The Gill

Welcome to the Winter 2018 Edition of the Newsletter for our community brought to you by Hethersgill Parish Council

GRANTS FOR GROUPS IN OUR COMMUNITY

As most of you will know, Hethersgill is one of a limited number of communities able to benefit from a grant scheme, established after the opening of the Hallburn Wind Farm. To date, a number of groups that are either based in the parish of Hethersgill, or benefit the people of our parish, have benefitted. These include:

- Penny Jones Animal Hospice for an electricity supply project;
- Bewcastle Scout Group for some camp equipment;
- Border Rambler Rural Transport for their bus service; and of course
- Hethersgill Parish Council for our website.

In addition to the above projects, many other groups nearby have also received grants for various projects, including:

- Environment Project, Fir Ends School;
- Festive light displays; Arthuret Parish Council;
- Play area facilities, Pear Tree Nursery, Longtown & Kirklinton Middle Parish Council;
- Renovations to a bowling house, Longtown Bowling Club;
- Heating & interior improvement scheme, Easton Social Committee;
- A community broadband scheme, Kirkandrews on Esk Parish Council:
- A senior citizens Christmas party, Arthuret Parish Council;
- IT training for WI Members, Longtown WI;
- A trip to an outdoor centre, 1s Longtown Rainbows; and
- A Lunch Club project, Longtown Memorial Hall.

So you can see the list of projects and groups supported is diverse. The question is, can a group you are involved with benefit?

The next round of grant applications must be received by the grant administrators, GrantScape, by 9 January 2019 and <u>Hethersgill Parish Council are urging all local people involved with any community group to consider applying.</u>

Full details on the grant scheme can be found at the website www.grantscape.org.uk or by telephoning 01908 247630.

There will also be an information evening held from 6pm—8pm on Monday 25 February 2019 at the Arthuret Parish Council offices. Places are limited and must be booked in advance by contacting Kim Wilkinson on 01908 247630 or email kim.wilkinson@grantscape.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The dates for our next Parish Council meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 29 January 2019 Please note the later than normal date

Tuesday 19 March 2019

Tuesday 21 May - Date to be confirmed

We will confirm our May date and subsequent meetings in our next newsletter as we will set these at our Annual Meeting which will take place with a newly elected Council in May.

Please keep your eyes on the boards and website for more information on Parish Council elections nearer the time.

As ever, all meetings take place at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall and a copy of the agenda will be on our website and on the notice boards at least three working day in advance.

PRECEPT

We set our precept (the tax we levy annually) at our November meeting and we are pleased to let you know that we are recommending we keep the amount the same as last year. We hope this is welcome news? A full copy of our current budget is available to view on the website if you would like to see how we spend our money.

MEALS ON WHEELS

At the moment Brampton Community Centre are trying to recruit new drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels. Drivers report the experience to be very enjoyable and find it very worthwhile, with some lovely residents being delivered to. Additional drivers are now being recruited.

Anyone wishing to help must have a full driving license and will be subject to normal safety clearances. You would be paid £0.45 per mile in expenses. If anyone wishes to consider volunteering for this please contact Brampton Community Centre on 01697745023.

BORDER RAMBLER BUS

As the Border Rambler moves towards its third year of operation, we thought it would be helpful to give an update on the Thursday Hethersgill, Scaleby service. The community continues to use the bus and we would welcome any suggestions on ways in which more members of the community could be encouraged to use the bus? We have been helped by the Hallburn Wind Farm which has made a grant to us, which helps with the running of the service.

We will be putting notes on the bus about the Christmas timetable.

Turning to the next 12 months, we are aware that the County Council budget will be under pressure but as yet we do not know what the implications could be for community transport. As we learn more we will let you know.

In the meantime please encourage your neighbours to use the service and keep in touch with us through the website.

www.borderramblerbus.co.uk



MERRY CHRISTMAS

All of your Parish Councillors and the Clerk would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year

Hethersgill Walking Group Programme Spring 2019

Walks may be altered due to weather, so please ring Harry (01228 675910) if you are going to attend a walk to assist communications.

As we walk in many areas abundant in farm livestock and wildlife, any dogs must be kept on a short lead.

Walks may be altered or cancelled if conditions dictate.

Date	Leader	Meeting place	Time	Proposed walk	Rating	Comments
5/01/19	Harry	Memorial Hall, Longtown	9.00 a.m.	The Duchess Drive - Bowhill	7m Easy	We enjoyed this last time, so worth repeating
19/01/19	Harry	Old Road, Rosehill	9.00 a.m.	Outerside and Barrow	5 m Easy/Mod	1850ft ascent
9/02/19	Harry	Old Road, Rosehill	9.00 a.m.	Blease Fell, Tebay	6m Easy	Another old favourite. 1000ft ascent
23/02/19	Harry	Memorial Hall, Longtown	9.00 a.m.	Meikledale - Langholm Walks no.14	7 or 9m Moderate	Conditions will dictate whether we do the short or longer version
9/03/19	Harry	Old Road, Rosehill	9.00 a.m.	Bretherdale	8m Moderate	1200ft ascent
23/03/19	Harry	Memorial Hall, Longtown	9.00 a.m.	Harden Circular	6.5m Easy	850ft ascent. We have had good walks here in the past
6/04/19	Harry	Old Road, Rosehill	9.00 a.m.	Orton circuit	8.5m Easy	Some new tracks included. And the chocolate factory! 850ft ascent
13/04/19	Harry	Memorial Hall, Longtown	8.30 a.m.	Durisdeer Circuit	7.5m Moderate	An easier route than last time this group went here! 1800ft ascent
4/05/19	Harry	Memorial Hall, Longtown	8.30 a.m.	Melrose circuit	9.5m Easy	A different walk in the area of the Eildon Hills but keeping lower with 1400 ft ascent
18/05/19	Harry	Old Road, Rosehill	9.00 a.m.	Flakebridge Bluebell walk	6m Easy	A slightly different route
1/06/19	Harry	Old Road, Rosehill	9.00 a.m.	Ravenstonedale figure of 8	8m Easy	Should be good flowers and possibly butterflies. A request!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Hethersgill Social Committee held their Annual Halloween Party on 20th October. There were some fantastic fancy dress costumes and everybody enjoyed the spooky themed games. Over 70 people attend the over 60's light lunch and social on Sunday 4th November. The entertainment was provided by "Zing" who by the end of the afternoon had many of the audience and the helpers up dancing!





CHILDREN'S SUMMER PLAY DAYS

Would you be interested in your child attending a summer play day held in the Village Hall? Other local parishes often run fun days, hosted by specialist providers, designed for children aged from around 4 years to 12 years, from around 9.30am to 4pm. All normally for a low cost of around £6 per day. Hethersgill are considering whether to host such days in Summer 2019. If you think you might be interested please drop Sarah a note at clerk@hethersgill.org.uk so we can see if there is enough demand?

MUD ON ROADS AND WILDLIFE CRIME

A quick reminder that excessive amounts of mud on our raods should be reported, if severe enough, to the local police who can determine if there is a risk. Also, we had reports of a higher than expected number of badgers being killed in specific locations. If you suspect wildlife crime there are specialist officers who are able to deal with such matters. For these matters, or other non-urgent Police issues, please contact Cumbria Constabulary on 101 or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



With winter now here we are seeing changes to how we function in that we tend to move indoors for the majority of our meetings using venues throughout the area. We focus on developing skills and understanding through our endeavours and practice. This is also the time we use the expertise of others outside the organisation for example, local vets, Guide Dogs, Help for Heroes and English Nature to name but a few. All this is aimed at a balanced approach for the young people we support, however it would be remiss of me not to mention the adults who also gain a lot from this. We have been assisting Arden Explorers (14-18 year old) who take our young people as they get too old for Scouts, to develop their group and ensure they have somewhere to go. They focus on completion of the Duke of Edinburgh awards as a major part of their activities.

That's the official bit, now to look at activities completed and to come. I believe that using strawberry laces and biscuits works extremely well in imparting knotting skills, an evening that went particularly well! We have had at least 2 hikes over the last few weeks in order to use map and compass, a skill we have been working on. It is fair to say that this continues to be a work in progress but we will succeed.

We have 2 big events last month. The first being Remembrance Sunday (11-11-18) where we paraded at Bewcastle Church. Here is a brief description of the Scouts involvement during the war.

As Britain entered the First World War on 4 August 1914, Robert Baden-Powell - founder of the Scout Movement - volunteered Scouts to support the war effort. They weren't to have a military role but could undertake work that released men for service in the armed forces. The skills learned through Scouting proved very useful in carrying out a range of jobs, including working on farms, delivering messages, watching coastlines, fetching hospital supplies, and guarding railway lines.

Towards the end of the war, Scouts worked with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to help keep records of where the fallen were buried. Cubs carried out work knitting socks and stuffing pillows for wounded soldiers, and with many mothers taking up new jobs to help the war effort, were also encouraged to learn skills for helping out at home.

During the First World War, the age range for Scouts was 11 to 18 years and compulsory education finished at 12 years old. Scouts who were still in education were discouraged from letting war work interfere with their schooling, although some did try and use it as an excuse to miss lessons! (Scout association & British Legion).

This year has a poignancy in that, it is 100 years since the end of First World War. Bewcastle Church yard has been recognised as a Commonwealth War grave, this has particular relevance to the Scouts hence our involvement on the Sunday.

We are also supporting Rebecca Dodd with a fundraising ceilidh for the World Jamboree group which was moved to the 24^{th} November at Hethersgill Hall.

During the coming weeks we are going to look at the impact of visual impairment and mental health on individuals as part of the Million Hands project.

Again, I am asking as before, we are struggling for leaders/helpers; this situation is now critical as life's requirements have impacted further on the leadership and will directly cause us problems. This will lead us to a shortfall of adults and the subsequent complications that brings, so if anybody thinks they might have a couple of hours to spare and would be willing to help I would love to hear from you. I must remind you that we need a number of adults all the time and if we do not have enough we will be prevented from running as we are not legally compliant.

That's all from me, for now good scouting until next time.

Simon Barrett

Group Scout Leader

(01228-675717)

Bewcastlescouts@gmail.com

Parish Councillors, your Clerk & Useful Contacts

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