

Gilsland Village Magazine

THE GILSLAND SWIFT ACTION GROUP NEEDS YOU

By Beanie Firth

Swifts are incredible and enigmatic birds that arrive just after swallows and house martins from Africa in May. Swifts never land apart from to nest- meaning they spend the first 3 years of their lives on the wing, eating, sleeping and mating without resting. They have been around for 49 million years and used to nest in old growth forests. When humans came along and chopped these forests down they adapted and moved in to share our homes with us by nesting in tiny cracks and holes, predominantly up under our eaves. . They live for 20 years and mate for life- remaining loyal to nest sites for their entire lives.

But swifts are in trouble. We are losing 5 percent of our swifts every year. This is primarily due to us closing our homes to them when we renovate. If swifts return from Africa and we have closed off their nest site they do not breed. Indeed swifts have been shown to kill themselves from trying so hard to get into their old nest sites. An entire colony of swifts can be wiped out from one simple re-roofing of a home. If we don't turn the tide on their decline then they will go extinct in the UK within our lifetime. A species erased in one human generation.

There is hope however- we are currently campaigning to mandate the inclusion of species saving swift bricks into all new build homes. If you do have to do renovation works please either put in swift bricks or boxes to replace lost nest sites. And please do not put up scaffolding from April through to July- you could be blocking off a nest site for a swift which will cause any chicks in the nest to starve. Please also note- disturbing a nest is illegal- with a maximum 6 month imprisonment and an unlimited fine- so it is worth taking the time to look before starting any building work!

We have put up 21 boxes around the village this spring and aim to get many more made this autumn! If you would be interested in providing a much needed home for swifts then please contact via the details below. If you are interested in joining Gilsland Swift Action Group then please also reach out! We need people in the village to record nest sites of swifts so that we know where to target putting up boxes this year. We will aim to grow any existing colonies by providing more nest sites near existing colonies. If you are lucky enough to have swifts nesting then please let us know! And do not worry- swifts are exceptionally clean birds- the only evidence you will find of them sharing your home is when they "scream" overhead! (Or of course you may notice the significant decrease in flies and midges around your garden!).

To join the group or to enquire about swift boxes or any advice or information on swifts then please contact me on beaniemerson@hotmail.co.uk or 07725993873.

BIN DAYS

Northumberland County Council

General waste: 6th & 20th
Recycling: 13th & 27th
View the full calendar at:
Northumberland.gov.uk/waste

Haltwhistle household recycling

Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday
8am - 6pm

Cumberland Council

Refuse and garden: 10th & 24th
Recycling: 3rd & 17th
View the full calendar at:
Carlisle.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling

Brampton household recycling

10am to 6pm, every day except
Tuesday

CHURCH SERVICES

Gilsland Methodist

Services start at 10.30 unless stated

June 2nd TBC
June 16th Morning service with Mr.
Nathan Pattinson

St. Mary Magdalene

Services start at 9.30 unless stated

9th 9.30 Holy Communion
23rd 9.30 Morning Worship
30th 10.30 Mission Community
Communion at Castle Carrock
followed by bring and share lunch

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP SUMMER PROGRAMME

By Wendy Bond, Haltwhistle History & Heritage Group

Precious memories - we all have them. Many were released at the May meeting of the group as we rummaged happily through Steve's "Memory Boxes" from the 50s, 60s, and even Victorian times. On 12th June we'll look back to the very early 20th Century with a talk on the Temperance Movement - about the campaign to deal with the "Demon Drink" problem that was devastating many families then. Find out if and how it worked! On 10th July we'll share our own remarkable objects - turn out the cupboards and bring along your toys or work implements - domestic or from the many local trades - to "Show and Tell" how we used to do the jobs that today are left to gadgets.

Meetings take place in the Hospital Community Room at 10.30am on the second Wednesday in the month. All free, but donations are welcome, to help us establish the group. In August there'll be weekly Town Walks - led by two valiant Haltie heroines who've lived through a lot of our History! They'll tell it as it was!

A reminder: we're still collecting the amazing individual memories of the coal miners - please call 01697747448 if you have tales to tell or information to share.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays

- Community Coffee Morning | Village Hall | 10.30am - 12.30pm
- Youth club | Village Hall | 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Tuesdays

- Yoga | Haltwhistle Leisure Centre | 10.30am - 11.30am
- Moving in comfort | Village Hall | 10.30am - 12.00pm
- Walking Group | Haltwhistle, Market Square | 11am
- G&G Knitting Group | House of Meg | 1pm - 3pm
- Outreach Post Office | Village Hall | 1pm - 4pm
- Drama group | Village Hall | 7.00pm

Wednesdays

- Craft Group | Village Hall | 1pm - 4pm
- Yoga | Village Hall | (Chair) 10.30am, (Barre Fitness) 6.15pm and (Hatha) 7.30pm

Thursdays

- Outreach Post Office | Village Hall | 9.30am - 12.30pm
- Coffee Break | Methodist Chapel | 10.30am - 12 noon
- Yoga | Village Hall | 7pm - 8pm

Fridays

- Outreach Post Office | Village Hall | 9.30am - 12.30pm
- Art / Drawing group | Village Hall | 1.30pm - 4.00pm
- Yoga | Haltwhistle Leisure Centre | 7.15pm - 8.15pm

Saturdays

- Hatha Flow Yoga | Village Hall | 9am - 10am

DIARY DATES

04/06 | Gilsland Village Hall | WI meeting | 7.00pm

08/06 | Steel Rigg | Roman Wall Show | All day

09/06 | Greenhead Village Hall | Hadrian's Wall Farmers' Market | 10.00am - 2.00pm

11/06 | Gilsland Village Hall | Dominoes night | 7.00pm

15/06 | Gilsland Primary School | Summer Fayre | 12 - 3.00pm

17/06 | Gilsland Village Hall | Rington's van | Mid morning

21/06 | Gilsland Village Hall | Chris Cantrill comedy show (18+) | Evening

BULLETIN BOARD

Macmillan plant sale

THANK YOU for your support! This year we raised £1105, which is on its way to Macmillan Cancer Care. Special thanks to Aero Nurseries, Carlisle, Down to Earth Garden Centre, Hexham and HGLS, Haltwhistle for donating plants and compost. Judy Lowes

Gilsland Village Hall Dominoes

Come and join us on 11th June for our monthly Dominoes night in the hall. The evening starts at 19.00 prompt. The session fee of £3 includes a lovely supper midway during the evening. Everyone is welcome to join us. Give it a try!

Gilsland W.I.

Our speaker this month is Alison Higgs who will be presenting a talk on Featherstone POW camp. The evening starts at 19.00. Come and join us for the talk and supper. You do not have to be a W.I. member just ladies interested in expanding your knowledge. Guests are welcome at £3 per head which includes supper.

Roman Wall Show

Join us on Saturday the 8th of June for the 68th Roman Wall Show, at Steel Rigg, Bardon Mill for spectacular views and sometimes wonderful weather...Our small show hosts an impressive showing of sheep, a wonderfully competitive industrial tent, lots of classes for hounds, terriers, gun dogs and of course the beloved family pet. If you are feeling more sporty there is Cumberland and Westmorland Wrestling and a Fell Race that makes the most of our spectacular views. Interested in entering classes or finding out more? Visit our Facebook page or email romanwallshow@gmail.com.

Hadrian's Wall Farmers Market

At Greenhead on Sunday 9th June from 10am to 2pm. A lovely selection of locally produced food, drink, plants and crafts. Meet the producers and enjoy home-made refreshments. Stay local, buy the best.

SAMSON SHARE OFFER HITS TARGET

By Jane McDaid, Chair of GCB SL

We are delighted to confirm that the share offer has hit the £132,500 target needed to match fund our Community Ownership Fund grant. Thank you to every one of the 465 people and organisations who have purchased shares or made donations to get us there. Colin and Nev have been hugely busy dealing with all the paperwork and reconciling to the bank. Confirmation of share ownership emails are being sent out in batches and this should be complete by the end of May. If you have bought shares and haven't had a confirmation by the end of May please contact sosamsoninn@gmail.com or write to us c/o the Village Hall.

Final paperwork for the Community Ownership Fund grant and evidence of match funding has all been submitted and we expect the legal agreement to be completed before the end of May. Solicitors have been instructed and searches are in progress. Searches are currently taking about 4 weeks, these should be completed in June. Quotes for external building and decorating work have been received. We are advertising for a tenant and have had FIVE enquiries already, which is a great start.



We are seeking a volunteer workforce to be "on standby" so that as soon as we take ownership of the pub - "The Big Clean & Tidy" can begin. The jobs to be done include: gardening, grass cutting, fence painting, as well as a thorough cleaning of the inside of the property. We'd like to be able to present the property to the tenant in the best possible condition! If you would like to be a part of this volunteer workforce, please let us know by emailing sosamsoninn@gmail.com. If you are not on email please leave your name and contact details either at House of Meg or in the Village Hall. If you have any particular skills for The Big Clean and Tidy, please include that too. Though I should add, no skills are needed, just barrow loads of enthusiasm and a sense of humour - What better way to get to know your fellow shareholders & community and really feel part of something great!!

Finally, just a reminder that we are an open and democratic organisation. Our management meetings are fortnightly in the village hall and are open to all. If you'd like to attend please contact us and we will let you know the date of the next meeting.

UPDATE FROM GILSLAND C E PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Hannah Salkeld, Head of School

Craft Club created a wonderful display for the Lambing Service at the church- we hope as many of you as possible were able to make it and enjoyed our art work.

At the end of April, we had an inspiring visit from Nat and Jack from Inclusive Sport. They did a morning workshop with the children, teaching them how to play Wheelchair Basketball and sharing Nat's story of hope and resilience. The children picked up this new skill so quickly, and enjoyed every moment. We have booked for them to come back next year to refresh our basketball skills and to teach a new one- Wheelchair Rugby!

Upon return after the school holidays, we had a local artist in doing a ceramics workshop. KS2 made MONSTERS! Early years and KS1 made beautiful hanging decorations that were different textures, shapes and colours. Thank you to Kim Anson for your work with the children. Once they have been fired and varnished, we will put photos on our Facebook page.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big WELL DONE to our year 6 pupils- they worked so hard this week on SATS and put their all into it.

Show rehearsals are going well, ready for our summer performance on 18th July at 6pm- we hope to see you all there! More information about tickets will follow.

Planning for the Summer Fayre on Saturday 15th June 12-3pm are going well so far- we have so many things planned, including: a barbeque, face-painting, bouncy castle, book stall from Skiddaw Books, Temon Treat Box van, a police van for the children to explore, photobooth, bottle tombola, hobby horse race and so much more! If you would like to know more about having a stall, or if you would like to volunteer to help, please do get in touch.

GREEN CROFT ARTS SUMMER PROGRAMME

By Amanda Drago, Green Croft Arts

We have been working very hard to bring you an exciting programme of arts & crafts workshops over the summer led by talented local artists. There are a range of art forms to choose from, full and half day experiences and workshops for absolute beginners as well as those with some experience. The cost of the workshop includes homemade cakes and lunch if staying all day. All workshops will be at Green Croft, Gilsland, CA8 7EL.

We have workshops in July, August and September - visit What's On page on our website www.greencroftonthewall.com to find out more and book. Email Amanda Drago with queries on info@greencroftonthewall.com

TAKING A STEP FORWARD

By Karen Meyer, Moving in Comfort

In walking as we are taking each step forwards our feet are constantly adjusting to the surfaces and the ground we are walking on giving us the perfect knowledge of balance. You may like to take a moment to imagine in slow motion taking a step forward rather like slowing down a film frame by frame. You will be able to gain an internal sense of your whole global movement: as your foot turns in, your knee also turns and your hip is turning as your trunk is twisting subtly and your brain is the great organiser of the co-ordination of that movement.

The quality of how our brains organise us is directly related to the quality of information we provide it and research shows us that the brain resumes growing new connections and creating new possibilities for us the moment we bring our attention and awareness to a movement and most importantly how we come out of that movement.

This is when we can feel most alive. If you think that you are stuck in your thinking and doing the same old thing operating on automatic pilot then think again. No matter your age, stage and circumstances in life you can change, you can learn something new organically and you can remember it and not lose it. The good news is we do not need to be trapped by habits and routine and painful limitations of injury and trauma. Our brains are able to use new information we can provide it with to introduce better-organised movements so that discomfort diminishes and disappears.

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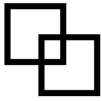
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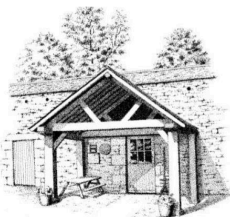
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Catherine and Nigel Jarvis wish a Happy New Year to all!

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WHO'S WHO

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Mike Mitchelson

Cumbria County Councillor

Mike Mitchelson, 0169772871

Northumberland County Councillor

Alan Sharp, Office: 01434693693, Home: 01434320167, Mobile: 07759665200

Thirlwall Parish Council

Chair: Sue Seymour 47359,

sue@mosspectral.com

Vice Chair: Judith Armstrong

Clerk: clerk@thirlwallparishcouncil.org

Councillors: Emma Guerrero, Paul

Jameson, Mark Barwick

Waterhead Parish Council

Chair: David Rackstraw

Vice Chair: Jovan Nicholson

Clerk: Sue Hatt, sue.hatt60@gmail.com

Councillors: John Woodmass-Calvert

Upper Denton Parish Council

Chair: Dan Newrick

Vice Chair: Tim Gordon

Clerk: Sue Hatt, sue.hatt60@gmail.com

Councillors: Mike Harris

Knitting Group: Brenda Smith, 47361

Community Coffee Morning: Doreen Gutteridge, 47036

Craft Group: Sue Maughan, 47607

Dominos: Nicole Whyler, 747048

Folk Club Brampton: Katy, 01228 674209

Gilsland Parish Church: Alison Higgs, 47409 Rev'd Angela Hughes 2478

Gilsland School: 47302

Greenhead School: 47347

Gilsland Show secretary: Vicky Baty, 01228 675368

Karate: Ross Cruden, 47116

Methodist Church: Melvyn Whatmough, 47524

Over 60s: Sheila Rooney, 47015

Tourism Partnership: Catherine Jarvis, 07759 020 885

Village Hall Committee & Bookings:

Janet Gordon, 47439

Village Hall: 01697 543229 (New)

WI: Nicole Whyler, 47048

Youth Club: Clare Hawkins, 47371

Submissions

The magazine is always looking for submissions! The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month. Submissions may be edited.

Digital copies

Digital copies of the magazine will be available from the 1st of the month at gilslandvillagemagazine.co.uk. You can sign up to get an email alert when the issue is published on the Contact page of the website.

Credits

Thanks to the contributors and advertisers featured in this edition. This publication couldn't be produced and delivered without the help of volunteers. The magazine is edited by Sue Maughan, Chris Cantrill and Liam McNulty (who is also Treasurer).

Advertising

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