

HAPPY NEW YEAR



The Houghton Village Echo
Issue No. 42 Free Newsletter Dec. 2015



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH HOUGHTON



This Remembrance Sunday was one to remember in Houghton - and one that will be remembered for many years to come.

Each year we move our service at St John's from our usual 11am start to 10:45 so that we can hold the 2-minute silence at 11am. Each year our uniformed organisations and their parents are invited to join us, as our brownies, guides, beavers and scouts parade their flags. And each year you are more than welcome to join us. To stand and remember seems to me the least we can do for their sacrifice.

This year was extra special, however, because one kind member of the Houghton community has donated 4 poppies from the Tower of London display as a permanent memorial. Hamish Phillips - known to many through the Stanwix Rural Parish Council, or through the growing football teams at Houghton, tells the

story in his own words, taken from an e-mail he sent to me:

"I was taken by the moving display at the Tower of London and wanted to purchase four of the poppies, one for each of the armed forces and one for civilians, making a donation for the cause they represented. Once received, we decided that it would be a great idea to donate the poppies to the Church, so that they could go on display, everyone could enjoy them and they would be a lasting legacy for the church and the village.

With the support of Andrew (providing the home for the poppies), Steve Splinter (providing the oak), Mike Harrison (the polishing and preparation of the oak) the plan came to fruition and I am delighted that all will be ready for Remembrance Sunday, exactly what the poppies were intended for. Please take care of them"

He and I had various conversations

along the way, and we are both extremely pleased with the result. The simple plaque on the oak bears witness to the sacrifice of soldiers, airmen, sailors and civilians in the cause of peace. And though the World Wars seem ever further in the past, the cause of peace is ever contemporary. I write just a few days after the Paris bombings, which came two days after the Beirut bombings, and the roll-call goes on. Even today, the UN classifies 55 ongoing conflicts of various sizes across the globe.

Never has there been a greater need to remember the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ - who died that we might enjoy peace with God and therefore with each other. My hope and prayer is that these poppies will remind us of the many who sacrificed their lives that we might live now, as well as the One who sacrificed his life that we might live for ever by trusting in him.

Andrew Towner - Vicar



Stanwix Rural Parish Council

HOUGHTON | LINSTOCK | CROSBY | BRUNSTOCK | RICKERBY | WHITECLOSEGATE | TARRABY

COUNCIL MEETINGS

These are held on the second Wednesday of each month commencing at 19:30. For up to date information on venues, please see the notices and agendas etc. on Parish Council notice boards and now also on the website - See below

The council meeting may be adjourned at the discretion of the chairman, in order to allow members of the public to address the meeting regarding business to be transacted at the meeting: electors wishing to bring matters of concern to the council's attention are asked to contact the Parish Clerk or a councillor.

PARISH CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE PARISH OFFICER:

Sarah Kyle
Clerk to the Stanwix Rural Parish Council
Hill House
Walton
Brampton
CA8 2DY

Tel: 01228 231124

Email: stanwixruralpc@carlisle-city.gov.uk

Website: www.stanwixrural.co.uk

COUNCILLORS

CLLR M FOX
Mitre House, Crosby on Eden, Carlisle, CA6 4QN
Tel: 595117

CLLR H T C PHILLIPS
59 Tribune Drive, Houghton. CA3 0LE
Tel: 528657

CLLR C DUNCAN
2 Orchard Gardens, Houghton
Tel: 549204

CLLR R GORDON
13 the Nurseries, Linstock, CA6 4RR
539158

CLLR A D LIGHTFOOT
8 Orchard Lane, Houghton, CA6 0LY
Tel: 523645

CLLR C NICHOLSON
7 Whiteclosegate, CA3 0JA
Tel: 536895

CLLR M SHERRIFF

1 Beech Grove Gardens, Houghton, CA3 0LR

CITY COUNCILLORS

CLLR BOWMAN
Ferndale, Corby Hill, Carlisle, CA4 8QG
Tel: 561185

CLLR J R BAINBRIDGE
3 Granville Road, Carlisle, CA2 7AZ
Tel: 402980

COUNTY COUNCILLORS

CLLR J MALLINSON
17 Wolsty Close, Carlisle, CA3 0PB
Tel: 533746

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk receives copies of the applications within the parish area and electors are welcome to view these by arrangement with the Clerk. They are also available to view using the link on the Parish Council's website. Comments and opinions should be put into writing to: Planning Services, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle CA3 8QG (a copy being sent to the Parish Clerk)

HIGHWAYS

Electors are reminded that complaints and other concerns in respect of highways matters should, in the first instance, be reported via:

CUMBRIA HIGHWAYS HOTLINE

Tel: 0845 609 6609

(Answer Phone - evenings, weekends and public holidays)

Email: highways@cumbria.gov.uk

The Community and Council working together

This has and will continue to happen in a number of ways over the next 6 months, as the Council begins local discussions to prepare the Parish Plan for 2016 to 2020. We will need to agree priorities for all areas of the parish on services, environmental, recreational issues and developments. There will be local meetings advertised through the notice boards, so please come along and tell us what you what the Council needs to do for you.

You can also play a part by becoming a councillor

There are vacancies and having new voices in discussions and ideas for the future are important to keep the Council moving forward. If being a councillor seems daunting and you have ideas and skills, which you want to share, the Council has working groups and possibly you could become involved in one of those, for example in helping to develop walks within the parish area. If you are interested please be in touch with Sarah Kyle, the Clerk to the Parish Council: stanwixruralpc@gmail.com

Grants to community groups

Following the allocation of grants for this year in April, the Council is starting the application process for 2016 early, with the intention being to make grant decisions at the March meeting. Details will appear on the notice boards in November and if your group is looking for support, the Council will be pleased to see your application.

Parish Council Website

The Council has been reviewing its website and will update it over the coming months to give a better service to the community. One area, which we have looked at is community activity. In particular if your group has a website or provides information electronically, the Council would be happy to put links to you on its website, if that would be of help to you. If you are interested, please contact Sarah Kyle.

Planning applications

Since the last edition, the Parish Council has considered one major planning application, namely the Solar Farm, south of Harker Grange. The Council's response followed a public drop-in session, views from local members of the community, at a Parish Council meeting, and a response from the developer following an information request from the Council.

The Council decided to support the application provided that highway concerns on glare and dazzle were addressed, together with traffic management issues on the A689, during the construction stage.

Mike Fox, Chairman

CARLISLE CENTURIANS

Since our last update, we are moving steadily forward. We have recently received a donation from Story Homes and have offers of kit sponsorship. Our u14 team is taking shape and is in training for the 2016/17 season. We are also looking to arrange some friendly games with other local teams.


We are currently looking for players and we hold training sessions in Houghton Village Hall between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm every Thursday evening. In addition, we are also looking for club officers, particularly a welfare officer, to assist in the run-

ning of the club and also help with training. Our application for affiliation to Cumbria FA is being submitted for the 2016/17 season.

Early in the new year we will be looking to establish junior teams between 5 and 7. Look out for the door drop to your house.

If you would like to get involved with your Houghton club, come along on a Thursday night or get in touch. Contact: Hamish Phillips T: 01228 528657 e: htcp1@btinternet.com – 59 Tribune Drive, Houghton www.carlislefc.com





This year has been very special for every W.I groups and Federation, our National Centenary year. There have been celebrations up and down the country.

Houghton W.I reached its 78th birthday in May and the Summer programme continued with several members viewing the National A.G.M direct from the Albert Hall on June the 4th via a link to Rheged, Penrith. Member June Lightfoot attended the AGM, proudly representing Houghton W.I on this very royal occasion, where Her Majesty the Queen, Princess Anne and Sophie Wessex were guests of honour. Ruth reported back with all the fashion details and business news.

The aim of the W.I is to inform as well as be entertained and we were

lucky at a recent meeting to have two very capable speakers from Cumbria Ambulance and Paramedic services, who not only explained their invaluable work but also invited us to view inside their ambulance.

In complete contrast was a talk by David Jenkins of Pioneer Foods, who after explaining the firms family history, presented all the ladies with a packet of their delicious sausages.

In September, a lively evening entitled "Dance with Maz" saw members taking to the floor for an energetic demonstration.

Our October meeting was an open night with an American Supper and entertainment by Eden Brass.

Other activities have included a visit

to the Archive Centre in Harraby in June, followed by tea at Sally's Kitchen. August saw us visit the Theatre by the Lake in Keswick to see "Fallen Angels", followed by high tea at Portinscale W.I. Our Centenary Day, September 16th, was celebrated at Bobbins Cafe in Carlisle with a talk and a lovely tea.

After our November A.G.M, we will all once more look forward to our Christmas lunch in the Lake District.

We have had a very enjoyable year and as we go forward to a new one, we hope to continue the National theme of Women Working Together and inspire new members.

Marjorie Armstrong



Cumbria Wildlife Trust seeks farmland

To compensate for the loss of wildlife during the building of homes at Hadrian's Camp in Houghton, Cumbria Wildlife Trust has been offered £65,000 to buy alternative land on which to create new habitat for wildlife. We are therefore looking for land adjoining or close to our farmland at Gosling Sike Farm; ideally where we can create hay meadows. Please contact Kevin Scott, Northern Reserves Officer for Cumbria Wildlife Trust, on 01228 829570 if you have

land you would like to sell. Story Homes have been asked to pay this cost by Cumbria County Council and if we don't find land within 10 years the money will return to Story Homes.

Many thanks

Charlotte

RAINBOWS

For her 16th birthday, Imogen Dodd from Houghton, asked her parents to fund a tandem skydive so she could raise money for Carlisle MENCAP, a local, independently funded charity who work with people with learning disabilities.

At the age of 14, Imogen abseiled down the side of the Civic Centre to raise money for Carlisle MENCAP. This time she will be jumping out of an aeroplane from 13,500 ft! Imogen will be doing her tandem sky-

dive in Spring 2016 at Cark Airfield in South Cumbria. She is aiming to raise as much money as possible between now and then and has set up a Just Giving page for donations www.justgiving.com/Imogen-Dodd16 Donating through Just Giving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with Just Giving – they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails.

Any donations, large or small, will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you from Imogen & everyone at Carlisle MENCAP.



Houghton Village FARMERS' MARKET

EAT LOCAL - EAT FRESH

Held on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9.00am - 1.00pm
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SUMMER FAIR

After another fantastic day last year, the Parish Council are pleased to be organising the Summer Fair which will again have a "Fairground" theme.

There will be all the successful ingredients of the last fair, bouncy castles, slides, the climbing wall, football tournament, BBQ, all day bar and mini sports day on the village green. We will also have the fairground rides plus a few traditional fairground stalls. We are hoping that we will have the police dog display team this time, which unfortunately had to cancel last year. There also will be the usual fantastic varied selection of stalls in the village hall, something not to be missed. Hopefully we will also have a car boot sale on the village hall car park and of course tea, coffee and great cakes in the village hall.

Make a diary note for: SATURDAY 2ND JULY 2016 on the village green from 1 pm till 6 pm.

If you would like to reserve a stall or book a car boot pitch, please contact:

Hamish Phillips, Parish Councillor, 01228 528657 – 59 Tribune Drive, Houghton CA3 0LE

"We look forward to seeing everyone at the Fair"



Pizza Takeaway Night Houghton Village Hall Houghton, Carlisle Every Monday 5pm - 8:30pm

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TRINITY

Year 10 Crime and Safety Awareness Day

Last term Year 10 participated in a full day of activities working with the 'Prison Me? No Way!' Trust, around the theme of Crime and Safety Awareness. The day was hugely successful and the students were thoroughly engaged throughout, enjoying a range of workshops that enabled them to think about many aspects of how to stay safe as they make their way into adulthood.

The workshops included 'Prison Life', where students worked with a prison guard and looked inside a real prison

cell that came to the school on the back of a van; 'Choices and Consequences' was a very powerful talk from an ex-prisoner about his prior involvement with a gang and how he had turned his life around; 'Street Scene' modelled anti-social behaviour and looked at the laws around this very common problem; 'Tagging' was a workshop to show how a criminal is tracked when not in prison.

There were also workshops with the Fire Service that looked at the consequences of arson or hoax calls,

the Magistrates Service that set up a mock trial complete with defendant, prosecutor and jury, an Alcohol Awareness session and a session with a CEOP officer that looked at some of the harrowing consequences of unsafe behaviour online.

Overall, the staff and students involved had a wonderful day and found each workshop enlightening and informative and there is no doubt that our youngsters are now better equipped to make their way through life more safely as they grow up.

National Youth Theatre Success

One of our Year 11 Drama GCSE students, Henry Taylor, successfully auditioned for the National Youth Theatre. This is a very competitive process, and places are limited. Henry spent two weeks over the summer

working with professional actors and directors in London. He took part in an original final performance at the end of this and will also now have opportunities to be involved in future National Youth Theatre pro-

ductions. Many famous actors and singers started their careers as NYT members, including Daniel Craig, Ed Sheeran, David Walliams, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Timothy Spall and Helen Mirren. Well done, Henry!

Houghton Village Store and Post Office



- Buy Euros at no commission (No need to preorder)
- Free cash machine
- Sweets
- Groceries
- Fruit & Veg
- News papers
- Magazines
- Beer
- Wine
- Spirits



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HOMEPAGE

Spicy Pork

The mother in law of a friend let me have this recipe over 30 years ago and although it was a favourite of mine back then I had completely forgotten about it until recently when I came across it in an old recipe folder. It has stood the test of time and is back on the menu in our house.

You will need to start this dish the day before it is to be served. After that it is quick and easy to make.

You will need a large frying pan with a lid.

Serves 3 to 4

Pork

1 large pork fillet about 1lb to 1lb 4oz (450g to 550g) in weight
1 large onion chopped
¼ pt (5fl oz) chicken stock
1 ½ oz butter
3 tomatoes, skinned and sliced
Parsley to garnish

Marinade

2tbsp soy sauce
1tbsp Worcester sauce
4tbsp tomato ketchup
1tbsp brown sauce
1tbsp honey
1tsp French mustard
1tbsp olive oil
Salt and pepper

Begin by mixing together all of the marinade ingredients in a large bowl.

Slice the pork into pieces about ½ in (1cm) thick and add them to the marinade. Give them a good stir so that they are well coated. Cover the bowl with cling film and leave it in the fridge overnight.

Next day heat the butter in the frying pan and when it is foaming add the chopped onion and the pork pieces drained from the marinade. Put the marinade to one side to use later. Fry the pork and onions over a high heat for about five minutes turning the mixture all the time so it does not stick to the pan. When the meat has been sealed and has browned a little pour in the chicken stock, put the lid on the pan and turn the heat down and let the meat simmer for about 15 minutes until it has cooked through.

Lift out the pork pieces with a slotted spoon and put on to a plate and keep them warm.

Pour the marinade in to the left over juices in the frying pan, turn up the heat and boil briskly until the liquid reduces by half and becomes slightly sticky. Add the sliced, skinned tomatoes. Cook for a further 3 to 4 minutes. Return the pork to the pan and give it a good mix.

Serve on a bed of plain boiled rice and sprinkle with chopped parsley to garnish

Linda kielty



CLARKEYS QUIZ

1. WHAT DO THE AMERICANS CALL AUTUMN?
2. WHAT TYPE OF HAT WAS WORN BY SHERLOCK HOLMES?
3. WHAT IS THE FULL NAME OF CHARLTON F.C.?
4. SUSAN MORRISEY BECAME THE FIRST ACTRESS TO DO WHAT IN A U.K SOAP?
5. WHICH PERSON HAS WON THE GREATEST NUMBER OF OSCARS?
6. ACCORDING TO THE 2001 CENSUS WHAT IS THE MOST COMMON SURNAME IN SCOTLAND?
7. WHAT COLOUR IS ZERO ON A ROULETTE WHEEL?
8. WHAT IS THE CAPITAL OF ALBANIA?
9. JOEY BARTON PLAYS FOR WHICH F.C.?
10. WHICH INDIAN FOODSTUFF IS MADE BY SIMMERING UNSALTED BUTTER UNTIL THE PROTEIN SETTLES OUT?
11. WHO WAS THE FIRST WOMAN TO FLY SOLO FROM THE UK TO AUSTRALIA?
12. WHO DID SARAH BRIGHTMAN AND HOT GOSSIP LOSE THEIR HEARTS TO IN 1978?
13. HOW LONG IS A METRIC OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL?
14. WHO PLAYED THE FIRST DR. WHO?
15. DIANA PRICE WAS THE ALTER EGO OF WHICH MOVIE SUPER HEROIN?
16. WHICH OF THE PRESIDENTS ON THE MOUNT RUSHMORE MONUMENT SPORTS A BEARD?
17. DO PINEAPPLES GROW ON SHRUBS TREES OR ON THE GROUND?
18. WHICH ACTOR GIVES STARWAR'S DARTH VADER HIS MENACING VOICE?
19. IN WHICH PART OF THE BODY IS THE BONE CALLED THE PATELLA?
20. THE PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE TAKES PLACE ON WHICH RACECOURSE?
21. WHAT WAS MANFRED VON RICHTOFEN'S NICKNAME?
22. WHICH MURDERER WAS DUBBED THE YORKSHIRE RIPPER?
23. WHICH CAR MAKER MADE A MODEL CALLED TRIBECA?
24. NAME THE CORONATION ST. CHARACTER PLAYED BY KATE FORD?
25. NAME THE MALE AND FEMALE STARS OF THE MOVIE RUNAWAY BRIDE?
26. WHO REPLACED JACK STRAW AS HOME SECRETARY IN 2001?
27. WHAT TERM DESCRIBES PLOUGHED LAND LEFT UNSOWN?
28. WHICH POP STARS CONTROVERSIALLY KISSED MADONNA AT THE 2006 MTV AWARDS?
29. IN WHICH EUROPEAN COUNTRY IS TRANSYLVANIA?
30. WHO PLAYED CAPTAIN BLIGH IN THE 1962 MOVIE MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY?
31. WHICH BAND TOOK THEIR NAME FROM A NEWSPAPER STORY ABOUT FRANKIE VAUGHAN GOIN INTO MOVIES?
32. IN WHICH DECADE WAS THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR?
33. WHICH EX ENGLAND SOCCER CAPTAIN IS A COUSIN OF BOXER NIGEL BENN?
34. WHICH BEETLE WAS SACRED TO THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS?
35. WHAT TYPE OF CREATURE CAN BE ARTIC, SOOTY OR SANDWHICH?
36. WHAT TERM IS GIVEN TO A LITERARY WRITER WHO WRITES FOR SOMEONE ELSE WHO THEN TAKES THE CREDIT?
37. WHICH PLANET IS NEAREST TO THE EARTH?
38. ICTHYOLOGY IS THE STUDY OF WHAT?
39. FROM WHAT EXPRESSION DOES THE GREETING GOODBYE DERIVE?
40. HOW IS SOLID CARBON DIOXIDE COMMONLY KNOWN?
41. WHICH BRAND OF LAGER HAD THE ADVERTISING SLOGAN FOLLOW THE BEAR?
42. WHICH TWO SPORTS MAKE UP A BIATHLON?
43. WHICH WORD CAN MEAN A FORM OF TRANSPORT OR A LEGAL TERM?
44. WHICH FORMER DR. WHO CHARACTER PROVIDED THE VOICE FOR ZEBADEE IN THE MOVIE VERSION OF THE MAGIC ROUND ABOUT?
45. WHICH COUNTRY HAS THE INTERNATIONAL CAR REGISTRATION PLATE WAG ?
46. IN THE BIBLE FOR WHO WAS THE FATTED CALF KILLED?
47. WHO PAINTED THE HAY WAIN AND FLATFORD MILL?
48. IN WHICH CITY WAS CHECKPOINT CHARLIE LOCATED?
49. WHICH U.S. CITY HAS THE NICKNAME LITTLE CUBA?
50. WHICH MUSICAL FEATURES A PADDLE DRIVEN STEAMER NAMED COTTON BLOSSOM?

ANSWERS PAGE 21

HOUGHTON IN BLOOM

HOUGHTON IN BLOOM

The village has looked wonderful with the new planters, hay basket, herb garden, trees and bird boxes along with the existing planting we have. Thank you to every one of you for all your effort in keeping us Blooming, it couldn't be done without your help and is very much appreciated.

Houghton in Bloom has had a very successful year in the Cumbria in Bloom awards:

Joint Winner of the Amberol, Village Best Sustainable Development

Gold Award, Joint Runner up in the Strikes, Houghton Hall Trophy, Best Village Category

Outstanding, Level 5 in the It's Your Neighbourhood Award

Officer Appointments for 2016

Chairman – Brian Hill

Vice Chairman – Gordon Hodgson

Secretary/Treasurer – Deborah Park

Anyone wishing to join the committee or add their name to the volunteer list please contact Deborah Park.

LOVE YOUR GARDEN AWARDS

Love Your Garden awards has also been very successful, at a Presentation evening at Houghton Hall Garden Centre there was a total of 11 Plaque awards and 16 vouchers complete with certificates to the gardeners of Houghton for their hard work.

Plaque winners:

130 Houghton Road 63 Tribune Drive 1 Beech Grove

85 Tribune Drive 143 Tribune Drive 120 Tribune Drive

24 Beech Grove 23 South Croft 119 Tribune Drive

1 Tribune Drive 10 The Green

Voucher winners:

18 The Green 105 Tribune Drive 3 Antonine Way 4 Orchard Gardens

25 South Croft 1 Orchard Lane 162 Houghton Road 42 Jackson Road

7 Orchard Lane 11 Jackson Road 30 South Croft 20 Jackson Road

6 Smithy Croft Love Your Neighbours Garden awarded to 13, 15, 17 Antonine Way

CROFT



One of the big changes that happened this year was that "The Croft" became a Community Interest Company - Susan's Farm CIC. Though not much has changed in what we do, this gives the farm much more long term security and allows us to look for alternative ways of funding

our education programme. We have set up a new website, www.susans-farm.co.uk, which explains more about what we do and we are in the process of setting up an online ordering system so people can buy their meat without even leaving the house!

As part of our education programme, we are delighted that work on our NVQ has finally begun! We have a fantastic team of volunteers who work at the farm one or two days a week, all of whom have suffered from mental health issues or who have

learning disabilities. We wanted to recognise all the work they are doing and so have teamed up with Newton Rigg Agricultural College to run an NVQ Level 1 in Agriculture here on the farm. The course has been funded through the Cumbria Commu-

nity Foundation, with grants awarded from Carr's Group Fund and the Cumbria Industries Amenities. Here are our volunteers with Ian Hoffman, tutor from Newton Rigg, who is supporting us in delivering the NVQ.



This month, we had a very exciting visit from Caz Graham of the Farming Today programme on Radio 4. The programme was having a special focus on food education and she visited us when we were running one of our Gather, Prepare, Cook and Eat days, where children find out where their food comes from and then use

it to cook their own two course lunch. Children from Norman Street School just happened to be visiting that day and were interviewed for the radio, along with their class teacher Ms Ewing.

And finally, here at Susan's Farm we are continuing with our usual autumn

work: berries have been collected to make jars of hedgerow jelly, the harvest is finally in despite the rain, the ewes are ready to go in with the tups and our pile of wood for the bonfire is growing! Do join us for Houghton's community Bonfire Party on Thursday 5th Nov, gates open at 6pm the bonfire is lit at 6.30pm

EDENHOLISTICS

Georgina and Rachel would like to thank everyone for their continued support over the past year and look forward to continuing treating you all in 2016.

We make a donation to a local charity rather than sending cards and Christmas 2015 we decided to donate to the Cumbria Flood Appeal, thoughts are with all affected.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2016, and hopefully some of you will join us with our 30 days to healthy living!



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Recruiting Carers Now

HOUGHTONSCHOOL

We have had another busy start to the Autumn Term and we extend a very warm welcome to our new children and their families! If you are in the process of looking at schools for September 2016, please do come and have a look round our school, you will be most welcome! We also have a fabulous website which is well worth having a look at: www.houghtonschool.co.uk

Croft Farm Visits

Rowan Class (Y6) enjoyed their first visit of the school year to Croft Farm, where they made Hedgerow Jelly and Elder-flower ice-cream. The children harvested all of the fruits and berries they needed for the jelly from the hedgerows around Mrs Aglionby's farm including: haws, elderberries, blackberries, crab apples, rowanberries, rosehips and sloes! Not only did the children have great fun harvest-

ing the fruit, they also learned the important lesson about which fruits were edible and which were dangerous!

Back in the Tyler room the children followed the recipe and instructions carefully. They all got to taste the ice-cream and got a jar of Hedgerow jelly to take home. Enjoy! A huge thank you to Susan and Ruth and we hope Rowan class parents had chance to taste the jelly!



Esme Tweedie cooking the fruit. Nola Kirkman, Esme Tweedie, Robyn Frazer, Mr J and Martha Andrews.

Beech class (Y3/4) also had a fantastic time at Croft Farm developing their Geography skills. As part of our 'We Are Britain' topic, the children have been learning how to read maps to find different British items hidden around the farm. We located North, South, East and West using compasses, discussed the different types of weather from different locations and we used the maps to locate cities of Britain.

For a full report and photographs, please go to our website: <http://www.houghtonschool.co.uk/classes/beecech/beecech-class-visit-to-croft-farm/>

We have also looked at a variety of maps of Houghton, one as old as 1881. From the maps we could identify what has stayed the same in our village and what has changed over the years. It was fascinating!



Harri Birtwhistle-Hughes showing the way!

Infant Outdoor Area

Over the summer we transformed the infant outdoor area with the help of some very willing volunteers. The area has been divided into 3 parts with stone, artificial turf and bark, providing our children with an area which can be used in all weathers. Staff and children are absolutely thrilled with it and we hope you all agree that it has transformed the

infant outdoor area. Our thanks go to staff and their families and Governors who gave up many hours to help with this project.

Special thanks must go to Neil Clements who volunteered his time to manage this project. Without Neil's expertise in ground maintenance, we would have struggled to make this project feasible. Our thanks also go to Graeme Howe Fencing who provided the materials and Alan Tuer

Plant Hire. It is a wonderful area for our children to explore and enjoy and we are very grateful to all those who helped to make this project such a success, especially Neil.



RE Week

This term we took part in an RE Week along with other Church of England schools across the Brampton area. Each class looked at different Saints, focusing on their lives before they came to faith, what brought them to faith and how it changed their lives. Saints we looked at included St. Mother Theresa, St. George, St. Patrick and St. Assisi. Different classes also had visitors throughout the week who led activ-

ities about St Peter and introduced the children to Godly Play. The week was drawn to an end with Celebration services. Infants from across the different schools met in St John's Church, Houghton and shared what they had been doing during the week. Juniors met at Brampton Methodist Church where we were treated to poetry, drama and songs. We were very impressed with Nola, Martha, George, Esme and Robyn who performed a fantastic play about George and the Dragon in front of a packed

church! They spoke with such confidence! It was a very special week and we are already planning for next year's RE Week.

BOOK CLUB

It has been a fun summer for Houghton Book Group, we have had some more free books from publishers and even a Coronation Party kit, we have read a variety of genres for our monthly book from the library and we have welcomed 4 new members. At our most recent meeting we even decided to set up a blog for the group to post reviews and news on, watch this space for more information.

Cumbria libraries provides an excellent service for book groups, with sets of 12 books available across hundreds of different titles, it is always hard to narrow down our annual selection to just 12. With so many to choose from it is easy to get the odd one that isn't what we expected or a bit disappointing, however those do make for interesting and often funny conversations - we are harsh critics! This summer we have had a run of books we have enjoyed and if you are looking for literary Christmas presents, would be worth considering.

Firstly, there was *The Tailor of Inverness* by Matthew Zjaczka, it is the biography of a Polish Man, looking at his experience through the war and how he came to end up living in Inverness. It is interesting because of its place in history, because the gentleman himself is an ordinary man who lived an unusual life and because it is told and well written by his son, himself a respected actor. It is a fascinating window into Eastern Europe during the war.

We also read a couple of 20th century classics from completely different genres. There was *The Glass Blowers* by Daphne Du Maurier, which on the whole the group enjoyed, but we all felt *Rebecca* by the same author is a much better read and the one we would all recommend. For the futuristic sci-fi fans we read *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, written in 1953.



the 1950s about a possible future with no books, this was a chilling Blade Runner style odyssey. As well as the thought provoking story of the Fireman at its heart, it was a little uncomfortable to see how modern day developments were reflected in this future.

Our September meeting saw us having a Coronation Party complete with tea, biscuits and bunting, we got the supplies sent through from the publisher along with copies of *Without A Trace* by Lesley Pearce. This book is currently sitting on many top seller charts and is a murder mystery which opens on the day of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation. It is an easy read, warm and cosy with lashings of gumption and a satisfying conclusion with no loose ends. We all agreed it was like a Sunday evening TV show in book form, so if you are a fan of *Call The Midwife* or *Heartbeat*, this is the book for you.

As we have had a flurry of new members we are currently full - we are eagerly awaiting the refurbishment

at The Near Boot to see if there is a better spot to accommodate us now we have outgrown the sofas! However, if you would like to start your own group please contact Becky.underwood@cumbria.gov.uk who will be able to help, or Cumbria Libraries will be able to help you find other groups in the area

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HOUGHTON CHURCH

As some of you may know by now I'm leaving my post of Curate at Houghton Church to become Vicar at Houghton Church to become Vicar on the west coast of Cumbria. I just wanted to write to mention some of the highlights of our time in the village and to draw your attention to things coming up at Christmas to do with the church.

Gabby and I moved into Houghton in June 2012 and were immediately welcomed warmly by the whole community. The school has had a particular place in our lives because of the open door opened up to build relationships and with our eldest child starting there last year. The nursery also has a very prominent place in

our hearts and the staff there have been fantastic at helping our children grow in confidence and being equipped for the next step. Other highlights have included the toddler group at the village hall, frequent visits to croft farm and the newly revamped Houghton village fayre.

Over Christmas at church we have a number of events planned which we'd love to extend a warm invite to you all for. On Dec. 13th at 11am we have 'family carols' which is a parade service where we welcome the village uniformed groups. On Dec. 20th we have our more traditional '9 lessons and Carols' from 6pm which will include readings, musical items

and singing. On Dec. 24th from 4pm we have our family orientated 'Carols round a tree' which is a fun filled hour for all ages. We began this service last year with a Christingle and this time it promises to be just as action packed.

From Gabby, myself and the children thank you for sharing your lives with us, we will miss you all and this place deeply but hope to make visits across the A595 as and when we can – you may not have seen the last of us yet!

Paul Kerry

EVERGREENS

You're never too old or too young to join our Evergreens, as we do need helping hands on a Thursday afternoon. We all continue to enjoy our trips and visits in what appears a short summer.

Dennis Balmer, accompanied by Lawrence Graham gave us a very entertaining afternoon with his films which were very enjoyable.

Another very enjoyable visitor was Mrs Debbie Wilkinson, school co-ordinator and Regional Makaton tutor at James Rennie School. She taught us many hand signs and showed films of the children and her work. What wonderful rewarding work!

A very unexpected visitor appeared one afternoon. This was an MP visiting her mum; needless to say

we had our own unofficial "Question Time" which we all found very helpful. It was very interesting and good fun with some answers and advice.

During the summer we enjoyed a visit along the Solway Coast with lunch at Beckfoot Garden Centre. Later in the year we had an enjoyable afternoon in Cockermouth, which included lunch at the Lakes Garden Centre with an early chance to see their early Christmas preparations in their various departments.

Our afternoon teas at Houghton Garden Centre are always a welcome change, with a chance to see their various displays and departments.

We always appreciate, on Thursday afternoons, our tea and biscuits, along with quizzes, card games,

dominoes and other entertainment arranged by Mary, Marjorie and other members of the club. Visitors are always welcome.

It seems no time at all since our Mothers Union invited us, together with the school choir, to an enjoyable Christmas Carol service in our church last year (Doesn't time fly?)

We are looking forward to our faithful friend Judith's visit later in the year speaking about "Memories" and also Pat showing us how to make our own Christmas flower decorations.

So now from the Evergreens can we take this opportunity to wish everyone Seasons Greetings and good health and happiness in 2016.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

It is probably true to say that steady maintenance rather than exciting innovation is the watchword of the Village Hall committee. We see our task as ensuring that the Hall continues to provide a satisfactory environment for the wide variety of its users, who come from a wide area around Carlisle. Many of our regular users are, of course, groups based in Houghton itself. Others, such as the Magic Circle, the Beekeepers and the Hornby Railway Collectors Association, come from a wider area round the city and county. One is even based north of Glasgow! The majority of the regular groups have been coming for several years. However change does occur as interests and different tastes evolve. Relatively recent additions to the programme have been the Carlisle Argentinian Tango group who meet on Wednesdays and the popular Houghton Farmers' Market, which comes on the second Saturday

of the month. We also, of course, try to cater for the number of 'one-off' events whose organisers like to use our facilities. These include birthday parties, wedding receptions and even the occasional funeral tea.

Whilst our charges need to cover the regular maintenance costs of the building, we also have to have an eye to major repairs and from time to time consider upgrades to the facilities. We recently had remedial work carried out on the floor in the main hall, where some of the boards were rising. This was providing some unusual challenges for the Bowls Club. Hopefully they can now predict where their bowls will go with a greater degree of confidence! The wall tiles in the kitchen are scheduled for replacement in the next few months. Condensation and subsequent staining have been an issue on the older part of the hall for

some time. Last year we had further damp-proofing work carried out in the bar area. We are also hoping to have a lower ceiling installed in the old hall, which should help not only the appearance, but also provide better heat insulation. The funding for this has yet to be arranged. Other more distant schemes include sanding and resealing the main hall floor to facilitate maintenance over the longer term. This floor has very heavy wear and there are better materials available now to ensure that the quality of the surface remains up to standard.

The editors asked for details of big future events we were planning. As is clear now, it is our users who do the events planning, not the committee. However we remain committed to ensuring that whatever events people want to stage in the hall, we will do our best to see that the facilities meet their needs.

HOUGHTON NURSERY

Many of you will be aware we have been involved with raising funds for North East of England Children's Cancer Research Fund (NECCR) to help support one of our very own children suffering from Leukaemia. Our cake sale in April raised an amazing £150, we then held a sponsored toddle around the school playing fields in July where we raised a further £500. We have been blown away with the support and generosity of all those involved and give our heartfelt thanks to all.

We are presently developing a garden within our grounds to attract the wildlife, we are calling it Nature's Home. This will enable our children to observe nature close up. Our garden includes a pond, a bugs hotel and wild flowers to attract our small flying friends. This will enhance our children's learning environment giving them the opportunity of enjoying the outdoors while learning about the seasons and how they change. How we can have

a positive impact on the world around us.



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25. RICHARD GERE JULIA ROBERTS
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27. FALLOW
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31. FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLY WOOD
32. 1930'S
33. PAUL INCE
34. SCARAB
35. TERN (BIRD)
36. GHOST WRITER
37. VENUS
38. FISH
39. GOD BE WITH YOU
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44. TOM BAKER
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47. JOHN CONSTABLE
48. BERLIN
49. MIAMI
50. SHOWBOAT

HOLIDAYS NAPS

I saw the challenge of taking photos on reading the Echo over the summer in different places. We had a weekend away in May in sunny Blackpool and took a pic beside the biggest ride 'The One', too scary for me to go on though! In August we went to Manchester and my daughter loves the Disney shop so we let Woody have a read of the Echo too! We had really gone to Manchester to visit the Coors ice bar, located in the Bierkeller at The Print Works. Its a temporary bar only open for 3 month where you have a half hour slot, given a poncho to wear and the bar is ice, there's an ice sofa to sit on

in a big freezer-like room with colour changing lights . It was really good fun a unique experience and we were laughing at how we looked in our furry ponchos and got cold noses! Hope you like the photos.

Best wishes and Kind Regards,

Melanie Skinner



HOUGHTONFLOWERGUILD

The Flower Guild has had a busy time over the last six months, with a programme consisting of demonstrations, a garden visit and a workshop.

We thoroughly enjoyed our July visit to the garden of Ivy House in Cumwhitton, where we were made most welcome. Fortunately the weather held out for us so that we could enjoy the unusual layout of the garden with its interesting plants, flowers and foliage.

At our June, September and October meetings we enjoyed the flower demonstrations of various visiting demonstrators. The August meeting took the form of a workshop during which we learnt how to make a boat-like container using twigs as a base for a flower arrangement.

Several of the Guild members attended the NAFAS Border Group Annual Lunch at Greenhill Lodge in October, during which Nick Grounds gave a very entertaining flower demonstration.

Following our AGM in November we are looking forward, later in the month, to our Annual Flower Demonstration at Houghton Hall Garden Centre. This will be followed a couple of days later by a workshop organised by Lynda Fraser and Carol Grieves at Houghton Village Hall on Saturday 28th November from 9.45 am to 3.00 pm, when they will instruct us on how to make a Christmas Garland and other Christmas decorations. This is expected to be a fun day with a lunch and refreshments included.

The annual Houghton Hall Garden Centre event on Thursday 26th November from 7.00 to 9.00 will feature Don Billington who will give a demonstration entitled a "Christmas Cracker". This should be a lively and entertaining evening rounded off with light refreshments provided by the Garden Centre and the raffling of the floral arrangements.

The year will be rounded off by our December meeting when Pat- tie Dawson will give a Christmas

themed demonstration entitled "A Christmas Stocking" which will be followed by our annual 'American Supper'.

The Guild is very pleased to congratulate Lynda Fraser on her Silver Gilt Award at the Northumberland & Durham area NAFAS Showcase event.

If anyone is interested to join us, we meet on the second Thursday of each month (except January); we will be very pleased to welcome you. The meetings are in Houghton Village Hall from 7.30 to 9.30 pm. In addition to enjoying flower demonstrations, the floral arrangements are raffled at the end of each meeting, followed by light refreshments and a general get together.

Further details can be obtained from Janet (01228 526390) or Mary (01228 530571).

Mary Shaul

(Chairman)



DANCE CLUB

Since April 2016 Carlisle Argentine Tango (CATs) have been pleased to be hold our regular weekly 'Practicas' – Practice sessions at Houghton Village Hall each Wednesday.

Why Houghton?

We'd decided to look for a new hall with a good floor after our first central Carlisle venue priced us out of the market and the second's floor started to cause knee problems. Houghton's hall has an excellent wood floor. The hall's location too has proved a real bonus: easy to find from the motorway and with plenty of parking.

Who are we?

A right mixed bag! Some couples, some singles, some retired, some employed, from all corners of Cum-

bria and across the Border: all 'hooked' on this fantastic dance..... and did I mention the shoes!?

So what do we get up to on a Wednesday evening?

Mostly we just dance, practice our technique, learn some new steps. Oh and I forgot – meet and make new friends, have a tea, coffee and biscuits and chat a lot.

We are by no means exclusive and welcome any beginners or folk who just want to call in and see what's going on. We offer basic instruction in social Argentine Tango (social dancing rather than the show tangos seen on the TV) with the hope that you will become sufficiently 'hooked' to join our group class with professional teachers who come monthly from

Barcelona, and to strut your stuff at our regular social events.

I you're interested?

Call in on any Wednesday evening from 8-10pm, but to encourage new members based in Houghton and beyond we are offering a course of 3 'taster' sessions on 3rd, 10th and 17th February 2016 starting at 7.00pm in Houghton Village Hall. The sessions will for one hour, followed by the usual 8-10pm practica. Cost for the course is £12.

Health Warning : Tango can be highly addictive!

Further information from Tim Wood or Di Hampton on 01946 810574 or Facebook group Carlisle Argentine Tango



BILL HADLEY

Hello! I'm Bill from Bill Hadley Motoring. I am a Houghton based driving instructor and currently enjoy teaching a wide range of learners in and around Carlisle. I have been operating for a year so far, and gain immense satisfaction in seeing my learners become, not only test ready, but safe, confident and competent drivers.

Today's roads are busy and can often seem overwhelming to beginners. I aim to provide friendly, calm and reassuring tuition, as well as pushing learners to keep progressing and building confidence. I am often asked how long it will take but there is no definitive answer. Everyone progresses differently but I make sure we move forward as quickly as possible, as well as ensuring we cement the skills until the learner feels confident and I am certain they are of test standard. Every learner is different and I tailor each lesson to make maximum progress.

I started my working life in fabrication engineering, spent a good number of years in the print industry and decided to make the leap to my own driving school a couple of years ago. I have always loved cars and driving, so coupled with an enjoyment of working with people, this is my ideal job!

Outside of driving my main focus are

my children! My eldest son is currently enjoying attending part time at the fantastic Houghton nursery, and his eight month twin brothers are keeping my wife Diane, a teacher at Trinity School, busy!

If you are interested in learning to drive please feel free to give me a call on (01228) 533877 or call/text 07840 391 024. I am also contactable via facebook. Lessons are £22.50 per hour. There is a discount for block bookings.

Happy driving!

Bill.



Bill Hadley
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VILLAGE HALL USERS

BEE KEEPERS

4th Monday of the Month
(Sept - April)

19:30

Phone Fiona Roebuck on:

01697473741

EVERGREENS

Thursdays

14:00 - 16:00

Phone Dorothea Sowerby on:

528734

HALL BOOKING

Phone Patt Dodd on:
527711

HALL CARETAKER

Phone Joyce Irving on:
592459

HOUGHTON FLOWER GUILD

2nd Thursday of the Month

19:00 - 22:00

Phone Mary Shaul on:

530571

HOUGHTON IN BLOOM

Phone Deborah Park on:

531332

HOUGHTON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Fridays

19:30 - 22:00

Phone Ken Normal on:

523818

MAGIC CIRCLE

3rd Tuesday of the Month

19:30 - 22:00

Phone Stuart Bowie on:

01697472734

MUMS & TODDLERS

Tuesday
(Term Times)

10:00 - 12:00

Phone Rebecca Sawyers on:

07703000838

MUSIC MAKERS

Thursdays
(Term Times)

9:30 - 11:30

Fridays
(Term Times)

9:30 - 11:30 & 13:00 - 15:00

Phone Helen Teasdale on:
595111

RAINBOWS

Thursdays
(Term Times)

17:00 - 18:30

Phone Sue Doyle on:

511258

WHIST

2nd Monday of the Month

19:30

Phone Frank Spibey on:

525883

WOMENS INSTITUTE

1st Tuesday of the Month

19:00 - 22:00

Phone Patt Dodd on:

527711

ECHO TEAM

We're delighted to have produced our 4th edition of the houghton Echo and we would like to thank every body who has supported us with editorial and advertisements.

Appologies for the later than normal publication this was due to both technical and weather issues. We would appreciate your feedback with any thoughts and views you may have.

Your team are:

Hamish Phillips

E: htcp1@btinternet.com

Responsible for news and articles.

T: 01228 528657

M: 07837 659999

Daniel Moses

E: danielmoses@live.co.uk

Design and Layout

Craig Nicholson

E: canic55@virginmedia.com

Responsible for news and articles

T: 01228 536895

Diary note: Next Edition May 2016

Thank you

HOUGHTON ORGANISATIONS, CONTACTS & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Bingo	Joyce Irving	592459
Evergreens	Dorothea Sowerby	528734
Bowls	Ken Norman	523818
Brownies	Catherine Adam	548467
Church	The Vicarage	810076
Dancing	Joy Irving	526534
Music Makers	Helen Teasdale	595111
Flower Guild	Lynda Fraser	670641
Guides	Julie Telford	521502
Mums & Toddlers	Rebecc-a Sawyers	07703000838
Houghton Nursery		558888
Magic Circle	Stuart Spibey	01697472738
Rainbows	Sue Doyle	511258
Bee Keepers	Fiona Roebuck	01697473741
	<i>Mobile</i>	<i>07779329255</i>
Whist	Frank Spibey	525883
W.I.	Pat Dodd	527711
Hall Booking	Pat Dodd	527711
Hall Caretaker	Joyce Irving	592459

Houghton Village Hall Committee Members::

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Treasurer

Minute Secretary

Booking Secretary

Committee

Grateful thanks to the following for helping us with this the 41st edition of the 'Echo'.

Houghton Village Hall Management Committee

Stanwix Rural Parish Council

Dennis Balmer

H. H Reed's Printers Limited, Penrith

Don't forget your contributions for the next issue of the 'Echo'.

This will be published in July 2016

COPY DEADLINE IS 1ST JUNE 2016

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