

Spring 2017

The Villager



Issue 44

Papcastle & Belle Vue Newsletter

Editorial:

Welcome to the Spring edition of *The Villager*. Highlight of this issue is the aerial photographs of the village contributed by Greg Greenhalgh, which he took during an autogyro flight. See if you can spot the same features in the 2016 and 1948 photographs. Readers will also see on Page 3 that the Parish Council is looking for someone to help maintain the village website **www.papcastle.org** - Eric Apperley explains its origins on Page 7. Not only is a dynamic website an asset to the village as a place to hold history (even back issues of *The Villager*) but could satisfy a requirement being placed on all Parish Councils to publish parish documents in the public domain. Any discussion of websites usually brings comments about the speed of internet access; even with the coming of fibre optic connections to the village, it seems there is still a wide range of speeds being achieved and the Parish Council would like to understand whether this is seen as a problem. If you know your download speed, *The Villager* would like to create a map of speeds across the village. If you're happy to, e:mail the Editor, with your address and speed.

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies (and carols)

A great night was had by all at the annual Mulled Wine and Mince Pies evening at the Village Hall! Although it was a little quieter than in previous years, the hall was full and there was happy chatter among neighbours and friends. Bill Mavir, resplendent with a glittered beard, made a fantastic mulled wine as always and this was enjoyed along with cheese and crackers, snacks and mince pies. The raffle had many prizes provided by villagers, some who were there and some unable to attend. The first prize of a luxury hamper was won by Des and Kathleen McNichol. There were some 'party games' and a Christmas film picture quiz provided by Peter Broad.

The singing of carols was led by Clare Broad and Mary Bague kindly stepped in to play the keyboard; enthusiastic singing ensued, raising the roof of the Village Hall!

Thank you to everybody who attended, who helped in any way in setting up the Village Hall and tidying up and to those who provided raffle prizes.

The next main Village Hall event will be the annual barbeque in the summer and we look forward to seeing you there!

Before the Mince Pie evening, a small group of volunteers made up a working party to clear the garden in front of the hall, and put up the decorations.

Working party from left to right: John Conlon, Bob Henderson, Robert Jackson, Jill Conlon, Clare Broad and Joan and Brian Merris. Pete Broad took the photograph



View *The Villager* at www.papcastle.org.uk - click on 'Newsletter'

Rescue a rescuer

Bill Spence of Belle Vue volunteers as a rider for 'Blood Bikes Cumbria' and is appealing for help in finding a garage to rent within Belle Vue/Papcastle to store his bike. Here he tells the story of what he does on their behalf.

"I got involved with Blood Bikes in September 2015 when I volunteered as a rider with the group. All riders need an advanced riding / driving qualification to use the liveried vehicles, so having an IAM advanced motorcycle licence meant I could get involved pretty much straight away. I'll typically cover a regular run every week or two. This involves picking up a bike (or car in the colder weather) at Whitehaven fire station and then going onto West Cumberland Hospital to collect whatever needs to be transported over to Cumberland Infirmary. We never know what we're carrying; it's always in sealed transportation boxes, however, I have on a regular run been met at Cumberland Infirmary by a team with blood for an emergency transfusion, urgently needed back at Whitehaven. If covering the regular run, I'll usually volunteer to cover the on-call shift as well. This means we could be called out at anytime between 6pm in the evening and 6am the following morning to provide emergency transportation of blood, tests, drugs etc. Volunteering has allowed me to combine the pleasure I get from riding with putting something useful back into the community. The Blood Bike service is really appreciated by the hospitals we provide cover for, as well as receiving fantastic support from the community. Neighbours have been really supportive in letting me garage my bike in the past, however I have now found myself without a garage facility, renting somewhere in the village would be ideal. It would normally only be my own bike garaged but occasionally a Blood Bike may be stored depending on what was happening with an on call shift. The following is an extract from the Blood Bikes website:

'Blood Bikes Cumbria' is part of a nationwide organisation - 'The Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes'. Each group within the organisation runs independently but follows their guidelines. Blood Bikes provide out-of-hours transport 365 days of the year to transport urgently needed blood, drugs, human tissue and other medical requirements between hospitals and blood transfusion banks. We also supply the Great North Air Ambulance with fresh blood for their 'blood on board' service every day of the week regardless of weather conditions. In doing so we help the NHS Trusts to make financial savings in line with government targets by reducing their transport costs.

This is all accomplished by volunteers who give up their time to help. No one in the group gets paid. We have a dedicated fleet of liveried vehicles to carry out emergency transfers with blue lights and two tones. All volunteers have to undergo special training for health and safety, a riding assessment and advanced training to ride under blue light situations. We also have dedicated dispatchers who take the calls and allocate the work"

Can anybody help Bill please?
Do you have an empty garage?

His mobile no. is **07791843991** and his email is **biilspence@fsmail.net** if you think you can come to his rescue.



Parish Council Snippets

There were no declarations of interest, or public participation at the January meeting.

Police Community Support Officer Alex Ostle attended. She had no incidents to report, but explained the new system of retrieving crime statistics for each area.

County Councillor Eric Nicholson reported on the manpower changes at County Highways, the ongoing works on Main Street, Cockermouth and changes to the library services

District Councillor Nicky Cockburn referred to the proposed housing development in Broughton by Story Homes, of 64 houses. It was agreed to support Broughton Parish Council in their objections to the scheme. Councillor Cockburn also thanked Robert Jackson for his help with problems concerning the clearing of the River Derwent.

Belle Vue Signage.

Peter Broad agreed to look into putting new signs on the top of existing posts.

Telephone box on The Mount

This has now been cleaned.

Cumbria County Council to be contacted again regarding landscaping at Belle Vue.

Planning Applications

Extension to works site, erection of plant, machinery and kiosk building and related ancillary development, Cockermouth Wastewater Treatment Works, Low Road, Cockermouth. No objections. Alterations and extension to create an extra bedroom and revised living space, 49 The Mount, Papcastle. No objections.

Broadband.

The varying speeds within the village were discussed and it was agreed to discuss this again when more information was available.

Allerdale Plan Consultation

Readers of *The Villager* may be aware that Allerdale Borough Council is undertaking a Consultation on the next version of the Allerdale Local Plan(Part 2), which describes how the Borough Council aims to meet its development aspirations until 2029. A recent meeting at Cockermouth Town Hall explained some of the detail, but anyone interested should note that the Consultation runs from 27 January to 24 March 2017. All the relevant documents are available in Cockermouth Library, or on-line at; www.allerdale.gov.uk/siteallocations

Village Website

The Village website needs a new manager - can you help ?

The village website was set up originally by Eric Apperley (see page 7) as a means of capturing and archiving information relevant to the history and the present day life of the village. Aside from history, the website carries the most recent copies of *The Villager*, as well as documents relating to the Parish Council. The increasing need for transparency in the availability of public records means that the Parish Council is looking to potentially upgrade the website to act as a public record location for parish documents as well as items of general interest.

If you think you can help, - contact the Editor at huw@4-the-mount.fsnet.co.uk

Eric Apperley has made a significant contribution to the recording and understanding of the history and development of Papcastle and Belle Vue. His book, "Papcastle History" ISBN 987-0-9551845-3-6, Papcastle Local History Group, 2009. makes a fascinating read. - Editor

Papcastle from the air !

As an exceptional birthday present at the end of 2016, Papcastle resident Greg Greenhalgh had the opportunity to ride in a microlight for a few hours, courtesy of wife Gill. Greg was fortunate that it was a fine day, and being a keen photographer, took the opportunity to take some shots of the village. *The Villager* is indebted to Greg for allowing us to use his work, together with a fascinating historical photograph of the village taken in 1948! To help readers with orientation, here are some of the key places:

Ready for the off! Greg (right) and his pilot Chris Jones (Chris Jones Gyroplanes, Kirkbride)



- A: The Spotted Pig
- B: The original Mount
- C: Fitz Mill (now demolished)
- D: Dovers Lane
- E: The Village Reading Room
- F: Camp Farm

Opposite Top: Papcastle in 1948 looking East with the the original Mount at centre and Belle Vue at extreme left (Courtesy Cockermouth Heritage Group)

Opposite bottom: Papcastle in December 2016 looking East with Croft House Farm at lower right and Belle Vue upper left. (copyright G Greenhalgh)

Below: Papcastle in December 2016 looking West towards Broughton, with The Mount in the foreground. (copyright G Greenhalgh)



Italian Delight

Cockermouth Harmonic Society, along with guest soloists and musicians and conducted by IanThompson, staged an excellent concert in Christ Church on 28th January. The programme was entitled 'A Taste of Italy', which reflected the choice of composers, Vivaldi, Donizetti, Puccini, Monteverdi, Bellini and Mascagni. The concert was very well attended, with an appreciative audience using both the main seating area and the balcony. Papcastle was represented by four long standing members of the Society, Tim Hirst who is also Honorary Chairman, Susan Fleming, Janet Johnston and Elspeth White. This is a notable year for the Harmonic Society, which celebrates its 150th anniversary.



Papcastle singers, left to right: Susan Fleming, Janet Johnston, Tim Hirst and Elspeth White

As part of the celebrations, composer and musician Dr Philip Wood, President of the Society and another Papcastle resident, has been invited to compose a choral item to be performed at the Summer Concert.



View of choir and orchestra from the audience.

Future Programme

Saturday 8th April 2017
Haydn, The Creation

Saturday 8th July 2017
Summer Serenade
Featuring music by British Composers

New Resident at Lindenside

Penny Lees moved into Lindenside in November, from Greysouthen, having lived in the area since 1979. She was in time to enjoy the village Mulled Wine Evening and hopes to become involved in other village activities. She is looking forward to getting out in the lovely south facing garden and planting it up with favourites, while enjoying the views to Grasmoor and beyond. A two year old grandson is keeping her busy too. Penny is an enthusiastic member of Lorton Tennis Club, playing as often as a busy social schedule allows. She enjoys supporting GB tennis and has just returned from the successful Davis and Federation Cup matches and is now looking forward to the upcoming fixtures, wherever they might be!



www.papcastle.org - by Eric Apperley

The notion of a village website emerged between my brother, Mike and myself after he had taken on the role of Village Hall Manager and overseen a major refurbishment. One function of the website was to publicise the many activities using the much-improved hall. The website was designed by me in early 2007 using just a basic HTML editor. It was kept very simple, free of fancy embellishments, in the knowledge that someone else would have to take over from me in the not very distant future (purely age considerations, though it has lasted 10 years)

In 2009 Mike generated *The Villager* magazine (replacing an earlier newssheet which had been run by David Bromley before he stood down as Secretary). This was added to the website for the benefit of a number of "ex-pats" who were interested, and wished to keep up. Each issue of the Villager is posted onto the website very quickly, but only the last four issues are retained. *

After the "Papcastle History" book was published in 2009, it soon sold out, and the full text was also included. In 2016 the full text of the "Roman Papcastle" booklet was added, covering the excavations of 2010-2014.

The website is updated whenever new information comes to hand, not always as soon as it should be. It can be found at www.papcastle.org.uk

* Issues 1-33 have been deposited with the Cumbria Archive Service.

REGULAR VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

Latin Formation Monday Morning	Gill Greenhalgh <i>Weekly</i> (http://u3asites.org.uk/cockermouth)	
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
Parish Council 1st Tuesday evening	David Johnson <i>Bi monthly</i>	01900 822163
Yoga Thursday 6.30-8.00pm	Pat Irving	07962127812
Line Dancing Friday afternoons	Carol Smith <i>Weekly</i>	01900 821590



Village Hall Bookings:
Rose Rowlands
01900 828941

Beetle Drive

By popular demand, the Village Hall Trustees
are planning a Beetle Drive on
Saturday 1st April.
(It may include a pie and pea supper, to be
confirmed)

Village Hall AGM

Tuesday 4th April 7.00pm

Annual General Meeting, followed by
quarterly meeting to which everyone is
invited. Your chance to make things happen!

www.papcastle.org

***The village website needs a new manager
and developer. Can you help ?
see page 3***

The Villager extends its sympathy to the
families of previous village residents Dorothy
Hargreaves and Brenda Norrington, who
passed away recently.



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

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

Bell ringing practise every Monday at 7.30pm. Details
from Richard Green 01900 824311

Baby to pre-school club every Wednesday 1pm-3pm in
the Church Room. Details from Mary Stothard 01900
823395.

Usual Monthly Services

Services at 11am

1st Sunday	Holy Communion and Sunday School
2nd Sunday	All Age Service
3rd Sunday	Holy Communion and Sunday school
4th Sunday	Morning Prayer and Sunday School

Easter Services

Tuesday 28th February 7.30pm
Pancake Day in the Church Room

Wednesday 1st March - Ash Wednesday
Holy Communion in the Church Room 7.30pm

Sunday 26th March - Mothering Sunday
Morning Prayer and Sunday School 11am

Sunday 16th April - Easter Sunday
Holy Communion and Sunday School 11am

Village Hall Trustees

Peter Broad 826386	Carolyn Otley 821204
Joan Merris 823282	Ian Trohear 823680
Rose Rowland 828941	Bob Henderson 821478
Robert Jackson 827071	Carol Henderson 821478



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 May 2017

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