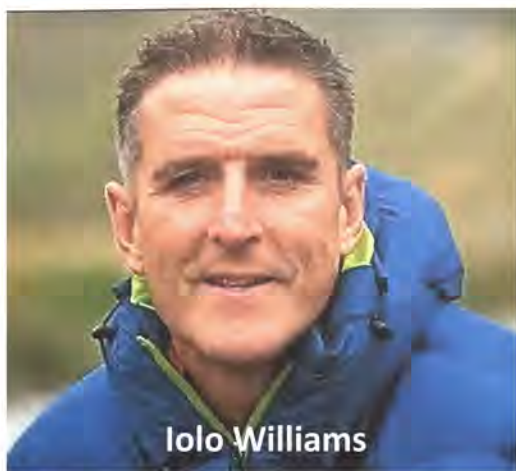


# BBC CELEBRITY PACKS HOUGHTON VILLAGE HALL



Iolo Williams

**Iolo Williams, presenter of the BBC 's nature programmes Springwatch, Autumnwatch and Winterwatch, held a packed hall 'enraptured' with an expertly delivered very informative and entertaining talk on Birds of Prey.**

Born and brought up in Mid Wales Iolo worked for the RSPB for almost 15 years, as Species Officer for Wales, where his work with some of the country's rarest breeding birds brought him to the attention of the media and the BBC.

As President of the Welsh Ornithological Society the naturalist and writer is passionate about conservation and spoke from over 30 years of personal knowledge and experience, ranging from the sometimes dramatically aerobic breeding behavior of some species to the devastating impact of pesticides and the continuing illegal killing of these magnificent birds.

Recalling working with a variety of agencies and sometimes colourful individuals, his stories of the assistance sometimes given by off duty special forces personnel and others led to gales of laughter from a very appreciative audience.

The event was organised by Steven Hewitt Vice Chairman of Houghton Village Hall Committee, to raise funds in support of the hall. The Village Hall Committee wish to thank Steven for organising the event and also everyone who worked really hard to help make sure all went to plan: everyone who helped in the kitchen, on the door and selling raffle tickets etc and Hall Caretaker, Audrey.

A special thank you goes to Steven's Mam who made all the cakes and the special raffle cake, to raise as much money as she could. (Along with everyone else who tasted them, the editor can personally vouch for their excellence!)

Thanks also to the following for donating raffle prizes: Orton Grange Farm shop; Nature Scotland; Total Warrior; Cumbria Wildlife Trust; S H Electrical UK Ltd; Houghton Stores; Simon's Hair Shop; Edmundson Electrical; Yesss Electrical.



Iolo with Steven

**PARENTS NOTE: SUMMER PLAYDAYS INFO ON P. 16**

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# Linda Kieley's Home Page

## SAUSAGE AND BEAN HOT POT

This is a really hearty and economical supper dish that easily serves 3 to 4 people. You will need a large frying pan or wok for frying and then a large casserole dish with a lid for oven cooking.

### INGREDIENTS

- 500g of good quality pork sausages
- 1tbsp oil for frying
- 1 large onion
- 2 carrots
- 1 400g can of chopped tomatoes
- 1 400g can of chickpeas (drained weight 240g)
- 1 400g can of red kidney beans (drained weight 240g)
- 1 tsp Tabasco
- 2 level tbsp tomato purée
- 1 level tbsp cornflour
- 350ml chicken stock
- Salt and pepper



### METHOD

- Gently fry the sausages in the oil over a medium heat. Keep turning them until they are nicely brown all over then put them in an oven proof casserole dish.
- Peel and chop the onions and carrots and in the same frying pan fry them until the onion is soft and transparent - use a little extra oil if you need to.
- Put the vegetables in the casserole dish with the sausages.
- Add the chopped tomatoes and the drained and rinsed chickpeas and kidney beans.
- Finally blend the cornflour with a little of the stock and then add to the dish with the rest of the stock and stir in the Tabasco and purée.
- Give everything a good mix.
- Put the lid on and cook on the middle shelf of the oven at 170c, gas mark 4 for 1 ½ hours.
- Adjust the seasoning before serving.
- Serve with creamy mashed potatoes.

*Linda*

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## ADVICE FOR DOG OWNERS

### DO YOU WALK WITH YOUR DOG OFF THE LEAD?

Many dog owners like to let their furry friends run free when out on their daily walks, and this doesn't usually raise any issues.

However, the police are getting frequent calls for service with regards to dogs being "out of control" OR where a dog has been off the lead and an incident has happened, OR the dog has escaped from the home/garden without the owner knowing and caused issues within the community.

Some examples of these incidents are:-

- 1) Dog has been in the park and off the lead (not under proper control in a public place), approached another dog (as dogs do), and has bitten the other dog.
- 2) Dog has been found in a field with livestock after escaping from the garden, owner has called the dogs back and they didn't physically attack the livestock, however stress was caused.
- 3) Dog has been walked down a quiet country lane off the lead, and has accessed a farming pen containing pregnant sheep. Sheep have become stressed and clustered into a corner, and as a result have suffocated.

Where there are offences, these will be dealt with – but also, alongside this, if your dog is involved with an incident similar to this, then a referral will now be submitted.

This will involve putting the details of the dog and owner onto a database, which is shared with the environmental enforcement officer as well as the police. This will then generate a warning letter. Should this same dog or another one owned by the person named on the database, be identified as being involved in further incidents then further action could be taken against you and your dog.

TO AVOID THIS HAPPENING –

- 1) Ensure that your dog is under proper control and on a lead in a public place.
- 2) Ensure a lead is used when walking your dog through fields containing livestock – as farmers are well within their rights to shoot any dog not under proper control.
- 3) Ensure that your garden is secure, and that you regularly check on your dog.
- 4) DON'T rely on recall, as this is not classed as proper control.

### Penalty

**If your dog acts in such a manner mentioned above then you could be taken to court and issued a fine up to £2500 with many conditions placed on your ownership of a dog. The dog could also be forfeited by the courts.**





# St John's Church Houghton

Vicar: Rev. Andrew Towner

## GOD AND GARDENING

It's a wonderful thing to enjoy something you've made yourself – a bit of DIY or a favourite meal or a beautiful move on the sports field. Something about being the one who put it together intensifies the pleasure.

I've becoming cheerfully obsessed with gardening recently, which isn't something I thought I'd say for at least another thirty years. About the closest I came to gardening in my childhood was when my football would fly the wrong side of the left post and take out the rhubarb. For most of my life since then I've disdainfully thought of gardening as the domain of the recently retired – a hobby for those without the energy for anything more thrilling!

I'm more enlightened now. I've become familiar with hellebores and alliums, gained an interest in the various types of compost, and sacrificed my windowsills to seed trays. It's massively satisfying and thoroughly surprising to me. I would never have guessed you'd find me pleased by how well my magnolia tree was doing or worried that my alpines were planted in too boggy a spot. But, now that I've made my garden, I can't help caring about it.

To care about what we've made is a fairly normal emotion, and for a lot of people it's also what seems to be missing in Christianity. The Bible claims that God 'has compassion on all that he has made', but our world doesn't always look like it's being cared for by a God who loves it.

Christians don't claim to have all the answers to the suffering in our world, but we are convinced that God cares for us. Why? Simply because of what we think of Jesus. He is God himself, who came into the world as a human so he could give his life to save us. That is not the act of an uncaring God but an infinitely loving one. Jesus is the ultimate evidence that God has compassion on all that he has made. The man who two thousand years ago died and then came back to life didn't just make us but also cares about us.

If you come along to Houghton Church at 11am on a Sunday you'll meet a load of people who've got as many questions as you do about why God's world is as it is, but we're also people who would love to help you look into the evidence and think through whether Jesus really is the great news we say.

Andrew Simmons  
(Curate - St John's Houghton)

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# Book Club



Studies have shown that reading has many benefits from reducing stress to decreasing the risks of dementia in old age, but did you know that it can be a fun social activity and a great way to make new friends.

Recently, members of Houghton Book Club have been taking part in just a few of the many social 'book' activities that Carlisle, and in particular "Cakes and Ale" café in the city, have to offer.

Cakes and Ale invite authors to the café and for a small fee you can go along and listen to the author talk about their book. For anyone interested in reading – or writing – this is an amazing insight into the writing process. There's an opportunity for you to ask the author questions and a chance to get your book signed. This is a great way to spend an evening – especially as Cakes and Ale can provide tea and cakes, or wine and beer!

The café also hosts the 'Tipsy Filly Book Club' once a month. Recent events included Zosia Wand, a local author, talking about her latest book and the Tipsy Filly part was a demonstration of how to make gin cocktails! Houghton Book Club couldn't think of anything better!

Happy reading!

*Becky*

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# Clarkey's Quiz



1. What is the (International Boxing Organisations) lowest weight in Boxing?
2. Who played the Sadistic Sister Bridget in the movie The Magdalene Sisters?
3. What was comic character Selina Kyle's alter ego?
4. Whose 1969 top-ten hit single was boy named Sue?
5. What is the State Capital of Florida?
6. Who was the last Hanoverian Monarch?
7. What is the name of Disney's animated film based on a novel by Victor Hugo?
8. What is the common name for the Sternum?
9. 'Sing Sing' is located in New York City. What is it?
10. Which Football Team has the nickname the Sand Grounders?
12. What is the Birthstone for November?
13. Where would you find the characters Sally, Linus and Peppermint Patty?
14. How is the weight 'one hundredweight' abbreviated?
15. Where can most people find a picture of Adam Smith's "Division of labour in pin manufacturing" ?
16. Which country is known in its own native language as Hellas?
17. What major out-of-this-world event happened in July 1969?
18. How many times have the summer Olympics been held in London?
19. Helen Worth plays which character in Coronation Street?
20. What is the Capital of Zimbabwe
21. Which sculptor created the famous work 'The Thinker'?
22. What can be described as new, last or gibbous?
23. What is the main ingredient in 'Taramasalata'?
24. What nationality is the violinist, Yehudi Menuhin?
25. Which actor played the title role in the Mad Max series of films?
26. Name Roy Orbison's 3 UK No 1 hits in the 60's?
27. In which decade did Jules Verne, author of '20,000 Leagues Under The Sea ', die?
28. Which Soccer team is associated with the (club) song "Goodnight Irene"
29. What was the name of the department store in the UK 1970's TV show Are You Being Served?
30. The 1976 film All The President's Men is about which US political scandal?
31. Which sporting event was BBC2's first colour transmission in 1967?
32. Which singer made his first TV appearance in 1956 on the Dorsey Brother's Show?
33. Steve Brookstein was the first winner of which UK TV talent show?
34. Who played Willy Wonka in the 1971 film Willy Wonka And The Chocolate Factory?
35. What is the assistant to the chief electrician of a film crew called?
36. How many children were in Enid Blyton's Famous Five?
37. Which pair won Britain's first Gold Medal in the Atlanta Olympics?
38. How many pints in 3 quarts?
39. Which TV drama series starred Keely Hawes and Richard Madden
40. What is the drink Perry made from?
41. On which day of the week are British elections held?
42. In the pirate's song, how many men were on a dead mans chest?
43. Who was the first snooker player to score a maximum 147 break in World Championship snooker?
44. Kiss me Kate is a musical version of which play by Shakespeare?
45. What is the chemical symbol for copper?
46. Who was Little Sure Shot according to Sitting Bull?
47. In which country is the dong used as currency?
48. What is the name of Sherlock Holmes housekeeper?
49. If it rains on St Swithin's Day, how many more days is it supposed to rain?
50. Name the 4 US Presidents carved in South Dakota's Mt Rushmore?

**Answers on Page 23**





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## Hello From the Village Hall ... Breaking News !

Moving into the age of Google - our very own website is coming soon!

A huge thank you goes to Ullswater Grassroots Fund 18/19 and Stanwix Rural Parish Council who have awarded grants to fund this.

All suggestions for inclusion are welcome. Contact Anne Nicholson HVH Treasurer email: [canic55@virginmedia.com](mailto:canic55@virginmedia.com)

Our scheduled programme of upgrades to the hall and its facilities continues and we are always looking for ideas and help to run this amazing hall. So why not come and join our committee of volunteers. Interested? We'll give you a warm welcome!

Phone Chairman Steven Hewitt 01228 658625  
Cue music.....

With a little help from our friends. Getting better all the time!

Numbers Club winning numbers below (having just been delivered by an owl).

## NOTE TO PARENTS:

### VILLAGE HALL SUMMER FUN DAYS ON AGAIN THIS YEAR

### SEE PAGE 16 FOR DETAILS

## Houghton Village Hall Numbers Club Winners

Month      Number

January      73

February     84

March        68

April         42

May          38

Don't Spend It All At Once!





# CARLISLE CENTURIONS FOOTBALL CLUB

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CHARTER STANDARD  
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As we reach the end of another season it is great to see our 8 teams all enjoying & competing in both the Carlisle Longhorn & Penrith & District leagues. The start of our club journey in November 2015, seems like only yesterday, but the club have come so far in such a short time, with the support of our dedicated team of volunteer coaches, our parents and, of course, our fantastic group of players.

The club's future development continues through our long standing relationship with Houghton School, where it all began. We now have an u6 group of 10 players already preparing for the future and a team of 9 players in training for next season's u7 team, who will play in the Carlisle Longhorn league.

Next season we will have teams playing from u7 to u11 in the Longhorn League and u12 and u14 in the Penrith League and possibly additional teams/players, so we now have **over 100 players** from u6 to u14 playing for the club.



The Under 9s Team

To help the club continue to grow we are looking for players at age groups u7; u12 and u14 for next season.

So if are looking to join a club, do please get in contact, you will be made very welcome by our coaches and players.

All are coaches contacts are shown on our club website:

[www.carlislefc.com](http://www.carlislefc.com)

Thank you to everyone for your support of Carlisle Centurions "The Eagles"

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### OUR UNDER 9's COACH HIGHLY COMMENDED BY FA

"Carlisle Centurions are delighted that our u9's coach, Sonya Howe, was recently nominated for the FA's "Grass Roots Coach of the Year" award. Although not a winner on this occasion, as you can imagine the competition was fierce, the FA felt that a number of coaches deserved recognition and Sonya was one of those who received a "Highly Commended" award for her contribution to coaching last season"

**Congratulations Sonya from all connected with the club**





# Houghton Evergreens

At last this seemingly long winter is giving way to spring and we Evergreens are looking forward to better weather.

We seem to have had a lot of parties over the last few months. Now I hope no one is thinking of us older ones having 'raves' or other even wilder events; your average 'granny' has probably done all that on a "been there, got the T shirt" basis, but that may have been some years ago, (I hope). Unfortunately nowadays our 'party' consists of a 'bring and share' buffet washed down by tea, (or maybe a little, very little, light wine).

So we had a lovely Christmas party of buffet, carols, with a monologue and a quiz - none of which could possibly interest younger folk. Come the New Year and we start on the birthday parties, (around one a month), leading on to Valentines Party...need I go on? We enjoy our bingo, cards and dominoes and keep looking forward to Spring.

As March was leaving us, we had our first outing of the year, to the Penrith area, calling first at Brougham Hall, before lunching in Penrith and looking at the shops. On our way home we called at the Pot Place at Plumpton. All in all, we had a lovely day out, and are hoping that our Organiser can again arrange the glorious sunshine we had when next we venture forth.

I hope that the 'Echo's' next issue will not only include news of trips out, but of Speakers we hope to entertain us and possibly even an unusual event.

Bill Webber



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# 1st Houghton Rainbows



Girlguiding has undergone its biggest ever overhaul revamping iconic badges and activities to create a programme to suit every girl. Here at Houghton we have adopted the new programme and the girls have been working towards their special interest badges which include Animal Lover, Book Lover and Family Tree.

We have had lots of fun this year with our annual trip to the Pantomime at the Green Room Theatre being one of the highlights. As you will see from the photograph we have some budding Olivia Coleman's within our Unit!

The Rainbows will have a stall at this year's Summer Fair on Saturday 29th June so please pop along and say hello. The following weekend will see our Summer Trip to Hawse End which the Rainbows and Leaders always enjoy.



MAKING FRUIT KEBABS - YUMMY AND HEALTHY

Rainbows meet in Houghton Village Hall from 5.30pm to 6.30pm each Thursday during term time.

Our Unit always runs at capacity and has a healthy waiting list.

It is never too early to register your details with the Unit Leader, Sue Doyle (Foxglove) who can be contacted on 07747 568607.





What a year so far, for a small village school our children certainly hold their own! We hope you enjoy reading about some of our great moments and memories. If you don't know our school, you are more than welcome to come and have a look round anytime – we would love to meet you!

Mrs Slate, Headteacher

### National Gymnastics Finals

Having won Gold at the Northern Regional finals in Newcastle, earlier in the year, Finley Frazer, Griffin Kirkman-Evans and Isla Sawyers competed in Milano Gymnastics National Finals, in Stoke and were amazing! Competing against 20 schools from all over the UK, they were placed 5th in the group routine and 8th overall. This was the last time the trio will perform together as the boys go to Trinity this year. Over the past 2 years they have made their families and the school very proud of them and have left an amazing legacy at Houghton School. You can view their routine on our website: <http://www.houghtonschool.co.uk/national-gymnastics-competition/>



### Carlisle Schools' Swimming Competition

Harri Birtwhistle-Hughes swims for Carlisle Aquatics at county level and so we were thrilled when he represented Houghton School among the 26 at the recent Carlisle Schools' Swimming competition. Harri's qualifying race was 25m Freestyle, where he came first in his heat and overall. He was at least 10m ahead of everyone else with an impressive time of 18.1 sec!



### Carlisle and District Music Festival

Before joining 11 other schools for the competition, in St Cuthbert's church, our choir had practiced two very challenging songs this term - the set piece, 'Sicilian River Song' by Maurice Jacobson and 'The Rhythm of Life' by Cy Coleman. They were astonishing and we were thrilled to be awarded joint 2nd place. Many thanks to Ed Taylor and Mrs Colombi who worked so hard with our choir and to Andrew Towner who conducted, on the day. Thanks also to all family and friends who came along - your support was greatly appreciated.







## Design and Technology Week

Before half term, we held our Design and Technology week. Each year conducted its own research and development to create an object and a food item.

The results provided an amazing variety of imaginative work including Reception's "Superhero" vegetables (complete with carrots in capes and onions wearing blindfolds!); Year 1's animated fairy tales and Year 2's Antarctic shelter and a healthy iced juice for children. An investigation of volcanoes inspired Year 3's "Rock Buns, including "Fab Dab Rocks" and "Red Rock Mountains". Inspired by "The Iron Man" book, year 4 designed and made their own supersized Iron Man models, with red blinking eyes, they also made Iron-rich cereal bars". Year 5 designed and built a bike for a client, using wood to create scale models; "Fruity Granola Squares" were their food product. Year 6 worked on survival shelters for particular environments, leading to a series of brilliantly designed and constructed model shelters ranging from igloos to jungle 'A-frames' and desert tents! For their cooking activity, Rowan Class prepared and cooked a traditional Bolognese which was enjoyed with crusty bread. Parents also explained their roles in industry, including: food design, 3D moulds and Easter Egg manufacture, aluminium can production and global mining and the equipment needed. Mrs Taylor, our school cook, talked to Y1 about food nutrition. Many thanks to all our visitors for sharing their careers with our children.

Mrs Murdoch



## Eden Rock Schools' Competition

12 of our Year 6 children, 6 boys and 6 girls, competed against 15 other schools at the annual Eden Rock climbing competition. On the girl's team, Emmie and Becca regularly go climbing so led the way for the rest of their team. Although un-placed the children were excellent competitors and sportsmen and great role models for Houghton School.

Mr Johnston







## Book Week and World Book Day

For Book Week, which coincided with World Book Day, the whole school focused on Tom Percival's, *The Sea Saw*, and classes themed their learning around this book throughout the week. On World Book Day we shared our favourite books and came dressed as favourite book characters - some amazing, creative and unique costumes were worn!

A sponsored reading event, to raise money for books in school, made a staggering £1200 which is a remarkable achievement by the school community! An additional contribution of £600, from publishers Usborne's, made a fantastic grand total of £1920.

Special thanks to Eveie (Y2) who raised over £100 - an amazing effort for which she received a thank you book token. Mrs Smithson, our school librarian, put everyone's names in a hat for the chance to win a book token - well done Dylan, Maya and Jasmine! Many thanks to Mr Stewart and Mrs Smithson and everyone else who helped in any way.

Mrs Page



## Breaking Down Barriers

We were delighted to welcome Rachel Monk and her support workers, Michelle and Linda, into school this term, along with Lucy Wight. Rachel has cerebral palsy and she has no controlled movement from her head down. Giving talks to schools Rachel communicates using a device called a 'talker', which she controls with her head.



She shares her experience of living with cerebral palsy and explains to children that, although she cannot talk, she understands everything and leads a very fulfilling life - from going out clubbing with friends to travelling to Canada to see her best friend! Rachel was inspirational and she certainly engaged our children. Thank you to Lucy for enabling this visit to happen and to parents who joined us. It was a very humbling experience for us all.







## Young Voices - Manchester Arena

After many weeks of rehearsal our 30 strong choir made the trip to Manchester Arena to join with 6,000 other school children in the world's largest school choir. Nothing can prepare you for the sound of 1000s of children signing in harmony, accompanied by musicians and artists - it really is a 'once in a lifetime' experience for our children. Songs included music from Coldplay, Blondie, The Cure and The Greatest Showman. Special guests were Spandau Ballet's Tony Hadley and Beau Dermott (BGT). Thank you to all the parents who joined us and very well done to all the children. Special thanks to Miss Pollard who prepared the children so well and who worked so hard with them.



## Cumbria Wildlife Trust

Year 5 have been helping Cumbria Wildlife Trust (CWT) in their new garden by planting a community orchard. The children joined with other members of the community to plant a variety of fruit trees. Kate Jackson, Community Gardener and Engagement Officer for CWT, welcomed the children and showed them the new centre. We are very much looking forward to many more opportunities of working together with Kate. Look out for the pop-up café which is well worth a visit. Thank you to Mrs Smiles-Moore who joined Year 5 and shared her gardening expertise with the children.

Mr Stewart

## Croft Farm

All classes visited Croft Farm this half term for the lambing season - one of our favourite times in the farming calendar. This year, only Maple Class were fortunate enough to see a live birth, although there were plenty of new born lambs to hold! From 'star gazing' to moving away from the flock - our children can recognise the signs of a ewe who is about to lamb. Ash was the first class to meet the latest calf to be born on the farm and they aptly named him 'Rowan', after Year 6! We also had a real treat watching a Tawny owl in Susan's garden. He's been there about 6 weeks now and has made a hole in a tree his home, for now. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped on these visits - we hope you enjoyed them as much as the children and staff did!





## CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE ECHO

The editors of the Houghton Village Echo join with the Village Hall Committee and the rest of the village in wishing Dolly Sowerby Many Happy Returns and very best wishes on her remarkable achievement.

Some notable events during her life have been:

**1919:** Alcock & Brown make first non-stop Atlantic crossing by air > **1929:** Wall St Crash > **1939:** Start of WW2s > **1949:** End of clothes rationing > **1959:** Mini Minor Car first goes on sale > **1969:** Neil Armstrong is first man on the moon > **1979:** Margaret Thatcher becomes first British woman Prime Minister > **1989:** Fall of the Berlin Wall > **1999:** New Years Eve marks turn of Millennium > **2009:** Barak Obama elected US President >

**2019: Dolly Sowerby Celebrates Her Centenary!**

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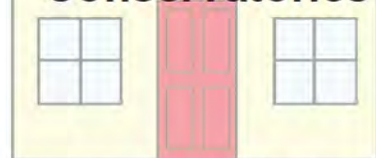
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or email [guy.thompson@gll.org](mailto:guy.thompson@gll.org)



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOLLY

## A HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY TO CELEBRATE

Dolly Sowerby, Leader of the Houghton Evergreens celebrated her 100th Birthday on 10 May this year. Obviously we Evergreens were not going to let that memorable occasion pass.... (neither were her family, friends and others of course). Dolly has always said in recent times that she wanted neither presents, flowers nor pot plants, and we decided to give her something special from the Evergreens.

So we decided upon a magnolia tree, to be planted on the village green, with a suitable plaque. Having obtained permission from Stanwix Rural Parish Council on our chosen site between the Hall car park and the main road, (and with a supporting nod from the Hall Committee), we got the tree, all being kept quiet from Dolly, we went ahead with the project. Brian Hill took charge of site preparation along with Peter Duncan. So that part of the celebration was taken care of.

A 100th birthday cake was ordered and a buffet prepared. Guests, special to Dolly were invited and Dennis Balmer asked to take photographs of the event.



CUTTING THE CAKE

At one stage she organised a local choir. She has been a regular worshipper at our local church and has supported it in various ways. She continues to take a keen interest in village activities, such as the monthly Farmer's Market at the Hall, the Houghton Summer Fair, the school, and attends church most Sundays.

So, from the Evergreens and so many other villagers we congratulate Dolly on reaching 100 years young, we hope she maintains fairly Good Health to enjoy many years to come.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOLLY, with LOVE from us all.**

W.W.

We meet on Thursdays, so it was Thursday 9th that we held the Party. Dolly was surprised at the ovation she received from all present and at our renditions of "Happy Birthday", "For she's a very good fellow". She was even more surprised at being asked to accept our gift of the tree and to plant it.

Of course on D DAY, (10th) Dolly received a card from The Queen and about 200 other cards.

Meantime her family prepared a private Party of her on Sunday 12th, at the Village Hall with around 70 family present. Later the Mothers Union also held a tea in her honour. In all of these events Dolly was so very pleased that so many people remembered her birthday and had shown their love and affection in so many ways.

So who is this Dolly Sowerby that so many wished her well? Dolly came to Houghton over 50 years ago and has been involved in many of the village's activities. She was one of the founder members of the local W.I., the Flower Club, and the Evergreens.



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# Susan's Farm



Open Farm Sunday, Sunday 9th June 2pm – 6pm

A free event, watch sheep shearing, go on a guided farm walk, see the Wildlife Trusts new community garden, several environmental and organic displays to enjoy, hopefully Tawny will still be in residence.

Lambing has just finished and in spite of a very wet and windy first week, we have a good crop of healthy lambs, those of you who walk the footpath to Tarraby wood will have seen the lambs gambolling in the little field beside the wood. Many people enjoyed the hot summer last year however for us farmers it presented a challenge as our yield of hay was down by a third. We have been fortunate that this winter was mild and the grass began to grow in February but now we have snow in April. We are hoping we will have enough forage to see us through this cold spell.

Ruth - our education officer –was extremely busy during lambing with at least 2 school visits every day. It was great that the PTA of Houghton C of E primary school enabled every class to visit the farm during lambing.

Those walking the footpath through the water meadows will see that there are a few cattle grazing there earlier than usual, there is grass there and we hope they will knock back the soft rush which at this time of year is palatable for them and the tips of the rush are 16% protein.

Calving will be very slow this year, we are expecting most of the calves in July and August, Jeremiah and his “ ladies “ did not enjoy the very hot weather last summer . We will be bringing the cows back to Houghton for calving.

If any Community group would like to come for a guided summer walk on the farm followed by an organic hot 2 course meal do please contact me.

Those who call at the farm to purchase produce will see that we have created a new “ Sales “ area,, we are delighted with it and hope all our visitors will be as well.

Susan Aglionby email: [susan.aglionby@btinternet.com](mailto:susan.aglionby@btinternet.com)

## Houghton in Bloom



Brian and Gordon busy getting ready for the upcoming planting day.

Peter did a great job of entering the group into the Skipton Building Society “Grassroots Giving” awards and making us **WINNERS**.

Houghton in Bloom are creating a herb/sensory planting area, which hopefully will be enjoyed by you all, using the money awarded to us for materials, plants and signs.

Planting day is Saturday 25th May at 10am outside the village hall, all help will be appreciated.

Contact details are [deborahpark36@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:deborahpark36@yahoo.co.uk) or 07460 489021 for more information





# Stanwix Rural Parish Council

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

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

These are held on the second Wednesday of each month, except in August and January, 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 web site - 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 councils attention are asked to contact the Parish Clerk or a councillor.

## PARISH CLERK

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

Tel: 01228 231 124  
Email: [clerk@stanwixrural.co.uk](mailto:clerk@stanwixrural.co.uk)  
Website: [www.stanwixrural.co.uk](http://www.stanwixrural.co.uk)

## PARISH COUNCILLORS:

CLLR. CRAIG NICHOLSON (Chairman)  
7, Whiteclosegate, CA3 0JA  
Tel: 01228 536 895

CLLR. HAMISH PLILLIPS (Vice-Chairman)  
59, Tribune Drive, Houghton, CA3 0LA  
07837 659999

CLLR. TONY COLES  
3, Drawdykes Lane, Houghton, Carlisle CA3 0LT  
Tel: 01228 598 540

CLLR. MARTIN ELLMORE  
62 Tribune drive Houghton, CA3 0LE  
07824 445 484

CLLR. A D LIGHTFOOT  
8, Orchard Lane, Houghton, CA6 0LY  
Tel: 01228 528 645

CLLR. CHRIS SAVORY  
Allendale, Houghton Road, Houghton, Carlisle  
Tel: 01228 231 124

CLLR. MIKE SHERRIFF  
1, Beech Grove Gardens, Houghton, Carlisle, CA3 0LR

SEE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE FOR  
E-MAIL ADDRESSES

## PARISH COUNCILLORS:

CLLR. STEVE SPLINTER  
75, Tribune Drive, Houghton, CA3 0LE  
Tel: 07985 919 464

CLLR. NEIL WATSON  
Greenfields, Brunstock, CA6 4QG

## CARLISLE CITY COUNCILLORS:

CLLR. ELIZABETH MALLINSON  
2 Wordsworth Court, Carlisle, CA3 9DA  
Tel: 07968 251 367

[liz.mallinson@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:liz.mallinson@carlisle.gov.uk)

CLLR. PAUL NEDVED  
Low Durranhill, Tilbury Road, CA1 2SD  
Tel: 07745 302097

[paul.nedved@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:paul.nedved@carlisle.gov.uk)

CLLR. FIONA ROBSON  
Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG  
Tel: 07765 502949

[fiona.robson@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.robson@carlisle.gov.uk)

## CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNILLOR:

CLLR. JOHN MALLINSON  
2 Wordsworth Court, Carlisle, CA3 9DA  
Tel: 07968 251 365

[John.Mallinson@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:John.Mallinson@cumbria.gov.uk)

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk receives copies of the applications within the parish area and they are available to view using the link on the Parish Council's website.

Comments and opinions should be put into writing (a copy being sent to the Parish Clerk) to:

Planning Services,  
Carlisle City Council,  
Civic Centre,  
Carlisle CA3 8QG

## HIGHWAYS ISSUES:

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

**Cumbria Highways Hotline on:**

**0300 303 2992**

Answer phone service evenings, weekends and public holidays; cost of calls may vary depending on mobile provider.





# Stanwix Rural Parish Council HEADLINES

## **PASRISH COUNCIL CHANGES**

Due to their moving out of the parish area Cllrs. Mike Fox and Robert Gordon were unable to seek re-election in May. Both have made invaluable contributions to the council throughout the last 11 years, Mike Fox also serving periods as both Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Houghton Ward Cllr. Colin Duncan is also no longer with the council; his contribution to Houghton in Bloom and the Love Your Garden Competition being highly regarded. On behalf of the community their Parish Council colleagues take this opportunity to offer their deepest gratitude for all they have done and wish them well!

## **PRECEPT**

Due to the loss of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant, reductions in other funding streams and rising costs; the council has been forced to increase the precept in order to sustain and increase the council's work. This is only the second increase since 2010, both occasions arising within the last two years.

## **BOUNDARY CHANGES**

Following a Boundary Commission review (which reduced the number of City Council Wards to 13 represented by 39 Councillors), perhaps the most significant single change to affect the parish is that the old Electoral Ward of Stanwix Rural is now supplanted by a new 'Stanwix and Houghton Ward'. Although Stanwix Rural Parish Council area remains part of the new ward the ward its self is designated as Urban, rather than Rural.

The new ward in which we live now includes a large part of urban Stanwix and extends from Crosby on Eden and Wall Head in the east, to the north bank of the River Eden between Austin Friars and Eden Bridge, in the west. This arrangement is very similar to Carlisle District in that it has a high population urban area, with an extended low population rural hinterland.

Carlisle's new warding arrangements lead, in May, to our former long serving City Councillors Cllrs. Marilyn Bowman and James Bainbridge moving to other wards and new ones being elected here. On behalf of the community the Parish Council wishes to thank Marilyn and James for their much appreciated time, effort and support over the years.

The parish is now represented on the City Council by Cllrs. Elizabeth Mallinson, Paul Nedved and Fiona Robson, who all formerly represented the old Stanwix Urban Ward. As a result of the changes City Council elections will now take place every year.

## **THE SUMMER PLAY SCHEMES**

These Play Schemes in Houghton and Crosby are always well attended and it is anticipated that this year's programme will also be well used. Without on-going funding from the Parish Council it is unlikely that the Play Days would be continued.

## **PARISH COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME**

This scheme attracts applications from a range of community groups and organisations and fortunately the council is usually able to meet, to a large degree, the majority of requests for financial assistance.

## **CROSBY FLOOD GROUP**

The Council continues to support this group in its discussions with the Environment Agency and others, as it seeks to secure better defensive measures and resilience support for the communities of Crosby and Rickerby. Progress in these matters has always been frustratingly slow and it is hoped that a start date may now be calculated in months rather than years.

## **BRUNSTOCK COMMON LAND**

Brunstock Common Land has seen improvement work to the pond area taking place. This is an on-going process, the council and residents working together to provide an interesting and attractive community space. Works will continue as weather and seasons allow.



## Hedgehog Havens Needed Across Cumbria

Sadly, in the past decade alone we have lost over a half of our rural hedgehogs and a third from our towns and cities across the UK. Solid garden boundaries, tidier gardens and the intensification of agriculture are all to blame for this alarming decline. But there are ways in which you can help.

You can make your garden or back yard more hedgehog-friendly:

- Create a hedgehog highway – cut a CD case-sized hole in your fence to enable hedgehogs to roam between yours and your neighbours gardens and yards
- Avoid using pesticides – hedgehogs are natural pest controllers
- Provide nesting sites – logs, piles of leaves and wilderness areas make great places for hedgehogs to nest and hibernate
- Let your grass grow a little wild – it’s an important home for hedgehog prey
- Set up a feeding station with hedgehog food or meaty pet food and clean water



Cumbria Wildlife Trust has been tracking the location of hedgehogs across the county for the last three years, via their survey website <http://hedgehogs.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk>

Charlotte Rowley from Cumbria Wildlife Trust says:

“Our iSpy a Hedgehog survey website has been hugely popular with Cumbrians. 1,897 sightings have been submitted over the last three years. On average, 80% of the sightings have been of a live hedgehog which is wonderful to know.”

As well as logging your hedgehog sighting at <http://hedgehogs.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk> share your photos and footage with Cumbria Wildlife Trust using the hashtag #CumbriaHedgehogs



### Carlisle Youngsters Win Wildlife Awards

Three young people from Carlisle were recently presented with John Muir Awards in recognition of their hard work towards helping nature and wildlife.

Chris Greensmith, Ellis Fleming and Connor Tyson received the environmental awards after taking part in a project run by Carlisle Youth Zone (CYZ) and Cumbria Wildlife Trust, during which 29 young people gave hands-on help to restore and nurture wildlife in some of Cumbria’s wild places.

To earn their awards, they helped to improve the woodlands at Wreay Woods Nature Reserve near Carlisle by helping to repair a bridge that had been damaged in the floods of 2015 and rebuilding entrance steps and a hand rail. They also helped to restore the damaged boardwalk in the wetlands at Gosling Sike, Cumbria Wildlife Trust’s northern base in Houghton, and worked on the creation of the new community wildlife garden at Gosling Sike.



# Contact:

## HOUGHTON ORGANISATIONS, CONTACTS & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Argentine Tango	Phil Edgar	07887 790 694
Evergreens	Dorothea Sowerby	528734
Bowls	Ken Norman	523818
Brownies	Catherine Adam	548467
Church	The Vicarage	515972
Art Venturers	Kirsty Turnbull	07412 928996
Music Makers	Helen Teasdale	595111
Flower Guild	Lynda Fraser	670 641
Guides	Jackie Dodd	07467 947001
Mums & Toddlers	Rebecca Sawyers	07703 000838
Houghton Nursery	Christine Birrell	558888
Magic Circle	Stuart Bowie	01697 472734
Rainbows	Sue Doyle	511258
Bee Keepers	Emma Keir	01697 352114
W.I.	Patt Dodd	527711
MooMusic:	Caroline Maxwell	07497 833444
Yoga:	Bonnie Kirkman	07728 338550

## HOUGHTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Vice Chairman:	Alan Lightfoot
Treasurer:	Anne Nicholson
Acting Minute Secretary:	Audrey Riordan
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Committee:	
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Doreen Martin,	Joyce Irving
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| 25. Mel Gibson  | 50. Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson and Theodore Roosevelt |

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