

Items for the Summer Newsletter – May 2008

Items for inclusion in the next newsletter should be handed to Jean Paterson by 4th May at the latest. You can also e-mail your stories to beejays95@tiscali.co.uk or newsletter@lowtherlink.co.uk. We are still looking for a new (local) editor – please get in touch if you are interested.

WE DESPERATELY NEED YOUR HELP!

We need more new people to join the Management Committee (new members mean new ideas). More importantly, we need a volunteer (or two) with some knowledge of funding and project planning who would be willing to help with the preparation of a sustainable proposal for the refurbishment of the Hall. We are looking for someone who could explore possible sources of funding and help to prepare grant applications. IS THAT YOU? If so, please contact John Capstick (01931 712574) or Bill and Jean Paterson (01931 712210) as soon as possible to discuss a way forward.

Officers of the Management Committee for 2007 – 2008

Chairman	Mr Bill Paterson (712210)
Vice Chairman	Mr John Capstick (712574)
Treasurer	Mrs Carol Parkin (712444)
Secretary	Mrs Jean Paterson (712210)
Bookings Secretary	Mrs Joan Little (712497)
Maintenance Officer	Mr Les Watson (712658)

Other members: Anne Crofts (712676), Anne Davidson (712430), Steve Forrest, John Pinder (712684), Joke Maes, Petra Russell (712394) and Roger Gill.

LOWTHERlink

Spring 2008

Dates for your Diary

WEDNESDAY CLUB: The club meets in the Parish Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 1.30 to 3.30 pm. Please telephone Lawrence Titterington on 01931 712315 or Joan Little on 01931 712497 for further details.

LOWTHER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE: The WI meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 7.15 pm. There is a varied programme and refreshments are served. Please contact Rose Banks on 01931 712510 for information.

LOWTHER PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: The group meets on Thursday mornings from 10.00 am until 12 noon during term time in the Parish Hall. It's a great chance to have fun and make new friends. Contact Sam Porter on 01768 361766.

LOWTHER INDOOR BOWLING CLUB: The club meets every Tuesday evening from 7.00 to 9.00 pm. The cost is £2 per session including tea and biscuits. All are welcome. Contact Jean Paterson on 01931 712210 for more information.

CAR BOOT: The monthly car boot sales recommence on the last Sunday in March and will continue throughout the summer months. Contact Anne Crofts on 01931 712676.

The Management Committee would like to offer their best wishes to Maurice Sayer who celebrated his 80th birthday on the 19th January. Congratulations!

New Fundraising Calendar for Lowther!

We are hoping to produce a 2009 calendar as the previous one was very popular. You are warmly invited to submit photos for inclusion. They should be good clear prints (colour if possible) of local interest and preferably taken within the Parish. Photos should be forwarded to Jean Paterson, The Hermitage, Hackthorpe, Penrith CA10 2HX by the 24th May 2008. The calendar images will be chosen by a person not connected with the Parish or with any resident in any way.

Responses to the Questionnaire

First of all, thank you to all those who returned their Questionnaire. A special thanks should go to those residents of Hackthorpe who live between the 'telephone kiosk' and Hackthorpe Hall (all except 2 returned theirs). Unfortunately, the response from the other parts of the Parish was not quite as good so we did not reach our target of a minimum of 75% support. The Management Committee now feels it should respond to your concerns and provide answers as follows:

- 1) We were rather surprised by the number of people who suggested that a Youth Club should be arranged. A meeting was convened to discuss this idea in the same week that the Questionnaire was distributed but regrettably **NOT A SINGLE PERSON** attended (apart from our vice chairman, John Capstick, who had arranged the meeting).
- 2) Several people suggested that we should have a children's playground. Some of you may not be aware that there was a playground adjoining the tennis courts up until 2 or 3 years ago. The playground was underused and therefore fell into disrepair and eventually became unsafe. We intended to replace the equipment as we learned that if we brought the site up to a standard approved by Eden District Council they would maintain it. However, the estimates for the work and new equipment to meet these standards were in excess of £140,000. After discussion, we felt that it was

more important to concentrate on upgrading the Hall itself for the benefit of the whole community.

- 3) We know that there is a lot of work to be done on the Hall to make it comfortable and welcoming. However, we need to secure funding before work can begin. We recently thought that we were a step closer to achieving this but unfortunately our application to the Northern Rock Foundation was turned down when they recently revised their funding programmes.
- 4) Some of you feel that the Hall should be rebuilt. This option has been explored in considerable detail but was rejected as the type of funding currently available is unlikely to favour this solution. (Also, the estimate we received five years ago for a complete rebuild was well in excess of quarter of a million – a considerable sum.)
- 5) Your other suggestions for activities within the Hall (day and evening) will be considered.



More Dates for your Diary

FUN'N'FITNESS: Keep fit classes take place on Thursdays at 7.15 pm. Contact Julie on 01768 890902 for information.

BADMINTON CLUB: The club meets on most Monday evenings during the year at 7.30 pm. Contact Anne Crofts on 01931 712676 for details.

CRAFT CLASS: These are held on Monday evenings at 7.00 pm. Contact Lynn Robinson 01768 210205 for details.

DOMINOES: Come and join in on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm! Have a game of dominoes and maybe win some prizes.

Don't forget to visit our website:

www.lowtherlink.co.uk