

# The Gill

Sponsored by Hethersgill Parish Council for everyone in and around Hethersgill.

Issue No. 7 July/August 2008

## Highways and HGV's - getting things done

The Parish Council and County Council officers have been out on the road and meetings have recently been held with police, county officers and management of the peat works to look at the impact of HGV's in our parish. The Council have also raised the issue at the Longtown Neighbourhood Forum.



### Action will include -

More speed checks by the police, repairs to roads when money permits and better signs to get drivers to follow the correct route to the works. The C1005 between Low Dubwath and Prior Rigg is to be

resurfaced and the new County Council Highways Steward will be vigilant in sorting out the minor problems that cause us all so much frustration.

### People on the Highway

The new Highways Steward for our area is Paul Francis - he has 10 parishes to cover and his role will include

- Cleaning and repairing signs
- Cutting back vegetation to ensure sign visibility
- Cleaning out blocked gullies
- Weeding
- Emergency pothole repairs

- Checking out reports of mud on the road and vandalism
- Helping to keep the highways safe for us all to us

Parish Councillor Frank Heaton (Tel 675516) is the Parish Council's highways representative and he will liaise with Paul about issues raised by residents and the Parish Council

**Important - always report urgent problems to the Highways Hotline Tel: 0845 609 6609**

**Report** any incidents of HGV's coming off the road and/or causing damage to the police. Don't forget the vehicle reg. No!

### **Community Policing-PC Alasdair Wright reports-**

Joining the Longtown Local Policing Team is PCSO 5243 Peter Aiston. His main remit is tackling anti-social behaviour and high visibility policing. He's based at Longtown Police Station.

Welcome Peter.

Traditionally our crime figures soar in July and August.

Still very much at the fore is theft of diesel, quad bikes, scrap metal, and power/garden tools.

Most thefts/burglaries are by opportunist thieves who tend to travel around 24/7 looking for a chance.

When challenged they will come up with stories of walking dogs, collecting for charity/sponsorship, collecting scrap, rat killing, tarmac, roofing and so on - basically any excuse they can think of. They may be in a car/van or on foot.

**We ask that if any one sees anything suspicious to please get in touch with the police on 0845 3300247 or 999 if an emergency and pass on as much detail as possible. Vehicle registration numbers are ideal or as good a description of the vehicle or persons as possible. It's not always that easy to do but if we work together we will hopefully make a difference.**

**Finally, Volunteers please** - Longtown Police Station is currently an 'unmanned station' and does not offer a front counter service

to the public. We are seeking to change this by utilising 'police support volunteers' to assist by manning the front counter for as long/often as they wish. They will be fully trained and vetted and a support structure will be in place to ensure they are looked after. There is no payment involved but out of pocket expenses are recoverable. The police like many other bodies, already use volunteers, for example, the Special Constabulary and for Speedwatch. So if you are interested in becoming a volunteer within Cumbria Constabulary with a view to manning the front office at Longtown please feel free to get in touch with myself via the details below or Police Sergeant Mike JAMES at HQ, Penrith again via the details below -

Main number - 0845 3300247 or  
[aldasair.wright@cumbria.police.uk](mailto:aldasair.wright@cumbria.police.uk) or  
[michael.james@cumbria.police.uk](mailto:michael.james@cumbria.police.uk)

## Recycling



**Wash & Squash and Flat 'n' fold** - its all happening at the Parish Hall recycling centre! The two new plastic collection bins are proving popular. Collections are more regular now so there's plenty of room for your recyclables

## The Parish Council - Where does your money go?

The 2008/09 Budget is £11252. This is made up of monies in the bank, grants and the precept or Parish Council tax of £6500. For the average Band D property that's a fraction over £48 per year.

Spending covers -

- Clerk's salary, postages, paper & Cllr training - £2780
- Insurances and subscriptions - £500

- The Gill x 4 copies pa - £512
- Recycling payment to Parish Hall Committee - £60
- Projects - £7400

Grant income of £2800 is expected towards projects for the new seat, Parish Hall extension and footpath upgrading. The Parish Council will make a grant of £5000 to the Parish Hall Committee for the supper room extension and will support the footpaths project as well as buying a new notice board and grit bin for the Hethersgill crossroads area. The playground project is on hold because of regulation issues.

### **Hethersgill Walking Group**

Every month we normally hold two short walks and one long walk, please look at our programme. New walkers are always welcome.

In June the long walk went to Teesdale where we also looked at the wild flowers in the upland hay meadows and on the sugar limestone on Cronkley Fell. This was a very interesting and enjoyable walk enjoyed by all. As usual we ended with refreshments; this time in the Langdon Beck Hotel bar.

### **Hethersgill Natural History Group**

Every month in the summer we meet to walk in our local area and look at birds, flowers and other the wealth of wildlife that we have in and around our parish. In June we did a circular walk from the Village Hall and saw an excellent display of wild flowers. July found us walking from Kirklington Church through Uppertown, Rigghead, Sikeside and around by Hetherside back to the church; a good walk spoilt only by a very wet night!

Our next event is Wednesday August 20th meeting at Kirklington Church at 6.30 p.m. to walk to the Captain's Seat and along the River Lyne footpath, hopefully completing a circle back to the church. Please come and join us

**Comments about the Gill** We welcome comments about the newsletter or any topic - please contact:- Clive Moth, Clerk to the Council 01228 675328