

# Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: Mr. G. Grieve, Estuary Lodge, Askew Gate Tel: 07789 486 757

## 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, Estuary Lodge, Askew Gate Brow Tel: 889 196

Mr. W. Todd, 1, Long Row, Marshside. Tel: 889 654

**Low Quarter Ward:**

Vacant

Mr. M. McPherson, 1, Combe Crescent. Tel: 889 382

Mr. I. Winstanley, Fell Gate Barn, Gargreave Tel: 889 022

Mr. M. Jackson, Fell View, Soutergate. Tel: 889 374

Mr. I. Winstanley, Fell Gate Barn, Gargreave Tel: 889 022

Sarah Rhodes, 2, Herschell Terrace, Tel: 07824 619 486

**Clerk to the Council:**

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

**Representatives on South Lakeland District Council:**

Mr. I. Wharton Roburn Cottage, 2 High Street Penny Bridge, Ulverston, LA12 7RN  
Tel: 07778 430 926

Mrs. H. Troughton

Mrs. T. Coward, 2, Kirkbeck, Coniston. LA21 8EL Tel:01539 449 046

**Representative on Cumbria County Council:**

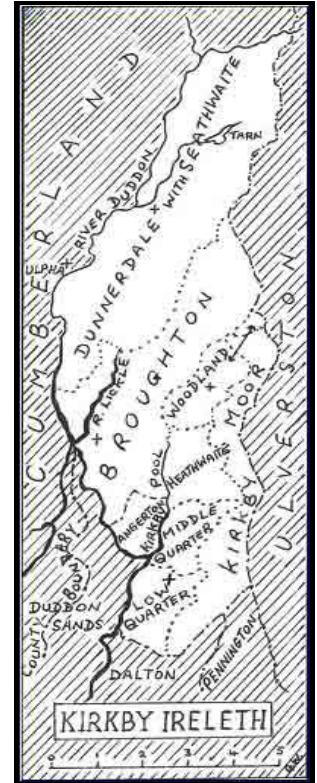
Mr. M. Brereton, Ingle Wood House, Foxfield Tel: 0797 816 902

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 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.



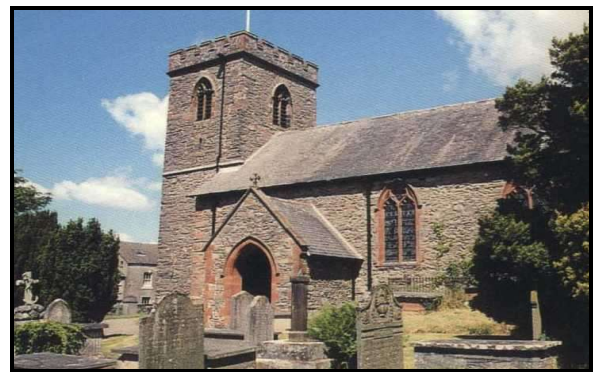
The settlements of Grizebeck, Dove Ford, Chapels, Marsh Side (built in the nineteenth century by Burlington Quarry owners), Wallend, Sandside, Soutergate, Beckside and Four Lane Ends form a long narrow loop of living areas, with settlements on the outer areas of Mere Beck, Pear Tree, Gargrave, Ghyll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

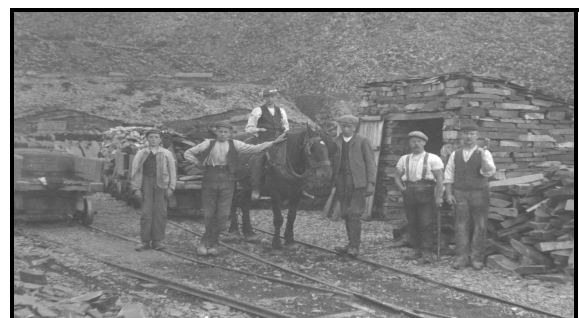
The parish church is that of St. Cuthbert, and although 'renovated' in the late nineteenth century it still retains its Norman arched doorway. It recently celebrated eight hundred years of Christian worship. It has a daughter church, The Church of the Good Shepherd, at Grizebeck. Non-Conformist establishments 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:** Rev. Stephen Tudway Tel: 715 259  
**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. Zena Smith Tel: 465 061  
**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

## THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

**Contact:** Stella Barnes Tel: 889 089

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, WOODLAND

**Church Warden:** Mr. S. Harrison Tel: 716 578

## PRAYER FOR KIRKBY

**Contact:** Gail Burns Tel: 889 922

# 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:** Mr. D. Anderson Tel: 889 526

## 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 Grizebeck Community Hall.

**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](http://www.kirkby-in-furness.org)

**Contact:** Mr. M. McPherson Tel: 889 382

### **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

## **1<sup>ST</sup> 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:** David Anderson 889 526

## **KIRKBY FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL 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/](http://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/](http://www.burlingtonschool.ik.org/)

## **KIRKBY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB**

[www.clubwebsite.co.uk/kirkbyunitedfc01/](http://www.clubwebsite.co.uk/kirkbyunitedfc01/)

## **GRIZEBECK COMMUNITY HALL**

[www.grizebeckhall.co.uk/](http://www.grizebeckhall.co.uk/)

## **ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH**

[www.stcuthbertskirkby.co.uk](http://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**      Tel; 889 040  
Monday – Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.  
**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  
  
**The Samaritans**              Tel: 08457 909 090

