NOVEMBER '26

Gilsland Village Magazine

ANOTHER MILESTONE FOR ANDI

By Andi Keen, House of Meg Tea Rooms



This year I took on a huge personal challenge by completing my first ever marathon and my 15th Great North Run, all in support of Alzheimer's Research UK. This charity is incredibly close to my heart, and I'm proud to help fund vital research into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's and other dementias.

I'm absolutely delighted to announce that, thanks to the incredible generosity of family, friends, supporters and everyone who has donated or supported my fundraising events, I've raised an amazing £2,422 for the charity!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH - PIKELETS

By Barrie Garton

Very much a Northern and Welsh dish, the Pikelet uses yeast as a leavening agent. It is a forerunner to the well-known Crumpet, Drop Scone, Griddle Scone or Scotch Pancake, all of which owe their existence to the invention of baking powder in the mid-19th century and should not be confused with the traditional Pikelet.

Ingredients

- 250gm Strong Plain Flour (You could use Plain flour at a push)
- 1tsp Quick-acting Dried Yeast (about ½ a sachet)
- 1tsp Caster sugar
- 1/2tsp Salt
- 325mls Milk (or half milk and half water) warmed until tepid
- Oil for cooking

Method

- Place the dry ingredients in a largish mixing bowl (to allow the batter to rise), briefly blend everything together and then using a stout whisk, slowly add the warmed milk (or milk and water) and mix until you have a smooth batter.
- Cover the bowl with cling film or a suitably sized lid and leave to prove in a warm place for a good hour. The batter should double in size.
- When the batter is ready, place a flat griddle pan or thick bottom frying pan on a medium heat. Add enough oil to lightly coat the pan, gently fold the batter mix on itself a couple of times taking care to preserve the bubbles.
- Use a large spoon to form up to four mounds of batter in the pan, these will spread a little but will start to ‘set’ quickly. The beauty of a Pikelet over a Crumpet is its ‘freeform’ nature.
- Allow to cook for three to four minutes - the top should become pitted with holes and dry out - then using a spatula or palette knife turn them over and cook for a further one to two minutes.
- Repeat until the batter is used up.

Can be eaten straight out of the pan whilst hot, spread with butter.
Will also keep well for a day or so in an airtight container or interleave with parchment and freeze for a month or so. Reheat in a dry pan or pop them in the toaster. Popular toppings would be jam, honey, golden syrup, marmalade, lemon curd or chocolate spread. For a savoury twist try peanut butter, marmite cream cheese and smoked salmon or even scrambled eggs and bacon as a breakfast dish.

THE 39TH ANNUAL ART & CRAFT FAIR IN HALTWHISTLE

By Ian Brown



The fair is the longest running and probably the one of the largest art and craft fairs to be found within Tynedale and is arranged at a time when people are beginning to think about Christmas presents. The event takes place in the Masonic Hall on Banks Terrace on Saturday 7th November, between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. The venue is a comfortable, modernised hall with disabled access and will be well sign posted on the day.

The fair is now fully subscribed with wonderful stalls. It has attracted a varied range of arts and crafts from right across northern England and southern Scotland but there is a very strong presence of local producers from in and around Haltwhistle. People who have been before will see many familiar stalls but there are always new ones. The variety and quality is such that there is likely to be something special for almost everyone and it particularly gives local people a chance to see the creative talent that they have on their doorstep.

There will be candles, crochet products, paintings, pencil drawings and prints, decoupage, wax melts, bath bombs, soap, many styles of cards for all occasions, memory books, embroidered bags for all purposes, dreamcatchers, painted glass, paperweights, ceramics, dog coats, bibs, present bags, children's cushions festive products and many other gifts and accessories. Event organiser and musician, Ian Brown, will have his CDs and video ukulele lessons for sale.

In keeping with the ethos of the fair, the Northumberland Wildlife Trust will be present to promote its work within the county. They always welcome chatting to people and are a great organisation that does so much to keep Northumberland special. The fair always also supports a local cause and this year there will be a raffle in aid Green Lane House Care Home Activities Fund.

There will be home-made refreshments available all day so visitors can have a rest and chat in between browsing.

GILSLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

By Nicola Atkinson, Head Teacher



Kingfisher class had a wonderful morning of netball at William Howard. They had been practising hard at school to improve their skills and it certainly paid off – winning 3 out of their 4 matches. We were so proud of their teamwork and resilience and it was lovely to see the progress they have made since last year.

Owl class enjoyed a wonderful walk around Gilsland as part of their geography fieldwork. They enjoyed looking for physical and human features - particularly a chance to enjoy themselves at the park. When they returned to school, they were able to produce their own maps of the village which they were very proud of.

It was lovely to welcome so many parents, grandparents and friends to our recent Harvest Festival. The children loved sharing all their work about Harvest around the world. We may be a small village, but we are part of a much bigger world. Our food, communities and lives connect us with people around the world. As always, the children sang with confidence and

enthusiasm. Thank you so much for all your kind donations – all the food collected has been dropped off at Brampton Foodbank who were tremendously grateful and again asked us to pass on their thanks. The food will be shared throughout Brampton and surrounding villages.

We were delighted with our recent Quality of Education review which described our school as: 'a warm and loving place, where children's needs, both personal and academic, are prioritised by a small team of adults who know their children, and their families, intimately. Decisions around support and learning are made and adjusted routinely to ensure that children are having their needs met and continue to make strong progress.' It really reflects the hard work of all the staff who work tirelessly to make sure all our children receive the very best education that meets their needs and inspires them to learn.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GILSLAND VILLAGE HALL

Slow cooking and home energy workshop
With winter approaching and energy costs rising, we all need ideas for economical and easy home cooking and energy saving tips. So ,the Village Hall is hosting a FREE Slow Cooker and Home Energy workshop provided by CAIRN/CAN (Climate Action in Rural North East/Community Action Northumberland) on Friday 13th November at 6.30 pm. A number of slow cookers will be given away free, as well as tips, recipe cards and practical advice on energy efficiency. All welcome, no booking required. More details available on leaflets in village hall.

Gilsland Film Nights
Following on from the success of our previous screenings, the next film in the Village Hall will be shown on 28th November at 7.30pm

RENTAL FAMILY (12) Comedy Drama

An American actor in Tokyo struggling to find purpose lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese "rental family" agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers. He rediscovers purpose, belonging, and the beauty of human connection.

Tickets are available on the door priced at £5 each and a licensed bar with snacks will be available.

Look out for our special event on 18th December where we have teamed up with the Tyne Valley Film Festival to bring you a night of Christmas Cheer - more details coming soon.

BULLETIN BOARD

Thursday Coffee Break In November, all sales made and donations given from the Thursday Coffee Break are forwarded to BBC Children in Need. Chapel Meeting Room from 10.30 - 12 noon, November 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.

Twango (Phil Ogg) are delighted to be hosting a double header at the Gilsland Village Hall on 7th November: Stalwart of song Nev Clay with Dek Simpson in his guise as Miserable Les. Tickets can be bought at https://www.gigantic.com/nev-clay-tickets

Thank you to those wonderful people who gave money to help with Gilsland churchyard maintenance. It is a huge help. If anyone else feels they can help, you can make a contribution by BACS to Parochial Church Council of Gilsland; sort code 16-52-21; account number 53305944. Or, by cheque to the same account via 4 Stanley Crescent. Or, via our giving page (https://tinyurl.com/yc8eeu9e), where you can make a one-off donation or arrange a regular monthly or annual gift.

Concert in aid of dementia at Hexham Mart on Saturday 14th November. Chrysalis - a dementia charity based in Hexham - work with all people affected by dementia in very practical ways and are currently raising money towards moving to new premises where they will be able to expand what they do. Featuring Lethera, a collective of five seasoned musicians from Cumbria who will fill the Hall with brilliant musicianship and wonderful harmonies and Ian Brown, accompanied by Louise Ainsley. There will be a raffle and an auction at the midpoint of the concert.

Venue change for St Mary Magdalene services over winter
From the 22nd of November until the spring, our fortnightly Sunday services at 9.30am will take place in Gilsland Village Hall. All are welcome to join us. Carols by Candlelight will still take place in the church at 6.30pm on the 23rd of December.

Hadrian's Wall Farmers Market on Sunday 8th November from 10am to 1.30pm at Greenhead Village Hall. Lovely local products for sale. Get ready for Christmas with great present ideas, or order Christmas food in good time. Remembrance Day break at 11am for short service at the memorial.

Haltwhistle History Group presents a talk on the Featherstone Camp "The People behind the Statistics, Rank and Bureaucratic Jargon at Camp 18 " by Jan Milward on Weds 11th Nov at 10.30, Community Room at the hospital. We will pause at 11am for the minute's silence.

The Poetry Group will be sharing poems that make us chuckle, smile and laugh out loud, in defiance of the dark days of November. Wednesday 4th November, 1.30 to 3pm in Greenhead Village Hall. All welcome.

WEEKLY EVENTS

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 Chapel
Services start at 10.30

1st Nov | Songs of Praise

15th Nov | Morning Worship

St. Mary Magdalene
Services start at 9.30 unless stated

1st Nov 2.30pm | In Memoriam (with songs from Taizé)

8th Nov | Remembrance service

22nd Nov | Holy Communion

BIN DAYS

Northumberland County Council

General waste: 5th & 19th
Recycling: 12th & 26th
www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste

Cumberland Council

Refuse & garden: 9th & 23rd
Recycling: 2nd, 16th & 30th
www.cumberland.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-street-cleaning/waste-collections

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8am - 6pm

Brampton household recycling
10am to 6pm, every day except Tuesday

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More Roman Experiences will be coming soon!

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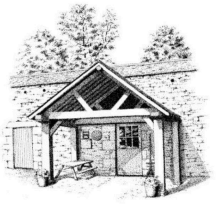
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£35.00



Friday 20 November 19.30 - 21.30
SOUNDS ROOTS...TRIPLE BILL
AT GILSLAND VILLAGE HALL
£15.00 / £10.00



Saturday 21 November 10.00 - 14.00
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AT THE SAMSON INN CRAFT FAIR
FREE



Friday 27 November from 17.00
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Vice Chair: Owen Wilkins
Clerk: clerk@thirlwallparishcouncil.org
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Chair: David Rackstraw
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Councillors: John Woodmass-Calvert
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Knitting Group: Brenda Smith, 47361
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
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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
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