

Gilsland Village Magazine

RENOVATION OF GILSLAND SPA HOTEL BEGINS

By Chris Paige



On the 13th August, a group of local Gilsland residents visited Gilsland Spa Hotel to meet the new company taking on the renovations - Evoke Design & Build. This meeting was initiated following various incorrect claims made about what was happening at the Spa which appeared on social media. Over coffee and scones (very unexpected, but very much welcomed!) Evoke told us they have been on site since the 5th August and have been hard at work stripping out mouldy and rotten fixtures and fittings and understanding the scale of the work they have taken on - believe us when we say it's not an easy job!

They're expecting the full renovations to take 18 months (ish!) and part of this is due to the desire to keep as many of the historic features as possible - even as far as some of the cornicing, doors etc. They're working with the local council and building control to ensure everything is being done to the appropriate standards.

Evoke will soon be erecting appropriate perimeter fencing around the hotel - please respect them and don't go where they don't want you whilst

the building work is going on. They will however be leaving the public footpaths (and front car park) open - so please don't be a stranger up there, and continue to enjoy the Spa woods as you have done previously.

The claims made online about the work at the Spa and its workers have been littered with inaccuracies but please note that any claims made are not related to Evoke nor its employees. Evoke are in contact with the Police to resolve the matter as quickly as possible.

And for those of you desperately wanting to ask the question - YES! The ballroom is being kept!!

UPDATE FROM GCSL

By Jane McDaid

The Samson Inn has been open for business for nearly a year and has delivered many community benefits for our village. It has provided local employment, served many meals and drinks to villagers and visitors, and hosted popular community events including the hotly contested quizzes.

The Society receives rent which in 2026 will provide funds to both ensure the upkeep of the building and hopefully a small surplus to deliver further benefits to the community. The Society would like to be led by the community in how this funding is spent. We have a few ideas and would welcome feedback on these or alternatives. Here's our starter for 10:

1. Improved signage in and around the village
2. Supporting the public toilets at the Village Hall
3. Pay for groups to use the Village Hall for a period, eg, one month
4. Regenerating some local footpaths / play areas
5. Cumberland wrestling academy / possibly combined with youth club
6. Quoits pitch / gaming area: Sponsorship of quoits at Gilsland Show next year
7. Play equipment for kids
8. Fund a weekend away for the Youth Club
9. Over 60s trip and treat
10. Sponsor a Craft Fair to showcase local skills and traditions

Please could let us have thoughts and ideas by email to sosamsoninn@gmail.com, or via a note addressed to GCSL at the Village Hall, or hand them in at The Samson Inn.

The GCSL AGM will be held at The Village Hall, Gilsland, at 7pm, on Tuesday 30th September 2025. All shareholders are welcome to attend and vote.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS AT THE THRESHING BARN

By Amanda Drago

Green Croft Arts brings an exciting lineup of arts, culture, and wellness activities to The Threshing Barn this September. From dance and yoga to art trails and immersive sound experiences, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Ceyda Tanc Dance Residency

From Monday 1 – Friday 5 September 2025, the acclaimed Ceyda Tanc Dance Company will be in residence at The Threshing Barn, and they're inviting the community to join them for special free events:

- Intergenerational Contemporary Dance Workshop for women & girls – Sunday 31 August, 2:00–3:30pm. FREE.
- Open Door Rehearsals – Monday 1 September & Tuesday 2 September PM ONLY (drop-in) Step inside the studio and watch the creative process.

Hadrian's Wall Art Trail

Explore art in a historic setting with the Hadrian's Wall Art Trail. 3 venues, 3 weekends and over 25 artists. The Field Shelter at Cawfields, Threshing Barn at Gilsland and Abbey Mill, Lanercost over three weekends, A perfect cultural day out for art lovers! ! When: Friday 5th – Sunday 7th September, Friday 12th – Sunday 14th September, Friday 19th – Sunday 21st September Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM Cost: Free

In addition to these special events, Green Croft Arts offers regular weekly classes for all levels, including; Chair Yoga, Hatha Yoga, Adult Ballet. For more information and bookings, visit www.greencroftonthewall.com

SHORT TERM CHANGES TO POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES AT HALL

Whilst Julie is recuperating there will be changes to the Post Office / shop operations / opening times:

Tuesdays	1pm - 4pm
Fridays	9.30am - 12.30pm

We expect this to be for a period of approximately 5 weeks and it could be subject to last minute changes but the committee will endeavour to keep you updated with notices on the village hall door and updates via Gilsland Village Hall Facebook page.

111th GILSLAND AGRICULTURAL SHOW A GREAT SUCCESS

By Wendy Bond

It was a tremendous day for the 111th show this year with perfect weather, a great variety of things to see and do and the perfect catch-up for people working throughout our wonderful landscape and community all year round



One of the people in the background who make it all happen - and who is rarely thought of - is Peter Barwick, who says he has known the last 4 Secretaries. Every year he comes into the tent and engraves the Show's huge collection of cups & trophies with the new winners' names in time for the Presentation ceremony.

BULLETIN BOARD

Gilsland Dominoes Drive will be Tuesday 9th September in the Village Hall starting at 7pm sharp. Cost £3 per session which includes supper at half time. We have prizes (1st prize £10) and a raffle. Everyone is welcome whatever your level of playing. The group is really friendly and supportive so why not come along and have an enjoyable evening.

Gilsland WI - our next meeting in the Village Hall will be Tuesday 7th October 7.15pm. The speaker will be Will Higgs and the subject is Natural Greenland. The cost for guests is £3 which will include refreshments. If anyone is planning to attend could you please let Doreen Gutteridge know for catering purposes. (01697747036)

Hadrian's Wall Farmers Market on Sunday 14th September at Greenhead Village Hall from 10am to 2pm. All your local favourites at the market. Chat to the producers and enjoy the home-made refreshments. Meat, baking, preserves, crafts and plants.

The New Hadrian Singers meet on 12th September for the start of their next "term" in the Community Room at Haltwhistle hospital at 7pm and welcome all who enjoy singing - all ages & all abilities. The first session is always free and there is never an audition! We look forward to singing with the W.I. At Halbankgate on Thursday 25th September (this will replace the usual Friday sing).

The Poetry Drop-in this month is on 3rd September when we will be sharing favourite poems on the theme 'Autumn', in Greenhead Village Hall from 1.30 to 3pm.

The Haltwhistle History and Heritage Group is holding an evening meeting this month, at 7.30pm, at the Comrades Club big room, by request, for Colin's talk on the POW Camp in Featherstone and the importance of the contribution made by the Camp and the people of the town to the post-war project of rebuilding peace.

The 36th Annual Art & Craft Fair will take place in the Masonic Hall on Banks Terrace in Haltwhistle on Saturday 8th November, between 10.00am and 4.00pm. The Fair is probably the longest running craft fair in Tynedale and has always attracted a varied range of different crafts which are both local to the area and also from the region as a whole. It is arranged at a time when people are beginning to think about a normal Christmas again and the variety and quality is such that there is likely to be something special for almost everyone. The event is normally fully subscribed and many bookings for stalls have already started coming in so if any new exhibitors are interested then they should contact Ian Brown on (01434) 321016 or ikbian@aol.com as soon as possible.

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

Thursdays

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

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

DIARY DATES

3rd Sept, 1.30 - 3pm | Greenhead Village Hall | Poetry drop-in

7th Sept, 7-9PM | The Threshing Barn | Harvest Moon Sound Bath (£17.50)

9th Sept, 7pm | Gilsland Village Hall | Dominoes

12th Sept, 7pm | Community Room, Haltwhistle Hospital | Hadrian Singers

16th Sept | The Threshing Barn | Zen Men Yoga (£12)

14th Sept, 10-1pm | Greenhead Village Hall | Hadrian's Wall Farmers' Market

21st Sept, from 8pm | Samson Inn | Music night

23rd Sept | The Threshing Barn | Zen Men Yoga (£12)

30th Sept, 7pm | Gilsland Village Hall | GCBSL AGM

30th Sept | The Threshing Barn | Zen Men Yoga (£12)

CHURCH SERVICES

Gilsland Methodist

Services start at 10.30 unless stated

Sun 7th Sept from 2pm - Harvest Service with Rev Tokumbo Asogbon and Andrew Woodmas-Calvert

St. Mary Magdalene

Services start at 9.30 unless stated

Sun 28th Sept from 6.30pm - Harvest Celebration and Supper with Rev Ben Phillips, followed by supper at the Village Hall from 7.45

BIN DAYS

Northumberland County Council

General waste: 11th & 25th Sept
Recycling: 4th & 18th Sept

www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste

Haltwhistle household recycling

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

Cumberland Council

Refuse and garden: 1st & 15th Sept
Recycling: 8th & 22nd Sept

www.carlisle.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling

Brampton household recycling

10am to 6pm, every day except Tuesday

CLASSIFIEDS

Gilsland Chapel Harvest Service

Sunday September 7th 2pm

with
Rev Tokumbo Asogbon
and
Andrew Woodmass Calvert

Everyone is welcome to celebrate with us and stay for refreshments afterwards

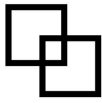
Harvest Celebration & Supper

Sunday September 28th 6.30pm
at St Mary Magdalene Gilsland, led by Rev Ben Phillips
and then from 7.45pm in Gilsland Village Hall
for seasonal soup and apple pie.

Financial donations will be invited for the life-saving work of
Disasters Emergency Committee.

Even if you can't make it to church, come for supper!

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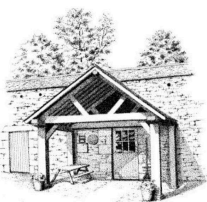
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Mike Mitchelson

Cumbria County Councillor

Mike Mitchelson, 0169772871

Northumberland County Councillor

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

Thirlwall Parish Council

Chair: Sue Seymour 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

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

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, Owen Wilkins and Liam McNulty.

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