courses. All of the girls in KS2 thoroughly enjoyed the This Girl Can Festival and got to experience new sports. Some of the children in Year 5 competed in a Dodgeball event. Every child in school had the opportunity to have a go at Wheelchair Rugby. Our winning team of five gymnasts from Year 3 and 4 travelled to Penrith to take part in the Gymnastics county final. They had a fabulous day and put in a performance to be proud of.

FOGS held their half termly meeting where they agreed to fund over £1000 of equipment for our new outdoor area. This area replaced the rotten wooden decking and will be used by the younger children in school. They also agreed their annual contribution towards the Year 6 residential. This year they will spend the week in Scarborough. Easter Bingo was not only a fun filled evening but it also raised £264 for the FOGS Committee.

A team of eight Year 5 and 6 children travelled to Lakes College to take part in the regional Lego League final. The team have been preparing for this moment since September. The competition compiles of four elements: Robot Game, Research, Robot Design and Core Values. We



were incredibly proud of their performance on the day, not only did they place second but also won the Core Values trophy.

The children in Reception visited Strudda Bank Farm to learn about Spring on a farm. Farmer Kev was a fabulous host as always! They got to sit in tractors and meet very new to the world lambs.



The children in Year 6 were asked by Wasdale Action Group to design a logo for The Wasdale Explorer. Jess's design was chosen and will be displayed on the shuttle bus. As a thank you for helping out, the class was collected by The Wasdale Explorer and had a trip up to Wasdale Head where they got to enjoy an ice cream in the sunshine.

*Mrs S Layzell  
Assistant Headteacher*

## **GOSFORTH LIBRARY**

### **Opening hours as follows:**

Saturday: 10.00 – 12.00 hrs.

Monday: 13.00 – 14.30 hrs.

Wednesday: 16.00 – 17.30 hrs.

01946725888



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

## **GOSFORTH WI**



The next meeting of Gosforth WI is the AGM and will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.15 pm in Gosforth Public Hall. Any members who wish to join the committee are encouraged to put their names forward. We also propose to discuss options for the summer trip, so this is your chance to have your say!

Don't forget to pay your subs if you haven't already done so – BACS details are available from the Treasurer or the Secretary or you could pay by cheque.

The speaker will be a representative of Cosy Homes, a Government-backed scheme offering helpful advice on how to improve the energy efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty. It provides grants, advice and support for energy-saving measures such as insulation and renewable heating - something which could benefit us all.

The competition will be a children's book from your childhood. Light refreshments will be served, as usual, and prospective new members are welcome.

*The Secretary - Gosforth WI*

# J J HRYB

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### **MINIBUS SHOPPING SERVICE Gosforth – Seascale**

Following the fire at the village shop, Gosforth Parish Council has arranged for a temporary 8-seater minibus service from Gosforth to Seascale. The minibus service is **free** to Gosforth residents and will operate on a first-come, first-served basis.

New pick-up points have been added to the service which operates on **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday** as follows:

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Gosforth Car Park       | 9.30 am  |
| Ellerslie Park entrance | 9.35 am  |
| Meadowfield entrance    | 9.40 am  |
| Return from Seascale    | 10.40 am |

**Gosforth Parish Council wishes to thank the Mid-Copeland GDF  
Community Partnership for their support**

(Village Wheels transport is available from Gosforth to Seascale Co-op on Wednesdays and Saturdays – Phone 01228 226430)

## NEWS FROM GADS - GOSFORTH AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

### SHREK THE MUSICAL



Tickets for our next production are available from 1 May.

Visit [www.ticketsource.co.uk/gadsgosforth](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/gadsgosforth) or email [gadsgosforth@gmail.com](mailto:gadsgosforth@gmail.com).

Please contact us directly if you have any special access requirements like a wheelchair or pushchair, so that we can make sure you have enough room and an appropriate seat.

Performances are on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm**). Tickets for the show are £10 each and we will be going all out to give you the full-on theatre experience in Gosforth with ice cream, refreshments and our famous raffle.

“Once upon a time, there was a little ogre name Shrek....” And thus begins the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life changing journey alongside his loyal steed Donkey, embarking on a quest to rescue the beautiful (if slightly temperamental) Princess Fiona from a fire breathing, lovesick dragon. Throw in a bad-tempered short guy, a biscuit with an attitude and a gang of fairy tale misfits, and you’ve got the biggest brightest musical comedy around.

This smash hit musical is guaranteed fun for all ages and will have you dancing and laughing all the way home.

Based on the Oscar winning DreamWorks film, the Broadway and West End smash hit ‘Shrek the Musical’ is an all singing, all dancing, fun filled and hilarious musical comedy with a cast of vibrant characters and a ‘shrektacular’ score.

Come join the adventure as Shrek and Donkey endeavour to complete their quest, finding unexpected friendships and surprising romance along the way.

More information is available at [www.gads.org.uk](http://www.gads.org.uk)

Shrek the Musical is based on the Dreamworks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig. Book and Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire. Music by Jeanine Tesori. Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance material are also supplied by MTI [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

# MJH SERVICES

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## GOSFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council continues to support the Public Hall Committee in their 1.2 million pound refurbishment. We are currently looking into different funding sources. We also need help with fund raising ideas and help to carry out some fund-raising events - if you feel you could help, please contact the PC via email [gosforth.parish2@outlook.com](mailto:gosforth.parish2@outlook.com).

We have started to look at the results from the Parish Plan Questionnaire and will soon be compiling the results into a booklet and getting it published - we hope to have this completed by the Autumn. The next Parish Council meeting will be our Annual Parish Meeting and AGM held in Gosforth Library at 7pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, everyone is welcome to attend.

*Rachel Unsworth  
Chairperson*

## 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 – FREE if you have a NoWcard bus pass.

- Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Cockermouth and Keswick - £9
- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Mystery Trip - £12
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Egremont Farmers Market  
- £3 donation to the market
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Solway Coast - £12
- Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June - 5 Lakes - £12.00
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Egremont Farmers Market  
- £3 donation to the market
- Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> June - Yorkshire Dales / Hawes - £13.00

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## WEST LAKELAND ROTARY CLUB



Our annual Pensioners' Party was held at Calderbridge Village Hall on Saturday 12 April and judged by all to have been a great success. 72 pensioners sat down to sandwiches, cakes and endless supplies of tea and coffee whilst being entertained by local singer Don McLean. Our thanks go to the ladies Inner Wheel volunteers who prepared the feast. It is hoped, but yet to be decided, to stage a similar event next year.

Our members have enjoyed a variety of interesting presentations by speakers during April. Of special note was a talk by Peter Frost Pennington on the fascinating history of Sellapark House, now a successful hotel run by his family.

Coming up on the agenda is our annual Plant Sale also to be held at Calderbridge Village Hall, this year on Sunday 1 June. There will be a wide variety of bedding plants, hardy annuals, familiar perennials, tomato plants, legumes and other vegetable plants for sale, mostly raised by our members. There is a small admission charge but come and pick up some bargains! We'll be trialling our newly-acquired card payment machines at this event.

And don't forget, for your diaries: our annual Rotating Wheels event at the old Gosforth Show field on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July; there is still room for additional vintage & classic cars and motorcycles, as well as spaces for Trade and Charity stalls. You can book these with 'Rob' at <[rotatingwheelsrally@gmail.com](mailto:rotatingwheelsrally@gmail.com)> or for general enquiries about the event, 'Ian' at the same address.

*Malcolm Richardson*

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May



Collection envelopes will not be delivered to houses as they used to be, but once again will be available in the Gosforth and Wasdale churches and also at Seascale from the beginning of May.

Please collect an envelope, which can be returned to church later in the month at one of the services. However, we have been asked, if possible, to donate on line this year by going to: [caweek.org](http://caweek.org)



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# GOSFORTH PUBLIC HALL

'Local' by Liz Richardson.  
Gosforth Public Hall.  
Saturday May 17 at 7:30pm

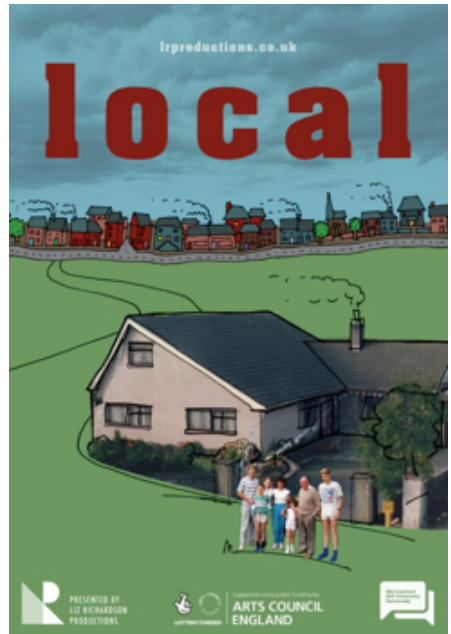
Liz Richardson grew up in Beckermeth and is now an actress and playwright with her own production company, who is returning to her home patch to open her new show 'Local'

It's a show about home, belonging or not, and letting go. It's a solo show where storyteller Liz revisits her childhood memories and home in West Cumbria in an attempt to understand whether she still belongs there, or ever did. In this multi-generational piece, Liz takes the audience on a journey through the rural landscape and environment of her home, reconnecting with voices from the past and her young family now. In doing so, she unearths some painful home truths. By the end, Liz and the audience discover a shared reality that she hadn't set out to find. 'Local' will have audiences laughing and crying simultaneously, it will feel familiar but unsettling. Visuals and sound help encompass Liz's world in the early 90s.

This show is **free to attend**, thanks to funding from the Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership, but there will be a collection afterwards with all proceeds going towards the Public Hall refurbishment project. You can reserve a ticket by visiting [ticketsource.co.uk/gadsgosforth](https://ticketsource.co.uk/gadsgosforth). Or you can turn up at the door - although seating capacity will be limited. There is no bar at the hall but you are welcome to bring your own drinks - and don't forget the bottle opener!

Performances also at the following venues if you are not able to get to Gosforth:

|                         |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 15 <sup>th</sup> May    | Rosehill Theatre – 7.30 pm         |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> May    | Beckermeth Reading Rooms – 7.30 pm |
| 23/24 <sup>th</sup> May | Theatre by the Lake – 7.30 pm      |



# HOLMROOK READING ROOM

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 10 to 12 –  
Book Sale and Coffee Morning**

Come and join us for a browse and chat

**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. £9 / hour. Why not call David on 07931-393954 to see if it is available for your next event?

**Membership:** Membership renewals for 2025 are due from 1<sup>st</sup> January. £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.



## GOSFORTH INDOOR MAT BOWLING CLUB

The Club meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2 - 4pm in Gosforth Public Hall. £3.00 per session, including refreshments. Please bring clean flat shoes to protect the mats. Spare bowls available for you to try. Annual Membership (Jan. - Dec.) is £8.

## 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, 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 ring Chris on 07768 421621 for details or email [free.c@outlook.com](mailto:free.c@outlook.com) *This group has no formal or legal connection with the Church of England or the Methodist Church in England.*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month: 7.00pm Phoenix Praise Informal Evening Worship**

St Mary's Room Gosforth. Led by Jill and Keith Hudson. Songs/hymns, readings, short talk, discussion and fellowship followed by refreshments. For more information please email [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)

## SOUTH CALDER MISSION COMMUNITY - MAY 2025

|                                 | Church                  | Service                        | Time  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                |       |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> May</b>       | Nether Wasdale          | HC                             | 9.30  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Easter</b> | Waberthwaite            | HC                             | 9.30  |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Seascale                | HC at St Guthbert's            | 9.30  |
|                                 | Godforth                | Morning Praise                 | 10.30 |
|                                 | Drigg                   | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Eskdale Boot            | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Whicham                 | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Bootle                  | Messy Church                   | 4.00  |
|                                 | Godforth St Mary's Room | Methodist Evening Worship      | 6.30  |
|                                 |                         |                                |       |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                |       |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup> May</b>      | Beckermet               | HC                             | 9.30  |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b> | Seascale                | Methodist in Methodist Church  | 10.30 |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Irton                   | HC                             | 9.30  |
|                                 | Godforth                | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Eskdale Boot            | NW                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Corney                  | Plough Sunday                  | 11.00 |
|                                 | Wasdale Head            | Morning Praise                 | 11.00 |
|                                 | Drigg                   | Family Service                 | 11.00 |
|                                 | Whicham                 | Evening Prayer                 | 6.00  |
|                                 | Seascale                | Faith and Fellowship           | 7.00  |
|                                 |                         |                                |       |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                |       |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup> May</b>      | Nether Wasdale          | HC                             | 9.30  |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b> | Eskdale Green           | HC                             | 9.30  |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Waberthwaite            | HC                             | 9.30  |
|                                 | Seascale                | HC at St Guthbert's            | 9.30  |
|                                 | Godforth                | Morning Worship                | 11.00 |
|                                 | Muncaster               | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Drigg                   | NW                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Whicham                 | Family Service                 | 11.00 |
|                                 | Old Church              | EP                             | 3.00  |
|                                 | Bootle                  | EP                             | 6.00  |
|                                 | Godforth St Mary's Room | Methodist All Age Worship      | 6.30  |
|                                 |                         |                                |       |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>    |                         |                                |       |
| <b>25<sup>th</sup> May</b>      | Ponsonby                | HC                             | 9.30  |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b> | Beckermet               | HC                             | 9.30  |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Eskdale Green           | HC                             | 9.30  |
|                                 | Seascale                | Methodist in Methodist Church  | 10.30 |
|                                 | Godforth                | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Wasdale Head            | Morning Worship                | 11.00 |
|                                 | Irton                   | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Bootle                  | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Drigg                   | HC                             | 11.00 |
|                                 | Godforth St Mary's Room | Phoenix Evening Worship - Zoom | 7.00  |
|                                 |                         |                                |       |
| <b>Ascension Day</b>            |                         |                                |       |
| <b>29<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b> | Waberthwaite            | HC                             | 9.15  |
| <b>WHITE</b>                    | Drigg                   | HC                             | 7.00  |

Cover photo: Galesyke Garden, Nether Wasdale (L. McKinley)