Greysouthen Gossip

Your window on village news and events

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Stream Clearance

Do you remember the working party that cleared the stream at the Dean end of Main St last autumn? Maybe you were one of them? It was a great piece of community team work that stopped the stream from flooding and kept residents protected from the winter rains. Although it's a lovely sunny afternoon when I'm writing this, the dark and wet time of year is looming, so we're hoping that some more of you may be willing to help with stream clearing again? With enough help it's a couple of hours' job at the most. If you're willing to help in any way – wielding a shovel, making coffee for the workers, whatever- please contact Sara Barnes at the Tattie House. enquiries@nicheworks.biz

Flower show

In August the WI holds their annual Flower Show, and this year the entries exceeded expectation. The committee was delighted by the support of members and villagers. The displays of Vegetables, Flowers, Produce and Crafts showed that there are some lovely gardens and very talented people living our community. The show was opened by W.I. County Chairman Pam Jago, who was very impressed with it all. The vegetable section was won by Ken Needham, the flowers section by Edith Storey, the produce section by Edith Storey, and the crafts section by Doris Scott. The overall winner was (yes, you guessed it!) Edith Storey. The children's section winners were – under 5years Jack Lightfoot, 5 to 7years Faye Newton, and 8 to 12 years Georgia Smith. Everyone agreed it was worth all the considerable effort that goes into organising the event. Thank you to everyone who took part, and also who turned out on the evening to view the show.

The winner of the Parish Council cup for the best container grown display was also announced at the show. This year's winner lives at 23, Nepgill. The judges tell me that the standard was high and their task difficult but that they were particularly impressed by the floral waterfall at number 23.

Elizabeth Bell

"Your Village Green needs you!"

The Memorial Garden situated in the centre of Main Street is a classified Village Green. Over the past few years it has become tired and neglected, which is a huge shame as this is a peaceful and magical spot. A number of parishioners have contacted the Parish Council and expressed their concern at the current state of this piece of land. The Parish Council have listened to their plea and put aside some money to help to start to restore this beautiful place to its former glory. We are in the process of getting quotes for a landscaping company to come in and clear back the weeds and brambles and remove the worst of the overgrowth.

After this initial clearing of the Memorial Garden, what the village really needs are some green-fingered volunteers to help us maintain its upkeep. The autumn is the time for cutting back and clearing and it would be great if we could set up a working group to meet and have a clearing day in the autumn. They would then take it in turns to come and do a spot of gardening throughout the year. We really also would like someone to head up this green fingered working group too. If you would like to get involved with this project, and if you are keen to lead the group, could you please forward your details to me at claireraven2002@yahoo.co.uk. With the support of some volunteers hopefully we can all enjoy the serenity of the Memorial Garden. Thank you.

Claire Raven, Parish Councillor

Old Folks

Once again heartfelt thanks are due to Ann and Margaret and the committee for organising yet again another marvellous evening bus ride out. Forty two people were treated to an interesting bus ride down the West coast to St Bees, ending up at the Grove Court in Cleator Moor for an excellent meal. We now look forward to the Christmas Dinner which is to be held in the village hall on Saturday December 14th for all residents in Greysouthen over the age of 55.

Thanks to all the people who kindly participate in the weekly tote and keep the ancient tradition of the Greysouthen Old Folks organisation alive. It could not exist without you!

Ken Needham, Old Folks Committee

Village Park and Playing Field

What a glorious summer we have had, and it has been wonderful to see the children from our village enjoying the dry weather in the village park. We have had some new families move into the village and hope they are enjoying this fabulous facility. Good news from the park is that with the long spell of dry weather, and following remedial works by Willie Jarman (and the hard work of some of our parishioners) the drainage issue in the playing field has been resolved, at last!

The Parish Council hope to get some football nets for the goal posts over the next few months, so watch this space….

Claire Raven, Parish Councillor

We live in a lovely community, but because we are fairly spread out it's not always easy to get to know each other. In an effort to overcome this a new occasional feature of the Greysouthen Gossip is going to be a "Know your Neighbour article - see the other side of this page.

Margaret Wiltshire (Editor)

Paddle Post

I cannot believe how fast the Summer Term at Paddle school flew by. It was an extremely busy term with many enriched curriculum activities. These would not be possible with out the help of hard-working staff, supportive parents, committed governors and a strong community who work so hard to organise and support all the fantastic learning opportunities at our school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for this great support during my first full year as headteacher at Paddle. I would also like to wish all our Year 6 leavers good luck as they start the next stage of their learning journey at 'big school'.

The 2013/14 Academic Year is going to be a really exciting one at Paddle as we prepare to celebrate our school having its 200th Birthday. We have already planned some exciting events and we hope that the whole community will be able to get involved in making it a celebration to remember. If you would like to participate in the Bicentenary Celebrations you can contact the school on 01900 823188 or office@eaglesfieldpaddle.cumbria.sch.uk

You can learn more about our celebrations closer to the time via our school newsletters which can be found on our website at www.eaglesfieldpaddle.cumbria.sch.uk

DFV Watson Headteacher

Know your Neighbour. (Thanks to the Times & Star)

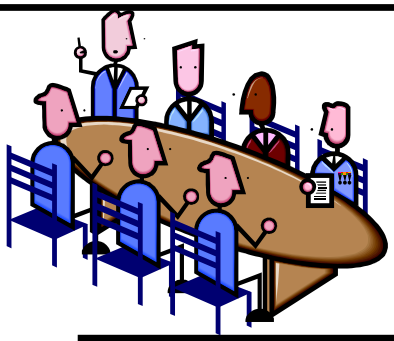
Name: Ken Needham
Age: 70
Address: Main Street, Greysouthen
Job: Retired, but seem to be working just as hard doing things I like to do!
Family: Married to Ann for nearly 50 years and father to two brilliant daughters Jennifer married to Simon, and Liz married to Jonathan who live down South with our five marvellous grandchildren. Rob, Alex, Bella, who live in Guildford with Jennifer, and Charlotte and James who live with Liz in Tetbury. When we get called to babysit - we charge by the mile!
How long in Greysouthen: 27 years
Why do I like living here? In a word it's the people. A linear village with grey stone walls out in the sticks but behind the walls live folk with big hearts and bigger smiles, always ready for a chat when you meet them. The community spirit is alive and well and the use of the internet helps this along as shown when the stream at the southern end was silting up causing a possible flood risk and a communal e-mail sent to people in the village resulted in lots of lads and lassies digging out the overgrown waterway themselves. Another evidence is the monthly meeting in the village hall at the aptly named "Virtual Pub" (sadly there isn't a hostelry in Greysouthen) where we gather to have a good crack. We bring our own refreshments and nibbles and chat on sometimes until the early hours. There is a thriving Old Folks club which takes anyone who lives in Greysouthen over 55 on trips out and has a lovely Christmas dinner for them. The W.I. have regular meetings and organise the village flower and veg. show each year, there is a lively carpet bowls club held in the village hall every Wednesday. A few days ago when we had summer a spontaneous "bring your own grub" barbecue manifested on the playing field where families with children of all ages gathered enjoying each other's company.
Favourite place in the area: The Fish Inn down in the Buttermere valley, superb setting serving good ale and food.
Place with special memories: The banks of the River Derwent at Papcastle, whilst volunteering on the archæological digs finding artefacts nearly 2000 years old now exhibited in Cockermouth town hall
Night Out: The comfortable and welcoming Trout Hotel in Cockermouth where you will always meet someone you know.
What are people talking about?: Hopefully getting high speed and stable broadband installed in the village as soon as possible, and most people are expressing abhorrence at the proliferation of the white elephant wind turbines which are desecrating our beautiful county.

Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee have been successful in our application for a grant to replace the existing chairs with new fabric covered stacking chairs and trolleys to move the tables and chairs. Our grateful thanks go to the Cumbria Community Foundation for a grant of £500.00 and to the Hadfield Charitable Trust for a grant of £1500.00.Without their help we would we would still have to sit on carpet squares.

The next committee will be on Thursday 26th September at 7.30 in the village hall, all are welcome to attend. One of the items on the agenda will be to finalise the plan for the update of the rear hall. It would be nice if we could complete the works for Christmas.

Roger James, Chairman
Village Hall Committee



GREYSOUTHEN W.I.

Our May meeting was a talk on "Crime in the Community", which sounded serious, but actually turned out to be really interesting. As well as talking us through the duties of the police, magistrates and the probation service, we were also shown a video of a reconstruction of an actual crime, asked for our opinions of the consequences, then another follow up video giving further information which would have been available to the court before sentencing. It was an altogether enlightening experience.

June saw us entertained by Catherine Pearson with a flower demonstration with a theme "a song for summer". She did four lovely arrangements each denoting a particular song, which we had to guess when she had finished! We were able to raffle the arrangements, so four members went home very happy, plus another member won all the bits left over from each arrangement which Catherine called a "starter kit".

We had a lovely meeting in July when we had a talk by Sue Forte about the work of "Guide dogs for the Blind". Sue had been a puppy walker for the organisation for many years before it was centralised and moved away. She told us all about how these wonderful dogs are trained, from the days learning to live with a family as a puppy, to the more advanced skills needed to aid a blind person. They are then matched with a blind person and both continue training until both are ready.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 17th September promises to be another enjoyable one, as we welcome Terry Chilcott, who was a volunteer "gamesmaker" at the 2012 London Olympics. We welcome anyone who would like to come and hear his experiences. Visitors are charged £3.00 which includes tea, biscuits and a friendly chat.

Elizabeth Bell

Village / Hall dates

Regular dates

Mondays 1.30 – 4.30 Post Office
3rd Monday of month Parish Council Meeting 7.30
Tuesday 11.00 – 12.00 Zumba class
3rd Tuesday of month W.I. meeting 7.15
Wednesday 7.00 – 9.00 Bowling
Last Friday of month Virtual Pub contact Robin Lovegrove robin1954@hotmail.co.uk

Coming dates

September 16th Parish council meeting
September 17th W. I. meeting
September 26th Village Hall Committee meeting - all welcome.
September 27th Virtual pub in Village Hall
October 11th Library bus. 2.30 outside Village hall.
October 15th WI meeting
October 21st Parish council meeting
November 18th Parish council meeting
November 19th W. I. meeting
November 22nd Library Bus. 2.30 outside Village hall.
December 10th W. I. meeting
December 14th Christmas dinner for Greysouthen over 55s
December 17th Carol singing around Greysouthen village, led by W. I. members.
January 3rd Library Bus. 2.30 outside Village hall.

Hall bookings may be made with Jeannette on 07597 956522.