

Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr. G. Grieve, Ivy Cottage, Wall End Tel: 889 017

WELCOME TO KIRKBY-IN-FURNESS

The parishioners of the Parish of Kirkby Ireleth welcome you to Kirkby-in-Furness and hope that you find this information about the Parish of use.

Contents:

- a) A welcome from the Chairman of the Parish Council.
- b) The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Parish Councillors and other elected representatives.
- c) A brief history of Kirkby-in-Furness.
- d) Information regarding the various Churches.
- e) A list of the Parish Organisations
- d) Web site addresses
- e) Further information and telephone numbers.

On behalf of Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council I welcome you to Kirkby-in-Furness and hope that this information will prove to be of value to you. Please feel free to contact any of the Parish Councillors mentioned below for any further information or help that you may need. Council Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month (except September) in either the Community Centre, Beckside, Grizebeck Village Hall the Methodist Chapel, Marshside and Woodland Village Hall. Please see the Caller or Calendar for further details.

Best wishes,

G. Grieve (Chairman, Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council)

Heathland Ward:

Mr. H. R. Saunders, "Hill Farm", Grizebeck.	Tel: 889 286
Mr. M. Irving, "Dove Ford Farm", Grizebeck.	Tel: 889 632

Middle Quarter Ward:

Mrs. J. Bryne, Marsh Cote, Wallend	Tel: 889 278
Mr. G. Grieve, Ivy Cottage, Wall End	Tel: 889 017
Mr. W. Todd, 1, Long Row, Marshside.	Tel: 889 654

Low Quarter Ward:

Mr. D. Wilson, Broom Lea, Beckside.	Tel: 889 237
Mr. R. Bennett, Bridge End Cottage, Soutergate	Tel: 889 030
Mr. A. Pye, Knowle Cottage, Beckside	Tel: 07973 702 202
Vacant	
Mr. D. MacKay, Duddon View Barn, Pear Tree Farm	Tel: 07764 657 097
Sarah Rhodes, 2, Herschell Terrace,	Tel: 07824 619 486

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. A. Field, Burlington House East Tel: 889 906

Representative on Westmorland and Furness Council:

Mr. M. Brereton, Ingle Wood House, Foxfield Tel: 0797 816 902

A “Potted” History of Kirkby Ireleth.

The Domesday Book refers to this area as ‘Cherchebei’, which means ‘Village by the Church’. Although our knowledge of the area is of more recent times, i.e. from the 12th Century when the Abbots of Furness commanded the area, it would appear that there was life here before then. There are the remains of a stone circle on the fell side above the hamlet of Beckside and some of the place names and local expressions are of Viking origins from the 9th and 10th centuries. It commands stunning views to the Lake District in the north and sea views to the south.



The old Parish of Kirkby Ireleth was “*bounded on the southwest by that of Dalton, on the west and north by the river Duddon, and on the east by the parish of Ulverston. It stretched from the Duddon Sands to the source of the Duddon, under Wrynose Mountain, a distance of about sixteen miles. It averages about three and a half miles in breadth. The area is computed at thirty five thousand statute acres.*” Mannix and Co., *History, Topography and Directory of Westmorland* 1851.



Although the Civil Parish is still Kirkby Ireleth, the area is now known as Kirkby-in-Furness. Once part of the Kingdom of Strathclyde and then Lancashire, the boundary changes of 1973 placed it in the new county of Cumbria. When in Lancashire local government was accessed by offices in Ulverston but now the nearest point of contact is Kendal.

Kirkby Ireleth is made up of a number of hamlets and small villages. At the northern end in the area of Heathwaite there are signs of habitation from the Stone Age through to the 20th century. The hamlet of Woodland has its own small church and village hall to serve the dwelling houses and farms.



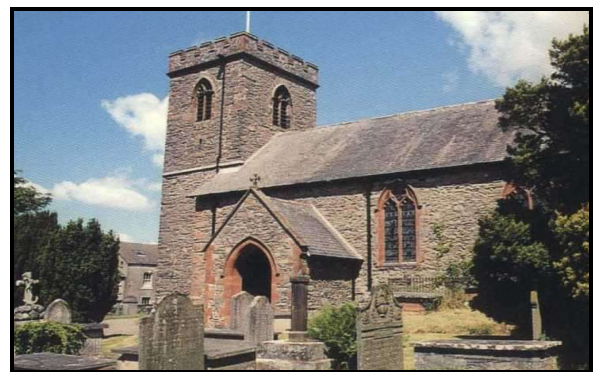
The settlements of Grizebeck, Dove Ford, Chapels, Marsh Side (built in the nineteenth century by Burlington Quarry owners), Wallend, Sandside, Soutergate, Beckside and Four Lane Ends form a long narrow loop of living areas, with settlements on the outer areas of Mere Beck, Pear Tree, Gargreave, Ghyll End and various ‘Grounds’.

Kirkby Hall, once the residence of the Kirkby family, is still a working farm. They owned much of the land in the area from the twelfth century through to the eighteenth century when it eventually came in to the ownership of the Cavendish family. It remains so to this day.

The Kirkby family has played a major role in local and national politics. John Kirkby, b. circa 1204, became a judge on the Kings Bench and a Baron of the Exchequer. Richard Kirkby, b. circa 1624 was Governor of Chester Castle and the family provided Sheriffs of Lancashire, Justices of the Peace etc. William Kirkby of Ashlack, a younger son b circa 1627, over saw the comings and goings of the coastal vessels on behalf of the King, from Carlisle, down the coast as far as Chester. At one time the family seem to have had the area 'ring-fenced' by ownership of properties. Eventually the family fell into 'disgrace' by supporting the losing side during the Civil War but they hung on to their property. The Kirkby family were also active in the persecution of the Quakers and attempted to sequester the lands of Margaret Fell, a neighbour, and founder member of the Quaker movement who was born at Marsh Grange on the southern edge of the village.

Kirkby Hall is an outstanding house with large chimneys. It has a small chapel dating from the years of religious persecution, in its roof space. There is a long driveway from the road where it seems there was a cross where the market was held. To day it would be impossible to hold such an event in that place due to the volume of traffic passing by.

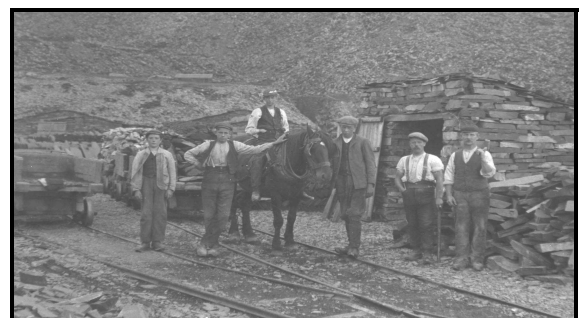
The parish church is that of St. Cuthbert, and although 'renovated' in the late nineteenth century it still retains its Norman arched doorway. It recently celebrated eight hundred years of Christian worship. It has a daughter church, The Church of the Good Shepherd, at Grizebeck. Non-Conformist establishments appeared with the influx of workers to the quarries in the nineteenth century and there is now a Methodist Church, a Church of Christ and a Gospel Hall all of which are well supported. There is good ecumenical co-operation between these Churches.



Until the mid to late nineteenth century much of Kirkby's industry was in farming. There is evidence of a small port on the coastline and some family members are listed as 'mariner'. There were public houses and 'beer houses' where people eked out their income by making and selling beer from their homes.

Other goods such as tobacco, sweets and groceries were also sold and trades such as tailor, clog and shoe maker, blacksmith, miller etc were carried on. Three public houses survive - namely "The Greyhound Inn" at Grizebeck, "The Burlington Inn" at Four Lane Ends and "The Ship Inn" at Askewgate/Sandside.

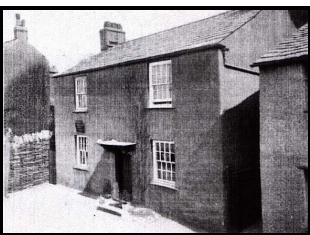
The Quarries at Kirkby produce strong, blue-grey slate and many houses and roofs are clad with it. As the Quarry expanded - boasting the largest man-made hole in Europe - and iron ore mines were excavated in other parts of Furness, the occupations of the inhabitants began to change. There was an influx of workers from other parts of the United Kingdom.



It was a hard life. The miners walked by the various footpaths to the mines at Roanhead near Askam. They returned home in the evening to work on their garden to provide food for their families. Agricultural workers often worked on the land in the summer months and at the Quarries during winter. Food was also obtained from fishing and cockling. When times were really hard they had recourse, in the 19th century, to the 'Select Vestry Committee' who administered the poor relief.

From 1841-1881 the three main sources of employment were agriculture, slate quarrying and iron ore mining. There were also some small businesses employing a few people. A survey taken today would probably show that only two of the old industries remain to any great extent - that of agriculture and slate.

The slate was initially brought down from the quarry by sledge or horse and cart - later there was a small tram-way - loaded on to flat bottomed barges and transported by sea, round the coast line or carted to Ulverston for transportation via the canal. The quarry is still in the ownership of the Cavendish Family, who also own some of the local farms and a large mobile home site.



A group of forward looking men decided to form a Co-operative in 1861. This was housed in a cottage at Sandside and soon expanded into a larger purpose built store. Houses were built and let to the employees. A few farms were bought and a house provided for a resident doctor. The houses and farms are now in private ownership.

The 'Co-op' also held a children's sports day every year. A Horticultural Society was formed in 1876 and still holds an annual show in The Burlington School.

In the very early days, children were educated at Becksides School initially by the local Clergyman, and then by an appointed Master or Mistress.



There is evidence of another school on the 'High Ground' above the village. There was a 'Dame School' briefly at 'Townfield' on the edges of Sandside and Soutergate. In the nineteenth century a school opened at Grizebeck, and then The Burlington School was built in 1877. Becksides School became the village hall and remains so today.

The children attended The Burlington School from five to fourteen years of age. After the Education Act of 1944 Secondary Education was available at Ulverston Grammar School or Dowdales School, Dalton-in-Furness.

Electricity was provided in the 1920's, but no gas, except for the station and one or two houses, until the 1980's. A few people had their own generators. The provision of electricity must have made a great difference to peoples' lives. However, the countryside was marred somewhat by the overhead cables and pylons which are still in place today.

Because of its isolation the people of Kirkby had to be self-sufficient. Small shops were opened by local people selling various goods. 'Kirkby Potatoes' were well known over the whole of Furness.

As rail travel grew more popular, and latterly vehicle ownership, local people were able to travel further afield to work. 'K' Shoes opened in the area and provided more diverse employment for women as well as men. Vickers Armstrong Shipyard & Engineering Works in Barrow became more accessible together with other industries.

Taking advantage of the 'New Prosperity' cottages were modernised and living conditions improved. However, the local industries such as the mill and the blacksmiths closed down and the properties were converted into private dwellings. Ease of travel, though, also brought in people who wanted to live in the countryside.

The Co-operative Store is now closed, but the village is served by a General Store and Post Office and there are two garages repairing, servicing and selling vehicles. Light industry includes a panel beating workshop, a joiner's shop and a stonemason's. One farmer has diversified and opened boarding kennels, and there are various gardening services. There are local plumbers and builders and recently a publisher of educational books has been established. The doctors' surgery is still functioning now as a modern health centre and the railway station is used regularly for journeys south to Barrow and north to Carlisle. There is also a local bus service with free transport to local supermarkets.

A small estate of council houses and bungalows was built in the late 1950's along and just off the A595. Many of these are now privately owned. Another estate of thirteen bungalows was built in the 1970's and in the 1980's some barns in Beckside were demolished and houses built. A small estate of bungalows was also built at Wallend. Some farmers have converted their barns into living accommodation and ironically there are as many people living close to some of the farms as once were when farmers employed many workers. Other properties have been built as 'infill' to maintain a sympathetic approach to development. In spite of all of these changes the population of the area has been maintained at about twelve hundred people.

A large mobile home site, owned by Holker Estates, is situated below the quarries. There is also a wind farm owned by National Windpower on the northern slopes of Kirkby Moor.

Housing, to all intents and purposes, has changed very little over the years. Some cottages were pronounced unfit for habitation in the fifties and the people were housed in prefabs built alongside Marshside. These have now been replaced by a small estate of privately owned bungalows and called Marsh Garth.

The Burlington School is the Primary School, Grizebeck School having closed in the 1980's. Children of secondary school age attend Dowdales School, Dalton, Ulverston Victoria, Ulverston, or Coniston School, Coniston. Some children travel to the Catholic Schools or independent Schools in Barrow. Very young children are catered for by 'The Little Acorns'.

There is a Literary Society, Ladies' Supper Club, Women's Institute, History Group, Over Sixties Club and a First Responders Group, who all meet in Beckside Rooms, as do the Parish and Parochial Church Councils. Other events are also held there but due to the narrow road parking is an ongoing problem. The Flower Show is held at The Burlington School and the Hospice Support Group holds events at different venues in the village. There is a hall at Grizebeck, built in the 1920's. Events such as Whist Drives, Dances and the Flower Guild meetings take place there. Woodland also has a small hall for local events.



A Community Centre was built in the 1970's. This has reasonable parking facilities, but is essentially a Sports Pavilion. Cricket and Football are played here. There is an attractive play area for children, a 'Trim Trail' round the field, a bowling green and two hard tennis courts. Visiting teams always admire the open aspect of this area as it looks down the coast to the Irish Sea and is overlooked by the clock tower of St. Cuthbert's Church.

History of Kirkby Group February 2006

CHURCHES

PARISH OF ST. CUTHBERT, KIRKBY IRELETH

Priest in Charge:	Vacant	
Licensed Lay Minister/Reader:	Linda Dean	Tel: 889 630
Churchwardens:	Christopher Dean	Tel: 889 630
	Pam Anderson	Tel: 889 062

KIRKBY-IN-FURNESS METHODIST CHURCH

Minister:	Rev. Kate Hunt	Tel: 07821 801 528
Secretary:	Mrs. J. Lingard	Tel: 889 366
Treasurer:	Mrs. M. Wilkinson	Tel: 889 588

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, WALLEND

Secretary/Treasurer:	Miss R. Ide	Tel: 889 922
Elder:	Stanley Park	Tel: 462 002

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH, DALTON

Parish Priest:	Canon Seamus Flannery	Tel: 582 205
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THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Contact:	Stella Barnes	Tel: 889 089
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ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, WOODLAND

Church Warden:	Mr. S. Harrison	Tel: 716 578
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PRAYER FOR KIRKBY

Contact:	Gail Burns	Tel: 889 922
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Clubs and Organisations

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Multi use hall with full catering facilities, veranda, cricket and football pitches, children's playground, MUGA (tennis, netball, basket ball, five-a-side football) and county standard bowling green.

Contact: Mrs. A Holroyde Tel: 889 431

THE VILLAGE HALL, BECKSIDE

Large and small room available for Parties, Wedding Receptions, Concerts, Lectures, Displays, Meetings and Classes.

Contact: Mrs. E. M. Morrison Tel: 889 474

THE COMMUNITY HALL, GRIZEBECK

Large room available for Parties, Wedding Receptions, Concerts, Lectures, Displays, Meetings and Classes

Contact: Yvonne Frost Tel: 07905 779 584

WOODLAND PARISH ROOMS

Large room available for Parties, Wedding Receptions, Concerts, Lectures, Displays, Meetings and Classes

Contact: Mrs. J. Brocklebank, Hill Farm, Woodland,

BECKSIDE LADIES' SUPPER CLUB

Meetings in the Community Centre for women of all ages and beliefs in a friendly atmosphere with a speaker or demonstrator.

Contact: Mrs. J. Bishop Tel: 889 311

KIRKBY CRICKET CLUB

Members of the Cumbria and Barrow and District Leagues. Matches played at the Community Centre

Contact: Alistair Bradley Tel: 889 492

LADIES' NETBALL TEAM

Ladies 16+ who play on Mondays at the Community Centre during the summer months

Contact: Vic Atkinson St. Mary's Well

KIRKBY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

Members of the Rifleman's Furness Premier League. Matches played at the Community Centre.

Contact: Paul Fugler Tel: 07930 388 540

LITTLE ACORNS

All children are welcome from birth to starting school. Sessions are held on Wednesdays, 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. in the Community Centre, Beckside.

Contact: Rachel Ritchie Tel: 889 091

THE BURLINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND CONTROLLED PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Head Teacher:	Mrs. S. Powell	Tel: 889 210
Secretary:	Mrs. E. Thompson	Tel: 889 210
Chair of the Governors:	Mrs. P. Anderson	Tel: 889 062
Clerk to the Governors:	Mrs. L. Dean	Tel: 889 630

FRIENDS OF BURLINGTON SCHOOL

A group of parents, teachers and governors who support the school.

Contact: Lauren Newby Tel: 889 912

KIRKBY LADIES' GUILD

Meetings in the Community Centre on the first Wednesday of each month except January.

Contact: Mrs. M. Morrish Tel: 889 780

HISTORY OF KIRKBY GROUP

Meetings are informal and take place on the third Tuesday of the month in the Community Centre. Occasional evening meetings with speakers.

Contact: Mrs. P. McPherson Tel: 889 382

C.G.P. KIRKBY IRELETH PARISH COUNCIL TRUST FUND

Grants for groups or individuals in the Parish of Kirkby Ireleth. Application forms can be obtained from the Secretary or downloaded from the Kirkby web site www.kirkby-in-furness.org

Contact: The Chairman Mr. G. Grieve Tel: 889 017

KIRKBY TENNIS CLUB

Members of the Duddon Tennis League playing at the Community Centre. Courses for primary aged children are held in the Easter and Summer holidays.

Contact: Fran Treloar Tel: 889 054

KIRKBY BOWLING CLUB

Members of the Barrow and Ulverston Bowling Leagues. Community Centre green open from dawn to dusk April to the end of October.

Contact: Allan Stevenson Tel: 889 073

KIRKBY IRELETH CHARITIES

Administration of three local charities:

The Kirkby Ireleth Ecclesiastical Charity

The Kirkby Ireleth Education Charity

The Kirkby Ireleth Relief in Need Charity

Contact: Andrew Laisby Tel: 889 393

KIRKBY FIRST RESPONDERS

Local volunteers trained by N. W. Ambulance Service to attend 999 calls if called out by the ambulance service. Trained in basic life support, are on pagers and carry defibrillators and oxygen. Training every third Tuesday 10.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. in the Methodist Church.

Contact: Chris Roberts Tel: 889 282

1ST KIRKBY (ST. CUTHBERT'S) BROWNIES

The Brownies hope to reform their group in the near future

GRIZEBECK FLOWER GUILD

Floral demonstrations and workshops on the fourth Wednesday of the month in Grizebeck Community Hall 7.00 p.m. Except June, July, August, December and January.

Contact: Mrs Karen Queen Tel: 889 500

KIRKBY PHOTOGRAPHIC GROUP

Meetings in the Burlington Inn every three weeks. New "snappers" welcome.

An informal gathering to exchange information, compare photographs and give hints on chosen themes.

Contact: Alison Going Tel: 889 598

OVER 55'S LUNCHEON CLUB

Lunches on the third Wednesday of each month 12 noon, at The Ship Inn, Askew Gate.

Contact: Mrs. Linda Dean Tel: 889 630

FOOTPATH AND CYCLEWAYS GROUP

Conservation and development of footpaths and cycle ways throughout the Parish.

Contact: Vacant

KIRKBY FLORAL AND HOTICULTURAL SOCIETY

An Annual Show at the Methodist Church on the second Saturday in August.

Contact: Mrs. K. Queen Tel: 889 500

KIRKBY BOOK CLUB

Meetings every third Wednesday in the month, The Burlington Inn, 8.0 p.m.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Contact: Roger Rushton Tel: 889 354

FRIENDS OF GUIDING

Contact: Mrs. P. Pyne Tel: 889 327

WEB SITES

KIRKBY-IN-FURNESS

www.kirkby-in-furness.org/

COMMUNITY CENTRE

<https://www.kirkbycommunitycentre.co.uk/>

HISTORY OF KIRKBY WEB SITE

<http://www.history-of-kirkby.org/>

THE BURLINGTON SCHOOL

www.burlingtonschool.ik.org/

KIRKBY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

www.clubwebsite.co.uk/kirkbyunitedfc01/

GRIZEBECK COMMUNITY HALL

www.grizebeckhall.co.uk/

ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

www.stcuthbertskirkby.co.uk

THE METHODIST CHURCH

<http://www.urc.org.uk/>

FURTHER INFORMATION

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS LETTER

Published ten times a year within the “Kirkby Caller”. Reports of the Parish Council Meetings

“KIRKBY CALLER”

Produced by St. Cuthbert’s PCC and delivered to every household in the Parish ten times a year. It contains information regarding Church news and other events due to take place.

CALENDAR

Produced by St. Cuthbert’s PCC and delivered to every household, is a diary of events and includes details of the officials of the various organisations. Published in January each year.

POST OFFICE

Four Lane Ends	Closed
Community Centre	Thursdays 10 a.m. - 12 noon
Grizebeck	Tel: 889 259
	Tuesday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
	Thursday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

DOCTOR

Kirkby Surgery	Tel: 889 247
Broughton Surgery	Tel: 716 337

Furness General Hospital	Tel: 870 870
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The Samaritans	Tel: 08457 909 090
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