

100th Birthday

Edith Violet Heazel, known as Cis, recently moved from Grayrigge Court, Grange to Bridge House in Flookburgh only in May of this year as she needed more support. She celebrated her 100th Birthday on 9th August.

Cis was born in Shepshed, Leicestershire where she lived with her parents and 3 brothers. She married "Eddie" Heazel and spent her married life in Quorn and then Mountsorrel, Leicestershire.

Cis, Eddie and their 2 daughters moved to Hawkshead in 1992 where they ran the Greenbank House Hotel until 1999 when they retired and moved to Grange.

She has survived many trials in her long life including the loss of her 2 daughters and her beloved Husband but still has a wonderful twinkle in her eye!



Gardening Tips

Hello once again folks, it seems a very long time since I wrote a few tips for all you keen gardeners out there. It is a pity that we have to be thinking of the on coming winter, but that is all part of the joys of living in sunny old England!

I am sure I do not need to remind anyone of last winter, the long weeks of frosts and snow, and the loss of those precious plants. This coming winter will very likely be just the same, so let's make some preparations to protect those valiant survivors and those new purchases. If you are lucky enough to have a greenhouse that will answer most of your problems, but what about larger plants that are in the ground? One method is to cover them with one of those tall plastic covered growing frames with the shelves removed. The roll up door can be opened to let in fresh air. They are perfect for tree ferns and other semi hardy plants. A frame will set you back about £25 from a diy store. Don't forget to fasten the frame down! Smaller plants can be covered with up turned plant pots, the drain holes will allow air circulation, an old bucket will do the same job. If you are worried about the appearance of your protective covers, then you could use clear plastic bell covers, these are not very strong and very likely will not last. Good luck folks. JS

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Ducks, drakes and other issues

Grange Now spoke to Ben Smith of the Grange & District Wildfowling Association regarding a report in another newspaper of dozens of dead ducks in the Ornamental Garden 'duck pond'. "So ridiculous it didn't even warrant a reply," scoffed Ben. "This was a vast exaggeration. It is a well known fact that when mating drakes are very rough with ducks and can drown them, and this has been the case with a few. This exacerbates the problem as this means the ratio of drakes to ducks is further increased. The problem won't go away, it is nature after all."

Ben added that previously a shoot was carried out to reduce the number of drakes, "We notified the police and the shoot took place early in the morning. Unfortunately two complaints were received from those who didn't understand what we were trying to do."

The spell of dry weather earlier in the summer did not help the water quality, one area by the path was particularly smelly and dirty. "The quality of the water is solely SLDC's responsibility. Hot spells do cause a problem when serious discoloration and algae can develop.

If algae gets too bad it can be poisonous to the wildfowl but in normal conditions the lake or 'pond' is cleansed by the eleven springs that

feed it," said Ben. Asked if the bread fed to the birds adds to the water purity problem Ben was reassuring, "The bread is not a problem, it usually all gets eaten."

Often the air is full of screeching, flapping, swooping gulls when bread is thrown, other times their absence is noticeable by the silence. "Gulls move around looking for food, two or three hundred can leave here, probably for Windermere," Ben explained. Some travel much further afield - in the breeding season they have been identified by leg rings in Denmark or Sweden.

South Lakeland District Council has installed a new pump so the fountain is working again. However more work needs to be done, "The amount of sediment in the pond, the bulk of it, comes in at high tide because the flap isn't working, it is under water, stuck in the open position. SLDC are eventually to put a pump in when they get the money to regulate the level in adverse weather conditions but the flap problem needs addressing too," said Ben, "But like everything else, it is all down to cost."

The Wildfowling Association were formed over fifty years ago to keep the lake supplied with wildfowl. They rely solely on donations from members of the public to maintain the exotic species that are so admired by visitors.

Crime Crack

This month has brought no major crime other than the usual for our Town, which sadly is always drink related. There have been a number of cars damaged on the night of the 15th from Fernleigh road area to Kirkhead at Kentsbank, or even the other way around!

Someone who can't hold their beer. Also there has been a small window smashed in the Main street at the new offices of this publication, again overnight of the 25th and 26th. If anyone has any knowledge, a word to me would be most welcome!

The other concern I have is with youths once again gaining access to the old pool on the promenade. I know the temptation of old sites and building sites, a play area when I was young. HOWEVER there are dangers. The old pool is becoming more derelict and the water full of all kinds of debris. With a colleague from British Transport Police we removed four youngsters of about 14 years from the pool, one who had cut her leg on broken glass. South Lakeland district council have tried to make it childproof and have again been informed. They CAN also prosecute for a civil trespass.

A new scam going around is via the telephone. Someone rings claiming to be from BT and stating they want immediate payment for a bill. They want £31.00 or they will disconnect you and it will cost you £118.00 to be reconnected at a later date.'

Even if you are not with BT they still state that whatever company you are with pays BT for line rental.

If you don't believe them they offer to show you how they can disconnect you, inviting you to ring out to anyone and then they will ring back. You think they have hung up, you can't get

another outside number, but all they have done is hit the mute button. They hear you dialling and when you have finished, hang up and ring you back very pleased with themselves and ask if you now believe.

DON'T PAY ANYTHING OVER THE PHONE BY CARD to anyone who has rung you. In this case the man had a very English name with a very African accent.

Most crime today is committed by a scam on the phone or internet, so always be careful.

Sorry if you haven't seen much of me again, signed off for three weeks with severe tonsillitis! Never had that before. 'Every cloud has a silver lining' said my wife...

Pc 225 Colin Morris

St Mary's Hospice

Caring for local people throughout South Cumbria

Could you help us?

Volunteers make a huge difference to our ability to provide care to people with life-threatening illnesses, their families and carers, and help keep St Mary's functioning.

We are desperately seeking volunteers to help us in our two shops in Grange. If you are able to share some of your time & skills & would like to volunteer, please contact Carolyn on 015395 32735.

St Mary's Second Hand Furniture Outlet

Are you decorating at home? Have you just bought some new furniture? Are you wondering what to do with your old items? We can help!

We can collect your unwanted furniture free of charge to sell at our second hand furniture outlet, which is in Brady's Yard, Barrow in Furness. Funds generated from the sale of all items helps us to raise vital funds and provide care for local people suffering from life-limiting illnesses.

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