

SEPTEMBER 2020



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

Letter from the Editor

Dear Link readers,

I hope you enjoy reading the September Link as much as I enjoyed pulling it together - I can't believe we have managed to continue to publish the Link every month since lockdown began in March! We have many articles from our usual contributors, including Gill Scrivens, who continues to manage to write a piece for the W.I despite having no meetings - well done Gill - a sterling effort. Congratulations should also go to Sandra, Roger, Eleanor, and Penny for their regular pieces, as well as to Alan Gane who has kept up with his Walkers Way and items about Heraldry and Paul Cowan who has written another installment of his Indian adventures. This month we have some more unusual articles - during lockdown Zoe Thomson kept in touch with her grandchildren by sending them charming letters and pictures about all the wildlife in the garden. A shortened version of one of these letters can be found on pages 20 and 21. We have also had a contribution from Friends of the

Lake District about the Dark Skies project (apologies about the quality of the photo - but it was dark!). Anne Style sent in an interesting picture of Loweswater Church as it used to look - this does look better in the electronic version as it is in colour there. As usual we also have more pieces of poetry. Do please pay attention to the article on page 16 about flu jabs being available in Yew Tree Hall later this month and finally some exciting news - an 'invitation only' Coffee and Cakes will take place in Yew Tree Hall on Saturday 5th September.

Who knows what the October Link will contain - perhaps some photos from the first post-lockdown Coffee and Cakes and reports from other activities going on in the village halls - but please keep sending the other interesting articles through.

Rosemary
07885 360353

Continuing the bovine theme from last month our front cover is a photo of curious cows taken by Adam Baker



VICAR'S LETTER

Adios, au revoir, goodbye, farewell (but I hope to come back occasionally)!

Dear Friends,

Many of you know that in the past I have a great love of travel and I have been fortunate to have been able, through work or for pleasure, to visit many different places in this country and the world. But I wonder if this love of travel also has a message that sometimes we must be prepared in our lives to move on to new places, and for me quite often. This month I am returning to Orton and I look forward to assisting with the High Westmorland Benefice again. It is an incredibly beautiful area in the Westmorland Dales and one that I have missed (especially the chocolate factory)! However, I will be returning here for services until October.

Having lived here for nearly 2 years I do feel very welcome and part of the community and it is a wonderful community. A welcoming and loving community. It is therefore with a very heavy heart that I am leaving the Benefice of Lorton and Loweswater with Buttermere. I have been so grateful for your support during my ministry here. However, I do feel that God has called me to return to the Benefice of High Westmorland to minister there and I look forward to joining them again. I also have more demands on my Chaplaincy work at

Penrith Hospital that will involve more than one day a week and 'on call' work.

I shall miss the friendly community here, the privilege of ministry in the Benefice, the lovely churches and the wonderful scenery and walking. I always admire those who have lived here for, far longer than I, sometimes for generations. It is good to put down roots, but for me at this present time it is time to move on. Who knows what God might have in mind as I do so. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews wrote, "Here we have no lasting city, but we look for the city to come". The Bible has many accounts of different people travelling on and we all do so in hope and faith. Jesus himself moved from place to place during his ministry spreading the love of God and promised that he would always go before us and be with us.

I will be living in Orton and should be delighted to see visitors but I am sure that I will be coming back to visit often! I would like to express my thanks to you all and I have really enjoyed being here – despite the unfortunate start to my time with you and the unprecedented situation we have recently endured. I shall remember you in my thoughts and prayers and send my best wishes to you all for the future.

God bless

Revd. Sandra Ward

**From the Fell Road above Loweswater -
written in memory of Chris Todd**

On the fell road 'unfit for cars' above the
lake,
More an unused track once with purpose
And direction like a Cumberland farmer's life,
Its surface craters, blackwater-filled, broken
Except for tangled ponticum, blackthorn,
bramble.

This dull afternoon is north-west stretched
between

The short grassed brows of Carling Knott,
Hen Combe

And Gavel Fell, around valleys of snake-
curved

Idle streams, places of abandoned farms.

A sentinel holm oak points a path anoraked
Walkers have deserted, left the hills.

Only local royalty ,Herdwicks, make it theirs.

From fell road a hundred small dipping fields
reveal

Beneath turf lines, marks of ancient ridge and
furrow.

For dreamers, ghosts are at work. Men's eyes
fixed on

The heaving backs of a pair of horses, and a
plough

Slices the unchanged uneven slopes, land,
earth,

Over centuries, hard, unyielding, resilient,
rough.

Imagine the village hall that housed a school,
Where they're reading, say, William Iredale's
will,

And Arthur grunts '*me brother ain't given
much*

To speakin', twists his funeral tie, with hands

More skilled for tying five-bar gates, hay-
bales,

Or holding one horned head for the shearer's
cut.

In the barn, just there, stood William's
Oiled, fine sharpened, handy crossbow,
Ready for border service as if King James
Just died when Loweswater men were free.

High on Low Fell my rheumy eyes see
Melbreak's

Nested peregrine falcons wheel ,plunge
fierce as

Arrows, their claws pigeon- aimed. Please, I
say,

Forgive me brooding on time and change for
Down in the lonning Chris Todd guns his quad
bike,

Deftly manoeuvres, whistles four times for
the dog,

Then gathers in the sheep. How evening
advances.

How night draws in light, softly. It could be
Galilee

But it's here. First, Chris gets one, then two,
then three.

All the flock's encircled, the busy tossing
heads,

The bobbing curly sea, the spring lambs of
Kirkhead.

Michael Geoffrey Baron

Plans are farther on for resuming W.I. – a socially distanced Committee meeting in the Yew Tree Hall is planned for mid-September providing there isn't a restriction on the number who can meet in a hall. Who knows what the guidance will be by then. I will still prefer to communicate with the Committee electronically. We have taken a few more small steps outside – meetings with Yorkshire daughter and family in Hawes for a socially distanced picnic and walk, Book Club banished from the garden to a large kitchen with wide open sliding doors – I sat nearest to the open door. We are taking the opportunity to meet outside while the weather is relatively good and guidelines allow. Who knows what the Winter will bring – hopefully, a vaccine.

Meanwhile, Summer Holiday season in the Lakes is in full swing, with many more visitors than usual, which is good for businesses, not always for the countryside. Some who had planned to go to Ibiza and Magaluf are now wild-camping in the hills, some leaving their tents, sleeping bags and rubbish for others to clear up. There were several groups out on Sunday for a Friends of the Lake District litter-pick. We joined a group of ten from Lorton who went to Crummock. As well as the expected bottles, cans and cigarette ends, there was dirtier, far more unpleasant rubbish hiding in the bracken and bushes on the lake shore – dutifully picked up with long grabbers and bagged. Apparently, in Keswick and other holiday hotspots there is little social distancing on crowded streets. We all may, in previous years, have wished

for more visitors to boost the local economy. Just as we all wished for a return to the Mediterranean weather we enjoyed in May and June, when the beginning of July was cold and wet. I don't think I was alone, during the subsequent heatwave, wishing for cool nights again and a cessation of the searing heat during the day. When Winter draws in we will be wishing for the warmth of Summer again – are we never satisfied?! I expect many students secretly wished (at the beginning of the year) that all exams and school time would be cancelled this Summer. We should be careful what we wish for. The law of unintended consequences might surprise us, and not in a good way! The only thing I am really wishing for now is for a safe, effective vaccine so that we can spend weekends with our families, go out for meals with no hassle, share time with friends indoors and return to normal meetings of our organisations, including table tennis, and of course W.I. Keep Linked!



A GLIMPSE OF HERALDRY – Number 3

Every coat of arms must comply with the rules of tincture, which means quite simply that metal must never be placed on metal, or colour on colour. For example, gold is not to be placed on silver, or silver on gold, and similarly blue is not to be placed on black, or red on green, because they do not show up particularly well, especially at a distance. The Agent will be more than willing to design a coat of arms for the applicant, probably alluding in some way to the applicant's name, interests, and achievements. Alternatively, the applicant may submit a suggestion of his own. In either case the final version will be subject to discussion and negotiation. It is an important process, the arms finally decided upon being permanent and it must be allowed to take some time and careful thought. The arms themselves appear on the shield or escutcheon. This is surmounted, in the case of a male applicant, by "a helm befitting his degree", namely for a Gentleman or an Esquire, a closed steel helm; for Knights and Baronets, an open steel helm facing affronte; for Peers, a closed silver helm with five bars decorated in gold; and for the Sovereign and Princes of the Blood Royal, an all gold barred helm facing affronte. Around the top of the helm is the wreath or torse, consisting of six twists of silk, alternately of the principle colour and the principal metal of the arms, and within this "circlet" stands the crest. In the case of Peers, the wreath is replaced with a coronet of rank. It should be noted, in passing, that contrary to popular belief the terms "crest" and "arms" are by no means synonymous. Flowing from the back of the helm is the mantling or lambrequin, representing the small cape which was often worn to shade the head and shoulders from the sun. In the case of the nobility, the shield is held by a "supporter" on each side, usually in human form or in the form of a real or imaginary bird or beast. If the applicant is a member of an Order of Chivalry, then it is customary for the Badge of the Order to be suspended from the shield or in some cases for the shield to be enfiled by the riband of the Order. Some grantees have the additional honour of being granted a Badge, a separate device which, unlike the arms is within the gift of the grantee. In other words, the grantee may, if he wishes, give permission for one or more other persons to use his Badge as a mark of support or allegiance. For example, the White Lion Society is permitted to use the Badge of the College of Arms. It may also be used to mark personal property, such as cutlery or plate. Each grantee is entitled to a Banner i.e. a square flag bearing the arms, while the holder

of a Badge is also granted a Standard, a long, narrow flag, bearing his arms at the hoist, and his badge, crest and motto in the fly. The grant itself is a singularly splendid and colourful vellum document illustrated by hand. At the top are the Arms of the Sovereign, flanked by those of the Earl Marshall and the College of Arms.

The arms being granted appear on the left, and there are usually highly decorated borders, while the text recites full details of the granting Kings of Arms, the grantee, and the arms being granted. It is signed and sealed by the Kings of Arms, and is presented in a scarlet leatherette case emblazoned with the Royal cipher in gilt.

Needless to say, however, it is not necessary to be armigerous in order to enjoy heraldry. Coats of arms are highly decorative, making them fascinating and demanding subjects for those who like to draw and paint. (I once painted the arms of the 106 English Knights who took part in the siege of Caerlaverock in 1300!). There are many different ways of studying heraldic affairs. To delve just a little deeper without commitment, the reader may wish to explore the website of the Heraldry Society

www.theheraldrysociety.com. The purpose of the Society is to increase and extend interest in and knowledge of heraldry and allied subjects. Similarly, explore the website of The White Lion Society www.whitelionsociety.com.uk. The aim of this Society is to support the College in its research, genealogy, military insignia, preparation of coats of arms, its buildings and traditions.

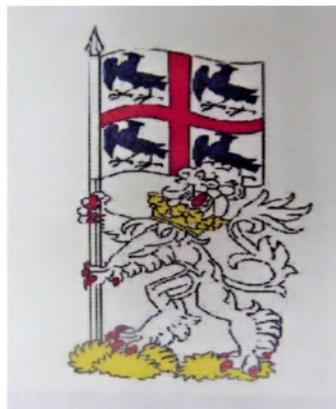
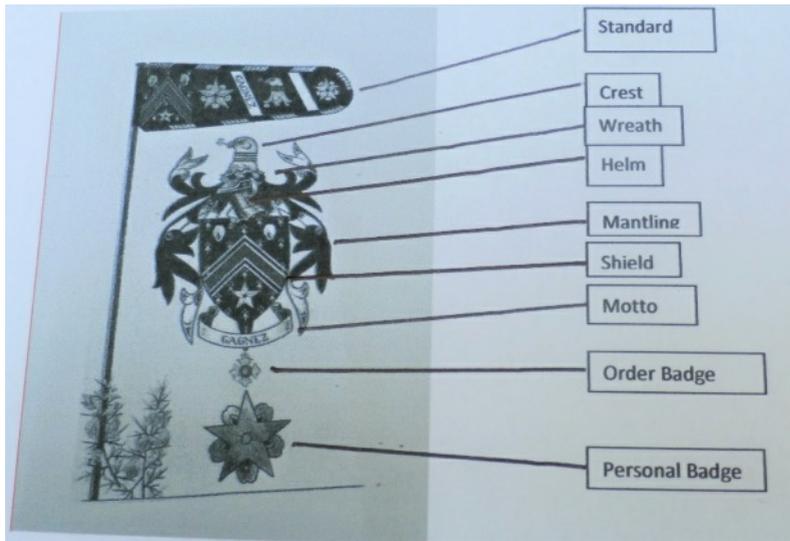
The website includes an Armorial of members' coats of arms. Having been a member of both bodies for many years, I can thoroughly recommend them.

The pictures on the following page are as follows:

The components of a Coat of Arms
The Coat of Arms of the Heraldry Society
The Badge of the White Lion Society

Alan Gane.

The fourth and final part is to follow.



Penny's Piece

We all know you if you don't ask, you don't get but sometimes asking isn't appropriate and heavy hinting is a better approach. I have always marvelled at the blatant name dropping of products some 'celebrities' resort to in order to get a freebie. They start impossibly big and then get to more everyday items. Some Youtube/ Social Media influencers have made a career of it, getting free clothes, make-up nights away etc. I was not going to be that lucky but still consider the chain of events a definite bonus. During Lockdown, we as a staff have been using Teams to message and ring each other. It became routine that most often I would be the first to post in the morning and gradually each day of the week had a name: Marvellous Monday (not my idea!), Terrific Tuesday and ending with Thank Crunchie it's Friday. This was followed by a comment about wanting a Crunchie. The result is that for the last 5 weeks of me being back in school I have been donated a Crunchie (or 2 one week) by different colleagues every Friday. This is not going to readily happen at home so there I recommend the 'I'll have a brew if you're making one,' when you see them heading to the kitchen. Start small and see what you get- do be careful though or you might end up with a chocolate biscuit as a birthday present!

On the evenings when the tv pickings have been slim, we have been working our way through different film franchises. I have now seen the Back to the Future trilogy and all I can say is that they have aged better than some, simply because they are specifically set in certain years (don't mention the hoverboard!). Lethal Weapon has not. The

hair, clothes, mobile battery with a phone handset attached etc. However, the most annoying thing is not what you can see but what you can hear. The incidental music can best be described as improvisational jazz. It literally sounds like there is a person with a saxophone just off shot randomly blowing vaguely related notes anytime there is no dialogue. As it is a saxophone there is little change in volume so even 'tender' moments sound harrowing. Good thing they thought about the instruments used on other films. The haunting theme from Schindler's List or the graceful theme from Out of Africa wouldn't have quite the same effect if they were played on a glockenspiel not a violin. If you play an instrument there is an act for you for next Edinburgh Festival time; set yourself up and randomly follow people (at least couples up to groups) up and down the Royal Mile adding musical accompaniment to their silences or describing their movement or mood down the street. I'd enjoy watching that with my coffee and cake in a café! Unfortunately, I have zero musical ability and all I could safely do is clear the streets with unrelated sounds. By that reckoning it looks like I've forgotten that I found a DeLorean and went back in time to provide a terrible soundtrack for Lethal Weapon. Who knew!

As we get into August, I am wondering if those who stockpiled loo-roll have run out yet? They will totally run out at some point as they haven't bought any for so long, they will have forgotten they need to! Karma. Take care and stay safe. Penny

NOTES FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S AND ST JAMES

Sunday 16th August saw a welcome return to church services at St. Bartholomew's.

In spite of having to do things differently, with reduced seating to enable social distancing and the wearing of masks, all went smoothly with an almost capacity congregation following an extensive spring clean of the church.

As mentioned in the previous Link there are no plans to have services at Buttermere at the moment so we remain with Wednesday morning opening for individual prayer.

Perusing an old album recently that we inherited from Canon Bob Lindsay we came across a newspaper cutting and photo from 1962 celebrating the retirement of church Wardens George M Hope and Wentworth B Robinson who had been in post together with the Buttermere Wardens William Benn and Chris Greenhow for just over a staggering 100 years between them!

As many will already know our Priest in Charge the Revd. Sandra will be leaving the parishes towards the end of October. Her tenure has unfortunately been marked by the last six months of the pandemic. We are very grateful to her for her ministry and shall miss her.

At a recent meeting of the Wardens some PCC members with the Rural Dean the Revd. Charles Hope and the Archdeacon the Very Revd. Richard Pratt future provision of service cover for the Benefice was discussed. We were assured we would be well provided for with a combination of the Archdeacon and clergy and laity from our Mission Community. The Revd. Canon Godfrey Butland has now retired and a new leader of the MC has been appointed, Revd. Canon Charman who joins us from the Salisbury diocese.

Eleanor Ella



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LORTON NOTES

We are truly back, Church services have restarted. These Notes are being written before the return at St. Cuthbert's, but there was a healthy (in both meanings of the word) congregation at Loweswater on the sixteenth and what a joy it was to be back. It was different from the usual 10.30, there was no singing and less ceremony, but everything went smoothly. It was more similar to a said early service, but as I left I experienced feelings of fulfilment and contentment at overcoming obstacles. I expect that the services in the months to come will be following this pattern, but I think, in the circumstances, it is successful and fulfilling.

We do want everything to be as normal as possible and we shall be celebrating our Harvest Festival on September 27. We shall be decorating the church to make it worthy of the occasion the preceding Saturday at 10.00. This year I cannot promise coffee and

biscuits but it should still be an enjoyable social event. Social distancing should not be difficult. I'm afraid we shall have to forgo the Harvest Supper, but any produce you feel like bringing along on the Saturday or Sunday would make a welcome addition to Rosemary's food bank.

Another piece of good news is that the process of replacing the carpet has started. I attended my first service at Lorton twenty years or so ago when the carpet had already given good service and it has served us amazingly well, but it does seem appropriate that when everything does return to normal we shall have a spanking new carpet to celebrate the occasion.

Roger Peck



The picture below has been sent in by Anne Style and is a reproduction of a very old print of Loweswater church about the 1820's - before the chancel and transepts were built, when entry was by the west door. Two bells are hung in the belfry.



Melbreak Communities to work with the Cumbria Dark Skies Project

Lorton has already supported the Dark Skies Project and our poetry evenings are popular.

The Project's three main aims, to:

- Celebrate and raise awareness of the value of Dark Skies and impacts of light pollution;
- Prevent more light pollution; and
- Reduce existing levels of light pollution.

A festival is planned for February 2021, with an event in Lorton with the Cockermouth Astronomical Society. There's lots of useful information on the Project's website. The 'Project News' section looks at research evidence connected with the impacts of light pollution, including on insect pollinators, wildlife at the coast/estuaries, on people's health and if there's a connection to crime and vehicle accident rates. See:

<https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/Listing/Site/dark-skies-subsite/Category/dark-skies-blog>

The website also contains a comprehensive Lighting Policy. Current policies across Cumbria are inconsistent and not up to date with the latest research. The Friends of the Lake District examines new development proposals and other infrastructure projects to assess potential light pollution and wider landscape issues. We're all encouraged to question whether we need new lights, and if we do, design and use the right ones to prevent light pollution (good lighting tips on website).

To help tackle current levels of light pollution the Project has identified four communities to work with in different parts of Cumbria, from large Town to rural villages/scattered Parishes like ours. We have said yes we'd like to take part as one of the community pilots. The Project Officer Jack Ellerby says:

"I am so pleased to be able to work with the Melbreak Communities and together make a real difference to reduce light pollution. I'm impressed with what you've already achieved as a group. Tackling light pollution is a real win-win, protecting wildlife, saving wasted electricity, conserving the night sky and supporting sustainable tourism."

A Lighting Audit and Action Plan (LAAP) will be produced to:

- Provide a baseline assessment of lighting across the parishes;
- Identify the main contributors to light pollution; and
- Identify priority actions to mitigate the effects of obtrusive light on sky glow and in the parish(es).

Subject to securing the funding all-being well lighting consultants will start work this October, and we'll keep you updated. Community events will take place in the New Year as we start to look at where our main light pollution sources are and what can be done. If any of you are out and about after dark over the coming weeks make a note of any problems you spot and let us know, or contact Jack direct via: Jack-e@fld.org.uk

We are already planning to review the road lights in Lorton and Mockerkin given we're due to take over the energy costs from Allerdale Borough Council from 1 April 2021. We know the current lamps are not dark sky friendly so it makes sense to see if we can reduce the number, get more efficient LEDs and not have them on when not required as part of that process.



Mockerkin Educational Foundation

Mockerkin Educational Foundation invites applications for financial grants in line with its aims in "promoting the education (including social and physical training) of persons under the age of 25 years who are resident in Loweswater Parishhave been resident for not less than 2 years and are in need of financial assistance." Applications, with a short explanation, can be submitted by email to graeme.sparke@talk21.com or by letter to Graeme Sparke, Mockerkin Educational Foundation, Tarn View, Mockerkin, Cockermouth, CA130ST.

DÉC
DE

Kate

Qual
and I

Tel: 0

www.cumbria

Yew Tree Hall Reopening

Practical arrangements are now in hand and clubs and societies are starting to plan meetings and activities. For the time being we will restrict activities to regular, established users.

Government guidance is evolving and masks now have to be worn, but not for activities such as Table Tennis.

Please keep an eye on noticeboards and the Melbreak website for events.

Derek Poate, Chairman



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On-site flu vaccination at the Yew Tree Hall

As part of a national campaign to expand flu vaccination for next winter and to assist with social distancing, there are plans to allow pharmacies to vaccinate in the community in the expectation of reaching more people. This is an extension of the free NHS flu vaccination scheme pharmacies currently provide to eligible patients. A private service is available for patients who aren't eligible for a free jab, but who would still like to be vaccinated.

Arrangements are still to be confirmed but Allison's plan to offer this service in the Hall. Most likely dates are Sunday 13th and 20th September between 9am and 11.30am.

Details will be posted on notice boards, the Melbreak website and NextDoor.



"All we have to do is place them
on the waiting room chairs!"

Delhi to Kathmandu by bicycle with a sketchpad

The next part of the journey saw us pedalling across the plain enjoying the sights and sounds of the open road and various villages, we eventually reached the city of Garh Mukteshwar just by the mighty Ganges River and decided to stay the night, but being on the edge of a big city and being tired and after much searching couldn't find a place to stay we decided to stay on a roadside truck stop which had charpoys (a type of bed, a basic wooden frame with rope lashed across to sleep on)

This truck stop was in the open air but had food and tea, so we thought it would be a great place to stay, however there was a large fat man sat nearby with a shotgun across his lap, when the light started dropping he came across and asked if we were staying the night, when we said yes he pointed to his gun and a house at the back of the truck stop and said "I live there, if you have any problems come and get me".

Suddenly we thought that perhaps we had made a mistake and should have pushed on to find somewhere to stay, this was confirmed when the light finally dropped and masses of huge mosquitoes appeared and decided that we were dinner! We were obviously heading for a sleepless night, which was fortunate as lots of trucks started pulling in with very dodgy looking drivers who were eyeing our bikes and gear up and weren't friendly like most of the people we had met so far. So we quickly stashed everything behind our charpoys against the wall.

Come morning after tea and curry we staggered out on our bikes feeling very bleary eyed! After about half an hour's cycling we came across a complex of bungalows which had been a British Rhaj hotel but was now crumbling but surprisingly was still open as a hotel, so we quickly went in booked a room and collapsed in a heap and slept for most of the day!

Paul Cowling, Littlethwaite



The Melbreak Communities

An Action Plan for the four parishes of Buttermere, Loweswater, Blindbothel and Lorton

AGM

Our 11th AGM took place on Zoom on 6th August. Community activities have been diminished since the Covid virus required lockdown and the closure of the village halls from March. Luckily, in January, we hosted a very well attended Coffee Morning where we were able to showcase the initiatives we have been supporting actively and/or financially. These include our Community Hydro scheme; Make & Mend workshops; Lorton School's polytunnel; Friends of the Lake District's Dark Skies initiative; the Lorton 'Eco Church'; the Lorton Verge Project; and Rosie Watson's 'New Story Run'. We have since invited contributions to a 'Lockdown Scrapbook' and made an application for funding for a local Swift Project. Our Emergency Plan arrangements are ongoing and have been extended to cover Covid as well as the consequences of extreme weather events.

Chris Poate, who has been 'Acting' Chairperson since 2014 (!), confirmed her intention to finally step down. The Steering Group is taking this opportunity to publicly express our appreciation of Chris who has been involved with The Melbreak Communities since its inception, in 2009, and has remained completely committed for 11 years. Glenis Postlethwaite is taking over from Chris as Chairperson and Carolyn Davis will continue as both Treasurer and Secretary. The Steering Group members are Penny Poole (Blindbothel PC), Yvette Kahane (Buttermere PC), Steve Irlam (Lorton PC) and Rachel Thompson (Loweswater PC). Rosemary Riley represents the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Other interested residents are invited to join. Currently we have Richard Kahane who is a longstanding member from Buttermere, Debbie Watson from Loweswater, Pip Wise from Lorton, Aine Kelly who leads on Dark Skies and Community Energy, and Derek Poate who chairs the Yew Tree Hall Committee. Our Website Administrator is Richard Easton.





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Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st August 2020

1st prize of £25 No 67 Dave Holme
2nd prize of £10 No 88 Dr John Scadding
3rd prize of £5 No 90 Revd Bob Watkins

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.

10th June 2020

Dear Oliver and Isaac,
I know that your last letter was toooo long, so I'm just giving you some photos to you.



This is a blackbird's nest.
Ompa found it when he was trimming a bush.



And here is the Blackbird, he is a male.



A bumble bee, there were masses of them and honey bees too.





A house Martin tried to nest under our gutter at the front of our cottage!



After a great effort, they abandoned it. Very sad.



A spotted woodpecker came into our Kitchen one day. Oompa is holding it then he took it outside and it flew away. Last Sunday, Oompa called me and said, that there was a squirrel in front of the kitchen lawn, and there he was! The next

day there were 3 of them, now only 2 of them come. One was chased by a stoat! This is the biggest of them, I think he is the Daddy, and he is the biggest. I hope you have enjoyed your letter. I'm going to make a magic carpet so that we can visit you secretly when you are asleep!!



'COFFEE AND CAKES' is back!



The Melbreak Communities is planning to host its inaugural 'Coffee and Cakes' event at the Yew Tree Hall in Lorton on

Saturday 5th September 2020



The event will comprise 2 sessions, the first from **10.00am - 11am** and the second from **11.30am - 12.30pm**. 'Coffee and Cakes' will comply with Covid-19 Health Protection Regulations covering Village/Community halls. The number of guests will therefore be limited to 20 per session.

Coffee, tea and cakes will be provided free of charge, although donations will be gratefully accepted.

Guests are asked to wear a face mask/face covering (which may be removed when consuming coffee and cake!) and bring their own mug, plate and spoon.

Invitations for this event are being sent to residents of Lorton and Blindbothel who live within easy reach of the Yew Tree Hall. All being well, we plan to offer similar events to residents in other parts of the Valley in the coming weeks and months. So if you're unable to come along on 5th September, we shall look forward to seeing you another time.

Penny Poole
Tel: 01900 85722
Email: penelopepoole@aol.com



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John Scrivens writes;

In another age, that is to say in August of last year, Gill and I enjoyed a lovely sunny family day at Watendlath, a place we were very fond of when we first came to Cumberland in the 60s, but which we hadn't visited for a while.

We probably first went there on the back of reading Judith Parris. Never came across her.

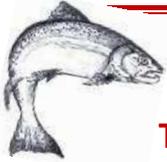
It can be crowded at Watendlath in the summer; the approach road is very, very narrow in parts, so best get there as early as you can.

Watendlath remains as attractive as it ever was. The outlines of the fells themselves and their surrounds don't change do they? It's the bits we add on and the way we manage the land which alter the look and feel of a favourite place.

In later years, after going for a walk with the kids, when Great Crag and the tops of Grange Fell became familiar ~ not much more than a stroll really, even for little legs ~ we would get back down to the valley to clamber up the middle of Lodore Falls in shorts and plimsolls. Not recommended after heavy rain, but great fun on a sunny day, although much is in shade. I'm pretty sure you could get to the foot of the falls free of charge then, payment at the turnstile coming later. Does anyone remember that? I wonder if it's still possible to climb up, in these safety-conscious days.

On our magic day last summer, son-in-law and grandson went straight to the water's edge for a morning's fishing, while the rest of us went about the serious business of acquiring coffee and ice creams, looking forward to what turned out to be two very small, but most certainly fresh, trout for tea.

I know nil about angling but was curious to see the paraphernalia these experts were using. I hadn't appreciated what a continually active affair it is to cast for trout. When it came to the rituals of casting, taking the line back, casting again, I was startled to see that, when the rod was drawn over the shoulder and snapped forward to send the wet line out onto the water, the whipcrack of the action sent an arc of spray into the morning sun. Free rainbows all morning.



Trout

First light. Explosive wisp of shining spray;
A rod tip splits the hovering morning light;
Each cast will punctuate the coming fight,
The first, a gun to spark an August day.

In time the secret trout will join the fray:
The rod tip strikes to celebrate a bite;
But with a wrench the prey thrusts out of sight;
In silent depths the warrior slides away.

A setback for today; but there is more:
The fells, the skies of Watendlath remain,
'Til the sliding sun steals brightness from the west;

The only sounds an angler's dipping oar,
And casual footsteps on the passing lane;
As day, and mind, achieve a pleased rest.

John Scrivens

Loweswater Village Hall News

Good News! Loweswater Village Hall is reopening from the 1st of September.

If you wish to hire, please book as normal with Karen and Peter on 01900 85718.

During this transitional period the committee has agreed that the big room will be available for hire at the hourly rate of the small room to allow greater scope for social distancing, even for smaller meetings. This also keeps the supper room as a space where queuing for facilities might have to take place.

We have signage and risk assessments in place to share with anyone booking, to help everyone to follow the guidance and keep everyone safe.

The latest round of announcements also mean we can now welcome sit-down wedding receptions of up to 30 people.

We hope to see you soon.

P. Leck

Loweswater 77 Club

At the time of writing, as you will just have read above, Loweswater Village Hall plans to reopen for events on 1 September. However, meetings will be limited to 30 participants, socially distanced. Our attendance is frequently higher than this, and furthermore some of our members may be wary of participating at this stage of the pandemic. As a result the Committee feels that it is not possible to make definite plans to restart our activities at this stage. However, when the situation improves we plan to resume as normal. So please keep an eye on the Link for the latest information.

With best wishes to all, John Hudson

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DIARY DATES

SEPT

- 1 Tue Buttermere Parish Council, Zoom meeting, 7.30pm
- 2 Wed Lorton Parish Council, Zoom meeting, 7.30pm
- 3 Thu Loweswater Parish Council, Zoom meeting, 7.30pm
- 14 Mon Blindbothel Parish Council, Paddle School, 7.15pm Bi-monthly Meeting
- 17 Thu Women in the Manchester Art Gallery Collections, a virtual tour, Arts Society Cumbria, 11 am on Zoom.

OCT

- 15 Thu How New York got to be a Capital of the Arts, Arts Society Cumbria, lecture via Zoom, 11 am.

KEEP FIT

I am pleased to announce that our Keep Fit sessions will be starting up again at Loweswater Village Hall. We will start on Monday 7th September. Please bring your own mats and weights. Hand sanitisers will be available at the entrance and social distancing measures will be in place.

Any questions please contact me on 07918882175. Hope to see you there. Val

KEEP FIT

LOWESWATER VILLAGE HALL

Monday 9.30-1030

COMMENCING ON 07.09.2020

All proceeds to LVH

£3

Ring Val Bell on 01900 829584 or

07918882175

Or email vebell2911@gmail.com

Benefice Services for September

6th September St. Bartholomew's Loweswater 10.30 am Holy Communion with Baptism

13th September St. Cuthbert's Lorton 10.30am Holy Communion & Climate Sunday

20th September St. Bartholomew's Loweswater 10.30am Holy Communion and Baptism

27th September St. Cuthbert's Lorton 10.30am Harvest Holy Communion

St. James Buttermere will be open on a Wednesday 10-12 for private prayer



Deadline for October is Fri 25th September, all articles to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date.