
THE VILLAGER

Editorial:

Welcome to the 73ed edition of The Villager. Many thanks to those who have contributed. Your contributions in the form of news, views, stories, poetry, photographs, local history etc are welcome. I look forward to hearing from you.

Copy for the next issue by **Sunday 4th August Please.**

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Boots, Beer & Bluebells: by Felldodderers of Hilton



You may be too late for 2019, but bear this in mind for 2020, a wonderful walk of around 10 miles, but capable of being shortened to suit.

Parking is available in the Car Park in Buttermere, in between the Fish & Bridge Inn. Otherwise you can park for free (early comers in particular) on the approach from Braithwaite, or at various places along the Eastern shore of Crummock Water.

Turn **Right** on leaving the car park (with the Fish on your right, & follow the track down to Scale Bridge. Cross the bridge & turn **Right**. Walk towards the western

side of Crummock Water & begin to bear slightly left towards a bridge over Scale Beck. Cross the bridge to be faced with an option. To shorten the walk you can bear right towards the shore of Crummock water & follow a path right round to the small dam at the head of the lake. **For the main walk, after crossing the bridge, turn left, uphill, keeping Scale Beck & then Black Beck on your left.** Just before reaching a fence at the top of the hill turn **right**, uphill again, keeping the fence on your left. Go through a gate and follow a clear track on the eastern side of Mosedale Beck. Soon, below you, **The Mosedale Holly Tree** will come into view. You can't miss it as it is the only tree in your 360 degree panorama. It is the only tree specifically identified on the entire series of OS Maps (Pub Quiz Masters take note!).

Follow the track as it widens, avoiding a right fork and eventually the track becomes a tarmac road. Keep going straight ahead towards Loweswater Church. As you approach the Church you may notice that The Kirkstiile Inn is on your left. It would be pointless to have walked this far and not to sample a pint or two of Loweswater Gold or some of the other beers brewed behind the pub.

Follow the road, with the Church on your left, downhill, and after crossing a bridge, turn right into a car park. Leaving the car park, through a gate, a wide track takes you to the lakeshore (a smaller path runs parallel, to the left, along the river. Both paths meet at the dam at the end of the lake. Follow the path running parallel to the Eastern shore of Crummock water until you are forced onto the road. Keep going until you see 2 car parks on the roadside, the first on your left (on the grass) & a second further on, ahead & below on your right. A clear path leads through the first car park, over a stream and gently uphill to the carpet of bluebells (late April & early May). The site was an ancient oak forest, cut down for timber to build ships for the Napoleonic wars. All that is left is the bluebells. **Carry on, uphill, to the top of Rannerdale, & turn right, downhill.**

The path is steep but very clear. A wall appears in front of you and the track bears right, eventually hitting the road. Turn right & the Bridge Inn is on your right. Go

round the Bridge Inn & bear right to find the Fish. Why not try the beer in each of them! You have earned it!! So there you have it, a good walk, wonderful bluebells & a pint or three!



CIVIC NEWS May 2019

Following the recent election, the new Council met last night for the inaugural meeting. I was re-elected as Chairman for a further 12 months, and Pat Laverty was re-elected as Vice Chairman. Serving as a councillor is a voluntary post which carries with it a responsibility to safeguard and represent the interests of all of you, but also requires a commitment to be part of a small team and give of their time to make things happen for the good of the community. This is no easy task and we are fortunate to have a full complement of active and enthusiastic Councillors, where some PCs struggle to fill the places. As Chairman I was able to thank our retiring councillor, Alan Taylor, for the invaluable support to the community that he gave through 2 terms on the PC, serving 8 years in total. He has been replaced by John McDarren from Hilton and I am pleased to welcome him to our team.

Contact details for all our councillors and our clerk are on the Murton website & the parish noticeboards if you need to speak to anyone.

As is often the case, discussions at the meeting were concentrated on a few topics, some of which are more immediate such as the widening of Hilton Bridge and the issues arising from this project, and the replacement of the 2 remaining footway lights. Both of these projects will be completed during the summer months. The more long term consideration of the maintenance of the cemetery walls has led the Council to consider applying for grants to rebuild the walls. This will be covered in future editions of this report, but we would value any opinion or advice on a way forward.

EDC have informed the PC that as a contractor has been appointed for the maintenance of the Footway Lighting Scheme, the two remaining older lights will be replaced with new LED standard lamps. The work is scheduled to be carried out some time within the next four months and we are seeking confirmation that the same contractor will be responsible for the removal of the other footway lighting and a possible timetable for this to happen.

I know that you are aware of the impending work to be done on Hilton Bridge. The proposed time schedule and road closures have been publicised and I would urge you to look for further information on the website and the noticeboards as they become available. The contractor, Metcalfe, is considering a work schedule and we have asked for as much detail as possible from them. They will be using some of the area of ground between Hilton Bridge and the garden waste skip to store their equipment so there may be some space for private parking nearer to Mill Corner if anyone is considering such an option.

The garden waste skip is currently located on the wrong side of the bridge for easy access. We shall approach EDC to find out if the contractor for garden waste could place the Hilton skip within the village for the duration of the work. However this will involve a Health & Safety Assessment and may not be feasible.

We are still not clear about vehicular access across the bridge during the construction, whether it will be a blanket ban or if restricted access will be

permitted. Again information will be displayed on the noticeboards and via the internet.

Finally, the closure of Hilton Bridge is going to be disruptive – the roads from Hilton over Brackenber Moor and from Murton to Appleby are going to be much busier during the summer months. The MoD vehicles, agricultural vehicles, delivery vans and wagons will be using the main road from Appleby so be aware. Please drive carefully with due consideration of other road users, and keep your speed down.

You are very welcome to join us for our next meeting at Murton Institute on Monday 5th August at 7.30pm.

Barbara Govan Chairman

News from the Institute:

May

Tuesday 14th: Community Lunch, 12 – 1, £3.00 for soup and a pudding.

Saturday 18th: Northern Soul Night. 7 pm – 10 pm. In aid of AGS South Africa cultural exchange. £5.

Saturday 25th: Quiz. 7.30 pm, with Quizmasters Macfadzean and Price. Bring your own drinks and snacks

June

Tuesday 11th: Community Lunch, 12.00 £3.00 for soup and a pudding.

Saturday 15th: Coffee and Craic, 10-1

July

Tuesday 9th: Community Lunch, 12.00 £3.00 for soup and a pudding.

There was not enough take up of table tennis, so this is no longer running. If you discover a sudden enthusiasm for table tennis, do get in touch...

Film night

We will kick off again in the autumn.

Look out for posters and emails about all upcoming events.

We now have over 120 addresses on our email distribution list. This is obviously great as it gets news of our events to lots of people with minimum effort on the part of our willing and hard-working volunteers. We'd like to include more people on this list to increase the number of people our advertising reaches. So if you would like to be on this list, please email me at jules@hiltonworkshops.co.uk.

Thanks to Rachel Holmes and Lucy Hogg, who have taken over our Facebook page and set up an Instagram account. See recent emails for links so you can follow and like these pages.

Upper Eden Foodbank donations

You can now leave donations for the Upper Eden Foodbank in the box behind reception.

Thank you so much for all of your donations throughout the year. Please keep them coming.

The foodbank has been extremely busy recently and stocks are running low. They would be grateful of donations of any of the food on the shopping list. Items below are in very short supply:

UHT milk, tinned fruit, potatoes dried/canned, fruit juice, coffee, sugar, tinned fish and chopped tomatoes.

St John's Church Update: Dave Sampson

Npower have now re-connected the meters and as from the 7th April (as you may have seen in the Heart of Eden) services have resumed as normal. We had a lovely Easter Service, with the church decorated by the children who attended the Messy Church on Good Friday in the village institute.

Work on the wall at the west end of the church has almost been completed and other repairs (various minor electrical repairs, boundary wall repairs and covering the heaters etc) are pending as we are awaiting approval from the DAC following our Faculty application.

We have applied for one grant and a second grant is in the process of being submitted. Once we have the DAC approval and grant funding in place the necessary work can be started.

Thank you to all the community for your support and understanding.

Finally just a reminder that there are two regular service a month at St John's Church – on the first Sunday at 10.45am Holy Communion and on the third Sunday at 10.45am Informal Morning Service. During the summer months the congregation from the Parish Church will join us for the Holy Communion service.

Dave Sampson

ps Rosemary Mandale has just received a cheque for £1500 from the All Churches Trust. Many thanks to Rosemary for all her hard work and efforts.

Also I now understand that there will be a Patronal Service in the form of Evensong on Sunday 23rd of June at 6.30pm followed by refreshments in the Institute. Needless to say that everyone will be very welcome

HIGHLIGHTS:

Landermason played to a packed hall, when they performed in March under the Highlights scheme.

We were truly entertained by a mixture of original songs, old favourites and a touch of jazz influenced melodies, adding a different spin to songs of the north east.

I am happy to report that there will be another Highlights event in the Autumn, artists yet to be selected from the forthcoming Promoters Day. I would like to say a very big thank you to those who come and support these events, and to the "behind the scenes" team who kindly help me to organise the hall and help on the night. Details of the next event will be circulated nearer the time. Looking forward to seeing you there, Tina.

FELLSIDERS:

Fellsiders have enjoyed a scrumptious Ladies Dinner in March and a couple of interesting guest Speakers to kick off the new year. The last meeting was on Wed May 8th, when Helen from "Helen's Herbs" who told us about the history, benefits, culinary uses and growing requirements of a variety of herbs.

Our next outing is on Wed July 3rd, a day trip to Newby Hall and gardens & the June meeting is a walk, organised by Joyce Slack and Jackie Watkinson. Details for all meetings from Tina tel 53642, Dorothy 52798, Joy 52133.

Murder on the Oriental Express was a resounding success. Many, many thanks to Jackie Watkinson for organising the evening, thanks to the actors and thanks to all the ladies who supplied the chicken casseroles and delicious desserts. I am sure some time in the future another Thespian evening might be arranged

Little Fell Walk:

We have just received the following from Simon Wilson who has offered to lead a walk to Little Fell. If you wish to join the walk please respond directly to Simon whose email address is: simon@northpenninesaonb.org.uk

I have just received confirmation from the MOD that Saturday 6th July 2019 (10am to 4pm approx) is a suitable date for the Little Fell walk this year.

This year, I will be adding Long Fell and Tinside Rigg to the walk.

The walk is around 10-11miles (circular), hard going in parts across rough moorland, and has 500+m of ascent.

You should be reasonably fit and able to comfortably walk over rough/steep terrain for sustained periods.

Please confirm if you want to book on the walk and how many places you are requesting.

Kind regards.

Simon



Gardening for bumblebees

Bumblebees are hard-working, loveable creatures, but their populations are experiencing great declines. Changes in agricultural techniques have meant that there are far fewer wildflowers in the landscape than there used to be, meaning that many of our bumblebee species are struggling to survive. As bumblebees can only feed from flowers, some species have entirely disappeared from much of the countryside.



The good news is that gardens have been acting as a haven for bumblebees for many years. Some species are now more common in urban and suburban gardens than they are in the wider countryside.

Follow our guide to planting and your garden will be buzzing with bumblebees!

How Bee kind is your garden?



Find out how bee-friendly your garden is by using our Bee kind app. Select the flowers that you have in your garden to calculate your score and then receive a tailored list of 10 more flowers to add to help the bees even more. <http://beekind.bumblebeeconservation.org/>

Spring



The bumblebee lifecycle begins in spring, when the queen emerges from hibernation. She will have spent the winter hibernating on her own in the soil, so her first task is to feed on nectar-rich flowers to rebuild her energy stores. When she has fed, the queen will search for a nest.

The queen then gathers yet more nectar, as well as pollen, from flowers. She stores the nectar in little wax pots inside the nest, and lays her eggs nearby. The queen lies on top of these eggs, and shivers to keep them warm. This first batch of eggs will all hatch into female workers.

This period of food collection is essential for the nest – if the queen doesn't establish a successful nest at this stage, the nest and queen could die. These are some of the best spring-flower plants for gardens – plant these to feed starving queens and growing nests.



Spring flowers

- Bluebell
- Bugle
- California lilac
- Comfrey
- Crocus
- Dicentra
- Flowering currant
- Lungwort
- Mahonia
- Pieris
- Pussy willow
- Viburnum

bumblebeeconservation.org

Early summer



The young worker bees will require a lot of food to help them survive and grow, meaning much more nectar and pollen is needed from flowers.

Plant some of these to make sure that the young worker bees get a good start in life.



In early summer, the nest will begin to grow larger. Some of the workers will collect more food for the nest, while others will tend the nest and the next batch of workers that the queen has laid.

Early summer flowers

- Allium
- Aquilegia
- Borage
- Campanula
- Catmint
- Cotoneaster
- Geranium
- Globe thistle
- Poppy
- Snapdragon
- Sweet pea
- Thyme



Late summer

In late summer, the nests of most species begin to produce males and new queens. Until this stage, the queen won't have laid any eggs that hatch into males. As their only role is to mate with the new queens from other nests, the males leave the nest and cannot return. Their days and nights are spent outdoors, mostly clinging to flowers or 'cruising' hedgerows, looking for queens with which to mate.

Producing new queens and males takes a lot of energy, and nests can only do it when they reach a large size, with a good store of food. If a nest doesn't produce males or new queens, it has ultimately failed. In late summer then, the nest will again need a good supply of food from flowers to feed the queens and males, so try some of these plants.



Late summer flowers

- Buddleia
- Cornflower
- Cosmos
- Echinacea
- Foxglove
- Honeysuckle
- Lavender
- Lupin
- Marjoram
- Nasturtium
- Sedum
- Verbena



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