

**DEC 2017 & JAN 2018**



**THE UNITED BENEFICE OF LORTON AND  
LOWESWATER WITH BUTTERMERE**

## **DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER**

- 1 Fri Ceilidh at YTH from 7.00 pm. Music from Rascal Fayre  
6 Wed Lorton Gardening Club 7.30 pm YTH  
7 Thu Loweswater IT Group, 10.00 - 12.00 Damson Ghyll 01900 856  
8 Fri Film Night Ullock VH Viceroy's House  
8 Fri WineTasting at LVH 7 pm  
9 Sat 77 Club Christmas Party, 3pm, LVH  
9 Sat Coffee and Cakes 10.30-1200 YTH hosted by Lorton Afternoon Book Group  
9 Sat Quiz Night at YTH 7.30, Fundraiser for Lorton School  
10 Sun Mockerkin Mob Christmas Walk (A and B). Cogra Moss. 10am  
11 Mon Community Christmas Lunch, 1.15 pm Lorton School  
12 Tue YTH ~ 7.15 ~ Lorton W.I. ~ Christmas party  
12 Tue Loweswater Ladies Xmas Party, Hundith Hill 12:30 for 1 pm  
13 Wed Table Tennis, Christmas party, 7-10 pm, YTH  
15 Fri Youth Cafe Christmas Party, 7-9 pm YTH  
17 Sun An afternoon of story, song and active fun with Jeff Wallcock UVH  
18 Mon Carol Singing for NSPCC , Lorton 6 pm Tenter's Cottage  
19 Tues Mulled wine and minced pies with carols and raffle, 6-8 pm, YTH, £5 entry, all proceeds to Lorton Community First Responders.  
20 Wed Table Tennis, 7-9pm, YTH  
20 Wed Carol Singing for NSPCC , Low Lorton 6.30pm Croft View  
20 Wed Carol Singing for NSPCC , Mockerkin 6.30pm The Green  
21 Thu Carol Singing for NSPCC , Thwackthwaite, 6.30pm  
22 Fri Carol Singing for NSPCC , Buttermere 6.30pm Turner How  
27 Wed Table Tennis, 7-9pm, YTH

## **Diary Dates for January**

- 3 Wed Lorton Parish Council meeting, YTH, 19.30  
3 Wed Table Tennis, 7-9pm, YTH  
4 Thu Loweswater Parish Council meeting, LVH, 19.30  
8 Mon Community Lunch, 1.15pm, Lorton School  
9 Tue YTH ~ 7.15 ~ Lorton W.I. ~ Talk ~ Josiah Wedgwood ~ John Hudson  
10 Wed Table Tennis, 7-9pm, YTH  
10 Wed Loweswater Ladies, 7:15 pm at LVH  
11 Thu History Soc. talk, Derwentwater Disaster, Ray Greenhow, YTH. 7.30pm  
13 Sat Coffee and Cakes 10.30 - 1200 YTH hosted by The Melbreak Communities  
14 Sun Mockerkin Mob A Walk. Fleetwith Pike. 10am.  
17 Wed Table Tennis, 7-9pm, YTH  
21 Sun Mockerkin Mob B Walk. St Bees. 10am  
23 Tue 77 Club. Talk by John Hudson, Josiah Wedgwood / Pottery 7.30pm LVH.  
23 Tue Lorton Film Night, "Hidden Figures", 7.30pm, doors at 7, YTH  
24 Wed Table Tennis, 7-9pm, YTH  
25 Thu Loweswater IT Group, 10.00 - 12.00 Damson Ghyll 01900 856  
27 Sat Foods of the World Ullock VH  
31 Wed Table Tennis, 7-9pm, YTH



*Dates to be announced Meditation at Muncaster House and Book Club, Whiteside, High Lorton 85490*

## Christmas and New Year letter

Dear friends

Even before the beginning of December and the season of Advent, the Christmas lights in our towns have been switched on with accompanying celebrations and shop windows decorated and filled with seasonal treats.

Some will say it is too early, but the bright lights cheer up dark winter days. With the opening of windows on Advent calendars and the lighting of Advent candles in our Churches, they remind us that Christmas really is coming soon.

Light is very important to us, especially during the shorter hours of daylight. We can think of the welcoming glow seen through windows, the warmth of a log fire, the special joy of lighted Christmas trees, torches and lanterns of Carol singers, candles at home or in Church, the wonder of the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve, with the candles illuminating the faces of children lit with excited anticipation of the day to come.

At our Services over Christmas we always hear read the wonderful opening of St John's Gospel where the birth of Jesus is

described as light coming into the world. It shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot put it out.



We all to a greater or lesser degree have sadness, illness and disappointments in our lives and sometimes as we read the news, the world can seem a very dark place. But Christmas reassures us each year that the light of Christ has come into our world and that nothing can overcome it.

St John describes it further as the light that lights every person that comes into the world. It is a lovely thought that we each have Jesus light within us. A real living flame may flicker, it needs care and nurture. But we can receive with joy God's gift of his Son Jesus Christ this Christmas and carry it with us into the coming year and beyond, to illuminate, guide and cheer our paths.

With all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Revd. Carole Ford

## Loweswater Village Hall News

Coming Soon:

**Chris Bannister plays: The music of John Denver.**

[www.chrisbannistermusic.com](http://www.chrisbannistermusic.com)

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

Tickets £10. (students £5 and family £22) Booking from:

Penny 01946 862200 [penny@leck08.plus.com](mailto:penny@leck08.plus.com)

Val 01946 861643 [vebell2911@gmail.com](mailto:vebell2911@gmail.com)

Sue 01900 85039 [sue-severs@hotmail.com](mailto:sue-severs@hotmail.com)

## NOTES FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S

Advent Sunday is the New Year's Day of the Christian Church, the penitential season in preparation for Christmas.

The first sprinkling of snow on the tops has been and gone at the time of writing, now alternating with the mild damp weather. No two days are the same!

It has been a year of changes. In October Sheila, our vicar of the last three years, left with her husband Martin for a happy retirement in their Birkenhead home following a busy year including 8 weddings in Loweswater. Next year we hope the vacancy will be filled. Meanwhile, we are grateful to a variety of local clergy and ministers who are helping us with our services.

This year we shall be having the Benefice

Carol Service on Sunday 17th December at 6pm. The carol singers will be in Loweswater on the 21st in aid of the NSPCC. Lorton will be holding the Christingle service at 5.30 on Sunday 24th. The first Communion of Christmas will be held in Lorton at 11.30 on the 24th. Christmas Day services will be Buttermere 9.30 and Loweswater 10.30. We shall have the usual informal Carol service with mince pies afterwards on New Year's Eve at Buttermere at 3pm.

The Churchwardens wish everyone a very Happy Christmas. Eleanor Ella

### **Baptism**

5th November April Phoebe Callion daughter of Rebecca and David of Great Clifton

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## **Friends of Lorton School**

**Christmas Quiz** – Saturday 9th December 7.30-10.30pm, Yew Tree Village Hall. Get a team together or join one on the night. Cash bar, free bottle of prosecco for the best Christmas jumper. Tickets cost £5 and are available from Jill Harvey or Lorton Village Shop. Raising money for a community playground.

## Loweswater IT Group

### DEC 7th 2017 & JAN 25<sup>TH</sup> 2018

#### **DAMSON GHYLL**

Our last session of the year and just one session for January. If you would like to come along and get help with IT or are unsure and would like more

information, please contact me. Our sessions are informal and include refreshments at £2.00 and we look forward to welcoming newcomers.

**Please ring me to book and confirm attendance**

**Jan Collins-Webb - 01900 85609.**

The annual Christmas Party will be held at 3pm on 9 December in Loweswater Village Hall. There is no charge for members, but we need to know the numbers for catering, so if you didn't sign the list at the November meeting, please give me a call on 01900 829917. Everyone is asked to bring a present for Secret Santa. Entertainment will be provided by the Oswald Singers. The first meeting of the New Year will be on Tuesday January 23 at 7.30 pm in LVH.



We will hear an illustrated talk by John Hudson on *Josiah Wedgwood and his Pottery*. The talk will explain why Wedgwood himself was so successful, and why the firm he founded was so prominent for 250 years. Marjorie Lowery, Secretary.

### Lorton First Responders

As has become customary, we will soon be holding our annual pre-Xmas "Minced pies and Mulled wine" evening – this year it's on Tuesday 19 December, 6-8pm at Yew Tree Hall. There will be carols and a raffle so do come along and get in the festive spirit – entry is just £5 on the door.

### LORTON NOTES

I always regard December as the month of great contrasts. On the one hand we have the short days which are often gloomy, chilly and with a general lack of brightness and sunshine. On the other hand we have the festivities and fun of Christmas which give the month a different aspect. The climax of the Church's year is Easter, but preceding Easter we have the solemnity of Lent and Holy Week. Christmas does have a preceding season of penitence, namely Advent, but this is associated with joyful anticipation and does have a brighter aspect. I am among those who think it is often better to travel hopefully than to arrive and do believe Advent is to be savoured. Come along to our services, escape the hurly-burly and commercialism of the outside world and give yourself a chance to ponder what the season is really

about. If you are or have been in the habit of listening to the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's college, Cambridge, you could find that the readings are familiar and awaken old memories.

In January Epiphany sees another Principal Feast which we shall celebrate on 7, which is all but crowded out by Christmas. It is important, especially to people like us, as among other things it celebrates the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.

Now down to more mundane matters. After the solemnity of Advent ***we shall be decorating the church on Thursday 21 at 10.00am***. Do come and join in the fun and if you can bring along greenery and berries we shall be even more glad to see you. We have coffee and biscuits at 11.00.

Roger Peck.

**LORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**  
**NOVEMBER 2017 Meetings**



Was it just a coincidence? The first time, in living history, a little field mouse was spotted darting across the stage in the Yew Tree Hall, causing much hilarity, was the first evening that the W.I. chose to produce a Wine and Cheese Supper for its meeting. Maybe the cooler weather combined with the alluring scent of cheese had been too much for the little critter. A member of the Yew Tree Committee promised to get onto the case immediately!

At the meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, President Ann welcomed 17 members and 19 guests, 16 of whom were from neighbouring W.I.s. Following a short business meeting Ann welcomed our speaker for the evening, textile artist Janet Johnston.

Janet introduced her talk by showing a traditional quilt produced by her mother in the 60s, demonstrating the painstaking hand stitching and heaviness of the quilt. Janet started her own journey from quilting craftswoman to inspirational textile artist over 20 years ago and showed examples of her work from her first sample pattern quilt, through traditional quilts, to more innovative quilts, all constructed by machine with lighter materials, to the most amazing wall hangings and pictures which she had designed herself and created from

beautiful fabrics, some of which she had acquired from India to felt, gold thread and sheep's wool and pebbles she had sourced locally. It was evident that colour was Janet's passion and as she revealed each article our eyes thrilled to the jewel-like, often abstract pictures she had made. Ann P. in her vote of thanks used the one word which expressed our feelings – "gob-smacked". The artist's work was stunning. It was evident that members and guests had thoroughly enjoyed the demonstration. After the talk, we enjoyed a most friendly social time with wine and a selection of cheese, biscuits and grapes and drew the raffle. It was a highly successful evening and people seemed reluctant for it to end.

Our next meeting, on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.15 at the Yew Tree Hall, will be our Christmas Party for members and invited guests. The evening will be a "home-grown" event. The Committee will be providing hot food and we will be enjoying our own quizzes and games. The first meeting of 2018 will be on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 7.15 at the Yew Tree Hall and will be a talk by John Hudson on Josiah Wedgwood. So, if you have ever wondered about the creator of articles so many of us have in our houses, come along for an interesting talk, cake and craic. All are welcome.

*Compass? - a device to ensure you walk in circles.*



## *Penny's Piece*

It has been a while since I was in a situation where I needed a ladder to get into bed but recent events mean I am now six inches closer to the ceiling than I was. The complicated problem of what to do with a 'spare' mattress. Ordinarily I would have put it in the barn with the base of the bed but was persuaded against this due to damp and chance of things nibbling. So currently it is under the usual (and infinitely more comfortable) mattress on the bed in the house. My feet don't touch the floor when I sit on it and I am terrified I might fall out. The other problem that arose was all the additional bedding. I did two washes to freshen it all up and then realised that none of the duvet covers were the right size for the duvet in regular use- king size on a double bed. You can roll over without the risk of nasty winter draughts- and the fitted sheets aren't deep enough. I have relegated some of my old pillow cases to the duster pile though. Shame I don't do dusting. Visitors into my kitchen will know I have a wide selection of magnets on my fridge with various slogans. One of my favourite is 'dust is what gives my house its warm and fuzzy feeling'. I would also add the sentiment I think of whenever anyone tells me to wash my car: If it bothers you, by all means, go ahead, I'll let you.

I have now been back to Manchester Arena twice since it reopened and can vouch that getting in is like going through Exeter airport (see piece earlier in the year). Bag size is very strict so my sister had to do away with her holdall for a night and make do with a bag barely bigger than her purse. You get scanned, searched,

filtered and sorted in all kinds of ways and the pile of stuff they must confiscate from the unwary will be huge. The only thing anyone complained about was having to wait so long in the cold before they started letting us in. That, and laughing at the bloke telling us to stand 5 or 6 across in the walkway. You were only going to be able to get 3 of anyone built like him



across that walkway but no one was going to tell him that- brick outhouse! It was also nice to be back in a mixed crowd even though we were second row down from the top of 'God's doorstep'- top of the arena. There were grandparents who were clearly the fans when the band first got going over 30 years ago and on the row in front were two kids of about 8 or 9 with their dad. There was good chatter around too. Mainly linked to us being so high and where was the oxygen mask and parachute. Oxygen would have been nice at the end as heat definitely rises and we were melting. Xmas concerts will be much more sedate. See you on the other side of the festivities. Best wishes for 2018. Penny.

## **WEST CUMBRIA RIVERS TRUST: LOWESWATER CARE PROGRAMME**

I last wrote about our work on Loweswater in mid-2015, a few months ahead of the last local meeting we held at the Village Hall. Although practical work on the Defra-funded project was completed in September 2015, it has, a little unbelievably, taken us another 2 years to write up the results into a comprehensive report. By the time that you read this, it should be available to read on the LCP page of the WCRT website at <http://westcumbriariverstrust.org/projects/the-loweswater-care-programme>. As not everyone wants (or has the time) to read what is quite a sizeable technical report, we will also be producing a much shorter, less technical summary report on

paper (the full report is only available as an electronic version online).

Over the last 2 years, we haven't only been writing the reports – we have continued our monitoring of the lake via the on-lake Sonde set of sensors, the monthly manual measurements of the lake's feeder beckes and the monthly microscopic analysis of the lake's algae from EA samples. So, in order keep you up-to-date with what we've been up to over the last 2 years and to launch the summary report, we will be holding another local meeting at the Village Hall early in the New Year. Hope to see as many local people as possible then and, in the meantime, a peaceful Xmas and New Year from everyone within the Rivers Trust, Leslie Webb, Chairman of LCP Steering Committee, Nov 2017.

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## **VALE OF LORTON COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS**

We have had a quiet year callout-wise, but have increased our training frequency in line with the wider range of skills that we utilise. The number of CFRs in our group is adequate, but less than half what it was when I joined the group in 2007. As it takes some time to get a new CFR fully-trained, we are always looking for anyone with an interest in joining us. No experience is required – it's a great feeling when you've really made a difference to the outcome when someone's taken seriously unwell. Please contact me as below if you want to talk about joining us. I would like to take this opportunity to give many thanks to Sandra Meier, who has

been our Treasurer since the Group started in 2005, but who is resigning from this position in early 2018. With our smaller body of active CFRs, we have decided to see if there is anyone in the wider community who would like to take on this role **without** having to become an actual CFR. The role is not too onerous, involving keeping the books up-to-date, preparing a brief annual report and liaising with HMRC over Gift Aid donations. Please contact me as below if you are interested in taking on this role.

Leslie Webb, Vale of Lorton CFR Team Leader, 01900 85609 or email [les@damsonghyll.co.uk](mailto:les@damsonghyll.co.uk).

## Walkers' Way No. 187

### The Holly, The Ivy and The Mistletoe.

The tradition of decorating homes and Churches with holly and ivy around Christmas time, is of great antiquity and appears to have existed even in Roman times, when it was practised in the Festival of Saturnalia. Holly (*Ilex aquifolium* L) or Hollin to use its old 'Lakes' name, was regarded as a plant of power, red being the accepted colour against evil. It was used to defend property against evil spirits, goblins, witchcraft and even lightning. It is not difficult to associate holly with the Crown of Thorns, the scarlet berries representing blood.

The holly tree is a slow growing evergreen with hard white wood. Its lower leaves are sharply spined, but the uppermost leaves are mostly spineless. While it is common for most green plants to have many more stomata on the upper surface of the leaf than on the lower, the holly is extreme in that it has some 63,000 per square inch on the upper surface but none below. Male and female plants are separate. The rather insignificant flowers are about 7mm in diameter with four greenish white petals while the fruit is a true berry, in that the pericarp is succulent and fleshy and is highly nutritious.

The Ivy (*Hedera helix* L), the symbol of fidelity, is equally well known and like the holly it featured in many ancient beliefs and rituals; not surprisingly, it was associated with the vine, and both were sacred to Bacchus, the Roman god of wine, and was believed to prevent drunkenness. This woody evergreen climber spreads

considerably at ground level and, given adequate support, is capable of reaching a height of 30 metres. It has glossy, dark green leaves and bears its greenish white flowers in umbels, and later has globular black berries. It is much favoured by many

species of bird and insect for which it also affords dense cover. The flowers secrete lots of nectar and are pollinated by wasps and flies, the berries provide food for birds and for the caterpillars of the Holly Blue butterfly.

Historical reference to Mistletoe (*Viscum album* L), stretch back into the mists of time and related customs and beliefs are numerous. It featured in the Druids' ceremony of human sacrifice, in incantations against adder bites, in keeping evil and witchcraft at bay, and was thought to be capable of curing barrenness in animals. It was believed that if mistletoe was ceremonially cut at new moon, without the use of iron, and provided it did not touch the ground; it would cure epilepsy, while mistletoe on an oak tree was taken to mean that that tree had been chosen by God. It was similarly revered throughout Europe and as far afield as Japan, New Guinea and West Africa. There was a Scandinavian belief that it was with the wood of mistletoe that Christ's Cross was made.

Kissing under the mistletoe is an English custom dating back to at least the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. The correct procedure, now seldom if ever observed, was that the man would pick a berry each time he kissed the girl, and that when the berries were gone, kissing would cease. Mistletoe is in fact a semi-parasite, extracting some sustenance from its host but also, of course, being a green plant, manufacturing carbohydrates itself through photosynthesis. It is easy to propagate, by inserting a seed into a suitable crevice in the bark of a tree, preferably an apple, and binding together with a bandage.

Against this background – good luck with the Christmas decorations! Alan Gane.

# LORTON VALE GARDENING CLUB

We had a good turnout for Karen Phillips, speaking on "Creating a cut flower garden", on 16th Nov. Karen is based at Linnels Farm, near Hexham, where she runs a variety of courses, including a master class on pruning coming up shortly. For a good cut flower garden, first select your plot. You need sun, and round here, probably protection from rabbits, so inside the veg plot is a good place. Treat the patch like a veg plot too - if you are harvesting annual flowers for cutting you will need to fertilise as you would for veg. We saw many gorgeous arrangements, from little little posies to put on table place settings, to hellebore flower heads floating on a plate, floral cupcakes to single delicate flower stems in a glass. The message is "keep cutting, and keep looking - you will find

something at all times of year". Put a vase of flowers on your patio, or a tiny arrangement by your bedside - the more carefully you look, the more pleasure you will get from your flowers. Karen also brought a wonderful selection of bulbs to buy - and most of us succumbed to temptation.

The next event is on Wednesday 6th December, at 7.30 in the Yew Tree Hall, when Christopher Crowder will speak on the history of the gardens at Levens Hall. New members and visitors welcome. On Thursday Jan 18th at 7.30 in the Yew Tree Hall, it's the cheer up January Winter Party, for members and their guests. The usual rules - non serious games, bring a plate of finger food, and extra if you bring a guest.

## NSPCC Carol Singing

*Come and join us on these evenings. It's great fun and you don't need to be a brilliant singer!*

Date	Time	Where	Contact
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6pm	Lorton, Tenters Cottage	Ann Roberts 01900 85333
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6pm	Low Lorton, Croft View	Ann Roberts 01900 85333
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.30pm	Mockerkin, Village Green	Kathryn Mitchell 861928 *
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	6.30pm	Thwackthwaite	Ann Hayton 01900 85606
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	6.30pm	Buttermere, Turner How	Ann Hayton 01900 85606

*\*For mulled wine and mince pies. This is weather dependant, so please check the village notice board. A collection for the NSPCC will take place during the preceding week*



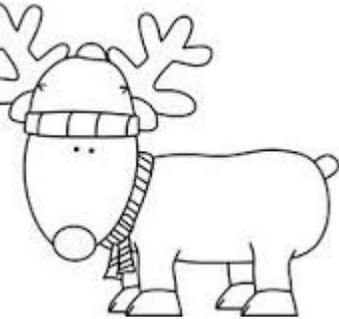
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Anorak? - a rack for oars



## A Lorton Legend

### Part 1 – Motor Bikes and World War 2

Alan Johnson is a long-standing and well-known resident of Lorton and at the age of 97 has many a tale to tell. We thought Link readers would like to read some of these and here is the first one – focussing mainly on his exploits during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. Alan was born into an avid motor-cycling family in 1920 and lived in Swinton, Nr Salford, Lancs - one of his earliest memories is of being taken out in a sidecar. He was keen to own his own motor bike and his first was a Matchless 250, followed by a BSA 250 and then a Velocette 250. He first came to Cumbria on his bike in the 1930s – to Holme Rook near Ravenglass where he camped every holiday and got to know the Ravenglass Railway (Ratty). He became a volunteer here for more than 30 years after he retired.

He had been out on the Velocette one Sunday afternoon (3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939) and came home to hear the fateful announcement from Chamberlain that we were now at war with Germany. Alan decided to join the Merchant Navy and was signed on as Pantry Boy (looking after the 12 civilian passengers on board) on the Pacific Ranger which sailed through the Panama Canal to Vancouver. He returned 7 months later as part of a convoy (in fact the Pacific Ranger was hit by a U-Boat in October 1940) and was paid-off in Manchester. He soon joined the Royal Signals (a Regiment within the Army) as a Despatch Rider and in April 1940 he began basic training at a camp near Prestatyn, north Wales. He 'passed-out' successfully but there were no uniforms immediately

available as they had all been sent to the troops that had been evacuated from Dunkirk! A stint at the Despatch Riders School followed where he was trained by ex-trial riders from the Raleigh Motor Cycle Company. Shortly after this Alan was posted to Egypt where he spent the next 5 years carrying despatches across the Egyptian and Libyan deserts. As well as motor bikes he also spent many hours driving trucks – transporting the mail from Cairo overnight to outposts such as Port Said, Alexandria and Suez. The road to Alexandria from Cairo was 200 miles long and as straight as a die.

At the end of this posting Alan was ordered to lead a convoy of trucks which were being sent to aid the war effort in Northern France. The convoy drove to Alexandria where they boarded a 'Liberty Ship' (originally built as cargo ships these were converted to transport large numbers of troops in the latter years of the war) to Marseille. Marseille had been completely destroyed by the Germans and the harbour was full of half-sunk ships. The troops had nowhere to sleep but in the old Transit sheds and stayed there for 6 weeks awaiting orders.

These were eventually received to proceed north to Brussels where they were given work as couriers across the Ardennes Region where they regularly saw burnt out tanks and war graves as they were only about 1 week behind the advancing troops. Also at this time hordes of refugees appeared on the roads trying to make their way home. Most of them had bundles of rags for shoes and seemed to be wearing rags as well. Their few

meagre possessions were trundled along in prams or handcarts. They had nothing left and barely knew where 'home' was any more – a sign of the devastation of war.

The convoy was now able to move gradually North towards Calais and Alan finally made it back to the UK. It wasn't a particularly happy home-coming as his family home had been destroyed by bombing back in 1940 when Alan was already on his way to Egypt, but at least he made it back in one piece. His mother had

been badly affected by the bombing and died within 1 month of his return home. After a few weeks Alan was posted to a Signals Unit near Leeds and become Corporal in Charge of Transport. He remained in the Army for another two years and then began to develop his original career as a Commercial Artist.

*Rosemary Riley – as told to me by Alan Johnson.*

Next month – Alan's prestigious career as a Commercial Artist and his move to Cumbria – with romance along the way.

## **The Melbreak Communities** **An Action Plan for the four parishes of Buttermere,** **Loweswater, Blindbotheil and Lorton**



Hosted by Lorton Afternoon Book Group

10.30am - 12.00pm on Saturday 9th December 2017  
Proceeds to be shared between Lorton School and The Melbreak Communities

Hosted by The Melbreak Communities

10.30am - 12.00pm on Saturday 13th Jan 2018  
An opportunity to participate in a discussion about how we manage the many and varied traffic issues in the Valley

Both events to be held at Yew Tree Hall

## Buttermere Notes

It is noticeable that fewer poppies are being worn in the days before Armistice Day. There was also a time when activity, including traffic, stopped at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. To those of us who lived during WW11 this is sad, but inevitable as fewer people, or their families had that experience. It is still very moving that ceremonies are held at many of the over 68,000 war memorials and countless churches in the country. In Buttermere our Remembrance Service included prayers for David Vickers who died 100 years ago at the Third Battle of Ypres. He lived at Lanthwaite Cottage and it brings home the relevance of his sacrifice when you drive past his home each week. It was good to see Bishop James, as Chaplain of the Royal British Legion, officiating at the Service of Remembrance at the Albert Hall.

2017 is the 500th Anniversary of Protestantism when Martin Luther published his *Ninety Five Theses* which, in a recent newspaper article, Melvyn Bragg described as 'setting Christianity on fire'. In 1507 in England William Tyndale started to translate the original Greek New Testament into English and a Bible that could be read aloud and 'enable a ploughboy to know the Bible as well as any

Bishop'. Tyndale's interpretations were often radical and he was burnt at the stake as an heretic but his Bible, according to Bragg, became 93per cent of the King James Authorised Version. He also states that because of the universal spread of Protestantism via the British and American Empires Tyndale's words are more influential than Shakespeare's.

Buttermere had a church in 1507 but after the Reformation and until the mid-1700s it was so impoverished it could not afford a priest. It appointed its own un-ordained men known as 'Readers'. Such a man was Robert 'Wonderful' Walker who appears in Wordsworth's *Sonnet on Seathwaite Chapel*. He earned his living by teaching in the school held in the church, labouring, weaving and anything that brought an income. His stipend was £1.00 per annum which was supplemented by the custom of 'Whittlegate' which entitled him to bed and board for a few weeks at a time with each family. The advert for a new incumbent for our Benefice recently appeared in *The Church Times*, aiming for an appointment to be made by mid-December. Let us hope the advert leads to a successful result and we do not have to revert to the times of Wonderful Walker.

Gwyn and Jan Evans

### Loweswater with Buttermere PCC 100 Challenge Club

**The prizewinners for the draw held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017**

No	52	1st prize of £25	Glenis Postlethwaite
No	114	2nd prize of £10	Jan Collins-Webb
No	22	3rd prize of £5	Ann Beebe

*Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.*

# Loweswater Ladies

Our speaker for our November meeting was Andy Walsh from Cockermonth's Coffee Kitchen. He gave us a very entertaining talk about his bakery in Market Place and his baking of 'real' bread'. No secret recipes were divulged but Andy gave us an insight into all the various loaves they produce and described in detail the differentiation of the flours and of the resulting crumb (the texture of the middle bit). He also pointed out that whilst commercial breads have up to 22 ingredients, their basic recipes have just four.

We were treated to samples of all the breads he discussed, which included white, wholemeal, Beacon Brown (from an original Whitehaven recipe), sourdough, pan-rustic and finally rye bread. A tasty treat and much appreciated by us all, as was his lively talk. Andy also chose to donate his talk expenses to his

chosen charity of The Samaritans.

The raffle on the evening was won by Alison.

Next month the Ladies move to an alternative venue, Hundith Hill for a lunchtime buffet. The date is Tuesday December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please arrive at 12.30 for a 1pm start if you have signed up with Alison for the event.

We reconvene for the New Year at Loweswater Village Hall at 7.15pm on January 10<sup>th</sup>. This evening will be spent with John and Rosamund Macfarlane who will be entertaining us with more of their wonderful photos from their travels. Anyone who has attended similar presentations will know that these are memorable evenings, so we look forward to seeing you. No need to book ladies, just come along on the night!

Ann Hiley

## 100 Challenge Club

Here we are again, three-quarters of the way through another successful year, selling 122 numbers as we did in 2015. In 2014 we sold 109 and in 2016 we sold 107, so all over the 100 which is our target.

Prizes remain at £25, £10 and £5 and our only other expenses are £20 to Allerdale for the annual licence fee and less than £5 for postage of prizes.

In the February Link we will include application forms for the year starting 1st March 2018, the cost will remain at £12. We will also publish the names of all the winners during the current year.

So GOOD LUCK to those members who still have chances to win in December, January and February and don't forget that numbers change at start of the 'new year'.

Thank you, everyone, for your support

Jan Evans, Promoter



## Ullock Village Hall

**Film Night** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm

### *Viceroy's House* 12A

India, 1947: Lord Mountbatten (Hugh Bonneville) is dispatched, along with his wife Edwina (Gillian Anderson), to New Delhi to oversee the country's transition from British rule to independence. Taking his place in the resplendent mansion known as the Viceroy's House, Mountbatten arrives hopeful for a peaceful transference of power. But ending centuries of colonial rule in a country divided by deep religious and cultural differences proves no easy undertaking, setting off a seismic struggle that threatens to tear India apart.

Tickets: Adult £5, Child £4, Family (2+2) £16

Sunday 17 December at 2.00pm

### *Jeff Wallcock* from *Trellis Arts*

An afternoon of *story, song and active fun.*

The show is suitable for families of mixed aged children with a focus on 4 years and over. It is equally enjoyable for all who come along – regardless of age.

Tickets: £3.50 (Family 2 + 2) £10

Including a cuppa & light seasonal refreshments

Saturday 27 January 2018 at 7.30pm

### *Foods of the World*

Everyone is invited to come along to Ullock and enjoy a buffet supper of home-made dishes with recipes from around the world. Some of these will be made and demonstrated on the night by *Lynn Benn*

Tickets: Adult £10 (including a glass of wine) Children £ 3.00

For Tickets please call 01946 862300 or 861458

<b>NEIL SPENCER</b>	<b>CARPENTER AND JOINER</b>
	<b>LOWESWATER</b>
	<b>GENERAL JOINERY &amp; FITTED WORK TIMBER &amp; FURNITURE REPAIRS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE</b>
	<b>01946 861876</b>

# Wine Tasting

7pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Loweswater Village Hall

Food to accompany

£10 tickets from David & Barbara Robinson

0190085234



## CINE NORTH

### Cine North in January

Our first film this year is Hidden Figures (cert PG), showing on Tuesday January 23rd at 7.30 in Yew Tree Hall. Doors are at 7pm, entrance is £5 on the door and there will be a bar. Come early and have a drink before the film starts. For further information call 0190085035.

Hidden Figures is the true story of African-American women mathematicians who worked at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the Space Race. It stars Dorothy Vaughn, Octavia Spencer (who won an Oscar for her performance in The Help and was nominated for her performance in Hidden Figures) and Kevin Costner. Giving the film 4 stars, the Guardian said "This biopic of the scientists behind John Glenn's space flight is irresistibly uplifting".

ED: Did you enjoy reading "A Lorton Legend" on page 12? We would love to hear more tales like the one from Alan Johnson from other Lorton residents so please get in touch if you would like to contribute.

Thanks for the Christmas Crackers AG

# Moving Mountains

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, Grasmoor Mission Community Steering Group and some thirty representatives from 14 local churches, which form the backbone of our emerging local Mission Community, met with Bishop Jonathan, Bishop of Huddersfield. This was the introductory meeting to help us to start defining and organising the outreach events which we need to run for our own churches/benefice during the Moving Mountain weekend 8-11 March, 2018. The representatives for Lorton are Ann Roberts (01900 85333) and Rosemary Riley (01900 85072) and for Loweswater with Buttermere Barbara Robinson (01900 85234) and Eleanor Ella (01900 821180).

Some possible events discussed were walking the benefice, either Lorton to Buttermere or vice versa - with a meal or buffet at the end, probably on Saturday. On Sunday another possibility is a Songs of Praise as part of the Mothering Sunday Service.

***An evening has been planned on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March for children to meet the Archbishop of York*** for a questions and answers supper at Hundith Hill Hotel.

Further details of events will be published in the following months.

If anyone wants to be involved or has any further ideas for social events, please contact one of the representatives.

## Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society

Brackenthwaite   Buttermere   Embleton   Loweswater   Mockerkin   Pardshaw   Wythop

[www.derwentfells.com](http://www.derwentfells.com)

### The Derwent Water Disaster

Talk by Ray Greenhow, Thursday 11 January 2018. Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton, 7.30pm. Guests £3 to include refreshments.

On 12<sup>th</sup> August 1898 a boating accident on Derwent Water led to the death of five friends. This talk tells of the events that led up to this tragedy, the sinking, inquest, funeral and the legacy it was to have for the future of boating holidays.

Ray Greenhow was born in Workington. He is retired and has researched a number of areas of local history.

Fell Walker? - A Walker who tripped.





**THE MOCKERKIN MOB**  
(founded by Alan Gane MBE in 1989)  
Walk 326/7



<b>Christmas walk</b>	<b>SUN 10 DEC 2017</b>
<b>Combined A &amp; B Walk Afterwards (approx 12.30pm) to Judy &amp; John's at Graythwaite for Mulled wine, Soup and Mince pies.</b>	<p><b>Meet:</b> 10am Felldyke CP <b>GR:</b> 086198 <b>Route:</b> Circuit of Cogra Moss. <b>Estimated Time:</b> 2hrs (Easy) <b>Leaders:</b> Joan &amp; Judy</p> <p><u>NB:</u> No lunch needed but there will be a coffee stop so you may like to bring a hot drink.</p>

Walkers participate at their own risk. We welcome new walkers: if you are interested phone Joan, 01900 85637 or Judy, 01946 861555.

<b>A Walk: Sun 14 Jan 2018</b> Intended for experienced walkers	<b>B Walk: Sun 21 Jan 2018</b>
<p><b>Meet:</b> 10am Gatesgath Car Park <b>GR:</b> NY194150 <b>Route:</b> Fleetwith Pike and weather permitting Dubs Quarry, Hay Stacks, Scarth Gap. <b>Estimated time:</b> 5/6hrs (Strenous) <b>Leader:</b> Richard Easton 0190085708</p>	<p><b>Meet:</b> 10am Beach CP, St Bees <b>GR:</b> 959118 <b>Route:</b> Cliff top walk from St Bees and back. <b>Estimated Time:</b> 3hrs (Easy) <b>Leaders:</b> Joan &amp; Judy</p>

Walking Pole? - A Hiker from Warsaw.



# The United Benefice of Lorton, Loweswater with Buttermere

## Church Services December 2017

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Lorton	BCP
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	CW
3.00pm	Evensong	Buttermere	BCP
<b>10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	BCP
10.30am	<b>Matins</b>	Lorton	BCP
3.00pm	Holy Communion	Buttermere	CW
<b>17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
6.00pm	<b>Benefice Carol Service</b>	Loweswater	
<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>		
<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>Crib Service &amp; Christingle</b>	Lorton	
11.00pm	<b>Midnight Service (HC)</b>	Lorton	CW
<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>		
9.15am	Family Communion	Buttermere	CW
10.30am	Family Communion	Loweswater	CW
<b>31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas</b>		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
3.00pm	<b>Informal Carols</b>	Buttermere	

## Church Services January 2018

<b>7<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Lorton	BCP
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	CW
3.00pm	Evensong	Buttermere	BCP
<b>14<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	BCP
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
3.00pm	Holy Communion	Buttermere	CW
<b>21<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
10.30am	<b>Matins</b>	Loweswater	BCP
3.00pm	Evensong	Buttermere	BCP
<b>28<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>		
<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Loweswater</b>	<b>CW</b>
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
3.00pm	Evensong	Buttermere	BCP

Please send your articles by e-mail to [lortonvalelink@gmail.com](mailto:lortonvalelink@gmail.com) by the **19th Jan 2018**. Link can also be read at [www.melbreakcommunities.org.uk](http://www.melbreakcommunities.org.uk)