

Spring Edition March 2023 to May 2023

Farlam Parish Village News



Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of the Farlam Parish Village News. Special thanks are due to Brenda Benjamin who kindly created this coloured pencil artwork for our cover page. This stunning piece of art embodies the essence of Spring and will be framed and sold by sealed bids at the Church Plant Sale on Sunday 21st May. Those unable to attend can also submit a bid by email to the Church Treasurer by 20th May:

lynne.farlamchurch@btinternet.com

The funds raised will go towards a new heating system in the church.

Inside the newsletter there are articles on birding, a new initiative to help people live longer and better, exciting news from our local school, details of Church services, happenings at the Hub, 100 Club draw winners, local government re-organisation, likely council tax bills for 2023/24, and much, much more.

Thanks to our contributors, advertisers and volunteer distributors for helping to create and support our community newsletter.

If you would like to get in touch, share any items that might be of interest to our readers, or request an electronic copy instead then email the Editor: *farlamvillagenews@gmail.com*

Spotlight on Some Local Birds

We have some very special birds in and around the parish. Some of them are with us the year round but some, like these species, are seasonal visitors.

Pochard is a species of duck that visits Cumbria in the winter months, arriving in August and staying until March.



Tindale Tarn is the most important site in the county for Pochard and we have had up to 16 birds there over recent winters. Southern England is where most occur, and this is because birds are driven westwards from central Europe when cold weather arrives. They breed across a wide swathe of Eurasia as far east as Mongolia and these eastern birds travel well south to the Indian Sub-continent in winter. Unlike most ducks there is a marked imbalance in the numbers between the sexes here in winter, with males being much more common than females. This is particularly so in the north of Britain and here we may see only one or two females among a group of a dozen birds. On Tindale Tarn they swim about in a loose group and often all dive together as they search for plant and animal food including small fishes underwater.

Another winter speciality in our parish is Brambling, a finch that often associates with its close relative the Chaffinch. The beech woodlands in the north of Cumbria are the best places to find it and Talkin Tarn is a very good site. In good years for beechmast the birds often feed mostly under the beech trees whereas when the beech crop has a poor year they will be more inclined to visit garden bird feeders. They are quite shy birds generally and will often fly up into the trees when disturbed where they perch motionless until danger passes. As they fly away their narrow white rump, the area between the back and base of the tail, can show up well. These birds come to us from Fennoscandia and numbers vary according to food supply and weather conditions. The male is a striking bird with his black hood and orange chest.



This winter has been notable for another visitor, much scarcer than Pochard or Brambling; this is the Smew. Tindale Tarn has hosted one intermittently since early December, sometimes moving to Talkin Tarn when Tindale Tarn froze over. Smew is a member of a group of wildfowl known as 'sawbills', so called because of the serrated edge to the bill. This is an adaptation suited to catching and gripping onto small fish. Like the Pochard, it comes to us in cold weather, arriving from the continent and is predominantly seen in southern Britain. The last time a Smew was recorded on one of our Tarns was in 2013 when a male visited both Talkin and Tindale Tarns early in that year.

Article by Chris Hind, lifelong birder and Editor of Birds and Wildlife in Cumbria with thanks to Adam Moan for his photos, all taken locally.

Snippets of Interest

Step into Spring

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Cumbria <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cumbria> has loads of walks to download and print free of charge. It also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Cumbria (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk john@walkinginengland.co.uk

More information on walking locally and a little further afield can be found on:
<https://bramptonwalkersarewelcome.wordpress.com>

Here you will find contact details for a range of walking clubs that organise walks around Alston Moor, Penrith, Carlisle and district and the North Lakes and beyond.

Crime Statistics Update for 2022

In total Beat X30 which covers our area had 19 crimes recorded in 2022. This is 4 more than 2021 but matches the 3 year average.

There were 6 acts of low level criminal damage, 2 burglaries, 3 public order offences, 1 vehicle offence and 7 violence against a person offences. Interestingly the area had the 5th lowest crime count of any beat in the whole of Cumbria. There are 150 beats in total.

No anti-social behaviour was recorded at all in the last 12 months—see graph below.



The message seems to be that it is a nice area with a low crime rate and the way to keep it that way is for residents to report any suspicious activity promptly.

Hallbankgate Village School News

016977 46237 www.hallbankgate.org.uk

mandy.davidson@hallbankgate.org.uk



In our last entry in the Village News, we were looking forward to performing our Christmas plays: we are pleased to let you know that both performances were outstanding and it was an incredible feeling to have the hall full of family and friends following the restrictions of the pandemic. In Class 1 and 2 (Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3), we performed 'Little Angel Gets Her Wings' - a traditional nativity with the moral of showing love and care to one another woven throughout - and we all worked incredibly hard to learn lines, dances, songs and actions.

In Class 3 (Years 3-6), there was not a dry eye in the house (or should that be 'hall!'), as we performed an adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's 'The Little Match Girl'. Despite the challenging nature of this script, we all tried hard to show how important it is to look after those most vulnerable in our society. We had so many compliments about each performance and it was fantastic to be able to sing and perform in front of a live audience. At these events, we also held a Christmas Raffle which raised over £250. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of the local businesses that were able to donate a prize and support us in raising funds for our school. Thank you!

Since returning to school following the Christmas break, we've had lots of exciting learning opportunities. In Class 1, we have been learning all about plants in our science lessons and have been exploring our school grounds (including the vegetable garden and wildlife garden) to spot the signs of Spring. We have also started to investigate what plants need to grow and have planted some peas in the classroom - it is very exciting! In Class 2, we have been learning about local Cumbrian meals in Design and Technology and have enjoyed cooking (and eating!) a range of sweet and savoury dishes! We have also been learning about what our bodies need to stay healthy and ask and answer the question, 'How old are you?'... in French!

In Class 3, we have been learning about the circulatory system in science and how we can keep our bodies healthy and make informed choices as part of our PSHE learning. In science, we had a particularly exciting lesson where we had the opportunity to look closely at a pig's heart too - it was fascinating! We have also been learning about the foods that would have been eaten by the Romans on Hadrian's Wall and have cooked Roman-inspired bread, biscuits and cakes, as well as spiced pork and salmon dishes. We can't say that all of these Roman foods were delicious but it was an excellent opportunity to imagine what life was like in Roman Britain.

Over the next few weeks, we are looking forward to going on a range of educational visits to support our learning, as well as learning more about the events, people and places in the world around us: if you attended our school and have some interesting stories or memorabilia, we'd love to hear from you! We are also looking forward to the weather warming up a little bit so that we can begin to prepare the vegetable garden and greenhouse so that we are ready to sow lots of seeds: we all enjoyed eating the fruit and vegetables that we had grown last year and we have grand plans for what we would like to grow this year.

If you would like to find out more about our school, please visit www.hallbankgate.org.uk. Our weekly newsletter is jampacked with photographs and information about what we have been learning.

Hallbankgate Village School Nursery Places

Our nursery is open from 9.00am until 3.30pm, Monday to Friday, during school term time. It is run by a full-time Early Years Teacher, supported by Early Years Teaching Assistants, and we welcome children to our Nursery the term following their third birthday. Please get in touch if you would like to arrange a visit for you and your child to see the many learning opportunities on offer in our school.

LIVE LONGER BETTER. in Cumbria



Active Cumbria launched a new programme for older adults on 24th November 2022 - Live Longer Better in Cumbria. It aims to improve lives through physical activity, to enable people to live longer better, reduce the need for health and social care and reverse the effects of lockdown.

The programme is backed by a £250,000 funding pot known as the Reconditioning Fund which can provide up to £10,000 to individual projects designed by health professionals and activity providers.

The Reconditioning Fund will focus on projects that help people aged 65 years and older increase their physical ability and movement, reduce the risk of frailty and falls, and increase their resilience and healthspan. Projects should also aim to reduce the risk of and delay or prevent dementia and prevent and minimise the effects of disease and multimorbidity, including long Covid.

Live Longer Better is a national campaign led by Sir Muir Gray, an advocate for active aging. The aim is to prevent the problems that have previously been blamed entirely on the ageing process, and to enable increased activity - physical, cognitive and emotional - for people who already have one or more long term conditions, including dementia and frailty.

Physical activity is of vital importance in achieving optimal ageing to close the gap between someone's actual level of ability and their best possible level of ability. The gap is narrowed by preventing loss of fitness or regaining lost fitness through activity that challenges body, brain and mind. Narrowing the fitness gap can also be described as reconditioning.

The key messages are that ageing is a process, decline is not inevitable and longevity should be celebrated, not feared. With the right activity, attitude and conditions, everyone can live longer better and reduce the period of time that they might need acute care at the end of their lives.

Currently in Cumbria 23.9% of the population are aged 65 and over. This figure is expected to grow to 31.4% by 2043. While life expectancy has been increasing nationally people are living a longer proportion of their lives with disability. Inactivity increases sharply with age with only 16% of men and 12% of women are carrying out 150 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week. Older adults who live in areas of socio-economic deprivation are twice as likely to be inactive than those in more affluent areas. Age UK reports that around 25% of adults aged 60 years and over became physically deconditioned during the pandemic and are less able to carry out everyday activities. 88% of all injuries requiring an ambulance for people aged over 55 years are falls. Frailty, falls and cognitive decline are not a necessary part of aging and physical activity can help to prevent and reverse them.

Further information on The Reconditioning Fund and eligibility criteria can be found online:

www.activecumbria.org/livelongerbetter

Interested organisations can also contact clare.paling@cumbria.gov.uk

FARLAM PARISH TRUST meets in the Village Hall at 6:45pm on the second Wednesday in March and September, prior to the Parish Council meetings. If you have a project which you think the Trust could support with funding then please download and complete the Trust's PDF grant form and send it to the Administrator. Their website is:

<https://www.farlamparishcouncil.com/grantsparishtrust>

The Trust's Administrator is Mr. C. Raine, Farlam Farm, Farlam, Brampton CA8 1LA

Email enquiries to charles.raine@youngsrps.com

Farlam 100 Club Prize-winners

	January	February	March
1st Prize £25.00	Jeremy Robinson	Anna Bell	Paul Nairn
2nd Prize £15.00	John Jackson	Eileen Bowman	David Watson
3rd Prize £10.00	Maureen Watson	Peter Arndt	Gillian Conway

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Advertising in the Village News

If you would like to advertise or sponsor an issue, please email farlamvillagenews@gmail.com.

We will be pleased to discuss a package for individual issues or for all of our quarterly issues during 2023.

The money raised from advertising and sponsorship is used to help pay for the printing of the newsletter. Donations will also be gratefully received.

Copies of the newsletter are delivered to just over 350 households in the parish and extra copies are available at the Hallbankgate Hub and Farlam Hall. We also publish the newsletter online at issuu.com and on farlamparishchurch.co.uk.



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Back to the Future?: Local Government Re-organisation

On the 1st April 2023, Cumberland Council comes into being with 46 councillors elected last year. As a unitary authority it will be responsible for services previously provided by Cumbria County Council, Copeland, Allerdale and Carlisle District Councils. The district councils and the former Cumbria County Council will cease to exist. The rest of what was Cumbria falls under a new Westmorland and Furness Council.

Cumberland Council will have a new Leader, Councillor Matt Fryer from Workington and a new Chief Executive, Andrew Seekings who is currently Chief Executive at Allerdale B.C. Councillor Roger Dobson will represent our area on the new council.

This Council in waiting has endorsed an ambitious plan for its first 4 years which gives a sense of direction, outlines how it will operate and what residents can expect. The plan sets out the council's vision which focuses on a fresh approach to the delivery of inclusive services that are shaped by residents and communities. It seeks to fulfil the potential of the people and the area by enabling positive outcomes for health and well-being, prosperity and the environment.

The new Council intends to focus on 4 key areas:

- * Tackling inequality and exclusion in all aspects of society, including racism;
- * Becoming a high performing organisation that provides excellent, efficient and enterprising services by using technology and planning services in close collaboration with residents and partners;
- * Supporting the local economy through its procurement processes and assets and helping people to acquire the skills to succeed;
- * The environmental focus will support the growth of a low carbon economy and provide help to residents affected by extreme weather events.

Over the next 12 months the new Council will engage with residents to understand the opportunities and challenges they face and it will create ways of joint working to effect change. The plan will be reviewed regularly and amended as necessary. It is seen as a basis for opening a wider discussion on developing a strategy for sustainable communities in Cumberland.

How all this happens remains to be seen. Certainly the plan paints a mixed picture of life in Cumberland with:

- * 14 community areas falling within the 10% most deprived in England and 10 areas amongst the least deprived;
- * 16.1% of children living in relatively low income homes with 10,799 children described as living in relative poverty last year;
- * 67 languages spoken by children at schools;
- * 88 children looked after per 1,000 compared to the national average of 67 per 1,000;
- * median household income at £28,794 and median house prices at £155,630, both below the national averages;
- * 274,000 residents living in 125,500 homes;
- * an aging population with over 65's projected to grow from 64,000 to 82,100 by 2040.
- * A declining population albeit marginally;
- * A lower crime rate than the national average at 68.3 crimes per 1,000 population;
- * 11,565 businesses 90% of which are micro-businesses;
- * A higher than national average rate of 20% of people reporting that their daily activities are limited due to illness or disability;
- * 4.7% of the working age population with no qualifications while the national average is 7.5%.

The plan fleshes out these stark statistics with references to our outstanding landscapes and seascapes, urban areas with pockets of deprivation and towns in need of renewal. It highlights low cost housing in many areas and contrasts this with an unmet demand for rented social housing. Other inequalities on life expectancy, the ongoing impacts of Covid 19 pandemic and the cost of living crisis are also documented.

It notes the importance of agriculture, tourism and manufacturing that underpin the local economy, the contribution of the nuclear sector and the predominance of small businesses in our economy.

Clearly a lot of work is going on in the background to set up the structure of the council and fill posts. It is unlikely to hit the ground running but many services should continue seamlessly. Council tax rates currently vary across the 3 districts and it is proposed that, subject to council taxpayer consultation, the rates in each band will be harmonised and then increased by 4.99% to partially offset inflation and also to provide additional funding for adult social care. Estimated council tax rate for a Band D property will therefore be £1731.00 p.a. before any reduction for qualifying low income households. In addition, an estimated £340.00 will be added to fund the Police and another £43.00, again estimated, to fund the Parish Council.

Another effect of re-organisation is that the fire service will be governed by a Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Cumbria. A public consultation exercise with a poor response rate rejected this option but nonetheless the then Home Secretary approved it. The cost of the Fire Service will likely add another £90.00, taking the estimated total for 2023/24 for a Band D property to to £2204.00 p.a. or £183.00 a month.

Having a vision is one thing, making it happen is another thing altogether. The vision will need to be underpinned by detailed strategies and targeted action plans that are costed and have sufficient staff resources to ensure delivery. The gestation period is likely to extend to the best part of 12 months.

Two things stand out. One is the great emphasis on broader and deeper collaborative working to shape strategies and action plans based on community engagement. This aims to understand the opportunities and challenges that residents face and gives a clear commitment to work with local people to shape and deliver positive outcomes.

People will have the opportunity to say what they want from the council and how they want to be involved. This suggests new channels of engagement and communication. It suggests councillors will need to be proactive and out and about in their communities talking to residents. It raises questions about the future role, and perhaps the powers, funding and responsibilities of parish councils.

Certainly Colin Cox who has been appointed Director of Public Health & Communities for Cumberland Council seems to agree that Parish Councils are key to this ongoing engagement process saying:

"After 1st April, Cumberland Council is committed to working closely with local communities to make sure that residents have ever more say in the future of their local area, and parish councils will play a crucial role in that and in shaping and delivering future services. I am looking forward to working with parish councils on these exciting opportunities."

Secondly the environmental vision is weak and lacks ambition. It talks about leadership and the consequences of inaction. It focuses on growing a low carbon economy that helps businesses and residents manage resources better, yet sidesteps the new coal mine in Copeland which was recently approved by Government. This approach to climate change is inadequate. It focuses on mopping up after floods rather than action to adapt to climate change and helping our communities, private and public sector organisations to become climate resilient. It is difficult to understand at this stage how it intends to bring about any significant reduction of carbon emissions from homes, schools, industry and commerce, transport and the council itself. There appears to be no commitment to setting carbon reduction targets and inexcusably there seems to be no mention of the importance of biodiversity in the vision either.

At the time of writing the new council has yet to come into being and the views expressed above on the Plan and Vision are those of the Editor. If you want to comment on the new council's plan and vision and the things that you consider to be important then please email the Editor (farlamvillagenews@gmail.com).

Your views will be collated, forwarded to our local councillor and reported back in the next edition. After all, the Council Plan and its Vision are fluid and can be amended, so have your say!

Copies of the Council Plan and much more can be found on the Shadow Authority's website:

cumberland.gov.uk

Church Matters

Eden, Gelt & Irthing Ministry

Team Rector: Revd Stephen Robertson

Tel: 016977 41304

Team Vicar: Revd Edward Johnsen

Tel: 01228 670248



The Team Rector has pastoral responsibility for the parishes of Brampton, Irthington, Crosby-on Eden and Scaleby. The Team Vicar has pastoral responsibility for the parishes of Farlam, Talkin, Hayton, Castle Carrock, Cumrew and Cumwhitton.

Please contact Edward for christenings and wedding enquiries.

Revd Janice Murray (016977 46400) is a retired priest who remains part of the ministry team. Mr Timothy Arndt (016977 46942) is Churchwarden of St. Thomas a Becket Church (Farlam Church in Kirkhouse).

Forthcoming Services

Forthcoming services at Farlam Church will be held at 11:00am on Sunday 5th March, Sunday 19th March, Sunday 9th April, Sunday 23rd April, Sunday 7th May, and Sunday 21st May 2023.

For more information please see our website: farlamparishchurch.co.uk

All are very welcome and when there is no service at Farlam, everyone can worship at Talkin Church where services are usually held each Sunday at 9:15am, except on the second Sunday each month when it is held at 11:00 am. **From April 2nd all Talkin services will be at 9:15am.**

Daily Prayer in the Week

All are welcome to these simple services of readings, prayer and silence lasting about 20 minutes:

Morning prayers at 9:00am on Mondays at Farlam; Tuesdays at Cumrew; Thursdays at Hayton and Fridays at Castle Carrock.

In addition evening prayers are held at 5:00pm on Tuesdays at Cumwhitton and on Wednesdays at Talkin.

Baptism Funerals

We remember with thanksgiving those whom we love but see no longer:

Alan James Shaw, of Hallbankgate, aged 89 years. Beloved husband of Eileen and much loved father of Philip, Gary and Jonathan. Alan's funeral took place at Farlam Church on 22nd December 2022 followed by burial in the churchyard.

Lesley Bell, of Clement Leazes, Hallbankgate, aged 77 years. Beloved wife of late Tom and much loved mother of Mandy, Jackie, Joanne and Ian, and a treasured Grandma. Lesley's funeral took place at Carlisle Crematorium on 10th January 2023.

Audrey Evelyn Lee, of Talkin and once of Farlam House Farm, aged 88 years. Beloved wife of the late John and much loved Mother of Forster and Gerald. Audrey's funeral took place at Talkin Church on 5th January 2023, followed by a committal at Carlisle Crematorium.

True Blessing?

In parts of the Old Testament, there's a clear assumption that to be blessed means to be prosperous and secure, to have lots of children and great grandchildren, and to live a long life. On that count Jesus didn't live a very blessed life at all! But at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5: 3 - 10) he gave a very different take on what it is to be blessed. Here is a modern interpretation of what he said, taken from 'The Message' Bible:

*You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope.
With less of you there is more of God and his rule.*

*You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you.
Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.*

*You're blessed when you're content with just who you are – no more, no less.
That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.*

*You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God.
He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.*

*You're blessed when you care.
At the moment of being care-full, you find yourselves cared for.*

*You're blessed when you get your inside world – your mind and heart – put right.
Then you can see God in the outside world.*

*You're blessed when you can show people how to co-operate instead of compete and fight.
That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.*

*You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution.
The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.*

Thank You

I want to express huge thanks to Alyson and Steven at the Belted Will for hosting our Carol Singing on 22nd December. It was lovely to be warm indoors again after holding the Carol Service outside during the pandemic! The pub was full, the singing was hearty, and thank you also to Fiona Stobbart, Cathy Winterton and Camille for playing accordion, clarinet and flute respectively.

Edward Johnsen

Remembering

On a sadder note, there have been some funerals over the winter, as are recorded elsewhere in this edition.

Alan Shaw's funeral took place at church in December, and his son Jonathan gave a moving tribute. Of course, so many of us have known Alan through his active involvement in Farlam parish. He was on Farlam Parish Council over 30 years, and also served on Hallbankgate School Governors. Among his many other roles he was latterly a cathedral guide and a museum host. But it was also fascinating to hear of his life before he came up to Cumbria to work at Milton Hall School as a Residential Social Worker. Born in Bromley in Kent, Alan was a boyhood evacuee with a mining family in Nottinghamshire, and did his National Service in the Coldstream Guards. A claim to fame, which he shared last year in two interviews on the ITV news (one at the Queen's Jubilee, and one after her sad death), was that he was on guard duty the night King George VI died. Therefore, that night of 6th February 1952 he started the night as 'King's Guard', and came off duty the next morning as 'Queen's Guard'.

Audrey Lee's passing is also recorded in this issue. Although Audrey was Talkin born and bred, and returned to Talkin for the last part of her life, she was, with John her late husband, a resident of Farlam Village for many years, moving from High Close Farm (no electricity, no water, but plenty of snow!) to farm at Farlam House Farm in the early 1960s. Among the many precious memories shared at her funeral were Audrey's achievements as a baker, cook, and her love of her garden. Not to mention her prize-winning lemon curd.

YOUTH WORK AT THE GREEN DOOR CENTRE, BRAMPTON

The Green Door Centre is on Main Street, right next to the former URC Church, opposite Union Lane. It is a youth centre, run by the local churches, and is a base for Ruth Hutchinson, our full-time youth leader (Official title: 'Network Youth Church Leader'). Ruth is employed by the Diocese of Carlisle.

While Ruth's field of operations cover the whole deanery area (Scotby to Gilsland, Cumrew to Longtown), most of her work is currently done in Brampton. On most days she is in William Howard School, offering support to students, and running a Thursday lunchtime group. And on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays there are groups in the Green Door Centre itself (details below).

As we come out from the pandemic youth work is beginning to gather pace again. It started in 2019 in response to concern in the town about anti-social behaviour. It was launched by the churches in partnership with the Community Centre, the Parish Council, Wm. Howard School and the Police. Volunteers are drawn from community-minded people; some are church members, some not. The group has no religious content and offers a much-needed space for young people to 'hang-out'. We had low numbers after the pandemic, but attendance on Wednesdays has mushroomed since November, and we now get 20 to 30 teenagers coming each week, playing pool, knock-about games with soft balls, badminton, and of course sitting on the sofas with their phones!

On Thursdays the after-school group is a quieter affair, often more art and crafty. On Friday evenings we are again getting 20 -30 young people attending what is a more structured meeting. Sometimes there are more organised games and there is a brief time in a circle when some spiritual 'food for thought' is offered.

Other recent youth activities in the centre have included cooking workshops (we have a catering kitchen), trips and weekends away (our next trip is to Spadeadam).

If you want to find out more, please contact Ruth Hutchinson at Green Door Centre, Main Street, Brampton, CA8 1RS. Office 01697 742123, or you can get in touch with me, Edward Johnsen, the vicar on 01228 670248 or by email edwardjohnsen@gmail.com (currently I help at the groups on Wednesday and Friday evenings). We hope to include regular updates from the work in the Village News.

The photos are from the NYC 'Ablaze North' event in July, attended by about 70 young people, where we joined the Carlisle and Solway areas for an afternoon/evening of inflatables, craft, football, rounders, badminton, drumming, a BBQ and much more.



NETWORK YOUTH CHURCH

Groups for young people in Brampton and district at the Green Door Centre, Brampton

YOUTH DROP-IN

Wednesdays 6.30pm – 8pm every week in term time for 12-18 year olds.

AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN

Thursdays 3.20pm – 5pm every week in term time for those in secondary school: arts & crafts, board games, play pool, space to do homework.

NIGHT LIGHT

Friday nights 7.30 – 9pm in term time for those in secondary school: games, activities and some spiritual food for thought.



Farlam Hall has been refreshed and refurbished in recent years and is now a highly regarded 4 star hotel with all the charm of a traditional country house. It has a reputation for fine dining using locally sourced ingredients and produce from its own gardens. As a wedding venue, it ticks all the boxes, romantic, private and picturesque. The perfect setting for your perfect day.

In April Michelin star chef Hrishikesh Desai will be joining Farlam Hall as Chef Patron. Hrishikesh is fulfilling a life-long ambition of running a country house hotel and will be adding to the already excellent reputation for fine dining enjoyed by the Cedar Tree Restaurant.



So for that family celebration or special occasion, the Cedar Tree restaurant is ready to welcome you on any evening for fine dining from our a la carte menu. Alternatively indulge in our 7 course tasting menu with a range of fine wines carefully selected to accompany every incredible morsel.

Relax with friends in front of the fire in one of our parlours with a drink or favourite cocktail and embrace the luxury while perusing the menu.

For that informal catch up with friends why not join us for afternoon tea: a beautifully balanced mix of sweet and savoury delights crafted by our own pastry chef (times vary) or bring the family for a traditional Sunday lunch (booking essential for teas and lunches).

For more information visit our website at www.farlamhall.com or call today to make a reservation on 01697 746234.

Homebased Volunteer Transport Co-ordinator Needed

If you have some spare time and are looking for something rewarding to do, why not try your hand at volunteering to support Cumbria's volunteer transport system?

The Voluntary Car Scheme helps people without access to public or private transport. Volunteer drivers provide a door to door service to collect people from home and take them to their chosen destination. This allows people to visit their doctor or dentist, go shopping or make public transport connections or simply visit friends.

The Co-ordinator makes all this possible by publicising the scheme in their area and helping to recruit drivers. In addition they match transport requests from people with volunteer drivers and arrange to reimburse drivers' expenses.

You'll need to assist with driver recruitment, possess good communication skills, enjoy talking to people and be well organised. Good IT skills would be a bonus but the key attribute is a willingness to help others.

In our area the scheme is being rebuilt following the Covid 19 pandemic and new driver volunteers will also be required.

For further information contact Katy on 07788 396194 or email: integrated.transport@cumbria.gov.uk

A Warm welcome awaits you

HALLBANKGATE HUB

COMMUNITY

SHOP & CAFÉ

All welcome including walkers, cyclists and dogs

**Open: Mon-Sat 9-4pm
Sunday 9-12 noon**

W: hallbankgatehub.org

Cakes, scones, soup, sandwiches available

Call in advance if with a group

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Happy New Year from the Hub

The Christmas decorations have been taken down and the mince pies and mulled wine are a distant memory. Winter is here with a vengeance and the Hub will continue to provide a warm and friendly place to meet up with friends, do some home working or just drop in for shopping and a cup of coffee. We now have a range of very tasty homemade soups which are becoming very popular as an excellent winter warmer.

Until mid-February we hosted an exhibition by local photographer Molly Matcham documenting the Victorian interior of the now closed Turkish Baths in Carlisle along with portraits of the people who went there. A second collection of her work captured the colour, light and patterns in the local Landscape, often using a figure to provide a sense of contact with the land.

Until 26th March you can catch exhibitions by four other artists: Helen Alice Johnson, Val Payton, Tom McLaughlan and Emily Alice Dawson. Helen's work relates to two rivers here and in France; Val's work involves free flowing lines and colours, and Tom's style has been referred to as 'ministract' (sometimes his pictures are minimal, sometimes abstract). Emily has a free abstract style which allows the viewer to make their own interpretation of her work. Stunning stuff by all four: well worth the visit!

The Hub is looking forward to the coming year with various projects being planned. We are going to create a garden area adjacent to the Hub with aromatic plants and flowers and create a space to enjoy refreshments on those long summer days!

We are replacing our Library Link with a Book Exchange which will be available whenever the shop is open. Contributions of books would be welcome, including children's books as Hallbankgate school children visit the Hub every week to browse, borrow books and also listen to a story read by one of our volunteers.

We are also in the planning stage of providing refillable products to enable you to bring your own container and help reduce the plastic used in our everyday lives. We hope to have this up and running by the end of January.

We have a fantastic group of volunteers at the Hub and could always do with more. If you are at all interested in joining us and would like to chat over a cup of coffee (and cake!) please contact us on volunteer@hallbankgatehub.org or call in at the Hub and ask to speak to one of the volunteer co-ordinators.

Hallbankgate WI Explores Local History

In January Tom Park and Richard Macdonald gave a presentation and talk to Hallbankgate WI about the history of the area stretching from Hallbankgate out to Midgeholme using material from the archives of the Coanwood Featherstone Lambley Tindale etc History Group.

Twenty one WI members turned up to fill the back room of the Belted Will pub. Audience interaction was fantastic and the event overran by 20 minutes. Both speakers remarked how enjoyable the evening was and pass on their thanks for the supper and also to the kind lady who bought them both a pint!

Aptly enough one topic was about Hallbankgate pubs, publicans and innkeepers from 1841 to 1939.

- * 1841 Rachel Calvert age 26, Publican and Ann Routledge age 40, Publican
- * 1851 Rachel Calvert age 36 , Innkeeper **Kings Arms** and Thomas Ruddick age 50, Innkeeper **Hallbank Inn**
- * 1861 Thomas Ruddick age 60, Innkeeper/Farmer Hall (**Hallbank Inn/Cherry Tree Inn**)
- * 1861 John Bell, Innkeeper and Farmer Hallbankgate
- * 1871 Margaret Lowes, widow age 33 Innkeeper Hallbankgate
- 1881 No sign of a pub or hotel
- * 1891 William Graham age 56 Innkeeper (**Hotel**)
- * 1901 Barbara Teasdale age 40, Hotel Keeper and Isabella Teasdale age 36, **Temperance Hotel**
- * 1911 Barbara Teasdale age 50, Isabella Teasdale age 46, Hotel Keepers **Temperance Hotel**
(Barbara and Isabella were unmarried sisters and Thomas Ruddick's Grand-Daughters)
- * 1921/8 William Colling age 71/5, Hotel Keeper and Farmer **Temperance Hotel**, died 1/2/28 age 78
- * 1929 Misses Colling Hotel Keeper **Temperance Hotel** (daughters of Wm. Colling and Mary nee Walton dec'd)
- * 1939 Mary, Martha and Elizabeth Colling **Temperance Hotel** (Household Duties/Shop Keeper/sub Postmistress)

Temperance Hotel in the 1920's when run by William Colling



Early 1900's photo of the Cherry Tree Inn but with no sign: probably closed by then as no records past 1871.



For Sale notice for the Cherry Tree Inn at Bank Hall



The location of the Kings Arms remains a mystery. Does anyone know its location or have any other information relating to pubs and hotels in the area which Richard and Tom would find interesting?

The History Group has a small collection of old Hallbankgate photos posted on their Facebook page and would love to find others of the local areas, especially towards Halton Lea Gate and beyond. If anyone has any photos or stories to share please contact Tom Park at No 1, Roachburn 6 who would be happy to receive anything of interest. The Group are developing a website and starting to write a book on their areas of interest so the more info the better.

Richard Macdonald, Chairman, Local History Group

contact 01434 321316 or 074848 00632 E mail macasrich9@gmail.com



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