

Issue 55

# The Villager

Spring 2020

Papcastle and Belle Vue Newsletter

As Christmas 2019 rushed towards us, Papcastle's tradition of holding a village 'get together' once again brought friends, families, neighbours and 'newbies' together on Saturday 7th December at the Village Hall.

*Full story on Page 2*



Responsibility for this year's gathering- newly entitled 'The Merry Meet' was put in the hands of Gill Conlon and Doreen Bertram, Village Hall Trustees and residents for a mere 4 years. In an attempt to enable everyone to mingle the hall was



organised with fewer tables and lots of circulation space. A new Christmas tree and decorations were bought and the resulting effects were positively spectacular. One long term resident commented "If you'd gone to a posh hotel you would not have got a room done as nicely as this."



As promised, wonderful pies were on offer as well as a magnificent selection of puddings generously donated by 'Papcastle Pudding Fairies.' Mulled wine warmed everyone up and the atmosphere was soon jolly and noisy. The show of Christmas jumpers was splendid.



Music was provided by Mary on the keyboard and Angela on the ukulele and the singing was loud and merry.



Some long term residents attending for the first time thanked the organisers saying, "We have had a really good night and promise to be back again next year. "





Another attendee said “ Three cheers to the organisers and helpers. The puddings were a real treat and the wine flowed freely continuing to provide a good night out as we have always enjoyed in the past.”



Thank you to everyone for coming together and making this very special event a success, the event raised £487.44 for the Village Hall.

David Johnson,  
Papcastle Parish Council

Manor House,  
Papcastle

*I would like to thank John and Anne (doctors), David (fireman), Doreen (nurse) and my friends who helped me when I fainted at the 'Merry Meet' on 7/12/19.*

*I could not have had better support!*

*I hope that I did not spoil anyone's fun.*

*Thank you again*

*Colette A. Highton*

## Children's Christmas Party

The 2019 Papcastle and Belle Vue children's Christmas party was held on 15th December in the Village Hall. The event was funded by a donation from the Cockermouth and Papcastle Recreational Trust, along with a contribution from families.



Around twenty children attended, ranging in age from three to nine years.

The party started with a disco - always good for letting off steam! The DJ from Cumberland Capers, also organised a variety of games, such as music bumps, statues and a washing line game.



Refreshments included hot dogs, pizza, cakes and juice, with the welcome addition of mulled wine and mince pies for the parents.

Community spirit is obviously alive and well in the village!

## Papcastle Parish Council

The Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th May 2020 in the Village Hall commencing at 7pm, residents welcome. This will be followed by the Annual meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30pm.

## Village Hall News

The Merry Meet was an overwhelming success, as was the children's party and the gin night, (which was held at the beginning of February), see separate articles.

These well attended activities indicate that there seems to be a renewed appetite for social interaction within our village community, which is fantastic.

We have quite a few volunteers on standby to help with the revival of the 'Drop-In' but a few more who could give occasional help would spread the load and make it easier to run, so if you haven't already done so, step forward for the challenge!

The AGM will be at 7pm on Wed 22 April and all are welcome and encouraged to attend, and you never know you may be inspired to become a trustee too.

## Tipsy Filly Night – gin, gin and more gin!

Just when you thought you knew how to mix a refreshing gin drink, along comes Helen Askew AKA 'Tipsy Filly' and blows your mind with recipes no one (other than Heston Blumenthal, perhaps) could have ever thought of.

Helen mixed various delicious concoctions whilst telling funny stories and anecdotes about her life experiences. There was a buzz in the hall with the chatter and laughter from all present who were sampling the lovely gin treats.



A raffle was held in the interlude then there was more gin!

Another great night organised by Michelle Golightly, raising £55 for the Village Hall funds. Thanks to Michelle and all of you who supported the event.



## Whisky Tasting in the Village Hall



Whisky tasting expert Stephen Walker of Cockermouth will present an interactive evening with the opportunity to sample 5 quality malt whiskies.

**Saturday 23rd May at 7.15pm**

£18 per head which includes a selection of cold meats and cheeses.



Bookings and enquiries - Magdi Greiss Tel 01900 825248

## Jigsaws Exchange

If anyone has any adult jigsaws they would like to swap, I am trying to organise an exchange. By adult I don't mean exotic/smutty, but those that are obviously not for children! If you are interested you can contact Jude by email - [msjmennim@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:msjmennim@hotmail.co.uk) or tel 01900 269065

## St Bridget's Church Bridekirk

There has been a Christian presence on the current site at Bridekirk for more than 1000 years. Buildings have come and gone, but God's living church endures, so we thought we would include a photo of part of our current church family in this month's edition.

Our youngest member is barely more than a toddler and we have at least two great grandparents. All are welcome, no special knowledge or qualifications are required, we are a diverse group of people who are finding, and growing together in faith. Watch this space for more information, come along and meet us, or visit the website: [cockermouthareachurches.org.uk](http://cockermouthareachurches.org.uk)



David Hallewell



Birthday wishes to Captain David Thomas of The Bird In Hand who turned 98 years young in February. David still lives independently, has a wealth of knowledge and can tell a mean story.

Advice please on achieving this great feat!

Lillian Barker who lived in Papcastle for over 80 years and now lives in Cockermouth, turned 96 years in February. (Lillian is on the left of the photograph... seen with David Johnson from Premier House who has his birthday the day after Lillian's, however hasn't clocked up the same years, yet!).



## Trip down memory lane... The Belle Vue Roundabout



These photographs were taken by David Johnson from Premier House. The older photographs were taken in the early 60s and shows his father's coal lorry going round the roundabout, the other photograph is to date.

The roundabout was built in about 1957 and was the first roundabout in Cumberland at the time! It was deconstructed in 1991 when the new Papcastle By-Pass was opened and the landscaping scheme was planted by the County Council as part of the project.

The seat can be seen on both of the top photos, but no post box nor notice board on the 1960's one and the telegraph pole is long gone.

It is interesting to see that the field was flooded then just as it does now.

Also it was early years after the roundabout was constructed so the hedge is still just starting to grow.

Incidentally, The Belle Vue Inn changed it's name in about 1972 to The Roundabout and many local people still refer to it this way even now! It was changed back to The Belle Vue when Beeby Bell took it on about 25 years ago.



Madgi Greiss has kindly offered a tour of his cactus collection to anyone who is keen to see it. He believes the best time to view the cacti is May to July as this is when they mainly come into flower. He is also a keen cyclist and would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in joining him on cycle rides.

If you are interested in either offer, please contact Magdi on 01900825248

## REGULAR VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

**Mahjong** Brian Wilkinson 01900 829490

Monday 2:00-5:00pm *All year except public holidays*

**Keep Fit** Tony McCorrian 01900 64632

Monday 6.30-7.30pm *School term only*

**Parish Council** David Johnson 01900 822355

1st Tuesday evening *Bi monthly*

**Yoga** Pat Irving 07962127812

Thursday 6.30-8.00pm



Village Hall Bookings:

Gill Conlon 01900 828360

## St Bridget's Church, Bridekirk

**Usual Monthly Services** Services at 11:00am

1st Sunday Holy Communion and Sunday School

2nd Sunday All Age Service

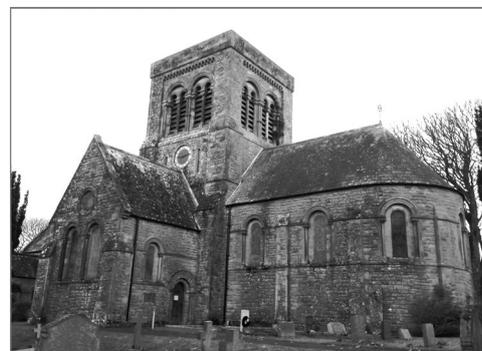
3rd Sunday Morning Prayer and Sunday School

4th Sunday Morning Prayer and Sunday School

5th Sunday Team Service (10:30am, venues to be arranged)

5th April Palm Sunday Holy Communion 11:00am

12th April Easter Day All Age ( family) Holy Communion



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\* *WANTED: old woollen, hessian backed carpets (eg 80/20 twists) for* \*  
\* *the allotment, to act as weed guards. Please contact Jilly on 828193* \*  
\* *for collection, or just off-load them on the driveway of Holly Lodge if* \*  
\* *you are able to transport them. Foam backed or polypropylene* \*  
\* *carpets are not suitable.* \*  
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Thanks to all who contributed to this edition. If you have anything you would like to go in the next *Villager*, please email Jude at [msjmennim@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:msjmennim@hotmail.co.uk) or contact Jill Coyle on tel 01900 828625 by 31st May 2020.

You can view *The Villager* online at [www.papcastle.org.uk](http://www.papcastle.org.uk)

**NOW PLEASE WASH YOUR HANDS!**