



Wagtail

The parish magazine
of Whittington, Arkholme
and Gressingham
February 2019

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Wednesday 13 February

Lunch Club

Arkholme Village Hall

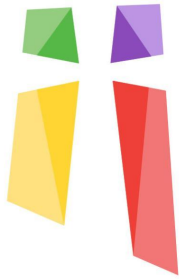
1pm three-course lunch £7
book by Monday with Carole
22202 or Doreen 22023

Friday 15 February 7pm

Gressingham Fellowship AGM

Gressingham Old School Room

All Gressingham and Eskrigge residents
welcome. Optional pie and peas supper
(orders to Rosie by 11 February on 22148 or
rosiejsmith@hotmail.co.uk). Please bring your
ideas for future events – and bring a bottle!



PEACE AND JUSTICE

Peace and Justice programme

On Wednesday 20 February at 7.30pm in
Whittington Village Hall there will be an opportunity to
join in the discussions on where we go next following
last November's *Peace and Justice Week*.



We will look again at the five topics...

- Israel-Palestine • Lune Valley Refugee Sponsorship • Cafod and Christian Aid
- Church-sponsored work in Lancaster and Morecambe • Gender Transition

...and work out where we go next with our *Peace and Justice programme*.

How do we follow up each of the five topics?

Which other topics should be priorities, and how should we address them?

It's an open forum for everyone who is concerned for any or
all of these five issues, or any other Peace and Justice priorities.

If you can't make **Wednesday 20 February at 7.30pm** in Whittington Village
Hall, the same open forum is being held on Monday 18 February at 7.30pm inside
Saint Margaret's, Hornby – *Michael Hampson* (vicar of the four parishes)

more events on the back cover...



Sunday Services

| | Whittington | Arkholme | Gressingham |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 3 February | 9.30am SoP | 9.30am HC | 9.30am HC |
| 10 February | 9.30am HC | 9.30am HC | 8am HC |
| 17 February | 9.30am HC | 9.30am HC | - |
| 24 February | - | - | 9.30am HC |

Hornby 10.45am HC every Sunday plus 8am HC 3 & 17 October

SoP – Songs of Praise HC – Holy Communion

Youth-led service 10.45am Hornby, first Sunday of every month (3 February, 3 March)

Midweek communion every Wednesday at 10am in Saint Margaret's, Hornby – a quiet service running for about 20 minutes

Vicar: Revd Michael Hampson · vicar@these4parishes.co.uk · 015242 21712

Curate: Sister Judith OCMM · sisterjudithocmm@gmail.com · 03330 119563

Weekly bulletin and more online: www.these4parishes.co.uk

Classified ads

Home and Garden

Logs Direct Ltd – local specialists in Winter Fuel. Kiln-dried logs, smokeless fuel, house coal, kindling, firelighters, briquettes and pellets. Also top soil, compost & bark. Collect from us or delivered to your door.

www.logsdirect.co.uk 01524 812476

Calluna Furnishings, Quernmore creating unique interior upholstery and soft furnishings, made-to-measure curtains, cushions, re-upholstery, Roman blinds, upholstery, alterations and many more. Free consultation and collection service. 01524 805504
www.callunafurnishings.co.uk
info@callunafurnishings.co.uk

Gardener – regular or one-off – mowing, strimming, weeding, hedges, leaves, painting, jet-washing, felling of small trees, Jane Birbeck 07484 705012

Health and wellbeing

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

Lune Valley Physiotherapy Leah Dalby MCSP HCPC – Maximise potential after surgery, accidents, illness including cancer – Melling 07934 785797
www.leahthephysio.co.uk

Pets

Docker Park Kennels & Cattery

No ordinary kennels – your dogs join us around the farm and house, and they love it! We also offer day care.

John and Lisa Tamlin 015242 33403
www.docker-park-kennels.co.uk

Boarding Kennels and dog day-care

Aughton Road, Gressingham LA2 8LS
helen.burrow@hotmail.com 07876 562380
www.aughtonroadkennels.co.uk

Pre-school and out-of-school

Hornby Day Nursery – a family run nursery with a traditional friendly atmosphere. 30 hours free childcare 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



Wagtail

Welcome to the combined December and January edition.

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

You can advertise in **Wagtail** from just £1 per line per edition. The print-run is 475 copies, distributed to every home in Whittington, Newton, Arkholme, Docker, Gressingham, Eskrigge and Aughton. Contact ads@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* arkholme.lancs.sch.uk 21418

Arkholme Village Hall 07716 122940
arkholme-village-hall.co.uk
facebook.com/arkholmevillagehall

Arkholme Methodist Church
Rev Steve Charman 01524 33327

Arts Society Lunesdale
judieclegg@gmail.com

Book Club *Simon Acomb* 07710 721108

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

Drama Group hornbydrama.org.uk
Neil Read 21339 realneed@hotmail.com

Hornby Singers Tuesdays 7pm to 9pm at Hornby Institute *Pat* 21449

Hornby Swimming Pool 01524 805666

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 – second Wednesday of the month from October to May

Lune Valley Community Beekeepers
If you get a swarm of honey bees in your garden call Fred Ayres 01524 811978 who will happily remove and re-home them at no cost

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

Police *PC3511 James Hodgson* phone 101
morecambept@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Sewing Group *Sue* 71677

Whittington Village Hall *Karan Metcalfe*
facebook.com/WhittingtonVillageHall
Coffee Mornings first & third Wednesday of the month, 10.30am to 12noon 71287

Women's Institute *Janice McIlveen* 21693

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

Arkholme and Whittington Parish Council Clerk *Gillian Newton* 14 Marton Drive, Morecambe LA4 6RB 07773678608

Gressingham Parish Council Clerk
gressinghampc@gmail.com 21918

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 lancaster.gov.uk/planning

Local problems can be reported to www.FixMyStreet.com

Local churches and community groups can be listed here for free. Please send additions, updates and corrections to editor@wagtail.org.uk



The weather in Arkholme

Robin McIlveen

November Weather in Arkholme

15 Slightly Wet Days (less than 5mm) together adding up to 10.9mm

6 Decidedly Wet Days (from 5mm to just under 25mm) adding up to a further 47.4mm

21 Rain Days altogether adding up to **58.3mm** (2.3 inches) – leaving 9 dry days

Wettest Day 27th-28th with 11.6mm

December Weather in Arkholme

9 Slightly Wet Days (less than 5mm) together adding up to 7.3mm

14 Decidedly Wet Days (from 5mm to just under 25mm) adding up to 147.2mm

23 Rain Days altogether adding up to **154.5mm** (6.1 inches) – leaving 8 dry days

Wettest Day 6th-7th with 11.9mm

November was quite a dry month (58.3mm is only 65% of the average 90mm). About 80% of the rain fell on the 6 Decidedly Wet Days, leaving many dry and only slightly wet days. Cloudy nights allowed only 4 morning frosts. Apart from the cool week ending on the 27th, many afternoons were seasonally warm, with six at and above 13°C (55°F).

The rainfall in December was quite high (154.5mm is 170% of the average 90mm). Over 95% of the rain fell in 14 Decidedly wet Days. The wettest of these was not far short of being Extremely Wet (22.9mm, close to the 25mm threshold). Afternoon temperatures hovered around 5°C for much of the month, which is normal for the season, but rose to about 10°C for 5 days starting on Boxing Day.

In the first twelve of my eighteen years of records, there were often about five Decidedly Wet Days in a month. More recently the number has more often been between five and ten, and I believe December's total of fourteen Decidedly Wet Days is a record in my measurements.

January has started very dry, with only 11mm in the first sixteen days.

2018 in review

Largely because of the very dry months earlier in the year, the total rainfall for 2018 was only 952mm (37.5 inches), which is **the fourth driest in my 18 years** - the drier years being 893mm in 2003, 899mm in 2005, and 942mm in 2010. For comparison, the wettest 4 years were 1542mm in 2015 (the year of Storm Desmond), 1474mm in 2008, 1468mm in 2012 and 1462mm in 2017. These annual totals range from 893mm to 1542mm, averaging 1114 mm. The distribution is skewed: the wettest year is nearly 40% above the average, whereas the driest is only 20% below it.

Altogether there were 132 completely dry days in the 365 days of 2018, 170 Slightly Wet Days giving 228mm of rain, 59 Decidedly Wet Days giving 597mm, and 4 Extremely Wet Days giving 128mm, ie 233 Rain Days giving 952mm of rain (37.5 inches).

I wonder what 2019 has in store? Answers in a large bucket please.

Robin McIlveen

Arkholme and District WI



Not many newly elected presidents celebrate their first meeting modelling retro swimwear but, in **December**, when Major Margaret Watkins brought her collection of clothing from the 30's and 40's, Nicole Davison was a volunteer model. As ever, Major Margaret's memorabilia produced a buzz of conversation. Even though members would never have worn such items they were familiar through family photographs. In contrast, at the **January** meeting we danced to music played through a mobile phone! Laura Sandham put us through our paces (and worked off some cake) with a routine made up of ballet movements. As before, the exercise was really enjoyed and plans are afoot to organise more sessions.

Tea, cake and the business meeting followed the speaker. Members put forward their choice of resolution to be discussed at this year's Annual meeting in Bournemouth from the shortlist offered by NFWI. The Treasurer reminded us that subs are now due. Carolyn Lowe received applause and the prize for the highest number of points in the monthly competition. Members were reminded of Lancashire's Council Meeting in March and the visit to the World of Wedgewood later that month. New events include a Singing Day and Paper Marbling and Book Binding, both in April.

The next meeting will be in Arkholme Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 11 February. The speaker will be Kevin Briggs on 'Life on the Lune'. Visitors and new members are welcome.

Gerald writes...

Thank you everyone involved in making the Arkholme pensioners lunches so enjoyable, the Christmas one was especially good, the entertainment provided by the school children was first class and their behaviour was a credit to their teachers, we had a very happy two hours, thank you very much.

Whittington is so lucky to have so much recorded history. I have been reading *The Parish Church of Whittington Registers Volume 1, 1538 to 1764*. It is available from the library on request. Started in the reign of Henry VIII, the records are one of only three complete sets in the whole of Lancashire. One of the entries from 1616 states from 19 December 1616 to 4 November 1617 *"it pleased God to visit the parish with a dangerous disease or contagious sickness in which time over two hundred people were taken ill and twenty nine of them died"*. The Rev Richard Jackson was Rector from 1641 to 1680. His name is on the sun dial in the churchyard. He left quite a lot of details of vestry meetings, written in the back of the records. He organised a number of collections in the church for numerous good causes, some for plague victims at Flookborough and Aughton, another to repair the castle wall at Spennymoor, and another to complete the rebuilding of St Paul's Cathedral. One other entry states the church clock and bells are in bad repair. Just how old was the original clock? It must have been one of the oldest clocks in existence – and how did they know how to set the time?

The next dance in the Village hall is on 2 February when Denis Westmorland returns playing his Lakeland music for our enjoyment.

Gerald Hodgson

News from around the villages

Many thanks to all who bought poppies or donated to the poppy appeal in November and to Sue for helping with the collection. As a village we collected £271.94 and the district total was £1,911.19. Many thanks also to all who donated to the Food Bank and the Night Shelter. I delivered more than a dozen large bags and boxes to the night shelter and six large boxes of food and other items to the food bank. Both organisations were very appreciative of our donations – *John & Phyllis*

More than 80 people joined us on 1 January for Bacon Butties to say hello to the New Year with fellow villagers and friends. A grand total of £223.05 was raised for Saint John's Hospice. Thank you all who supported us and especially to those who helped out – *John & Phyllis*

Gressingham Carol Service On Sunday 23 December a congregation of over seventy people enjoyed a traditional service of readings and carols. The Church was beautifully decorated and atmospherically lit with candles. We extend a heartfelt thanks to the team of decorators, the readers, the organist and the clarinet player, the refreshment providers, the provider of the tree, the vicar for designing the service, and most of all to you for attending and bringing the service to life – *Gressingham PCC*

Arkholme Jumble Sale You helped us to raise £1250 by being so generous with your time and jumble. We have booked next year's jumble sale for 9 November – *Danielle*

The Armistice Day Beacon lit at 7pm on Sunday 11 November at Sellet Bank was a tremendous success. Well over 120 guests enjoyed drinks and a barbecue at Sellet Hall then made their way to the summit of Sellet Bank to witness both Lady Kimber and Eric Pelter light what can only be described as the most impressive conflagration in the Lune Valley! Blessed with fine weather, the concerted joint effort from the PCC, Village Hall Committee, Parish Council, and individuals too numerous to mention, more than met expectations with a grand total of £1050 being raised by donations for the *Help for Heroes* charity. The organisers would like to thank all those involved in contributing so much time and energy to help commemorate such an important occasion – *Colin Hall*

New Baby and Toddler Group in Arkholme Village Hall every Wednesday morning (excluding school holidays) 9am to 11am. Seasonal crafts, story/song time with Early Years teacher from Arkholme school, snack for children, and tea, coffee and cake for adults. £2.50 per family to cover costs. *The more observant may have noticed the 'clash' with the Arkholme community coffee morning which starts at 10.30am on some Wednesday mornings. The hope is that this overlap could provide a unique opportunity to bring together people of all ages from our community. It could be the start of something wonderful!* Emily 07824 349276 and Facebook 'Arkholme baby and toddler group'

Gressingham Parish Council met on 14 January and continued its discussions of ongoing planning, amenity and road safety issues in and around Gressingham and Eskrigge. Various road surface and signage faults had now been repaired. There remained concerns about the volume and speed of cars travelling along the narrow road through the centre of Gressingham, especially if the proposed housing developments in Hornby go ahead, and it was agreed to pursue this issue with the city and county councils as appropriate. Councillors were pleased to hear that the defibrillator recently donated to the village by Lancashire Lifesavers would be installed very soon in the wall adjacent to the Old School Room. A dozen residents have already volunteered to do the training provided by the charity. If anyone else is interested please contact Lesley Wareing (email below). The Parish Council is preparing a guide for the emergency services to help find properties in Gressingham and Eskrigge. Residents are asked to ensure that their house name is clearly visible both day and night. A litter-pick is planned for Saturday 2 March, starting from the Old School Room at 10am - including tidying up the footpath that connects Fall Kirk with Back Lane over

the white bridges. An Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 4 February solely to discuss a request from the Pearson Trust Working Group that the Parish Council act as agents and submit the planning application for the Old School Room under the 'Community Right To Build Order' process. The meeting will be held in the Old School Room – Lesley Wareing gressinghampc@gmail.com

Members of Gressingham's Pearson Trust Working Group had a meeting with Lancaster City Council in November to discuss 'Community Right To Build', which allows for a local referendum on certain planning issues. A 'Community Right To Build Order' (CRTBO) is equivalent to planning permission, but the decision on the application is made by the local community in a referendum, rather than by the council's planning committee. This is the process that would enable a village referendum to be held to indicate decisively whether the village supports the proposal to adapt Gressingham church for multi-purpose community use and convert the Old School Room into a rental flat to support the combined facility long-term. Only certain formally-defined bodies can apply for a CRTBO, and Gressingham Parish Council is currently the only such body in Gressingham. The Parish Council will meet on Monday 4 February to decide whether to take on the role of applicant body for the CRTBO for the Pearson Trust Working Group proposals.

Gressingham Village Trust is the new name for the Old School Room Trustees, now a registered charity with a robust constitution approved by the Charity Commission on 15 January (registered charity number 1181569). The constitution is based on the constitution in use since 1954, and can be read or downloaded at goo.gl/5724bM

Arkholme Parish Council met on 5 November and 7 January. There is still a vacancy for a fifth councillor. Current planning applications were reviewed, including for 17 dwellings on land east of Arkholme Methodist Church, and for additional land drainage at The Sheiling. Financial support was given for materials for the smartening up of the village green, for costs in setting up the school Peace Pole and commemorative plaque, and for the playing field, the bowling club, the defibrillator, the village hall boiler, and the baby and toddler group. One of the two 'pounds' (near the church – they are used as allotments) was re-let. The Christmas carols event, and the Hopewell Cup competition, were organised. The Hopewell Cup competition in 2019 will be for produce made using home-grown or locally found/foraged produce within the parish boundary, with prizes in three categories: cordial or drink, jam or preserve, pickle or chutney. To be submitted to a Parish Councillor by Friday 11 October 2019.

Hornby Pensioners Association says thankyou to everybody who made the Christmas Party such a success, especially Veda and her team for an excellent meal and Hornby Occasionals for the superb entertainment afterwards; also to all the January Coffee Morning helpers and supporters. On 12 February Sue Seddon will present "The Lune from Source to Sea". This will be preceded by a short AGM, including the programme of events for 2019 and appointments to the committee. There will be the usual light refreshments and a free raffle. Entry is also free. Please arrive at Hornby Institute by 7pm, so that the AGM can begin promptly at 7pm. Fortnightly whist and dominoes evenings continue at Hornby Institute on Saturdays 9 and 23 February; play starts at 7pm and the cost is just £2 including light refreshments and two free strips of raffle tickets. Everybody very welcome.

Arkholme 150 Club draw October 2018 £20 Mr and Mrs Metcalf, £10 Mr and Mrs Blacow, Mr and Mrs Wilson, Mrs C Stephenson; November 2018 £20 Mr A Stephenson, £10 Mr R Webb, Mrs Ogden, Mr and Mrs Blacow; December 2018 £20 Mr and Mrs Airey, £10 Mr and Mrs Sapsford, Mr J Mason, Mr and Mrs Jackson; January 2019 £20 Mr J Mason, £10 Eileen Barton, Brenda Elton, Mr and Mrs Sinclair; February 2019 £20 Mrs P Johnson, £10 Mr and Mrs Houghton, Mr and Mrs Burns, Mr and Mrs McPhail.



Wagtail

The **Hornby Singers** concert planned for 26 January will now take place on Saturday 13 April. New members are welcome – there are no auditions and you do not have to be able to read music. Tuesday evenings 7pm at Hornby Institute – *Pat 21449*

**Friday 8 February
and Saturday 9 February**
Hornby Drama Group presents

'Forgotten'

by Altaire Gural

7.30pm at Hornby Institute

A fantasy based on JM Barrie's classic children's story Peter Pan – what happened after Neverland? (Suitable for ages 11+)

Friday 15 February 7.45pm

Countryside Society

Paul Waterhouse on the Ospreys of Foulshaw Moss *Hornby Institute*

Saturday 16 February 10am to 4pm

Book Fair

wide range of second-hand, out-of-print and antiquarian books, also classical CDs
Hornby Institute Gerry Cotter 01524 752968

**Saturday 16 February
and Sunday 17 February**
Hornby Castle

Snowdrop Weekend

11am to 4pm each day View the wonderful snowdrops in the borders and along the river woodland walk, plus the evergreens, coloured stems, scented shrubs, winter flowering perennials, the Walled Garden Nursery with different varieties of snowdrop in flower in the winter borders, ceramic exhibition by Wyn Abbot with pottery for sale, and informal talks on the history of Hornby Castle by Sue Bull at 12pm and 3pm. Dogs allowed on leads. Disabled and pushchair access very limited. Refreshments available in the walled garden. Admission £4, children £2, under-5s free. www.hornbycastle.com

Saturday 16 February 2.30pm

Concert and Cakes

with Festivo Winds quintet, winner of the audience prize at the 2018 RNCM awards. Flute, oboe, clarinet, french horn and bassoon *All Saints Church Burton in Lonsdale LA6 3JU*
concertandcakes@outlook.com

Saturday 16 February 7.30pm

Film Night at Tatham Church

Professional projection and sound equipment with big screen. Popular feel-good films. Email or phone for more information. Sue 07836 500091 or Helen 07802 499934 or moviesinthepews@gmail.com

Thursday 21 February 7.30pm

Hornby Flower Club

with Derek Morgan *Hornby Institute*

Friday 1 March 7.30pm

Gressingham Fellowship

Wonderful World of Bats

with Gail Armstrong batlady.co.uk
- as a precursor to a planned bat walk later in the summer
Gressingham Old School Room

Tuesday 5 March

6pm to 7.30pm

Pancake Party

Whittington Village Hall

Wednesday 13 March

to Saturday 16 March

Hornby Occasionals present

'Pirates of Penzance'

tickets £12 Hornby Institute 22227
facebook *Hornby Occasionals 2019*

Sunday 17 March 5.30pm

Divers Voyces presents

'Twilight'

Songs for evening: Rachmaninoff, Lassus, Dowland, Rogers and Rusby
Saint Margaret's Church, Hornby