



Wagtail

This edition sponsored by



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

Friday 1 September **'Leaving Do'**

at the Bay Horse, Arkholme

A thank you from Ian and Joanne for all your support over the last three years as they move on to a new venture. With buffet and music, and raffle and auction for North West Air Ambulance. (Open for the rest of the weekend, but opening hours and food service times may vary from then on.)



Sunday 24 September **Saint Michael the Archangel Patronal Festival**

10.30am *Whittington Parish Church*
Join us for one of the biggest services of the year, as all four parishes gather in Whittington to celebrate 'Michaelmas' – the Patronal Festival of Saint Michael the Archangel

Sunday 3 September **Gressingham Village Jacobs Join / Picnic**

An informal village get-together from **12noon onwards**. Bring food to share, a drink, and a picnic blanket or chair, also games and/or a musical instrument! Fun team challenges, friends and good cheer. *In Tim and Alice's field at Lodge Farm, Rabbit Lane, or in the Old School Room if wet.*

Friday 29 September **Harvest Supper** 7.30pm *Whittington Village Hall*

Sunday 1 October **Harvest Festival Services**

9.30am *Whittington*
9.30am *Arkholme*
10.45am *Hornby*
6.30pm *Gressingham*



Saturday 9 September **Ceilidh**

Arkholme Village Hall

from 7pm – with excellent local group

Salt Pie Lane

Dust off your Gaelic roots, your line-dancing skills and your do-si-dos, and join us for a relaxed evening for the whole family. Pie and peas supper and vege option. £7.50 (under-11s £5).

*Please reserve tickets by 31 August
Chris Tomlinson on 07968 106038
or AVHentertainments@gmail.com*

Saturday 7 October **Boon Day**

Church and Churchyard maintenance

9.30am to 12.30pm

All helpers welcome. Please bring your own gardening tools etc.

Refreshments provided

Saint John the Evangelist Gressingham

More events on the 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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Pre-school and out-of-school

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 September 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 **October edition**. The deadline for items for inclusion is 19 September. 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

Family announcements

Margaret Metcalfe and family would like to thank everyone for flowers and cards, and kind donations, and all who attended George's funeral, for all the kindness shown. *Also thanks to Dr Weeks and the District Nurses at Lunesdale Surgery, and to Revd Michael Hampson and to B&W Funerals for their guidance and compassion.*

Margaret Lumb and family would like to thank everyone most sincerely for their overwhelming support and kindness following the death of Peter.

Victoria, Lady Reay (widow of Hugh Mackay of Whittington Hall) married Victor, Lord Killlearn, in Devon, on 3 June. They were attended by their thirteen grandchildren, and shortly after, Victoria's daughter Issie gave birth to twin boys.

Congratulations to Tony and Dawn Haston – their second grandchild, Aurelia, arrived safely on 17 August in Alberta, Canada.

Parish Councils

Gressingham Parish Council Clerk. With the recent passing of George Metcalfe, Gressingham has lost a committed and much valued Parish Council Clerk. George served for many years, both as clerk and as a member of the Parish Council, and will be much missed in this capacity, not least. Sadly therefore, a vacancy arises for the part-time role of Clerk to Parish Council. Working closely with the Chairman, duties include the preparation of the agenda papers, taking minutes, dealing with correspondence, and maintaining the financial accounts. Being a very small parish, these duties are not onerous, requiring an average of about two hours per week, including attendance at about six evening meetings per year. Applicants should have basic computer and administrative skills, and some local government experience would be helpful, although training may be provided if required. Salary will be based upon the National Association of Local Councils salary scales, and dependent upon qualifications and experience. For further information and a detailed Job Description, please contact the Chairman, Neil Read, 21339 realneed@hotmail.com

Whittington Parish Council met on 7 June and 17 July. Planning permission for the rear of The Dragon's Head Hotel has been refused again, but planning permission and listed building consent for the conversion of the old school (recently an office and workshop) into two dwellings has been approved. Dog mess continues to be an anti-social problem, especially for volunteers cutting grass in the churchyard. Mud on the road and overgrown hedges at Hosticle Lane have been referred by Lancashire County Council to the landowner. There will be a discussion about assessing the need for a community defibrillator for the village at the next meeting – *Monday 18 September from 6.45pm in Whittington Village Hall.*

Arkholme Parish Council met on Monday 3 July. Village Green improvements had been completed; the clerk would investigate the ownership of the land. The annual risk assessment of street furniture had been completed. Ten parishioners had attended a Neighbourhood Plan meeting in Arkholme in June; another was scheduled for Thursday 20 July. Provincial Inns Ltd had made contact regarding possible refurbishment of the Bay Horse Public House – a meeting would be arranged. *Next meeting Monday 4 September 7.30pm in Arkholme Village Hall.*

Welcome to our new curate

Sister Judith

who joins the clergy team in the four parishes following her ordination in Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday 1 July

Sister Judith was warmly welcomed to the four parishes on Sunday 2 July, when she was supported by Sister Sue from Sister Judith's own *Order of the Companions of Martha and Mary* (based just up the road in Tunstall), and by Sister Gwyneth and Sister Elizabeth Pio from *The Society of the Sisters of Bethany* (in Southsea).

Sister Judith and Sister Sue will continue to be based at *Saint Joseph's House of Prayer* in Tunstall.

There is an **Open Day** there on **Saturday 9 September, 2pm-5pm** It's next to the church at the end of Church Lane, Tunstall LA6 2RQ



25th anniversary of ordination

Thankyou to everybody who came to celebrate my own 25th anniversary of ordination in the gardens at Station House Arkholme at the end of June, and for the gift of a Silver Birch, which is now planted in the spinney at the end of the plot.

Michael H (vicar)



Gerald Hodgson writes...

It is amazing what some families will do to defend their privacy. When Thomas Greene built Whittington Hall, he had a bill go through Parliament that allowed him to build a new road from the Church to the top of Moor brow, with bridges over Pearson Ghyll and Moor Ghyll, with a spur off to West Hall. The drive had previously been a public road ever since the Romans built it as part of the Keighley to Kendal highway. The North family built a short by-pass from Docker Lane to Laundry Cottage, to divert the road away from Newton Hall, and Francis Pearson allowed two cottages in the field in front of Storrs Hall to become derelict, so that he could close the old green lane that served them, and is now Storrs Hall back drive. This road then carried on down the fields until it reached the river where it turned left up the river side and joined the road at Ferry Cottage. The two cottages in front of Storrs Hall were eventually demolished, and the stone was used to build the barn and shippon at Storrs Gate farm.

I hear that some young drivers see the speed device at the School corner as a challenge to see who can record the fastest speed as they approach it. They should have more sense.

If you want a good night out and value for money come to the Village Hall on Saturday 9 September when Dennis Westmorland is playing his own brand of Lakeland music. You will be well-entertained for four hours, get a good wholesome supper and two drinks at the bar, and come away with change out of a twenty pound note. Not much dearer than a lonely night at home with a bottle of wine. I know which I prefer.

Notices

The Christian Aid Week collection in Whittington raised £394.05 and Newton raised £65. Thank you to Korin for her help and to all who donated – *Phyllis*

Whittington Coffee Mornings this month will be in the village hall on the mornings of Wednesdays 6 and 20 September, 10.30am to 12noon.

Whittington Sewing Group resumes in the village hall on Tuesday 12 September at 2pm. Contact Sue Redmond for more information on 71677.

Lib Cottam is planning a Fleece Embroidery workshop in September. Anyone interested in attending please get in touch with Lib as eliza.cottamla2@gmail.com

The Gressingham Old School Room Board of Trustees and committee of management currently has three vacancies, following the resignation of Gillian Coulthwaite, and more recently to the sad passing of both Peter Lumb and George Metcalfe – to all of whom we owe a huge debt of gratitude. If you are a Gressingham or Eskrigge resident, please do consider helping to manage this valuable village resource by serving on this committee. For further information, please contact Neil Read on 21339 or realneed@hotmail.com

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 (see Directory on page 3), or the chair of governors Liza Wallace liza.wallace@btopenworld.com

Flu Clinics for the patients of Lunesdale Surgery, Kirkby Lonsdale (open surgeries, no appointment needed): Saturday 23 September 9am to 12noon at Lunesdale Surgery, Tuesday 3 October 9.30 to 12noon Lunesdale Hall (aka Kirkby Lonsdale Institute), Friday 13 October 9.30 to 12noon Hornby Institute. If you were born before April 1953, or fall into any of the 'at risk' groups, please make a note of the dates/times, as individual letters will not be sent to patients. Healthy people under 65 years old do not need to be vaccinated. *This year we have ordered the quadrivalent flu vaccine in place of the trivalent. This gives added protection as it covers both the A strains as well as the two B strains, whereas the trivalent used in previous years only covers one of the B strains.*

Hornby Brownies has places available for girls aged seven to ten, meeting on Thursdays from 6.30pm to 7.45pm at Hornby Primary School. Call Rose Roberts on 21047 for more information or to discuss volunteering for Brownies or Rainbows.

'Hornby Occasionals' – weekly rehearsals begin on Friday 22 September 7.30pm to 9.30pm in Hornby Institute for the next production, Gilbert & Sullivan's *Sorcerer*, to be performed 18 to 21 April 2018. 'We are a friendly group and new members will be made very welcome, for performing or non-performing roles. We would be particularly pleased to welcome tenors or sopranos. There are no auditions for chorus members.'

Carnforth and Lunesdale Divorce Care Support Group begins with Session 1 "What's happening to me?" on Tuesday 26 September, 7.30pm to 9.15pm at Carnforth Free Methodist Church (in Hunter Street, Carnforth). Now in its tenth year and 'here to help you and your whole family'. No charge (donations welcome). Children's support group follows in the new year. divorcecare.org, dc4k.org, cfmc.org.uk and 'Carnforth Divorce care promo' on Youtube. 01524 736141 for more details or to book a place.

Whittington Village Hall Draw July £20 T MacCormick, £10 Helen Mackereth, £5 Anne Pettifor; **August** £20 Stuart Newstead, £10 Dean Jones, £5 Duncan Foster.

ARKHOLME VILLAGE HALL DRAW FOR SEPTEMBER

£20 MRS J BURTON, £20 MRS J FAIRHURST, £10 MR J MATTHEWS, £10 MR B SHEPHERD
£10 MR R WEBB, £10 MR AND MRS J BLACOW, £10 MR AND MRS WILSON



The weather in Arkholme

Robin McIlveen

June Weather in Arkholme

11 Slightly Wet Days (less than 5mm) together adding up to 13.4mm
12 Decidedly Wet Days (from 5mm to just under 25mm) giving 109.5mm
1 Extremely Wet Day (25mm and over) giving 42.7mm
24 Rain Days in total adding up to **165.6mm** (6.5 inches) – leaving 6 dry days
Wettest Day 28th-29th had 42.7mm

July Weather in Arkholme

10 Slightly Wet Days (less than 5mm) together adding up to 16.2mm
13 Decidedly Wet Days (from 5mm to just under 25mm) giving 133.3mm
2 Extremely Wet Days (25mm and over) giving 52.5mm
25 Rain Days in total adding up to **202.0mm** (8.0 inches) – leaving 6 dry days
Wettest Day 30th-31st had 26.7mm

June and July have been very unusually wet this year. In fact their combined total of 365mm (14.4 inches) is over 60mm higher than the next wettest June-plus-July total in my 17 years of measurements in Arkholme (being virtually identical in the two years now in joint-second place, 2007 and 2012). The bulk of the rain fell in three Extremely Wet Days, together giving 95mm, and the 25 Decidedly Wet Days, together giving 243mm. In comparison, the typical total for a full month is 80mm.

Those 28 days of serious rain left the countryside soaked – and ditches, streams and rivers all over the place. Fortunately the intervening sunshine, and some brisk winds, prevented the land from becoming the quagmire which this amount of rain would have produced in winter, when the drying power of the sun is so much weaker.

This wet spell – which has added another 42mm by August 20th – **contrasts sharply** with the unusually dry spell which dominated April (total only 17mm!), and which also kept May dryish until the heavens opened on the 27th. Media chat about climate change suggests that weather variability is expected to rise with the general levels of warmth. It really isn't safe to point the finger at periods of only a few months, but the rainfall variability from April to August this year has been very unusual. The old saying "Rain, rain, go to Spain" has some validity in fact, since large scale weather patterns ensure that we are dry when they are wet and vice versa. And of course there has been dangerously hot and dry weather in SW Europe during our brush with Noah.

Robin McIlveen

By the end of July there have been 66 dry days in 2017, 94 Slightly Wet Days giving 129mm of rain, 49 Decidedly Wet Day giving 499mm, and 3 Extremely Wet Days giving 95mm. That makes 146 Rain Days giving 723mm of rain (28.4 inches). At this rate the year's rainfall would be a highish 1,240mm.

Sunday Services in September

	Whittington	Arkholme	Gressingham	Hornby
3 September	-	9.30am HC	6.30pm EP	10.45am Parish
10 September	9.30am HC	9.30am HC	8am HC	Communion every
17 September	9.30am HC	9.30am HC	-	Sunday (except 24
24 September	United Benefice Service, Whittington 10.30am			September, service in Whittington 10.30am)

Hornby Singing Group

Tuesdays 5, 12 and 19 September 7pm

Tuesday 26 September 1.30pm

New members are always welcome

For more information call Pat on 21449

£4 per session *Hornby Institute*

Grand Jumble Sale

Saturday 9 September 2pm

at *Hornby Institute* in aid of Tatham Church

Hornby Flower Club

Thursday 14 September 7.30pm

Linda Martin – ‘Egg Art ’ using ostrich eggs, goose eggs, duck eggs, decoupage flowers and more – £4 with refreshments *Hornby Institute*

Three Choirs Concert

Saturday 16 September

featuring *The Hornby Singers* with

Gathered Voices and *Maelstrom*

Bar from 7pm, concert 7.30pm

Hornby Institute £7

proceeds to help save *Hornby Pool*

Afternoon tea 3pm to 5pm

Sunday 24 September

Tea, coffee and fizz

cakes, scones and sandwiches

Aughton Recreation Rooms

in aid of the new

playground project

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