



# Wagtail

October 2016 • The parish magazine  
of Whittington, Arkholme and Gressingham

This edition sponsored by



**Lune Valley  
Physiotherapy**  
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## Friday 30 September 7pm Puddings and Slides night

Gressingham Old School Room

Bring desserts and cakes to share. Bonus points for autumn fruits – get brambling! Slide-shows between helpings. Tea and coffee provided, bring a bottle if you like.

## Saturday 1 October 10.30am-12.30pm Coffee Morning

Arkholme Village Hall

Donations for cake stall appreciated  
Prize for best decorated cake · Raffle  
Mary 21115 or Carole 22202



## Sunday 2 October Harvest Thanksgiving for Arkholme and Gressingham Arkholme 9.30am followed by harvest cake and cider Gressingham 6.30pm followed by bring-and-share meal

## Saturday 15 October 7.30pm Annual Charity Dinner

Arkholme Village Hall

This year raising money for Galloway's Society for the Blind. Tickets: [ticketsource.co.uk/event/147507](http://ticketsource.co.uk/event/147507)



## Wednesday 5 October 1pm Arkholme Village Hall

**Lunch Club** reopens for senior members of the three parishes – three course lunch plus tea or coffee, £6 per person, monthly from October to May. Usually the second Wednesday of the month, but a week early this October. New members always welcome. Please call Carole 22202 or Doreen 22023 by Monday 3 October to let us know you are coming.

## Thursday 20 October 7.30pm Flower Club – Jacob Phelps on how to grow orchids – Hornby Institute £4

## Friday 21 October 7.45pm Countryside Society

Bryan Yorke on Birds and Flowers of Hutton Roof – Hornby Institute

## Saturday 29 October from 10am Boon Day at St John's Gressingham Seasonal jobs in the churchyard and a spruce-up inside church – come and join the working party from 10am. Refreshments will be served!



## Saturday 8 October from 2pm Open House

at Saint Joseph's House of Prayer next to Tunstall Church LA6 2RQ  
Sister Judith and Sister Sue invite you to an Open Day at the new House of Prayer here in the Lune Valley – refreshments all afternoon – vespers at 5pm

## Sunday 30 October 3pm Palestrina's Missa Brevis plus additional items reflecting on each movement

Concert for All Souls day with the Divers Voyces choir in Saint Margaret's, Hornby in aid of Saint John's Hospice



# 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 and Whittington Parish Council Clerk** *Gillian Hodgson* 21814

6 Meadoway Arkholme LA6 1AT [arkholmebrownies@hotmail.com](mailto:arkholmebrownies@hotmail.com)

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

**Arkholme Village Hall** [www.arkholme-village-hall.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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](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** *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](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 helpful*

**Architectural Services** Chris Potts BSc MRICS – full architectural design services, alterations, extensions and planning advice 015242 73228 [info@cnpassociates.co.uk](mailto:info@cnpassociates.co.uk)

**Bay Horse Hotel Arkholme** open daily – lunchtime 12noon-3pm and evening 6pm-11pm. Open all day (12noon-11pm) Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Food served all day – last food orders 9pm. (Closed all day Monday, and Tuesday lunchtime). LA6 1AS. (015242) 21425. Rooms available. [www.thebayhorsearkholme.co.uk](http://www.thebayhorsearkholme.co.uk)

**Boarding Kennels and cattery** at Docker Park Farm, home from home for your dogs and cats [enquiries@dockerparkfarm.co.uk](mailto: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)

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

**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** 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 “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 & Knap and Whiteside & Knowles. Lancaster 01524 598300 Morecambe 01524 416315 [www.jwksolicitors.co.uk](http://www.jwksolicitors.co.uk).

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

# Robert Webb abseiling down the Ashton Memorial



Helping local families  
since 1983

We arrived as planned at the Ashton Memorial on a sunny and breezy afternoon. Unfortunately the Facility team at the Memorial had a real problem giving us the correct key to open the access door to the balcony (about an hour's delay!!) so we had visions of not being able to complete the task. Fortunately tea and refreshments (plus a band) kept everyone's spirits up long enough for access to be gained.



Then there was an unexpected appearance from Spiderman which greatly excited the crowd (now approaching at least a hundred fascinated on-lookers). Rumour circulated that Spiderman had been hired by the Main Man to take his place as he had bottled it – however facial evidence shortly revealed that it was in fact Robert the Brave (although his figure closely resembled the original Spiderman in almost every detail).

So at 3.30pm the patient crowd witnessed the death-defying leap of faith off the upper balcony. It appeared that Spiderman snagged in a rather delicate spot on his way down – but no significant threat to his manhood was apparent as he reached terra firma to a drum-roll, and huge applause from the massive crowd.

There then followed another 8 courageous abseilers (7 women, 1 man – same old story...) who all performed brilliantly – and strangely enough seemed to be having the time of their lives – particularly after they had negotiated the previously-mentioned ledge.

In short a great day with lots of tension, laughs and appreciation. My thanks to Highpoint (Joe and Matt) who managed to get us all down safely, to all my fellow abseilers for their courage and good humour, to Newfields who looked after our refreshments splendidly, to the tireless CancerCare staff and volunteers who supported the event, to Quay Change for providing lively music all afternoon, and to all our friends and families who turned out for a good laugh.

Carole has put away the Spiderman suit and the Life Insurance policy -amid claims that she is delighted and relieved to have me back in one piece.

Finally my thanks to everyone who has helped make this, my finale, such a success.

My sponsors have been hugely generous and we have now raised over £11,000 – the justgiving website will remain open for a few days, just in case! Many many thanks.

*Robert Webb*

*CancerCare provides support for patients and families in North Lancashire and South Lakeland. Robert has been a trustee for 25 years, and chairman for the last 7 years. This was Robert's grand farewell before retiring in October.*

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/robert-webb14](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/robert-webb14)



# Jonathon Pearson and the Great North Run



On Sunday 11 September Jonathon, Mary-Jo and Andrew Pearson (of Arkholme) joined a local team to raise funds for Unique Kidz by doing the Great North Run, a half marathon held each year in the North East of England. Unique Kidz is a local charity that provides a safe and fun place for children with a wide range of disabilities to go after school and during school holidays.

The day began in the car park of Salt Ayre Leisure Centre at 0615 when we boarded the bus along with the rest of the team for the journey over to Newcastle. About 3½ hours later we joined the back of the queue of 57,000 runners amongst people dressed as hamburgers, people dressed as bananas and one big bloke dressed as Little Bo Peep. Every disease or affliction that you care to name had someone running to raise funds to help fight the disease or help those afflicted by it. Now in a certain light, that could be a depressing sight. But nothing prepared us for the sense of hope and optimism that was evident in the runners and the spectators that day. Thanks go out to the wonderful people of Tyneside: what a great support you all were. It's not an exaggeration to say that we saw some inspirational sights as we ran, and anyone who believes that our society is insular and selfish really should stop watching the London based news and try and get up there to witness the event and to feel the buzz of optimism generated by thousands of people raising funds to help others.



Thirteen miles seemed to pass quickly helped along by cheering crowds, Lucozade, music, The Red Arrows, and fellow runners. On the Friday before the run, some of you may have seen Jonathon on BBC North West Tonight declare that his ambition was to cross the line on foot and so, with about 100 yards to go, Jonathon abandoned his wheelchair and took to his walking frame. The sense of elation we all felt as he crossed the line was as wonderful as it was unexpected. What a way to finish! It too was seen by the viewers of NWT in a short piece that evening. Apparently we got round in 2 hours and 46 minutes although, really, the time didn't matter. What did matter though was the wonderful support we had from so many friends within the local community. The funds raised for Unique Kidz by the team that did the Great North Run now total £9,600, and by the time it's all collected may well top £10k. This money will help make a real difference to the lives of many disabled children and their families. As they say at the end of TV programmes, 'The lines are still open', and so they are for now: if you feel that you'd like to donate then it can still be done at:

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/AndrewandMary-JoPearson](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/AndrewandMary-JoPearson)

To the many wonderful people who have given their support to this charity a big "Thank You" from all of us.

*Jonathon, Mary-Jo and Andrew Pearson*

# Hallowed be thy name

**G\_d's name in the bible** is YHWH – too holy to be spoken or written, so they miss out the vowels.

**The four letters sound like a breath.** The word for breath is the same as the word for Spirit.

The name is a version of the verb 'to be'.  
G\_d is existence itself, **the ground of all being.**

G\_d's other biblical name is Elohim – which looks like a plural. G\_d contains all that we hold divine, and more besides: **the sum of all divinity.**

The name was never spoken lest it be **'taken in vain'**. We should always pause before using the word G\_d, lest we claim G\_d's authority for a falsehood, a blasphemy. The humbling reality is that G\_d is beyond words, beyond comprehension, beyond definition, beyond description, beyond imagination .

*Adding part 1 from last month:*

Our sustainer in the skies,  
our nourisher and upholder,  
**ground of all being,**  
**sum of all that is divine,**  
present in every breath we take,  
beyond words,  
beyond description,  
beyond imagination...

**Join us any Sunday**

*we use The Lord's Prayer in every service*

Next month: *'thy kingdom come'*

Our Father, who art in heaven:  
**hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil;  
for thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*Mrs Audrey Bartle has stepped down from Gressingham Parochial Church Council after many years service. The vicar and PCC wish to record their appreciation for her contributions over many years, along with husband Douglas (a former churchwarden) and sister Mrs E Thomson and her husband Arnold, including the Cream Teas held in their summer gardens, and the Lunch Club held for many years in the Old School; also her contributions on the church organ (which continue), and in so many other areas of church and village life.*

## SUNDAY SERVICES in OCTOBER

*Join us any Sunday*

### Whittington Arkholme Gressingham

<b>2 October</b>	-	9.30am	6.30pm
<b>9 October</b>	9.30am	9.30am	8am
<b>16 October</b>	9.30am	9.30am	-
<b>23 October</b>	9.30am	-	9.30am
<b>30 October</b>	<i>United Benefice Service, Hornby 10.45am</i>		

### Plus: Hornby

**10.45am** Parish Communion every Sunday  
*includes monthly Sunday School  
and monthly youth-led service*

**8am** Holy Communion on 2 and 16 October

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

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

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

# Parish Councils

**Arkholme Parish Council** met on Monday 4 July in Arkholme Village Hall. Eric Grubb, Speed Management Officer at Lancashire County Council, has raised a long list of potential problems with the proposed SpID (Speed Indicator Device), including its interaction with existing signage and the mobile traffic camera van, and that fact that the proposed device is not the LCC approved version (which is much more expensive). A meeting will be arranged to discuss a possible contribution to the Arkholme community shop proposal. The clerk will ask the advice of the Conservation Office concerning a blocked stile opposite Cawood House, and has asked for clarification regarding Footpath 4 to the rear of The Willows. Blocked gullies on Carus Park have been reported to Lancaster City Council. Some of the new affordable homes at The Sheilings will be managed by Lune Valley Rural Housing Association. Thanks to David Smith and Hilary Jagger for maintenance of the Village Green. A Village Green Committee is in discussion with Arkholme School Governors concerning further improvements to the site and a draft maintenance agreement with the parish council. A proposal for developing a community emergency plan eligible for the Strengthening Communities Fund will be brought to a future meeting. Present were councillors Charles Waddington, Graham Jackson-Pitt, and David Howarth (apologies from councillors Gibson and Preston), plus city councillor Roger Mace, one member of the public, and the Clerk Gillian Hodgson. Date of next meeting Monday 5 September.

**Whittington Parish Council** met on Monday 18 July in Whittington Village Hall. The £200 donation from the Beacon lighting event will be used to refurbish benches. Payments were made to Whittington Village Hall for petrol for the strimmer, and towards the Whittington B4RN volunteers barbecue evening. Planning issues discussed include: the outline application for eighteen new dwellings, change of use from barn to dwelling plus shop/tearoom, a new children's play area, and demolition of other agricultural buildings, at Whittington Farm, Main Street; and three new dwellings behind The Dragon's Head. Details of all planning applications can be seen online at [lancaster.gov.uk](http://lancaster.gov.uk). The uncut verges around Docker would be reported to the city council. Correspondence from Illinois about a Whittington grave would be passed to the church. Present were councillors Eric Pelter, Colin Hall, Barbara Atkinson, Stuart Close, and Ted Lawson, city councillor Peter Williamson, and the Clerk Gillian Hodgson. Date of next meeting Monday 19 September.

**Gressingham Parish Council** met on Monday 7 September. A planning application by J Paxman at Gressingham Hall for Listed Building repair works was approved. The clerk will create a map of all the road drains and gullies around the village once the grass has died back. Two Parish Council suggestions to the County Council, to help prevent further vehicle damage to Mill Bridge had been rejected, as had the request for a painted pedestrian reservation at Towns Bridge; the extension of white lines on the approach to Town Bridge was still under consideration. Discussions about a Speed Indicator Device (SpID), and renewal of existing 30mph signs, are ongoing. Road drains on Rabbit Lane are still proving ineffective; the fault has been raised again with the Highways engineer. The need for further work on fencing, and the reinstatement of the stile, on the approach to Loyn Bridge, will be referred again to LCC. It was confirmed that the new layby and footpath at Towns Bridge are both on private land, rather than forming part of the public highway, so public parking is not permitted. There was an update on the work of the Pearson Trust Working Group (PTWG). Councillors supported idea that a joint PTWG / Parish Council subcommittee might apply for a Social Enterprise 'Pre-feasibility' Grant, to help fund professional services to evaluate options, subject to checking constitutional arrangements. Gressingham Parish Council agendas, minutes and financial reports are now on the Hornby village website. Present were N Read (chairman), M Brooks, S Riley, D Wiper and G Metcalfe (clerk); G Parker sent apologies. Date of next meeting Monday 7 November.

# Wagtail

Welcome to the October 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 November edition. The deadline for items for inclusion is 19 October. Please submit all items to [editor@wagtail.org.uk](mailto:editor@wagtail.org.uk)

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

Many thanks as always to all our contributors and distributors.

*Michael Hampson*

## Notices

Ian Mayor and Joanne Long at the Bay Horse say thank you to everyone that came to their daughter Emily's christening and made it such a special day, and for all the wonderful comments and gifts, also to the vicar and church volunteers for a wonderful service. *Emily's Christening was at Saint John the Baptist, Arkholme, in September.*

'Come and Sing' at Hornby Institute now runs alternately on Tuesday afternoons and Tuesday evenings – choose either or both, and just turn up, newcomers welcome. 7pm to 9pm on 4 and 18 October. 1.30pm to 3.30pm on 11 and 25 October. £4 – Pat 21449

The team of people who mow the churchyard in Whittington need more people to share the work. The area is divided into manageable plots. A strimmer is available. If you could spare half a day occasionally during the summer months to keep the grass under control in one area of the churchyard, please contact Judith Greenwood on 73055 for more details.

The Pearson Trust Working Group was established earlier this year to explore whether Gressingham and Eskrigge would like to take up Sir Nick Pearson's offer of funding to help convert the church building for use as both a multi-purpose community space and a place of worship, provided its running costs were funded by converting the existing School Room into a flat. In September, the Working Group met the Diocesan Advisory Committee, a group that advises parishes on architectural, archaeological and historic issues when parishes are considering work on their churches. A similar meeting with Historic England (formerly English Heritage) is also being planned, and research to clarify the legal ownership of the School Room is underway - *Jane Paxman*

Arkholme Village Hall is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help with occasional tasks. "If you have time and skills to offer, no matter how small, come and join us for coffee and cake on Thursday 20 October 7.30pm to find out more. Can't make the meeting but still happy to help? Drop us an email at [arkholmevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:arkholmevillagehall@gmail.com). We also have a number of vacancies on our board of trustees and management committee, please contact us to find out more if you are interested."

Hornby Drama Group is looking for someone who is 'handy' with DIY, to help with stage-set construction for their production in November. "If you would like to join our back-stage team (and help keep local amateur theatre alive), do please contact Neil Read for more information." Neil Read is on 21339 or [realneed@hotmail.com](mailto:realneed@hotmail.com)

Arkholme Jumble Sale – advance notice for Saturday 12 November, supporting the PTFA and Unique Kidz. Jumble, and cakes for the cake stall, very welcome 3.30pm to 6pm Friday and from 8am Saturday. Doors open 2pm Saturday – Arkholme Village Hall

Whittington September Draw: £20 R Woollard, £10 S Pettifor, £5 C McCormic

Whittington Coffee Mornings Wednesdays 5 and 19 October 10.30am-12noon plus Hot Pot Supper 26 November – more details next month.



# The weather in Arkholme

Robin McIlveen

## August Weather in Arkholme

Rain Days 22 out of 31

Decidedly Wet Days (5mm+) 9 of those 22

Extremely Wet Days (25mm+) 1 of those 9

Wettest Day 21st-22nd 37.4mm

Monthly total 165mm (6.5 inches)

**The month by month growth of rainfall** since May's 28mm has continued, with 165mm falling in August, 90% of which fell in nine Decidedly Wet Days – yet another month in which the number of Decidedly Wet Days seriously exceeded the long established norm of about five (so that norm is no longer normal!). Of these nine, the wettest with 37.4 mm was well into the Extremely Wet Days category – only the second such day in the year so far. The wettest day and the next two wettest (which were in fact the days before and after the wettest) between them contributed 83mm, exactly half of the monthly total. This intensely wet spell produced local flooding as ditches and streams failed to cope, and sent the Lune over its banks. A small but annoying proportion found its way into our attic and landing via a leaky roof valley.

**The large amounts of cloud** kept afternoon temperatures below 20°C for most of the month, but summer did have at least a little say on the 15th to 18th, and again on the 23rd and 24th, though the highest temperatures were only 22°C (72°F). September tried harder to add to the marginal summer, and is turning out dryer, with only 51mm by the 19th as I write. Locally we missed most of the heavy thundery rains of mid September which created such havoc elsewhere.

**On the evening of September 4th** Janice and I saw brief absolutely torrential rainfall in the western suburbs of Warsaw, with lightning and violent gusts which closed the nearby Frederic Chopin Airport for half an hour or so. A couple of miles away, my young cousin and his Polish bride-to-be had their romantic street-side dinner in the beautifully rebuilt old town suddenly ended by the same violent shower, which included hail big enough to break wine glasses. Happily, their marriage was duly celebrated near Gdansk a few days later, just a few hundred metres from a large well-equipped station for training Polish weather observers. The weather there was perfect of course.

This edition of Wagtail sponsored by Lune Valley Physiotherapy. For ads and sponsorship information see [www.wagtail.org.uk](http://www.wagtail.org.uk)



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Leah Dalby Grad Dip Phys MCSP HCPC

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