

A stone pillar topped with a sculpture of a ram, set against a background of a road lined with trees and a cloudy sky.

Craic

The Magazine for
Great Salkeld & area

Issue 1 Spring 2011

“ In conversation with... ”



Andy Collin, Nunwick Cricket Club

What is the name of your club?

Nunwick Cricket Club.

How long has it been going?

The club was started by Richard Heyward Thompson when he came to live at Nunwick Hall in the 1880's.

Where do you meet and how frequently?

There is something going on at the cricket club most evenings and weekends, either coaching or matches from April to early September.

Who are your members?

Members come from all over the Eden Valley, from Temple Sowerby to Alston, Patterdale to High Hesketh. We welcome anyone with an interest in cricket, male or female. There are approximately 120 junior members from aged 4 to 18, and 40 senior members. Numbers have grown considerably over the past 10 years and now we run 3 junior and 3 senior teams. I am the longest serving member, having started when I was 13; I have been playing for 37 years!

Describe what you do?

This season I am stepping down from first to second team captain. I am involved in coaching the senior and junior teams and in team selections. I am a general dogsbody involved in all aspects of the day to day running of the club.

When new members join the club, what do they find surprising?

How friendly and welcoming everyone is and how readily and quickly everyone is integrated in to the club.

What is the best thing about the club?

The friendships made and the great social aspect of the club.

If you could change one thing about it, what would it be?

The fact that everything costs so much and there is so much paperwork and bureaucracy. The insurance costs alone are £1000 a year. Last year we purchased new nets which cost £38,000. Luckily most was raised through grants, but it takes a lot of time and effort finding and applying for these. This year we are looking at getting a new roller, but it will cost about £10,000.



What are your future plans for the club and what do you need to make them happen?

Maintain the high standards we have set ourselves and encourage more youngsters in to the sport. We are hoping to add a third changing room and extra toilet facilities and continue to upgrade the pitch and our equipment. To do this we need to fundraise, apply for grants and also need volunteers. If anyone would like to help us with any of these tasks, please come and talk to me or other club members.

What is your most memorable moment at the club so far?

Scoring the winning run in the last over of the 2008 Eden Valley cup final, after 35 years of trying!

<http://www.nunwickcc.co.uk/>

A Happy Easter.

The 'Craic' comes from a North Country dialect term to have a good time and I hope you will all have an enjoyable break.

The Parish Plan identified a requirement for a Village news magazine, Website and Village Diary. The Website and Diary are now up & running and we're now ready to launch the Magazine.

I would stress that The Craic is not a replacement for the Church 'Connect', so well managed by Bill Liversidge, Lis Knipe and Doreen Jones, over many years; this will continue to be produced by John Lowrey together with Nigel Robson.

This is the pilot of four proposed seasonal publications, to ascertain the level of interest and Village support, and it would be much appreciated if we were to receive any feedback.

We aim to include articles of interest for everyone, as well as Village current events; these will also be posted on the Great Salkeld Website (www.great-salkeld.net)

Advertising space will be offered, as we do not intend to charge for the magazine. Initially The Craic will be distributed only in the Great Salkeld area, but hopefully too, Lazonby at a further time.

I would like to thank everyone involved, who over a long period since the Parish Plan was published, have put in a great deal of effort to reach this goal.

However, this is a voluntary team and we are seeking additional members to help us spread the load. If you are interested please contact us on copy@great-salkeld.net

To include copy or advertisements for the Summer, or subsequent, issues please send by the end of June to: copy@great-salkeld.net

Frank Hope, Editor

We won't always have space to include every article or item sent in to The Craic; some items will be held over to subsequent issues and some items will go onto the village website too.

GET YOUR DIARY DATES ON THE WEBSITE

If you have events or activities that you want to let people know about via the website diary please contact Linda Jervis (diary administrator) or see the website for a proforma to send the information. Email: diary@great-salkeld.net

Editorial



Craic Magazine

EDITOR: Frank Hope

DESIGN/SETTING: Fiona Exon

ADVERTISEMENT COORDINATOR:

Derek Patmore

Drovers and their Routes



From the departure of the Romans to the making of the toll roads in the C18, no main public highways were built in Britain. People paved some paths as local need arose or travelled the old trade routes, many of which were paths dating from prehistoric times and still used today by walkers. For centuries, at least from the time of the Norman Conquest to the establishment of the railways, the most important long distance travellers were the drovers. Celts from Scotland (and Wales) brought their Highland cattle to England. They formed great

cavalcades that blocked the way for other travellers for hours at a time and they were as noisy as they were spectacular. The chief drovers rode alongside the beasts with the cattle dogs barking and the men shouting. The noise was a signal to farmers along the routes that they were coming, as well as to urge on their own loitering beasts. If local farmers did not want their cattle to join the drove, they had to make sure they were safely enclosed.

Sir Walter Scott, whose grandfather was a drover, tells how a Highland drover relied on 'a few handfuls of oatmeal and two or three onions, renewed from time to time, and a ram's horn filled with whiskey, which he used sparingly every night and morning'. They were amongst the most respected people in the farming communities and could earn as much as 3 shillings a day, twice as much as ordinary farm workers.

The drovers had to be honest and reliable, despite their wandering life, as they were entrusted with so much of their countryman's wealth. From Tudor times each drover had to be licensed. To qualify for a licence he had to prove that he was over 30, a householder and a married man. They were the reporters of the time who were the first to hear and tell of, for example, the outcome of the battle of Waterloo. It was not unknown for greed to get the better of less successful drovers and there are stories of murder along the green country lanes. The obvious solution was to devise a safe means of transferring cash without having to carry it about and so the history of banking is closely linked to droving.

*(Neil Wales)
painting ascribed to George
Morland (1763-1804)*

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The local elections in May mark the end of this Parish Council's tenure of office and a new council will be elected. It is a suitable opportunity to review the elements of village life that the council has been involved in.

The work of the Parish Council would not have been possible without the help and involvement of many residents and their contribution is gratefully recognised. The Parish Council needs people to participate who have the relevant skills for the 21st century

The major impetus has been the Parish Plan which was unveiled two years ago.

Since then the Parish Playing Field has continued to be successfully developed and used. Existing footpaths and bridleways have seen improved maintenance but, so far, it has not been possible to improve access to The River Eden or Wan Fell. The use of North Dykes Field as a village facility has not been developed as, despite requesting it, no residents have come forward to help with this project

Thanks to a local landowner a Re-cycling centre has been established and is well

used providing a financial benefit for the community. Unfortunately there are a few inconsiderate people (maybe from outside Great Salkeld) who persist in fly-tipping items such as polystyrene, household waste and electrical goods. The Parish Council is taking steps to identify these people and will support any prosecutions. A group of 'Wombles' are conscientious in making sure that the village is kept clear of unsightly litter and dog owners have been encouraged to 'tidy up' after their dogs. The flashing speed sign has been used on a number of occasions and it is hoped that a 'speed gun' will be used in the future. A gritting machine has been ordered and should be available next winter. Volunteers will be needed to make use of this – i.e. push it.

A Parish website is in the process of being established and the first meeting has been held with residents to give information about a High Speed broadband connection. New and existing clubs and activities have taken advantage of the improved facilities offered by the Village Hall. There is still work to be done in improving the use and condition of notice boards

and in supporting and developing a voluntary community transport system. A Housing Survey has been conducted and the results of this will be published shortly in 'The Craic'. The council is monitoring the proposed development of a wind farm and is in contact with Hesketh Ecology to ensure the preservation of the Great Crested Newts at the Dub.

Much work had to be done to re-organise the Parish Council finances which now have a reasonable credit balance. There are plans for a Village shelter. Each meeting receives reports of the work of CCC and receives planning applications from EDC. Occasional reports concerning crime in the area are received from the Police and the Parish Council works with the Highway Steward in the maintenance/improvement of roads. Future responsibilities and opportunities could centre round the Government proposals to give increased powers and responsibilities to local communities.

I would end by thanking those Parish Councillors who have given so generously of their time and effort during the past four years.

Neil Wales (Vice Chairman)

Too Busy to Think? Two Opportunities?

I opened up my laptop yesterday, only to be greeted by an advert for the arrival of the iPad 2 and “rumours” of a new iPhone 5. Then flashed up, “10 Ways to Get Slimmer”, and then, “10 Greatest Goals”. This was followed by vivid, desperate pictures of Japan following the earthquake and tsunami, and a video clip of the latest explosion at the nuclear plant. All of this took place in less than 2 minutes. One can be forgiven for thinking that our culture is obsessed with lifestyle and the instant “now” experience. Are we preoccupied with “style” without content, with “impact” without reflection? How are we to conduct ourselves in a world which largely seems to have given up the attempt to hold together teaching and ethics? Legitimately, some may ask, isn't this the role of the Church?

According to a recent survey, 70% of people in the UK have a sense that God might exist. They are not hostile to Christianity, but for a variety of reasons, the Church is not the place they look to for answers. Churches around the country are working hard to turn this around. Slowly but surely, many are finding ways of reaching those outside their walls who are looking for a place where they can explore and learn about those ethical issues and conduct which are essential to human flourishing.



Locally there are two significant opportunities to take this forward. The first takes place on Friday 13th May at Beckbank Farm, Great Salkeld. Supper will be provided. At the supper there will be a short talk and afterwards it is hoped that we will be able to set up groups to meet in Great Salkeld, Lazony and Kirkoswald. Each group could meet monthly, say, to discuss contemporary issues and consider what teaching or guidance we can learn from Jesus. These groups will be open to people of all faiths, or none, who are interested

in understanding more of Jesus's teachings. The second opportunity is the longer term “Vision” of Bishop James to grow the Christian family in Cumbria. It too talks of the challenges faced by individuals, and by our communities, in an era of “secularist consumerism”, financial pressures, and fragmented relationships. He raises many questions. For example, how do we have our Church Buildings equipped and used for multi-purpose service in our communities? A different dimension, but it still seeks to address the same core issues.

More details of these opportunities, and of events, will be published in Connect. Please take the opportunity to find out more and to come along.

Nigel Robson

Photograph: stained glass window in St Cuthbert's Church, Great Salkeld by Fiona Exon

Lacking Exercise? Why not try bowls?

At Lazony we have a very good opportunity for you to try your hand. The bowling green is situated on the left hand side of the B6412 as you come down the hill into Lazony and can be accessed by a pathway alongside the green. We have a very good green which has one of the best views of any green in Cumbria.

The Club opens on Thursday 7th April and you are very welcome to join us. Each Wednesday we have a Jumbles evening - a fun evening which enables you to get to know the game and club members. During the season we have some friendly matches with other Clubs in the county besides our own Club competitions - all optional! But we do encourage you to take part!

If you are interested, we can arrange a time for you to come and have a try - all you need is a pair of flat soled shoes. Bowls can be borrowed from the Club.

Please contact Jean Swinburne 01768 898705 or any club member.



A lovely evening in the company of Gilbert & Sullivan

An evening of tuneful, witty and delightful operatic playfulness was held in St Cuthbert's Church on Friday April 1st.

The Gilbert & Sullivan Singers, who are from throughout Cumbria, sang, acted and smiled their way through plentiful songs from pathos to fanciful fripperies; performing many of the well-known and well-loved songs of Gilbert & Sullivan.

The Friends of St. Cuthbert's

hosted the evening which included a glass of wine (or soft drink) and saw the pews filled with an audience who enjoyed the familiar songs

and snippets of tales from the well known operettas Pirates of Penzance, Gondoliers, Trial by Jury, Mikado, Iolanthe and Ruddigore. To close the evening,



there was a sing-along to "A Policeman's Lot is Not a Happy One". Everyone loves a bit of Gilbert & Sullivan.

(Fiona Exon)

Friends of Great Salkeld Village Field

We are delighted to let you know about lots of new developments at the Village Field this year. We have particularly focussed on providing facilities for the older age range. Football and netball posts are now installed and we are looking forward to officially opening these after Easter. We are also planning to have permanent pitch markings on the field which will enable children to really hone those football skills! The posts have been funded by a Neighbourhood Forum Grant. Thanks to Simon, Steve, Bob and Hector for spending several evenings installing them. A real team effort! Also thanks to both children and adults who helped make the difficult decision on where to place them. We have installed them so there is a little extra space at the church end of the field where so many of the children like to play in the trees



Getting the ground prepared for the goal posts

and bushes. It is great to finally see football posts back in the field after over 6 years since the school shut.

We have also received funding from the Playbuilder Fund which is managed by Eden District Council. Following a workshop with children and parents in February we have done our best to accommodate all the ideas suggested. We look forward to sharing the proposed plans with you soon. These will include a small selection

of new equipment with the older age range in mind and also some more natural features at the site. We hope to start installing this new equipment over the summer. A new self-closing gate is also being constructed by Porters of Calthwaite which has been funded by Hilary Carrick's County Council fund.

We will be running our successful 100 square competition again this year. Squares will cost the usual £5 and there are some great prizes again. If you would like to reserve a square number please ask Jane, Rachael or Gail. With kind permission from St Cuthbert's Church the 100 square competition will be drawn at their Duck Race at Nunwick Hall on Sunday 5th June. We are very grateful to all the funds raised whether by attending events, buying a 100 square or donations in the pub tin or other means. Every single penny really does help in maintaining this fantastic asset for the village.

(Jane Yates)

■ On the Campaign Trail: High Speed Broadband for Great Salkeld ■

On Thursday 3rd March an open meeting was held in the Village Hall to discuss High Speed Broadband for the village. We could see the arrival of internet connection that is as good as that in the major cities. It can't happen without community support and it won't be provided by BT in the foreseeable future. We need to work as a community to achieve this.



The proceedings were chaired by Parish Council treasurer Derek Patmore who opened the meeting by setting out the reasons why the meeting had been arranged and introducing Craig Brass from NextGenUs.

Craig started his presentation with an explanation of what a CIC (Community Interest Company) is and how it works.

The advantages of high speed broadband were highlighted and not least amongst these were vastly improved internet connection for leisure and, importantly those who work from home and for local businesses. The point was made that a high level broadband connection might well see property value increases.

Craig then continued with a number of case studies that showed how NextGenUs had worked with rural communities to provide Next Generation Access broadband services. The communities in the spotlight were:

■ **Newton & Stape** - Two neighbouring parishes in North Yorkshire that were unable to receive any broadband connectivity at all until NextGenUs in association with North Yorks CC installed a wireless solution.

■ **Hull** - Here NextGenUs have utilised a mixture of wireless and FTTH to provide up to 100Mb for up to 1000 residents.

■ **Great Asby** - Although a CIC in their own right Craig explained how Great Asby were the pioneers of rural broadband back in 2005 and have worked with NextGenUs to evolve their original 2.4GHz wireless network to a 5.8GHz wireless network providing much greater bandwidth.

■ **Ashby** - A short video showed how a small community in Lincolnshire joined forces with NextGenUs to install 100Mb fibre connections to each home making them the 'fastest' village in the UK.

Then we heard an explanation of how broadband is currently delivered over copper wire and the benefits available with a fibre connection. There then followed a lively Q&A session with topics ranging from ADSL to wayleaves and much in between.

The presentation closed with a breakdown of the costs followed by another (much shorter) Q&A session. There were over 50 people in attendance and a show of hands confirmed the majority would be interested in taking up the service if it were available. It is hoped that in the near future a similar event can be organised for Lazonby and Kirkoswald to determine if there is a similar level of interest in those areas.

The Parish Council would like to thank Craig for giving up his time and ensuring a successful event.

Anyone wishing to take up this service is urged to sign a declaration of intent form.
(Campaign Group)

For further information about Next Generation Access Broadband in Great Salkeld please see <http://www.great-salkeld.net> or email nga@great-salkeld.net For info on CIC see: <http://www.cicregulator.gov.uk/>

The campaign has been supported by Hector Speight, with Derek Patmore from the Parish Council and Frank Hope. They have spent a lot of time looking into the options available to the community, attending meetings and conferences, open days and information gathering seminars.

Sue Wales Leg of Lamb with Oregano and Lemon

Serves 6



- ✓ 1.5 leg of lamb (on the bone)
- ✓ Juice of 2 lemons
- ✓ 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- ✓ 50 grams butter
- ✓ 3 tablespoons olive oil
- ✓ 250 mls water
- ✓ 4 large potatoes

A Spring time recipe

Trim the lamb of excess fat and put in a large baking dish. Rub the lamb all over with the lemon juice, season well with salt and pepper and sprinkle with oregano, crushing it between your fingers to cover the meat. Dot the butter on the top. Pour 250 mls. of water around the lamb and drizzle the olive oil around as well. Bake for 15 min on each side or until browned all over.

Meanwhile peel the potatoes and cut them into bite sized pieces. Scatter them on the baking dish around the browned lamb, add some salt and turn them over to cover them with juice. Add a little more water if evaporated. Cover the baking dish with foil, lower the heat to gas 4- fan oven 160 and bake for 2 1/2 hours or so turning the lamb over at least once during this time and shuffling the potatoes. If the lamb isn't brown enough remove foil for the final 30 mins. of cooking.

Serve lamb and potatoes on a platter with juices poured over.

Serve with a salad or simply cooked greens. This is also nice with some tzatziki on the side. The potatoes have a very special taste.



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30 Minutes from a Wonder of the Natural World

by Richard Wood

If you were to drive or bike from Great Salkeld south on the B6412 to the A686, then up over Hartside towards Alston, you have a chance of seeing one of the great natural wonders of the bird world.

Up amongst the North Pennine Moors is the home of the Black Game (Black Grouse), close relation of the Red Grouse. A strange fact about this species is that the male (Black Cock) is named separately from the female (Grey Hen). But it is the mating ritual of this bird that is the "wonder".

During March through to May, for about 2-3 hours after dawn, and again for an hour or longer just about dusk, the black game of the area will gather at a favoured historical site in order to mate. These sites are called "leks" and the same sites have been used year in, year out for centuries.

The cock birds will go into the

centre of the lek and display. Being mainly black, with a purple sheen to their plumage and a lyre-shaped black and white tail, they will fan out their tails, throw back their heads, and dance. Sometimes males will fight each other, but the true purpose of the lek is for the male to mate with a grey hen.

When the ceremony is completed, you will see the black game dispersing across the moor for the day, until the ritual starts all over again that evening.

You cannot necessarily see where a lek takes place by looking at the ground - it is only by observation of seeing a lek in full swing that you know where it is. However, there is



one site where you can just sit in your car by the side of the road and watch the fascinating ritual take place. On the way from Hartside to Alston, just after the right turn to Garrigill, in a field of unprepossessing rush and bog, is a lek site.

Try and see it – it is a wonder! And only 30 minutes away !

[there is more on these birds here: <http://www.rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdguide/name/bl/blackgrouse/index.aspx>]

Something to celebrate

As we go to press Carlisle United have won 1-0 at Wembley playing Brentford in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final. It's their 6th final at a major stadium. They've played twice each at the old Wembley, Cardiff Millennium Stadium and the new Wembley. Congratulations to Salkeld resident Adam, the Carlisle United goal keeper.

CRAIC Su Doku moderate

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Kate Mary Hope
July 2010

ODE TO GREAT SALKELD LANE

*There is a rural country lane,
my dog and me walk down,
It nestles well below the Pennines,
Untouched by fast-track time.*

*The moody mountains oversee,
Cattle, sheep and wildlife,
As the farmer's wife sweeps her yard,
Before departing to deliver a calf.*

*Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall,
Acknowledge each other like the grey stone wall,
That stands higgledy-piggledy,
Through high winds and storms.*

*In Summer, dock leaves and nettles so tall,
Invade the foxgloves against the wall,
In Winter the snowdrops bow their heads,
To pure large snowflakes, and birds so
Hungry search for holly berries,
Else they don't get fed.
Spring brings the daffodils unaided,
By Gardeners World,
Leaving them to their own devices,
A natural setting, without inflated prices.*

*Autumn in this Cumbrian lane,
Calms and settles to embrace the rain,
As dark low clouds surge below,
Feelings of awe transcend and bestow.*

*This backbone of England cannot allow,
A season to pass,
Without its trademark reflecting the grass,
Hillsides in shadows of brown and gold,
Have magic potions so I am told.*

*My dog and me stand and stare,
At a kestrel ,a buzzard,
A rabbit or hare.
I just can't begin to compare,
Life in the City, so full of despair.*

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