

Summer 2015

The Villager



Issue 38

Papcastle & Belle Vue Newsletter

Editorial:

Welcome to the Summer edition of *The Villager*. In this issue we've given quite a bit of space to Debbie Rushton's report of the Barbeque, - a summer highlight, and one where this year, it was particularly good to see so many young families. Elsewhere we've the final report on the Derventio dig held over from last time, and news of folks moving on from the village, - Phillip and Mary Lund, who have moved to Penrith, and Sophie, Seth and Katy, off to university. The Papcastle Community Orchestra continue their successful run of concerts under the guidance of Director Phil Wood, see our report on Page 6. We're also pleased to include an introductory letter from Janet Farebrother, our new Allerdale District Councillor.

Smoke gets in their eyes ! Papcastle Village Barbeque Sat 4th July



Do you know these men ? - Paul Scott, Peter French and Bob Henderson hard at work

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Papcastle Village Barbeque Saturday 4th July

It was promising weather for our village BBQ, sunny but a little windy was the forecast – so it was a bit of a surprise for Robert Henderson (who lights the BBQ around 5.30pm) to be undertaking the added role of preventing the frame from blowing away, holding on and doing his best Mary Poppins impression! Luckily the other organisers arrived at 6.00pm to set up tables and the frame was duly tied down ready for action!

74 tickets were sold with the addition of 12 under 8 year olds, plus babies, so it promised to be an all family affair. It was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves playing in the lane and parents catching up with each other whilst they kept an eye and brushed down knees following inevitable tumbles. It is rumoured that sales of scooters at Halfords reached a record high on Sunday 5th July in readiness for next years event!

Chattering voices could be heard as friends, neighbours and families caught up with each other over a Pimms or other welcome drink, whilst they built up an appetite for the feast to come. Our gallant chefs Bob Henderson, Peter French, Paul Scott and David Rushton deftly flipped the meat and tempted the attendees with wafts of delightful aromas around the village. The breeze that built up made their eyes water from the smoke, but still they carried on! Thanks gents!



Carol and Debbie dishing out the sweet stuff

Our thanks must also go to the many multi-talented ladies who year on year create a mouthwatering array of sumptuous puddings, enabling us all to taste and try a variety of sweet delights – this year's array was exceptional. The bar staff in the form of Brian Merris and David Halliwell, plus a relief stint by Peter and Jonathan Broad, who are now all expert in their bar skills, kept us lubricated throughout the evening. Also our thanks to the many other helpers behind the scenes.

We gratefully received many generous contributions to the raffle prizes, plus kind donations from Pauline and John Martin of a superb bottle of late vintage port and a cash donation from Diane and Philip Heal, who sadly were unable to attend the event. Lastly, but by no means least a special thank you to the attendees who helped to make the event a great success. It is lovely to get our village residents together, hear children playing in the lane and neighbours old and new catching up with each other. All in all a very happy and successful event. Hopefully see you all next year!

Total money raised for the Village Hall was £695.90

Debbie Rushton



Young people waiting for the off !

Parish Council Snippets

Papcastle resident David Rushton gave an interesting and informative demonstration on the use of the defibrillator. (See separate article)

United Utilities Project Manager, Melissa Reynard, gave a presentation on the proposed pipeline to be used when water is no longer extracted from Ennerdale, in 2022. She also answered questions and agreed to attend the November meeting to give a further report. The Council was told that no construction traffic would go through the village.

The Police Report was of one incident of anti-social behaviour by three youths at Belle Vue.

It was agreed that the Clerk should once again write to the County Council regarding repairs to a drain on The Mount and a pothole on the back lane which had not been done.

County Councillor Eric Nicholson reported on the budget cuts, the Cabinet decision to build new headquarters in Workington and the number of County Council staff who had applied for voluntary redundancy.

The Clerk had obtained a quotation from the Cumbria Association of Local Councils, CALC. The association provides a wide range of services and benefits to members. This was considered and it was agreed to subscribe to CALC at a cost of £157.00.

As no response had been received from Electricity North West regarding street lighting, it was agreed that Allerdale Borough Council should be contacted.

Planning Applications:

Tree works at Fellbarrow - no objections.
Screening Opinion request for 77m wind turbine at Croft House Farm, Dovenby - recommend refusal.

It was agreed to invite a representative from Allerdale BC to the September meeting, to give a presentation on affordable housing.

The speed limit at Gote Brow was discussed and Councillor Nicholson to arrange for the Speed Indication Device to be borrowed from the Town Council.

The Parish Footpath Walk will be held on 13th September, starting at the Village Hall at 2.30 pm.

Next meeting 8th September 2015 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Village Hall Defibrillator

With funding from The Parish Council and a donation from a couple resident in the village, a Heart Defibrillator has now been installed in the Hall porch. The instrument is intended to be used in cases where a person's heart has stopped unexpectedly, and is cleverly designed to be capable of being used by members of the general public.

Many people would be nervous of using a medical instrument but in cases where it's needed, minutes count and there might not be time to wait for an ambulance. The cleverness of the design means that the instructions on how to use the defibrillator are clear and easily understood, -it literally talks you through the process and makes measurements of the patient's condition so that it can't be used when it's not appropriate.

If a member of the public thinks an individual needs the use of the defibrillator, **IT'S VITAL TO DIAL 999 FIRST !** - the Ambulance service will then be able to give advice on what to do, and how to get access to the defibrillator in the Village Hall.

Remember ! if you think a person needs a defibrillator, - dial 999 !

New District Councillor

I would like to introduce myself as one of the newly elected Allerdale Councillors for the ward of Broughton St Bridgets. I was pleased to meet so many people while out canvassing during the May elections and I would like to thank those of you who took the time to speak to me on a variety of issues.

Many concerns were expressed on the door step, in particular; finding local transport solutions, the effects of planning applications for new homes and businesses and the environmental impact relating to renewable energy developments. During the coming months I shall be busy looking into these topics and getting out and about meeting as many people as possible, in order to keep in touch and represent your views as well as I can. Please contact me using the details below if you think I can be of assistance, or to invite me to attend local events where you think it would be helpful for me to be involved.

Yours faithfully
Janet Farebrother

Allerdale Councillor, Broughton St Bridgets
janet.farebrother@allerdale.gov.uk
46 High Brigham, Brigham CA13 0TB
01900 822099



DISCOVERING DERVENTIO

– talk and final stages



Reconstructed Samian ware bowl of Dragendorf 37 style, made in Gaul between 100 and 125AD.

The final dig, at Broomlands in 2014, showed the southern part of the site was for civilian use whereas the northern part had been shown previously to be mainly military. Although all these sites were under the military government at this time. There was evidence of pre-Roman ditches, of cooking and food preparation and of large post holes indicating later structures crossing the earlier roads and ditches. Many of the artefacts indicated that the site was used extensively for ritual activity, with libation and votive offerings and window glass and roof tiles from what would have been a high status building, possibly a temple. This part of the site extended to the old railway line and Low Road, so may now be lost. A reconstructed Samian bowl (found complete, but broken) has been identified as another Dragendorf 37 made in Gaul in 100-125AD. This bowl was same style as that found at this site in 2010, but with different decoration. Both are now in the exhibition in the Town Hall.

Coins found here indicated use of the site until the late second century.

The numerous large stones, many recycled from statues and engraved slabs, produced fascinating information to add to the overall picture of the site. These included two statue heads of Cybele and Attis, one wearing a Phrygian cap indicating Turkish connections; a base of a large robed figure such as one of the Three Matres; parts of two tomb stones and an inscription to the goddess Vacuna (originating from the Tivoli area of Italy). This was the first time that a dedication to this goddess had been found in Britain.

All these deities would have been worshipped here at Derwentio. One of the most exciting find was a complete stone with carving of a Genius loci or local god, complete with cornucopia. He became known as “Cockermouth man” and also Nobby.

A further inscribed stone has now been studied and the first cohort of Vangiones (from the west Rhine region) were mentioned on it.



One of the dig volunteers discovering our Genius loci or local god, affectionately named "Nobby"!

Pieces of timber forming part of a pier of the river crossing

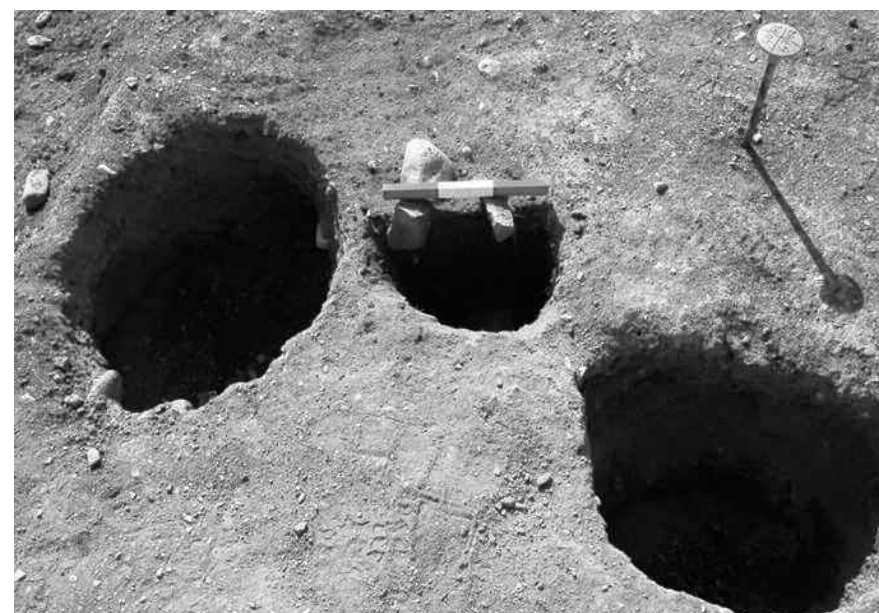


This cohort would have had 1000 men, with some of them mounted – quite a different prospect from today's motor traffic on the roads around this area and all evidence of quite an international community.

An all important river crossing had been found, at last, linking Broomlands to the track at the foot of Sibby Brow. Many of the large stones mentioned above had been used as rubble for the bridge foundations. Amongst the rubble, was a portion of timber, used in the construction of the bridge. Unfortunately dendrochronology on the sample has failed to date it, but further attempts would be made and reported on the Derwentio website. It is possible that these bridge foundations were post Roman and there may have been several crossings at different times and in different places in this area, especially if the river had several channels here. At the end of the talk, Mark thanked all those volunteers (about 200) who had helped to make all stages of the digs so successful. He also mentioned that funds had been set aside, from the Lottery grant, for one or two interpretation panels for the village. These could contain more recent history in addition to any information on the Roman presence. Peter Broad has volunteered to organise a small group of residents to discuss the content and design of these panels, with support from Mark Graham. There is a separate note about this part of the project elsewhere in *The Villager*.

Although the Discovering Derwentio website will be removed in the coming months, when the project is closed, all the reports and photographs will still be available on the Grampus Heritage website.

The buttress of the river crossing linking Broomlands and Sibby Brow sites.



Post holes indicating presence of a building or similar structure.

Heritage Open Days

Cockermouth and District Civic Trust are running their annual Heritage Open Days between the 10th and 13th September. As part of this, the Papcastle Archeology Exhibition in the Town Hall, will be open between 11am and 3pm on Saturday 12th September, and there will be a lecture on Roman Papcastle Archeology at the Kirkgate centre from 7.30pm on Friday 11 September

Review: Papcastle Community Orchestra, Cockermouth Live! 28 June 2015

The fitting finale of the Cockermouth Live! weekend was again the concert by the Papcastle Community Orchestra in Christ Church, on the afternoon of June 28th. This year there was no new original music by their director Dr. Philip Wood and, spoiled by the splendours of last year's commission, some of the audience may have been a little disappointed at this. But it's a mark of the progress which the orchestra (now forty-five strong) have made under Phil's direction that they're no longer dependent on his writing specially for them. This was especially evident in the slow movement of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony, a severe test of nerve, concentration, stamina and orchestral tone.



Director Phil Wood and the orchestra receiving appreciative applause

It was finely paced and sustained, the entries and lines clear and generally confident, bringing out the essential grandeur of this sublime piece. For the following item the Papcastle Wind Quintet plus accordion were joined by Laal Beggars in a substantial extract from the recent production of The Beggar's Opera. With strong projection and on-the-spot acting from several of the cast this worked well as a concert performance, the music being adapted by Phil for available forces from the version by Benjamin Britten. The second half was pure Sunday afternoon bandstand delight. A suitably suggestive performance of Phil's Pantomime by the quintet led into three colourful orchestral medleys: the first from Jerome Kern's Showboat, the second featuring numbers from the Danny Kay film Hans Christian Andersen, and the third - Songs Won the War - furthering the commemoration of 1914-18. We the audience were increasingly encouraged to join in. If we didn't sing as heartily as the conductor might have wished, it was chiefly from a desire simply to listen to his orchestra who, from 8 to 80, played with more confidence, control and sheer musicality than ever before.

David Lindley

New Team Rector Licensed.

Following on from our piece in a recent edition of *The Villager* about the appointment of Reverend Godfrey Butland as Cockermouth Team Rector, his Licensing took place at Christ Church on Sunday 17th May 2015. The Right Reverend James Newcome, Bishop of Carlisle and The Venerable Richard Pratt, Archdeacon of West Cumberland, officiated. The church was packed for the occasion and the congregation included representatives from many walks of life, including Papcastle Parish Council and the area's new MP Sue Hayman. It was a very interesting service, and provided not only the opportunity to meet Revd. Butland, but also to hear the Bishop of Carlisle, who proved to be a warm and humorous speaker. Godfrey and his wife Lesley have settled into their new home in Little Broughton and are already enjoying living and working in this lovely area.

Derventio Information Boards



A team of Villagers, led by Peter Broad has formed to explore the placement of visitor information boards in the village, to explain its Roman heritage.

Team members are:
Peter Broad, Eric Apperley, Susan Fleming, Greg Greenhalgh, Elspeth White, and Robert Jackson with assistance from Joanne Stamper of Grampus Heritage.

A budget of £4000 is available and the boards need to be completed this year. Initial thoughts are that there will be 2 boards in locations to be confirmed. The first meeting of the group generated a lot of good ideas to be followed up in the next few weeks. We'll report regularly in *The Villager* on the content and siting of the boards as the project develops.

Peter Broad

Double success from The Mount !

There are two students from Papcastle off to Uni-
versity this year and they are both from The Mount!

Katy Johnson is off to Manchester to study Psychology, having recently returned from her World Challenge trip to India with Cockermouth School, and Sophie Wilson is off to Newcastle University to study English Language.

Wishing them every success and happiness for the future.



Sophie Wilson



Katy Johnson

Castle Gardens invaded by Hedgehogs!

At Castle Gardens, we now have a fortnightly residents' "drop-in" afternoon in the lounge, for a cuppa and a chat and the chance to enjoy a craft or local history project. Recently, we recycled old paperback books and tried our hand at the latest craze of "book art" where, by folding the pages, various items can be created - hence a family of paper hedgehogs has now taken up residence! The Ellenvale Bus Service has been most welcome in the village and seems to be well used. Being able to go into Main Street and on to the hospital is particularly beneficial and the opportunity to travel to Maryport and Workington without changing bus, makes life easier for those unable to drive. It is hoped that villagers will support this service. Use it or lose it!

Judy Rochester

“Valete”

Phillip and Mary Lund have left Holly Close, Papcastle, having taken up residence in Penrith. Their move marks the end of 45 years family connection with the village, following 22 years prior residence in Cockermouth, where Jack and Jessie Lund came from Manchester to live in 1948. Phillip saw most of his schooling in Cockermouth. Mary is a Scot and her mother and brother live in Dumfriesshire, and she and Phillip met in Newcastle where both were working. We are truly thankful for our time in the village, where everybody is so friendly and where the surroundings are spectacular as well as of historic interest.” Having come to know the northern Lake District and Cumbrian coast, they look forward to becoming better acquainted with the eastern Lakes and the Pennines, the backbone of England. However, they hope that people in the village will keep in touch with them.



REGULAR VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

Mahjong Monday 2-5pm	Brian Wilkinson <i>All year except public holiday</i>	01900 829490
Keep fit Monday 6.30-7.30pm	Tony McGorrian <i>School term only</i>	01900 64632
Life Art Tuesday mornings	Susan Fleming <i>Fortnightly all year</i>	01900 823543
Parish Council 1 st Tuesday evening	David Johnson <i>Bi monthly</i>	01900 822163
Line Dancing Fridays afternoons	Carol Smith <i>Weekly</i>	01900 821590



Village Hall Bookings:

Rose Rowlands
Telephone 01900 828941

What's on at St Bridget's Church, Bridekirk:

Age UK lunch every Monday 12 noon - 2.30 pm in the Church Room.

Baby to pre-school club, every Wednesday 1pm - 3pm in the Church Room.

Harvest Festival Service, Sunday 4th October at 11am. Followed by soup and rolls, served in the Church Room.

Remembrance Day Service, Sunday 8th November at 10.45 am.

Vesela Chivlyski of The Belle Vue Inn, sadly passed away on Sunday, 26th July aged 44 years. She is survived by her husband, Todor and their two children Elena and Bozhidar. They moved here from Bulgaria in January 2013 to run the public house, offering a very warm welcome to locals and visitors alike.

The Villager extends deepest sympathies to Todor and his family.

Parish Walk.
The Parish walk will be held on 13th September, Starting from the Village hall at 2.30 pm, followed by refreshments

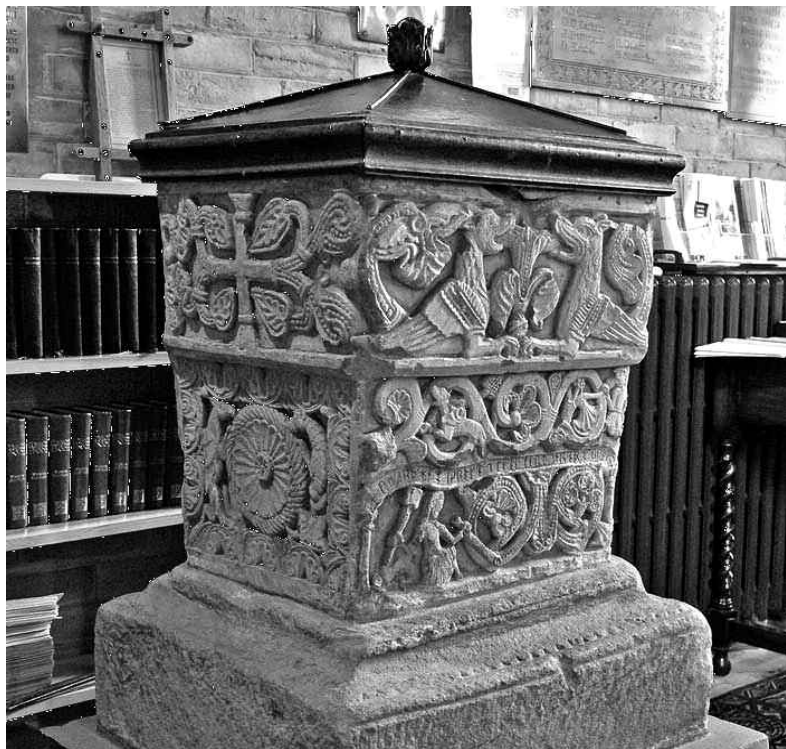
On 26th September, a Beetle Drive will be held at the Village Hall at 7pm, £1 entry,nibbles supplied, bar available. Watch for the 'A' boards!

Fit for a Princess ?

The Lily Font, recently used for the Baptism of Princess Charlotte, has had much coverage in the press. The Font in our local Parish Church, St Bridget's, is also very special.

Baptismal Fonts are traditionally found near the principal door of the church, as Baptism is seen as the point of entry into Christian life and the Bridekirk Font is no exception. Members of the congregation who have to turn round in their pews in order to take part in the Service, might wish it to be in a more amenable part of the church!

During the Anglo-Norman era, Bridekirk Church received significant patronage and the splendid 12th Century Font reflects this. It was carved by the famous Architect and Sculptor Richard of Durham, and is elaborately decorated with Christ's Baptism, the story of Adam and Eve, birds, beasts and even the artist's portrait.



The Villager is compiled and edited by Huw Morgan e-mail: huw@4-the-mount.fsnet.co.uk

Please contact any of the editorial team with your contribution for the next edition before 15th November

Clare Broad 826386 ~ Jill Coyle 828625 ~ Elspeth White 821674