

"I lift up my eyes to the hills-  
Where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
The maker of heaven and earth"  
Psalm 121, v 1 & 2

We have abandoned our usual newsletter to produce this commemorative edition in honour of those who have died, to remember those who have been injured and to recognise and support those who have been left behind.

There is no need for us to retell the events of that awful day, as they have been widely and extensively covered by the media.

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010, a mist was over the sea and the sun had broken through. It was just an ordinary day. Some first heard the news on the radio, or later on television, but most people knew nothing of the events that were unfolding until the gunman had gone through our village. Seascale had shut down.

This was a day no-one will ever forget. Every individual will always remember where they were, what they were doing and the emotions they felt.

Shackles Off Drop-In Centre was used as a point of contact for the emergency services and as a refuge for those who had witnessed the horrific events outside. It was used as a hospital to help keep a man alive until further help came, and later it was used as a base for the investigating police detectives. For two days after that, we stayed open to offer support and to comfort one another, our friends and our community.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones. As we gathered together on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June for a Service of Remembrance, over 500 people turned out in the rain to pray for those lost, hear comforting words and to stand together as a community united in grief and in mourning. A minute's silence was held and, as the service closed, there was an opportunity to lay a flower at the foot of our driftwood cross, made with wood from our beach.

Donations were taken in aid of the Air Ambulance and at present we have collected over £500, but we are still receiving monies and that figure rises every day. If you wish to contribute, your donation will be greatly appreciated. The collection box is situated in Beach Stores.

We would like to thank all the emergency services, Seascale Health Centre, Seascale Fire Service, the local clergy and all the members of our community who showed amazing courage and sensitivity in the face of such senseless tragedy.

We will end with the words of John Wesley:

*"Do all the **good** you can  
By all the **means** you can  
In all the **ways** you can  
In all the **places** you can  
At all the **times** you can  
To all the **people** you can  
**As long as ever you can"***

Here in this village, the above words were lived out by everyone.

God bless you all,

Lyn and the Shackles Off team.

