



# Wagtail

The parish magazine  
of Whittington, Arkholme  
and Gressingham  
**July and August 2015**

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## Sunday 28 June

Patronal Festival of  
**Saint John the Baptist**  
Arkholme

10.30am United Benefice Service  
in Arkholme parish church



## Monday 29 June

Arkholme Village Hall  
6.30pm Talk by local  
meteorologist Dr Robin MacIlveen  
on 'Local Weather and Climate'  
followed at 7pm by Arkholme  
Parish Council AGM



## Sunday 12 July

Gressingham Rounders and Picnic

4pm in Tim and Alice's field behind Lodge Farm,  
Rabbit Lane. Please bring your own picnic and  
drinks, picnic blanket or folding chairs etc.



All villagers and their friends welcome.  
If rained off we'll meet in the Old School Room.  
Any questions please call Frances on 22335.

## Saturday 18 July

Arkholme Village Sports  
and Rounders Match

3pm onwards. Jacob's  
Join in the village hall,  
please bring cold savoury  
food or puddings on the  
day. All welcome.

## Monday 13 July

7.30pm Arkholme Village Hall



Talk by Tricia Berry on 'A day  
in the life of a First Responder'  
Presented by Arkholme WI,  
visitors welcome. Competition:  
an old fashioned health  
remedy. Details 21303 or  
71818. No meeting in August.

## Saturday 1 August

2pm to 5pm Eskrigge Open Gardens  
with refreshments and stalls including plants,  
raffle, face painting and traditional games.  
Turn by the church in Gressingham, then over  
the little bridge and left for half a mile – or set  
your SatNav to LA2 8LX. There will be parking  
at Eskrigge Hall, and all the gardens in Eskrigge  
will be open. £4 including refreshments.  
In aid of Saint John's, Gressingham.



## Saturday 19 September · Lunesdale Live II · Arkholme Village Hall · Doors open 1pm

Music from 2pm · bar open all day/evening · Paul Lamb & The Kingsnakes · Molly  
Warburton & band · The Swarm · Black Cat · Dave Sapsford & Friends · acoustic stage  
& harmonica workshop with Paul Lamb · open mic mini-stage · Tickets £20 on the door  
£17.50 in advance or £15 early-bird until 31 July · [ticketsource.co.uk/date/175026](http://ticketsource.co.uk/date/175026)

# 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 Tuesday 14 July** 9.45-10.25 Arkholme School, 10.45-11 Arkholme Carus Park, 11.30-11.45 Whittington Village Hall, 11.50-12.05 Whittington Loyne Park

**Arkholme Parish Council Clerk** Gilliam Hodgson 21814

**Arkholme School** Joy Ingram (Headteacher) [www.arkholme.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.arkholme.lancs.sch.uk) 21418

**Arkholme Village Hall bookings** 07716 122940 [arkholmevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:arkholmevillagehall@gmail.com)

**Book Club** May Levick 21669

**Brownies** Gill Hodgson 21814

**Lunch Club** Carole Webb 22202 or Doreen 22023

**Methodist minister** Peter Brown 01524 771230

**Playgroup/Toddlers** Danielle Barker [wagtailplaygroupandtoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:wagtailplaygroupandtoddlers@gmail.com) 21921

**Police** PC3573 Rob Barnsley [carnforthnpt@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:carnforthnpt@lancashire.pnn.police.uk) telephone 101

**Whittington Village Hall bookings** Karan Metcalfe 71287

**Women's Institute** Rosemary Blanchfield 21303

**Vicar** Revd Michael Hampson [vicar@these4parishes.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:editor@wagtail.org.uk)*

## Classified ads

*We hope you find these listings useful*

**Architectural Services** Chris Potts BSc MRICS providing full architectural services, alterations, extensions and planning advice 73228 [info@cnpassociates.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.docker-park-kennels.co.uk)

**Boarding Kennels and dog day-care** Aughton Road, Gressingham LA2 8LS [helen.burrow@hotmail.com](mailto:helen.burrow@hotmail.com) 07766 446272 [www.aughtonroadkennels.co.uk](http://www.aughtonroadkennels.co.uk)

**Counselling** Bill Thompson MA PhD Gressingham 21499 [www.towardsoneself.co.uk](http://www.towardsoneself.co.uk)

**Craft Boutique** fabrics, knitting wool, haberdashery, Brother sewing machines 'Temptations' 31 Main Street Bentham 61868 [www.temptationsbentham.co.uk](http://www.temptationsbentham.co.uk)

**Logs Direct** traditional house coal, kiln-dried firewood, smokeless fuel, wood heating pellets, plus top soil and mushroom compost 01524 812476 [www.logsdirect.co.uk](http://www.logsdirect.co.uk)

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

**Physiotherapy** Leah Dalby MCSP Lune Valley Physiotherapy Maximise potential after surgery, accidents, illness including cancer [leahthephysio@gmail.com](mailto:leahthephysio@gmail.com) 07934 785797

**Physiotherapy** Marie Colyer MCSP HCPC Bentham 62216 [www.benthamphysio.co.uk](http://www.benthamphysio.co.uk)

**Plumbing** Darren Jones General plumbing, bathrooms, renewable energy systems, no job too small. 1 Crosslands Whittington [jonesplumb@me.com](mailto:jonesplumb@me.com) 07738 379328

**Solicitors** JWK Solicitors Morecambe, Lancaster & Glasgow. For all your legal requirements in England & Wales and Scotland 01524 416315 [www.jwksolicitors.co.uk](http://www.jwksolicitors.co.uk)

**Vintage accessories and gifts** 'My Vintage Style' Crabtree & Evelyn, Dante, Pia Rossini and more, 2 Main Street Ingleton LA6 3EB 41891 [www.myvintagestyle.co.uk](http://www.myvintagestyle.co.uk)

*You can advertise here from just £2 per line – see [wagtail.org.uk](http://wagtail.org.uk) for details*

# Wagtail

Welcome to the July and August edition.

All local churches and community groups are welcome to send in news of their activities to Wagtail – reports of recent events as well as announcements of what is coming up. *Colour photographs can now be included too.*

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](mailto:editor@wagtail.org.uk)*

Wagtail is now online at [www.wagtail.org.uk](http://www.wagtail.org.uk)

Thanks as always to all our contributors and distributors.

*Michael Hampson (editor)*



## 10.30am Sunday 28 June

*For midsummer's day – the Patronal Festival of*

**Saint John the Baptist, Arkholme**

After the Christmas Eve carol service, **this is the biggest service of the year**. Join us at 10.30am in Arkholme Parish Church. *No separate services elsewhere that day.*



## Sunday Services in July and August

	Whittington	Arkholme	Gressingham
Sunday 5 July	-	9.30am	6.30pm
Sunday 12 July	9.30am	9.30am	8am
Sunday 19 July	9.30am	9.30am	-
Sunday 26 July	9.30am	-	9.30am
Sunday 2 August	-	9.30am	6.30pm
Sunday 9 August	9.30am	9.30am	8am
Sunday 16 August	9.30am	9.30am	-
Sunday 23 August	9.30am	-	9.30am
Sunday 30 August	<i>United Benefice Service, Hornby 10.45am</i>		

### ...and in Hornby

**10.45am** Parish Communion every Sunday

*except 28 June, United Benefice Service in Arkholme*

**8am** Holy Communion on 5 & 19 July and 2 & 16 August

**Sunday School** takes place during the 10.45am service on the first Sunday of every month (5 July, 2 August)

**Young people help lead the 10.45am service** on the third Sunday of every month (19 July, 16 August)

There is a **midweek communion service** every Wednesday morning at 10am

**Vicar:** Revd Michael Hampson  
[vicar@these4parishes.co.uk](mailto:vicar@these4parishes.co.uk) · 015242 21712

**[www.these4parishes.co.uk](http://www.these4parishes.co.uk)**

The United Benefice of **Hornby** with Cloughton and **Whittington** with **Arkholme** and **Gressingham**

# Notices

**Bon Voyage!** to Joshua Dawson of Manor Farm, Whittington as he leaves on 4 July to spend a year in Hervey Bay, Queensland, Australia. Joshua will be working as a volunteer at Fraser Coast Anglican College including coaching hockey. He has also been invited to play hockey for the local team. Have a great time - Mum, Dad, Hannah and Jessica.

**Grass cutting in Arkholme churchyard** – two people share the work at the moment, but one or two more volunteers would be appreciated, if only to cover holidays. Please contact David Smith on 0333 011 9303.

**Kirkby Lonsdale Scouting** – Regional Development Officer for South Cumbria Damian J Bonsall writes: "Volunteer leaders are urgently required to help us continue providing fun, teamwork and adventure for young people aged between 6 and 14. Full training will be provided by the largest youth organisation in the UK. You will be working as part of a dedicated and committed team. The Group is based at QES and all sections meet on a Monday evening. Please contact Damian Bonsall on 01539 7299117 or 07852 996941 or email [Damian.bonsall@scouts.org.uk](mailto:Damian.bonsall@scouts.org.uk) " – [www.cumbriascouts.org.uk](http://www.cumbriascouts.org.uk)

**Hornby Flower Club** – The visit to Hazel Cottage was a great success. David met us and gave us a guided tour of the gardens showing us many interesting plants and the innovations he and his partner have made to the gardens over the last ten years. After refreshments David gathered plant material from the garden, added a few roses from Tesco and made some very beautiful floral arrangements which were raffled and won by three members of our group. Those who attended the festival week competition and coffee evening were treated to a lovely display of floral arrangements. The winners in the adult section were Rebecca Sanderson, Val Lawson and Pat Seber, and Lucy and Penny Fisher were joint winners of the children's section. A big thank you to all those who provided cakes for the evening, they were delicious. Please note that our next meeting is 17 September, not 7 September as stated in the programme.

**Whittington Parish Council AGM** was on on Tuesday 26 May in Whittington Village Hall, followed by a regular council meeting, with four councillors, the clerk, and two members of the public present. Two councillors sent apologies. The chair thanked the councillors for their support during the year, and the clerk for 'keeping all in order'. Five sheds and one house had been broken into during the year. Railings have been repainted (more to follow), some road resurfacing has been done (more ongoing). The sign at Biggins, directing heavy goods vehicles not to use that route up to Hutton Roof (so that they have to use Whittington instead), had once again been objected to and once again removed. Donations in the year include Wagtail Playgroup, Brownies, Air Ambulance, £40 to The Poppy Appeal and £180 for the Floral Competition, £500 towards the new windows for the village hall and £500 towards Whittington B4RN volunteers. The precept was set at the same amount as last year (£3,400.00). Five nominations had been received for the five Parish Council seats so no election was necessary. Next meeting Monday 20 July 7.30pm in Whittington Village Hall.

**Arkholme Parish Council** met on Monday 1 June in Arkholme Village Hall, with two councillors, the city councillor, the clerk and two members of the public present. There were just three nominations for the five places on the council. Precept of £3,404.00 had been received. The bid to register the Bay Horse Public House and Bowling Green as a Community Asset had been refused. Current planning applications were discussed. Two areas of highway flooding were reported, and building site work before permitted hours. Next meeting AGM Monday 29 June 6.30pm in Arkholme Village Hall.



# Free money for teenagers

The Whittington and Arkholme charities make small cash grants to young people from Whittington and Arkholme in further education. The two charities have different resources and use slightly different criteria, but if you are aged 16+ this September and in school or college, and have not previously received a grant from the Whittington or Arkholme charities, send in your details to [vicar@these4parishes.co.uk](mailto:vicar@these4parishes.co.uk). *The Whittington and Arkholme charities hold old educational endowments associated with the two villages, and the trustees include the vicar and representatives of the two parish councils.*

## Arkholme School June Fair



**A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the Arkholme School June Fair. The fair was well attended as always and the children had a wonderful afternoon. The year 6 children made a great success of their own stalls, and for the first time the children of class 3 also**



ran a stall to raise funds for their trip next month. So many local residents generously gave their time in making lovely home produce, contributors will be delighted to know the home produce stall sold out and made over £180. Our thanks too, to everyone who kindly donated raffle and tombola prizes, to Grant and William Parker for their inspired balloon-filled tractor, and to Capernwray Hall for their ever-popular bouncy castle. In total the event raised £1,157.49 for the PTFA and this wouldn't be possible without your support.

*Gillian Phillips, PTFA Treasurer*

## Magna Carta 1215-2015

**The local link to Magna Carta was marked for the great charter's 800th anniversary with a series of events in Hornby last month.**

The church looked spectacular for the anniversary weekend, with amazing flower arrangements, superb displays from different organisations, and the Magna Carta exhibition itself.

On the Sunday of the anniversary weekend, over 100 teas were served as the bells were rung. The teas, the bells, and the exhibition, were all part of the *Magna Carta Barons* celebrations, held in twenty-five locations across England – the manors of the twenty-five barons who were to guarantee the rights enshrined in Magna Carta. Hornby's baron in 1215, Roger de Montbegon, was one of the twenty-five.

On the anniversary day itself, Monday 15 June, more than 200 people came to hear local historian Andrew White's talk in Saint Margaret's church on 'Hornby, Magna Carta and the Montbegons'. We have re-stocked the Magna Carta book (which we could have sold out three times over on the night), and we will keep re-stocking, so if you missed out, do pick up a copy from the church porch when you get the chance.

Sue Bull's superb talk on the history of Hornby Castle followed on the Wednesday, and also played to a full house, with the main hall at the Institute packed with over 120 people.

# Arkholme and District WI

The speaker for our June meeting was Richard Mathews – the Kendal Town Crier. He struck a splendid figure in his colourful livery.

Livery varies but the hat always has a feather, recalling the quill pen that was needed to write out the 'Cry'. Criers had to be literate – which was not that common in earlier times. After the proclamation the scroll was nailed to a post for all (who could) to read. To this day we 'post' bills to advertise.

Nobody is sure when the first town crier was appointed but the Greeks and Romans had men to make announcements so it is an ancient calling. William the Conqueror, with all his new laws, was probably responsible for criers in England.

Richard has a fine custom-made bell to attract attention, but horns and rattles have been used. His slides showed that Criers have a long and fascinating past and a colourful present.

The meeting was held in Gressingham Old Schoolroom, our last visit before its refurbishment.

Arrangements for the Group Meeting on 19 June were discussed although we have yet to hear attendance numbers from two Institutes. We look forward to a fine evening to accompany the strawberries and 'fizz' which follow the talk 'A Passion for Pearls'. Details of the centenary canal trip from Skipton on 1 September were confirmed – we shall take an early tea at Coniston Cold after the boat trip. Caton WI have organised a coach to visit the WI Centennial Fair in Harrogate on 4 September. Booking information is on the news sheet (check with a fellow member if you missed the meeting). NFWI Centenary raffle tickets are on sale – first prize £10,000. The walk around the canal at Capernwray and Borwick in support of ACWW 'Walk the World' was very pleasant, tea and cakes afterwards equally good and £40 was raised by the members who took part.

President Rosemary Blanchfield, who attended the WI garden party at Buckingham Palace, showed the scrapbook she has opened for Centenary memories and invited more items. She had a wonderful afternoon – a real occasion to remember. Along with Jane Binney she attended the Centenary AGM in the Albert Hall – another Royal occasion neither will forget. In her report of the meeting Jane told members that Lucy Worsley, one of the speakers, has made a BBC documentary about WI's first 100 years, to be screened in June. Look out for it! The meeting, which was streamed around the country, can be seen, all 6hrs 19minutes of it, by going to [www.thewi.org](http://www.thewi.org). Like the visitors, Royal and otherwise, every member attending got a piece of WI cake. Sadly only 2 empty cake boxes were on show in Gressingham!

The next meeting is back in Arkholme on 13 July at 7.30pm.

The speaker is Tricia Berry – 'A Day in the Life of a First Responder'

## Whittington notices

**Whittington Coffee Morning** is in Whittington Village Hall on the first Wednesday of every month – 1 July and 5 August – from 10.30am to 12noon.

**Christian Aid** house to house collections in Whittington raised £426.71 and in Newton £82.00. Many thanks to all who donated and to Korin for her help in collecting – *Gordon and Phyllis*

**Whittington Village Hall Draw** – May £20 Jean Mason £10 Cathy Parsons £5 Daniel Knot – June £20 Korin Woollard £10 Mary Schofield £5 Malcolm Fell

# Whittington B4RN update

The Whittington B4RN project to bring superfast fibre-optic broadband to the village is making good progress.

Taking advantage of the warm summer weather, the digging team have laid ducting all the way up the west side of the village and are now moving towards Whittington Hall.

Meanwhile, most of the properties in The Maltings have now been connected to the network and are ready for the fibre to be 'blown' in.

Once the fibre is blown in, householders have the option of taking up the actual B4RN broadband service there and then or at a later date.

Whatever they decide, they can rightly claim that their property is connected to the fastest broadband network in the UK.

A vote of thanks and appreciation must go to the core team of seven or eight volunteers who have turned out virtually every Saturday since last August to keep the job moving forward - as well as to those who have helped out on an occasional basis. But while much has been achieved, there is still a long way to go and any further help really would be appreciated.

Finally, this month's award for the project's most enthusiastic supporters goes to James (7) and Matthew (4) of The Maltings, whose curiosity, interest and imagination seem to know no bounds.

Keep firing the questions boys and we'll keep trying to answer them!

*Jeff Eaman*

## Gerald writes...

**The Church heritage service was very successful once again.** The flower arrangements were beautifully done – they really are a credit to the ladies who do them. The readings and poetry were well chosen and presented, and the collection of Church documents on display were very interesting – that table was busy all afternoon. Once again the food was delicious and the wine finished the afternoon nicely. Many thanks to the people who organised the service I thoroughly enjoyed it.

**I am often asked the dates when our village was connected to the main services.**

Electricity came to the village in 1934/35, when Lancaster city Council built a coal-fired power station near the Aqueduct bridge in Lancaster. Docker had to wait until 1949 for their supply when a cable was laid across the fields from the substation at Storrs Hall heading towards Craven View and Snab Green.

Water came in 1938 when the villages in the Lune Valley were connected to the Thirlmere pipe line at Capernwray. Mains water was a great relief to lots of families – not much fun going to the well or pump on a cold dark night.

Mains sewerage came to Whittington in 1969. That was the end of quite a few small dark privies at the bottom of the garden – not a pleasant job for the local dustbin men whose job it was to clean them out. The road through the village was also widened at this time.

Whittington was connected to mains gas in 1986 – even though a gas pipe had come through the village in 1955 when all the small local gas works were shut down and a large new gas works was built at Morecambe. This was later made redundant when North Sea gas came on stream – and now it is broadband that we are getting connected to. I just cannot think of what else will come in the next fifty years.

*Gerald Hodgson*



## The weather in Arkholme

Robin McIlveen

### May Weather in Arkholme

Rain Days 22 / Decidedly Wet Days (5mm+) 14

Wettest Day 17th-18th 22.4mm

Monthly total 162.5 mm (6.4 inches)

Total for 2015 so far 551mm (21.6 inches)

**After arid April came moist May**, with total rainfall only slightly below January's soggy 174 mm. At 22, the number of rain days was quite normal, but at 14 the number of Decidedly Wet Days (5mm+) **broke all my records** and accounted for 93% of the month's total. Over 50mm of rain fell in the third week of May, slightly exceeding the total for the whole of April. Because so many days were cloudy, afternoon temperatures were remarkably uniform around 15°C (59°F) throughout the month, which was seasonally normal at first, but became more and more disappointing as the weeks went by.

**June came in cool and wet**, with 20mm in the first 3 days, but then we had ten glorious dry days, on four of which afternoon temperatures exceeded 20°C (68°F) on the apple tree. The rains returned in the middle of the month, but even so as I write on the 19th the total rainfall for June so far stands at 28mm (just over an inch) which is quite low. Hope springs eternal.

Following the theme of **Britons who are big names in Meteorology**, Luke Howard (1772-1864) was a pharmacist and manufacturing chemist with an amateur interest in the weather, which was so effective that his writings earned him election as Fellow of the Royal Society in 1821. He looked at the shapes and patterns of clouds in the sky, and saw that some came in hills or mountains shapes, which he called cumulus (latin for hill), some came in sheets which he called stratus (atin for sheet), and some came in fibrous bunches which he called cirrus (latin for hair). This cloud classification became the core of what is now called the *International Cloud Atlas*, which is regularly republished with hundreds of typical photographs and used by meteorological observers all over the world to make standardized cloud reports.

By the time you read this, **the midsummer solstice will have come and gone** - the time when summer day length peaks at sixteen hours (at our latitude) before beginning to reduce to its midwinter minimum of eight hours. Curiously, for the last few thousand years, northern midsummer has effectively coincided with the time when Earth is at its furthest from the sun (aphelion) in its elliptical orbit. At aphelion the sun's rays are over 1% weaker than they are in northern winter six months later, when the Earth is at perihelion. 11,000 years ago, and 11,000 years in the future, northern hemisphere summers will coincide with perihelion, and summers will be distinctly hotter than now, even without man-made global warming. That's the only weather forecast I can make without fear of contradiction.

Robin McIlveen

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## More events around the villages

### **7.30pm Sunday 28 June Lancaster's Dyvers Voices at Saint Margaret's, Hornby**

The eleven-voice choir performs works by Dufay, Leonarda and Bach, plus organ pieces by Buxtehude and Mendelssohn, and Haydn's Kleine Orgelmesse  
*Entrance free, collection for Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund*

### **7.30pm Saturday 18 July Variety Concert and Hot Pot Supper at Hornby Institute**

50s and 60s Pop, Rock, and The Shows, plus a touch of G&S. Hornby Occasionals, The Singing Cyclist, The Gadabouts, The Chiplets. Tickets £10 – phone 22227

**3pm to 5pm Sundays 19 July and 16 August Summer afternoon teas** with tea served at your table and a range of home-made cakes *inside Saint Margaret's, Hornby*

**10am to 12noon Saturday 1 August MU Coffee Morning** *Hornby Institute*