



Wagtail

This edition sponsored by
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 Arkholme Village Hall
 Tuesday mornings
 07903 920369



July and August 2017 • *The parish magazine of Whittington, Arkholme and Gressingham*

New Curate Sister Judith starts Sunday 2 July



Sister Judith Smith OCMM is to be ordained in Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday 1 July, and the following day she begins her new ministry as curate in the four parishes of Whittington, Arkholme, Gressingham and Hornby.

It is probably the first time since the Reformation that a Religious Brother or Sister (a monk or a nun) has been a member of the Church of England clergy-team in the four parishes – but of course we have a long history, with the ninth-century site of the Priory above the Lune just below Gressingham, and Christianity right across Europe being led by the monasteries for a thousand years before the Reformation.

This Sunday 2 July

Sister Judith's first Sunday in the four parishes as our new curate

10.45am United Benefice Service *Hornby*

6pm Songs of Praise and
 'Meet the Curate' *Gressingham*
Sister Judith's Desert Island Hymns

Please do join us for these two specials
 (no other services that day)

Next Sunday 9 July 9.30am

9.30am Songs of Praise *Whittington*
 informal half-hour service with Sister
 Judith – refreshments afterwards
everybody welcome

More services on the back cover

Sister Judith and Sister Sue will continue to be based at Saint Joseph's House of Prayer, in Tunstall, where their *Order of the Companions of Martha and Mary* has its ongoing ministry of prayer and hospitality. Sister Sue will also continue her second ministry as curate in the six parishes of the East Lunesdale group, while Sister Judith begins her second ministry as curate in these four parishes – this first year as deacon, and from this time next year as assistant priest.

Saturday 22 July – Log Fest

10am-4pm *Open Day at the Wood Yard*
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Monday 10 July 7.30pm
 Women's Institute
Gressingham Old School Room
 Caroline Eames, forensic
 scientist – *visitors welcome*

Free money for teenagers – see back cover

Classified ads

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Advertising in Wagtail

You can advertise here for just £1 per line per edition. Wagtail has a print-run of 470 copies, and is distributed ten times a year to every home in Whittington, Newton, Arkholme, Docker, Gressingham, Eskrigge and Aughton. The deadline for each edition is the nineteenth of the preceding month. Contact ads@wagtail.org.uk.

Pets

Boarding Kennels and cattery at Docker Park Farm, home from home for your dogs and cats 21331
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Baby Sensory – our unique learning and development classes include bubbles, music, instruments, puppets and much more – come and join the fun on Tuesday mornings at Arkholme Village Hall – book online at babysensory.com or call Heather 07903 920369

Hornby Day Nursery – a family run nursery with a traditional friendly atmosphere. 30 hours free childcare from September 2017 for eligible 3 & 4 year olds, 15 hours free childcare for eligible 2 year olds. **Holiday club for ages 4 to 11** during all school holidays. Looking for childcare? 015242 22288
info@hornbydaynursery.co.uk

Miscellaneous

Funeral Services B&W Funerals (J G Macdonald) – 24 hour Service, Private Chapel of Rest. Covering the Lune Valley and the Dales. 39 Main Street, Ingleton LA6 3EH. Office 41293, Home 61390, Mobile 07758 002260, email jmfunerals@gmail.com

Web design Do you have a business, organisation or charity that needs a website? Our kettle's always on at the Urban Attic, call to arrange 01524 874549
urban-attic.co.uk



Wagtail

Welcome to the combined July and August edition.

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

The next edition is the **September edition**. The deadline for items for inclusion is 19 August. 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

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

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

Kirkby Lonsdale Voluntary Car Scheme Car and volunteer driver, 45p per mile measured from driver's house back to driver's house 07788 522511

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

Lunesdale Decorative and Fine Arts Society katebrady52@gmail.com 01524 782117

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

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

Whittington Village Hall *Karan Metcalfe* 71287

Coffee Mornings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, 10.30am to 12noon

Women's Institute *Janice McIlveen* 21693

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

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

Details of all three parish councils, and full minutes for Whittington and Arkholme, are online at committeeadmin.lancaster.gov.uk/mgParishCouncilDetailsList.aspx

Gressingham Parish Council agendas and minutes are available online at www.hornbyvillage.org.uk/organisations/gressingham-parish-council

Details of all planning applications are online at www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning

Local churches and community groups can be listed here for free

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

Notices

Whittington Sewing Group will start again on Tuesday 12 September at 2pm in Whittington Village Hall – information from Sue Redmond on 71677.

Could you serve the local community as a governor at Arkholme School? There is a great team of governors in place, but there are a couple of vacancies coming up. There are three main meetings a year, plus three sub-committee meetings of your choice. If you'd like to know more about it, contact the vicar or the chair of governors Liza Wallace liza.wallace@btopenworld.com

On Saturday 12 August there is a 1950s Party Night at Hornby Institute – nostalgia and vintage live rock and roll with The Jetsons, dynamic 4-piece rock and roll band specialising in the music of the 1950s and early 1960s, including Billy Fury, Cliff Richard, Johnny Kidd, Adam Faith, Marty Wilde, Chuck Berry, Eddie Cochran and Ricky Nelson. Bar from 7pm. Tickets £10 from 22227, all profits to help save Hornby Pool.

The Hornby Singing Groups continue in July with the evening group at 7pm on Tuesdays 4 and 18 July and the afternoon Group at 1.30pm on Tuesdays 11 and 25 July, all at Hornby Institute. 'Come and join us as we prepare for another concert...'

There will be a Three Choir Concert featuring *The Hornby Singers* with *Gathered Voices* and *Maelstrom* (an all male choir) on Saturday 16 September at Hornby Institute – bar from 7pm, concert 7.30pm, £7 with proceeds to help save Hornby Pool.

Arkholme Village Hall gratefully acknowledges a donation of £2,000 from the estate of the late Mr Patrick David Horsfall of Nook Cottage, a long-time and well-respected local resident. The generous donation will contribute to the continuing maintenance and upkeep of this valuable village resource. *Arkholme Parish Church also gratefully received a bequest from David Horsfall in the same amount, and hopes to do some major work in the churchyard this year, in particular resurfacing the paths. The churches and village halls are enormously grateful for legacies – please do remember them in your will.*

Louise Jones wants to say a big thankyou to everyone who donated to the Christian Aid Week house to house collection. 'We raised a HUGE total of £478.80 – £281 of which was GiftAided. Also a big shout out to my trusty volunteers, without whom we wouldn't have been able to cover such a wide area. Thank you!'

Gressingham Parish Council has purchased and erected a new mirror at the Church Road junction. Councillors have also erected a Speed Indicator Device (SPiD) at the Hornby end of the village, which it is hoped will help moderate vehicle speeds through the village. The SPiD has kindly been lent by Caton Parish Council, and will be used periodically at both ends of the village – *Neil Read*

Whittington Parish Council has set up a new website for the village. At the moment there isn't a lot of content on there, but the intention is to include news and events, plus parish council minutes – in fact anything that's related to Whittington. Moving forward, it's hoped that there will be some willing volunteers in the Village who will add content. The website address is www.whittington.org.uk and there is a contact page where you can submit something for the site – *Jim Williams*

ARKHOLME VILLAGE HALL DRAW FOR JULY: £20 MR J NICHOLSON, £10 MR R WEBB, £10 MR AND MRS TAMLIN, £10 K WADDINGTON, £10 MR AND MRS ACOTT, £10 MR G FORD, £10 MR AND MRS JACKSON; **FOR AUGUST:** £20 MR J MASON, £20 DR MCILVEEN, £10 MRS C STEPHENSON, £10 MR A STEPHENSON, £10 MR S BEARDSWORTH, £10 MRS B ELTON, £10 MR AND MRS D BARTON

Lune Valley Community Society – to save Hornby Swimming Pool. We have seen the latest survey of the building and we are confident that there is nothing in the report that deters us from moving forward, so the application has gone in to transfer the pool from local authority ownership to the community. We are putting together a business plan and it is time to form a management board and operational team – and we still need more £25 Community Share pledges. For further details please contact lunevalleycs@gmail.com or 01524 805666.

Whittington Parish Council met on Monday 15 May and again on Monday 7 June. A request is in for a sign to inform traffic that the road passing near Wash Dub Wood and Keer Side is Impassable for Heavy Goods Vehicles, following a recent incident. The annual £50 rent for grazing rights at Town Quarry has been received. The Parish Council supports the latest plans for the development behind the Dragons Head, but permission has again been refused by Lancaster. Permission has been granted for the conversion of the old school (most recently a wood workshop) into two dwellings. The arrangements for the new Parish Council website were confirmed. The insurance was reviewed. Dog fouling continues to be a problem in and around the village on public pavements, footpaths, along roadside verges and in the churchyard. The clerk will contact the Dog Warden for advice. There was more discussion of the speed limit through the village, and the ownership of the land used by the playground and the tennis court. Councillors would support any parishioner wishing to investigate this land ownership question further. The clerk would contact the current owner of the derelict barn opposite the tennis court and adjacent to the public bridleway Burrow Mill Lane. Next meeting Monday 17 July at 7pm.

Arkholme Parish Council AGM was on Wednesday 10 May 2017. From the chair's report: "Planning often dominates the agenda and discussions of the Council and over the past twelve months we have considered some 24 planning applications. The majority of these have been for tree felling and/or maintenance however a small number have been for new development this includes on land south of West House, land near Thorney Croft (twice) and most recently at Poole House. In 2015 the Council wrote to the Lancaster City Council seeking assurances that within the lifetime of the Local Plan there would be no further development on the scale of those at the Sheilling and that proposed for behind the Methodist Chapel. More recently, this year, the Council responded to the Local Development Plan Consultation highlighting the inaccurate designation within that document of Arkholme as a sustainable settlement. This designation implies that the village has the infrastructure to support significant new house building but as we all know this is not the case. It is our hope that this designation will be removed in the final version. That designation along with pressing housing targets for the country and local area mean it is likely that there will be continued pressure for development in Arkholme. Our experience also suggests that it is also unlikely that any new development would provide that missing infrastructure." There is still a vacancy for a fifth councillor.

Arkholme Parish Council met on Monday 5 June. A note from 1997 records that the Hopewell Cup was originally held by Whittington and District Horticultural Society, now defunct, and was typically used for gardening competitions. Councillors agreed at the time for the theme to vary each year. The 2017 competition, for a traditional-style cake, will be judged by last year's winner Pam Manton at the Village Sports Day event on Saturday 22 July, details to be confirmed. The flower tubs on the Village Green had been replaced, and councillors discussed the enhancement to the entry point to the village near Bainsbeck Bridge (further discussion at the next meeting). Permission had been refused for the proposed development of 12 houses on land to the south west of Thorneycroft, Kirkby Lonsdale Road. Next meeting Monday 3 July 7.30pm in Arkholme Village Hall.

Arkholme and District WI



June's meeting in Arkholme Village Hall was attended by fifteen members. Janice welcomed everybody, then introduced the speaker, Jenny Wheeler, who was going to run a jewellery workshop, helped by husband Paul.

Jenny gave us bead-boards and showed us the amazing array of beads we could use – from bold animal prints to delicate Wedgewood-blue flowers, and from huge marbles to tiny, tiny glass beads. We chose our beads and sat very quietly, rapt in our work of designing a necklace, bracelet or earrings. We were engrossed, occasionally complimenting each other on colour combinations, textures and design. When we had completed our part, Jenny or Paul put the fasteners on to complete the jewellery. There were some truly lovely pieces produced and each one unique.

The business meeting followed. Nicole, our secretary, reported a lot of correspondence: notices about courses, walks and trips available to us, invitations from other WIs to attend their special events, and of course our own trips – 28 June an all day trip to Raby Castle and 26 July a Fish and Trip cruise on the Lancaster Canal. All who went on last month's trip to Larch Cottage thoroughly enjoyed it. Jane reported a healthy bank balance and there was a reminder from Marie about collecting any WI memorabilia for the scrapbook. Anne Parr provided a quiz, which was great fun as usual, particularly when she provided the answers to choruses of oohs, aahs and groans.

Next month's meeting will be in Gressingham Old School Room on Monday 10 July at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Caroline Eames telling us about her life as a forensic scientist. Visitors welcome.

Gerald writes...

What a happy afternoon we had at John Haston's one hundredth birthday party. John was in sparkling mood, and was proud to show us his telegram from the Queen, and also one from the Prime Minister – he well deserves them both for all he has done for the community over the years. Being in John's company has always been a pleasure, we are so lucky to be able to call him a friend.

The Church Heritage Day was a great success – very well attended, and an interesting talk by Andrew White on the history of the Church. I took part of my Whittington archive across so that anyone interested in the history of the village could study the old photographs, the old sale adverts, the paper cuttings, and lots more material I have collected over the years. I am quite willing to lend out any of the folders to any one who would like to study it more deeply. Just call round and tell me which one you would like to borrow and I will be happy to oblige.

We had a great night in the Village Hall dancing to the music provided by *The Tartan Sound* dance band from Lockerbie. The hall was full of happy dancers just like old times. Today's youngsters just do not know what they are missing!

Gerald Hodgson



The weather in Arkholme

Robin McIlveen

May Weather in Arkholme

11 Slightly Wet Days (less than 5mm) together adding up to 17.9mm

3 Decidedly Wet Day (from 5mm to just under 25mm) giving 41.3mm

0 Extremely Wet Days (25mm and over)

14 Rain Days in total adding up to **59.2mm** (2.3 inches) – leaving 17 dry days

Wettest Day 27th-28th had 17.3mm

May's rainfall was over three times that of very dry April, but in fact *more than half of May's days were absolutely dry even so* – without even a trace of rain – which is most unusual. Adding the 15 dry days in April, in April and May combined there have been 32 dry days, compared with the typical 20 dry days (10 per month). With the sun well up and the days long, their drying effect is very considerable, so May's rains probably did not make up for the accumulated desiccation of the ground. Fortunately this has probably been accomplished by the nearly 80mm of rain which has fallen in the first half of June. However, more dry weather under the summer sun could lead to problems later, unless the bursts of rain keep coming, which of course they usually do.

May temperatures were held in check by some cool airstreams for most of the month, but broke free in late May and peaked at 27°C (80°F) on the afternoons of the 25th and 26th, with 25°C on the 27th. The damp weather of the first half of June has kept temperatures down until the middle of the month, when sunny afternoons reached 23°C (73.5°F).

There was unusual thundery weather in the afternoon and evening of May 27th. For a period of at least half an hour, and maybe even a full hour (I only gradually became aware of what was happening) we had continuous thunder in Arkholme. The nearest parts of most of the lightning were more than a mile away, to judge by the time lags of the thunder after the faint blinks of lightning in the daylight, but these flashes were coming so frequently that their typical 5 to 10 second long rumbles overlapped to produce thunder throughout the period.

And that reminds me of a distant steamy afternoon in South Kensington in June 1963, when I was happy to stop work on a diploma dissertation (on wind-wave formation on water – a curiously dry topic), as a simply colossal cloudburst broke over the local area. Huge raindrops (close to the theoretical maximum diameter of about 5mm) came shimmering down in the sunbeams before they were extinguished, and bounced off the road surface I was surveying from my window, maintaining a solid blanket of splash about a foot deep. A student walking down from the nearby Royal College of Music simply gave up trying to keep dry, removed his shoes and sodden shower-proof, and walked through the deluge, drenched to the skin, like a scene from *Singing in the Rain*. The thunder was so loud that I was slow to hear the clanging of fire engines (a shrill ringing bell in those days) hurrying to pump out local basement flats being flooded as the street drainage was overwhelmed by the torrential rain. Happy, happy days.

By the end of May there have been 54 dry days in 2017, 73 Slightly Wet Days giving 99mm of rain, 24 Decidedly Wet Day giving 256mm, and no Extremely Wet Days. That makes 97 Rain Days giving 356mm of rain (14.0 inches). At this rate the year's rainfall would be a rather low 854mm.

Robin McIlveen

Free money for teenagers

The Whittington and Arkholme charities make small cash grants to young people from Whittington and Arkholme who are in further education.

If you are aged 16+ and in full-time education this September, send your contact details and details of your course and year to vicar@these4parishes.co.uk.

The charities hold old educational endowments associated with the two villages. Trustees include the vicar and representatives of the two parish councils.

Sunday Services in July and August

| | Whittington | Arkholme | Gressingham |
|-----------|---|-----------|-------------|
| 2 July | - | - | 6pm SoP |
| 9 July | 9.30am SoP | 9.30am HC | 8am HC |
| 16 July | 9.30am HC | 9.30am HC | - |
| 23 July | 9.30am HC | - | 9.30am HC |
| 30 July | <i>United Benefice Service 10.45am Hornby</i> | | |
| 6 August | - | 9.30am HC | 6.30pm EP |
| 13 August | 9.30am SoP | 9.30am HC | 8am HC |
| 20 August | 9.30am HC | 9.30am HC | - |
| 27 August | 9.30am HC | - | 9.30am HC |

Hornby

10.45am Parish Communion every Sunday

8am Holy Communion on 16 July and 6 & 20 August

Midweek Communion is at 10am every Wednesday in Hornby

SoP – Songs of Praise
 HC – Holy Communion
 EP – Evening Prayer (evensong)

This edition of Wagtail sponsored by Baby Sensory Arkholme. For ads and sponsorship information see www.wagtail.org.uk

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