

# SEASCALE

Village Newsletter

SPRING 2007

# PARISH NEWS

This will be our 55th Newsletter – we started in 1991 on a 12-month trial, and we've gone on to become bigger and better.

*The day we switched the Christmas Lights on was really horrible, so the fireworks couldn't go ahead. John Garner and Tony Biggins had to brave the bad weather to put up the lights, so our thanks go to them and also to Egremont Town Band for entertaining us. Tony Holman accepted our invitation to switch on the lights and it was a real change for him – he actually did all the work for 14 years. Father Christmas also dropped in to see the children.*

Some of the lights were provided with a generous gift from the Seascale Stompers of £200 and a raffle held by John Garner raising £250.

*Six of the lights on the car park have been off through all the dark nights and we have repeatedly asked Copeland what the problem is.*

The saga of the overgrown grassed areas and overgrown trees continues – we cannot establish ownership. If anyone has had better success please let us know.

*We have been told that the Villagate pavements at long last should get started this year!*

The worry now is what cuts in our services the County Council are going to inflict on rural areas. The library is the first to suffer, with 3½ hours less opening time per week.

*Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 25 April. The group who is going to build and run a BMX track beyond the SRA field will give a presentation. The meeting will be at 7.30pm in the Methodist School Room. This will be the last meeting with the present members of the Parish Council as it is the elections on 3 May.*

The next Neighbourhood Forum will be in Seascale on 17 May. Watch the noticeboard for more details.

*Please could you stop parking on the grass verges – it spoils the look of the village and soil gets splashed on to pavements making them very dangerous for pedestrians.*

Easter will be just around the corner when this newsletter is delivered and hopefully the weather will be better – it will be nice to see people on the beach and the cricketers and bowlers starting to play again.

*Eileen Eastwood, Chair of Parish Council*

## AMENITY UPDATE

Arch hill garden – progress at last – the grass has grown well in the mild winter weather. On 17 December with the help of some Scouts, Brownies, Cubs and a few adults we planted 400 daffodil bulbs; some came from Copeland Borough Council and the rest were a kind donation. I write this on 6 February when there is not much to see but I have been assured they will be better next year.

Please buy a bush – it will feed the birds and hide a substation. Plants will be supplied by Rapunzels for £3 each. Please add your name to the list and pay for your plant. They will be planted by the Amenity Society.

Foreshore slide – ONCE AGAIN may I please remind children, and parents looking after children, the importance of using the steps by the slide to reach the top and NOT to climb up the slide by pulling on the matting. It would be sad if the play inspector had to ask the parish council to remove the slide.

*Barbara Ramsden  
Chair to Amenity*

## SEASCALE GROUNDFORCE

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Enthusiasm is building in Seascale over possible plans for a BMX bike track in the grassed area behind the Sports Hall. If all goes to plan and the necessary funds are raised it is hoped that this initiative will be up and running by summer.

Early in January of this year a meeting was held between Seascale youths, parents, Police and Copeland and Parish Councillors where full support was shown. Within a few days a committee was formed and a business plan plus funding applications were drawn up. Tony McGean of Leisure Amenities at Copeland Borough Council explained that lottery funding was available but unfortunately all applications had to be in by the end of January 2007!

All stops were pulled out and thanks to kind hearted people who gave their time to help and advise we were able to meet the deadline. Other sources became available plus a grant from the Police and a donation from our Parish Council was gratefully received.

The track, when finished, will cater for children 5-16 years and will be built to a professional standard. As it will be made of dirt it will be vandal-proof, low maintenance and can be extended or changed at will if needed. The estimated cost will be £20,000-£30,000 but most of this will hopefully be raised by the funding available. It would also encompass other areas such as Drigg, Gosforth, Ravenglass and perhaps even Bootle. If run successfully it could generate money needed for insurance and maintenance.

If anybody would like more information please do not hesitate to contact myself at 019467 29023 or Peter Emmerson 019467 29282.

*Vicky Borrino*

## THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

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The CDC is due to run some more computer courses. These are:

- Intro to IT
- Intro to Internet and E-mail
- Move on with Word Processing
- Intro to Excel, for basic bookkeeping and household accounts

All courses are £36 and are run for 5 weeks; dates and times to be arranged.

We will also be open on Friday mornings during term time, when anyone can come along, have tea, coffee and chat about what is available to them at the CDC. Competent staff will be on hand to help answer any queries. All Welcome. There is use of computers with broadband internet access.

We will also have Joanna Kirkbride coming on the 15 March at 10am. She works for Age Concern and will be on hand to chat to anyone who may require more information as to what Age Concern can provide for them. All are welcome.

The CDC, along with playgroup, have begun a 100 club where you will go into a draw every month for the chance to win a monetary prize ranging from £10 to £100. Anyone can join, forms being available from the CDC or playgroup.

*For further information on any of these items please call Jill Reece on 21003.*

71000, Duke of Gloucester, steams at speed through Ravenglass station heading for Seascale and then on to Carlisle on Saturday, 24 February. The Cumbrian Coast Pullman was the first steam run up the full coastal line for many years, there being restrictions for carriage stock beyond Workington. It had been scheduled to return to Preston down the west coast main line, but owing to the derailment the night before it returned back down the coast, stopping just after 8pm in Seascale station to take on water from a milk tanker. If you missed it, fear not – the same excursion is scheduled once again for Saturday 10 March, running through Seascale at about 1:15pm.



# BE PREPARED FOR DIGITAL TV

Most of you will now be aware that terrestrial digital television is coming to Seascale this year. If you want to continue watching TV through your aerial and don't have digital reception equipment now, you will have to take action during the changeover period. Each piece of equipment that receives terrestrial television will require some sort of digital receiver, which is for most of us the TV and the video recorder.

Some of us have equipment that is already "digital ready" but if you intend to buy any new equipment you should confirm with the retailer that it is suitable for use come the changeover. A recent spot survey of retailers in Whitehaven revealed that there is still a wide variety of non-digital equipment available, please be aware.

Way back in the summer of last year at the DigitalUK conference in Carlisle it was made clear to the hosts that the level of service to many parts of the southern end of the Whitehaven transmitter area is variable and that the two infill

stations did nothing to help the residents of Seascale, who report reception from brilliant to poor. This message seems to have had some effect. Work to upgrade the Gosforth transmitter is due to start in April with an analogue signal towards the coast being due in June, and then conversion to digital later in the year.

There has been much debate on the apparent non-availability of Five and a surprising number of somewhat inventive solutions have been seen which have enabled some viewers to receive this channel from far and wide. Five have agreed to start a digital service from the Whitehaven transmitter from August 2007 pre-empting the changeover of the other channels. DigitalUK's Andy Townsend confirmed that the Eskdale and Gosforth transmitters would carry a Five signal from November.

It is important to remember that no-one should call on you with offers to "do your switch over" without you first contacting them. DigitalUK have gone to great lengths to set up help schemes and an installer's register. Please remember that this is pioneering work and not all details on the various help schemes are available as we go to press. A mail shot in March will make the help schemes clear to each household.

Web savvy readers can visit <http://www.digitaluk.co.uk/whitehaven>, but also watch the local press. On-screen messages that will alert viewers to the change will start to appear nearer the switchover. The precise timetable is due to be announced in April of this year and be complete by November.

## St Michael and All Angels Parish Church

*Nether Wasdale*

### QUARTETS IN WASDALE

Played by the  
Stonebridge String Quartet

*Vaughan Williams*  
Quartet in A minor

*Beethoven*

Quartet in F minor, Op. 95

*Brahms*

Quartet in A minor, Op. 51 No. 2

**Sunday 15 April 2007 at 7.30pm**

Tickets £8. Free admission for  
accompanied children and students  
For further information and tickets  
phone 019467 26258

## FIREWOOD FOR SALE



**CUT SEASONED LOGS  
VAN LOAD APPROXIMATELY**

**1 TON  
£45**

**PHONE MARTIN WILLEY ON  
01229 717171**

# Calder House Hotel

## SEASCALE

LAUNCHING THE 2007 SEASON WITH THE BEST IN ENTERTAINMENT AND FINE DINING

Friday 16 March

**OVER 18s – SING ALONG TO “GREASE”**

A fun-filled night for all you overgrown teenagers

Watch the movie – sing the songs

*Tickets £7.50*

*inclusive of American Diner Supper*

Sunday 18 March

**MOTHERING SUNDAY CARVERY**

Treat Mum on her special day to our delicious 3-course Carvery

served 12 noon – 3pm

*£11.95 per person*

*Free gift for Mums*

Sunday 8 April

**EASTER SUNDAY CARVERY**

3-course Carvery served 12 noon – 3pm

*£11.95 per person*

Saturday 21 April

**ST GEORGE'S DAY WEEKEND**

**BEST OF BRITISH GOURMET NIGHT**

A superb selection of traditional and contemporary British Fayre

Choose from an excellent selection of

Starters – Main Courses – Desserts or fine English cheeses. Coffee and mints

*4 courses – £19.95*

Saturday 9 June

**GLAM ROCK NIGHT**

Boogie on down to an intoxicating mix of live music and pure '70s Disco

Grab those flares and platform shoes and strut your stuff

*Tickets £5 in advance*

Sunday 22 July

**“BESIDE THE SEASIDE”**

Charity Variety Show

A fantastic night of song, dance, comedy and magic in our Starlight Marquee

*Tickets £15 inclusive of*

*Supper. Proceeds to British Red Cross*

### DON'T FORGET OUR WEEKLY EVENTS

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

Over 55's Lunch served at 12.30pm  
2 courses for just £5  
Advance booking only

**EVERY SATURDAY EVENING**

Chapters Bar Music and Light  
The best sounds around  
Drinks promotions. Cocktails.  
Premium Paulaner lager

FOR RESERVATIONS/BOOKINGS/TICKETS  
TELEPHONE 019467 28538

# DO YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE

Nearly 25 years ago the Parish Council purchased the goods yard site. It was a complete eyesore. Broken down garages, a derelict goods shed with a dirt floor, no walls at either end and only a third of a roof. The water tower was also in a sorry state.

A meeting was called in the village to form a fundraising committee. It was a successful meeting with a group of people from the Parish Council, residents and the Chamber of Trade; we were full of ideas on how to raise money. We started off by running a 500-ticket lottery at £1 a month with a £100 prize every month.

Then we started with coffee mornings, and a lecture on the St Bees man. These things began to excite the village; they could see one of our biggest eyesores becoming a useful sporting area for the village. Every group did something to raise money – Youth Club, Scouts, Brownies and Guides, Chambers of Trade, WI, Windscale Club and the Village Folk Group. The tatty goods shed was made into a sports hall, the water tower was tidied up and a new roof put in place. The garages were demolished to make way for a top class bowling green and pavilion.

The fund raising group raised over £35,000 and drew down a lot more matching funding to carry out all the work; the Dunlop floor in the Sports Hall cost £4,000. The Fun-day Committee purchased the first bouncy castle and the soft play equipment for the Sports Hall.

The Round Table bought a table tennis table and the contractors furnished the kitchen in the Sports Hall. It is only in the last three years that we have had to start replacing some of these items. The fund raising committee also purchased the new play equipment on the Coniston Avenue play area. After nine very successful years the fundraisers disbanded.

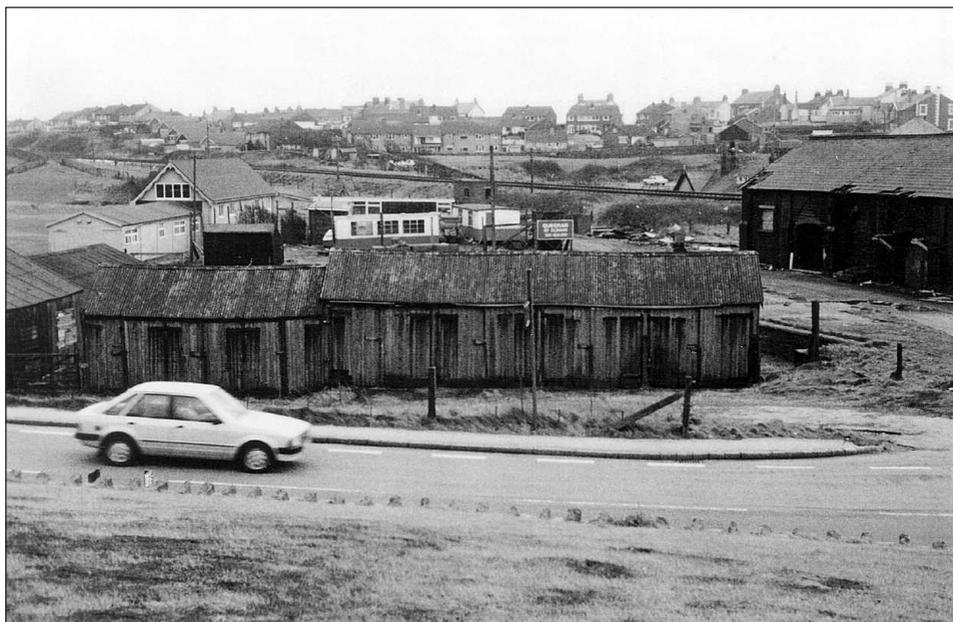
In June 1995 the Parish Council decided that we needed to try and do more work in the village so, with the help of the Cumbria Association of Local Councils, we put together a questionnaire seeking suggestions. This was the second one to have been carried out as we wanted to see if people's ideas were different from the first enquiry – but covering every age group this time. We entered into the 'rural challenge' and called our bid 'Turning the Tide'. Seascale narrowly missed winning the prize money, but because



# A DIFFERENCE IN THE VILLAGE?

our bid was so good, and the four Parish Councillors who made the presentation were so convincing, we were awarded some money. This

was followed by an Award from the Calor Gas Company. The result of these endeavours provided the new play area on the beach and





updated the toilets. We installed all the new seats and picnic tables on the beach and built the wishing well notice board with a map of all our walks and installed the play area on the cricket field. In 1998 the cannon arrived thanks to Eskmeals.

We were then reminded that the millennium was drawing close. In 1997 we produced a very successful black & white calendar to celebrate 100 years of the Parish Council, so it was decided to produce a coloured one for the millennium. A village meeting was called and decided to repli-

cate the gala week that used to be popular in the '60s and '70s. We had a raft race, car treasure hunt and a fun day at the school starting with a very successful parade. There was a nostalgia information week in St Cuthbert's displaying the history of Seascale including lots of memorabilia. The week ended with an old-fashioned music hall and ball.

We also produced a walks booklet and a new brochure in 1999.

Plans were in full swing to restore the old Victorian jetty for the millennium and a castle fortress to house the cannon. A human operated sun clock including compartments to hold time capsules was designed and placed in front of the castle. A fully rigged mast was included to fly our flags and the opportunity taken to move the cannon to the castle. It was full-steam ahead for all our celebrations and in the mornings of gala week we held escorted walks around the village footpaths using our walks guide.

Since 2000 the Dell has been updated with new fencing, new seats, the stream relined and a disabled seating area put in place. The land adjacent to Arch Hill has been rented from Network Rail and is in the process of being made into a



sheltered garden area. All this is thanks to the Amenities Committee of the Parish Council and some parishioners who have donated their time, seats and flower bulbs. Many improvements have been achieved in the village over the last 26 years because so many people worked so hard to bring all our improvements to fruition. I'm not attempting to name anyone so I can't miss anyone out.

In 2003 new heating was installed in the Sports Hall at a cost of £1,100.

There is money available for Parish Plans and if the village could once more pull together more improvements could be achieved. Parish Council elections are to be held on 3 May this year; if you think this is for you we need new people with visions for the future. Parish Council meetings are on the first Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm in the Methodist School Room.

Our thanks to all the people who over the last 25 years have made what we have so far possible.

*Eileen Eastwood, Chairperson of the Parish Council*

I'm reminded by Ken Mawson that the first thing we did after purchasing the goods yard was to put out our first questionnaire – a very simple one that just asked 'what do you want?!' A swimming pool came out top but when we looked into the costs it was beyond anything we could achieve. The Cricket Club used the old wooden Pretoria Pavilion as their pavilion but it was getting beyond repair, so with their co-operation it was demolished and the cricketers and bowlers share 'The Pavilion' that is there now.

We had to have the floor in the Sports Hall laid twice as Dunlop said the moisture level was too high. I said no names, but if it had not been for Eric Miller we would not have the floor we have today. And none of the facilities would have the services they have if we had not had a group of dedicated volunteers. We have one of the best full size bowling greens in the county and we extended the football pitch to full size league standard. The question is, what next?!  
*Eileen Eastwood & Ken Mawson*

# Cumbrian Lodge

**Cumbrian Lodge's award-winning restaurant has been selected by Cumbria Life magazine to represent west Cumbria in the Food and Drink Festival for 2007.**

**Beginning Friday, 27th April through to Saturday, 12th May we shall be featuring a special menu entitled "Out Of This World" to showcase some wonderful Cumbrian produce.**

**Early booking is recommended.**

**Reservations Tel: 019467 27309**

**Gosforth Road, Seascale, Cumbria CA20 1JG  
Open for lunch Tues to Fri 12.00pm to 2.00pm  
And for Dinner Mon to Sat 6.30pm to 9.30pm**

# SCOUTS

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Christmas and New Year are now behind us, so what does 2007 bring? Well, firstly, the group has a new phone number of its very own – 0845 0944 256. One number, and it will get through to us. This number will stay, should leaders move, so you don't need to hunt around for a person's number.

The main thing, though, is that this is the Scouts' Centenary Year – in summer 1907, Baden-Powell ran the first camp on Brownsea Island. Not surprisingly, we have a number of events being organised – and this is also why you'll see our symbol on new 50p pieces and why there is a stamp set being issued.

There are centenary camps and sleepovers being organised for the May half term (one being hosted in Seascale). At 'sunrise' on 1 August, all scouts are being asked to gather and renew their promise. The idea is to do this at 8am, so that there is a rolling celebration around the world (a sort of world class Mexican wave). There are plans for the summit of Scafell Pike and St Bees Head, as well as other more accessible locations – you'll find something happening wherever you are in the country, and hopefully, the world. We are hoping to be able to tie in with the local media to get the Scafell Pike event on to the news. In the evening there is a celebration at St Bees for all past and present scouts with a display of memorabilia. The international jamboree is in this country this year, and a youngster from St Bees is going. Following this, we have been asked to help contingents who wish to see this fantastic area before they return to their own country, so you may see an influx of foreign scouts in early August.

We have our normal program to run as well, so having been to the panto at Gosforth – oh yes we did – the cubs are working towards fire safety badges and helping us to complete the new fire safety risk assessments which all organisations and hall owners have to do. The scouts have just been on a night hike (nice to have some dry weather again), and are planning a cycle ride shortly.

During the October half term, a few scouts

camped at Fisherground and helped on the Ratty with woodland management. A great time was had by all (even the leaders), even though it was unbelievably wet and windy – we're still finding mud in places we never knew existed. Eating baked potatoes and baked bananas cooked on the fire while standing in a beck and being soaked to the skin really can be very enjoyable! The Beavers had a nice warm sleepover in Drigg the same weekend, thinking about the poor scouts while they listened to the rain drumming on their roof. Some members of the group even found time in December to help with the planting on Railway Arch – hopefully the efforts will be visible soon.

We do rely entirely on volunteers giving up their time to run and help run sections. It can be very rewarding, and there is always room for more to help – both as leaders or assistant leaders in all sections, or as occasional helpers. We do need a rota of parents to ensure that there are always at least two adults present, and we are very grateful to the parents who have helped us out here – the more who can help, the easier it is for all. So far as leaders and helpers go, we do provide training; if you fancy joining the Adventure, do give me a ring.

One other way you can help us is by the Sainsbury's Active Kids scheme. If you spend over £120 with them (shopping in store, on line or for petrol), you'll get vouchers which we can use for equipment – you'll even get extra for every £10 spent on fruit and vegetables. If you collect nectar points, you can convert them into vouchers for us at nectar.com – select 2nd Seascale from the drop down list and follow the on-screen instructions. The scheme runs from 7 February to 29 May 2007.

*Graham Worsnop  
Group Scout Leader, 2nd Seascale Scout Group*

**Seascale Parish Council is happy to accept donations for advertisements placed in the Seascale Newsletter. The expected rate is £10 for a quarter-page, and pro-rata for larger advertisements. Contact: Eileen Eastwood on 28653.**

# GIRLGUIDING – RANGERS

We spend quite a lot of time during our meetings putting the world to rights and finding excuses to try out different types of food. This last activity in particular is usually disguised as something more meaningful on our programme! We have also done some training for different parts of the expedition section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and just before Christmas we went out for a meal together at the Bridge Inn.

Since the last newsletter most of us have been on a weekend trip to London to the annual BIG GIG Guide pop concert. In the early days of Guiding, similar 'get togethers' for thousands of members were usually called rallies. This year the concert was held in the arena at Wembley and there were two performances with around 12,000 participants at each. We watched artists like Alesha, Jamelia, Lemar, Lil Chris, Matt Willis, Nylon, Orson, Shayne Ward and Sugarbabes. On the following day, we went for a flight on the London Eye and Vicky made her Promise at the highest point. We then walked to Buckingham Palace and on to

Covent Garden for lunch before catching the train home. For most of us this was our first visit to London and we became really efficient at using the underground to travel around. We have also had various other residential trips. Some of us have visited one of our leaders who has moved to Chester and others have completed a practice expedition for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. A number of us have now almost finished Bronze having taken part in a variety of activities including cycling, photography, netball, cross stitch, and various types of service, and are looking forward to the challenges of Silver.

We have a busy programme planned for the coming term, one of our first visits being to the Mountain Rescue base in Gosforth. Later in the year some of the Rangers are off to the Netherlands to take part in a huge International Scout and Guide camp and in Summer 2008 at least one of our members has decided to go on a County trip to Eastern Siberia to take part in a Russian guide camp. *Contact: Sue Smith 28625*

## MOTHER'S DAY

at

*Rapunzel*  
Floral Design



Sunday 18th March

**For that special  
Mother come along  
to Rapunzel's**

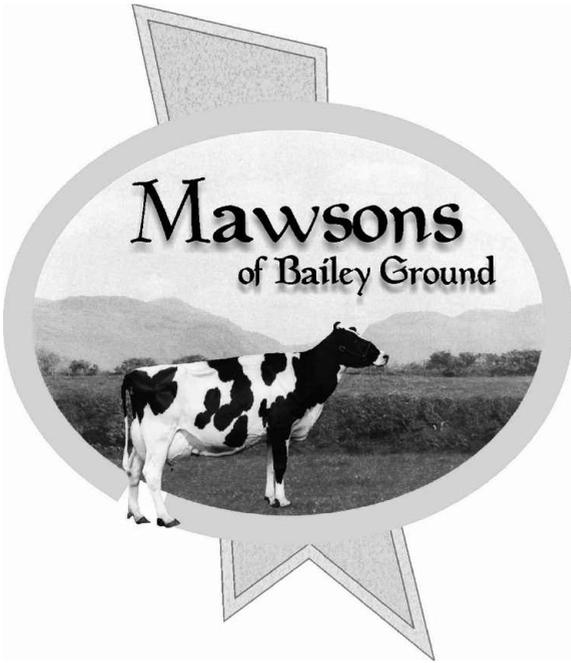
*Bouquets, Baskets,  
Arrangements, Plants,  
Cuddly Toys, Giftware,  
Balloons, Gift Vouchers  
and also Kiddies' Corner.*

**Delivery Service**  
Also local deliveries on  
Sunday morning.

*Order early and be sure  
to put a smile on the face  
of the Mother you love.*

**019467 21112**

13a Gosforth Road, Seascale  
CA20 1PU



**Mawsons**  
of Bailey Ground

Fresh milk produced  
pasteurised and  
bottled in Seascale,  
delivered to your door.

Also eggs, cream,  
cheese, potatoes and  
other local products.

Ken  
Kate  
Stephen  
&  
Richard  
Mawson  
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*Makers of Quality Furniture  
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Lonning End, Ponsonby, Calderbridge, Seascale  
Cumbria CA20 1BU

Tel: 019467 25238

Fax: 019467 25238

E-mail: [mamounsey@aol.com](mailto:mamounsey@aol.com)

Website: [www.ponsonbyfurniture.co.uk](http://www.ponsonbyfurniture.co.uk)

# GIRLGUIDING – GUIDES

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The members of our Guide Unit have as usual kept themselves busy. Since September we have welcomed ten new Guides and I believe we are set to welcome another ten before the end of the school year. A couple of our members have decided that they cannot cope with a weekly commitment so have moved on and I am hopeful that most of our older girls will move up to Rangers over the next few months and create a few spaces!

The highlight of last term was our annual visit to the BIG GIG Guide pop concert. This year the concert took place in London and 40 of us travelled by coach to Newcastle and then onwards by train (Virgin trains had conveniently decided to cancel all trains on the West Coast line!). We explored London by underground and managed to see a number of the famous sights as well as enjoying a flight on the London Eye.

Our weekly programme has included a visit from our Police Community Liaison officer, a Patrol Challenge evening, a Mexican theme night and a Halloween Party which was organised by two of the Patrol Leaders. Christmas provided the excuse for a flurry of activities – craft, fair preparation, Christingle and another party. This term we have enjoyed a visit to the Gosforth Pantomime and also mixing with the Brownies and Rainbows from Seascale and Gosforth for a disco at the Windscale Club.

An ongoing part of our programme at present involves the exploration of the rights of children and the responsibilities that go with these rights. We have looked at the right that everyone has to 'be themselves' and are currently considering the right of children to be 'happy'. Our resource material encourages us to examine our own situation in life before then moving on to consider the issues in the wider world.

We are currently planning this year's residential experiences and are organising two sleepovers for the end of this term – one for our younger members and one for the older girls and we are booked to go to Braithwaite Scout campsite for a few days at the end of the summer term.

Finally, I should like to congratulate three of the Guides, Sarah H, Sarah M and Lauren M on completing their Baden-Powell Challenge. This is the highest award that a girl can achieve in the Guide Section and requires the completion of ten different challenges from all areas of the Guide programme.

Very well done, girls.

*Sue Smith: 28625*

## BROWNIE NEWS

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We got off to an enthusiastic start to the new Brownie year with six new girls joining us – five from Rainbows and one completely new to the organisation.

We have had lots of fun this term, starting off with activities designed to help us discover more about our planet. This tied in with the Church's Harvest Festival, which the Brownies took part in having worked very hard on posters and producing their own prayers.

Then on Tuesday 31 October we boarded 'The Spooky Special' (Sims Coach) and went off to Muncaster Castle for an evening of 'ghosts and ghouls'. It was great fun and enjoyed by everyone, including even us 'grown-ups'.

December saw a flurry of activity, mainly glue and glitter and a festive visit to Inzievar, with various gifts and goodies produced entirely by the Brownies! We sang a selection of traditional carols to the residents and enjoyed refreshments afterwards.

January saw our annual visit to Gosforth panto – 'Oh Yes it Did!' Once again everyone had a great time. We also had a joint party with Gosforth Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, which was BRILL!

We have lots of great activities planned for the new term including Thinking Day, Valentine's Day and Pancake Day which all fall in February, so its a particularly busy time just now.

So, from 2nd Seascale Methodist Brownies ... Bye!



# SUNRISE CHINESE TAKE AWAY

(Cantonese & English Meals)



**1A Gosforth Road  
Seascale**

**Cumbria CA20 1PU**

**☎ 019467 29300**

*Orders by phone & party orders are most welcome*

**OPEN EVERY DAY**  
**Monday – Saturday**  
**4.30pm – 10.30pm**  
**Sunday**  
**5.00pm – 10.00pm**

*If there is any dish not on our menu  
which you require, please ask!*

## SUNRISE CHINESE TAKE-AWAY

In November last year, Nicky and May Tan moved their business into the Sunrise Takeaway Shop in Seascale. Since then, they tell us that they have "greatly appreciated the warm reception and loyalty of all our customers" and are so pleased to have come to "this lovely, friendly and picturesque area in Cumbria."

Several new recipes have been introduced and they tell us that the response has been encouragingly gratifying. They are based where possible on local produce, and cooked in the eastern style wok heated by a turbo gas fire range. A minimal amount of vegetable oil is used in this process as this is a most compatible method of supporting a healthy eating practice. Many of the sauces are the products of Nicky's own recipes and their dishes include Cantonese, Beijing, Szechuan, Malaysian, Singaporean and Thai origin. Nicky is a professional chef with many years' experience in Malaysia and Japan before moving to Birmingham about ten years ago.

Nicky and May are married with three small children and are delighted with how they have adapted to life in Whitehaven and Seascale.

You will see from the advertisement on page 18, that they are still looking for additional counter help, from within the village or living just outside.

They ask everyone to come and introduce themselves. Opening hours are as follows Monday to Saturday, 4.30-10.30pm, and Sunday 5.00-10.00pm. Telephone number is 019467 29300.



# SEASCALE PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Our recent OFSTED inspection provided the playgroup with a well deserved 'Good', an improvement on the last inspection. The report can be read on the OFSTED website should anyone wish to read it. We are now taking names for any child over the age 2yrs that wishes to join the group and stay unattended. The Thursday session remains where parents/guardians can come along with their child of any age join in, have fun and chat with other mums.

A recycling project is beginning as part of the school and playgroup to recycle old mobile phones. Anyone with one can bring it into the school or look out for the boxes situated around the village (all SIM cards must be removed). All phones are accepted, broken or working, and the playgroup and children will receive gifts for every phone recycled.

As our firemen are not having their annual Jumble Sale, it has been agreed that Playgroup will run one. This has been arranged for 14 April, to be held in the school between 1pm and 4pm. Jumble can be brought into the school before 30 March and the day before the sale between 10am and 12 noon. Anyone who wishes to donate jumble but would struggle to get it to the school can arrange for it to be collected in advance by contacting Jill Reece 21003.

## SEASCALE SOFT PLAY

A soft play session is held at the Sports Hall in Seascale, for mother and toddlers. There is a bouncy castle and a soft play area; a parent or carer must be present to supervise their child. Refreshments are provided and there is a small charge to cover costs.

The soft play is normally held the 2nd and last Friday of the month, excluding bank holidays, at 9.15am – 11.15am. (A questionnaire will be circulated asking for feedback on preferred days/dates.)

New dates will be displayed in notice boards and shops around the village; or you can contact Mrs J. McClemens, 019467 28201 for information.

# SPORTS HALL

In March we celebrate being open 20 years, and we are proud of what we have achieved to give Seascale and surrounding villages somewhere to play badminton, 5-a-side football, keep fit, children's parties, soft ball, tennis and basketball practice nets.

We would welcome new committee members to help keep this excellent facility running.

Jenny McClemens is our main key holder and does all the bookings, but all the committee members will help with any enquiries. Jenny's number is 28201.

Committee members are

Alan Bell	28761
Bernard Dickinson	27288
Eileen Eastwood	28653
Myrtle Harvey	28915
Pat Kirkham	28929
Linda Platt	27335

Anyone who is new to the village who would like to look around please contact one of the above.

*Sports Hall Committee*



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# HARDING NEBB

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If you read descriptions of our village written in the late 1800s you will find that there was great preoccupation with all matters Viking connected with the early history of Seascale.

A typical description was:

“Tradition has it that the oldest part of Seascale is Herding Neb. The oldest written reference to the Neb is in a title deed where it is called “Harda Nab”. It has been suggested that this is derived from the Old Norse – “Yarda knappi” – the burial point. When Shingle Terrace was built by Mr Anthony Tyson some 60 years ago, the men digging the foundation discovered a clay burial urn containing “small bones”, probably the remains of bones and ashes of a burnt body.”

The local historian, C.A. Parker of Gosforth, wrote an account of a Viking landing on the shore at Seascale at the time that the Viking settlers of the Isle of Man were fleeing the wrath of their King for non-payment of their taxes. The leader of one group was said to be a man named Herd and he was killed during the landing when his boat came ashore on the rocks rather than the sandy beach. His followers were said to have given him a traditional Viking cremation followed by the burial of the ashes in an urn. The urn was then buried on the high ground close by and hence became known as Herds Nab – Herds burial point. This account is given in the “Story of Shelagh, Olaf Curans Daughter”, 1909, by Parker, and based upon the important Norse saga “Helge Lay” where the great Norse leader Barna led the exodus of his people from Man.

The actual derivation of the name Harding Nabb turns out to be a little more prosaic.

The second part of the name is simple in that the word Nab is a geographical term used to describe a promontory or mound of land, which derives from the Old English word Neb meaning a nose.

The first part of the name, Herding or Harding, was explained during the Court case & Lord Muncaster enquiry into the Seascale/Drigg boundary dispute (see the last newsletter). Several of the Seascale farmers gave evidence to the High Court as follows:

John Sherwen of Seascale Howe said that:

I am a yeoman, living at Seascale, and have been proprietor of my own land since 1844, and have lived in the Parish and the adjoining parish all my life. I was a Herd (Herdsman) for two years, having two stints, and have been more than once. I had to go out and see that the cattle were all right, and give notice to people whose cattle ailed anything, and help to get them home. We used Herding Nebb to watch the cattle.

John Porter of Black How said that:

I am one of the respondents in this case. I heard Mr Sherwen’s evidence, and I quite agree with it. I was a stint holder and occupier as well. I owned two and farmed two (farms). I knew every foot of the ground, and have grazed up to the fence without interruption or disturbance. I have also been a herdsman. He agreed that the name on the map, Herding Nab, was important as showing where the herding began. I had to do all the repairs (to the fence) and, amongst other things, keep the beck course clean.

Council for Mr Wrigley said that:

The question in this case really was whether the property in dispute was part of Seascale Banks, or was part of Drigg Common. In early times the Commons of Drigg and Seascale were unfenced, and the live stock used to wander backward and forward. The configuration of the land was important. Herding Nab was important as it was a point upon which the Herdsmen of the two commons stood, in order to see where the cattle were when they had strayed. The two Commons were low-lying, and a man standing on the commons could not see them (cattle) round the Nab, and so they ascended to the top of the Nab for herding purposes.

This only leaves the matter of Nebb house. It is always claimed to be the oldest house in Seascale, and if you leave the farmhouses out of the reckoning then it is a true statement. The houses that predated Nebb house are all long gone. The original farms are Seascale How, Lane End, Seascale Hall, Brown Bank, Swang, Croft Head, Whole House, Town End, Black How &

Bailey Ground. The three cottages which were probably used by agricultural labourers were Elven How, Gatehouse, Thack & Lowhouse.

The reality is that two farm labourers' cottages were built on the Nebb in the early 1820s by Peter Leech, the then owner of Whitriggs farm. At some later date they were combined together to make the house that we see today.

Quoting an early copy of the Parish magazine we find:

"In 1801 Seascale consisted of ten farm houses, the Manor house and its farm, and thatched cottages near Bailly Ground, Elven How and Whole House. Six of the farms were owned by fore-elders of the present owners. There was no Smithy, Mill or Hotel. The oldest house now in Seascale, except the farm houses, is the Herding Nab, built in the early eighteen twenties by the grandfather of Thomas Poole of Hall Senna. The first tenant was Thomas Leech (now) of Fern Bank."

Much has been written about Nebb House over the years, and the following is typical:

Although now modernised it originally featured an outside staircase which necessitated the tenants to "gang outside to gae to bed". Harding Nebb was originally two cottages with the staircase to the bedrooms outside the building. The Nebb was at one time a "jerry shop", ie a beer house – which was frequented by local poachers. The figure-head above the porch, said to represent Lord Byron, was taken from a vessel wrecked in the storm of January 1884 on Selker Rocks.

The date given for Herding Nab does spoil some of the more colourful stories surrounding this house. It was a beer house in the 1851 census under the stewardship of Charles Cannon, Alehouse Keeper. It is possible that it was first used as an ale house during the period of railway building. There would have been a demand from the labourers involved in the project and Nebb house was adjacent to the line. In 1861 he had been replaced by Elizabeth Singleton, a beerseller. The first entry in the Drigg Register for this house is in 1825 – the baptism of Ruth, the daughter of John & Mary Leech.

*Nev. Ramsden, Seascale, February 2007*



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# RECYCLING KNOW-HOW

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The object of recycling initiatives is to divert waste materials away from landfill sites – which are filling up – and potential new sites for landfill usage are few and far between. By avoiding waste in the first place, by re-using and recycling, we can cut down the amount of waste that goes to landfill – so the landfill space available lasts longer.

You've all got the idea with compost bins that ONLY the materials on the permitted list (ie, grass cuttings, leaves, prunings etc) can go in – if anything else gets into the load (eg, plastic bags), then the WHOLE load is scrap and goes to landfill – so that's a wasted effort – for everyone. You have also learnt from the black recycling boxes that if you put anything out that's not on the permitted list (eg, cornflakes boxes) – you got it back in your otherwise empty box.

The same rules apply for the plastic and paper recycling bins on the foreshore car-park and elsewhere. Only put in the bin what is listed as acceptable – otherwise the whole load is scrap and goes to landfill – a waste of everyone's efforts.

So – paper bank – paper only – take your newspapers and magazines out of the carrier bag you used to carry them in and recycle that for the next load or put it in the plastic bag recycling bin at one of the big supermarkets.

The plastic bin is only for plastic bottles. Take the tops off and put these in your black wheelie bin, and don't push carrier bags full of bottles into the bin as the carrier bag spoils the load.

Please play your part and recycle correctly – then the best use is made of limited landfill storage capacity.

*Seascale Parish Council*

PS. It has been reported that cans still containing food, cigarette ends and cardboard have been put in the black boxes. This isn't very nice for the men who collect and empty them.

Please wash out your cans and jars.

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## NSPCC

The Soup Lunch held on 9 February raised £230.50 – our thanks go to everyone who came to support us. Our next event will be a Flower Demonstration by Rapunzel on 3 April in St Cuthbert's Hall, 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

*Joyce Roberts, Chairperson*

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## ARCHEOLOGICAL FIELD TRIP

Seascale archeologist Clifford Jones, a leading expert on Western Frontier research, will be conducting a tour of Ravenglass Fort on Saturday, 14 July, as part of Lancaster University's range of courses and field trips for National Archeology Week. Anyone interested in participating should contact the university's Departmental Office any weekday between 9am and 5pm, on 01524 592 623 or 01524 592624.

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## PHOTOS PLEASE!

How is your photographic prowess? Do you fancy adorning the Seascale Newsletter's front cover, or features, with an example of your skill? For example, we know that some atmospheric, drizzling evening shots of the Duke of Gloucester refilling at Seascale station were taken, but don't know the local person's identity.

E-mail your ideas for our Summer edition. Best gets used and credited. [news@epic.gb.com](mailto:news@epic.gb.com)

### Counter Assistant Required

A mature, trustworthy and efficient person is required to work part-time (Friday & Saturday – 5:00pm to 9:00pm) at the Sunrise Chinese Takeaway. Experience would be an advantage. Minimum wage will apply during a training period, after which a higher rate may be negotiable for the right person.

Applications may be made in writing or in person to the shop at 1a Gosforth Road, Seascale. A reference will be required.

### SUMMER NEWSLETTER

To be published in July 2007. Please submit articles and items of general interest to [news@epic.gb.com](mailto:news@epic.gb.com) early in June

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# LETTER TO DOG-WALKERS

Dear Dog-Walkers,

Yes – it's about dog-fouling – again, which is very sad, but some folks are still not following the 'bag it and bin it' code.

First, can I say a huge thank-you to all the many dog-walkers who DO clean-up after their dog(s) and so try and keep the village clean and respectable.

Then to those who consider the dog fouling regulations don't apply to them. Tell me – when your dog was a puppy, did you leave its heaps all over your floor and carpet for the rest of the family to walk in and tread everywhere? I suspect you cleaned up – so what's the problem with cleaning up your heaps out in the village?

Cleaning up keeps the verges and pavements clean and safe for people and children to walk on.

If you fail to clean up after your dog, it sends a negative message to other dog-walkers and they don't bother either. Do you really enjoy living in a village littered with dog heaps – 'cos the rest of the village doesn't?! If you are caught not cleaning up after your dog, you are likely to be fined and there are places where you can be fined just for not having the means to clean up after your dog (ie, a pocketful of plastic bags), on you if you are stopped and questioned.

Please 'bag it and bin it' – it's not difficult, there are poop bags available or a roll of suitably sized supermarket basic food/freezer bags are cheap and work well. Use a plastic bag over your hand like a glove and then turn the bag inside out over what you have picked up and tie it. The waste can be disposed of in the red dog waste bins or any waste bin – or your wheelie bin. If you think

another bin would be useful somewhere in the village, tell the Parish Council and they will ask Copeland Borough Council if it can be arranged. Keep a supply of plastic bags with the dog's lead and pick up bags and lead together automatically.

Parents – are you sending the kids out with the dog and not ensuring that they have bags with them and know how to deal with any mess the dog makes? Let them practice in the garden, picking up something of a suitable size (a potato?) so they know how to handle a poop bag.

If it's dark when you walk the dog – carry a small torch in your pocket so that you can see to clean up.

Please, please, show some consideration to other residents of the village, and some pride in your environment and clean up your heaps. Don't blame your dog – it's your responsibility – either train him to perform in your garden, or clean up after him.

Thank you,

*Fellow dog-walker*

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# FARMING CHAT

You'll notice that the usual heading Farming Crack has changed. This is a result of comments made to me that in this modern age crack is another word for drugs and I don't want anyone to think that the local farming community is mixed up in this! So if anyone knows any hidden meanings in chat let me know!

At the time of writing this, the end of January, we have suffered three months of wind and rain the longest spell of this kind that I ever remember. The ground is so sodden it can't take any more and it has been a terrible time for stock that has been outside. Today I have seen daffodils in flower in a garden in Santon Way, roses still flowering from last year in Gosforth, an arum lily in flower and rooks have started nesting in Gosforth. At this rate we can expect the swallows to arrive in February! The seasons have gone to pot (careful Ken – Ed)! Christmas time was a bit hectic – our first one with the milk round, double orders and everything else to contend with. Apologies to the two people who sent in their Christmas order forms but never put any names and addresses on them, so if you didn't get anything that was the reason why. Several times we have had notes asking for order changes or informing us of holidays, days off and other things with no mention of who sent them. This makes things a bit difficult at times! We do make mistakes but thankfully they are getting fewer and far between.

There are some new developments at Bailey Ground – we are getting some of our surplus cream made into butter using an old recipe by Jane Moore, Kate's grandmother, who used to farm at the How Farm in the 1920s and 30s. This is going down very well, especially with the older generation who remember what farm-made butter was like. We are also getting our own brand of fudge made from our own butter and cream and the most exciting thing of all at the moment is that we are starting to produce, in partnership with the Rum Story of Whitehaven, our own brand of Cumberland rum butter using

our butter and the Rum Story's own Jefferson's Rum. We hope to launch it in plenty of time for the Maritime Festival in Whitehaven. This is something really local to West Cumbria.

If a farmer were to move one single head of livestock off his farm DEFRA would be down on him like a ton of bricks with a hefty fine or even a spell in prison. The British Cattle Movements at Workington have on file the whereabouts of every single head of stock in this country. Why ever can't a similar system be used with people? Crooks, child molesters and terrorists and lots of other dubious characters are roaming the country without the government, police or anyone else knowing where they are. If a successful system like this is proven to be foolproof for cattle then one for humans must be possible.

## The Beach

I really enjoy going for a walk along the beach. Living here in Seascale it is an amenity that most people take too much for granted. The moods of the sea, the sunsets, the views are so different every day. All that open space right on our doorstep. We have had visitors to our farm who have never seen the sea before – it's difficult to believe. Others have to travel for hours to reach the coast, which makes us so lucky. Lots of people use the beach daily for walking and others for exercising their dogs. Provided they clean up afterwards I see no problem, although Copeland Council have several times considered banning dogs from large areas of the shore. Dogs need to be able to run free occasionally – they are not meant to be fastened up or kept on leads all the time. Walking is said to be one of the best exercises possible so the owners must get a great deal of benefit from this as well. You never know what you are going to come across next – in December there were hundreds of little creatures washed up, scattered along the sand and quite fascinating to see. They were called verellas, more commonly known as 'By-the-wind-sailors'. Oval in shape, approximately 8cm across and equipped with a sail covered in soft tissue approx 3cm high,



they live in the Atlantic and Mediterranean Oceans where they blow backwards and forwards with the wind. The freak gales and strong winds which we have recently had must have blown them far off course for them to have landed in Seascale. It is the first time anything like this has been seen here.

When I was young all the farmers in this area were allowed to take gravel from the beach – it made extremely hard concrete. Most of the old walls and yards in this area were made from it. One old wall we recently demolished contained a nose cone off a pre-war shell – this made us bit nervous when as had been laying into the wall with a hammer! I used to go along the beach collecting timber – sometimes you used to find some really good wood that had been washed off passing ships. There was always plenty to be found a week or ten days after a ship had been launched at Barrow. Eventually they put a large net across the entrance to the docks to catch it all. There once was a lot of brilliant hard redwood washed up on the beach that came from Morecambe Pier after it had been on fire.

When I was a pupil at school, before there were any swimming pools, our teacher took us for swimming lessons down to the beach. She reckoned that living so near the sea we should all know how to swim. Unfortunately we had only been in the sea for a short time when one of our class dived in and came up under a large jellyfish, badly stung around the head and face ending up first at the doctor's and then at the hospital. Needless to say it was the end of our one and only swimming lesson. Nasty creatures those jellyfish!

In Victorian times Seascale nearly became a top holiday resort ahead of Blackpool or Morecambe.

Because of its large gently-sloping sandy beaches, with no dangerous currents, it was classed as ideal and plans were even drawn up for how Seascale would be developed – it came that close. All the seafront houses and most of the rest of the village were let out for the summer season. Some families used to rent the entire house, bringing up the family servants and all. Lakenhow and other houses in that area were always the first to be let because they were so close to the sea, using the nearby footbridge. Some of the families who let out their houses used to get lodgings elsewhere for the summer – Seascale was certainly the top place to visit in those days. Daily trips were available to Ennerdale, Eskdale, Wasdale and Whitehaven and you could get a daily roundabout ticket by train to Lakeside, up the Lake by steamer, and met at the top for a trip back by coach via Keswick. What a day out that would have been and what would it cost now?

## **Bowling**

Mid April is the time for the bowling green to open again. Why not come down and give it a try? You will be made very welcome. Bowling is a very relaxing sport – all you need is a pair of shoes or trainers with flat soles (no heels). Everything else is available at the club. New starters' nights are held most Friday nights after six o'clock from May onwards.

During the winter months the Ladies' section has been running bingo sessions every other Wednesday afternoon; these have proved to be very popular – a game of bingo, a cup of tea and a chat, and transport will be provided if needed. If you have nothing to do or if you live on your own, what a good way to spend an afternoon and meet people.

For more information ring Eileen Eastwood on 28265, Ken Mawson on 28278 or Henry Stewart (Secretary) on 24652.

## **Notes for the milkman...**

*Please leave no milk for today – when I say today I mean tomorrow for I wrote this note yesterday.*

*Please leave two pints every other day and one on the days in between except Wednesdays and Saturdays when I don't want any.*

*Ken Mawson*

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