

Church Services March 2020

1st March	1st Sunday of Lent		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Lorton	BCP
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	CW
8th March	2nd Sunday of Lent		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
3.00pm	Holy Communion	Buttermere	CW
15th March	3rd Sunday of Lent		
10.30am	<i>Matins</i>	Loweswater	CW
20th March	St Cuthbert's Day		
† 7.00pm	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
22nd March	Mothering Sunday		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
29th March	5th Sunday of Lent		
10.30am	Benefice Service	Loweswater	CW

† Note time

Postponed

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Organ recital by Alan Wilson at St Bartholomew's, Loweswater, has had to be postponed.

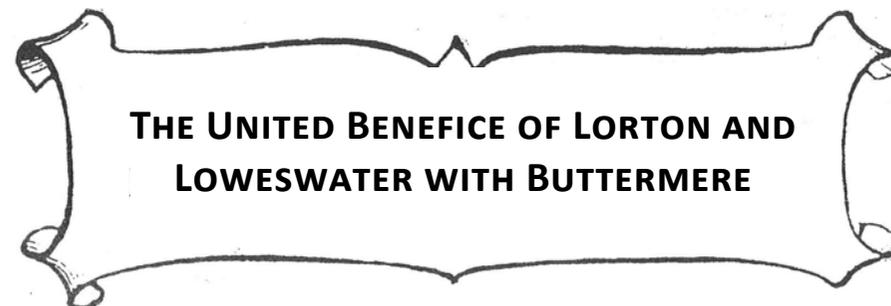
It will now take place on **Friday 3rd July**.

Alan's theme is The Lakes and Lakeland poets.

£

Deadline for April is Fri 20th March, all articles to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date.

MARCH 2020



DIARY DATES

MAR

- 2 Mon Keep fit LVH 9.30-10.30 am
3 Tue Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
4 Wed Lent Lunch, Robert and Carole Baird. Park View, High Lorton. 12-2p.m.
4 Wed Lorton Parish Council, YTH, 7.30pm
5 Wed Loweswater Parish Council, Loweswater village hall, 7.30pm
6 Fri Keep fit LVH 5.30-6.30 pm
9 Mon Community Lunch, Lorton School, 1.15pm. Call Helen on 07790 459064
9 Mon Loweswater (Farmers) Discussion Group - End of season meal, Kirkstile 7 pm - (please note earlier time)
9 Mon Keep fit LVH 9.30-10.30 am
11 Wed Lent Lunch, The Old School Room, Buttermere. 12-2p.m.
11 Wed Loweswater Ladies 7.15 Loweswater Village Hall - John & Rosamund Macfarlane .
11 Wed Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
12 Thu German Miners under the Derwent Fells, LDFLHS talk by Mark Hatton, YTH, 7.30 pm
13 Fri Film Night "Judy" Ullock village hall 7.30pm
13 Fri Keep fit LVH 5.30-6.30 pm
13 Fri Youth Cafe, YTH, 7.9p.m
14 Sat Lorton School 10k run, 11am
15 Sun Tree planting party, St Cuthbert's, Lorton, 2-4.30p.m
16 Mon Keep fit LVH 9.30-10.30 am
18 Wed Lent Lunch, Charles & Fiona Lambrick. Armaside House, Lorton . 12-2p.m.
18 Wed Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
19 Thurs The Eccentricity Effect. Does knowledge of the artist's life affect how we perceive their art? Arts Society Cumbria, Hundith Hill Hotel, 10.45 am and 2 pm
21 Sat Coffee and Cakes hosted by Lorton Gardening Club, YTH, 1030-1200
21 Sat Lorton School talk by Dr Lisa Fenton, Queens Hall, Keswick school, 7.30p.m.
23 Mon Keep fit LVH 9.30-10.30 am
24 Tues Lorton Gardening Club Talk, YTH, 7.30
25 Wed Lent Lunch, Loweswater Village Hall. 12-2p.m.
25 Wed Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
26 Thu 77 Club. Talk by Macfarlanes: *Living with nomads and eagle hunters of Mongolia. A photographic journey.* 7.30pm LVH
27 Fri Keep fit LVH 5.30-6.30 pm
30 Mon Keep fit LVH 9.30-10.30 am
31 Tues Film Night - The Peanut Butter Falcon, YTH, 7 for 7.30p.m.

APR

- 1 Wed Lent Lunch, Jan Evans, Palace How, Brackenthwaite. 12-2p.m.
17 Fri Film Night Ullock vh The Good Liar
17 Fri Youth Cafe, YTH, 7.9p.m
20 Mon Community Lunch, Lorton School, 1.15pm. Call Helen on 07790 459064
23 Thu 77 Club Lunch Hunday Manor Hotel, 12.30 for 1.00pm. Speaker TBA.
28 Tues Film Night YTH The Farewell



THE MOCKERKIN MOB
Founder Alan Gane MBE. Fell walking friends based in the
Melbreak Communities



A354: Cinderdale Round Sunday 8th March

Rannerdale Knotts - Whiteless Pike - Cragg Hill - Grasmoor

Meet: 9.50am for 10am start.

Car Park: Cinderdale Common

GR: 163193

Estimated Time: 6 hours

Leader: Sue Pexton

Grade: Medium - Hard

B355: Solway Coast Sunday 15th March

A bracing walk around Silloth and the Solway coast

Meet: 9.50am for 10am start.

Car Park: Opposite Skinburness Drive, Silloth

GR: 114546

Estimated Time: 4 hours

Leader: Peter Battrick

Grade: Easy

Walkers participate at their own risk and should be fit, and equipped for walking on the fells in all conditions. If you would like to join please contact:
Peter 01900 85576 – James 07808 581141 – mockerkinmob@gmail.com



Our next meeting will be on Thursday 26 March at 7.30pm in Loweswater Village Hall. Rosamund and John Macfarlane will talk on "*Living with nomads and eagle hunters of Mongolia. A photographic journey.*" All welcome - please see separate notice. Non-members are asked to pay £2.50.

Date for your diary: Our annual lunch party will be held on Thursday 23 April, 12.30 for 1pm at Hunday Manor Hotel. Speaker TBA.

John Hudson

COFFEE MORNING

Coffee & Cake £2.50



Saturday 21st March
10.30am to 12noon



Yew Tree Hall

hosted by
Lorton Gardening Club



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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Although we have had two storms recently there is something comforting in seeing the garden covered in a wonderful collection of snowdrops and crocus (there are even some daffodils flowering already). We sometimes forget how lucky we are to have God's creation despite the awful weather. However, those experiencing flooding may not feel so and they are in our prayers.

We have had a few excellent events recently. The wine tasting evening was very good with a wonderful selection of wines carefully researched by David Robinson and I was pleased to see a sparkling rose on the list from Wales. A pleasant wine and I do not normally like rose nor do we associate Wales with wines. Thank you, David, Barbara and Laura for the food. This was followed the next week by a wonderful meal at the Bridge in Buttermere and another wine tasting for the wines to be auctioned. We thank Adrian and the staff at the Bridge Hotel for their kindness in offering that all the proceeds from the evening go towards the renovation of the Old School in Buttermere. Thank you to all who supported the event. We hope that the Old School can be a community resource in the future.

Soon there will be the Lent lunches and we can happily eat good wholesome soup with bread and cheese. Alongside meeting friends old and new. Please do join us for the lunches. It is good to see the community working together for either Church or community-based projects. One such project is the Eco Swap at Lorton. At the time of writing this



letter the event has not yet taken place but the concept is so good that I do hope that many of you will have attended and taken advantage of the opportunity to swap and recycle your items. It is surprising that some people's perceived rubbish is someone else's treasure.

Once again, we are coming to the period of Lent and it is a time for reflection and examining ourselves, taking responsibility for what we have done, saying sorry to God, and accepting his forgiveness.

"For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you would follow in his steps.....He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed." Peter 2 21, 24)

There will be a weekly discussion group during the period of Lent where we will read and reflect on the core questions of Christian faith: what do Jesus' death and resurrection mean? We will be using the book 'God with Us The meaning of the cross and resurrection. Then and now.' By Rowan Williams. We are asked to consider the fundamental meaning of life itself. It should prove to be an interesting and reflective set of sessions. Please do join us – see details overleaf

God bless

Revd. Sandra Ward

01900 85237

revd.sandra@gmail.com

Lent Discussion Groups

This year we will be meeting by the kind invitation of Jan Evans at her home, Palace How, Loweswater as follows:

Monday 2nd March 10.30 -12 noon

Monday 9th March 10.30 – 12 noon

Monday 16th March 2.30 am – 4 pm

Monday 23rd March 10.30-12 noon

Monday 30th March 10.30-12 noon

We will be using the book - *God with Us* by Rowan Williams ISBN: 9780281076642. The book gives the opportunity for group discussion and individual reflection also. A copy of the book is available on line from SPCK/Church House Bookshop or Eden Christian Bookshop – cost £8.99. We look forward to sharing reflections on the questions posed by the book with as many of you who can attend the sessions.

NOTES FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S AND ST JAMES

It is impossible not to mention the weather. Storm and rain has dominated February. Whilst this has been a nuisance for us with flooded roads and fallen trees once again we have been spared the serious flooding of homes experienced by many areas of the country. High winds have taken their toll in the churchyard. Two large boughs were blown off one of the cypresses and two days later another large branch came down from a tree near the small gate. Paul, our tree surgeon, dealt with the former and Roger Hiley the latter for which many thanks.

We are now in the forty days of Lent, a period of discipline and renewal. It provides an opportunity to share Lent lunches, a good social time for both church people and non-church goers whilst raising much needed funds for our churches. This year we shall be

adding a new venue Buttermere Old school. Dates and venues are listed elsewhere in the Link. Lent discussion group will take place at Jan Evans's house Palace How. More details are published in this issue.

David and Barbara Robinson's annual wine tasting proved a very enjoyable evening. The theme this year was wines from islands and gave us a chance to experience unusual, harder to find wines while raising funds for Loweswater church.

The Bridge Hotel in Buttermere hosted an evening event in aid of Buttermere Old School. A lively dinner was followed by a superior raffle and wine auction raising approximately £780.

Eleanor Ella

Joe and Petunia's day out

Some of you may remember 'Joe & Petunia' in public information films from the 1970s. The Country Code film is where the infamous couple are utterly unaware of the consequences of their actions which are blindingly obvious to any onlooker, particularly the littering.



Luckily we have the antithesis of Joe and Petunia – a couple of wombles have been clearing the lanes of litter in our community, although, stop press, Ciara and Dennis (the new Joe and Petunia?) seem to have brought plenty back. In the wombles' own words:

Walking around some of the byways of Lorton and Blindbotheil, 9 bags full of litter and general detritus have been retrieved from hedgerows and verges. It's a lot easier to see and pick at this time of year and apart from being unsightly, most litter seems to have a half-life akin to nuclear waste.

A bamboo cane makes a fine winkling stick and Inspector Gadget-esque arm extender. Bottles with their caps off or beer cans with their openings accessible are particularly satisfying as they can be speared and gently extracted from their lair. The beer of choice is Fosters lager with the more discerning palette opting for Stella Artois. Glass and plastic bottles and all the usual types of litter you'd expect has been picked. The campaign to reduce smoking seems to be going well and health officials will be delighted to know very few cigarette ends have been found. Unless there is a hedgerow cartel of small furry animals playing poker and smoking the tab ends somewhere.

While some litter has been thrown or dropped, other bits can get blown around by the wind. Scavenger birds, especially seagulls, also like to drag stuff from the litter bins - the seagulls love a good takeaway in a seaside town.

Littering is actually a criminal act; two chaps in Carlisle have been found guilty recently and each was fined over £400. Thankfully it's pretty good around here but if you do see any, it can be reported on the Allerdale council app. Unless the wombles get to it first!

If you like to remind yourselves of the crimes of Joe and Petunia here's a link: https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/films/1964to1979/filmpage_country.htm or you could just search YouTube for episodes of the Wombles.

Lorton &
Derwent Fells Local History Society

Brackenthwaite Buttermere Embleton Loweswater Mockerkin Pardshaw Wythop
www.derwentfells.com

German Miners under the Derwent Fells

Mark Hatton

Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton on Thursday 12 March, at 7.30pm

The fascinating story of how Elizabeth I brought many German miners to Keswick in 1565. These men quickly became part of the community, marrying local girls. But the 'strangers' were not always welcome and the story includes the jealousy and resentment of local men, leading at one stage to violence and murder.

These highly skilled Germans worked the copper veins in the Derwent Fells, building the world's largest and most advanced smelter in Keswick. Many of their workings still remain, and their story deserves to be better known.

Mark has been studying the Mines of the Lake District for many years. Mark is a Trustee of the Cumbria Amenity Trust Mining History Society.



Image: An adit just as the German miners left it

Visitors are welcome at £3, refreshments included

Next Event: Mark Hatton will lead a Society fell walk to see the mines of Derwent Fells and to examine the Goldscope Mine, on Saturday 25 April. Details to be announced on our website. This walk must be pre-booked.

LORTON NOTES

Sandra has now been leading our worship for one year, her first service being the Ash Wednesday Holy Communion. To me it seems longer than that, she has fitted in and leads our services so well. We all wish her a happy anniversary.

This year we do not have an early Easter so all March lies in the season of Lent, the time when more is organised by the church than at any other period of the year. The traditional not-so-frugal lunches will be taking place which are enjoyed throughout the benefice by churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike. Delicious homemade soup followed by cheese and biscuits and tea or coffee attracts good numbers and I am sure that most of the newcomers to the parish who have been enthusiastically joining in village activities will need no more persuading to come along and join us. Details of dates and venues will be found elsewhere in The Link. All proceeds are for

church funds. The usual discussion group will also be happening and will be based around a book written by the former Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Rowan Williams. I have always thought that Rowan Williams spoke well-considered good sense carefully presented and it promises to be an interesting course.

We are fortunate that for a small parish we do have many capable people willing to pitch in and do the tasks necessary to keep the church running smoothly. As always, we would appreciate more and if you can add your name to the rotas at the back of the church, especially if you have not helped before, we would be grateful.

A reminder, we are celebrating St. Cuthbert's Day on Friday 20 March

Thank you.

Roger Peck.

2020 LENT LUNCHES

The dates and venues for the 2020 Lent Lunches have now been agreed as follows:

4th March	Robert and Carole Baird. Park View, High Lorton.
11th March	The Old School Room, Buttermere.
18th March	Charles and Fiona Lambrick. Armaside House, Lorton
25th March	Loweswater Village Hall
1st April	Jan Evans Palace How. Brackenthwaite

All lunches from 12-2p.m.





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LORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
FEBRUARY 2020 Meeting



“Dynamite”, “Gallows”, “Johnny Bulldog”, “Ghost” and “Hunter’s” are just a few of the names of the many ancient lonnings found in Cumbria introduced to us by Alan Cleaver, our guest speaker at the Open Meeting on 11th February. But beforehand, President Ann R welcomed 11 members and 15 visitors and conducted a short business meeting including: a reminder that subs are due by the end of the month; our team will be playing in the Area Darts tournament on the 17th and a reminder to let Kris know our choices from the menu for Portofino’s for our 98th Birthday meeting.

Ann then introduced Alan and Hilary Cleaver, who entertained and educated us on the Lonnings of Cumbria. Hilary read us several ballads and accounts of lonnings which had been written in dialect, which enhanced the talk. Alan explained that “lonning” was a dialect word for a small country lane. There are different dialect words for such in many rural areas in the UK. Many lonnings led to farms or were short cuts to industrial sites and some are only half a mile in length. Many have local and interesting names – “Dynamite” was a private footpath where dynamite was stored for a local mine; “Gallows” is self-explanatory and “Johnny Bulldog” was a local character called Johnny who had a bulldog. “Ghost Lonning” opens opposite

the spot where an elderly lady was run over by a coach and four and it is said to be haunted. “Hunter’s Lonning” is reputed to be where an unfortunate woman became separated from her hunting party and was fatally savaged by a wolf. Lonnings are often edged by ancient hedgerows and full of wildflowers and bird life. Alan gave us a humorous and interesting talk, drawing on many fascinating details from his latest book “Get lost in the ancient tracks of the Lake District”. The book, to be launched at The New Book Shop on 26th March, is a timely publication as The Ramblers want to list and register as many of these tracks as possible before 2026, when conservation status will be withdrawn from any unregistered footpaths. Many lonnings have already “rewilded” beyond use or have been concreted over. As a rich source of local history and folklore we need to cherish and care for our lonnings and save them. Christine gave a vote of thanks for a thoroughly enjoyable talk and many of us will look at our local footpaths with new eyes. There followed a delicious finger buffet and people were able to chat and question Alan and Hilary further. Next month’s meeting is our Birthday meal at Portofino’s, on Tuesday 10th March at 7 for 7.30.

Lorton School

We hope you all enjoyed Dave Mitchell's amazing talk about his snowy adventures. A big thank you for supporting Lorton School in coming along, Cal and Andy Williamson for all their hardwork and to Dave for putting together his wonderful talk. We raised about £500 for Friends of Lorton School and Lorton after School Club.

On **Sat 21st March** we have another talk lined up this time by Dr Lisa Fenton who has a child at Lorton School. Lisa has global recognition in the field of Wilderness Bushcraft. She is a lecturer in Outdoor Studies at the University of Cumbria, an ethnobotanist, anthropologist, and a former apprentice of Ray Mears. In this talk, Lisa provides an insight into her experiences, knowledge and reflections of two decades in teaching and learning wilderness bushcraft and survival skills across the globe.



The talk will take place at **Queens Hall, Keswick school starting at 7.30** tickets £7 available from Lorton Village Shop.

Thank you, Sara Brown (Friends of Lorton School)

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Ullock Village Hall



Ullock Village Hall

Film Night – Friday 13 March at 7.30pm

“Judy”

Thirty years after starring in “The Wizard of Oz,” beloved actress and singer **Judy Garland** arrives in London to perform sold-out shows at the Talk of the Town nightclub. While there, she reminisces with friends and fans and begins a whirlwind romance with musician Mickey Deans.

This captivating and poignant film is more ambitious than a mere tribute and has been hailed as the ‘performance of a lifetime’ from **Renee Zellweger**.

Tickets £5 (child £4) BYO Drinks
01946 862300 861458

Don't Forget **Zumba** sessions are held on Tuesday evenings

7.00 to 8.00

Call Jo 07986 427671

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Penny's Piece

The road to Barrow is an experience, especially in the dark. I had cause to set off at stupid o'clock to get my husband to Furness General and be ahead of the Sellafield traffic. Which we were from our side. The problems arose through meeting the commuters coming the other way from Millom and Barrow to get to Sellafield. Round every bend (most of the route then) and at every hill-crest my retinas were seared by someone's lovely portable solar flares. To say I was somewhat frazzled by the time I got there is putting it mildly. All I can say is that even though it is still not great, it is significantly easier to drive the route in daylight. I do however, have a problem with the signage. The whole thing is bends from end to end. It would be far better to remove the bendy road signs and instead warn drivers of a straight bit, as they do with dual carriageway or crawler lanes. Then, when you get to it, tell you how long the straight bit is then you can decide whether to floor it and actually get above 40mph or slow down further to 20mph and allow your inner ear and stomach to catch up with you.

Anyone sharing living space with others knows exactly what is meant when they say something like: 'you know those yogurts I bought, feel free to try them if you like.' Great, you bought several of something that tastes horrible and no longer want to eat it but would love it if I polished them off for you. Thanks. Of-course sometimes this isn't a chore as you don't always have the same dislikes so least then things don't get wasted.

I became consciously aware of something I do at the till in the supermarket recently. I pay and then get handed the receipt and hear myself say: 'Cheers. Thanks.' Before walking off with my stuff. Is it just me or am I effectively saying thank you, thank you? Whilst I appreciate the service done by the cashier in processing my shopping a double thank sounds a bit over the top. I haven't just won an award and they haven't rescued my pet from up a tree or fought off a mugger on my behalf. The double thanks sounds a bit gushy and I am going to have to either stick to one or re-think.

When you go and see a film at the cinema you will see, after half an hour of adverts and trailers the BBFC (British Board of Film Classification) screen. On it, it reminds you what film you have actually come to see, the classification of the film and warns of any peril, violence, bad language etc. I recently went to see the latest adaptation of Jane Austen's Emma and the BBFC screen told me there would be brief natural nudity. This raised a lot of questions: why was it brief? What would unnatural nudity be? Why was somebody nude? Spoiler: The hero gets changed and apparently has to get naked first before putting new stuff on- ill-advised as their heating is similar to mine. Long gone is Mr Darcey in a wet shirt, flesh must be seen, whether that be The Night Manager's bum or Poldark's torso. Shame it wasn't enough to rescue an ok-ish film. Penny.



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*Lunch is served between
12-2.30pm on Sunday 22nd March 2020*



Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st February 2020

1st prize of £25 No 91	Sammy Wright
2nd prize of £10 No 82	Christine Edmunds
3rd prize of £5 No 1	Les Polley

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.

Loweswater with Buttermere PCC 100 Club

Winners; March 2019 – February 2020

March		September
1 41 Betty Coulthard		1 38 Shelia Thompson
2 98 Jennifer Kirwan		2 25 Carol Priestley
3 77 Nora Forster		3 18 Eleanor Ella
April		October
1 49 Mary Graham		1 21 Walter Head
2 48 Judy Hudson		2 14 David Walmsley
3 77 Nora Forster		3 111 Barbara Robinson
May		November
1 88 Lorraine Dickson		1 53 Chris Judd
2 109 Mary Baker		2 107 Eleanor Gardiner
3 37 Michael Thompson		3 51 Rev. Margaret Jenkinson
June		December
1 72 William Steel		1 76 Kathryn Mitchell
2 28 Maud Vickers		2 30 Meleri McEwan
3 21 Walter Head		3 34 Derwent Thompson-Green
July		January 2020
1 84 Diane Hayton		1 64 Robin Harper
2 26 Carol Priestley		2 95 Jan Collins-Webb
3 98 Jennifer Kirwan		3 63 Alex Harper
August		February
1 52 Chris Poate		1 91 Sammy Wright
2 34 Derwent Thompson-Green		2 82 Christine Edmunds
3 100 Sandra Meier		3 1 Les Polley

There's still time to subscribe, we need your support!!!

TO Jan Evans, (Promoter), Palace How, Loweswater, Cockermouth, CA13 9UX
Tel; 01900 85458

I wish to join the 100 Challenge Club at £12.00 for 12 months from March 2020.
I wish to have..... additional numbers at £12.00 for the same period.
I enclose a cheque for £..... payable to Loweswater with Buttermere PCC 100 Challenge Club.

Name (+title).....tel.....

Address (incl email).....

.....

.....



**LORTON
FILM
NIGHT**

**TUESDAY
MARCH
31**

**YEW TREE
HALL**

FILM STARTS : 7.30pm
BAR OPENS : 7pm
TICKETS : £5

**" THE PEANUT BUTTER
FALCON "**

Starring Shia LaBeouf and Dakota Johnson this
comedy drama is a modern Mark Twain
adventure story.

" an emotional ride and a dream double act
in this unlikely buddy movie "
Wendy Ide The Guardian



Living with Nomads and Eagle Hunters of Mongolia

A Photographic Journey

A richly illustrated talk by John and Rosamund Macfarlane

In late winter, 2018, John and Rosamund travelled in Central (Buddhist) and Western (Muslim) Mongolia. They visited and lived with several nomadic families in their isolated *gers*, and Kazakh eagle hunters in the Altai mountains. The talk will provide an intimate glimpse of the hard life and the culture of the nomadic people of Mongolia, a way of life under threat and change.

Loweswater Village Hall. 7.30pm. Thursday 26th March 2020
77 CLUB (details in this Link). ALL VISITORS **very** welcome (£2.50pp).

The talk will also be presented to the *Loweswater Ladies*.
11th March 2020, 7.15pm, LVH. See the Link events diary.



Lorton School 10K. Fundraising Road Race

Saturday 14th March 2020 at 11.00am

Minimum Age: - 15. All levels of runners welcome

Details and entry forms from
www.runbritain.com or [Find us on Facebook](#)

Early warning - a date for your diary - a concert not to be missed:

Chris Bannister performs - "The Music of John Denver"

St Cuthbert's Church, Lorton.

Friday 12th June 2020 at 7.15p.m.

ECO PROJECT UPDATE

I'm not quite sure where to start with our update this month as there has been a lot going on. On Saturday 22nd February we introduced a new event - an Eco Swap Shop. The idea is that you bring along items you don't want and take away items that you do want - as Sandra said in her letter - "It is surprising that some people's perceived rubbish is someone else's treasure" . I must admit that I was a little worried at first when hoards of folk arrived at 09.30 to give stuff away, but they all assured me they would be back later! When the swap opened at 10.00 it took a while for folk to realise that they could, literally, take away anything they wanted for nothing. But once they got the hang of it items went out the door with alacrity. The very first item to be appropriated was a china model of a Hereford Bull - not very Cumbrian but look out for it around the village. The unwanted gifts and toy stall was particularly popular with some new or nearly new jigsaw puzzles being snapped up within minutes of opening, and one little Baird grandchild is going to enjoy working in the garden with a toy wheelbarrow. I was particularly pleased to pick up a brand new pair of silver kitten heel shoes from Dune - to all future donators - size 5 please. A girl can never have enough shoes! I was really pleased that we weren't left with more than 1 car full of donations which I dropped off at charity shop in Cockermouth before going home for a well earned lunch. Lorna from The Grange Hotel at Loweswater brought in some lovely bedding (throws, lampshades and pillow cases) left over from refurbished bedrooms at the hotel and although it didn't all get snapped up at the Swap Shop it is still available so if you're interested please call Lorna on 01946 861211.

Our grant application for native trees and shrubs from Cumbria Woodland has been approved and the plants have been ordered. As you can see from the poster opposite we are having a planting party on Sunday 15th March - you are all welcome.

As mentioned last month our energy survey report has been received and is in the process of being reviewed. There are some interesting recommendations and the report will be considered at the next PCC meeting on the 9th of March.

I do hope that some of you have used the new bike rack and that you have started putting in donations for the food bank collection point.

Loweswater Ladies February 2020

Our annual Kirkstile meal held at the Kirkstile Inn on February 12th was a delightful evening. The three course dinner was superb and we wish to thank the staff for their excellent service. Ann Hayton presented the raffle, a lovely lily plant, which was won by Ann Sands. We return to our usual venue, the Loweswater Village Hall on Wednesday

March 11th at 7.15pm. We shall be transported to Mongolia to view eagles, courtesy of the brilliant photography of our local valley residents, John and Rosamund Macfarlane. Supper hostesses will be Pam, Lorna and Pat and the raffle presented by Judy. Ann Hiley

LORTON VALE GARDENING CLUB

Sheila Ripper who gave our February talk entitled "The 100 plants war" is a great plantswoman who travels to see plants in their natural habitat and leads tours to gardens and garden festivals. She was talking about two festivals in particular - Hampton Court Palace flower show and Chaumont-sur-Loire show.

They have a very different approach to their shows and she was relating this to the 100 years war between England and France giving us a bit of the background history. Hampton Court show has about 40 show gardens on a variety of themes which can only be viewed from outside the gardens - and has awards in various categories and huge over crowded marquees selling every variety of plant and plant related items. It is only open for 6 days a year.

Chaumont in contrast is open for 6 months and has only about 20 show gardens that you can wander about in and are all on a single theme. It has no awards or competitions and no commercial side. Most of the audience felt they preferred the French approach!

The final talk of our winter season is on **Tuesday March 24th at 7.30 when Ken Smith will be telling us about "Restoring Lingholm Kitchen Garden"**.

The spring newsletter and summer programme will be available at the meeting.

BUTTERMERE OLD SCHOOL – Charity event 13th February

A thoroughly enjoyable evening at the Bridge Hotel in Buttermere on 13th February raised a total of £894 for the support of Buttermere's Old School. 36 guests enjoyed a superb 3 course dinner, and were entertained by Dr. John Scadding, who successfully auctioned an exotic array of wines from France, Italy, Greece, South Africa and Moldova. The evening concluded with a raffle, organised by Ann Beebe.

The Old School has, since 1991, been owned by the Loweswater with Buttermere PCC, and was managed, on its behalf, by Joe Crowther and, latterly, Gwyn Evans. Plans are afoot to improve access, to freshen up the exterior and to develop the interior of the building to reflect the unique character of Buttermere past and present. The School is a community resource, used for Parish Council meetings and as a polling-station, and is available for exhibitions, talks, Open Days, musical, literary and fund-raising events, and as a base for local activities (contact – Mrs. Ann Beebe 01900 824260).

We are very grateful to Adrian Maguire and to the superb staff at The Bridge for conceiving and organising this event, and very much look forward to working with them and with other friends of the Old School to ensure that this historic building, which opened in 1874 and continued in operation as a school until 1950, can continue to play its part in the life of the community.

Loweswater Village Hall News

Thank you to all those who braved the weather to attend our latest venture with Arts out West.

We had an excellent evening's entertainment at the end of last month with GreenMatthews performing:

Witty Ditties: 400 Years of Comic Song on a variety of instruments also from the last 400 years. We laughed at the more risqué songs and sang along with some wartime songs and one about Anne Boleyn and her head tucked underneath her arm. We also had a small chair aerobic session along with one song which had some great actions.

It is wonderful to have professional performers coming to us, instead of us having to go to them. We hope to have another act in the Autumn.

P. Leck

ECO COMMUNITY PLANTING EVENT
ST CUTHBERT'S LORTON
give it some WELLY for trees



Tree Planting Party

Sunday 15th March 2.00pm - 4.30pm

Helpers most welcome
13 trees and shrubs to plant around the churchyard perimeter. Expert help on hand.

Bring
own spades/forks, gloves, mallet/hammer, suitable footwear and a watering can.

Refreshments provided

This event is part of the ongoing Eco Project, and follows on from the successful wildflower planting session.



"help us plant trees"

any queries please phone Rosemary on 01900 85072

Finally - we have started a 'Community Share' scheme - do you have items that could be shared amongst the community, for example Roger and Ann Peck have:

1. Travel Cot
2. Folding pushchair
3. Baby walker push along
4. 2 car seats
5. Fold up guest bed

If you have items that can be shared by the community then please email lortonvalelink@gmail.com and we will create a list on the Melbreak Communities website



TO PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS if you haven't already done so.

If you wish to continue with the Link this year (10 issues) , please note that the rate for postal subscribers is still £12 pa. and £5 for the copies the distributors deliver.

Please send your subs. (using the envelope provided last month) to the treasurer: David Walmsley The Old Police House, High Lorton, Cockermouth. CA13 9UL; or give them to your distributor. Cheques should be made payable to "The Benefice Link Account". Please write your name on the envelope.

Thank You.

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Youth Café

Yew Tree Hall

Friday 13 March 7-9pm

(Youth Café will also be held on 17 April/15 May/26 June)

10-16 year olds—£2 per head

No booking necessary, please just
come and join us on the night.

Further information please contact

Barbara Robinson -barbara@loweswater.net

Rachael Edmunds—rachaelcmacleod@hotmail.com

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