



Papcastle and Belle Vue Advent Window Trail 2020

Every year houses in Papcastle and Belle Vue are attentively decorated at Christmas time. This year however holds a slight difference, there is an 'Advent ure' planned. The adventure lies in finding the windows which have been purposefully decorated and come the of 25th December there will be a prize awarded for the best window.

These are the participants, find their location on the maps on the village notice boards and enjoy their windows!

1-51 The Mount

2-The Nook

3-47 The Mount

4-Ordgarff

5-Orchard Garth

6-Well House Annexe

7-Beech House

8-Holly Lodge

9-Roby Cottage, Belle Vue

10-Lindenside

11-49 The Mount

12-Rosebank

13-Papcastle House

14-Premier House

15-57 The Mount

16-Dene Cottage

17-Derwent Lodge
Cottage

18-Croft House Barn

19-18 The Mount

20-36 The Mount

21-24 The Mount

22-The Cottage, Belle
Vue

23-Sunnyside

24-Derventio Cottage

New To Papcastle

We are the Smyllie Family-Mike, Vicki, Felicity and Jennifer.

We moved to The Mount in mid November from the centre of Cockermouth.

Mike works in training and I am a 'SENCo' (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) at a nearby school.

We are so pleased to call Papcastle our home as it such a friendly place and a lovely village for our children to grow up.



We have already made friends and look forward to meeting more of you when we can.

Strange Lights at Night...

One evening in April and for most of that night you may have noticed flashing red and green lights in the sky, about 25ft in the air over the footpath that leads down to the river Derwent? I am owning up to it...



I bought a drone to help with the boredom of being furloughed at home during lock down. On that lovely still evening I decided to put my pilot skills to the test and took 'Sparkle' out for her maiden flight. All was going well until darkness descended. Hovering her over the tree lined footpath with navigation lights on I thought it time to fly her home. Now then, there is an anti-collision fail safe on the drone when flying forwards, but not backwards. Instead of heading home I found I had reversed Sparkle into a tree! I went to retrieve my stranded drone, but it seemed too dangerous owing to the lack of light. She was out there all night and I can confirm the 4 flashing lights were still going strong at 2 am! I went to bed with a heavy heart. However in the morning my farmer neighbours came to the rescue with a lifting device. The drone battery had now emptied and there were no more lights flashing. Undeterred I set off with the rescue team down the footpath. We spent 40 minutes shaking leaves and limbs of a tree to try and find her. The mission had to be aborted, no drone found. I thought perhaps she had fallen during the night and was hidden in the undergrowth or picked up by an early morning dog walker.

Now most men, like me, feel there is no need to read instructions fully (dyslexia doesn't help), but a friend told me if I went onto a particular 'app' I could log in and it would show me Sparkle's last known position. I walked down the track to check this position and to my embarrassment we had spent 40 minutes looking in the wrong tree! I sheepishly rang the previous day's helpers and explained the situation, Assistance came again, the rescue operation was launched for the second time and Sparkle was successfully recovered. To date she has had no more sleep overs in ash trees.

By 'The Anonymouse Flyer of Papcastle'

Parish Council Snippets

Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 3rd November 2020 held via Zoom

Nine members attended, along with County Councillor Rebecca Hanson and District Councillor Nicky Cockburn.

Councillor Hanson reported on:

- The progress of plans for the proposed replacement of Cumbria County Council (CCC) and six District Councils, with a new unitary model
- The Low Road cycleway which has been completed and will be opening soon.
- The impact of lockdown on local businesses.
- CCC now have a fully funded plan for works on the river bank and the A595 bypass, to start as soon as possible.

Councillor Cockburn reported on:

- Street lighting -Allerdale Borough Council (ABC) stated that although it had been the Council's intention to ask the Town and Parish Councils to pick up the energy costs for footway lighting from April 2021, this has been postponed. Parishes however, are encouraged to help identify lights which are not required.
- Devolution to Unitary Councils -In October, the Government invited Cumbria Councils to put forward locally led plans for the merger of Borough councils into one or possibly more Unitary Councils. Proposals are being formed by the six Borough Councils and CCC on the way forward.

Planning applications:

- A number of planning applications were discussed, including the M Sport Evaluation Centre Noise Management Plan Issue 3b. M Sport, Dovenby Hall Estate, Cockermouth.

Precept:

- It was unanimously agreed to raise a precept for 2021-22 of £10200.00.

Any other business

- Footpath from Low Wood to corner, to be cut monthly from April to October.
- Cockermouth Town Council to be contacted re maintenance of path beside St Leonard's House.
- ABC to be contacted regarding promised screening and landscaping at the Pumping Station, Brigham, which is visible from many parts of Papcastle.

Next meeting to be held on 5th January 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Hugh MacDonald MacLeod 1939-2020

Hugh MacDonald MacLeod, known as 'Shuggie' to his loved ones, was the youngest child of Georgina and Daniel, born on 4th September 1939, the day after our country entered the Second World War. With his two older brothers, he had a happy and busy childhood in Port Glasgow, being sporty from an early age and enjoying golf, swimming and rowing.



Hugh left school to join Kincaid's at the age of 17 where he trained to become a marine engineer. The large marine diesel engines on which he worked were for the largest ships in the world at that time they would have stretched from Lloyds garage to Market street in Cockermouth, the engines standing over 40 feet high. Hugh progressed to become Chief Design Engineer at Yarrows Shipyard and travelled to visit various yards and ports in Europe, including Denmark and Poland (which was behind the Iron Curtain at that time). He studied at night school and college to become a Chartered Engineer and was proud to be made a Fellow of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

It was in his first job at Kincaids that he fell in love with Helen and subsequently had 49 very happy years of married life together, and three children - Christopher, Helene and Andrea. They were known from the start to be a couple who loved to dance and their children teased them that they could – and would – do a foxtrot to any type of music. They really did an excellent foxtrot though so you can't blame them for taking every opportunity. Through the years, their love of dancing brought them many friends, including some very special ones through the Caledonian society. When Helen passed away in 2014, Hugh said he would not dance again as he could not dance without her, but he made new connections and friends through the U3A society and he continued to dance until last year.

Hugh made his home in Gourock, Bradford and Cockermouth, joining the local badminton club when he moved here and played all over Cumbria in league matches.

Hugh would be the first to admit he could be bloody-minded and this brought him into conflict with people at times. He was also fiercely loyal and the first to act in a crisis to help other people, inspiring great loyalty in other people. At James Walkers, he was proud to be known as a 'man's manager' always supporting his work team. He was a man who could not stand by if he thought he could act - the Cockermouth floods and their impact on peoples' lives and homes were a cause of huge distress to him – he wanted to help and he did his best to do so, both individuals and the town itself. Hugh was a loving grandfather to Tom, Sophie, Joe and Georgia and he loved to collect photographs of them to proudly show to his friends.

Until the spring of last year, Hugh remained a fit and energetic man, despite his health problems. He was very good at keeping well occupied and celebrated his recovery from surgery by throwing a Burns Supper for over twenty people, an achievement which made him very happy. The last year and a half of his life were very difficult, with a stroke last May causing a rapid decline in his health and many other problems, plus the additional blow of losing his good friend Jean Law. We are grateful to all of the people who gave support and friendship through this time – this was so important to him, always a sociable man, and very much appreciated.

Extract from Hugh's Eulogy

Village Hall News

The Trustees met on 29th October via Zoom.

First item on the agenda was the retirement of Bill Mavir as Chairperson and the appointment of a new Chair. No Chair has been appointed yet and the position remains outstanding.

Though retiring, Bill will continue to manage the upgrading of the Village Hall heating system.

Other planned improvements to the Village Hall include:

- Plans to paint the internal part of the Hall
- The mobility threshold strip to be replaced and a weather bar fitted to the bottom of the door
- Possible repairs to the Hall floor
- A garden tidy on 22 November

Other recreational-related activities discussed include:

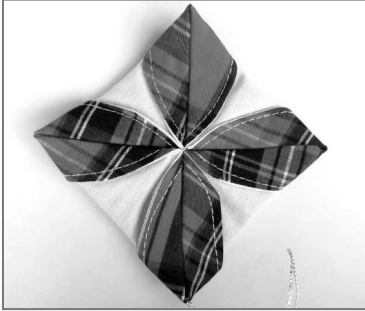
- Application for funds to buy a projector and screen for presentations in the hall (when we all get back to normal of course!)
- A repeat of the 'Roman Excavations' talk (again, when the hall re-opens)
- Discussion about the Papcastle online Book Club
- The fabulous Papcastle Christmas Advent Trail

By Anna Lister, Hon Secretary

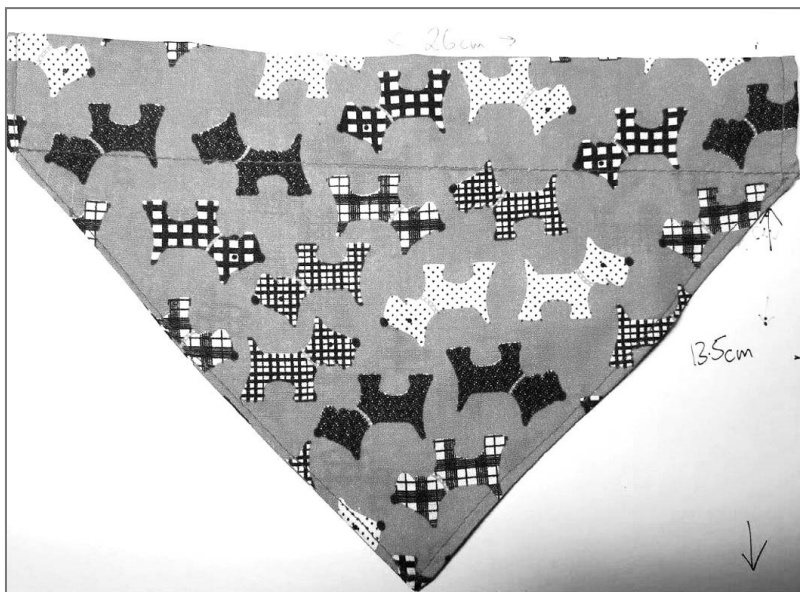
The next meeting is to be arranged for the end of Feb/ beginning of March, look out for exact details on the village notice boards.

MASK UPDATE

Hi everyone, I want to firstly thank you all for your support for my mask making. We have raised almost **£15000** (at the time of writing) and will continue to make them as long people need to wear them, which could be some time yet.



Since March, this new hobby of mine, has grown and I have been asked by a few customers to make some other things, so I have set up a hobby shop on Facebook selling wine bottle bags, Christmas decorations, slide on dog collar bandanas and hair scrunchies. These I am selling for myself to cover my hobby costs, but I will continue to donate profits from my mask making to charity (currently the mountain rescue team).



My link is : <https://www.facebook.com/carolesfabriccrafts> or if you don't have Facebook, simply contact me on 07787704330 or carolejones100@gmail.com

Thank you! Carole Jones (not Smith)

Book Exchange

Following on from the success of the Jigsaw Exchange, the 'Papcastle Book Exchange' is now open in the porch of Holly Lodge, Dovers Lane in the centre of the village.

Please feel free to come and browse - you don't need to knock or ring.

Donations of any books you have finished with and know that others will enjoy - fiction, teen and children's books, and maybe the odd local interest non-fiction are very welcome.

You might even attach a mini-book review on a sticky note.

Books are quarantined for 3 days between use, and if you leave your name and address with us, we will endeavour to return them to you.

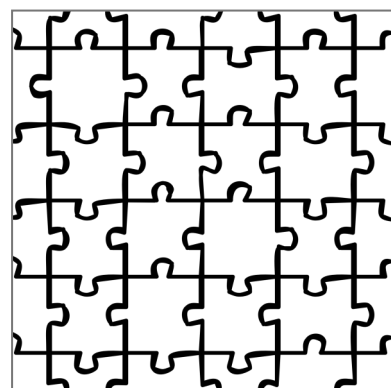
Jilly Douglas



Jigsaw Exchange Update

Jigsaws are still freely passing about in the village. You can take jigsaws even if you don't have one to exchange, you just return it when you've done it!

For more information contact Jude (Ed) at Fern Cottage or by phone on 01900 269065.



Poem... Help!



Is this poem familiar to anyone, or are you able to fill in the blanks?

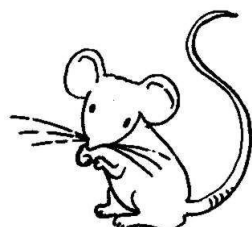
'Monty and Millie you're five minutes late,

Go to the corner and write on your slate,

Early to bed, early to rise, makes a mouse healthy, wealthy and wise,

?

For breakfast we ate such a big cheddar cheese...?'



Google has let me down! I hope you can help. Jude (Ed)

News from St Bridget's Church, Bridekirk

What an unexpected year each and everyone of us has experienced, or perhaps for many amongst us I should say endured.

At St. Bridget's, we have been unable to meet regularly within our building. Yet, we remain a living church family, meeting together, praising God, and encouraging each other, using the wonders of the internet. Not quite the same as being physically together, but there are benefits: we can sing without being heard, (microphones on mute) and we can choose to chat together, all from our own homes. Like everyone else we look forward to being able to meet publicly without restrictions, and our plans for Christmas and January reflect that hope, in that subject to Covid regulations, we will hold some services in the church building and you are welcome to join any of our services, no qualification needed, no experience necessary.

You will find instructions on our "Peace on Earth" greeting card which you should have received by now, you do not need any special software.

Alternatively e-mail: bridekirk_church@icloud.com and we will send you a link.



Date	Time	Service	Venue
20 Dec.	4pm	Carols by candlelight	Zoom
23 Dec.	4 pm	Church crib set up.	Zoom & Facebook
24 Dec.	10am-4pm	Open Church	Church only
24 Dec.	11-30pm	Midnight Mass	Church only
25 Dec.	11 am	Simple "pop-in/pop out service	Zoom
27Dec.	11 am	Morning service	Zoom
3 Jan	11 am	Holy Communion	Church
10 Jan	11 am	All age service	Zoom
17 Jan	11 am	Morning service	Church and Zoom
24 Jan	11 am	Morning service	Zoom
31 Jan	11 am	Morning service	Zoom

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 by 25th February 2021.

If you would like to help write articles for the newsletter regularly, or even occasionally, please get in touch as any assistance would be most welcome.

You can view *The Villager* online at www.papcastle.org.uk