



Thermal imaging in action (see Energy Hub News for more...)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Village Hall Committee Update

Over the past few months the Village Hall Committee has been working with *ACTion with Communities in Cumbria* to apply for Lottery funds to cover the costs of installing solar panels on the roof of the Village Hall, together with battery storage inside the Hall and additional insulation.

The Lottery has now awarded us £32,915 for these improvements, so the Hall can look forward to a more energy efficient future.

Some years ago a hedge was planted behind the Village Hall for the purpose of screening. This has grown very tall and, as part of the project, the height of the hedge is to be taken down so that it becomes more manageable. In addition there are some diseased ash trees in the car park and these will be taken down. Just near the bench there is an oak tree which is estimated to be about 40 years old... some of you may be able say precisely how old it is! Currently this oak is being cramped by a couple of other trees and these will be removed to enable the oak tree to flourish.

The contractor tasked with the arboreal work intends to cut the tree trunks into manageable lengths which can then be taken away for firewood. As we know a number of people have wood burning stoves, we would like to make the distribution of this timber as fair as possible. With that in mind, if you would like some of the timber then please drop a note into the post-box inside the gates at the Village Hall with your name and telephone number. The timber is just for those in the village please. If there is any over then those who've applied will be able to take more.

Village News

HISTORY CORNER

Little Clifton Village Hall

The first Village Hall was a wooden, army surplus hut, acquired after WW2. Locals can still remember WI meetings, Bingo and dancing to Billy Bowman's Bijou Band. In the mid-1970s the hut was condemned by the local authority, allegedly whilst a children's party was in full swing! The children were evacuated and the doors nailed shut...



Bridgefoot and Little Clifton children in the wooden hall around 1975

In 1977, following a meeting of residents, plans for a replacement hall were drawn up. Various money-raising events were held, including the sale of homemade treacle toffee, pie and pea suppers in the Mission Rooms at Gt Clifton, prize bingo in residents' homes, and a night out at the Rendezvous Night

Club in Workington with chicken-in-a basket supper and a celebrity singer! All three pubs in the Parish (the Horseshoe & Sickle, the Duke's Head, and the Greyhound) had buckets and jars on the bar for any loose change, and arranged both darts and domino competitions.

The new hall was built over a period of three years by Tommy Birkett (sadly deceased, though family members still live at Chapel Brow) with labouring help from local folk. Today the Village Hall is used regularly by a variety of groups, including a camera club, patchwork group, Cockermouth U3A Ukelele Group, art classes, t'ai chi lessons, St Luke's Church and the Parish Council.

The Village Hall is available to hire, for any event large or small, regular or one-off. To hire the hall for your family occasion, group meeting or regular class, contact Rev'd Judith Morgan, Parish Clerk on 01900 601146

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday Nov. 25th
Village Hall 7pm

Pie and Pea Supper

Steak pie £4 Cheese and onion pie £3 Tea and coffee will be available or bring your own drinks. Tickets available from Fiona 077296 01507 or email fionaheslam1@gmail.com

Saturday Dec. 2nd
Village Hall 1-3pm

Table Top Sale

£10 per table, to book tables contact Fiona 077296 01507 or email fionaheslam1@gmail.com

Saturday Dec. 2nd
Village Hall from 4pm

Mulled wine and mince pies, Santa's Grotto, Christmas tree lights switch on

at 5pm, with Flimby Male Voice Choir

Monday Dec. 4th
Village Hall 7pm

Christmas Quiz

£1 entry, bring your own refreshments.

*If anyone would like to help with any events, or if there are events you'd like to see in the future, please contact Fiona.

Village News

NATURE CORNER



It's been hard to miss the skeins of geese that have been flying over the villages since late October, their haunting calls causing even the busiest of us to stop and look skywards. Large flocks of Greylag geese have been feeding in the local area; the birds have come from Iceland to spend the winter here, they will return home in spring to breed in the short summer months.

The wild greylag goose is the ancestor of most domesticated, farmyard geese. It was traditionally eaten at Michaelmas (the 29th September: a day for celebrating the archangel St. Michael), and was cooked with port and mustard. Greylag geese have short bills and prefer to graze pasture, though they will also take grain, root crops and leafy vegetation.

MEET UP TO CLEAN UP

A record number of 22 people turned out on 5th November for the latest village litter-pick. A goodly amount of rubbish was collected from within the village and out towards Gt Clifton and Greysouthen. We then adjourned to the Village Hall for coffee and cakes; many thanks to all who took part.

BLC ENERGY HUB NEWS

Retrofit made easy – free thermal imaging

In collaboration with CAFS (Cumbria Action for Sustainability) and local groups in Greysouthen, Eaglesfield and the Melbreak Communities, Little Clifton and Bridgefoot Energy Hub are taking part in **Retrofit Made Easy, a project to help people make their homes more energy efficient.** Local volunteers are now trained to use thermal imaging cameras so that, now the weather is colder, you can get a free thermal imaging survey. A thermal imaging survey

can help identify cold spots in your home, highlighting draughts, missing and defective insulation, water ingress and cold bridges. You can use this information to take action. See <https://cafs.org.uk/retrofit-made-easy/> for more details. To get more info, speak to experts and hear from neighbours who have already refurbished their homes, you can attend a free public meeting:

Monday 19 February 2024, 7pm at Bridgefoot Village Hall

To book a place visit www.cafs.org.uk/events or just come along on the day!

To register an interest in having a thermal survey of your home,

please text Fliss Watts on 07900 471205

Our thanks to BellCare Domiciliary Care Services at

www.bellcare.co.uk for sponsoring the printing of this Newsletter.

Village News

NEWS FROM ST. LUKE'S CHURCH

'Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King! Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!' go the words of the carol. No Christmas celebration is complete without music, songs and singing as we express our joy and thankfulness in the simplest and most natural of ways. During December we warmly invite you to 'join the song' at any of our Christmas services. This year more than ever we long for the fulfilment of God's promise of 'peace on earth', for our world and in our own lives. At this holy season let us join together in singing the praises of Jesus Christ the Prince of Peace, through whose coming among us in human form as a tiny child we are reconciled to God and to one another.

Our Christmas Services -

Carols by Candlelight at Church 4.30pm on Sunday 17th December followed by seasonal refreshments - a lovely service to put you in the Christmas mood! (You

might like to bring a torch to read with!)

Christmas Holy Communion - 4.30pm on Christmas Eve.

There will be no Christmas Day service at St Luke's but there is a Holy Communion service at 9am at St Oswald's Church, Dean.

New Year s' Eve - informal service at Bridgefoot Village Hall at 12noon followed by a 'bring and share' lunch.

A big thank you to everyone who supports our fortnightly 'Coffee and Crack' at the village hall. Our last coffee morning before Christmas will be on 13th December, we'll then take a break until 10th January 2024.

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and a peaceful 2024.

VILLAGE HALL CAR-PARKING

The car park at the Village Hall can get quite full when groups are using the hall; if you would like to make use of the car park for personal reasons, please contact Fiona Heslam on 07729 601507

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

At a loss what to do with your real Christmas tree after the holidays? Ursula's goats will be happy to help - please leave any real Christmas trees for recycling outside the gate to Home Farm at the top of the village, thanks!

LOCAL HEROES

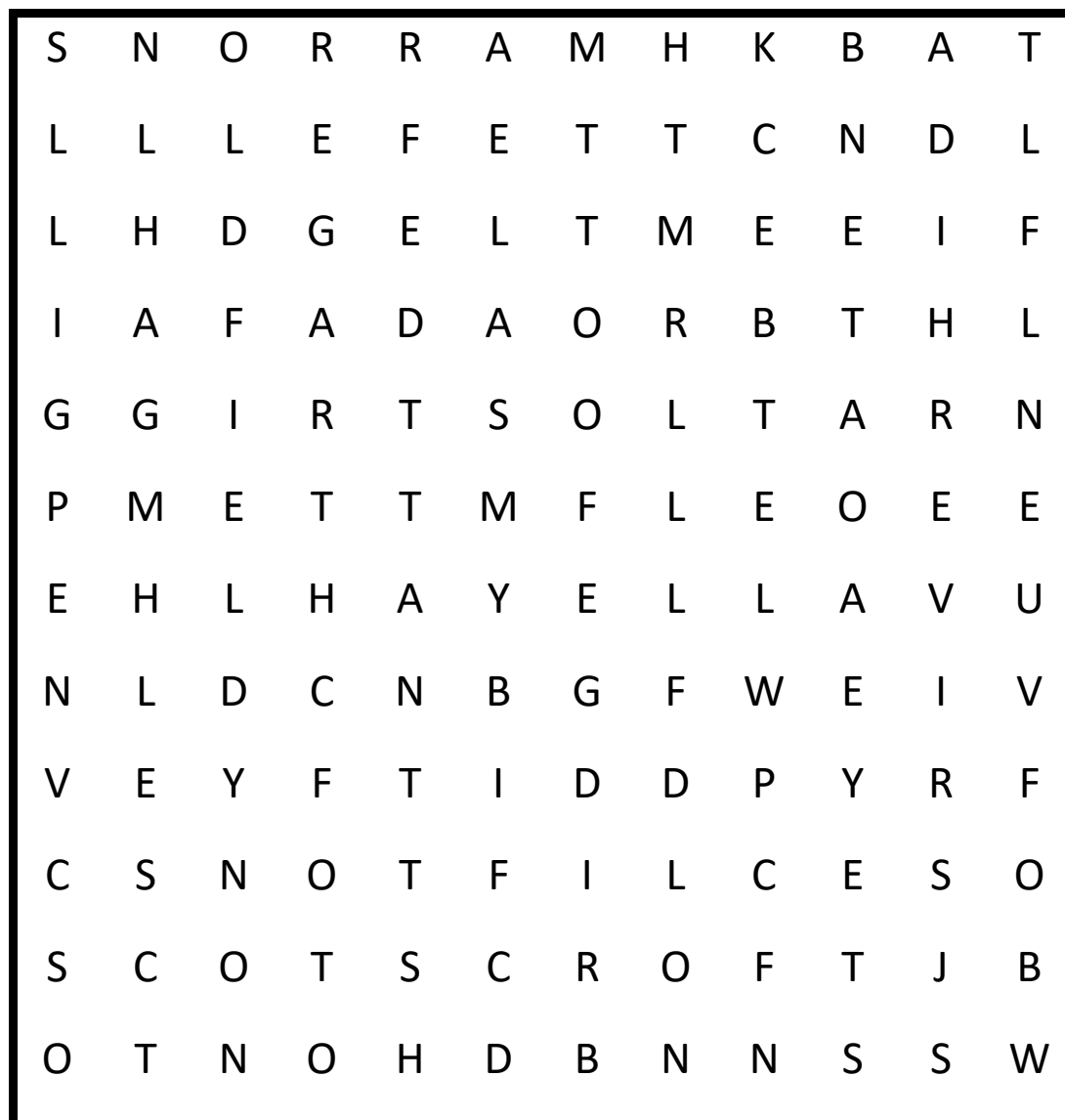
This issue's Local Hero is Fliss Watts from Corner Houe, Little Clifton. During the Covid Pandemic, Fliss set up the village WhatsApp group, so that we could keep in touch and help each other out during the various lockdowns. The group has since been renamed **Little Clifton and Bridgefoot Notices** and is a friendly, unofficial noticeboard used by residents for anything and everything, from sourcing tradespeople to fireworks warnings, from lost and found to buying and selling...to join, just text your number to Fliss Watts on 07900 471205

To nominate your local hero, email the Editor at stkp@sky.com

Village News

WORD SEARCH

BECK, BRIDGEFOOT, CLIFTON, FELL, GARTH, LITTLE, LOSTRIGG, MARRON
NEPGILL, OLDFIELD, RIVER, ROAD, SCOTSCROFT, SYCAMORE, VALLEY



CONTRIBUTE...

If you have news, views, opinions or comments, a local hero you'd like to nominate or things you'd like to learn more about, you can contribute to the next Newsletter by emailing the Editor at stkp@sky.com