



Wagtail

The parish magazine
of Whittington, Arkholme
and Gressingham
May 2016

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Wednesday 4 May



"Becoming Hattie"

Arkholme Village Hall

A brand-new one-woman play with
Ashely Christmas of Proteus Theatre
Company, based on the life of legendary
comedy actress Hattie Jacques

Doors open 7pm, show 7.30pm

*A thoughtful funny warm and nostalgic
one-woman show that takes an
affectionate look at the life and career of
Hattie Jacques and a witty caustic look at
modern life in show business and its
cultural attitudes toward larger women*

All tickets £7 from Chris 07519 281 305
or ticketsource.co.uk/date/243868

Not suitable for children under 15

Wednesday 4 May 1pm
(a week earlier than usual)

Lunch Club

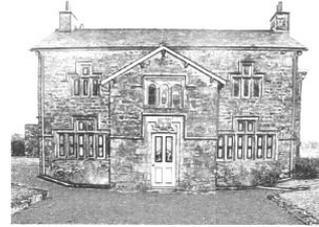
Arkholme Village Hall

Open to all retired residents of
Whittington, Arkholme and
Gressingham – three-course
lunch for £6 – please

book by Monday with Carole
22202 or Doreen 22023



Friday 13 May
A Summer Evening



at Newton Gate
with wine and canapés

7pm to 9.30pm

tickets £7.50 in advance please from
Sue Kimber (71232), Marjorie Hall
(71865) or Phyllis Pinch (72030)
in aid of Whittington church

Sunday 15 May
**Whittington
Heritage Day**

*Whittington's bells date
from 1673 to 1875 and
were rehung in 2009*

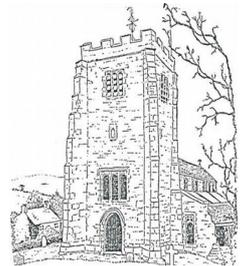
5pm tea and cakes

5.30pm demonstration

*with working models plus ringers'
readings and prayers*

6pm wine and savouries

in Whittington Church



Saturday 7 May 10.30am–12.30pm
Coffee Morning and Book Sale

*Gressingham Old School Room
home baking stall, raffle, in aid of
Motor Neurone Disease Association*

Wednesday 11 May 7pm

Arkholme Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Arkholme Village Hall

invited speaker Abbott Bryning
city council cabinet member
with responsibility for rural areas

Church services and more on the back cover...

Directory

Arkholme Post Office *Arkholme Village Hall* Mondays and Thursdays 2pm to 4pm

Whittington Post Office *Whittington Village Hall* Thursdays 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Mobile Library Tuesdays 3 May & 24 May 9.45-10.25 Arkholme School, 10.45-11.00 Carus Park, 11.30-11.45 Whittington Village Hall, 11.50-12.05 Whittington Loyne Park

Arkholme and Whittington Parish Council Clerk *Gillian Hodgson* 21814
6 Meadoway Arkholme LA6 1AT arkholmebrownies@hotmail.com

Arkholme School *Headteacher Joy Ingram* www.arkholme.lancs.sch.uk 21418

Arkholme Village Hall www.arkholme-village-hall.co.uk 07716 122940 Committee usually meets second Thursday of each month (email or phone to check) – all welcome

Book Club *May Levick* 21669

Bowling Club Arkholme Monday evenings *David Smith* 03330 119 303

Drama Group *Neil Read* 21339 realneed@hotmail.com

Lunch Club *Carole Webb* 22202 or *Doreen Airey* 22023 for retired residents of the three villages – usually on the second Wednesday of the month from October to May

Methodist minister *Peter Brown* 01524 771230

Playgroup/Toddlers *Danielle Barker* wagtailplaygroupandtoddlers@gmail.com 21921

Police PC3573 *Rob Barnsley* carnforthnpt@lancashire.pnn.police.uk telephone 101

Whittington Village Hall bookings *Karan Metcalfe* 71287

Coffee Mornings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month

Women's Institute *Janice McIlveen* 21693

Vicar *Revd Michael Hampson* vicar@these4parishes.co.uk 21712

Local churches and community groups can be listed here for free

Please send additions, updates and corrections to editor@wagtail.org.uk

Classified ads

We hope you find these listings helpful

Architectural Services Chris Potts BSc MRICS – full architectural design services, alterations, extensions and planning advice 015242 73228 info@cnpassociates.co.uk

Boarding Kennels and cattery at Docker Park Farm, home from home for your dogs and cats enquiries@dockerparkfarm.co.uk 21331 www.docker-park-kennels.co.uk

Boarding Kennels and dog day-care Aughton Road, Gressingham LA2 8LS helen.burrow@hotmail.com 07766 446272 www.aughtonroadkennels.co.uk

Lune Valley Physiotherapy Leah Dalby MCSP HCPC Maximise potential after surgery, accidents, illness including cancer – leahthephysio@gmail.com Melling 07934 785797

Painting and Decorating A Holloway (Decorators) Interior and exterior Established over 25 years tonyholloway@hms.me.uk 01524 771880

Physiotherapy Marie Colyer MCSP HCPC Bentham 62216 www.benthamphysio.co.uk

Plumbing Darren Jones General plumbing, bathrooms, renewable energy systems, no job too small. 1 Crosslands Whittington jonesplumb@me.com 07738 379328

Solicitors JWK Solicitors “For when things don't go your way – there's always JWK.” For all your legal requirements in England & Wales and Scotland: Commercial Property, Wills, Trusts, Probate, Powers of Attorney, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Dispute Resolution, Litigation, Aviation, Employment, Personal Injury, Family, Conveyancing. Lancaster, Morecambe and Glasgow. Incorporating Jobling & Knappe and Whiteside & Knowles. Lancaster 01524 598300 Morecambe 01524 416315 www.jwksolicitors.co.uk.

You can advertise here from just £2 per line – see wagtail.org.uk for details

Wagtail

Welcome to the May edition.

All local churches and community groups are welcome to send in news of their activities to Wagtail – reports of recent events (with photographs if available) as well as announcements of what's coming up. Other local news is also welcome.

The next edition is the June edition. The deadline for items for inclusion is 19 May. Please submit all items to editor@wagtail.org.uk

Wagtail is also available online at www.wagtail.org.uk

Many thanks as always to all our contributors and distributors.

Michael Hampson

Notices

The defibrillator is now installed on the outside wall at Arkholme Village Hall and is ready to use. Anyone wishing to know more about how to use it to save a life please email arkholmedefib@aol.com

Coffee Mornings at Whittington Village Hall are now twice a month – on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The May dates are Wednesdays 4 and 18 May.

This year marks 50 years of the Arkholme Rose Queen. Arkholme School PTFA are holding a special event to mark the occasion, and all 50 former Rose Queens have been invited. Afternoon Tea will be served in the new school hall – plus Maypole dancing and lots of fun for all. Everyone is invited to attend what promises to be a wonderful village event – Sunday 19 June from 1pm onwards.

Congratulations to Samantha Mellon and Paul Airey (son of Dave and Mary of Meadoway, Arkholme) on their wedding at Bartle Hall on 12 March.

Gressingham Loyn bridge – as we go to press, the bridge is finally open. “We still have work to do in the river to create the best conditions for the bridge. In doing so we also need to undertake some work to protect the north-east bank to stabilise it, but our work will be focused on the protection. It is worth noting that there may be localised delays during the ensuing period as we receive deliveries and plant to the site but the road will be open. Apologies for delays but not everything has been within our control.”

A new singing group starts in Hornby Institute on Tuesday 10 May, 1.30pm to 3.30pm. “If you enjoy singing or have always wanted to sing, this is for you. No audition, everyone welcome. Mothers and fathers have a fun afternoon while your children are at school, retirees of any age we need you too.” Musical Director Dan Adams. £4 including refreshments. Contact Pat Seber on 21449, or just come along.

Advance date – Whittington Race Night Saturday 25 June with supper and bar.

Advertising in Wagtail – local trades and businesses wanting to reach customers in Whittington, Arkholme and Gressingham can advertise in the listings on page 2 for just £2 a line, or sponsor an edition with both a full-colour tag on the front page and half the back page in full-colour as well. See wagtail.org.uk for details.

Arkholme Village Hall Draw: March £20 to Pat Benson, £10 each to T Hayton, J Gardner, Liz Hartley, E McClements, G Ridgeway, and J Tamlin; April £20 to Mr and Mrs Hargreave, £10 each to Christine Shannon, C Winscom, L Evans, Dr McIlveen, and Mr and Mrs Preston.

Whittington Village Hall Draw: April £20 to Margo Airey, £10 to Elsie Fishwick, £5 to Sharon Blackburn.

Notices

Hornby Castle Open Gardens Weekend, 21 and 22 May – enjoy the river and woodland walks, the rhododendrons and azaleas in bloom, the herbaceous borders, the Sharpe and Paley rockeries, and the bluebells and wild garlic in flower. Good selection of plants for sale from Mary Green in the walled garden, plus garden supports and metal-work for sale. Ceramic and pottery exhibition by Wyn Abbot. Homemade cushions by Heather and Fell. Informal talks on the history of the castle by Sue Bull at noon, and garden talks by Ken Green in the afternoon at 2pm. Dogs allowed on leads. Limited disabled access. Gardens open from 10.30am – 4.30pm. Refreshments available in the walled garden. Admission £4, children under 5 free. Combine your visit with a visit to the Hornby Flower Festival (see back page).

Divers Voyces choir presents *Music and Words for Children of Hope*, Sunday 22 May 6pm at Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church. Free entry with a retiring collection for Children of Hope projects in Uganda. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

At the recent AGM of Gressingham Church Council, Nigel Cottam, retiring Churchwarden, was thanked for all the many years of service he has given to Gressingham. His insights, energy and generosity were noted as were the various posts he has held. At Saint John's, he has assisted four incumbents over the years, also holding the parish together during interregna, and he remains a trustee of the church's charity, a church council member, and a member of the deanery synod and standing committee. On the Parish Council too he put in decades of service, besting official bureaucracy when necessary. He has kept the interests of The Old School uppermost, in his role as a senior trustee. At Fellowship events Nigel was in the thick of things in former times, helping with the marquee, seeking out equipment, and buying sackfuls of raffle tickets. As neighbour and long-time resident he has been the 'go to'; he and Elizabeth have offered kind hospitality to new-comers. He has walked unnumbered miles whilst mowing the churchyard grass and opening the church door in the morning and closing up at night. Thank you, Nigel, for all this and more. Take it easy now. – *Mary McClements (churchwarden)*

Unique Kidz

Unique Kidz provides a safe, warm and caring environment for children with a wide range of disabilities. Jonathon Pearson of Arkholme has used the service for many years. Parents can leave their children with Unique Kidz after school or on a daily basis during holiday times and then go to work secure in the knowledge that they are in the hands of people who understand the unique needs of each child.

Andrew Pearson writes: Last year they asked us if Jonathon would like to do the *Great North Run* and help to raise funds for the charity. The impulsive answer was 'yes, of course, great', so when the next question was 'would you volunteer to help push him round?' we sort of just automatically said 'yes' without really thinking. Only later did we realise what we'd agreed to: running 13 miles whilst pushing a wheelchair. Neither Mary-Jo nor I had ever run anywhere and didn't possess any clothing made from Lycra. Fast forward a couple of months and it sees the pair of us trying to run every other day whilst wearing stretchy fluorescent clothing and some things called 'running shoes'. We've now managed to run just over 6 miles without major trauma, so a good start, but still a lot of training to do. And a lot of fund raising too. So, to that end, we'd like to invite people to sponsor us to help Jonathon get round the Great North Run held up at Tyneside on Sunday 11 September. The Bay Horse has kindly agreed to put up a paper sponsorship form but the best way to sponsor us will be to use the Just Giving website at the following address: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/AndrewandMary-JoPearson

Arkholme and District WI



Two visitors, Bridget Smith and Julia Gaunt, were welcomed to our meeting in April along with a good number of members. Janice McIlveen, our President, welcomed the speaker, Mr G Magee, who spoke about his very interesting life as an aviator.

Mr Magee, who now pilots huge Boeings for a commercial airline, began his career in the Royal Air Force as a helicopter pilot. An exciting life in Air Sea Rescue followed, taking him the world over, attending all kinds of accidents and natural disasters. After a huge earthquake in Mexico, where he rescued a newly-born baby from a collapsed hospital, Mr Magee was recognised by the Mexican Government.

As a commercial airline pilot, Mr Magee enjoys the benefits of autopilot and quick turnarounds but needs to be aware of the very real dangers of drones and lasers.

However, retirement is immanent, and his first career choice, to be a steam engine driver, will be realised at Haverthwaite.

After Judith thanked the Speaker, we began a short business meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by all present and signed by Janice. As well as the many outings and courses organised by our Federation and other WIs, which we may attend, Anne Symons has organised a very interesting monthly calendar of trips for our group, including a visit to the Bowes Museum and a demonstration at the Wensleydale Creamery. Barbara, who had attended the Council Meeting, gave her report. Our next meeting, on 9 May in Gressingham Old School Room, will be the Resolutions Meeting. Hence there will be no Invited Speaker. Instead, there will be a discussion of the resolutions followed by a vote, a quiz, refreshments and social time. Visitors will be welcome.

Bell ringing in Whittington

Could it be your new hobby / skill / passion?

Bell ringing is a team activity that stimulates the brain and helps keep you fit. It also makes a glorious sound!

Many consider ringing to be their contribution to church life. Others do it for the pure pleasure and the company it brings.

Ringers come from all walks of life and range in age from ten to those in their eighties.

Ringing is well within the capabilities of most people. The initial learning takes several weeks, after which you can begin to ring with the rest of the band. Most ringers practise once or twice a week and ring before church on Sundays.

Why learn to ring?

- Friends around the world
- Lifelong learning experience
- Maintain a traditional skill
- A service to the church
- Team activity
- A great mental workout
- Opportunity to visit amazing places

Come and see. Turn up from 3pm on the afternoon of Whittington Church's Heritage Day – Sunday 15 May – to see what's involved, and even have a go. It could be the start of a lifelong passion!

Gerald writes...

(Continuing the series on memories of Arkholme)

Moving down Arkholme Main Street, the Williams family lived at Goss House. Mr Williams was a road man, and later worked on the railway.

Across the road was the tennis court that belonged to Mr Hopewell who lived at Cawood View. He sold the court as a building plot when he left the village.

The Metcalfe family lived at Reading Room Cottage. A room at this house had been used as a men's communal room where many of the young men in the village could meet to read the daily newspapers and weekly magazines that were supplied. This facility moved to the new Parish Hall when it was built in 1927, and continued till it closed in 1962.

Mr Woodhouse was the Parson. He lived with his sister at the Vicarage. There the Kings Messengers used to meet in the upstairs room where Miss Woodhouse gave us scripture lessons.

The Bainbridge family and then the Bainses farmed Carus farm. They had the first tractor that came to the village – an old Standard Fordson.

Jack Ireland lived at Cross House. He was the other basket maker. He made large hampers for the Lancashire cotton mills and the laundry industry.

The Reads lived at Ferry cottage. Mr Read was employed to make sure there was no one fishing illegally. The family also ran the ferry boat for travellers wishing to cross the river to Melling.

On Station Road the Robinson family had the Nursery gardens where they grew tomatoes in summer and chrysanthemums later in the year employing two or three young people to help with the work.

The station was a busy place with a station master, two porters, a signalman, and the plate layers who inspected and repaired the track on a daily basis, walking from the viaduct to Borwick and back each day.

My father was head gardener at Storrs Hall, and during the war he helped form and run the local Home Guard Platoon. He was also a founder member of the Parish Hall Committee and treasurer of The Trinity Sports for a number of years.

Please bear with me if I have got some of my facts wrong – they are all just memories and we all get confused at times. I am sure old friends will get in touch and put me right on the mistakes I have made.

Gerald Hodgson



March weather in Arkholme

Robin McIlveen

Rain Days 16 out of 31

Decidedly Wet Days (5mm+) 6 of those 16

Extremely Wet Days (25mm+) 0 of those 6

Wettest Day 3rd-4th 15.4mm

Monthly total 76.2mm (3.0 inches)

2016 so far 369mm (14.5 inches), 31 dry days, 62 rain days, of which 19 were DWDs and 1 of which was an EWD.

March was only half as wet as each of January and February, and the distribution of rain was also quite different, and rather unusual. There were 15 absolutely dry days, which is 50% up on the usual 10. There were therefore 16 raindays (instead of the usual 20 or so), 6 of which were Decidedly Wet (each with 5 mm or more), of which none was Extremely Wet (25 mm or more). The 6 DWDs accounted for 85% of the month's total, leaving only 15% to come from the 10 "ordinary" raindays. Indeed 3 of these 10 had only a "trace" of rainfall – an amount too small to be measured meaningfully in my gauge (which becomes guesswork below about 0.2 mm). So March was dryish in total rainfall, and it felt even drier because most of that total fell on just 6 Decidedly Wet Days. This brought a sense of great relief after the deluges of the backend of 2015, and the wet January and February.

March temperatures were low in the dry spells, since lack of cloud in the long night hours of winter allows heat to radiate freely from the ground to space. There were at least 8 morning frosts in my garden, but cloud cover on the individual nights allowed only 1 of these "air frosts" to reach -3°C , and indeed 6 were marginal (between 0°C and -1°C). Note that these are called air frosts because I measure the minimum temperatures inside a ventilated box 1.5m above the lawn (on the trunk of an apple tree). Minimum temperatures on exposed ground surfaces ('ground frosts' when subzero) are often a couple of degrees lower. Ground frosts are more common and more severe than the associated air frosts. Temperatures were much higher in the wet spells, since cloud can block this heat radiation almost completely.

April has been wetter than March so far, with over 50mm in the first two weeks, but a dry spell beginning on the 16th is being forecast to continue for at least week beyond the 18th as I write.

We have had only one or two named storms recently, but you may have seen that a couple of Tropical Cyclones have done very considerable damage in low latitudes. They are given a name once average wind speeds exceed 73 mph at a height of 10 metres (Hurricane Force 12). When this happened along the south coast of England for about an hour in October 1987, enormous damage was done, because such wind speeds are rare outside low latitudes. However in full-blown Hurricanes (aka Severe Tropical Cyclones, or Typhoons, in other zones), maximum wind speeds often reach 150 mph in the violent ring outside the central eye. This is twice the maximum average speeds encountered in Britain, and is four times as destructive. Until about 20 years ago, such storms were always given female names, which was unpopular in certain quarters. Now the genders rotate – cyclonically of course.

Robin McIlveen



The Church of England parishes of Hornby, Whittington, Arkholme and Gressingham

Vicar: Revd Michael Hampson
vicar@these4parishes.co.uk · 015242 21712
weekly bulletin online: www.these4parishes.co.uk

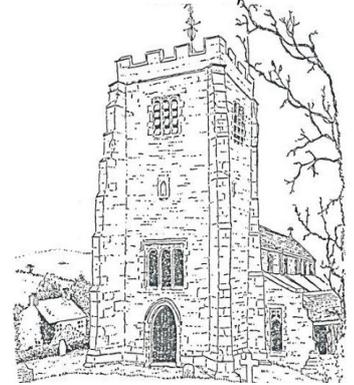
The Church Bells are the theme for Whittington's Heritage and Thanksgiving Day this year, on Sunday 15 May.

Whittington has six bells, dating from 1673 to 1875.

They were refurbished and re-hung in 2009.

*If you'd like to have a go at ringing one,
turn up any time from 3pm.*

There's tea and cake from 5pm, and at 5.30pm there will be half an hour of demonstrations (with working models) and bell-themed readings, hymns and prayers, before wine and savouries at 6pm – all at Saint Michael the Archangel, Whittington.



Hornby Flower Festival – Friday 20 May to Sunday 22 May

There will be thirty spectacular displays inside Saint Margaret's, Hornby, all around one theme – come and see. The festival will be open 10am to 6pm for all three days, Friday to Sunday, with the 10.45am morning service amongst the flowers on the Sunday until about midday, and the grand conclusion being Sunday 6.30pm Songs of Praise.

entrance £4 – children free – refreshments available all day

Christian Aid Week runs from 15 May to 21 May.

Watch out for opportunities to offer your support, or visit christianaid.org.uk

Our monthly youth-led service now has a junior choir as well as young people leading the readings, the prayers, and other parts of the service. It's at 10.45am in Hornby on the third Sunday of every month (15 May then 19 June). **This is in addition to our Sunday School** which meets during the middle part of the service (all ages are together for the rest) on the first Sunday of every month (1 May then 5 June).

Young people must bring an adult to church with them.

SUNDAY SERVICES IN MAY

Whittington Arkholme Gressingham

| | | | |
|---------------|--|--------|--------|
| 1 May | - | 9.30am | 6.30pm |
| 8 May | 9.30am | 9.30am | 8am |
| 15 May | <u>5.30pm</u> | 9.30am | - |
| 22 May | 9.30am | - | 9.30am |
| 29 May | <i>United Benefice Service, Hornby 10.45am</i> | | |

Hornby

10.45am Parish Communion every Sunday
8am Holy Communion on 3 and 17 April