

Summer Edition June to August 2023

Farlam Parish Village News



Welcome to the Summer 2023 edition of the Farlam Parish Village News. Thanks to Molly Matcham who kindly provided our cover photograph. It was taken at the rear of Park Terrace looking towards Geltsdale.

Inside the newsletter there are articles on local birds, Parish Council election results, and forthcoming local cycle tours that you and your chums can take part in: exciting news as always from our local school, details of Church services, happenings at the Hub and 100 Club draw winners.

In addition there is the first of a new regular column from our Cumberland Councillor and a report on what the parish council and has been up to, Hallbankgate WI events and much, much more, including celebrations at the church to mark the coronation.

Thanks again to all 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 then email the Editor: *farlamvillagenews@gmail.com*

A Trio of Songsters – our warblers are back!

One of the delights of early summer is the sound of birdsong as it fills the woodlands. The fresh green leaves complement the sounds of birdsong on a lovely morning.

We have three leaf warblers that frequent the deciduous woodlands in and just around the parish. These little gems flit among the leaf canopy as they search for invertebrate food. Their weight is similar to that of a one-pound coin and yet they have crossed seas and in some cases deserts to arrive in our woodlands. In appearance they look rather similar to each other. Their different songs are the key to knowing which is which species. But first a brief introduction -

Willow Warbler

We are very lucky to have this species in northern Britain. It has all but disappeared from the south through climate change; a hardy species that often frequents a few scattered saplings on the moorland edge. A tough traveller too, it must negotiate the Sahara to get to its African wintering grounds.



Chiffchaff

An early summer migrant that arrives towards the end of March from its Mediterranean wintering grounds. A few individuals remain with us over winter and usually take advantage of water treatment plants as a source of shelter and plentiful invertebrate food. Their relatively short wings reflect their short distance migrations.

Wood Warbler

This slightly larger warbler (more the weight of an old-style pound coin) is the longest distance migrant of the three. It winters across a wide swathe of sub-Saharan Africa. Sadly, it is declining in numbers.

Now we return to how these birds sing. In 1768 Gilbert White (of a Natural History of Selborne fame) wrote to Thomas Penant (that great traveller and chronicler); he described separating 'Willow Wren' into three species by listening to their songs.



Georgian naturalists had always lumped our three warblers under one form – Willow Wren. But that has now changed. Today all we need to do is to listen to their song to find out which of the three leaf warblers we are hearing. So this is how it goes –

Chiffchaff sings a simple song with alternating high and low notes; hence chiff – chaff – chiff -chaff and so on. Quite a jaunty rendition with occasional departures from the sequence with a double chiff or a double chaff thrown in.

Willow Warbler is clearly more of a songster. It gives a lovely simple series of notes that gradually come down the scale; a descending cadence of silvery notes. This little phrase that lasts only three or four seconds is then repeated but never seems to lose its charm.

Wood Warbler is quite a performer. It chooses a prominent branch under the leafy canopy and puts everything into the song. A clear tuneful note is then repeated with increasing rapidity to end in a resonant trill. All the while the bird droops its wings which quiver as it belts out its dramatic song. This trill has been likened to the sound of a silver coin spinning to rest on a metal counter.

Chris Hind chris.m.hind@gmail.com



Fellfoot Forward Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) working with Farlam Church community

Following a brief visit to Farlam churchyard with Edward Johnsen back in the summer of 2021, the Fellfoot Forward LPS, a project led by the North Pennines AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) Partnership and funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, will be working with Edward and a group from the local community to survey the churchyard's wildlife and develop a simple plan to make it even better for nature.

The churchyard already supports nature with a range of native wildflowers, trees, insects, fungi, lichens, and much more. This opportunity to strengthen wildlife will be a gentle change for a special place for the local community, and is unlikely to result in the churchyard looking, or being managed, in a radically different way.

As part of the Fellfoot Forward Citizen Science project, the North Pennines AONB Partnership will be working with the Cumbria Wildlife Trust (CWT) and Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre (CBDC), to survey the churchyard's grasslands on Wednesday 16 June. This will be part of the Siteseeing project, which is surveying wildlife rich sites across the Fellfoot Forward scheme area. The results from the survey will be used to suggest improvements for wildlife and the local group will be developing a simple plan to help them to manage the churchyard in the future. The Fellfoot Forward Environment Grant may be able to provide support, such as purchasing wildflower seed.

The survey team of experienced botanists will be led by CBDC's Field Officer, Stuart Colgate, and will also provide an opportunity for people who are learning botanical skills to get involved. Anyone wishing to join in, or just to find out more, is welcome to come along on the day.

For further information, please contact Tim Jacobs: tjacobs@northpenninesaonb.org.uk / 07920028975

Hallbankgate WI

Hallbankgate WI has 24 friendly members and we are always keen to welcome visitors and new members. We enjoy a full programme of talks, meals out, coffee mornings and visits.

We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the Small Hall at the Lacy Thompson Memorial Hall, Crossgates, Hallbankgate. Talks are followed by a supper provided by members.

Our forthcoming programme includes:

- ◆ June 22nd - Meal Out (Duke of Cumberland)
- ◆ July 27th - Local author, Claire Askew: 'The Accidental Crime Writer'
- ◆ August 24th - Vita Collins: 'Project LINUS'

(its mission is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth & comfort to children, who are sick, disabled, disadvantaged or distressed by donating gifts of NEW, HOMEMADE, WASHABLE quilts & blankets, lovingly made by UK volunteer knitters & quilters).

- ◆ September 28th - 68th Birthday Party: 'Sea Shanties'

We also have a trip on 8th June to Warwick Bridge Corn Mill and our President's Coffee Morning on 15th July. If you 'want to try before you join' or just fancy one meeting we welcome guests but ask for a donation of £4 to help cover our costs.

For more information contact President, Claire Skeates, at hallbankgatewi@gmail.com



Hallbankgate Village School News

016977 46237 www.hallbankgate.org.uk mandy.davidson@hallbankgate.org.uk



We've had an incredibly busy few months in school and the remainder of the academic year looks to be no different!

In Class 1, we have been continuing to develop our understanding of the world around us through a very exciting format...food! During the spring term, we cooked (and ate!) our way around the world and cooked everything from pizzas to sweet and sour noodles and vegetable samosas! We all enjoyed tasting new combinations of flavours and ingredients and learning a little bit more about what is eaten around the world. In our Design and Technology learning, we have also been developing our sewing skills to make puppets: they are looking very effective and we can't wait to play with them once they are finished. We have also been enjoying playing and learning under our brand-new outdoor canopy and have really enjoyed acting out what we know about Grace Darling by playing in our very own lighthouse role-play area!

In Class 2, we have been learning more about Hallbankgate and the local area in our history and geography learning as we compared how the village has changed over the last 100 years. We really enjoyed completing a fieldwork study around the village to collect our data and we found it fascinating to compare old maps to the things that we can see today. We also used historical sources (such as our school log books, photographs and documents) to find out more about what it would have been like to have attended our school. Just like Class 1, we have been developing our sewing skills too and have planned, designed and created our very own bunting that we can't wait to hang up in our classroom. We have also been working incredibly hard with our reading and we are all enjoying reading and sharing a wide variety of stories at home and in school.

In Class 3, we have started our weekly swimming lessons this term and everyone is having lots of fun whilst learning this valuable life skill: we've all made so much progress already and we really look forward to our lessons each week. We've also been working hard to develop our understanding of how we can look after the world around us and the impact of human activity on a local and global scale. To support our learning, we've been lucky enough to have the opportunity to work with Steve Bray who has helped us to learn about wildfires (including their causes and impact) and we've been inspired to create an interpretive dance and a series of information texts to raise the profile of this issue. We have also welcomed a number of visitors to our school to help us learn about why people are sometimes forced to leave their homes and what it would have been like to grow up in another country. We are very grateful to Chris and Sue (two of our school Governors) and Pat from the Carlisle Refugee Action Group for helping to arrange this learning experience and we really valued having the opportunity to share lunch, play time and a question and answer session with our guests.

As well as all of these exciting learning opportunities over the last few weeks, we celebrated the coronation of King Charles III by writing poems, drawing pictures and baking (all royal-themed of course!) and sharing these with our families at a special coronation coffee afternoon. The Parents and Friends Association of our school kindly gave each of us a special commemorative coin, following lots of successful fundraising events in the autumn term, too. We've also welcomed our parents to join us in celebrating all of the wonderful home-learning projects that we created and we can't wait to have parents join us for a very special play time where we hope that they can see just what we get up to, each and every break time. In recent weeks, we have made dens; created a brand-new digging pit; developed our circus skills; made waterways across the whole playground and – possibly best of all – enjoyed playing, climbing and swinging on our brand new sky tower that has been installed. It has been lots of fun!

We think you'll agree that we've had a pretty busy term! Before the end of the school year, we are looking forward to Sports Day and a number of sports festivals and competitions in the local area, as well as all of the transition events that will help us get ready for our new year groups. We are excited to begin our preparations for our entry into the school's category for Cumbria in Bloom (having achieved **gold** last year!) and we are very much looking forward to welcoming as many members of our school and local community as possible to our summer fete on July 8th... look out for more details nearer the time!

If you'd like to find out more about about our school and what goes on, our weekly newsletter (www.hallbankgate.org.uk) is jam-packed with photographs and information. Our nursery is open during term time. Please get in touch to arrange a visit and find out about the learning opportunities on offer.

Snippets of Interest

Brampton Police Station Front Desk Closed

The opportunity to call into the local Police Station to discuss concerns or report a crime in person is no longer an option following the closure of the front desk on 1st April 2023.

This is part of a wider review and reflects changing behaviour by the public who prefer to use online methods to contact the Police.

The Station remains fully operational and the Neighbourhood Police Team will provide opportunities to meet officers out in the community. To report a crime online visit cumbria.police.uk and click on Report It. This gives several options including Dial 101 to speak to a call handler, Live Chat or an online form. Alternatively phone Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or use their website: crimestoppers-uk.org.

Dialling 999 is for reporting a serious crime in progress when there is immediate threat to life or a serious road accident with people injured.

Community Goodfellows

A big thank you to Hayden from Farlam who constructed a new village notice board using locally sourced recycled materials and also to Edward Dean from Kirkhouse who repaired the hinge and re-hung the lower gate into the churchyard which the Joseph Bell Memorial Fund had cleaned and repainted. Well done everyone!

The Plant Sale at Farlam Church

This was held on 21st May and was very well attended and raised £836.91 from the sale of plants, cakes and teas. Proceeds from the sale generally go towards the upkeep of the local church and will help towards the cost of the new church heating system. The final figure was further boosted by an anonymous donation of £100.00 In addition the coloured pencil framed picture created and donated by Brenda Benjamin for our Spring edition newsletter cover was auctioned off and won by Mr. Tim Arndt with a winning bid of £100.00.

Hallbankgate Village Hall News

Lea-Anne the Caretaker reports that its been busy, busy, busy down at the hall: the Committee members and volunteers have worked wonders with the garden and soon new lighting will be installed inside and outside.

Lots of groups are hiring the hall for their activities: badminton, pickleball and Tai Chi take place weekly. Each month the WI, Brampton Young Farmers and the Parish Council also meet there. A clarinet group have also used the hall as a rehearsal venue and a recent rock night fundraiser generated £1110.00.

This varied use of the hall by the community includes the annual flower show, kids' parties and even training courses and a seminar.

The hall is looking for two more committee members to help keep things running smoothly. Email hbgvillagehall@outlook.com to find out more. To hire the hall contact Lea-Anne by email or telephone: 016977 46574 or 07412 158502

Farlam 100 + Club

Enclosed with the newsletter is a membership form for the 100 + Club. If you are already a member then you will receive your renewal form separately. Ann Freer from Farlam now manages the Club which raises money which is then used to help maintain Farlam church and the churchyard. 50% of the receipts are returned to members via the monthly prize draw.

If you have loved ones resting in the graveyard then this is an excellent way of helping maintain the area and access to graves.

Cumberland Council Update By Roger Dobson

One profound change following Local Government Reorganisation is that you now have one Councillor (me) representing you, whereas there used to be four of us: three Carlisle City Councillors and a Cumbria County Councillor. I pay tribute to City Councillors Keith Meller, Mike Mitchelson and Raymond Tinnion for their efforts in the past.

The new Cumberland Council held its first meeting in Carlisle on 13th April and approved the new constitution and membership of Committees. Arguably Committee is where most of the work is done. I am on the Staff, Harbour (Port of Workington) and Planning Committees. There will be one Planning Committee (I am Vice Chair) where before there were four - so it is likely to be busy.

Another significant departure from the past is the arrangement of local committees. Cumbria organised local committee of Councillors for each of the three Districts: Allerdale, Copeland and Carlisle. These committees addressed local issues particularly highways matters and allocated grants for good causes. The new Labour party administration believes that greater local engagement will be encouraged by increasing the number of committees (to be called Community Panels) and reducing geographical areas. In our case the Corby and Hayton Ward will be grouped with Brampton, Wetheral Houghton and Irthington, Longtown, Stanwix and Belah. The latter two are urban and unlike the five rural wards do not have parish councils. In fact, the whole urban area of Carlisle remains unparished which in my opinion needs to be rectified as soon as possible. Our friends in Barrow fixed this issue ahead of reorganisation and they now have a Town Council. Similarly, when Shropshire became a Unitary Council, Shrewsbury (which is almost the same size as Carlisle) became a Town Council.

The question really is should there be one Town Council, or should there be a division between North and South of the River Eden? We do not know yet how Community Panels are going to work – our first meeting is scheduled for 29th June. In my opinion Parish Councils should play an important role in influencing the evolving role of Community Panels. We are required to develop a Community Plan which will feed into an Investment Plan. In the immediate future these new panels will have limited resources with a modest grants budget. There will be no local budget for Highways which will be held by a sub-committee of the Executive.

We live in austere times and I worry that we are failing to maintain our infrastructure properly. If this continues, I believe we must become smarter in adopting more effective processes and technology - we must not lose the war on potholes. If I can persuade the Cumberland Council to adopt 20mph as the default speed limit in villages and urban areas, then there will not only be a safety and environment bonus, but our roads will wear out more slowly. I attended a two-car road traffic accident on the A69 in the centre of Warwick Bridge earlier this year. If the speed limit had been 20mph it is likely that the two cars would not have been write-offs, two people wouldn't have required hospital treatment and four police cars, two fire engines one ambulance and eighteen emergency personnel could have been employed elsewhere.

I started my campaign to be a Councillor in Hallbankgate almost two years ago. At that time the big issue was the viability of the Parish Council which became inquorate for a lack of Councillors. This was quickly rectified in a new election of eleven Councillors which coincided with my own election.

Congratulations to Farlam's eight Councillors who were re-elected on 4th May and a ninth who was co-opted more recently. We should be grateful that public spirited citizens are willing to contribute their time and energy to the community. I feel fortunate in my Ward that there are six active and effective Parish Councils. I believe they find the role satisfying and enjoyable. Vacancies do arise during the year so if you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk (Email farlampc@hotmail.co.uk).



Main telephone contact number : 0300 373 3730

Website: Cumberland.gov.uk contains links to services including:-

- Health & Social Care
- Trading Standards
- Schools & Education
- Libraries & Archives
- Planning & Building control
- Roads & Transport
- Bins & Recycling
- Council Tax & Business Rates
- Housing

Farlam Parish Council Activities

In response to the passing of Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022 and the coronation of King Charles III on May 6th this year, the Parish Council placed a declaration of condolence on the Farlam Parish website to mark the Queen's death and is currently consulting with Hallbankgate School and local parishioners on the installation of a memorial bench within the parish to mark the coronation of the King.

The past year has seen the Parish Council revert to relative normality with bi-monthly face to face meetings replacing enforced virtual meetings held during the pandemic. This approach has allowed informed debate and enabled new members of the council to become more accustomed to their roles and responsibilities, ably supported by our Parish Clerk, Allison Riddell. Recent local government re-organisation has also added some challenge as we become accustomed to the revised structure and expectations.

Parish Council business has focused on managing a tight budget enabling us to fulfil our statutory functions. The maintenance and upgrading of the play area continues to be a challenge and much of the equipment will likely need further repair or indeed replacement. The buffer area around the play park continues to cause concern with tree damage causing parts of the wall to collapse. The responsibility for this repair is currently being confirmed. Two Councillors carry out regular checks of the play equipment to ensure it is safe. An annual inspection of the equipment is carried out by specialist surveyors who identify safety issues that may exist and identify any remedial actions required.

The Parish Council continues to be concerned about the speed of traffic through the village of Hallbankgate and are awaiting the instalment of the recently purchased Speed Indication Device to inform road users of their current speed, hopefully causing them to slow down, where appropriate. The Council has also registered an interest with our local Cumberland Councillor in participating in a trial of 20 mph speed limit in the village as part of a wider pilot scheme.

Other more mundane activities have included maintaining a grass cutting contract for areas in our parish, dealing with, and reporting fly tipping and road surface issues, together with commenting on planning applications when appropriate.

The forthcoming year will bring on going challenges as we continue to focus on our current key priorities of traffic, road safety, play area maintenance and safety, and the provision of a clean safe parish environment.

In the recent past the Parish Council has, at times, struggled to be quorate in meetings, however, the influx of councillors has ensured this is not an issue and it is hoped that, as we all develop and become accustomed to our new roles, we will continue to thrive over the forthcoming year. It is hoped that further recruitment will ensure the council is "future proof".

Finally, it is important that we mark the passing of Mr Alan Shaw in December 2022, Alan was a key member of the Parish Council for many years and did so much to ensure our parish was a pleasant environment to live in.

Mr C. Marsh Chairman, Farlam Parish Council

Footnote: The Parish Council have removed the swings from the village play area for safety reasons and apologise for any disappointment caused. They will be replaced at the earliest opportunity.

Farlam Parish Council Election Results

Two Parish Councillors have stepped down this year. The eight remaining Parish Councillors were re-elected on 5/4/23. As there were more vacancies for councillors than people nominated for election, the Returning Officer gave notice of an uncontested election, meaning that there was no need for people to vote, and confirmed that the following were duly elected as Parish councillors for Farlam.

Ian Victor Ashton from Hallbankgate	Alison Mary Broomhead from Tindale Fell
James Edward Lewis Brown from Hallbankgate	Simon Terrance Burd from Farlam
Susan Jennifer Lingard from Hallbankgate	Amanda Lister from Hallbankgate
Christopher John Marsh from Hallbankgate	Peter Scott from Forest Head.

Full contact details are available on: farlamparishcouncil.com

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

	April	May	June
1st Prize £25.00	Sandie Jackson	David Lawson	Ann Freer
2nd Prize £15.00	Brian Murphy	Alan Barron	Janice Murray
3rd Prize £10.00	Norah Jackson	Kate Apperley	Kathleen Beesley



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Cross Border Sportive Cycling Event - 1st September 2023

This popular annual cycling event is co-organised by James Brown from Clesketts and friends.

It takes place on 1st September and offers riders the option of three different routes over quiet roads in north Cumberland and the Scottish Borders. Riders of all abilities are welcome to take part in this family friendly event.

Entry costs from £20.00 and riders benefit from complementary lunch, cream teas and snacks at the legendary feed station. Event photography, signed routes, a mobile mechanic and first aid support are also provided along with free parking at Lannercost and spot prizes from **Restrap**.

Under 18's can enter free along with a paying adult enabling whole families to take part.

Riders can choose between a 30 mile 'Recce' a 50 mile 'Raid' or an epic 80 mile 'Invasion'. These might seem daunting but the 30 mile route promises to be a relaxed ride so sign up with your pals. Stop for a rest halfway round and eat cake or fruit, top up your water and head off towards the finish.

The 50 and 80 mile rides are more challenging with respective ascents of 1500 and 2400m all along on relatively car free roads. Check out the routes and find out more using links on:

crossbordersportive.wordpress.com

Church Matters

Eden, Gelt & Irthing Ministry

Team Vicar: Revd Edward Johnsen

Tel: 01228 670248

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 usually take place at 11:00am on the first and third Sundays of the month. All are very welcome to join us. When there is no service at Farlam everyone can worship at Talkin Church where services are usually held each Sunday at 9:15am.

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

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. Holy Communion takes place at 9:30am in St Martin's Church Brampton.

Congratulations to James Neve and Laura Elliot on their wedding at Farlam Church on 27th May 2023. 'Those who live in love in God, and God lives in them'.

Obituary

It is with sadness that we report the death of Bill McLaughlan on 22nd April 2023. Bill was born in Glasgow in 1936 and moved to Kirkhouse in 1992 when he began work at Chapelcross nuclear power station.



Bill met his future wife Ruth in Chester on Valentine's Day 1959 when he was taken to hospital following a rugby injury: Ruth was a nurse on his ward. They married in 1961. Son Tom and daughter Susan completed the family. Sadly their first grandchild Katie died an hour after being born prematurely and is buried in Farlam graveyard. More grandchildren followed: Charlotte, Finn and Fabian.

Ruth was an active member of Farlam church, playing the organ and helping to organise plant sales and craft fairs. Bill, a lifelong agnostic, helped with these events and planted hundreds of daffodils at the front of the church to mark the millennium. He was also Treasurer of the Church and launched the 100 Club lottery.

In time Ruth's health deteriorated and Bill became her full-time carer until her death in 2020. Bill was a generous person who willingly and quietly gave much of his time to help others. He was respected and well liked as a Director at Chapelcross, spending much of his time working alongside his team who remember fondly his outrageous sense of humour, his commitment to life, his honesty and his determination to help others and do the right thing.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

In June 1878 a letter was delivered to the Revd R. W. Dixon at Hayton Vicarage. The 45-year-old vicar had just been contacted out of the blue by a former school pupil, then training to be a Roman Catholic priest in the seminary at St Beuno's in North Wales. That former pupil was Gerald Manley Hopkins, the famous poet, who wrote such wonderful poems as 'The Windhover' and 'Pied Beauty'.

At this point in time, Dixon, who had taught in London, who had been a member of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, and who had published some volumes of his own poetry – with mixed success – was reconciling himself to what seemed to him an obscure and marginal life. Suddenly this letter, in which Hopkins told him how Dixon's poetry had inspired his own, brought him back to life.

So started a correspondence between the two priest-poets. Dixon became the one person who, during his lifetime, truly appreciated Hopkins' genius and originality. Hopkins' wider recognition would be posthumous. The poet Robert Graves (author of the hymn "All my hope on God is founded"), who was a visitor to Dixon at Hayton Vicarage, published Hopkins' work after his death.

As adults Hopkins and Dixon only met once – at Carlisle when Hopkins was passing through – though their letters speak of unfulfilled plans for Hopkins to visit Hayton (a train to How Mill then pony and trap!) But the correspondence was life-affirming, even transformative for both of them.

I only discovered this link when on retreat at St Beuno's myself last summer. It was lovely to find such a connection.

Isn't it sad that letter-writing is so much rarer than it used to be? But doesn't this story ask us to consider - who could we get back in touch with, who could we look to encourage or to inspire? Most of the books of the New Testament are letters. In one of them St Paul writes: "It is a great joy to me in the Lord that after so long your care for me has now revived." (Philippians 4: 10). In another he writes to Timothy: "I remind you to stir into flame the gift from God which is yours." (2 Timothy 1: 6).

Edward Johnsen

PARISH JOURNAL

At the beginning of Holy Week in the first week of April a few local children came to church to help create a lovely Easter Garden - it has been part of the decorations in church throughout Eastertide. Then on Good Friday several of us gathered at church, along with a handful of Hallbankgate children, to walk to Lanercost Priory for a Good Friday service, taking turns to carry a large cross. Special thanks to James Bober for a compelling rendering of the role of Jesus in the Passion reading in the Priory service that followed.

On Monday 1st May we had a 9am Communion Service, using the old liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer. We usually have a brief Morning Prayer service at 9am on Mondays, but when a Monday coincides with a Saint's Day (1st May was St Philip and St James) we will mark it with a said Prayer Book Communion, lasting about 30 minutes. We will next do this on Monday 10th July, when we'll celebrate our own patron saint St Thomas a Becket (his day being 7th July).

Revd Stephen Robertson, the Team Rector based at Brampton, retired on Easter Day. He and Fi have moved to southern Scotland and we thank them for their ministry among us and especially for helping our benefice come through the challenges of the pandemic years.

Farlam Church PCC (Parochial Church Council) held its Annual Meeting on 27 April. Tim Arndt was re-elected as Churchwarden and Secretary for the coming year. Lynne McKenzie continues as Treasurer and Linda Murphy as Safeguarding Officer. Penny Raine, Alan Jackson and Bev Oliver continue their membership of the committee, as does Revd Janice Murray as a co-opted member, and it's very good to welcome Christine Mineham and Geraldine Bolton as PCC members for the first time.

Network Youth Church

Youth Drop ins for 12-18 year olds take place each week at the Green Door Centre in Brampton on Wednesdays at 6:30pm to 8:00pm and on Thursdays from 3:20pm to 5:00pm every week in term time.

Night Light events involving games and activities for those in secondary school also take place on Friday nights from 7:30pm –9:00pm. Includes some spiritual food for thought.

Further details from Ruth Hutchinson at the Green Door Centre, Main Street, Brampton CR8 1RS tel. no. 016977 742123 or Edward Johnsen tel. no. 01228 670248 edwardjohnsen@gmail.com

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

Gallery, Library Link, PO

 **T: 016977 46060** 

The Hub is fast becoming a place where local artists are keen to display their work and all the exhibitions arouse a lot of interest. For us at the Hub it is a 'win win' as we continuously display dramatic and wonderful art works on walls that would otherwise be bare and the artists themselves express delight at the opportunity to display their work in such a vibrant and friendly place.

Our latest exhibition, which runs until mid June, is the work of Emily Alice Dawson. Emily is a local artist living in Farlam where she also has her studio. She works with a variety of media and continues to experiment with different techniques and styles including portraits. It is her ability to present such a wide range of artistic styles that makes a visit to see her work a must. We are delighted to host her in our Gallery.

Our next workshop in our Community Room is Felting for beginners with tutor Sandie Craig. This is being run by the WEA (Workers Educational Association) and is free to those receiving benefits or £36 payable on booking. The dates are 15th/22nd/29th June and 6th and 20th of July 2-4pm at the Hub. For enquiries or to book please contact: jBloxham@wea.ac.uk

Meanwhile there's a revolution at the hub! A bicycle revolution. It started out with just one electric bike. A cargo bike transporting fridges and even sofas! Then another volunteer became interested and soon there were two electric bikes parked outside the Hub. Regular customers are showing up on electric bikes. Volunteers are cycling up from Brampton with electrical assist. The Hub is fast becoming a hub for electric bikes! While some come regularly from as far afield as Wetheral to drink our wonderful coffee, others of us use our bikes just for enjoyment and sustainable travel.

To add to our ecological credentials the sale of our re-usable products is proving very popular. Not only is it an ecologically sound way of buying these items, but it also makes them very affordable. As well as providing refillable shampoo, conditioner and hand soap and laundry liquid we now can also refill herbs and spices from a large selection.

There are monthly quiz sheets on sale at Hallbankgate Hub. They come out on the 1st of each month, a different theme each month. They are 50 questions on an A4 sheet. They cost £1.00. The funds are raised for Hallbankgate Hub.

The community seed bank at the Hub has been well used with only a few packets of seeds remaining last month. Thanks to everyone who donated seeds. There was an interesting assortment of seeds for garden flowers, vegetables, wild flowers, herbs and even some shrubs and trees. New deposits will be welcome. Please harvest what seeds you can to help replenish the seed bank once autumn draws near.

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.




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



Jean Fordy Memorial Window Installed

A memorial window in honour of Miss Jean Fordy a local schoolteacher and much loved organist at Farlam church was installed in the Church in April by Alex Haynes a local glass artist. Jean died in 2018.

The window was designed by Brenda Benjamin, a member of the Society of Botanic Artists who lives in Farlam. Brenda spent time with Jean's sister Louie to identify aspects of Jean's life which were then incorporated into the design.

The Palm Cross and the treble clef at the centre of the window design are threaded with a favourite line from the Palm Sunday hymn 'All Glory laud and honour to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring'.

Jean loved Marigolds and the floral illustrations that frame the central image are taken from flowers found in Jean's garden. The Marigold opens its petals in the morning and closes them again in the evening, mirroring the cycle of life, and the Palm cross is a reminder of the resurrection.

The Marigold is also known for weeping, as it often holds a bead of morning dew on its petals, like a teardrop. It is known in Old English as Meargealla: it is slightly bitter and associated with the sorrow of Mary, mother of Jesus and is mentioned by Shakespeare in 'The Winter's tale'.

Brenda has incorporated seven ivy leaves to represent the seven members of the Fordy family. In situ, the Marigolds and the Forget-Me-Not are viewed against the backdrop of the old Yew Tree which stands behind the window blending well with the rural setting of the Church.

Sadly Louie also died recently. She too had been a local school teacher and like her sister Jean was a long time member of Farlam Church congregation.

Trevor Benjamin.

Coronation Celebrations at Farlam Church

A group of parishioners rang the church bells for 30 minutes on Saturday to mark the forthcoming coronation of King Charles 3rd.

On Sunday following the church service, the congregation celebrated the coronation with a bring and share lunch.



New Roof on the Coffin House

Back in February, local lad Roger Forster happily gave up a couple of nights and part of his week-end to measure up and build a new roof structure on the coffin house at Farlam Church. The coffin house has not been used for many years and had fallen into a state of disrepair.

As luck would have it the Community Payback team who help maintain the churchyard were supervised by a former builder and two of the team happened to be roofers. Lynne the Church treasurer asked Roger if he could repair the rotting timbers. Once the new framework was in place the Community Payback team led by Tommy Mattinson added the membrane, the lead flashing and replaced the slates.



Local History Group News

Steve Bentley organised a two hour guided walk and talk around Epiacum Roman Fort and the Bastle Houses on 16th April. 27 hardy folk attended including 4 new members. The weather was very kind thank goodness! Steve explained the whole area to us in great detail. Everyone enjoyed the experience very much. The group membership now stands at 248 including expats in Australia and Canada. The group are looking to organise a walk and talk around Tindale Spelter works this summer. Richard would appreciate it if anyone out there with knowledge of the works contacts him. Contact Richard Macdonald, at the Local History Group on 01434 321316 or by email macasrich9@gmail.com to share old photos and documents or simply find out more about the group.





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Hallbankgate Flower Show 2023



Saturday 2nd September
Hallbankgate Village Hall

Entries to be submitted 10.00am – 11.30am

Show open for viewing at 2.30pm

Admission includes tea & cake: Adults £2.50 / Children 50p

SECTION 1 - VEGETABLES		SECTION 2 - FLOWERS & PLANTS (Vases for display purposes are optional)		SECTION 3 - BAKING & PRESERVES	
1	3 long potatoes	21	3 sunflowers cut	40	Jar of jam – any variety
2	3 round potatoes	22	3 phlox	41	Jar of lemon curd
3	Collection of 3 different veg.	23	6 sweet peas	42	Jar of chutney
4	1 cabbage	24	4 nasturtiums	43	Jar of marmalade
5	2 onions from seed	25	1 single rose	44	Dish of rum butter
6	2 onions from sets	26	3 Dahlias	45	Savoury flan
7	4 shallots on plate	27	1 Gladioli	46	4 decorated cupcakes
8	1 Turnip or swede	28	4 Marigolds	47	4 fruit scones
9	1 marrow or squash	29	Vase of mixed flowers	48	4 cheese scones
10	3 beetroots, 1 to be cut	30	Foliage plant	49	lemon meringue pie
11	6 pea pods on plate	31	Flowering plant	50	4 squares gingerbread
12	4 runner beans	32	Fuchsia	51	4 shortbread biscuits
13	1 cucumber	33	3 stems (any variety)	52	4 pieces tray bake
14	3 carrots	34	Arrangement, any colour (no more than 6 inches square)	53	Victoria sponge with jam filling (no icing sugar on top!)
15	3 bulbs of garlic	35	Cactus	54	Cake of your choice
16	4 tomatoes	36	Succulent	55	1lb loaf (white or brown)
17	3 rhubarb sticks	37	Chili plant	56	Tea bread loaf
18	3 courgettes	38	Buttonhole/Corsage/Spray	57	Homemade Beverage – Alcoholic
19	Collection of 4 or more herbs	39	1 Tallest Sunflower **	58	Homemade Beverage – Non-alcoholic
20	1 Wonky Veg		**Sunflower to be measured in garden by Judge, 1 week before flower show	59	Collection of 3 fresh eggs
SECTION 4 - INDUSTRIAL & CRAFTS		CHILDRENS CLASSES		SCHOOL ENTRY SECTION	
60	Cross stitch		Ages 0-5		EYFS
61	Patchwork item	77	Piece of Writing	91	Writing
62	Quilting	78	Drawing/painting	92	Picture or portrait
63	Appliqué		Ages 6-8		KS1
64	Handmade soft toy	79	Piece of Writing	93	Writing
65	Hand-crafted wooden item	80	Drawing/painting	94	Picture/Portrait
66	Painting *		Ages 9-11		KS2
67	Drawing*	81	Piece of Writing	95	Writing
68	Photograph (12"x8" or less) *	82	Drawing/painting	96	Picture/Portrait
69	Greeting's card (any material)		All Ages		30p per entry
70	Hand knitted article	83	Lego Model		Entries for children's section free
71	Home Sewn Item	84	Garden on a tin lid		
72	Upcycled/repurposed item*	85	Small flower arrangement		
73	Handmade tool	86	4 homemade biscuits		
74	Handmade ornament	87	collage made from any material		
75	Lego Model*	88	Photograph (12" x 8" or less)		
76	Garden on a tin lid*	89	Any Homemade item		
		90	Upcycled/repurposed item		

* For children use children's entry sections

Phone 016977 46353 or email hbqvilleagehall@outlook.com for any details of classes

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