

# THE VILLAGER

## Editorial:

Welcome to The Villager. I apologise that this edition is a month late, but when we got the chance to see our grandchildren & then to spend 3 weeks in our Spanish apartment we jumped at the chance. We were pleased to find all was well with the flat, & the custodians of our car at Alicante airport had given it a service and an ITV (MOT) so we were all set for the beach. Whilst Covid is still with us, temperatures in the low 30's by day & low 20's at night were just what we needed. I hope that all our readers are feeling that things are moving in the right direction as we learn to live with Covid.

I thank those who have contributed to this edition, but would emphasise that I know very little of what goes on in Murton, Brackenber & beyond & so am dependent upon readers to keep me abreast of matters which would be of interest to fellow parishioners.

You will see from the notice of Film Night, Highlights and so on, that things are slowly returning to normal, thank heavens.

Richard King: 07831 637 927 [richard.anne.king@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:richard.anne.king@hotmail.co.uk)

BABY SQUID FOR LUNCH!!



## **Forthcoming Events:**

**Film Night:** Frank Price

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November:** Murton Institute 7:00pm for 7:30 start

When we'll be showing

**The Personal History of David Copperfield**, with Dev Patel, Hugh Laurie, Tilda Swinson & Peter Capaldi.

Social distancing rules will still apply but do come along for a good night out. Please bring your own drinks & snacks if you wish.

We hope to see you there.

**Highlights:** Tina Wragg 017683 53642

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** Murton Institute 7:30 start

**Martin Harley:** Critically acclaimed blues guitarist, will entertain us with a selection of roots, blues & slide guitar. Martin's live performances have found a glowing global demand & he has played with the likes of Eric Clapton & Van Morrison.

**Ticket Prices:** Adults, £10, Child £5 and Family £25 (up to two children). Tickets are limited to 50, they may be booked online @:

<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.highlightsnorth.co.uk%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7C4f0f8d6caced4d5e091308d9828d8ef8%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637684366758205985%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEkaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&amp;sdata=%2Bi166T2DeNHxnwtBg68%2BeAxnetg8WKbDnM2qRUIShnY%3D&amp;reserved=0>

Covid secure measures will be in place. We look forward to seeing you:

**Fellsiders:** Tina Wragg 017683 53642 (please dial the full number).

**Craft Days:**

**Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup>:** We can enjoy a day of WET FELTING, 10.30 to 3 ish, cost approx £5. Our tutor will be Ursula Hurst a new resident to Hilton. There are about 15 places available...all materials will be provided.

**Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup>:** We can enjoy a day of WET FELTING in november, 10.30 to 3 ish, cost approx £5. Our tutor will be Ursula Hurst a new resident to Hilton. There are about 15 places available...all materials will be provided. Further details from Tina Wragg.

**Saturday October 23ed & Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup>: 10:30 till 15:30 Second Murton Institute Art & Craft Exhibition. You are invited to exhibit your work.** we will be putting a flyer through householders doors with more details . . . there will be a limit of 3 larger items to hang but there will be small tables to display a variety of crafts. Our last Exhibition was a roaring success with a magnificent response from some quietly talented villagers. Items can be brought to the Institute on the Friday afernoon of October 22nd between 3 and 6pm. Further details from Jackie Watkinson 01768352050 and Tina Wragg 01768353642 ( dial the full number). During the past 5 years we have several new families move into the villages. Artists, feltmakers, jewelry, wood craft and all manner of handicrafts. Please do come and exhibit.

If you are proud of just one item, please consider bringing it for display. Hope you can join in. Best wishes Tina

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**On a lighter note,** with thanks to Alan Ormrod

**A thought, and a prayer for a number of us and, in the final line, a wish already granted to five (and, shortly we hope, to six) in Murton.**

To-day dear Lord, I'm 80 and there's so much I haven't done

I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81.

But then, if I haven't finished all I want to do

Would you please let me stay a while, until I'm 82?

So many places I want to go, so very much I want to see,

Do you think that you could manage to make it 83?

The world is changing very fast: there is so much in store

I'd like to very much live until I'm 84.

And if then I'm still alive, I'd like to stay to 85.

More planes will be up in the air, so I'd really like to stick

And see what happens to the world when I turn 86.

I know, dear Lord, it's much to ask (and it must be nice in heaven),

But I'd really like to stay, until I'm 87.

I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes will be late,

But it would be so pleasant to be around at 88.  
I will have seen so many things, and had a wonderful time,  
So I'm sure that I'd be willing to leave at the age of 89...  
Maybe, just one more thing I'd to say, dear Lord, I thank you kindly,  
But if it's O K with you - I'd like to stay past 90.

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## **Cemetery Memorial Plaques: Barbara Govan**

Sadly, this last eighteen months has seen the loss of so many of our friends and neighbours. The cemetery has been bright with flowers placed on the graves throughout the summer, together with first the snowdrops, then the daffodils and finally the bluebells. It is a peaceful oasis to sit and remember, or to wander around the graves and read the grave stones.

However there has never been a place to remember those who chose to be cremated rather than buried. There have been some plaques placed within the cemetery, attached to the wall, but due to lack of suitable locations this has remained few in number.

During the height of the pandemic our Parish Clerk, June Watson, received several enquiries about the placing of plaques and a request for a memorial within the cemetery for a family member who was brought up in the parish but moved away as they grew up. In response, councillors discussed possible solutions that could broaden the options for local families to include those who wish to be cremated but also wish to have a memorial within the cemetery.

There is no facility to establish a Garden of Remembrance and it appears that most people express a wish to have their ashes scattered somewhere that is particularly special to them. So it was decided that our priority is to have somewhere to place memorial plaques, and where family members can visit and spend a few minutes whenever they wish.

Therefore if any of you have wondered about the new construction in the bottom corner of the Cemetery, it is the first stage of our Memorial wall. So far you can see the core, but this will be faced with sandstone blocks and topped with sandstone coping stones. It is built in a curve, facing south towards Brackenber Moor and there will be a bench placed in the curve. Please call into the cemetery, have a look and tell us what you think.

All enquiries about the Cemetery including costings should be addressed to June Watson, our Parish Clerk - email: [clerk@murton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@murton.org.uk)



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**Twenty Years on:** John Wragg emailed me saying he had looked at the 2001 copies of The Villager & found a lot of issues still of interest today. The big problem in 2001 was **Foot & Mouth**. At the time we lived in Lincolnshire, but had a cottage in Kirkby Thore which we used on alternate weekends & for longer holidays. The impact on the Eden Villages was immense & The Villager rightly said that recovery would be long. That was true, but we did recover & move forward. We now rightly feel that it will take a long time to recover from Covid. That is true, but we will recover in the end. In January 2001 The Villager talked of sewage flowing down the street in Murton. In 2019 to date we have had similar issues in Hilton. United Utilities are moving forward, but these matters are never solved quickly. In April, The Villager talked of the possible extinction of Red Squirrels. Thank Goodnes, they are still with us, but we need to continue to support & encourage them. Throughout 2021 The Villager talked of the Public Enquiry into the MOD's plans for the Range. We had a similar issue in 2019 & 2020 & many feel that the "resolution" remains unfair to local residents. Thanks John, sad that we have these issues, but we got over Foot & Mouth & we will get over Covid. Let's hope we recover quickly. .

Many thanks to John Wragg for the attached from The Herald:

## Tributes to “quick witted and clever” judge



PETER Davies, a "quick-witted and clever" criminal barrister and judge who lived in Eden for more than a decade and latterly became the Recorder of Carlisle, has died following a long illness.

Peter began his legal career upon election to the historic Northern Circuit in 1986 - following in the footsteps of his father - Joe Davies — having recently joined the Melbourne Buildings Chambers in Liverpool.

"There, according to current northern section leader Lisa Roberts, he "quickly established himself as a quick-witted and clever criminal barrister, with a dedication to the job and warmth of personality which made him an attractive proposition to both the prosecuting and defence solicitors of Merseyside."

In 1993, Peter was welcomed with open arms when he joined Corn Exchange Chambers, which merged with Martin's Bank to become 7 Harrington Street six years later.

He was appointed firstly a recorder (part-time judge), in 2002 and then, 10 years later, a circuit judge.

Peter initially sat in Bolton before, in 2015, he became the resident judge and then Recorder of Carlisle.

Lisa Roberts added: "The deep affection with which he is held in Carlisle by local advocates, solicitors and court staff is palpable and serves as a testament to his judicial qualities and his human qualities.

"But for all his professional achievements, it was at home that he was at his happiest with his beloved wife, Sarah, and their four children."

The family moved from Liverpool to Hilton, near Appleby, in 2004, before relocating to Kendal in 2017. Peter was an avid fan of Liverpool Football Club, and a keen follower of top flight rugby league side St Helens.

Isla Chilton, senior district crown prosecutor for Lancashire and Cumbria, said: "I am deeply saddened to hear of the passing of HHJ Davies, who will be sadly missed by everybody at the CPS.

"Since joining Carlisle in 2015 he has ensured that the court was run to a very high standard and was always willing to engage all parties, usually with a cup of tea in his chambers.

He was unfailingly fair and kind to everybody in his court, ensuring he had the respect of everybody who appeared before him. He had a great sense of humour, he had no airs and graces, and was able to communicate freely with anybody, from a young, vulnerable witness to senior counsel: he could quite happily put into place the latter if he thought they were poorly prepared when they appeared before him."

Peter's funeral service took place on Wednesday at Beetham Hall Crematorium, Beetham, near Mianthorpe.

**Parish Council News:** From John McDarren (Chair)



My first contribution to The Villager since taking over as chair from Barbara Govan who did an outstanding job for 6 years. Thank you Barbara, a hard act to follow – no pressure then. I’m only glad that she is staying on as a councillor as her contribution is invaluable.

The Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August discussed a number of items, not least being the agreement with the MOD to be allowed to hold the Murton Annual Bonfire through the Fell Gate, away from property & the Village Green. A good result. I hope that you agree.

We have had a good result following the protracted discussions with United Utilities regarding the Hilton Drainage System. Together with John Sykes, we have been pressing them to accept responsibility for the Hilton drains, which they were very reluctant to do, insisting that it was not a public drain and therefore the villagers themselves were responsible. John Sykes has done a sterling job involving many hours of research and lots of correspondence back & forth. Finally, after much chasing we received the following email:-  
“Following a series of meetings and engagements with Counsel, United Utilities have now deemed that the drain which runs through

Hilton is a public sewer in accordance with the Public Health Act 1875 & 1936. As you can now surmise, United Utilities needs to work with our Regulators & senior leaders to incorporate remedial works at Hilton into our next investment programme (2025 – 2030) in

order to protect & enhance the environment and our service to customers. Over the coming months these conversations will be held and the investment strategy will be developed; and in parallel to this we will keep yourself and the residents of Hilton & its Parish council formally informed with all plans going forward. As for now, any issues with the sewer in Hilton Village please call United Utilities for assistance”.

We have good news on the Planning Application front with the application by Megan Wilkinson to build an affordable house on land adjacent to her parent’s house, Brackenbank View, Murton. Following the Planning Department’s refusal, the application was reviewed by the planning committee where the Parish Council (who had supported the application) were allowed to give reasons for their support. The application was also supported by William Patterson as Ward Councillor. The Planning Committee voted in favour of the application – a good result.

That’s it from me. Please feel free to contact me about any issues that you may have.

John McDarren, Chair Murton Parish Council.

### Editor’s Closing Remarks:

Thanks to all those who have helped progress the problems of the Hilton sewer. It was strange that, 20 years ago when Alan Ormrod edited the first editions of The Villager, one burning issue was sewage in the main street of Murton. Now 20 years later we have an identical situation in Hilton. There will doubtless be problems for Hilton residents to face before matters are resolved to our satisfaction but let us hope we get as good a solution as Murton & Brackenber appear to have.

I will aim to get a New Year edition of The Villager printed in early January so I will set a date of 31<sup>st</sup> December for contributions and look forward to being flooded with your efforts.



Just a reminder of why we live here. Ullswater from the top of Helton Fell.

