



Beckermet Village Newsletter June 2019

Published by the Beckermet Village Association

Chairman's Report

Welcome to the latest edition of our village newsletter. Our last meeting of the Beckermet Village Association took place on 25th April in the Reading Rooms, attended by around a dozen members of the village. As per usual Alan Keil gave an update of the financial position of both the BVA and the First Responders both having sufficient funds for their immediate needs for the coming year. To top up the BVA funds it was agreed that we would have a summer quiz as has been the case over the past couple of summers, so please look out for it when it becomes available in mid-July.

The association was pleased to welcome two new volunteers into the group, with Geoff Nugent who will be taking over from Margaret Wooley with the production of the newsletter, which he hopes to evolve over time to include a village diary of events to help publicise activities in the village, as well as informing of past events. Our second new volunteer is Lesley Barlow who has agreed to take over from Sarah to be new secretary of the association. On behalf of the residents of the village I would like to say thank you to the two new volunteers for taking on these important roles, while also to say an even bigger thank you to both Margaret and Sarah who have given many hours of service to the association now for a number of years. Without the commitment and dedication from such people, groups like ours would not be able to exist. Once again, many thanks to both Margaret and Sarah for all their efforts.

The meeting was informed that although activities with regards to the Community Led Plan have been quiet over recent months the

need for such a plan to proceed will continue and further meetings will be taking place shortly to pull this plan together for the benefit of the residents of the village. The committee would like to gain the views of the residents with a questionnaire which they hope to distribute in the coming months.

Several concerns from local residents were brought to the attention of the meeting. The first being the lack of parking for rail users at the Sellafield station due to workers parking there all day. This matter would be brought to the attention of the relevant body through our representative on the rail users committee. A second concern was the use of posters on lampposts in the village. We as a group are more than happy for them to be placed in such locations to help advertise local events but we would be grateful if they could be removed once the event has concluded, as many are left up getting wet and becoming an eyesore. We would be most grateful if you would remove your posters once they have served their purpose.

Please can I remind you that all Beckermet residents are automatically members of the BVA & therefore not only entitled but actively encouraged to come along to these meetings. It is important that we gain as wide and variety of views from as many residents as possible, so please make every effort to come along to our next meeting which will be our AGM.

BVA Annual General Meeting will be on 18th July at 7.30pm in the Reading Room.

John Mackay (BVA Chairman)

Parish Council Notes

We understand that the County Council has produced some ideas for changes to the roads in our village. They are said to be going to consultation in the next few weeks. We will email everyone on our circulation when the plans are available to view.

The PC is pleased to have been able to offer a grant to the reading room of £2500 for the repair of the ceiling.

Our County Councilor, Paul Turner, is still trying to arrange a scheme (and training) for the use of a speed gun to check traffic. If anyone wishes to join, please let a parish councilor know.

There has been a suggestion that the bushes on the grass area of Station Crescent be removed to make it a better play area. We are minded to consult people whose property surrounds the green. We are still looking at the most effective way of keeping the School Green area around the swings dog-free. It is part of Copeland's Public Space Protection Order.

Peter Manning Beckermet with Thornhill PC

NSPCC

Our latest event was a Race Night with supper in Calderbridge Village Hall on Friday 26th April 2019. This was a very successful and enjoyable evening, raising a total of £1,242 for this very worthy cause. The committee would like to thank all those who helped on the evening and our loyal supporters for their generosity. Everything we raise is used to help children and families in our own area. If there is anyone who is interested in more information, in joining our committee or how to help in any other way, please contact me on 01946841485.

Val McKee

Community Led Plan (CLP) Update

We are still working on our Questionnaire and will move this forward in the next few weeks. We will have an update in the next Newsletter

Geoff Nugent

Reading Rooms

The Art group will meet every Monday at 10.00. With the Reading rooms committee meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 7.00 pm. The W.I. meeting the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm. The Reading Room Summer Party is on the 29th June. Please see the diary of events for details.

The Reading Rooms need your support to update and keep these rooms as a village amenity. We have been fortunate to obtain a grant from the Parish Council to completely repair the kitchen ceiling and roof. We hope in the future to update and improve the rest of the building. The hire cost remains at £9 per hour.

Kathleen Cook bookings secretary 841363

Beckermet Village Sports Committee

Rounders and Cross Country. On Thursday 20th June the Sports Committee rounders will take place at 5.45 in the school yard. With hot dogs, crisps, sweets on sale. Rounders at 6.00 and the Cross Country at 7.00.

Duck Races. On Saturday 7th September the Duck Races will start at 4pm in the Village Playground with Refreshments and other stalls. Look out for posters in the village giving further information.

Women's Institute

The Meetings are held at 7pm in the Reading Rooms, Beckermet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month except in August.

Wednesday 12th June

The Speaker will be John Maddison.
His subject is a slide show called, "Central London by On and Over the Thames".

The Competition:- "Three biscuits of your choice."

Wednesday 10th July

The Speaker will be Steve Wilson.

His subject is "Golden age of poisoning.

The Competition:- "A book on Medicines"

August - closed for annual break

Re start on Wed. 11th Sept.

Angela Walls

Beckermet Nursery

Tel: 01946 841941

www.beckermetnursery.co.uk or

Email: admin@beckermetnursery.co.uk

Open Morning

We would like to invite all prospective parents and carers to our open morning on Saturday 1st June 2019 between 10.30am – 1.00 am. Staff will be on hand to discuss any requirements you may have. There will be a Bouncy Castle/Maze (0-5 years), art and craft activities, face painting and refreshments. Hope to see you there.

Photographs

Tempest photographers will be in nursery on 18th June approx. 9.00-11.30 am. If you or any of your family would like to have your child's photograph taken please come along and say hello. Just give a quick call 841941 before you come down to avoid any queues.

Resources

If anyone has any spare flowers or vegetables/plants/seeds/cuttings or seedlings, we would be extremely grateful. The children will be doing their own planting and hopefully eating their own produce once they come through as well as enjoying watching things grow!

We are also looking out for any baby's board books that your children or grandchildren may have outgrown. We are always grateful for anything we receive thanks.

Spaces

We have one or two places available at the moment, therefore, if you know anyone wishing to use nursery please tell them to get in touch. We have full-time and part-time spaces. Call us on 01946 841941 or email.

Finally

We are experiencing a lot of young trespassers trying to retrieve footballs out of nursery hours. We have witnessed children and young adults (CCTV) climbing over the main gates. Apart from the trespassing issue this is extremely dangerous as if they fell off the top of the gates they could come to serious harm. If you have a child that plays on the football field next to nursery, can you please ask them not to climb over the fence or gates. We are happy to return their footballs during nursery hours. Your co-operation is very much appreciated.

Tricia and Staff

Trudy Harrison

Sometimes it's the small changes that can make the biggest difference. I'm currently looking at tourism in our area - how we can promote it better and increase our visitor numbers. Despite us having a wealth of attractions and beauty on our doorstep, Copeland currently receives just 8% of Cumbria's tourism economy which is desperately low.

There is so much more that can be done both at a high level and locally to help drive the visitor numbers, to realise our full potential.

We all know that the central Lake District is incredibly busy in the summer season, with bumper to bumper vehicles and a subsequent lack of parking. With our assets - England's highest mountain, deepest lake, beautiful coast and the abundant cultural heritage in our towns and villages - we have every reason to promote ourselves and prosper from this visitor economy.

There are changes that we all can make that can collectively have a big impact such as promoting our area at every opportunity - reviewing local businesses, restaurants, cafes and attractions online to reach a worldwide audience. Also community events such as litter picks and competitions like Cumbria in Bloom all help to help keep our towns and villages looking at their best and give us a sense of pride.

I recently spoke with Northern Rail's regional director to discuss how people might fall back in love with rail. Last year's disastrous timetable changes and prolonged Saturday strike action has taken its toll on passenger confidence - I know that, I see from my home the empty carriages rolling by. But I speak from experience when I say with confidence that reliability has massively improved. On May 31, I will be chairing a tourism roundtable in Copeland which will focus on improving public transport, and public confidence in it, and also the actions that individuals, businesses, community & tourism leaders, local authorities and myself can all take, collectively, to make the visitor economy work better for Copeland.

Trudy Harrison MP

Beckermet School

Thank you to everyone who donated to North Air Ambulance collection in November which raised £44.00 for school funds. We have had an e-mail from The Great North Air Ambulance Service to say that unfortunately they have suspended school collections for the foreseeable future, however if this changes I will let everyone know. Thank you to everyone who donated a shoe box for the Samaritan Purse operation Christmas Child. On Wednesday 5th June at 9.30am the children will be taking part in a Pentecostal School Communion in St John's Church, Beckermet, everybody is welcome to join us. On Friday 21st June the children will be supporting our local Foodbanks by donating tinned food and wearing green. Any donations would be greatly appreciated in supporting our friends in our local communities. Finally the Head teacher, staff and children would like to invite residents of Beckermet and surrounding area to our Summer Garden Party being held on Friday 12th July from 1.15 pm onwards. Thank you

Lenore Thomson/All staff

A Letter to the Editor

HOME

A few years ago, my family and I decided to relocate from our home in the south of the UK. We wanted to live near mountains, so we considered the Peak District, the west coast of Scotland and the Yorkshire Dales, but we chose Cumbria because we loved it more here than anywhere else. We found work, sold our house and started looking for a new place. We wanted an old cottage in a pretty village with a reasonable commute, ideally not far from the M6. We succeeded in the first three criteria but failed spectacularly in the fourth by moving to the far west coast and making ourselves about as inaccessible as possible. Still, we were thrilled. Weekends and holidays usually saw our house filled with friends and family, but we found a little time for decorating and making the place feel as though it belonged to us. We explored the area, met new friends, made some progress in our quest to climb all the Wainwrights and got our longed for dog. Work was great, we got

used to the climate and everything was just as we'd planned. Except that it wasn't. Not quite. No matter how much we did to the house and garden, or how many hours we spent in the fells, we didn't feel settled.

After five years we reluctantly decided to move house to see if that made a difference. It was a gamble, because on paper we already had everything we'd planned for and wanted when we moved up here, but we thought it was worth a try. We sold our cottage and started looking, but after more than twenty viewings we were beginning to think we'd never find what we wanted. Particularly since we didn't really know what that was.

Then we had our last viewing. We knew that if it wasn't the one for us we'd have to wait for more properties to come on the market, because by then we'd looked at everything available. We drove down the hill into Beckermet from the Thornhill end, noticing how pretty the village was. Parking outside the house, we agreed that it was a nice spot and when we went through the gate I remember saying how beautiful the house was. Then the family opened the front door and invited us in, and I was done for. We walked around, loving every inch of it and made an immediate offer.

Beckermet, it turns out, is where we were meant to be. It isn't just pretty; it's also friendly without feeling claustrophobic and we have great neighbours. There are groups and committees everywhere you look, doing their best to keep the village safe and happy. We love the bridge and the beck, the play areas, the walks which lead you to the river and the beach, or to a sea view, or to the breath-taking sight of Scafell Pike and its neighbouring peaks. We never walk through the village without someone saying hi, stopping to fuss the dog, or waving as they drive past. And of course, we have a fabulous local in the White Mare. We're finally home.

A Southerner in Beckermet.



BECKERMET CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June

1st Nursery Open Morning, 10.30

3rd Beckermet Art Group

5th Reading Rooms Committee

5th Church School Communion

5th White Mare Quiz. 8.00

12th Women's Institute Meeting

20th Rounders and Cross Country

29th Reading Rooms Summer Party

July

3rd Reading Rooms Committee Meeting

3rd White Mare Quiz. 8.00

6th White Mare. Jake Scott (singer)

10th Women's Institute Meeting

12th School Summer Garden Party

17th Parish Council Meeting

18th BVA Annual General Meeting

21st Beckermet School, Tin donations

September

7th Village Duck Races

Details of the above can be found in the text of the Newsletter.