

# Gilsland Village Magazine

## UPDATE FROM GILSLAND SCHOOL

*By Hannah Salkeld, Head of School*

Happy New Year from all at Gilsland Primary School! We can't believe it's 2025. Thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas Fair; it was a huge success, raising £388.79 for the children! Another thank you for all who were able to attend our Christmas show which was set in Gilsland. Key stage 2 went on a wonderful trip to Newcastle with Wreay School to visit a Hindu Temple. We learnt about customs and beliefs, tried on traditional clothing, played drums and ate beautiful curry.

We have continued with our Messy (Moral, Social, Spiritual, Cultural) mornings; before Christmas we learnt about Diwali. We wrote non-chronological reports, designed 'Happy Diwali' cards and created colourful Rangoli decorations. In the new year, we have done a Messy Morning about our current Christian Value, 'hope'. We created dream rainbows, wrote about our hopes for the future and made magical dream-catchers.

We are looking forward to our Messy Morning next month, all about Chinese New Year; we will be having Chinese food for lunch, too!

We still have many things coming up this year, including:

- KS2 Trampolining at WHS
- World Book Day
- Workshop with a local artist
- Archery
- Forest school
- KS2 Residential to York

*[Right: The star cast from our hit Christmas production]*



# RECIPE OF THE MONTH - CREAMY CURRIED PARSNIP SOUP

*By Barrie Garton*

## Ingredients

1x Medium Onion, peeled and chopped  
500gm Parsnips, topped, tailed, peeled and chopped  
300gm Potato, peeled and chopped  
2tbsp Vegetable Oil  
1x 400ml Can of Coconut Milk  
2x Vegetable Stock Cubes  
½ tsp Garlic Granules, 1 Heaped tsp Medium Curry Powder  
¼ tsp Chilli Flakes, ½ tsp Paprika, ½ tsp Turmeric (optional)

## Method

1. Put a kettle of water on to boil.
2. In a 3 litre saucepan over a low to medium heat, heat the oil and cook the chopped onion until soft and translucent.
3. Add the garlic and spices, cook briefly whilst stirring.
4. Add the stock cubes, chopped parsnip and potato and the coconut milk, top off with boiling water.
5. Bring to low boil and simmer for 30-40 mins or until the vegetables are totally soft.
6. Allow to cool then puree with a stick blender or in a jug blender. (add a little more hot water if required to ease blending)
7. Pass the soup through a fine sieve into a clean saucepan, adjust consistency with hot water to your liking. Season to taste with salt and white pepper.

Reheat as required. Great served with warm Naan bread. Will keep well refrigerated or frozen.

## GILSLAND VILLAGE HALL AGM

*By Clare Hawkins*

Our AGM will be held at 7pm on Thursday 20th February - all welcome!

We are looking for someone to take on the role of chairperson and add to our small committee. The hall itself is in good shape following all the work carried out over previous years and pretty much looks after itself. The committee is a positive bunch, looking for someone willing to dig in and help with all aspects of keeping the hall operational, safe and compliant. There are 3 meetings per year including the AGM to attend. If you would like to be considered please email: [gilslandcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:gilslandcommittee@gmail.com)

## THE BATON OF HOPE

*By Janet Gordon*

'The Baton of Hope is coming to Cumbria! The biggest suicide awareness and prevention initiative the UK has ever seen. After a successful inaugural tour in the summer of 2023 where the baton travelled across 12 cities, it is back for another tour and Cumbria is included, along with 19 other towns and cities.

We have an ambitious plan for our day with the baton, covering from Copeland to Carlisle as the 2 districts with the highest suicide related death rate per capita in England and Wales. To do this, we are looking for others who are passionate about affecting change on suicide as a topic to help plan the day across the county. There is no better time than now to make suicide everybody's business given the position we are in. People interested in supporting can either get in touch via our Facebook page at Baton of Hope Tour25 - Cumbria or via email at [batonofhopecumbria@gmail.com](mailto:batonofhopecumbria@gmail.com)

We are also looking for Baton Bearers, who are the most important part of the tour. I carried the baton last year for my brother who we lost in 2015. It was a truly inspiring and powerful experience. Applications are now open to all those who are survivors of suicide or who have been bereaved by suicide at Baton of Hope Baton Bearer Application'

## GILSLAND VILLAGE PANCAKE RACE

*By George Campbell, Samson Inn*

Plans are afoot to organise a fun pancake race this Shrove Tuesday (4th March) and we are looking for teams to get involved. The event, being organised by The Samson Inn, will see teams of 4 compete in a relay style competition with participants having to continually toss their pancake whilst following a pre determined activity route.

It is hoped local businesses and community groups will take part as well as family and friends entering a team. Frying pans and pancakes will be provided!! Prizes will be presented immediately after the race at The Samson Inn as will be the opportunity to sample a variety of freshly made pancakes.

Keep an eye out for the posters around the village and The Samson Inn social media pages.

## GILSLAND THURSDAY COFFEE BREAK AND CHAPEL

*By Maureen Barwick and Evelynne Whatmough*

Many thanks to everyone who has helped and supported us in any way for yet another year. 2024 was the 22nd year of the Thursday Coffee Break and the 154th year of the Chapel.

Due to the generosity of our customers the Coffee Break has been able to make donations to Diabetes UK, the Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest, the G.N.A.A.S, Gilsland Knitting Group and Children in Need. The Coffee Break also sponsored two people in the Great North Run running for Haltwhistle Jubilee Junior Football Teams and for Bloodbikes. Together with the Chapel donations were made to Macmillan Cancer Care and to the Junior Diabetes Research Fund. Also at the Chapel Carol Concert, with the Amici choir, £200 was collected for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal.

We are so grateful for your help and kindness. So again thank you very very much.

## ARTS EVENTS AT THE VILLAGE HALL AND THRESHING BARN

*By Amanda Drago*

Two Highlight's Rural Touring Shows are coming to Gilsland Village Hall this spring. The dynamic contemporary dance company Lila Dance and Americana folk duo Sons Of Town Hall. Take some time to watch their videos on the Green Crofts Arts website.

Early bird tickets are still available for Johnny Campbell's The Pennine Way Tour. A 268 mile walking tour celebrating The Pennine Way's 60th anniversary, where Johnny will be performing 17 shows in 19 days. His gig at The Threshing Barn will be an intimate acoustic gig which we are looking forward to hosting on Tuesday 1st April 2025.

Green Croft Arts will be running various events this month including numerous days for children and families over the half term holiday (below), a smartphone photography workshop as well as our regular classes of yoga and crystal bowl soundbaths. Please see our website for full details.

Monday 17th Feb - Half Term Creative Arts Camp for children (6- 12 years)  
10.00am - 3.00pm (options for early and late drop off)

Saturday 22nd Feb - "Do The Doodle" Family Dance & Draw Workshop  
10.30am - 12.00pm

Monday 24th Feb - Half Term Creative Arts Camp for children (6- 12 years)  
10.00am - 3.00pm (options for early and late drop off)

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## WEEKLY EVENTS

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### **Mondays**

- Community Coffee Morning | Village Hall | 10.30am - 12.30pm
- Youth club | Village Hall | 6.00pm - 7.30pm

### **Tuesdays**

- Yoga | Haltwhistle Leisure Centre | 10.30am - 11.30am
- 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 & Adult Ballet) 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
- Yoga | Haltwhistle Leisure Centre | 7.15pm - 8.15pm

### **Saturdays**

- Hatha Flow Yoga | Green Croft Arts | 9am - 10am

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## DIARY DATES

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3rd in the afternoon | Gilsland Village Hall | WI

6th from 7pm | Gilsland Village Hall | Red Squirrel group AGM

7th from 7pm | Gilsland Village Hall | Chris Cantrill comedy

15th from 10am to 11.30am | Gilsland Village Hall | Saturday Somatics

15th from 7.45pm | Gilsland Village Hall | Talkin Fellas music

16th from 8pm | Samson Inn | Music night

20th from 7pm - 9pm | Gilsland Village Hall | Cornhole taster session

20th from 7pm | Gilsland Village Hall | AGM

22nd from 10am to 11.30am | Gilsland Village Hall | Saturday Somatics

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## BULLETIN BOARD

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### **Cornhole team coming to Gilsland**

Cornhole taster session in the Village Hall will be held on Thursday evening, 20th February from 7pm to 9pm. Everybody of all ages is welcome for this fun activity, throwing a bean bag 27 feet into a six inch hole on a 2ft x3ft board. There will be a demonstration by current players who will explain, and coach would-be players. This is a great fun game and all ages. Demonstration will be by members of the Featherstone Flyers team.

### **Gilsland Community Coffee Morning**

We are appealing for a volunteer (or more) to help us with the running of the coffee morning. We meet every Monday morning 10.30 to 12.30 in the Village Hall. If you are interested please contact Doreen Gutteridge on 01697747036 or email doreeng1950@hotmail.co.uk. Or why not come along one Monday.

### **Brampton & District Red Squirrel Group AGM and public meeting**

As you are probably aware, we recently extended our group area to take in land to the east, including Gilsland, Greenhead, Haltwhistle and south as far as Slaggyford. So, for our 2025 AGM we will be holding this event at Gilsland Village Hall, CA8 7BE at 7 p.m. Thursday 6th February 2025. This will be followed immediately by a meeting to inform people local to the Gilsland area of our work, and to try and attract new volunteers.

### **Robert Whitehead accordionist**

12th February Greenhead Village Hall at 2pm. Admission £6 incl refreshments. Contact Elsie 01697747473

### **Hadrian's Wall Farmers Market**

At Greenhead Village Hall on Sunday 9th February from 10am to 1.30pm. Re-stock from your local producers. Lovely meat, preserves, baking, crafts and plants. Try our home-made refreshments.

### **Poetry Drop-in**

Always on the first Wednesday in the month, in February it will be on the 5th from 1.30 to 3pm in Greenhead Village Hall. Listening, Reading, Enjoying - with tea & biscuits. Theme: Love. If you need a lift, ring Annette on 07968 229767 or Wendy on 01697747448. Supported by NCDC.

### **Message from Ivan**

Ivan Riddell would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year for 2025!

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## BULLETIN BOARD

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### **Haltwhistle History & Heritage Group**

Our February meeting is at 10.30 in the Community Room at the Haltwhistle Hospital. This month's theme is "Playtime in the Past". Come and share the skipping rhymes, the street games, the pranks, when we kids played out all day and made our own fun.

### **The New Hadrian Singers**

A merry community choir led by Lindsay Hannan every Friday in the Community Room at the Haltwhistle hospital from 7 - 8.30. All welcome, no auditions, hard work and a lot of fun. This year we will be preparing a varied programme for performances in Newcastle and Slaggyford and always open to suggestions for gigs. NB Lindsay also has her own gigs so occasionally we have to miss a night so newcomers should check with Morag on [mac.kent@btinternet.com](mailto:mac.kent@btinternet.com). The first session is always free.

### **Talkin Fellas to play the Village Hall**

Talkin Fellas are a band of four musicians with a folk / rock style who write and play their own songs with a local flavour. The gig is at Gilsland Village Hall on Friday 14th February, it starts at 7.45pm. Tickets can be bought on the door for £5. Bring your own drinks.

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## BIN DAYS

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### **Northumberland County Council**

General waste: 13th & 27th  
Recycling: 6th & 20th  
[www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste)

### **Cumberland Council**

Refuse and garden: 3rd & 17th  
Recycling: 10th & 24th  
[www.carlisle.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling)

### **Haltwhistle household recycling**

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

### **Brampton household recycling**

10am to 6pm, every day except  
Tuesday

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## CHURCH SERVICES

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### **Gilsland Methodist**

*Services start at 10.30 unless stated*

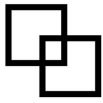
February 2nd. - Songs of Praise  
February 16th - Morning Service  
with Rev. Tokumbo Asogbon

### **St. Mary Magdalene**

*Services start at 9.30 unless stated*

February 9th - Holy Communion  
February 23rd - Morning Worship

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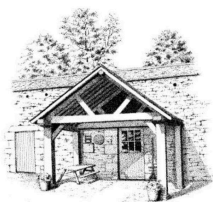
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### **Tapas Night at The Samson**

**Saturday 15th February**

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## WHO'S WHO

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### **Carlisle City Councillors: Brampton & Fellside**

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 07935259416, sue@mosspectral.com

Vice Chair: Judith Armstrong

Clerk: clerk@thirlwallparishcouncil.org

Councillors: Emma Guerrero, David Keen, Owen Wilkins

### **Waterhead Parish Council**

Chair: David Rackstraw

Vice Chair: Jovan Nicholson

Clerk: Sue Hatt:

waterheadpc@gmail.com

Councillors: John Woodmass-Calvert

### **Upper Denton Parish Council**

Chair: Dan Newrick

Vice Chair: Tim Gordon

Clerk: Sue Hatt:

upperdentonpc@gmail.com

Councillors: Mike Harris

**Knitting Group:** Brenda Smith, 47361

**Community Coffee Morning:** Doreen Gutteridge, 47036

**Craft Group:** Sue Maughan, 47607

**Dominos:** Doreen Gutteridge, 47036

**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:**

gilslandhallcommittee@gmail.com

**Village Hall:** 01697 543229

**WI:** Doreen Gutteridge, 47036

**Youth Club:** Clare Hawkins, 47371

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### **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](http://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, Owen Wilkins and Liam McNulty.

### **Advertising**

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