

Cummersdale Parish Council Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2005

The Parish Council met on 21 February 2005



Plans for producing a Cummersdale website are well advanced, once we have the grant towards this, the work will start. Hopefully the newsletter will be available as an online option too.

A member of the public has complained to Mr. Martlew about the bus service in the village. The PC has not received any complaints nor, have they had any personal experiences of the bus not arriving. If there are instances of this happening please let me know.

The PC has asked Cumbria County Council to remove the ad hoc lay-by that has appeared in Peter Lane. We have also asked them to remove all rubbish.

There have been complaints about youths on unlicensed motorbikes on The Holmes again, the Clerk has reported the details to the Police.

There have been complaints about teenagers hanging around the bus shelters on Wigton Road, again, the Clerk has reported this to the Police.

The Parish Council is looking into the possibility of becoming a Quality Parish under the Governments scheme and producing a Parish Plan, thank you to everyone who took time to complete the questionnaire for this.

The next meeting will be on Monday 21st March.

L. Gauntlett Parish Clerk.
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ST. JAMES CHURCH, CUMMERSDALE.



ST. JAMES CHURCH SERVICES.
SUNDAY EVENINGS 6pm.
EASTER MORNING 9am.

We had an early start to our Christmas period. A concert organised by Robert Deans and assisted by Rob Burrell was held on 27th November 2004 at 2pm. Some of the residents from the "Laurels" residential home joined us as well as parishioners from St. James Church, Denton Holme and of course the members of our own village. We were entertained by "The Fabulous Topaz" with a medley of songs old and new. Eddie Clifford sang Al Jolson songs and sounded remarkably like Al Jolson and we all sang along with the entertainers. We had refreshments during the interval, when gifts were distributed to the audience, donated by Steads Retirement committee, Bay Tree Florists, D. Elliott, painter and decorator, Mrs. Griffiths and Mrs. Atkinson.

On Friday 3rd December the Christingle service was held in the church and the children delighted us with their musical ability. The four children who did reading were very articulate so much so that they were invited to read to us when we had our Carol service. Our Curate, Ian Hardcastle gave a talk on the meaning of the Christingle and the children demonstrated with their oranges representing the world and their candles which were lit signifying Jesus bringing light into the world.

On Christmas morning we celebrated the birth of Jesus when both the Vicar and Curate served us "HOLY COMMUNION".

The first Baptism of 2005 took place in our church on January 30th when Alex Jonathon Wharton was Baptised and welcomed into the church by our Curate.

Joyce Trewick.



Cummersdale WI

The January meeting was opened by Joyce Corrierri who wished everyone a Happy New Year. Membership fees were collected, and forthcoming events were discussed. Arrangements were made for the darts competition at various venues, first at Burgh by Sands and second at Hethersgill.

Mrs. Linda Beaty, one of our members gave us an insight into the "stroke club". She brought leaflets and diagrams and told of symptoms to be aware of and of the various ways help can be had. She and Mrs. Metcalfe are both voluntary helpers at the club and meet fortnightly.

A vote of thanks was given, and supper and chat were enjoyed by all.

The raffle was won by Mrs. Ruth Foster.

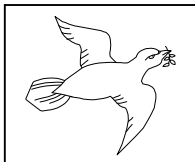
In February we had a talk by Dr. R. Westgate from the Brunswick House Practice. His topic was Diabetes. He told how treatment had improved over the last hundred years, and how insulin had saved the lives of many. He answered all the questions that were asked, as most know of someone suffering from Diabetes.

After the vote of thanks the raffle was held and the prize went to Dr. Westgate.

The competition for an uncooked "traybake" was won by Joy Martindale.

A. Pape.

Cummersdale Conservation Trust



CUMMERSDALE COPSE.

The woodland area has now been planted up and thanks to all those who came to help, including all the children from the school.

The heap of twigs at the bottom end of the field has been left there on purpose to provide food and habitat. Birds are using it all the time for foraging and shelter, and as it rots down, it will encourage insects to increase as a good source of food.

We will soon be installing litter bins at either end of the field, along with a supply of polythene bags. We hope that these will help to keep the field tidy, and encourage people to remove their dogs dirt so that every one can enjoy the area.

Later on in the summer, two wooden seats will be put in next to the path, and fencing at either end will complete the scheme.

The area currently left as soil will soon be seeded with a wild flower mix. If any one is interested in helping us with this, please phone 541296.

Pauline Nicholson.



Spinners Arms

TSUNAMI APPEAL

A huge thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle and to anyone

who participated in any way to make this a success. We raised a grand total of £842.00, which we are extremely proud of. Well done to everyone.

During the power cuts due to the disastrous flooding in the city, we managed to stay open with the help of candlelight and coal fires. We were fortunate to have gas for cooking so we did manage a meagre meal of soup and rolls. The community spirit shone through and Parents and children who congregated in the pub for warmth and chat also played cards by candlelight.

Also in the month of January, we provided tea for the celebration of Alex Wharton's christening. Alex is the son of Alyson and Darren Wharton and has a sister Megan who all live in The Oval.

The Bee Keepers Association enjoyed their Christmas meal on the last day of the month. Syd Parker, one of the beekeepers produces his honey from hives in Cummersdale which is also on sale in the Pub – good local produce!

We also had a huge gathering to celebrate the life of Stewart Richardson who was a Dalston lad. Stewart died suddenly at the tender age of 44 years.

May we take this opportunity to thank all our regulars who continue to support us in our venture. Sandra, Geoff, Faye and team.



Cummersdale Primary School

Hello from Cummersdale School:

I've been Headteacher now for 14 years; I don't know how you've put up with me. I can now officially be called "Old Shaun"

Number on Roll:

This stands at 80. It makes us viable and quite secure financially. We should be able to maintain our level of spending in the next school and financial years.

It is perhaps worth noting that several primary schools in Carlisle are struggling to maintain staffing, as there is a general decline in pupil numbers. I am told we were the only over-subscribed school in Carlisle. We had several enquiries for September 2004 in Reception and we admitted 10, the most we can. There has been a kerfuffle over the allocation of those places.

Someone who lives in catchment and who has a sibling in school, failed to hand in an application form on time and the Authority, who dealt with all applications decided not to consider it.

Someone else who lives in catchment was passed over by the Authority in favour of children who came from Morton Park. Even if people appeal against the Authority's decisions, we cannot have more than 30 in the Infant Class. However someone who lived in the catchment appealed against a decision to refuse them a place and won so we now have 31 in our Infant Class which means technically we are breaking the law. Someone who moved their child out of Year 4 because of domestic problems has been refused a place back in the school because we are full. They were warned. There are several children waiting for places.

	BOYS	GIRLS	CLASS TOTAL
TOTAL ON ROLL	33	47	80

We have just admitted another new child from Morton Park Primary.

PREMISES:

We are still in the process of arranging the official opening of the extension. We hope to do so soon.

We have had all the shed doors replaced and repainted.

The main Hall still needs to be painted.

The school fence needs to be painted.

All the windows need to be replaced. We are awaiting the Authority to replace them. The School House façade will be done first plus the large windows to the front of the school. Top Notch Joinery were successful in winning the contract.

They are also creating the new play area for the Foundation Stage at the front of the school and building the new MUGA, the all weather play surface. The new equipment looks very pleasant

and I hope it won't detract from the sandstone façade. At least it has no need to be permanent should someone choose to revert back in the future. Still, that's what the County Council wanted.

The school is in a reasonable state of decoration but the Hall will need to be painted as will the toilets.

There has been some mindless vandalism and damage to property in the school when the Youth Club were in. I have identified only one culprit but it is unfortunate that all the young people may be tarred with the same brush because of his actions. There was no reason for his behaviour or any possible excuse for it.....he chose to wilfully destroy property.

The club seemed to be going well and I hope it does not flounder because of the actions of one person.

Unfortunately the Youth Club shed has been broken in to and some property stolen. Whoever did it has a screw driver and likes taking screws out, something incidentally someone who attended Youth Club liked doing as well.

We were nominated by Mr. McCrone and Mrs. Allison to be the Cumberland News "School of the Year". We did not win but Miss Mason & myself had a very pleasant meal at the Auctioneer.

We are now a "conker free zone" but the story keeps popping up.

The "shoe in the wall" story seemed a very popular story if not a little weird. Perhaps we may yet find an unruly child from the previous century immured as well.

FOOTBALL

We have played several matches, losing to St. Michael's, drawing with Stoneraise but defeating Kirkbampton and Thursby for the only time in 14 years.

We took several children to see Carlisle United play Woking.

NETBALL

Won one came second in three.

GYMNASTICS

The Junior Girls competed in the Cumbria Novice Championships and the team won bronze. We had several teams in the County Championships; the under 9 Girls won bronze, under 9 Mixed won Bronze, Under 11 won Silver and Jessica Haughey won a silver medal for her individual performance.

This was a terrific performance and for a small school like ours an outstanding one. Well done Miss Mason and Mrs. Campbell.

CROSS COUNTRY

Miss Mcree took a team up to Annan for the River Races and we competed in the City Cross Country and did very well.

CHESS

We took part in the City and County Chess Championships. In the latter James Campbell came third in the Under 9 and Philip Richardson second in the Under11 categories. We have played several league matches.

MEDIA

The children and the school featured several times in the local newspaper and also were interviewed on Radio Cumbria. I was also interviewed and featured in the press in my professional capacity.

EUROPEAN DIMENSION

I have been taking part in the Comenius project and have visited schools in Holland and Ireland, funding care of the European Union. Staff will also visit these countries.

PANTOMIME

The whole school visited Newcastle to see Snow White. Oh yes we did!!

