NOVEMBER 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



Producing the Link this month has been even more of a challenge than usual because at 11.18 on Sunday morning we suffered a power cut courtesy of the latest storm, and have been without power ever since, which means the battery on the laptop went flat, and in any case I had no Internet. It is now 1500 on Monday and I am down at my friends Lois and Tim's place in High Lorton piggy backing off their Internet. It also means I have a new, but temporary, sub-editor in the shape of their cat, Oz - take a bow Oz. He is very interested in the 'mouse'. It has all been rather stressful so I apologise in advance for any mistakes that have slipped in.

As usual there is a lot going on in the valley. Socially we have the following events - great news that the Malthouse Club Friday Social is starting again, there is another Film Night, at LVH there is an Evening of rock featuring the music of Queen - go along and have a bop, David Robinson is advertising the ever-popular Wine Tasting and there is advance warning of another Local Night at The Kirkstile.

The local clubs and societies are busy as well, the 77 Club has a talk about the Air Ambulance Service, there is a Melbreak Wildlife Group talk about Wild Ennerdale, a Local History Society lecture about slate quarrying and you can find out all about weeds at the Garden Club talk.

We have an article about Rannerdale Covids and the Melbreak Group have set the dates for the next series of Crafternoons.

We also have information about gift ideas for Christmas. Roger Hiley has once again created his calendar in aid of Mountain Rescue and St Cuthbert's has produced another of their calendars featuring photos from the valley. In a new departure this year the Calendar is raising money both for St Cuthbert's and for Linking Lives. I do hope you will support all of these worthy causes.

Rosemary Riley

Front page image of a *Ghost Owl* hunting over Crummock valley this summer taken by John Macfarlane as part of the very successful MELBREAK BARN OWL GROUP. MBOG works with residents and landowners to encourage barn owl recovery in our area with advice, education and help with owl box supply and placement.

Vicar's Letter

November is a month in which we think about legacies. Not the monetary kind that we may choose to leave in our wills but the legacy of human lives, our own and other people's. What do we hope our legacy will be? What are we grateful for that others have left as a legacy to us? There's wisdom in giving thought to this while we have time.

November 1st is All Saints' Day, when we give thanks for those who have left us a legacy of faith, both those whose stories we know and those whose good deeds are known only to God. The following day 2nd November is All Souls' Day when we give thanks for those who have left us a legacy of love, our departed friends and family members. Then on 11th November we give thanks for those who have left us a legacy of peace, the fallen of two World Wars and of other conflicts since then. All these will be marked by special services across the Grasmoor Mission Community during November.

Another way to leave a legacy is by making a donation to a charity or other good cause. A huge thank you to all of you who have generously donated to the Buttermere Church Restoration Appeal. A leaflet about this was included with your October Link or you can find the same information on the Appeal webpage here Buttermere Church Restoration Appeal – Grasmoor Mission Community. So far, we have raised around £17,000 from local donors which has enabled us to pay for some much-needed repairs to the windows. Do admire the refurbished 'Wainwright Window' when you are next in Buttermere Church. We're also hoping to secure a big grant from one of the major grant making bodies but competition for these is fierce at the moment. One very special way of leaving a legacy is to 'donate a slate' as a permanent tribute to a loved one whose name and your message will be inscribed in a dedicated book of remembrance. A slate might even make a Christmas present with a difference for someone who cherishes our little church.

A favourite bible verse of mine from Matthew chapter 6 has this to say about legacies. 'Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'

With God's blessing.

Jane Charman
Grasmoor Mission Community Leader

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



S MCADAM GARDEN SERVICES
Independent business offering a quality gardening service in and around Cockermouth, Lorton Vale and Keswick

Grass Cutting – Lawn Care – Turf – Artificial Grass - Fencing – Landscaping – Hedge Cutting – Pruning - Planting - pressure washing and re-sanding

Tel/Whatsapp: 07864860720
Email: mcadamgardenservices@gmail.com
Facebook: S McAdam Garden Services

LOWESWATER 77 CLUB

We opened our 50th year with an excellent talk from Mark Hatton about "How Elizabethan Miners of Keswick changed the world". They were organised by the Mines Royal, the first Joint Stock Company in Britain, which introduced capitalism and the Stock Market to a rapidly expanding commercial and industrial Britain. He outlined how Lakeland Copper was important in the English Navy in their battles with Spain and in the trading ships of Drake and Walter Raleigh. It also found practical use as carding wire for the wool trade and as a constituent metal in brass and pewter, used for cooking pans and dishes. He also added some local Loweswater and Buttermere mining stories to his talk, that were new to our ears.

You can always tell a good speaker by the quietness in the room and the many interesting questions that followed his illustrated talk. Everyone commented to me how good the evening was and so when he gets to speaks in Lorton in a few weeks time you will all be in for a treat.

Our next Club Event on November 17th in the Hall, will be a talk about the Great North Air Ambulance (see poster). It is an important time for them, as they are fundraising for a new helicopter. The charitable organisation is supported by mainly by voluntary contributions, as they receive no direct funding from the NHS despite the essential work they carry out in rural areas like ours. Do come along and show your support and be entertained at the same time, 7.30pm on the 17th November. Refreshments and chat available afterwards.

Tuesday 17th November

Great North Air Ambulance Service

an illustrated Talk

GREAT NORTH AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

Loweswater Village Hall at 7.30pm

This essential service, a registered charity operating from a base in Langwathby near Penrith, receives **no** NHS funding'.

Raffle proceeds towards new helicopter fund.

Raffle gifts accepted on the night.

Refreshments, Bar and Raffle after the Talk

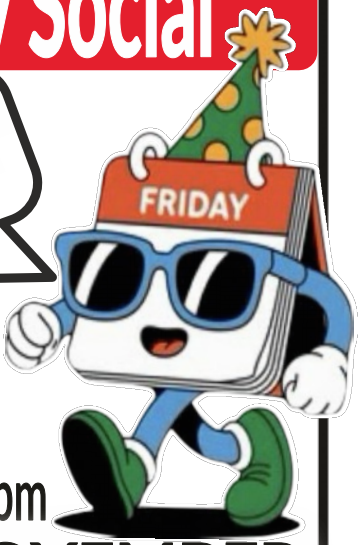
Members Free
Visitors £5



The Malthouse Club

Fabulous Friday Social

High quality banter, games, snacks, barrel of laughs and drinks for every mood



Yew Tree Hall 6.30-9.00pm

FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER



We're back!

Free Entry
All Welcome



'Make it a date- last Friday of every month'

please park responsibly

CUMBERLAND STOVE SERVICES

- Stove and Fireplace Installation
- Flue Lining
- Chimney Sweeping
- Stove Maintenance and Repair
- FREE NO OBLIGATION SURVEY AND ESTIMATE

Email: enquiries@cumberlandstoveservices.co.uk
Tel: 01900 268737 Mob: 07702112406

HETAS

YEW TREE HALL Film Club £6

Everyone Welcome - just come along



SORRY WE MISSED YOU

Friday
20th Nov
Bar opens 7pm
Film Start 7.30pm

Filmed around Newcastle, Ken Loach's superb swipe at zero-hours Britain.

eden arts · Film Hub North · BFI FAN BFI FILM AUDIENCE NETWORK · ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND · Westmorland & Furness Council

Get Ready for Winter!

If you have a digital landline phone in your house it will not work in the event of a power cut.

Many households in the valley have been, or are in the process of being, converted to digital; it will come to us all eventually.

It doesn't matter if you have a new fibre connection or still have the original wired phone line, it still won't work.

If you have a good mobile phone signal then this may not be a problem.

For those with a poor signal or none at all you will need to consider how important it is to have a phone available. One option is to buy a battery backup system (or UPS) to keep your land line phone going.

An example of a suitable battery backup is this unit from Amazon.

SKE 625VA/360W UPS Battery Backup & Surge Protector UPS Battery Backup Unit.

Many other retailers stock similar units.

This article is not sponsored by Amazon.

I only use it because Amazon is familiar to many.

Steve Irlam
Melbreak Communities Emergency Plan Coordinator
steveirlam@gmail.com





Size A3, 12 full colour pictures, plus space for notes or appointments

It's that time of year again . . .

Yes ... the world famous

Loweswatercam Calendar

is now on sale .

Let it adorn your kitchen wall,
keep track of your appointments and provide a hard copy backup of of your phone diary.
May it also remind you of the beauty of home.

Remember, you can also send it to family and friends
so they can do the same.

On sale from myself at
www.loweswatercam.co.uk/2026_Calendar_Offer.htm
or from Lee and Arwen at the Lorton Shop.

£ 12.50p delivered free locally.
Add postage for UK or worldwide delivery.

STRUGGLING TO SWITCH OFF?



Take time to look after yourself. Improve your wellbeing, recharge, refocus.

Meditation tailored for you.

FREE initial 30 minute consultation.

Dr Lucy Hughes
Qualified Meditation Teacher
British School of Meditation.

Email: meditation@sciarts.co.uk

JARDINE TREE CARE

Email: jardinetreecare@gmail.com
Tel: 07949817280
Web: www.jardinetreecare.co.uk

Free quotations.
Fully qualified and insured with 8 years of experience.

Services:
Hedge trimming, reductions and removals. Tree pruning, reductions and removals. Chipping.

Loweswater
VILLAGE HALL

By popular demand we are delighted to welcome back

Cath & Emma

For an

Evening of Rock

Including the music of

Queen

Friday November 20th at 7.30

Tickets £5 and **Sausage Baps** for the interval,



to be ordered in advance, **£4**

Licensed Bar & Refreshments



There will be a competition for the best Queen-themed outfit

(Bring your own air guitar, chevron moustache and upright vacuum!)

To book your tickets and sausage baps, please contact Lyn Furniss on 07970 218239 or alloyslyn@btinternet.com

loweswatervillagehall.co.uk

Charity Number 526856

Nature Notes – Rannerdale Corvids



I was woken up this morning by a loud tapping on a downstairs window. It isn't an unusual occurrence – same bird and generally the same window. The culprit is a Carrion Crow which has been arguing with our windows since December 2022. That means it's at least 4 years old, which is its typical life expectancy, but the maximum age recorded is nearly 21 years so we may be in it for the long-haul.

The RSPB describes it as "*one of the cleverest, most adaptable of our birds*". Which would explain why it worked out how to wrench nails out of the wood we'd put across the window-sill to try and stop it perching there. And pull off the CDs that we hung in another attempt to keep it away. And learned to ignore the movement sensitive light we installed. Elsewhere they've dropped nuts onto roads and waited for cars to drive over them to crack open the shell.

Our area provides plenty of food and they're very adaptable. As well as carrion they eat seeds and fruits, eggs and young birds (more vandalism – we usually find a few nests on the ground each spring which they've pulled out of trees and bushes). Numbers increased from the early 1970s but are fairly stable now.

Most of the year they're relatively solitary but can be seen in small groups, as ours is after its morning exercise on our windows. All corvids become a bit more sociable as the weather gets cooler, and there's already a mixed flock around the Cinderdale area tearing up grass looking for grubs and larvae. I haven't seen any of the resident Rannerdale Ravens joining in. Rannerdale is named after Ravens – Ranner is derived from a Norse word meaning a hut or mountain pasture frequented by ravens, and Dale comes from the Norse word for valley. Their 'kronk-kronk' call is a familiar sound in the area; they fly quite high, soaring and swooping, and apparently sometimes flip upside down with closed wings, just for fun. They're about the size of a buzzard so fairly easy to spot.

Harriet Fear Davies
Melbreak Wildlife Group / Co-ordinator of Melbreak Barn Owl Group (MBOG)

ST CUTHBERT'S BEECH TREE UPDATE

Following on from the update in the last Link, St Cuthbert's PCC has been considering the balance of risk in retaining or felling the beech tree near the road at St Cuthbert's.

We have met with the Arborialist, at the church this week to review the proposed work, and have now instructed him to undertake the recommended crown reduction and bracing as soon as possible, ideally before Christmas, Our reasoning is as follows:

- We are satisfied that, as much as is possible, we have sought the view of appropriately qualified professionals in our assessment of the balance of risk. We are advised that retention is the most appropriate way forward by an Arborialist, and that another Arborialist agreed with the proposal.
- Felling the tree would be both challenging and expensive and we believe would be unpopular with locals, the Arborialist himself and the Lake District National Park




COMMUNITY
£8.00
LUNCH
Served promptly at 1.15pm.
Monday Nov. 9 th
At Lorton School
Booking essential
call Helen on 07790 459064


BURROW
Septic Tank Owner?
Fully funded upgrades are now available in Cumbria
Register your interest online today!
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.
01768 428 000
burrow-environmental.com

ECO CHURCH/ECO COMMUNITY UPDATE

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

As winter creeps in, homes are really important. God calls us to give nature a home, too. Does your garden have a bird feeder? Could your balcony or windowsill do with some plant life? If you don't own the house you could make a case to the homeowner for a bird box, hedgehog highway or whatever. (For a hedgehog highway do make sure the neighbours are OK with you making a small hole in a shared fence). Why not gather your housemates, friends and family to discuss how a new recycling, heating or transport arrangement might work for you all - you'll go further together!

Experienced installers of Renewable Energy Systems.

Border Hydro

Over 30 years experience in design and installing grid & off-grid systems.





MCS Accredited Installers

RECC RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSUMER CODE

Trading Standards Approved TRUSTMARK

APPROVED INSTALLER MCS CERTIFIED NAPIT

Border Hydro Ltd,
Armaside Farm
Lorton
Cockermouth
Cumbria
CA13 9TL

www.borderhydro.co.uk **Tel: 01900 85616**

email: emma@borderhydro.co.uk

LORTON NOTES

Our Harvest Festival and Harvest lunch took place on Sunday the 9th October., with speedy turnaround to get the Tattie pots, apple pies and crumbles up to the Yew Tree Hall in time for our Harvest Lunch at 1p.m. We had nearly 40 guests. The lunch was followed by the ever-popular auction of Produce, with Keith as usual being a superb auctioneer. As well as all those who donated gifts of produce we'd like to thank local businesses/individuals that were kind enough to supply lots for our auction:

Braces of pheasants from Terrace Farm
Bags of smokeless fuel from Nicholsons
Dumpy bag of logs from Lakes Wood Fuels
Mixed meat box from the Cumbria Farmers Farm Shop
Mike Jacques Recipe Book - Fairfield Kitchen

We raised £744 which has been split equally between Cockermouth Mountain Rescue and the Bishop's Harvest Appeal .

Please make a note of the Remembrance Sunday Service on 9th November at 10.30 - as usual Clive Barnard will be there playing the bugle. This is always a very moving service.

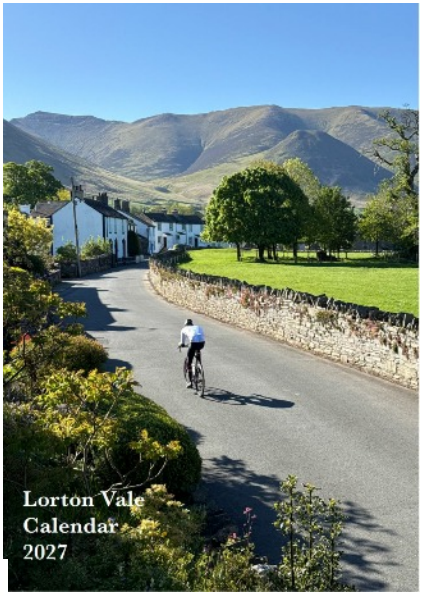
As we begin the lead up to Advent and Christmas I'd like to draw your attention not only to the FOLS/St Cuthbert's Christmas Fair - see the enclosed flyer - but also the joint Coffee Morning with FOLS (see page 4) when we will be taking orders for the Lorton Vale Calendar. - See overleaf for more details, selling Christmas Raffle tickets and Christmas cards - here are two of the designs to whet your appetite





ORDER YOUR COPY(IES) OF THE LORTON VALE CALENDAR

The ever-popular Lorton Vale calendar has now been finalised and has gone to the printer. A preview copy will be available to view at our Coffee Morning on the 14th October. Also at the Linking Lives Stand in the Liberty Café at the United Reform Church, Main Street at the Cockermouth Lights Switch on Sunday 22nd November 2026 but you can also place your orders now by emailing the Link email address (lortonvalelink@gmail.com). In a new departure this year we are raising funds for Linking Lives as well as St Cuthbert's. To whet your appetite here are some pictures from the calendar, including the cover.





Rush hour in Rogerscale

Our own Dick Smith causing a Rogerscale rush hour (although unusually he is in 2nd place),



Rannerdale bluebells below Whiteless Pike

and our well-loved Rannerdale Bluebells

AND VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE NEWCOMER TO THE LORTON VALE CALENDAR

In an attempt to attract some new photographers to contribute to the calendar we offered a prize for the best, newcomer and here they are.

Please vote for your favourite by again emailing the Link email address (lortonvalelink@gmail.com) with either the word One, Two or Three, no later than 20th November. The winner will be announced at the Christmas Fair.

One



Two



Three





NOTES FROM ST BARTHOLOMEW'S AND ST JAMES'S

October has been an unusually mild month but as I write storms Austen and Boelo are due over the weekend. Autumn has really arrived.

We are now in All Saints' tide when we think of our own Saints' dedications celebrated in our 2 churches over the year. This year we keep All Souls' Day on 1st November in Buttermere church at 3pm, a reflective service of remembrance. This is our annual occasion to remember our loved ones, family and friends who we no longer see but remain precious in our hearts. Their names are read out in church. We extend a warm welcome to all.

Towards the end of the month we prepare for Advent the start of the church year a time of waiting in joyful expectation for the birth of Christ.

The church looked splendid for our Harvest Festival in Loweswater - thanks to all who helped with the decorating. The ensuing tatie pot supper was enjoyed by over 40 people. This year we made our own tatie pots to maximise profits and raised over £600 to share between the Bishop's Appeal and our churches. We are grateful to Andy Burr for his brisk and amusing auctioneering.







It is good to have Lorna and Keith back with us after their "extended stay" in Istanbul.

Eleanor Ella

St.Bartholomew's register
Baptism
18th October Sylvie Mary Modell
Funeral
23rd October Nina Wallace

Loweswater Ladies October Report

On Wednesday Oct 14th Loweswater Ladies plus 8 guests were privileged to listen to a talk given by one of our own. Harriet Fear Davies gave us an insight into her journey from journalism to entering the world of law in 2007. She described how she overcame not having the obvious requirement of a law degree but with determination was able to find another, little known, way of studying for the Bar. Harriet applied for a certificate of Academic Standing which was duly issued. Harriet went on to give us a brief history into the meaning of "the Bar" and other facts pertaining to the 4 Inns of Court and how they worked, also the difference between a barrister and a solicitor. After donning her robe and wig Harriet explained the significance of certain aspects of the history and symbolism behind the collar and bands, the wig (patented in 1822) and the pocket found on the back of the heavy robe. Even the bag that the robe came in had significance.

Harriet then described her work in the civil courts and entertained us with recollections of some of the characters and cases she had dealt with culminating with a long drawn-out case after which she hung up her wig. All in all it was an incredibly interesting and educational evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by all those present. Our thanks go wholeheartedly to Harriet.

The next meeting is Wednesday November 11th which will be about Linking Lives in Cockermouth. A date for the diary is our Christmas meal is at Hundith Hill on Wednesday Dec 9th at 6:30pm for 7:00 pm. All names and menu choices need to be available for our meeting in November.

Jenny Burr



New Year's Eve Party at Yew Tree Hall



ALMOST SOLD OUT

Please contact Nige for last remaining tickets

Tel: 07827 338834

- EV charger installations
- Testing & Certification (EICRs)
- Fuse board changes
- Home batteries
- Solar panels

TIM IRLAM ELECTRICAL

Tim Irlam

07806 656650

ti.electricalltd@gmail.com

/timirlamelectrical /ti.electrical

NAPIT Approved Electrician

Penny's Piece

Missing in action: one, half-tub of drawing pins (mug sized diameter tub, 5cm deep). I accidentally left them under the noticeboard at the old school hall in Buttermere when I was putting up Arts out West posters at the end of August- forgot to put it in last month's edition. If anyone in Buttermere took pity on them and took them in, I would like them back please as they are far better than the ones, I bought to replace them!

Autumn tv is well underway- there may be spoilers, you have been warned. My first thought on a sketch with Josh on Strictly's movie week was: that is a very poor demonstration on how to use an inhaler. This is because we have mandatory training now on the use of auto-injectors for anaphylaxis and asthma inhalers. Poor technique. Then there was Richard E. Grant on Celebrity Traitors. A few years ago, I read his book Pocket Full of Happiness and I have to say that everything I have seen him on since the passing of his wife, he does appear to be finding the happiness in everything. Just a shame his absolute glee at being selected as a traitor, clouded his judgement and made him open his mouth and drop himself right in it. On the flip side his series about the Odessey was very interesting.

Road roulette has continued for another month, but in different places. First there was the challenge of getting home. I had thought it was bad when Mockerkin was closed off and there was no access round Lamplugh Church. Oh, little did we know! For those that have missed it, the road resurfacing from Thackthwaite road end to Scale Hill has been farcical. On day one, they closed the road 1 metre passed Maggie's Lonning, from my end, with a diversion. . . down the lonning to the lake! Even if you miraculously managed to get round the back of the lake, that takes you back the way you came. Clearly no one looked at a map. Neither did they drive the route of the diversion. Mainly because there isn't one. They clearly do not know there are closures at the Mockerkin end of things- probably because that's the water company not the road crew. Blows my mind how shambolic the whole thing is. They seem so unfussed about it too. They have mastered the 'Keep calm and carry on' mantra with ease. I also made the mistake of trying to go to Workington one weekend. Drive from Ullock to Branthwaite? Can't let you do that. And that was before getting into Workington, which, to be fair was a lot better.

What do you know about the crumhorn? For those of you who don't know (I didn't either until Sophie from the Arts out West act told us) is a reed instrument that is bent up at the bottom in a crook/ hook shape. We were asked why we thought it looked like that and after a bit of chat, were told it was simply to look cool. I still think it was so you can fit it into a shorter carry case.

Newcastle was my destination last weekend for a friend's Hen do. The hotel was good. The glass fusing workshop was good too. A different craft to try and rather tricky. I am not sure it is for me. I had great ideas but then lacked the skill to make it. Or to put it another way: if you want to make it easier for yourself when working with glass, stick to straight (ish) lines! I see there is an Xmas fused glass session at the Kirkgate at the start of the month if you feel brave.

By the time you read this, I will have been to the long-awaited wedding of a school friend. What I will have worn remains to be seen. I ordered 2 dresses from different places but have yet to receive either because they are being delivered by Evri. Many of you know this fact spells disaster. One dress I'm not overly worried about as it was only £25 quid but the other is from Phase Eight so is considerably more. I do not want to find it flung in a bush and especially not after the wedding! I am currently in limbo and unsure what to do. Do I wait and hope one of them arrives before the big day? Or do I go and buy a third frock- in person? I will wait until next weekend and then see.

The season of mellow fruitfulness is upon us. A bit of frost is always welcome by me as it usually means a sunny day. Penny.

Local's Night at Kirkstile Inn
In Aid of Cockermouth Mountain Rescue

6.30pm for 7pm on Tuesday 12th January 2027

3 Course Meal

Slow Roasted Breaded Pigs Cheek
Apple puree, pickled apple & watercress salad

*****

Tatie Pot
Pickled red cabbage

(A Vegetarian option is also available for starter and main course)

*****

Triple chocolate brownie
Double Jersey ice-cream, chocolate sauce

Complimentary glass of wine, beer or soft drink.

£20 per person / £10 per child. All of this will go to the appeal.
Please pay on arrival by cash or cheque only.

Booking essential. Please phone 01900 85219 or book at the bar. NO bookings will be taken before Tuesday 1st December. Please note that specific tables cannot be allocated.



Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st October 2026

1st prize of £25	No 52	Betty Coulthard
2nd prize of £10	No 23	Carol Priestley
3rd prize of £5	No 24	Carol Priestley

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.

Lorton Vale Gardening Club

talk by Elizabeth Woodcock



An RHS horticulturalist with training in regenerative agriculture and permaculture, a garden organic master composter. She lives in Cumbria with her daughter, dog and chickens.

A Wealth of Weeds



"If I had a mission in life, it would be this, to reach out to all who garden and show, explain, inspire, persuade why we all need to go back to basics in our gardens and re – search these relations for ourselves to discover why we must stop reaching for chemicals and poisons, broaden our minds, and embrace all of life".

(non members welcomed £4)

Thursday 12th November

Yew Tree Hall at 7.30pm please park responsible



Loweswater Village Hall

A very big thank you to everyone who joined us for the **Arts Out West** evening on October 2nd. **Sophie Matthews and Chris Green** delighted a full hall with their wide-ranging musical talent and their humour, in offering a fascinating history of music and song through the ages.

We have just submitted our preferences to **Art Out West** for the Spring round of performances, and will let you know our allocation as soon as we receive it.

On October 10th, we were pleased to host the month's **Melbreak Communities Coffee Morning**. The morning was a huge success. Our special thanks go to Rosamund and John Macfarlane for providing some wonderful photographic prints & cards, which were made available for sale, along with a fantastic raffle prize, all of which was accompanied by a video display of their photographic art. Thanks also to Stuart Medland and the Melbreak Communities Wildlife Group for joining us, to everyone who baked such a wonderful array of cakes, and, very importantly, to everyone who supported with their attendance. The event raised just short of £900 for Village Hall funds.

Our next event in the hall will be on **Friday November 20th**, when we are very pleased to welcome back, by very popular demand, **Cath & Emma**, with music from **Queen**. (Themed dress will be encouraged!). Tickets £5.

There will be a **licensed bar**, and **Sausage Baps**, (£4 - must be ordered in advance), will be available in the interval. For full booking details, please see the poster in this month's edition of the Link.

With Christmas fast approaching, we are delighted to **welcome all members of the community** to our **annual Christmas Gathering**, in the hall, on **Wednesday December 16th at 8.00pm**, where we will serve you with mulled wine, mince pies and other seasonal fayre. This will be preceded by carol singing around Loweswater village. Whether you have been carol singing or not, we will be delighted to see you. **There is no entry charge** – donations to the NSPCC are encouraged.



DÉCOR & DESIGN

Kate Pritchard

Quality Decorating and Interior Design
Bespoke Painted Kitchens and Furniture

Tel: 07989 773708

decoranddesign.kp@gmail.com

Find us on

Wine Tasting

7pm Friday 8th January 2027
Loweswater Village Hall
Finger buffet to accompany
Reservation required
£17 per ticket, available from
David Robinson
0190085234 david@loweswater.net



Proceeds to Loweswater and Buttermere churches

Melbreak Wildlife Group

presents

Wild Ennerdale

A talk by Gareth Browning MBE

Gareth is a founding partner of Wild Ennerdale. He will provide an overview and short history of the Wild Ennerdale Partnership, and then focus on a number of themes including reintroductions, water and woodlands.





7.30pm Thursday 26th November

Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton

£3.00 entry, tea/coffee and biscuits available before the talk.

All welcome!

www.melbreakcommunities.wordpress.com

The Melbreak Communities

The Melbreak Communities

CRAFTERNOON & CHAT

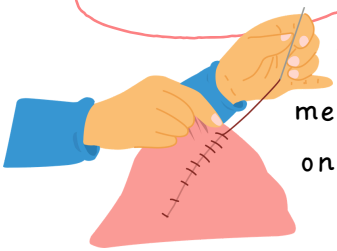
LOWESWATER VILLAGE HALL

THURS 19TH NOV

THURS 17TH DEC

2-4PM





Bring along a craft project, some mending or something you are working on.... Or just come along for the chat and cake !

£3 for tea, coffee and cake

Any questions please contact Harriet on hfdrann@gmail.com



Lakeland Slate Co.

Working with world famous

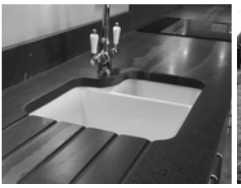
'Westmorland Green Slate'

Suppliers of:

Memorials • Worktops • Hearths
Nameplates • Homeware • Walling Stone
Quoins • Lintols • Sills

Unit 5, High Hill, Keswick • Shop, 9 Lake Road, Keswick
Tel: 017687 74695/75834 • Mob: 07950 642 298
www.lakelandslate.com info@lakelandslate.com




CUMBRIA FARMERS
REGIONAL FARM PRODUCE

Visit our Farm Shop for sustainable produce from local farmers & regional suppliers

Beef, Lamb, Pork, Venison
Seasonal vegetables, fruit and salad crops
Eggs, cheese and pantry staples

On the A66 at Low Netherscales Farm Embleton CA13 9YP
Saturdays 10am-1pm Wednesdays 3pm-5pm

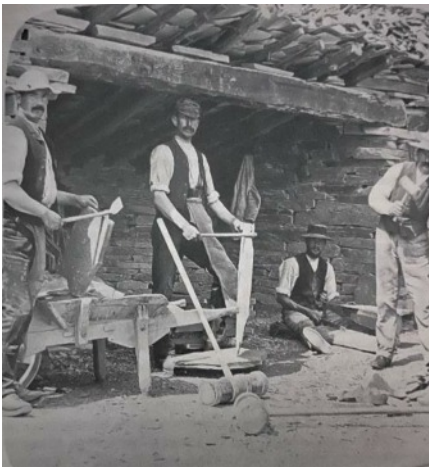


///clockwork.custodian.assorted
info@cumbriafarmers.co.uk

Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society

Thurs 19 November, 7.30 pm, YTH

A History of Slate Quarrying in The Lake District



Our next illustrated talk will be given by Mark Hatton, an industrial archaeologist of the Cumbria Amenity Trust Mining History Society, who is well known to our society. He will present the long history of the formation, quarrying and use of the Lake District's extensive slate deposits. It is an industry that shaped Cumbrian landscape and the lives of local people for centuries.

The demand for slate roofing expanded massively in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries with the growth of industrial towns in Northern England. The quarries spread over 200 sites with large scale slate workings around Coniston, Tilberthwaite, Honister, Borrowdale and Langdale with smaller workings elsewhere. They yielded millions of tonnes of highly-prized stone that were shaped into roofing slate by generations of miners. Slate was originally won by hand, with the use of gunpowder introduced from 1800.

We shall hear about the origins of the industry in Cumbria, the revolution brought by compressed air drills and the perils of working in slate quarrying. Mark Hatton points out that just 65 years ago more people worked in the Lake District's quarrying industries than worked in tourism.

All welcome, members free, visitors £4 incl. refreshments.

DIARY DATES

NOV

4	Wed	Lorton Parish Council meeting 7.30pm YTH
5	Thu	Loweswater Parish Council meeting 7.30pm Loweswater Village hall.
9	Mon	Community Lunch at Lorton School 1.15pm. Booking essential. See Poster
11	Wed	Loweswater Ladies - LVH 7:15pm - Linking Lives
12	Thu	Lorton Garden Club "A Wealth of Weeds" 7.30pm YTH Elizabeth Woodcock - see poster
14	Sat	FOLS & St Cuthbert's Coffee Morning, YTH, 10.30 - see poster
17	Tue	Loweswater 77 Club - Evening talk Air Ambulance LVH 7.30pm
19	Thu	Crafternoon - LVH 2-4pm. All welcome.
19	Thu	A History of Slate Quarrying in the Lake District, Mark Hatton, L&DFLHS, 7.30 pm, YTH
20	Fri	Kath and Emma sing Queen. LVH See poster for tickets.
20	Fri	Lorton Film Club YTH 'Sorry we missed you' Starts 7.30pm. Bar opens 7pm
26	Thu	'Wild Ennerdale' by Gareth Browning MBE. Melbreak Wildlife Group YTH 7.30 pm
27	Fri	Malthouse Club: Fabulous Friday Social . YTH 6.30 - 9.00pm. Yes we're back, all welcome.

DEC

12	Sat	Loweswater 77 Club - Christmas Party with "Sing Owt" LVH 2 pm
16	Wed	Loweswater NSPCC Carol Night- start LVH 6pm, refreshments LVH after from 8pm
17	Thu	Crafternoon - LVH 2-4pm. All welcome.
18	Fri	Lorton Film Club. 'A month in the Country'. Start 7.30pm. Bar opens 7pm
31	Thu	New Years Eve Party at YTH . See poster

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

The United Benefice of Lorton and Loweswater with Buttermere

November 2026

1st Nov	**All Saints' Day**	
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater
3pm	Evensong	Buttermere
8th Nov	**Remembrance Sunday**	
10.30am	Holy Communion & Remembrance Service	Lorton
15th Nov	**2 Before Advent**	
10.30am	Morning Prayer	Loweswater
3pm	Holy Communion	Buttermere
22nd Nov	**Christ the King**	
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton
29th Nov	**Advent 1**	
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater

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 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 Jane Charman on the GMC Admin Number - 07593 265593

Deadline for December/January is Friday 20th November - 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.