

**The United Benefice of Lorton and Loweswater with Buttermere
Church Services June 2018**

JUNE 2018



3rd June 1st Sunday after Trinity
 9.00am Holy Communion Lorton BCP Rev Carole Ford
 10.30am Holy Communion Loweswater CW Rev Carole Ford
 6.00pm Evensong Buttermere BCP Rev Carole Ford

10th June 2nd Sunday after Trinity
 10.30am Holy Communion Lorton CW Rev Robert Canham
 6.00pm Holy Communion Buttermere CW Rev Robert Canham

17th June 3rd Sunday after Trinity
 10.30am **Matins** Loweswater BCP Barbara Robinson
 6.00pm Evensong Buttermere BCP Gwyn & Jan Evans
 Barbara Robinson

24th June Birth of John the Baptist
 10.30am Holy Communion Lorton CW Rev Margaret
 Jenkinson
 6.00pm Evensong Buttermere BCP Rev Margaret
 Jenkinson

**Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club**

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st May 2018

1st prize of £25 No 49 Meleri McEwan
 2nd prize of £10 No 110 Maud Vickers
 3rd prize of £5 No 71 Kathryn Mitchell

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.



Alan Johnson original picture from June 2011

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

Deadline for July/Aug is Fri 22nd June 2018, all articles to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date.

DIARY DATES FOR JUNE & JULY

June

- 3 Sun Sponsored walk and Cream Teas LVH. Walk start 1:30pm, Teas from 2:30pm
- 6 Wed Table tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
- 9 Sat Coffee and Cakes/Duck Race hosted by FOLS, YTH, 10.30-12am
- 10 Sun Mob A Walk. 9.45am Cow Bridge CP
- 11 Mon Community Lunch, 1.15pm, Lorton School
- 12 Tue Garden Club visit to Bishops House, Keswick
- 12 Tue YTH ~ 7.15 ~ Lorton W.I. ~ Talk ~ Cockermouth Food Bank
- 13 Wed Loweswater Ladies Annual walk, start LVH at 6.15pm
- 13 Wed Table tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
- 14 Thu History Soc. talk, Stone Circles of Cumbria, Dr Tom Clare, YTH. 7.30pm
- 17 Sun Mob B Walk. 9.45am Rosthwaite NT CP
- 19 Tue 77 Club Trip. Cruise on Lancaster Canal (with meal), Barton Grange, Shepherd's Inn.
- 20 Wed Table tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
- 21 Thu A Midsummer Service of Words & Music, St Michael's Fell Church, Mosser, 6pm
- 26 Tue Film Night, Boy, YTH, 7.30pm, Doors at 7pm
- 27 Wed Table tennis, YTH, 7-9pm

July

- 7 Sat The Kings Road Band, UVH 7pm
- 11 Wed Loweswater Ladies Summer Outing
- 12 Thu History Soc. talk, William Brownrigg, C18 scientist & philosopher, YTH. 7.30pm
- 17 Tue Yew Tree Hall AGM, YTH, 7.30pm
- 19 Thu Garden Club trip to Craggside, Northumberland

Revised Cover

As promised in the May Link - here is the first of the re-production covers using Alan Johnson's original art work

Churches together in Cockermouth Area (Ctica) Walking Group

Our main ethos is - we are an outreach and we seek, like our walkers, to feel comfortable, secure, safe and feel that we can find new friendships and provide a listening ear to those in need. New walkers are welcome. The walks are usually easy, gentle pace, all ages [some are in their 70's] . We do walk some of the fells [eg Latrigg, Barrow, Great How] but most are on gently undulating ground.

June walks:

Keswick - Latrigg Fell & The Forge on Saturday 9th June

Saturday 9th June at Keswick, a circuit of approximately 6 miles to Latrigg Fell [1203 feet] from Forge Lane, Brigham, Keswick. This is an opportunity to visit the Forge area to discover some interesting industrial history before ascending Latrigg to enjoy views of Derwentwater and the surrounding fells. The route will also include a section of the Railway Footpath.

Meet at Forge Lane, Keswick [GR278238/Postcode CA12 4LH] at 10.25am or 9.45 at Christ Church, Cockermouth, to car share – offers of spare seats in cars will be appreciated. Please note the 9.38am X5 bus from cockermouth to Penrith & Keswick is scheduled to arrive at the Forge Lane/Travis Perkins bus stop at 10.25.

From Keswick, take the A5271[Penrith Road] with River Greta on your left. Park near to Forge Lane [but not in the lane itself]. Parking suggestions nearby are Windebrowe Ave before Forge Lane and Eleventrees beyond. Please park considerately.

Crosthwaite – Portinscale, Keswick, the Derwent/Greta riversmeet on Thursday 14th June

Thursday 14th June - Portinscale/Keswick from Crosthwaite Church, including the Derwent/Greta riversmeet - 6.30pm. A circuit of less than 4 miles.

Meet at St. Kentigern's Church, Crosthwaite [GR257243/Postcode CA12 5QG] at 6.30pm or at 6pm at Christ Church, Cockermouth to car share – offers of spare seats in cars will be appreciated.

Wear suitable clothing outdoor clothing and bring a packed lunch
Contact Stan Leigh for more details or phone on 01900 828821/email seleghwanadoo@yahoo.com

Forthcoming walks:

Thursday 5th July - Papcastle, former Papcastle Station, River Derwent from Christ Church, Cockermouth

Wednesday 18th July - Waterloo Farm Walk from Cockermouth [Evening with Ray Wood] to be led by Terry Peate.

18th August Carlisle – 3 Rivers [Caldew, Eden & Petteril & /Hammonds Pond]

29th September Great How & Thirlmere

27th October Wreay and River Petteril from Carlisle south

24th November Braithwaite, Barrow [the fell], Uzzicar & Newlands Valley

Saturday Walks usually start at 10am and the Wednesday/Thursday ones at 6.30pm.

Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society

Brackenthwaite Buttermere Embleton Loweswater Mockerkin Pardshaw Wythop

www.derwentfells.com

The Stone Circles of Cumbria

Talk by Dr. Tom Clare, Thursday 14 June 2018. Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton, 7.45pm preceded by the Society's AGM at 7.30pm. Guests £3 to include refreshments.

This talk looks at the possible date and use of stone circles in Cumbria. Comparison is made with other sites including Stonehenge.

Tom Clare is a former County Archaeologist and lecturer in archaeology at Liverpool John Moores. Now retired he has written a guidebook on archaeological sites in Cumbria and one specifically on prehistoric monuments.

LOWESWATER IT GROUP

The Loweswater IT Group has come to a natural conclusion. I think we in the Valley have surpassed expectations. We do of course remain willing to help anyone in need of assistance.

Best wishes to all in the Valley and enjoy the summer.

Jan Collins-Webb - 01900 85609.



June Letter

Dear Friends

Jesus said, "No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God."

Perhaps as he spoke he was watching a farmer ploughing a field with a pair of oxen drawing a plough, which had a single handle for the operator walking behind to guide it. I think farmers today would agree that to maintain a straight line and cover a field it is essential to look ahead. Although sometimes it is necessary to glance behind to see all is well. The same could be said of mowing a lawn. We admire beautiful stripes on smooth grass, but if you look back too much whilst mowing they will go crooked.

We all have to make decisions in our lives which can have far reaching consequences. Sometimes having decided we might wonder if we have made the right choice. Maybe the path ahead seems difficult or challenging and we look back with nostalgia on the past.

We may indeed have been wrong and we have to have the humility and the wisdom to recognise that, but in general Jesus advocates that we must look forward, not back.

The earliest choices we make are as children and young people; choosing a sport or club or instrument to play. Continuing can be hard, but

perseverance we know is worthwhile. Then there are exams and choices of subjects, further education, training and employment. It is easy to give up and look back with longing to a time which appeared so much simpler.

Life away from home, choice of partner, married life, children, moving home to a new area; often the past seemed so much more secure.

At all times in our lives we have to consider carefully the steps we are taking, but life offers so many joys and opportunities if we have the courage to grasp them.

Jesus promises to be with us always and to hear our prayers and offers us his gift of the Holy Spirit to guide and to encourage. We need never be alone !

We do have to take into account the past and memories that have shaped us, but the Christian watchword is always, onward !

With all good Wishes
Revd Carole Ford



Announcement of an extra church service

A Midsummer Service of Words and Music

with Lorton Valley Church Choir and readers from the parishes
St Michael's Fell Church, Mosser, Thursday 21st June, 6 p.m.

All Welcome

LORTON NOTES

The Moving Mountains campaign got off to a flying start on Saturday 21 April as a group of twenty one people walked mostly along footpaths from Buttermere to Lorton. We followed the low level path to Crummock Water, then along the track which was the old route down the vale before the present road was blasted out of the rock, before climbing gently into Rannerdale and back to the road. We then dropped to the shore of Crummock Water, climbed to Lanthwaite Green and the intake wall which we followed before joining the road south of Hopebeck. The ramble was completed by walking alongside Whitbeck to High Mill and so to Lorton. We were extremely fortunate with the weather as we struck one of the warmest and sunniest April days enjoyed in the locality, doubtless you remember it. More people joined us for the supper

afterwards to provide a fitting end to a day which could hardly have worked out better.

Last year we had an unbroken run of Sundays after Trinity, which has its compensations in that I have no changing of altar frontals, but the unrelieved green does get a bit monotonous. This year 24 June, which is the date of the festival celebrating the birth of John the Baptist, falls on a Sunday, so come along and enjoy a splash of white.

I expect that you will have noticed the replastering of part of the sanctuary. It is our intention to replace the carpet in the church sometime soon and the messy jobs will be dealt with first. We are on our way.

Roger Peck



THE MOCKERKIN MOB
(founded by Alan Gane MBE in 1989)
Walk 332



A Walk Sunday 10th June 2018	B Walk Sunday 17th June 2018
<p>Intended for experienced walkers Meet: 9.45am Cow Bridge CP. (A592 nr Brothers Water) GR: NY 402134 Route: Hartsop above How, Hart Crag, Dove Crag, Little Hart Crag, High Hartsop Dodd. Estimated Time: 6hrs (Strenuous) Leaders: Hudsons 01946 861555</p>	<p>Meet: 9.45am Rosthwaite NT CP GR: 257148 Route: Dock Tarn, Watendlath and back. Estimated Time 4-4½hrs (Moderate) Leader: Joan Warren 01900 85637</p>

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

The Melbreak Communities
an Action Plan for the four parishes of Buttermere,
Loweswater, Blindbothel and Lorton
www.melbreakcommunities.org.uk



Coffee morning and Duck Race

Hosted by Friends of Lorton School

10.30am - 12.30pm on Saturday 9th June 2018

Duck Race starts at 12 noon

At Yew Tree Hall

Please support Lorton School and sponsor a duck for £1. Ducks can be purchased on the day or in advance from Lorton shop and/or pub

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - MAY 13th to 19th 2018.

A Huge thank you to all who delivered and collected and to all who gave so Generously for this year's Christian Aid Week. The final sum has yet to come in but will be published within the Christain-Aid Poster at the back of all our Churches in the Valley, as soon as known. Of course I will publish the final sum in the next issue of Link too. Dr. Martyn Evans our Cockermouth Local Organiser for Christian Aid and coordinator will be retiring at the end of this year. Anybody interested in taking up reins? Our thanks to Martyn for all his enthusiasm and support over the years.

THANK YOU - Jan Collins-Webb - Lorton Vale Organiser

Film Night in Lorton

CINE NORTH

Our June film is *Boy* (cert 15), showing on Tuesday June 26th 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.

In *Boy* we make a return visit to New Zealand for another comic tale of dysfunctional youth (an interesting contrast to last year's *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*). Set in 1984, *Boy* is the tale of an 11-year-old (called *Boy*) who lives on a farm with his Gran, younger brother Rocky and a goat. *Boy* idolises both Michael Jackson and his absentee father. When his father turns up, in real life an incompetent hoodlum, *Boy* has to come to terms with reality. The *Guardian*, in giving it 4 stars, says "It's a disarmingly lovely, big-hearted film, and hilarious in places".

(NB Sound problems experienced in the April film have now been sorted out!)

LORTON VALE GARDENING CLUB

The first trip of the summer season was an all day affair - two gardens, both of great character. The first was Rayrigg Hall, right on the shores of Windermere, once home to the anti slavery campaigner William Wilberforce in the 1780s. The present owner, Diana Matthews, is restoring the gardens following a period of neglect when a non gardening maiden aunt was in residence. As she said, at the moment, it's more a landscape than a garden, but what a fabulous landscape! (Although I did notice a large patch of Himalayan balsam down by the boathouse.....) The afternoon garden was down in the Winster valley with extensive views towards Whernside and the Pennines. This was also interesting, with large outcrops of rock incorporated into the design, and lots of unusual plants and trees.

Tuesday June 12th at 2pm is the next visit, to the Bishop's House, Keswick CA13 4DD.

We've been before, and it will be interesting to see how this garden is developing. Alison Newcombe has been working away at it over the last 8 years. Cost £6 to include tea.

Directions: enter St John's St., pass St John's church on the right, the entrance to the Bishop's House is 200 yards further on, marked with a slate plaque.

Please let Fiona (fionalambrick@btinternet.com 01900 85710) or Nicola (lawses@btinternet.com 01768 776483) know if you would like to come.

Thursday 21st June from 6.30 is the Summer Social and Plant Sale, at Pam and Mike Jacques' super garden. The usual arrangements - bring a plate of finger food and any spare plants.

Directions: Fairfield is on the left just after the turn up towards Whinlatter as you approach the village from Cockermouth.

On Thursday 19th July our coach trip this year is to Cragside in Northumbria, once the home of the Victorian engineer William Armstrong. The coach will leave from Mitchell's Auction Mart at 8.30 and will be back in Cockermouth about 6.30. Cost: coach £11 for club members, £12 for non members, and the house and garden entry, free to National Trust members and £16 for non members. To book, contact Elly Rowland, ellyandbev@btinternet.com 01900 85094, or fill in the form on the back of your newsletter, and send it with your cheque to me at Lorton Low Mill, Lorton, Cockermouth CA13 0RQ.

Moving Mountains

LoLoBu Benefice Walk 21st April 2018

What a glorious day we were blessed with for our Benefice Walk arranged as part of the Moving Mountains programme of events. The wind dropped and the sun shone as all twenty-one of us gathered in Lorton for the coach journey to Buttermere. The walk commenced on the steps of Buttermere Church – a very merry band.



Roger has ably described the walk in his Lorton Notes but I would like to add my thanks to those who came along and made it such a special and enjoyable day - the company was convivial and the chat varied and interesting.

Rosemary Riley



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LORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
May 2018 Meeting



Discussion at the AGM reinforced the fact that W.I. is not just a cosy vehicle for friendship, interesting talks and eating cake. It is a national movement of women which has lobbied for beneficial change for over 100 years. Ann R welcomed 17 members and 2 County Advisors to the meeting, who enjoyed a fish and chip/pie and peas supper, before the preliminary business meeting.

First there was discussion and voting on the Resolution for the National AGM in June: to urge all W.I. members to recognise the importance of parity between mental health and physical health, to talk about it and to lobby government for better support for mental illness. Ann P presented the background – we have legislation meant to address the growing problems of mental health, particularly for young people and dementia sufferers. However, these are not always being implemented by local authorities. Judith B, from her experience helping young people in crisis, said that the problems were wider and that there were not enough NHS staff specialising in these areas, particularly in Cumbria. Pam, an experienced NHS consultant in mental health, suggested that people training in these specialisms wanted to work near large hospitals rather than in our more remote regions. Hilary suggested care given by nurses was compromised by staff shortages. Perhaps, for next year's Resolution, we should urge Government to reinstate bursaries for nurse

training to encourage people into the profession. This important resolution was adopted unanimously. Another topic discussed was the future content of the programme. It was agreed that more members would contribute to choices. In the AGM, Carolyn's Financial Statement and Kris's Committee Report were given and adopted. Ann R thanked the Committee for their support. After three resignations, remaining Committee members were reinstated, with the addition of Hilary. Ann R was reinstated as President, as were those appointed to Special Duties. Advisor Susan Graves then talked about falling membership in rural W.I.s. This is a problem nation-wide, not just in Lorton, whereas W.I. membership is increasing in cities. There were many reasons, but mostly that there are so many more clubs and activities available to rural women than previously, and younger people, with children, are working and have less time or inclination to join W.I. Susan inspired us to look to our programme and to make an effort to engage with non-members and ask what would encourage them to join W.I. The next meeting is at 7.15 on Tuesday 12th June at Yew Tree Hall, when the speaker will be Jessie from the Cocker mouth Food Bank. So come along for an interesting evening and add your voice to discussion of the future of Lorton W.I.

Loweswater Ladies

May 2018

Our May meeting was another chance for us to enjoy an evening in the company of a celebrated author. Andy Beck, who has just received the accolade of "Countryfile Outdoor Book of the Year" for 2018, travelled over from Teasdale to entertain us with an impressive account of his book, 'The Wainwrights in Colour'.

Andy dedicated the last ten years to producing his unique and stunning book. It is based upon all the sketches in every one of Alfred Wainwright's seven guide books to the Lakeland fells. Andy endeavoured to take a photo at the exact location of each of the 1500+ places where Wainwright photographed the view. Wainwright then used his black and white photos to sketch at home in fine pen and ink for his famous guides. In his own style, Andy took each of his modern photographs and re-created them in watercolour. Together he produced the same 1500+ unique paintings for the book that we see today.

Following their completion, they were collated into 214 framed montage wall pictures, of which all but two have been sold. By electronically recording his paintings as he went along, Andy was able to finally combine all of his meticulous art work into one beautiful book by adding his own humour and informative text.

His power-point presentation to us detailed the fascinating background to this mammoth task, along with the pitfalls, success and joys along the way. His truly inspirational talk was enthusiastically received by all our Ladies at the meeting.

During our supper we browsed through the

book and Andy signed copies that had been purchased by the Ladies and their guests. The raffle presented by Val, was won by Sue, who will no doubt enjoy the tin of biscuits she received.

Next month on Wednesday June 13th we shall be holding our annual walk around the Loweswater lanes. Each member is asked to bring a sweet or savoury dish to contribute to the supper to be held afterwards. Those wishing to walk please meet at 6.15 pm at the Hall, where contributions can be left in the kitchen prior to setting off. Those Ladies who only wish to attend the supper can assemble at 7pm for 7.15pm at the Hall.

Supper hostesses for the evening are Judy, Pat, Jenny, Val and Margaret T. Ros will be presenting the raffle.

Advance notice of our Summer Outing which is to be held on Wednesday July 11th; we are planning a trip which will include a coach to Lowther Castle where we can enjoy the exhibitions and shops, as well as a guided tour of the gardens. Lunch (optional at own expense or BYO) will be included in our visit, and this will be followed by a steamer cruise along Ullswater Lake. Our coach, that will have taken us to the start of our cruise at Pooley Bridge, will meet us at Glenridding Pier to transport us back to Cocker mouth.

Further details will be given at our Supper evening next month as well as in the next edition of the Link. Names of those interested will also be taken and anyone not able to attend in June will have the opportunity to ring Alison to add their name.

Ann Hiley

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Tel: 01900826806 wildlakeland@gmail.com

Buttermere Notes

These are the last Buttermere Notes that we are writing as by the time you read this we will have retired as Churchwardens for St James Buttermere.

When we bought Palace How from Alan and Kathy Johnson 14 years ago they told us (very firmly!) that we were in the Parish of Buttermere and St James was the church we would attend and it has been a full and enjoyable journey. Initially attending at weekends when working on the house and when we moved here permanently as regular attenders, then members of the PCC, sharing Wardenship with Joe Crowther and then our joint Wardenship with bouts of being PCC Secretary during the previous interregnum and Sheila's absence through illness. Being on the appointments panel for vicar on two occasions was insightful into the workings of the CofE. We always intended to retire when we achieved our aims for St James and when my age acquired another significant '0', which it did last year; unfortunately age does not come alone.

We have spent over 50 years of married life working on our homes and that seems to have been extended to St James. It is a pleasure to be able to pass on the fabric in good heart and to read the comments in the visitors' book about providing a peaceful, well kept house of God that is always open. The roof is now watertight, the vestry has a new floor, has been replastered and decorated with new cupboards and lighting, the porch stripped of incorrect paint and decorated and the woodwork oiled, the heating works, the railings and steps are now safe with an additional light, the font moved to the front of church with a subsequent improved access to prayer board, notices and sales area at the back of church. One of the biggest challenges was restoring the WW1 Roll of Honour that had become

damaged by water running down the wall behind it.

However satisfying it has been to bring back the fabric of St James to the standard this small, much loved church deserves the most enjoyable part of the last few years has been able to serve the congregation and be part of the warmth it generates. There is a great team of organists, readers, flower ladies and cleaners and of course those ministers who have enabled us to have a service every week during two interregnums. We must particularly mention Betty Coulthard and Ann Kyle. The combined time they have been worshipping at St James is amazingly over 120 years and have been Churchwarden, flower ladies, cleaners, bell ringers and everything else. They, together with Joe and Jean Crowther, Betty Smith, Joan Head and the Johnsons are the spirit of the congregation.

When Buttermere amalgamated with Loweswater it brought with it an entitlement to two Churchwardens (in addition to the two Loweswater Churchwardens), but it has been decided that for the next twelve months Barbara Robinson and Eleanor Ella will share the Wardenship for the united Parish of Loweswater with Buttermere. We wish them as much enrichment as we have had from Buttermere while looking forward to being on the 'back benches' of the PCC etc and even having the odd weekend off!!

Gwyn and Jan Evans

From the Registers
Marriage
St James Buttermere, 12th May 2018
Benjamin William Wright and Jordana Pemberton

Penny's Piece

It appears there have been all kinds of things going on in the vicinity that only a few people will have known about at the time. Firstly, was the filming of a peregrine falcon to test how far they see and how fast they stoop. Clearly it had no problem with the height at Fleetwith Pike as it stooped from the top down to the valley floor and seemed to enjoy flying around High Nook Tarn chasing a drone carrying lunch. I didn't see this first hand, it was on the telly. Then we have the explosive events down Thackthwaite. I told you all you can find all sorts when clearing out sheds but explosives is a totally new ball game. I wonder how long they had been there, who put them there and what they were for. It's a bit of an extreme way of getting rid of moles!

Ah, when worlds collide- hopefully not literally. A peloton of cyclists from the Fred Whitton cycle race was merrily going one way when, at the bottom of the yard, it met a tractor trundle going in the opposite direction. There was an exchange of slightly bewildered looks between the different groups as they negotiated each other followed by looks of mild frustration from the car drivers following both groups. Ah Sunday driving. I am not sure what route the tractor trundle was taking but no doubt they would see a lot of signs out and about. I have always thought the footpath sign at Graythwaite was very specific at 1 and 1/5 miles until I was shown signposts in the south east of the county which show miles and furlongs! That is very accurate. Well, it would be if I knew how long a furlong was. As a member of the crossover generation I know

pounds and ounces, feet and inches making a yard and journeys need to be in miles for me to know what you're on about, but after that I am metric-ish. Babies weights should be in pounds and ounces, adult weight in stones and height in feet and inches but short distances, say here to the phone box, in metres. It all gets very confusing. Grandma's old recipes are in ounces and all the new cook books are in grams. So, in the unlikely event I've baked a cake and you happen to have some and it tastes awful, it's because I got confused- honest.

It appears I am accidentally in fashion again. Lots of people are paying good money to buy holey clothes. I have an increasing collection of holey clothes but these have been worn in over time not put in for the sake of it. I really don't see the point in buying clothes that have more holes than those required to put the article on. I was bought a t-shirt with shoulder holes. Annoying. I can't tell you the amount of times I've put my arms through the wrong holes trying to put it on.



Right, best go hunt out the Union Jack bunting and get the Pimms ready.

Any excuse. Penny.



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**Sponsored walk plus
Tea, scone, jam and cream
Cakes also on sale.**

**Sunday 3rd June 2018.
The walk starts from the hall at 1:30pm
Teas From 2:30pm at
Loweswater Village Hall**

Proceeds to Loweswater Village Hall

Any donations of cakes and plain scones gratefully received on the day.
P. Leck

A message from the Vale of Lorton First Responders' Committee

Vale of Lorton First Responders are currently experiencing difficulty in receiving the call-out messages which they receive from North West Ambulance Service (NWAS), in the event of a medical emergency. This is since the pager system, used effectively for years, was withdrawn at the end of March and replaced with a system which does not work reliably in a hilly area like ours. We are not the only CFR team experiencing these difficulties and NWAS assure us they are working to find a reliable solution. In the meantime team members are doing their best to circulate messages and we apologise, in advance, if we fall short of responding as efficiently as we would wish and which this community deserves.

Ullock Village Hall



***The King's Road*
Saturday 7th July at 7.30pm
Doors open at 7.00pm
Tickets £7.50**

The Kings Road, a five piece local band, will play music all the way from the 50s to the current day. The Beatles, Rolling Stones, The Kinks, The Who, Joe Cocker and Coldplay to mention a few.

After their first electric show at Ullock village hall, they return to entertain us again. Come along, dance the night away and have a great time at the hall.

BYO Drinks

For Tickets:
01946 862300 or 861458

Call for Photographs

Although 2019 is some way off we are already thinking about the Lorton Vale Calendar. Please could all budding photographers review their collections and send any pictures they would like considering for inclusion to lois.sparling@gmail.com by 31st August. Format needs to be Landscape and files should be either JPEG or PSD, size 2MB.

We aim to get the calendar complete by early October so if anyone would like to pre-order please contact Rosemary Riley on 07885360353 or rriley@rileysolutions.co.uk.



**The Melbreak Communities an Action Plan for the four parishes of Buttermere,
Lowseswater, Blindbothel and Lorton**
www.melbreakcommunities.org.uk

On Tuesday 15th May 2018 the Annual General Meeting of the Melbreak Communities took place in the Yew Tree Hall.

Parish Council representatives from Lorton, Lowseswater, Buttermere and Blindbothel were joined by several interested members of the community. The Acting Chair, Chris Poate, and Carolyn Davis, Secretary and Financial Officer agreed to continue in their roles.

Since the Melbreak Community Plan was launched 9 years ago, a wide range of projects have been undertaken. The monthly Coffee and Cakes events continue to be popular, the Emergency Plan has already been put into action on several occasions, and hydro sacks are located in a range of venues across the valley. The Lorton School Fork to Fork project is expanding, having had financial support from the MBC to get it up and running.

There is growing enthusiasm for taking for new ideas, so a small project group is now working on a Community Energy Project, and a successful bid for funding to Cumbria County Council has enabled the Make and Mend Workshops to be planned, tutors and halls booked, and all for FREE! Contact Glenis Postlethwaite for details. 01900 85616.

Thanks are due to Liz Roberts, who runs the Lorton Oil Co-Op, she donates the annual joining fee (£20 per household) to the MBC, and this is a significant source of funds.

We would welcome new and long-standing residents of the parishes to join the MBC Steering Group and to help us develop new ideas and projects that could be of benefit and interest to our community.

When funds permit we welcome applications for grants, from local groups or individuals, particularly younger residents who may be looking to undertake voluntary work that requires financial backing.

If you would like to know more please contact Chris Poate on 01900 85265 or chrispoate@gmail.com.

The next Steering Group meeting is on Wednesday 8th August at Lowseswater Village Hall. 7.30pm. All are welcome

Birth Announcement

Our daughter Bethany Joy Davey was born safely on Tuesday 27th March. A little sister for Grace and Martha, and a new addition to the valley!

Many thanks

Christine & Rich Davey

2 Water Board Cottages, Lowseswater

After what seems to have been a rather long Winter, at last we have had some genuine Spring days in which acquaintance has been renewed with the sight, sound and scent of many old friends.

A wander through some favourite woods, for example, to the bubbling call of the cuckoo and the rat-tat-tat of the woodpecker, with shafts of sunlight filtering through the delicate young apple-green leaves of beech and oak and a carpet of primrose, wood anemone and wood sorrel, while elsewhere there are great banks of gorse, huge swags of golden blooms drenching the vicinity in that rich and heady honey-like perfume, like no other.

Life reawakens in the garden too, with early blooms, great bird activity, the occasional orange tip and peacock butterfly, hoverfly and bee, and of course the squirrels. Red squirrels here, thank goodness, although nationwide they are now said to be outnumbered by the greys by 18 to 1. A constant problem, but it is good to hear of a glimmer of hope in the form of the pine marten, a mustelid which was locally classed as "very rare" in the literature of even 40 years ago. Much persecuted for centuries, but now fully protected by law, the pine marten was shot and trapped almost to extinction from England, although some populations remained in Wales and parts of Scotland, being reintroduced in Dumfries and Galloway in the 1980s. The recent news that these populations are now spreading back into the West of England

and Northumberland is welcome indeed. The point is that the red squirrels being lighter and faster can escape through flimsier branches than can bear the weight of either grey squirrels or pine martens, as a result, pine marten will successfully hunt greys while the reds flourish. A thriving population of pine marten would thus be a distinct advantage to the reds.

As for pond life, well that too is springing into action once more. Water skaters are dashing about over the surface, as are the brightly shining whirligig beetles, with their strangely divided eyes, half looking above the surface and half looking below. There is no doubt, however, that it is tadpoles that dominate the pond just now. A tremendous crop of thousands, although there are some ponds usually well inhabited which are entirely without this time. The metamorphosis of the tadpole is in fact a highly complicated phenomenon, with a host of changes taking place as the weeks roll by. Once the 'food yolk' has been consumed, the tadpole feeds vigorously on a vegetable diet, eating simple forms of plant life and growing rapidly. Changes occur throughout this period such as in the respiratory and digestive systems, and eventually an entirely animal diet is adopted, in fact many pond keepers feed their maturing tadpoles on small scraps of raw mince or liver. Every little helps, as they say!

Alan Gane.



On 12 May the Club hosted the Melbreak Communities Coffee Morning. Many thanks to all those who made cakes, donated raffle prizes, and helped on the day. The event was much enjoyed by all, and the raffle made £76 for the First Responders.

The **Annual Club Trip** will take place on Tuesday 19 June when we will take a cruise on the Lancaster Canal, during which we will enjoy a buffet lunch. After lunch we will visit Barton Grange Garden Centre, and then drive to the Shepherd's

Inn for supper. The cost is £25 (£35 for non-members), which includes everything except tea, coffee or other drinks en route and with the meals. If you wish to come and have not already booked and given your menu choices for the Shepherd's Inn please phone me on 01900 829917, or if unavailable phone John Hudson on 01946 861555. The coach will leave Mitchell's Auction at 8.30am, and return about 8.30pm.

Marjorie Lowery, Secretary.

NOTES FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S

One of the highlights of the natural world in our valley, the Rannerdale bluebells are at their resplendent best. In the midst of a long dry, sunny spell we were lucky to have that most rare of things a beautiful Bank holiday weekend a real bonus for us and all our visitors and perfect for the popular biennial Scarecrow festival in neighbouring Dean. This has become something of an institution and demonstrated the usual high standard of expertise, imagination and plain funny.

The organ recital held in church in April was much enjoyed by all those who attended and raised the sum of £400.00 for church funds.

Whilst the building repair work on the church still awaits a visit from the builder many will have noticed that the churchyard wall has at last been repaired!

On a glorious sunny day in May over 250 people gathered for the funeral of Tyson Burrige of Mockerkin. Tyson was well known in the wider business

community with his Road Haulage business and held in great affection locally. Our thoughts are with Audrey and her family.

As Christian Aid week comes to a close we thank all those who give so generously. The final sum will be confirmed next month.

Belated congratulations to David and Barbara Robinson on the birth of their first grandchild, Laura and Matthew's son Alexander.

Eleanor Ella




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