

JULY/AUGUST 2026



THE UNITED BENEFICE OF LORTON AND LOWESWATER WITH BUTTERMERE

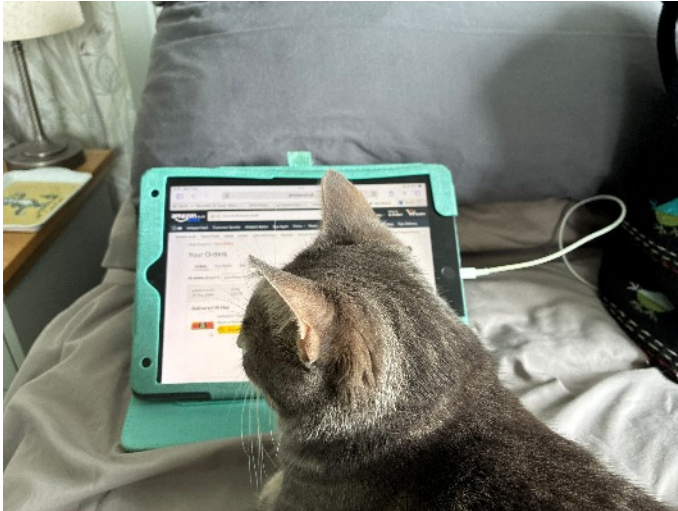
£7.00 PER ANNUM (LOCAL)

£15.00 PER ANNUM (POSTED)

Letter from the Editor

Dear Link Readers

Charlie the Cat has been working on his IT skills and can now order from Amazon - hopefully he will take over the editorship soon. That is if he can be tempted away from the coloured ping pong balls he chases endlessly around the house - perhaps he could also take over as Secretary of the Table Tennis club - his talents are limitless.



The Valley does seem to be little short of entertainment over the Summer months, but there is Cockermouth Live to look forward to at the beginning of July and the Harmonics Society concert on the 18th July - so music lovers are well served. As are coffee and cake devotees as there is one coffee morning in July and another in August, slightly confusingly hosted by the table tennis club and the tennis club, so come along with a bat and ball of some description. Then there are cream teas at LVH on 30th August - always a popular event. If you feel the need to walk off some of these culinary excesses then do please join us for the Buttermere Camino on Saturday 1st August.

Rosemary Riley

Our front cover photo this month shows the heart on Darling Fell taken by Roger Hiley. How appropriate given that it is my wedding anniversary on 13th July, Ed

For anyone wanting to receive home communion or in need of pastoral support, please contact:

Revd. Barbara Robinson, 01900 85234 or 07961902075. Please leave a message and I will get back to you asap. If your need is urgent please contact Revd. Jane Charman, Mission Community Leader on 01900 828028

PLEASE NOTE THAT TO FACILITATE COLOUR PRINTING THE VICAR'S
LETTER HAS MOVED TO PAGE 13

Hosted by Lorton Table Tennis Club

COFFEE AND CAKE

£4

A warm welcome awaits



and
Raffle

SATURDAY 11TH JULY
YEW TREE HALL
10.30-12 NOON

Please park responsibly

A Melbreak Communities Event



Notice of Meeting

Yew Tree Hall - AGM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of Yew Tree Hall, registered charity no. 223947, will be held at the Yew Tree Hall, Lorton, CA13 9UJ, at 7pm, Monday 6 July 2026 to transact the following business:

AGENDA

1. Present & apologies
2. Minutes of the previous meeting held 14 July 2025
3. Matters arising
4. Trustees' Annual Report – Chair
5. Trustees' Annual Report – Treasurer, accounts y/e 31 March 2026
6. Notification of Representative Members
7. Election of six Elected Members
8. Appointment of Independent Examiner for the coming year

Notified by YTH Charity Trustees
Adam Baker, Chair of Trustees
June 2026



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Bread and Flour
Rapeseed Oil
Apple Juice



We closed our season with a successful outing to the Devil's Porridge Museum and Annandale Distillery.

Twenty three people filled the bus for our short trip north across the border where we spent a very busy morning looking around the new museum in Eastriggs near Gretna. The museum was full of stories, pictures, artifacts and interactive displays all about the operation of the old Munitions Factory and how the workers used to mix some of the basic ingredients by hand, how they produced and mixed more volatile substances such as Sulphuric acid, Nitric acid and nitro glycerine to produce the cordite explosive needed for shells and bullets during both World Wars.

The museum also highlighted the life of the workers and the growth of 'new towns' such as Gretna, Eastriggs, Dornock and Annan in order to house them. We also inspected a 'steam' engine outside, one of only a dozen made that didn't have a firebox or funnel . . . work that one out !

After lunch we travelled a short distance to Annandale Distillery, who took us on a fine distillery tour and made us very welcome. We all came home with a wee dram and plenty of memories of a great day.

The Club now has a summer recess, so see you all in October for our next planned evening meeting at Loweswater Village Hall.

Cheers, or really we should say Slanj-a-va.

Roger Hiley

Pictures of the day at www.loweswatercam.co.uk/260616_77_Club_Summer_Trip_2026.htm

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LORTON NOTES

BIG GREEN CLIMATE SERVICE AND COMMUNITY LUNCH

St Cuthbert's Church, Sunday 14 June

Our Climate service was very well received and Rosemary gave an introduction of the work of FutureProof Cumbria. In addition to our usual hymns accompanied by the organ, Andrea played her guitar and sang beautifully for our other 2 hymns. This was a popular change to the normal pattern of service.

The service was immediately followed by the Community Lunch. This proved to be very popular and was attended by over 40 people. Here is a photo of our magnificent organisers, myself, Lois Sparling and Deb Watson.



All of the food was provided by local suppliers - see the list on the facing page (please support our local suppliers) - with the exception of some very tasty tray bakes provided by local residents. We did have to hurry everyone along at 2pm as we had to get the church ready for a Confirmation Service at 3pm. We had 10 candidates, ranging from children to adults and Bishop John, a retired Bishop now living in the area who lead the worship. It was a very moving service.

Donations were given for the lunch which has allowed us to send £101 to the North Lakes Foodbank, and the retiring collection at the Confirmation Service was for FutureProof Cumbria and raised £80.

Rosemary

St Cuthbert's Community Lunch for Great Big Green Week 2026

On the menu today...



Savouries...

Sausage rolls, veggie quiches, pork & apple pies

Tony Harrison Butchers, Cockermouth

Brie, Trusmador (and butter)

Torpenhow Cheese Company

(supplied by Cumbria Farmers, Embleton)

Bread rolls

The Coffee Kitchen Bakery, Cockermouth

Salad leaves

Varnycrooks Farm, Threapland

(supplied by Goodness & Grain, Cockermouth)

Salad leaves & radishes

Growing Well (supplied by Cumbria Farmers, Embleton)

Chutney Homemade & donated by Debbie & Graham Watson

For afters...

Scottish strawberries County Fruit Stores, Cockermouth

Cream Watsons Dairies, Workington

Traybakes Homemade & donated by Lorton Vale bakers



A GREAT BIG THANK YOU

to all our local suppliers, producers and makers,
and to Food Cumberland and Cumberland Council
for supporting us with funding to take part in
Big Local Lunch 2026.



Loweswater Village Hall

The village hall committee is pleased to give you some advanced diary dates for its autumn programme of events:-

- On **Friday October 2nd** we shall once again join with **Arts Out West**, to present **"A Brief History of Music"**, by **GreenMatthews**, which takes in 600 years of musical history, from the middle ages to the twentieth century, in 90 minutes! Chris Green and Sophie Matthews combine long forgotten songs and tunes, (not to mention jokes!), to paint a vibrant picture of our musical DNA, framed with the wit of Blackadder & 1066 And All That!
There will be a **licensed bar**, and a **Ploughman's Supper** available in the interval.
- On **Saturday October 10th** we will be hosting the month's **Melbreak Communities Coffee Morning**. Alongside the opportunity to meet and catch up with friends and neighbours, there will be the usual coffee and selection of delicious cakes, as well as wildlife stalls offering prints, calendars and information.
- On **Friday November 20th** we are very pleased to welcome back the very popular **Cath & Emma**, with a focus on the music from **Queen**. (Themed dress will be encouraged!)
There will be a **licensed bar**, and **Sausage Baps** will be available in the interval.

Make a note in your diaries. Further details of all these events will follow in the September Link and on our Facebook page and website - loweswatervillagehall.co.uk .

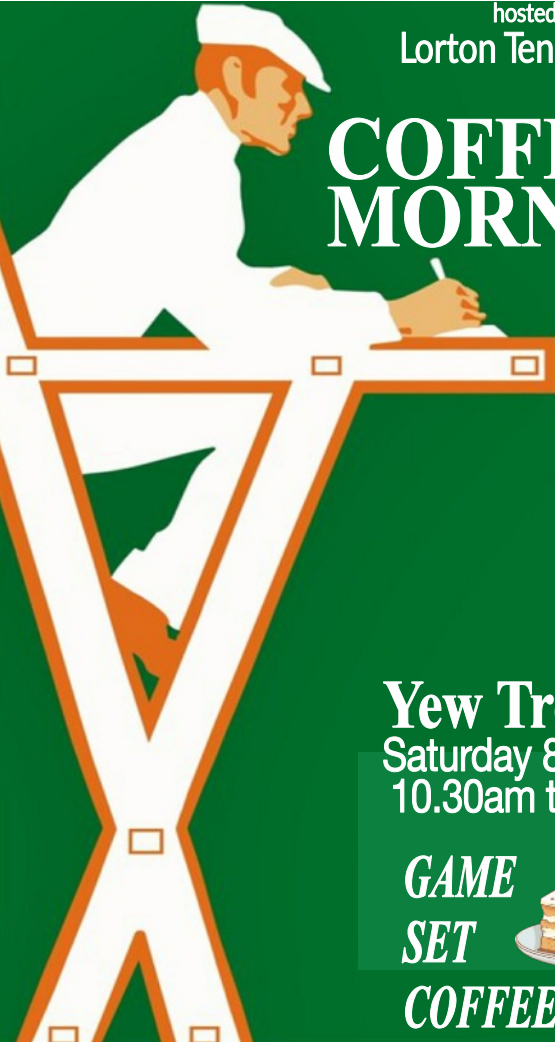
hosted by
Lorton Tennis Club

COFFEE MORNING

£4

Yew Tree Hall
Saturday 8th August
10.30am to 12noon

GAME SET COFFEE & CAKE



A Melbreak Communities Event



Calling young people!

Are you a young person who needs support for an educational project, materials or experience? The Melbreak Communities have grants of £200 a year to help students with such things as travel, college/university resources, musical instrument, training, arts projects etc. Contact Debbie Watson beech.lane35@yahoo.co.uk to discuss.



The 17th Cockermouth LIVE! returns in July promising to be bigger and even better than ever ! Running from Thursday July 2nd to Sunday July 5th there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

It's an eclectic mix of ticketed music this year, ranging from [Yoko Pwno](#), a Scottish 7 piece who mix traditional styles with soundscapes reminiscent of dub reggae; jazz supremos [The Snake Davis Band](#) full of saxes, flutes and whistles; [The Paramount Brass Quintet](#) in collaboration with Cockermouth Music Society ; and we welcome back the brilliant [Sam Millne and the Virants](#) !

But Cockermouth LIVE! 2026 will, as ever, mainly be about free events for everyone with local performers. Following on from the successful expansion of the festival last year, there will again be more space for slightly longer sets and more time to perform. There also promises to be a number of new venues across town taking part, a Blues night special tie-in with Cockermouth School and pop up events right around town.

There will also be The Mechanics' concert picnic at the Castle as well as Cockermouth Community Orchestra's annual festival finale at Christ Church on Sunday evening. We will update plans as they emerge and will put out regular messages as performances are confirmed. Sunshine is already booked !

Finally. We need all the support we can get to make this fantastic, accessible town event happen. You can now become a Friend of Cockermouth LIVE! to support us – all details [here](#).

Tom Speight

Chair, Cockermouth Live!

www.cockermouthfestival.org



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Nature Notes - What do you call a lapwing?



Last month's article discussed plant names. Continuing the theme, this month we explore the wide variety of names given to that well-loved and easily-recognisable bird, the lapwing.

The lapwing is a wader in the plover family with striking black and white plumage, a wonderful iridescent green and purple back, a long, elegant crest and a distinctive piping call.

Lapwings often breed on farmland, and usually have a single nest with four eggs each year. One consequence of this breeding behaviour is that, in common with other waders like the curlew, their UK population is dropping rapidly as agricultural practice changes and predator numbers increase. There are now few, if any, breeding pairs of lapwings in our valley.

However this close association with rural communities had also led to a plethora of local and regional names for the lapwing. In fact, lapwings are thought to have more alternative names than any other UK bird species. These names typically reflect one or another of the lapwing's notable characteristics (although, interestingly, there do not seem to be any alternative names which relate to the bird's fine crest).

The dramatic aerial displays of the lapwing during the breeding season and their deep, flapping wing beats lead to the first group of names. The name 'lapwing' itself almost certainly references this flight behaviour, as does the scientific name *Vanellus Vanellus* which is derived from the Latin for 'little winnowing fan', and is thought to refer to the flapping sound which the wings make in flight. In Yorkshire, the bird is sometimes called a 'lappy' for the same reason.

Next there is the 'posh' name of 'green plover' which clearly relates to the back colouration. This name seems to be used more in East Anglia than in other areas.

But the widest variety of names reference the bird's distinctive call. The most common of these is 'peewit', which is in widespread use. Other alternatives include 'chewit' (Lancashire), 'piewipe' (Norfolk) and 'tewit' (North England & Scotland). Further alternatives from Scotland including 'teuchit' (used by Robert Burns in his writings), 'teeick' and 'teeoo' from Orkney, and the one which is definitely my favourite - 'peasiewheep'.

The close affinity between lapwings and humans is also shown by the place names which reference the bird. These include Tewit Tarn (near Threlkeld), Tewitfield (Carnforth, Lancashire), Pyewipe (near Grimsby), Tivetshall St Mary (Norfolk). You may well know of others.

So do enjoy these beautiful birds, whenever you see them, and whatever you call them. Because, to badly misquote the Bard, 'A lapwing by any other name is still as sweet'!

David Gardiner

Buttermere Camino - Saturday, 1st August

Calling all pilgrims!

Grasmoor Mission Community will be holding its annual mini Camino (pilgrimage) from St Cuthbert's, Lorton to St James, Buttermere, via St. Bartholomew's, Loweswater, on Saturday, 1st August.

Starting at Lorton church at 10am, there will be times for reflection and prayer along the way, with the option at the end, to join in a short Communion service. The walk is about 11 miles and we hope to arrive in Buttermere at 4pm. There will be an opportunity to join or leave the walk at Loweswater at 1pm.

We recommend sharing lifts, arranging pickups from Buttermere or leaving cars there, as the buses are likely to be busy. Please bring a packed lunch!

More information available at <https://www.poiema.community/buttermere-camino-2026/>

If you plan on coming, please e-mail Poiema Community at info@poiema.org.uk

BURROW



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Due to the nutrient pollution of river catchments in Cumbria, we are replacing septic tanks with modern treatment plants that cut down on phosphates. This ongoing upgrade project is being funded by local planning authorities, so you can have a positive impact on the environment, free of charge.



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The view of Grasmoor never disappoints, it always looks spectacular, I have shared some of the many photographs in the centre pages overleaf. As you can see it can be different any time of the day. I feel so lucky having such awe and wonder so close. Yesterday for instance there was a strip of mist hung across it, with the top of the mountain soaring far above it. It was a wonderful sight; I never get tired of it. Visitors to the valley often stop to take photographs I am sure it must be a new and incredible experience for them.

Our lives are also full of experiences, if we but care to recognise them. There is always a sense of freshness and discovery in every new place we visit and enjoy. There is also something lovely to discover in that which is familiar to us too. We must never allow life to be mundane and ordinary.

I had the privilege of sharing with a group of primary school children the sense of new experiences and adventure on a school outing to Allonby. Their visit had a science, history, geographical and mathematical content. Firstly, they combed the beach finding life in rock pools as well as a washed-up dogfish and another creature which we couldn't identify. It was a day of new discovery, a widening appreciation of nature. They also spotted articles on the beach which should not be there. After discussing how all these discarded elements can cause damage to the environment and sea life; they began the task of removing them. They filled twelve bin liners with plastic bottles, cans, gas lighters and canisters, rope, sweet packaging, a damaged football and many other discarded articles. They were so excited that they were doing something to protect the environment.



Many of us don't have the privilege of seeing life through the eyes of excited children, for whom the whole of life is a new adventure, but we can all find similar elements in life's experience. We can find these elements in the people we meet. Everyone of us is unique, each with our own individual needs and aspirations. The sharing of these is in itself an adventure in living.

There is also a sense of adventure and discovery in the way we express and live out our Christian faith. Being a Christian involves an ever-deepening appreciation of what God did for us in Jesus as well as what He is continually doing in creation. It is an adventure and a challenge, which we can all share in the sort of experience, achievement and the joy the children had on their day visit to Allonby.

To further illustrate this I include a photo of the Milky Way over Buttermere Church.

With every blessing
Barbara Robinson

**GRASMOOR PHOTOS (TAKEN
LOWESWATER/BUTTERWORTH)**



BY DAVID ROBINSON) TO CELEBRATE
ERMERE PATRONAL FESTIVALS





COMMUNITY LUNCH DATE in JULY

July 13th

**No Community
Lunch in AUGUST
as school on holiday**

Lunches held at Lorton School

Served promptly at 1.15pm. Everyone welcome

**Booking essential
call Helen on 07790 459064**

**All profits go to providing additional support
to the children at Lorton School**

Melbreak Communities Balsam Busters Come and Join us!



We are a local group formed this year to help tackle the invasive species Himalyan Balsam which is spreading rapidly in our valleys. This plant destabilises riverbanks and crowds out wild flowers that insects depend on. If you would like to join in, contact Debbie Watson beechnlane35@yahoo.co.uk. These are the dates for the season:

June Monday 29th

July Tuesday 7th Monday 13th Tuesday 21st Monday 27th

August Monday 3rd Monday 10th Monday 17th

Monday 24th

We meet 10am -3pm No experience needed, just bring enthusiasm! The more volunteers we have, the more difference we can make.



Obituary for Pat Williams by Sue Ralph

I first met Pat in the mid nineties, not long after we moved here. She was the organist at Lorton Church and every year she would get a choir together for the annual Benefice Carol Service. She would rehearse the choir for several weeks beforehand, giving them quite challenging music to learn. She was a very good musician and instinctively knew how the music should sound. After a year or two, she and I collaborated for the services and the choir grew and became much admired.

She had a passionate love of music, singing in the Cockermouth Harmonic Society and attending concerts in the area and beyond. She loved her annual visits to the Edinburgh Festival where she heard some of the world's most illustrious performers.

She was a driving force behind the establishment of the Cumbria Rural Choirs, a collection of singers from all over the county, which performed annually. She had a knack of persuading top conductors and orchestras to take part.

Her powers of persuasion resulted in arranging occasional Sunday afternoon concerts in Lorton Church involving top class players from the Northern Sinfonia, who seemed to enjoy the informal atmosphere, excellent acoustic and lunchtime hospitality at local people's homes.

Pat was a lover of good food and a fine cook. A meal at her house, whether a light lunch or a full meal was always special. She would provide casual visitors with home made cake and biscuits even when she became frail, and would apologise profusely if she had not been able to.

She loved France and the French language. Being fluent in French she enjoyed being a translator on the Cockermouth Harmonics trip to Marvejols. She was a bit annoyed that another choir member was also a French speaker which caused a bit of rivalry.

Pat loved her garden, which was beautifully simple and colourful.

She had a delightful sense of humour and enjoyed talking in franglais. A recipe for fruit cake given to Elly read 'ruffly chop beurre'. 'Gaelic Blessing' became 'Garlic Dressing', and her tree peony was nicknamed 'blowsy Araminta'.

Though she could at times be a bit prickly and ruffle feathers, she was extremely kind and generous.

Her gradual and then complete loss of hearing was a devastating blow to her. Music was such a huge part of her life and all she could hear of it was cacophony. But she never complained and filled her life with other interests, particularly reading. Finally though she was unable to see so couldn't even read the TV subtitles.

She was very proud of her family, and spent her last years living with James and his partner Kate, who provided her with a loving, comfortable home. And fine food!

COCKERMOUTH HARMONIC SINGERS

The Golden Age – Concert 18 July 2026

Composers including Vaughan Williams, Parry, Holst and Howells were writing wonderful choral music at the beginning of the twentieth century. This has come to be known as the golden age of British choral music.

Ian Wright will be presenting a concert of golden age songs featuring Cockermouth Harmonic Singers and the Throstle Ensemble. The music, including Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*, varies from spiritual to stirring, but is always very listenable.

The concert starts at 7.30pm on Saturday 18 July 2026, and takes place at Christ Church, Sullart Street, Cockermouth.

Suitable for all the family, tickets will cost £16, with accompanied u-16s free.

Tickets are available from Billy Bowman's music shop in Cockermouth, 01900 826708, or from choir members.

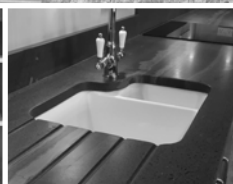
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2pm until 5pm**

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Loweswater and Brackenthwaite Show

HELP WANTED. The show is on Sunday 6th September and as ever we are looking for volunteers to help out with directing traffic on the gate.

If you are willing and able to help for an hour (or two) please contact Penny on 07766 888102. If I don't answer, do leave a message. Please leave name and number so I can get back to you. Or email penny.lecksta@gmail.com

Penny

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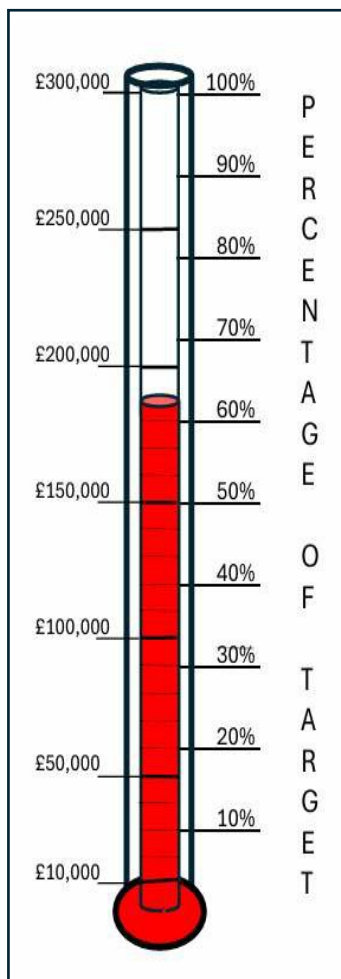
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YEW TREE HALL COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING!

Having recently received planning permission and listed building consent for transformational improvements to Yew Tree Hall, the volunteers working on this project on behalf of the community, now need to secure further donations to make the project happen! Building upon the generosity of those who have already donated to support the project, we believe our community target of **£300,000** is realistic.



So, if you value Yew Tree Hall and want to play your part to ensure it's improved for the benefit of all, both now and in the future, please join our donors' group!

The more funding we have, the more comprehensive the improvement scheme will be. Let's aim to make our village hall the best we can possibly achieve. Your donation really counts.

Some examples of what your donations could provide:

- £100** - 1.5 hours of a surveyor's time
- £500** - new upstairs toilet
- £1,000** - half the cost of an electric ceiling mounted projector screen
- £3,000** - painting of the main hall ceiling
- £5,000** - acoustic panels
- £5,000** - accessible ground floor toilet
- £8,000** - external platform lift
- £10,000** - a new kitchen
- £10,000** - new heating in the main hall

Thank you everyone – we can do it!

You can donate by bank transfer to:
Yew Tree Hall Committee
Sort code 40-18-03 Account 81114794

PLEASE INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Penny's Piece

Most of us like to have a few days away now and again. However, I'm sure most of us have also had trips where those few days away are for an event. Might be a hen/ stag do, wedding or a catch up with a group of friends you haven't seen for a while. Ours was a 60th birthday celebration. In Marrakech! 72 hours of heat, food and general chaos. It all started at John Lennon Airport. Got to it and into the prebooked car park ok. Got cases dropped off fine. The fun started at security. I'm not sure what it says about the nearby population and their habits when going abroad, but it has never taken so long to get through security. Though my lesson learnt was, do not wear combat pants with metal press stud fastenings. I also had to remove my belt, shoes and watch. Then all the bags went down the other side of the glass and they scanned everything twice more. Some poor lady had her very small cabin case opened and her knickers started springing out like those comedy springs from a can. I was a little confused. Coming back into the country I could understand, but leaving? Marrakech airport by comparison is very nice. Then you step out into the world and the chaos begins. You cannot get currency until you get there so job one was get some cash. Then our friend met us and we had an interesting taxi ride to our Riad- I think it means house. There are mopeds everywhere. Not as bonkers as the Italians, as they do seem to stick to the correct side of the road and in the bike lane. The difference is how many are on the bikes. Whole families. Usually dad driving, mum holding a baby behind, toddler in front of dad. Mainly no helmet- but they are actually supposed to be worn so it will be hanging like a large bangle from the driver's wrist. Or, dad will wear it but no one else on the bike has a helmet. We arrived late on the first day of a 2-day Eid celebration. Luckily that meant I had missed the sights of earlier in the day of families with live, or dead sheep also hanging off mopeds. It was very hot but Eid meant it was a little quieter than normal as

many shops and stalls in the souks were closed. Fine by me. Once you've seen one silver trinket, you've seen them. The entrance to the Riad was a huge pair of double barn doors. My room was interesting. In the usual style all the rooms went around the outside of a square courtyard with a pool in the middle. My door was nicely carved but also looked like a barn door and was secured from either side with a large bolt. When going out, you padlocked it shut. There was also room under one corner of it for a small cat to get in, if it had wanted to. Thankfully there was also a thick curtain and air con. There was also a curtain covering a window next to the loo, which was next to the corridor. We had some interesting food and lots of mint tea. We went round gardens, souks and also took a trip into the mountains. Thankfully it was a little cooler here. It was however, like being in Ambleside. Rammed. Bad parking and sort of nonsense we are all too familiar with. There is a river flowing down from the snow melt and restaurants alongside it. In some places they put the tables in the river so you can really cool down. We then went for a meal in a Berber house. Berbers are one of the tribes that live in the mountains. We had the most beautiful lamb tagine. As it was a birthday, there were fancy meals at various places and then we came home. I am glad I went but I am not sure I need to go there again. I am not even sure I can explain why. It's just not for me.

By the time you are reading this, I will have taken 58, 7-year-olds to Lowther and then been with Y6 to London for 4 days. The itinerary is such that I will need a holiday to recovering to be at school to set off at 5am is not endearing me to the trip at all. My actual holiday will come in August when I'm off to Shetland and I am not on someone else's events timetable!

Hope you all have a lovely summer- hope the sun comes back. Let me know if you can help on the gates on Show-day. Penny

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Barbara Ibbertson Obituary

We have recently learnt that Barbara Ibbertson of Buttermere has passed away, joining her husband Malcolm who died back in 2019.

Malcolm and Barbara lived in The Old Vicarage in Buttermere from 1984 until 2019 when they sadly found it necessary to move away due to Barbara's ill health. They were both extremely happy during their time here in the valley and in a village that they loved deeply.

They made many good friends and were active members of both the Buttermere and the valley community. This included the church in Buttermere, the Loweswater 77 Club, the Les Girls walking group and, in its day, the Smiley Club which met at Hundeth Hill.

They will be fondly remembered by all who knew them. Our thanks to Jane Loudon, her daughter, for the information.

NOTES FROM ST BARTHOLOMEW'S AND ST JAMES'S

I am writing these notes as Eleanor is still poorly, we send our prayers and best wishes for a steady recovery.

Christian Aid week was an excellent success thanks to all.

St Bartholomew's Patronal Service is on August 23rd with our August Cream Teas on Sunday 30th. Hope to see everyone there, hopefully weather will be kind.

We have received Diocesan approval to repair the Wainwright window, which has been taken away for repair, and will be returned soon, approximately a month.

Summer is upon us, but the weather needs to warm up for vegetables to grow! The Loweswater Show is not far away, but let's enjoy the summer first!

Jan Collins-Webb



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Outdoor table tennis table – Parish field

The table on the parish field was very kindly donated to the village as a free-to-use facility. Yew Tree Hall table tennis club maintains it and keeps it supplied with bats and balls. Recently the table has been scratched and a sticky substance was all over the surface. Loose bark chippings were then strewn about on the table which stuck and made the table impossible to play on. Bats and especially table tennis balls, are frequently missing.

After a good clean, a new box being positioned on the underside of the table and more bats and balls being provided, the table is fully functional again. The provision of equipment is purely through the goodwill of the community but is not sustainable if bats and balls continually go missing. If we can all keep an eye on it and encourage people to only use it as a table tennis table, that would be very much appreciated. New bark chippings will be added soon by the Parish Council. Thank you. YTH TT Club and Lorton Parish Council

Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st June 2026

1st prize of £25	No 26	Carol Priestley
2nd prize of £10	No 94	Rex Hamilton
3rd prize of £5	No 92	Sue Ralph

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.

CHRISTIAN AID – THANK YOU

The final sum of £888.45.

Many thanks, to everyone who worked so hard and gave their time to deliver and collect and to all who donated so generously and with Gift-Aid it will be over £1000.00. An excellent result.

Jan Collins-Webb
Lorton Valley Organiser – 18.6.26

ECO CHURCH/ECO COMMUNITY UPDATE

Eco Church have published an Eco Tips Calendar for 2026, here is what they suggest for July and August;

JULY

It's Plastic Free July and this year we're thinking about laundry, a top source of microplastic pollution. Fibres from synthetic lothes (polyester, nylon, and acrylic for example) shed tiny fibres during washing and drying. These enter the sewage systems and are hard to filter out. Use a microfibre bag or ball to catch the fibres. Learn more about reducing plastic pollution in the laundry process at plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do/plastic-free-laundry/ and more about this year's campaign at plasticfreejuly.org.

AUGUST

Looking after wildlife in the heat. Times of drought and dryness can be dangerous for wildlife. Provide water for birds and insects - put a dish of water out to help wildlife stay hydrated. Insects, small mammals, birds, and even badgers, foxes, and deer could benefit. A stone in a plant saucer helps bees to perch and drink without drowning. These small actions make a big difference and are just some of the ways we can live out our calling to care for God's creation. See our blog on looking after wildlife in the heat for more warm weather eco tips: arocha.org.uk/looking-afterwildlife-in-the-heat/.

Watch out in September for a report about a Nature Networking day that Rosemary attended along with a number of interested people from Cumbrian churches who aim to make their church yards more wildlife friendly.

Loweswater Ladies June Report

On 31st May we held our Annual Cream Teas in the Village Hall. On a pleasant Sunday afternoon, we welcomed locals and visitors to enjoy an array of delicious cakes and sweet treats. Thank you to all who attended and, especially the bakers, who contributed to another successful event.

Our June meeting was the "Summer Walk and Buffet Supper". The group was blessed with a glorious evening to share a walk together into Mosedale, Flass Wood and

Low Park. Afterwards, the walkers joined the non-walkers in the Village Hall for the "Bring a Plate" supper and lively chat. Thank you, Ladies, for the tasty and varied food!

The July meeting is the "Summer Outing" to Derwentwater and Theatre by the Lake. Arrangements have been finalised but if you have any queries, please contact Jenny on 85980.

DIARY DATES

JULY

- 1 Wed Lorton Parish Council, 7.30pm YTH
- 2 Thu Cockermouth Live - till Sunday 5th
- 2 Thu Loweswater Parish Council meeting 7.30pm Loweswater village Hall
- 6 Mon YTH AGM, 7pm, YTH, Lorton
- 11 Sat Coffee Morning, YTH 10.30 -12.00 . Hosted by Lorton Table Tennis Club. (See Poster)
- 13 Mon Community Lunch at Lorton School. Booking essential please see poster..

AUG

- 1 Sat Buttermere Camio and Pilgrimage, starting from St Cuthbert's, Lorton at 10am
- 8 Sat Coffee Morning at YTH. 10.30-12.00. Hosted by Lorton Tennis Club. (See Poster)
- 30 Sun Cream Teas, LVH, 2-5pm - see poster

SEPT

- 2 Wed Lorton Parish Council meeting 7.30pm YTH
- 3 Thu Loweswater Parish Council meeting 7.30pm Loweswater village Hall
- 9 Wed Loweswater Ladies - LVH 7:15pm - Seated Curling
- 17 Thu Crafternoon - LVH 2-4pm. All welcome.
- 6 Sun Loweswater and Brackenthwaite Show
- 10 Thu In Search of Arctic Wonders: Cumbria and the Arctic in the 18th & 19th Centuries, with Dr Rob David L&DFLHS, 7.30 pm, YTH

VARIOUS BALSAM BASHING DATES - SEE POSTER ON PAGE 16

Please note that Table Tennis takes place in YTH every Wednesday from 7-9p.m. unless otherwise notified. There are Keep Fit sessions in LVH every Monday 9.00-10.00a.m and every Friday 5.30-6.30p.m. These will not be listed every month in Diary Dates but can be found on the Melbreak

Communities diary page - www.melbreakcommunities.org.uk

WHEN ATTENDING EVENTS AT THE YEW TREE HALL PLEASE ENSURE YOU PARK RESPONSIBLY

Deadline for September is Friday 21st August all articles, photos (especially for the front cover), funny stories, letters to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date. Thank you

If you are reading this copy second hand and wish to have your own individual copy delivered on the day of publication, please contact Ian Smith on his email:- isumisu@gmail.com and he will arrange payment and delivery.

The United Benefice of Lorton and Loweswater with Buttermere

July/August 2026

5 th July 10.30am	Trinity 5 Holy Communion	Loweswater
12 th July 10.30am	Trinity 6 Holy Communion	Lorton
19 th July 10.30am 6pm	Trinity 7 Matins Holy Communion	Loweswater Buttermere
26 th July 10.30am 6pm	Trinity 8 Holy Communion Patronal Festival	Lorton Buttermere
1 st August (SAT) 4pm	Buttermere Camino and Pilgrimage Service and Patronal Festival	Buttermere*
2 nd August 10.30am	Trinity 9 Holy Communion	Loweswater
9 th August 10.30am 6pm	Trinity 10 Morning Service Holy Communion	Lorton Buttermere
16 th August 10.30am	Trinity 11 Holy Communion	Loweswater
23 rd August 10.30am 6pm	Trinity 12 Holy Communion & Patronal Festival Evensong	Loweswater** Buttermere
30 th August 10.30am	Trinity 13 Holy Communion	Lorton**

* See poster on page 12 for further details

**Note change to normal pattern of services

Service information for the Grasmoor Mission Community and news of other events is published weekly on a Friday in our Staying Connected news sheet. The sheet is available on the GMC website or if you would like it sent directly to your inbox please email Sue Lake on gmcoffice@grasmoormc.church with your request. Services are also advertised two weeks ahead on the GMC website: grasmoormc.church/stayingconnected. Lois, the Community Chaplain, can be contacted on community.chaplain.gmc@gmail.com, and weddings etc can be booked through Sue Lake.