
APRIL '26

Gilsland Village Magazine

MARATHON MILESTONE & GREAT NORTH RUN #15

By Andi Keen, House of Meg



This April, I'll be taking on a huge personal challenge — running my very first marathon in support of Alzheimer's Research. It's a cause that means so much to me and to many of us, and I'm proud to be raising awareness while pushing myself further than ever before.

Alongside this, I'll also be lining up for my 15th Great North Run — a milestone I'm incredibly proud of! Each year has brought its own challenges, memories, and amazing support from all of you.

I want to say a heartfelt thank you. Over the years, your encouragement, donations, messages, and cheers have meant more than you know. Because of that continued support..

I will be hosting a few fun events over the coming months, with chances to win some great prizes. It's my way of keeping the momentum going, bringing everyone together, and continuing to support a cause that's close to so many hearts.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH - BANANA BREAD

By Barrie Garton

Most cooks have a go to banana bread recipe to make the best of any over-ripe fruit. If you don't have one, or want to try a new one, here's my favourite.

Ingredients

- 3-4 Bananas (depending on size) - the riper the better
- 50 gm Dried Fruit such as Sultanas, Raisins, Mixed Fruit, Cranberries - you choose!
- 3 Whole Eggs
- 150 ml Vegetable or Sunflower oil
- 100 gm Light Soft Brown Sugar
- 275 gm Self raising Flour
- 1 tsp Baking Powder
- 1 tsp Mixed Spice
- Dash of Vanilla Extract

Method

1. Put the dried fruit to soak with a little boiling water.
2. Line a 2lb loaf tin and grease well with hard butter.
3. Set the oven to 160°C
4. Sift the flour, baking powder and mixed spice together and put aside.
5. Mix the oil, eggs and vanilla together and beat well to combine and put aside.
6. Peel and cut the bananas into chunks, mash with a fork or potato masher, add the sugar and mix until the sugar has dissolved.
7. Stir in the oil and egg mixture evenly, then fold in the sifted flour. Mix until well incorporated. Finally, thoroughly drain the dried fruit and stir through the mix.
8. Transfer the mix to the prepared loaf tin, place in the oven and bake for 1hr and 10 mins. Check that a skewer comes out clean when inserted in the centre of the loaf. Allow to cool completely in the tin before removing and slice and serve as required.

Store in an airtight container. Freezes really well, either whole or in pieces.

AN UPDATE FROM GILSLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

By Nicola Atkinson, Headteacher



Gilsland school has been transformed: long gone are the Christmas and Winter displays to be replaced by beautifully created Easter artwork and poetry that really do give a feeling of hope and new life at this time of year. They linked the story of the Good Samaritan to our school value of Friendship and shared ways that they can be a Good Samaritan to others.

The children have also taken it upon themselves to create their own vegetable patch at the back of school. Each lunchtime they are busy digging and removing grass and weeds from their plot which they are hoping to transform into an area where they can grow their own crops.

It was lovely to welcome Rev. Ben Phillips into school on Tuesday. He led our collective worship on the theme of temptation and certainly caught the children's attention with the doughnut challenge!

Alison Higgs also came into school to introduce the 'Easter Garden' competition to the children. She demonstrated different ways of making a garden and discussed the significance of the different parts of the garden to Christians. The children are now busy preparing their gardens which will be displayed in our school hall during our Family Easter Celebration on Friday 27th March at 9a.m. Everyone is welcome. The gardens will then be taken up to St Mary Magdalene's church for everyone to enjoy over the Easter period.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SAMSON INN

By Sean and Amy

The team at The Samson Inn are pleased to share that things are going well as we prepare for the busy season ahead. Our team is continuing to grow, and it's been wonderful to see everyone working together to shape the pub into the welcoming community space people asked for when we reopened.

Over the past few months we've been focused on creating a place that offers something for everyone. Our cosy snug now shows live sports, while the team have been busy using their creativity and enthusiasm to plan a wide range of events. It's been fantastic to see their event-planning skills in action, with staff sharing ideas and helping bring new activities to life for the local community.

We've also been lucky to build strong relationships with a number of brilliant local suppliers. From local butchers to tea rooms and ice cream producers, these partnerships help us showcase great local produce and support other businesses in the area.

Our recent Supercar Sunday was a real success, attracting visitors from further afield. Many people told us how much they enjoyed discovering Gilsland and that they hadn't visited before. We're delighted to help bring more visitors to the village and look forward to hosting more events like this in the future.

There's plenty coming up over the next month too, including a kids' party, live music, another supercar gathering, an Indian-themed quiz night, fortnightly book club and a car boot and craft fair. We hope there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

With lambing season approaching, we know many local farmers and families are incredibly busy. To make life a little easier, we'll soon be launching a special takeaway menu so you can save the cooking and simply drop in for a takeaway — or book a table if you can spare the time.

To keep up with all our latest events and updates, follow us on Facebook and keep an eye on our website events page:

<https://thesamsoninn.co.uk/#events>

We're grateful for the support we've received so far and look forward to welcoming both locals and visitors through the doors of your community pub.

THE SAMSON INN INAUGURAL GOLF OPEN

Saturday 14th March was a fun day out for ten part-time golfers who, after a hearty breakfast roll in the clubhouse, carried their clubs around 9 holes of Haltwhistle golf club before getting back to the pub for a well earned pint or two, followed by the presentation and a lovely meal.

Thanks to Timber for his local knowledge and course management and to Sean and Amy for the catering and supplying the trophies.

Following the success, a second event is in planning for June / July. If you want to dust off those clubs and join us, keep an eye out in the pub.

A SIMPLIFIED TIMETABLE OF BUSES THROUGH THE VILLAGE

Gilsland	9.59	Hourly until	12.59	Break	14.59	Hourly until	17.59
Brampton	10.18	Hourly until	13.18	Break	15.18	Hourly until	18.18
Carlisle	10.41	Hourly until	13.41	Break	15.41	Hourly until	18.41
Carlisle	8.42	Hourly until	13.42	Break	15.42	16.42	
Brampton	9.05	Hourly until	14.05	Break	16.05	17.05	
Gilsland	9.26	Hourly until	14.26	Break	16.26	17.26	
Gilsland	9.26	Hourly until	14.26	Break	16.26	17.26	
Greenhead	9.31	Hourly until	14.31	Break	16.31	17.31	
Walltown	9.40	Hourly until	14.14	Break	16.40	17.40	
Walltown	9.45	Hourly until	12.45	Break	14.45	Hourly until	17.45
Greenhead	9.54	Hourly until	12.54	Break	14.54	Hourly until	17.54
Gilsland	9.59	Hourly until	12.59	Break	14.59	Hourly until	17.59

BULLETIN BOARD

Gilsland Village Hall AGM will be held at 7pm on Thursday 23rd April at the Village Hall. All are welcome.

Pancake Day Success! Thank you to everyone who gave, cooked or served food or came and ate pancakes and donated money. St Mary Magdale's church has sent the £130 raised to DEC towards the Middle East Humanitarian Appeal.

New Hadrian Singers will be meeting next on 24th April at 7pm in the Community Room at Haltwhistle Hospital and we will be very glad to get back - we have such a delightful and varied set of songs this term! If you enjoy singing do come and try it and the first session is free.

Poetry Drop-in - The theme for the next gathering is unsurprisingly: Spring. It's impossible not to celebrate such a special season. We meet at 1.30 on the first Wednesday of every month, so it will be 1st April. Bring along your own favourites to share and we will have plenty, too. It's held in the Greenhead village hall and is a free event supported by NCDC.

Haltwhistle History and Heritage Group - Have you been intrigued by a glimpse of the old factory buildings and large house behind the wall on the right as you go along Park Road? Now we have a chance to find out something of the story. The April meeting of HHHG will take the form of a visit to the house, Greystonedale - details on the posters.

Hadrian's Wall Farmers Market is on Sunday 12th April from 10am to 2pm at Greenhead Village Hall. Celebrate spring with lovely local products. Baking, preserves, meat, drinks, crafts and plants. Something for everyone, direct from the producer. Stay local, buy the best.

Gilsland Dominoes Drive is on 14th April at 7pm sharp. The cost is £3.50 which includes a supper half way through. We also have a 50p raffle and prizes. Everyone is welcome whatever your level of playing. The group is really friendly, supportive and welcoming.

Easter Taize with Carlisle Taize Choir on Monday 30th at 6.30pm at St Mary Magdalene. A time of calming music and contemplation before Easter. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you Sue Maughan for your many years of help with the magazine - it's much appreciated!

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays

- Community Coffee Morning | Village Hall | 10.30am - 12.30pm

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

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

CHURCH SERVICES

Gilsland Methodist

Services start at 10.30 unless stated

5th | Easter Songs of Praise

19th | Morning Service with Rev'd

Tokunbo Asogbon

St. Mary Magdalene

Services start at 9.30 unless stated

5th | Easter Sunday Holy Communion
(at St Cuthbert, Nether Denton)

12th | Morning Worship

26th @ 3pm | Lambing Service

BIN DAYS

Northumberland County Council

General waste: 10th & 23rd

Recycling: 2nd & 16th

www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste

Haltwhistle household recycling

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

Cumberland Council

Refuse & garden: 13th & 27th

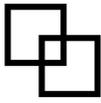
Recycling: 6th & 20th

www.cumberland.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-street-cleaning/waste-collections

Brampton household recycling

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THE SAMSON INN

★★★★ WHAT'S ON ★★★★★

THIS APRIL

				
3rd April	4th April	5th April	11th April	25th April
KIDS EVENT	BBQ	EASTER SUNDAY	CRAFT FAIR	QUIZ NIGHT
	FROM 4PM & LIVE MUSIC FROM 8PM 	Roasts 	FROM 10AM 	FROM 5PM 

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WHO'S WHO

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

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 Ben Phillips, 07936 099123 or ben@lanercost.net

Gilsland School: 47302

Greenhead School: 47347

Gilsland Show secretary: Vicky Baty, 01228 675368

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 Chris Cantrill, Owen Wilkins, Malcolm Redman and Liam McNulty.

Advertising

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