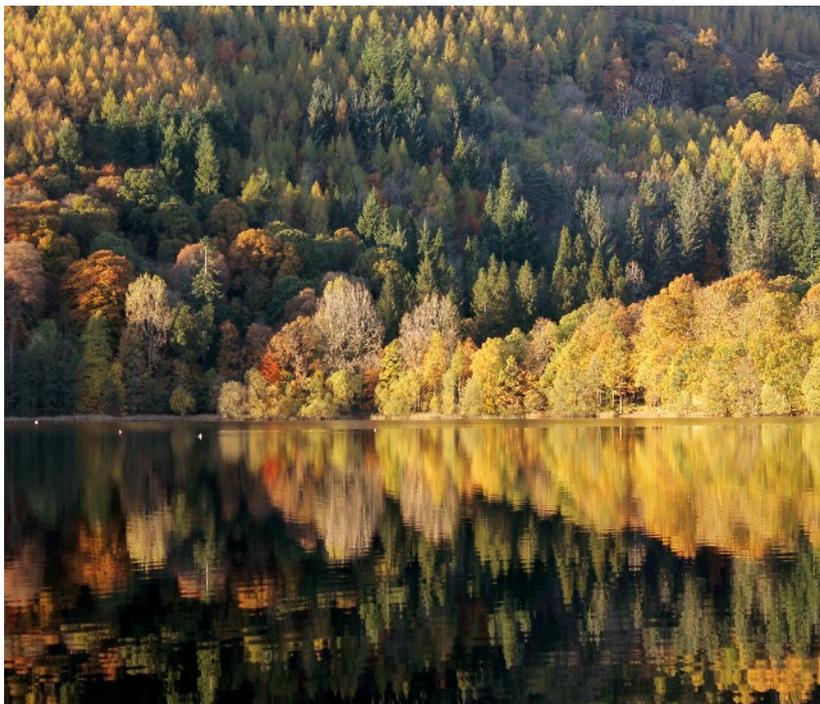


# DECEMBER 2020 AND JANUARY 2021



**STOP PRESS - ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, LORTON ATTAINS ECO  
CHURCH GOLD AWARD - see page 22 for the full story.**

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

# Letter from the Editor

Dear Link readers,

We have another eclectic mix of contributions this month but we begin the magazine with a letter from our new Grasmoor Community Leader - Jane Charman. If everything goes according to plan Jane is moving up to Cumbria in the last week of November and I'm sure we all look forward to welcoming her.

We have our usual selection of poems and John Scrivens has kindly ceded his spot to Peter Style who has submitted one of his poems. Carrying on with the Style family - Anne Style has become our new chef in residence with a recipe for cheese biscuits - make them into Christmas shapes and send photos please.

I was sent 2 photographs with a very similar theme - take a look at the centre spread and you'll see what I mean.

Lakeland Limericks will hopefully be back in February but Christine has sent in some memories of her vintage Be-Ro recipe book instead. If your copy is beyond redemption you can still get a replacement for the Be-Ro book here:

<https://www.be-ro.co.uk/>

Our cover photo this month is 'Reflected Glory' on Loweswater from Roger Hiley

as I know when I tried to use my 95 year old Mum's copy!

Please note that all the Lorton Vale calendars have now been sold so there will not be any for sale at The Wheatsheaf as and when it opens. All the Christmas cards have gone too but many thanks to everyone who bought these items.

Also included with this copy of The Link is the flyer for the ever-popular 100 Club run by Jan Evans. Please remember to fill this out for as many numbers as you'd like and send it through to Jan.

In the absence of a Christmas Fair we have also included a flyer for the Brain of the Benefice Quiz. I'm sure this will provide light relief over the coming weeks so do your best and then drop your entry off with the £1.00 entry fee to Mike Suckling's house

I hope you have as enjoyable Christmas as possible in these strange times and look forward to welcoming you back in February.

Rosemary  
07885 360353



### How do you celebrate Christmas?

How do you celebrate Christmas? Tradition plays a big part, doing things as we ourselves have always done them, however that may be. I love the way Delia Smith intersperses her recipes with personal memories. *'The tradition in our house is to see to all the Christmas baking to the backdrop of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge'*, she writes. *'For me this is the moment when Christmas really begins.'* I know a family that always orders in a Chinese takeaway for twenty people. Another friend spends Christmas Day helping in a homeless shelter in London. Yet another is looking forward to his annual solo hike and picnic on top of Great Gable. Maybe you've seen him there!

A 'normal' Christmas, whatever that means to you and me, is what we are all longing for, especially after this year of turmoil and loss. But can we have one? Will England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales cooperate on a single set of guidelines so that people from all over the UK can travel and spend time with those they love? Will students be able to return home? Will the shops reopen so that we can buy our Christmas gifts and goodies? Will we be able to come to church for a carol service or midnight mass? As I write this, nobody knows.

I've found myself reflecting that the first Christmas was not exactly 'normal' either. A shocking announcement, an arduous journey, a young girl labouring through the night and laying her newborn in an animal's

feeding trough. A su of shepherds, a fanfare of angels, a panic-stricken flight into a foreign country. Why is it that our Christmas cards portray the nativity as a serene and well organised event when in reality it was anything but?

So if our Christmas this year is a little disorganised and not exactly the way we imagined it would be then at least we know that we are in great company. That was how it was for the first witnesses to the birth of our Lord. And perhaps it was the very strangeness of what happened, unlike anything that they had experienced before, that opened their eyes to the deep meaning of Christmas, the miracle of God with us, intimately involved in every aspect of our human lives.

However you celebrate Christmas this year, and especially if this season is hard for you in any way, may the comfort and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**Jane Charman**  
**Grasmoor Mission Community Leader**

**LORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**  
**NOVEMBER 2020**



11 members logged in to our Zoom W.I. meeting on the afternoon of 10<sup>th</sup> November. After 10 minutes of friendly chat Kris passed the screen to Terry Peate and Sue Gorman from Linking Lives. Linking Lives is one of the initiatives from Cockermouth Churches Together, but is also a nationwide organisation, with funding by Age UK, local councils and community groups such as Rotary. 18 churches across all denominations in Cockermouth work together to provide services to the community, including coffee meet-ups and the Food Bank. Linking Lives has been running for a year, helping 50 people in the Community with 40 volunteers.

Terry talked through the issues raised by videos which gave the perspective of lonely older people who have been supported by Linking Lives and a volunteer who visits a younger person who is immobile in his home because of physical disability. It continues to expand, particularly in response to the pandemic and the previous and present lockdowns. There are over 700 single households in Cockermouth, and in the catchment area including communities in the countryside there is probably double that. Many people living alone are also elderly and either because of vulnerability or immobility are unable to socialise outside their homes. The organisation matches volunteers to Linking

Lives Friends who, in normal times, they visit for a short time weekly. At present, contact is maintained through a weekly phone call. Many people living alone are also lonely. The lack of social contact can profoundly affect people's physical and mental wellbeing. There may be several triggers to feelings of loneliness – maybe loss of a spouse, or children moving away. It is not only the elderly but also younger disabled people. And many new Mums, who are living away from their families and find life at home with a new baby challenging, with no-one to talk to. Linking Lives tries to match friends to volunteers with a shared interest. Carol, one of our members, is in the scheme and phones a lady who, like Carol, loves reading and cooking. Carol also, as do many volunteers, enjoys listening to her Linking Lives friend relate tales of her past life and travels. Volunteers enjoy the contact as much as the friends. There was time for an extended Question and Answer session and we agreed, as we bade farewell to Terry and Sue, that this is a most worthwhile cause and there may be some additional volunteers arising from the meeting. We had a short chat in which we confirmed arrangements for our December Zoom Christmas Party at 2.30 on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Kris will email members with details and an invitation link to join in. Stay Linked!

The Style family used to have a cat called Pangur Ban and love this poem of the same name



i and pangur Ban my cat  
'tis a like task we are at,  
hunting mice is his delight,  
hunting words i sit all night.

'gainst the wall he sets his eye  
fall and fierce and sharp and sly  
'gainst the wall of knowledge i  
all my little wisdom try

Many thanks for all who have purchased the Loweswatercam Calendar 2021.  
Final copies are still available from Lee and Arwen at the Lorton Shop.  
Price £10 price includes a donation to Mountain Rescue/Air Ambulance

Roger Hiley



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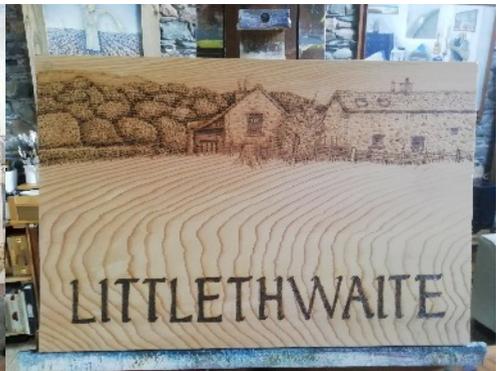


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## *Penny's Piece*

It appears my clothes are trying to do me in. I say this with rather a lot of evidence to back me up. I will start with the socks, specifically the ones that slide down inside boots and wellies (shoes and trainers if they're really going for it) and end up under the arch of your foot and bunched round your toes. Distraction at the discomfort leads to unexpected gymnastics and a heap on the



floor. Trousers, when worn inside wellies, have developed boa constrictor skills and twist round my knees threatening to cut off the circulation. It is especially clever as each leg twists in the opposite direction. Tops ride up at the front and threaten to choke me and pyjama tops and bottoms have clearly had a conversation and decided the best way to wind me up is also to twist in opposite directions. The only items of clothing which had an annoying habit that is now a benefit are my large pocketed cardigans. They stop me entering into another class bubble by hooking round door handles and yanking me back into the corridor. Every cloud.

Does anyone else's bathroom make them hungry? Mine sometimes does as it smells like a chip shop. That'll be the white vinegar making the grouting look amazing. I never really believed all the 'old fashioned' cleaning methods until I tried it. Cheaper than the branded cleaners too. As usual though if it

isn't on the shopping list when it has run out, I will not remember to get more. However, anyone else looking at some of the items on my list, wouldn't get them either as they wouldn't know what I was on about. You see toms means tomatoes but Toms means Magnum ice-cream (Tom Selleck- Magnum PI!). I discovered some rather nice olives but can never remember what they are called other than it begins no. They have become Nosferatu olives on the list. Not quite sure what that says about me but I know what I mean.

According to my windscreen wipers it was raining. I know this because on the down stroke they appeared to be screaming rain. It is so much quieter now I have got new ones. I may have asked this before but why are calculator and phone key pads not the same way round? I wonder if this fact has ever caused a problem for those who regularly work with both. Can you imagine the fallout if someone put in a phone number into the calculator or mistakenly transferred £85, \_\_ \_\_ or £8,61\_\_ \_\_ instead of £20?

That is some accounting that might take some explaining. Makes not checking what predictive text has put into a message seem less of an issue (most of the time).

However, the season occurs, I hope everyone stays safe and I will see you in the new year. Penny.

## NOTES FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S AND ST JAMES

Now we are in the midst of gloomier weather and shorter days but starting the season of Advent anticipating the coming of Christ, the light in darkness.

We look forward to sharing our Christmas services together. These start with our Carol Service at 6pm on 20th December. This will be as traditional as we can make it with the 9 lessons but due to national constraints there will be no congregational singing. The choir will be singing some of the well loved carols together with some lesser know ones. Numbers will have to be restricted due to physical distancing so we would appreciate those who plan to attend booking with the Wardens either by word of mouth or by telephone on the numbers below.

It is the turn of Loweswater to host the Midnight service on Christmas Eve, this will start at 11.30pm. Please let us know if you plan to intend as described above.

Buttermere informal carols will not take place this year due the aforementioned physical distancing. We look forward to initiating services at St.James in the New Year. Dates to be decided. The church continues to be open for individual prayer every Wednesday 10 - 12 am.

The news of vaccines over the next few months is encouraging for the New Year.

Wishing everyone a happy Christmas and hopefully time with families.

Barbara Robinson 01900 85234

Eleanor Ella 01900 85318



Alas, we missed our November session on composting, from Patrick Leonard, but we hope to reschedule it for Spring, when, vaccines permitting, all will be getting back to wonderful normal..... We theoretically have an afternoon meeting coming up on Wednesday 16th December, in the Yew Tree Hall at 2.00pm. Joan Robinson is due to tell us about a community garden scheme in Penrith. She's called her talk "A subversive plot" - very intriguing! If we are able to run it, members will be invited by email. Fingers crossed.

## LORTON NOTES

Here we go again. It was a great disappointment when churches were closed again as a consequence of the latest lockdown, causing us to lose most of the contemplative Advent worship. I am glad that the Anglican archbishops have striven to persuade Boris to allow churches to remain open for worship and that the Archbishop of Westminster argued on the Today programme on radio four to the same effect, but to no avail. To a certain extent I feel sorry for Boris, which will surprise those of you who are aware of my political persuasion and my opinion of our prime minister, but I do believe that if everyone had adhered to the safety guidelines the latest lockdown could have been avoided. But we have all seen on our television screens crowds showing no compliance and I have seen instances in Keswick of the regulations being flouted. I am afraid that all our efforts to keep our churches safe have not prevented their closure. This pandemic has been an unhappy experience for all of us, and the degree of unhappiness has been much greater for some than for others, but I do take some consolation from the thought that the cloud does have a silver lining, however faint I am

greatly relieved that America has dumped Trump and as a consequence believe that, among other things, the benefits for the environment could be considerable, but am by no means certain that this would have happened had there been no pandemic. It is a thought to bear in mind.

The necessity to maintain social distancing will affect our Christmas celebrations. We are sorry, but it has been thought necessary to cancel the Christingle service and to hold a carol service at both Lorton and Loweswater. This will mean that at Lorton Christmas will be anticipated even more than usual, as our service will be on the thirteenth, but it cannot be helped.

Numbers will have to be restricted due to physical distancing so we would appreciate those who plan to attend booking with the Wardens either by word of mouth or by telephone on the numbers below. Another casualty will be our Christmas Fair. Let's keep our fingers crossed that these services, without congregational singing, will proceed as planned.

Roger Peck. 01900 85236

Keith McNeil. 01900 85383

### MOBILE POST OFFICE

Please note ! Change of time.! The Mobile Post Office now calls at Broomcroft Lorton at 13.25 until 13.45 every Friday. Avoid those queues in Cockermouth and use our local service. Cash available and range of Post Office Services.

## COOKERY CORNER

### Very More-ish Cheese Biscuits

#### Ingredients:

85g (3oz) grated (strong) cheese

55g (2oz) butter

85g (3oz) plain flour

1 egg yolk

Cayenne/mustard powder

Salt and pepper

#### Method:

1. Rub butter into flour, add cheese and season to taste.
2. Mix to a stiff dough with the egg yolk.
3. Roll out 1/4" thick, cut into small shapes.
4. Bake at around 190 centigrade for 10 to fifteen minutes.
5. Cool and store in a tin (can be reheated)

From Anne Style taken from Mrs Beeton in 1914! Via The Guardian.

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## Walkers Way No 204

Well it had been raining most of the night, and blowing a gale too. By morning the rain had eased, so there seemed no excuse to deny the demand for the daily walk. Weather wise it was anything but promising, so the nearest option was chosen, namely Parton foreshore.

On arrival things looked even worse. The wind was howling and it was spitting with rain, and as for the sea, well, basically it was a muddy brown, with very hefty waves, frothing with bad-temper, roaring towards the shore each with a thundering crash and cloud of spray for good measure. Shall we – or skip it? Of course we did- anything but wimps where a little weather is concerned!

Only on stepping out of the car, was the full force of the wind realized and donning the final outer layer of clothing was something of a major achievement. Walking northwards over grassy banks, sand, single and rock, buffeted all the way, but without the threatened rain developing, with a very high tide on the left, the full extent of the shore was duly traversed and the return trip begun. Walking into the wind was a different matter. Something of a breathtaking struggle and quite hard work. Visibility was not good – no sign of the Dumfries and Galloway coast – and overhead a ceiling of solid grey. Memories of times gone by were stirred – many days of winter walking in the fells – gales, blizzards, snowdrifts and the like. Such as the time when four of us scaled Sheepbone Rake, Buttermere, only to be met with such a gust on breasting the summit that the lot of us were blown right off our feet, flat on the deck! Or emerging on the top of High Stile having climbed the Chapel Crags Gully above Bleaberry Tarn (ill.) or heavy snow over Maiden Moor. But eventually the car was regained, the doors were slammed, and there was the joy of hot coffee and sandwiches, while watching the pounding waves, in comfort! Was it worth it? Of course! A thoroughly enjoyable stretch of limbs and lungs – worth every minute.

So, all's well with the world? If only! Depression will get us nowhere, but really it is all rather bleak. So much has been said about Covid that I hesitate even to mention the word – but there is no hiding from the fact that this is just one of some 200 zoonotic diseases – i.e. diseases that

pass between animals and humans and vice versa, domestic animals, primates and bats being the most commonly involved, but endangered species threatened by habitat loss and over exploitation are also potential factors. In other words, we are at least partly to blame for the problem. It is part of the much wider problem of the way we live, but its effects are as nothing compared to the impending disaster of global warming and the degradation of the natural world. As it was put in a recent paper on the need for change the “immediate and long term impacts (of Covid) on health, society, the economy and the environment, however horrific, are going to feel like a gentle summer breeze, compared to the whirlwind we shall reap if we fail to avert the twin catastrophies of climate meltdown and biodiversity collapse”. There have been hundreds of meetings on the subject, many international and often at vast expense, but the time for meetings is over. It is already past time for very decisive action. The pandemic is a wake up call and has proved that it is possible to take massive action together to have the desired effect. Lockdown reduced CO2 emissions in China by 25% due to the reduced use of coal. Hong Kong saw a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> reduction in air pollution. Even the canals of Venice were cleaner and clearer. At the same time, so many people still do not understand or do not care. Apparently, there is hardly a beach that is not contaminated with Covid masks.

Inevitably it brings me back to an old hobby horse, for which I apologise, namely the badger (ill). I have complained many times about the culling, a vastly outdated means of disease control which should have been replaced by a more up to date method years ago, if only we had been prepared to spend the time and money. In the event over 164,000 badgers have now been slaughtered, some 95% of which were perfectly healthy. A combination of loss of wildlife, cruelty and inefficiency, which takes some beating.

One small element in a vast array of human activities which must change, radically and fast before it is too late.

Alan Gane.





The ancient Scots Pine of Low Fell carries its age well. Fifty feet tall, give or take a few, girth 9 feet 2 at chest height, it lives alone at 800 feet, on a steep scree and bilberry splattered slope, below an ancient stone sheepfold circle. A few brothers and sisters have settled in the sheltered valley floor many hundreds of feet below. I guess it is well over a century old, but wonder at the story behind this stylite and its survival on this lonely and exposed perch. I ascended early one day this mid November to the home of this lone Pine to share a magical dawn when the mist waves were lapping around Crummock Valley.

John Macfarlane

P.S To view a video of that wonderful misty dawn over Crummock valley, go to my recent post on Instagram @johntmacfarlane (just enter that into google search), or from an electronic version of the LINK, click on [https://www.instagram.com/tv/CH0ODKpDg9E/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/tv/CH0ODKpDg9E/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link).



Crummock from the Lone Pine taken in May 2020  
Roger Hiley

### Lone Pine

This Lone Pine Tree has recently attracted attention from 2 of our talented local photographers. Does anyone have any knowledge of the history of the lone Low Fell Scots Pine, or memories or old photos/ postcards? If so do please send them through to [lortonvalelink@gmail.com](mailto:lortonvalelink@gmail.com) for possible publication.

## The Old Men of Skiddaw

Peter Style

From Orthwaite Lane up, over Barkbeth Hill  
Broad, green-mounded rigg and furrow,  
Fell gate, Southerndale, bright sun, cold dry stillness,  
Rock cut track, sled-iron-smooth ground grooves.

Below the broken grey blocks, Watches,  
Hard picrite intruder into Ordovician siltstone  
Quarried lintel and quoin for house and farm,  
Eyes up, sharp lit Kiln Pots and The Edge.

Across sparkling cold Southerndale Beck,  
The sled-gate road rises over the tawny sedge,  
Hollow ways fall from the fellside  
Eroded tracery of sled-runs.

Remnant of the rock running slaters,  
Loping down the rushing scree  
Slate laden sleds behind them,  
Run out, braking trail-barrows rest.

Walking-in, cold wind, low light  
Morning mist draped over the tops  
Little Knott, Great Knott, Buzzard Crag,  
Randal Crag terrace – to work.

The “old men” in kytel coat  
Dresser and river  
Bait bag, chisel and mell,  
The clogged trod upwards.

Dig, delve, dock and split,  
Open tops of slaty layered tumble,  
Blaeberry, purple-grey fossil mud revetment,  
Riving shed, collapsing cards sliding sideways.

Wafer fine split slate from the clog  
Dressed with whittle and anvil, sheltering  
Basenthwaite, Bewaldeth Snittlegarth  
Orthwaite, Ulldale and Ireby.

Solitary watcher on observatory ridge,  
Skiddaw Man, time out of mind,  
Feint footings by the cairn,  
John Adams telescope hut.

Ullock Pike, Longside Edge, Carlside;  
Blencathra, Knott, Great Calva;  
Broad End, Bakestall, Binsey;  
Little Man, Lonscale and Latrigg.

High and airy, shallow trials,  
Left abandoned, by Gibraltar Crag,  
Echoes of Peninsular Wars, of Succession,  
Greater rock possessed by force of arms.

Down Barkbeth Gill, ghostly figures  
Below Broad Stand, White Horse,  
Across the mired track, into the mist,  
Jet black fell pony and sled fade.



The full illustrated and annotated version of this piece can be viewed at:  
<https://wordpress.com/post/mountainsofmeaning.com/1557>

## Delhi to Kathmandu by bicycle with a sketchpad

Nainital is a former British Raj hillstation where officers would retreat to, to escape the heat of the plain in summer, it also reminded the homesick Brits of the Cumbrian lake district and is the largest town in the Kumoan Himalayas. The lake which the town surrounds is covered in a bright green algae and the contrast between the lake and the surrounding forested hillsides with the red roofs of the town peeping through makes it a beautiful magical spot and we enjoyed spending a couple of days there just enjoying the ambience of the place, eating lovely food and just watching local life going on.

Speaking of lovely food, watching how it was prepared and seeing the waiter use the same cloth he had just wiped the floor with to clean the tables, the plates and the cutlery was a bit nerve racking, when were we going to get the next bout of diahorea? Andrew had been to India a few times and told me early on in Delhi that to survive the trip I would have to cultivate a air of not noticing the different, or lack of, hygiene standards and that we had plenty of medication anyway and the food was good, which it was, though it might come with a side order of bacteria!

Paul Cowling, Littlethwaite

Looking at Trisuli from Dewal



Loweswater with Buttermere PCC  
100 Challenge Club

**The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st November 2020**

1st prize of £25 No 60 Revd Margaret Jenkinson  
2nd prize of £10 No 82 Alan Gane  
3rd prize of £5 No 13 Edna Vickers

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



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NSPCC

Thank you to everyone that has bought jams and pickles from me this year. I am able to bank £350 which is fantastic - thank you all so much. Wishing you all a very healthy, peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Ann Hayton

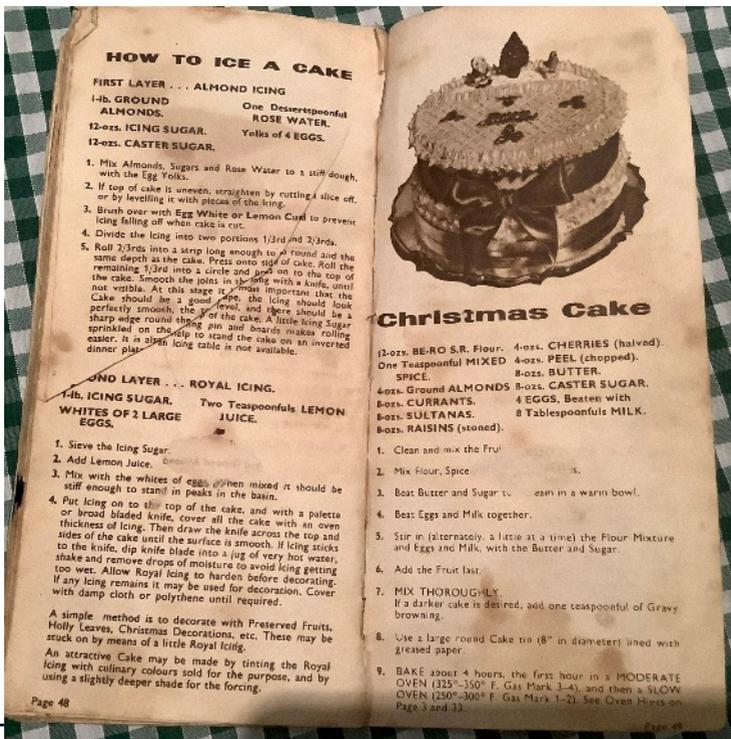


### St Cuthbert's Merchandise - last chance to buy before Christmas

If you are new to the area or looking for an unusual Christmas present then don't forget we have a selection of St Cuthbert's merchandise for sale - some of which is pictured (apologies for the quality of the photo) above. If you would like to purchase anything please call Rosemary on 01900 85072.

Notelets * (5 in each packet)	£3.00
Cookery books*	£5.00
Aprons	£12.00
Tea Towels	£4.50
Mugs	£6.00
Shopping bags	£2.50

\*All have local photos taken by local people and the recipes were all contributed by local people too.



## HAPPY BE-RO CHRISTMAS

Cook books on many of our kitchen shelves, whether it be Philip (Harben), Fanny or Delia, to Nigella, Jamie or the wonderful Hairy Bikers, are all very well; however, the most well thumbed and muckiest pages, plus tasty cakes & pies must be from the little Be-Ro economical baking book found in many a kitchen cupboard or drawer and often passed down through the generations is still today a firm favourite. Mine would have to disappear without trace before being replaced, as I just adore the collected decades of grubbiness, and the residues of previous culinary creations ingrained within the pages therein. Arguably the best selling cookery book of all time; of which I would place a bet that Mary B. herself has a really well worn & earmarked copy.

So while we're here don't forget that classic little trick of: 1. tsp. gravy browning to be added to your Christmas cake recipe for a lovely rich deep colour as in above picture. Also this tip: added grated orange peel to the mince pie pastry mix makes for a delicious difference.

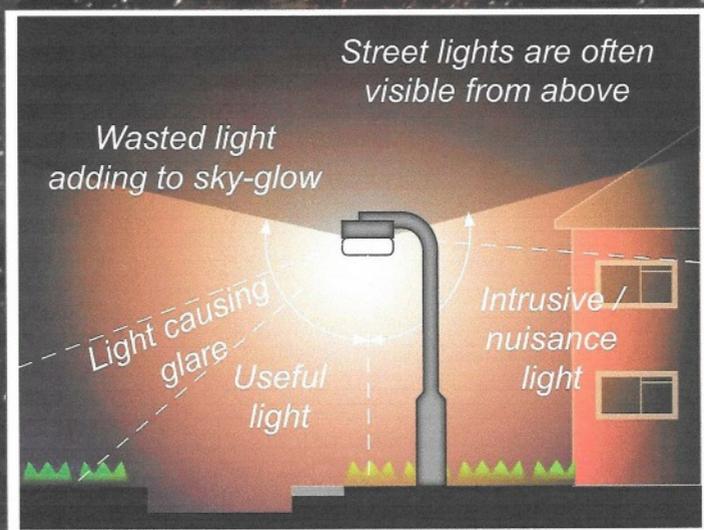
Chris Goode,  
 Cockermouth

# Saving Our Night Skies

Join Project Officer Jack Ellerby for an online presentation to learn about the value of Dark Skies and the growing issues from the impacts of light pollution on wildlife and people. Hear about relevant research, good and bad lighting, what the Project's doing and find out how we can all help to tackle light pollution.

on Friday 4th December, 7 – 8pm

Email: Mike Milner - [lortonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:lortonparishclerk@gmail.com) for the Zoom link to join-in.



The event is **FREE** so please do share with anyone you think might be interested!

Keep up to date with the Project via our website: [www.darks skiescumbria.org.uk](http://www.darks skiescumbria.org.uk)

## ECO CHURCH/ECO COMMUNITY UPDATE

We have fantastic news - St Cuthbert's has attained the Gold Eco Church award. We had our assessment meeting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November and received the confirmation email on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so much to everyone who has helped us get this far, especially the sub-committee, consisting of:

Rosemary Riley - Project Manager and lead on Community and Global Engagement

Rachael Edmunds - Lead on Lifestyle

Revd Sandra Ward - Lead on Worship and Teaching

Robert Baird - Lead on Buildings

Tanya St Pierre - Cumbria Wildlife Trust rep and Lead on Land

Glenis Postlethwaite - Melbreak Communities Steering Group rep

Keith McNeil - Churchwarden

We cannot claim to be the first Church in Cumbria to achieve this award as Levens got there before us, but we are certainly the first in NW Cumbria and one of only 15 churches in England and Wales to be awarded this. I daresay we are one of the smallest and most rural churches too!

Here are some comments from the assessment panel:

"We particularly took note of your Eco Church team which represents a cross section of your church and local community. It is clear how well networked you are within your local community with school links, coffee mornings, swap shops, youth cafe, eco-days and sharing environmental news on a regular basis. As well as the influence you have at different levels on an individual and community level. We were encouraged too by the regular Eco Church item at the PCC. Despite the use of oil – your use of data loggers shows that you are doing all that you can to heat up your building in the most efficient way. We recognize that Rev Sandra Ward played a crucial part in integrating creation care into the worship and teaching and we hope that you can continue to build on this following her departure."





# Gold Eco Church Award Certificate

This is to certify that

**St Cuthbert, Cockermouth**

has won a Gold Eco Church Award in recognition of their efforts to care for God's earth in each of the following areas (as applicable):

- Worship and Teaching
- Management of Buildings and Land
- Community and Global Engagement
- Lifestyle

Signed Andy Atkin Date 20th November 2020  
CEO, A Rocha UK



[ecochurch.arocha.org.uk](http://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk)  
[arocha.org.uk](http://arocha.org.uk)



# LORTON

## WINTER WONDERLAND

Window and Outdoor  
Displays

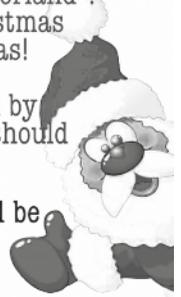
### SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER

#### SEASONAL DISPLAYS

Make Lorton cheery this Christmas, make it a “Winter Wonderland”! Everyone can have a go - decorate trees, bushes, walls, Christmas characters, grottoes or cribs, window displays ..... lots of ideas!

Santa will be distributing prizes for the best displays, judged by Arwen and Lee from the shop. Remember, all your displays should be up and ready for **16th December.**

Look out for details of “Spot the Snowman”, quiz leaflets will be made available shortly.



#### WONDERLAND WANDER-Sunday 20th December at 2pm

Everyone is invited to join a wander round the village to admire the decorations and displays, spot the snowmen (quiz) and enjoy a socially distanced chat. Santa and his elves are coming too, with their music, and there will be mince pies and mulled wine to take away at various locations

Santa's Elves will be collecting for the NSPCC, First Responders and Calvert Trust.

A special prize awaits the most fun hat worn on the day.



Lorton Yew Tree Hall Committee

\*\*\*\*\* **LORTON WINTER WONDERLAND** \*\*\*\*\*

This has been a strange year and it will be an unusual Christmas with none of the regular events and little socialising. As you can see from the poster on the proceeding page, it was decided to make the village seem more festive by inviting everyone to put up something decorative and seasonal and visible from the road. The resulting show can be enjoyed over the whole holiday period but a focus will be on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December with the 'Wonderland Wander'.

Look and listen out for Santa and his elves who will be meandering around High and Low Lorton during the afternoon. Snowmen will soon be arriving at 20 houses around the village. From 16<sup>th</sup> December the decorated snowmen will be waiting to be found in their windows or front gardens. Where are the Snowmen? Your Snowmen quiz sheet will be available on the notice boards on 20<sup>th</sup> for you to pick up. 20 Clues will lead you to find these hiding Snowmen. Work your way around the village to see if you can find them all. Free seasonal refreshments will also be available throughout the village during the afternoon so come along and enjoy a **Lorton Happy Christmas!!**

All arrangements will comply with national guidance on Covid-19.

Yew Tree Hall Committee

Dear Loweswater Ladies,

I hope that despite everything, you will be able to enjoy your Christmas this December. It maybe somewhat different but we can always adapt and find a way through.

I wish all of you a Happy Christmas. Hopefully 2021 should see us able to resume our meetings in the Spring. I came across a saying the other day which I am really trying hard to adopt. " Allow yourself to enjoy what you have".

Alison Greer



## **WINTER WARMTH APPEAL**

In a bad winter, 300 people die in Cumbria because of the cold weather, a fatality rate higher than most other areas of the UK and the elderly are among the most vulnerable.

Cumbria Community Foundation's Winter Warmth Appeal raises funds to help older people across the county stay protected from the cold weather.

The Winter Warmth Appeal, in partnership with Age UK across Cumbria, is now in its eleventh year and in that time, through the warm generosity of others, has raised over £1 million. More than a thousand older people who struggle to afford to heat their homes benefit each year. This year the charity hopes to raise £200,000 to help keep Cumbria's most vulnerable warm and well this winter.

The cost of fuel is rising and there are many old, rural homes in Cumbria which cost more to keep warm. It's becoming increasingly harder for people to afford to heat their homes, especially for those that no longer have a steady income. There is also a connection between cold homes and increased risk of respiratory illness, which means any waves of COVID-19 during colder months could have a catastrophic impact for people who already have health conditions when they cannot afford to sufficiently heat their homes. This is why the Winter Warmth Appeal has never been more important.

Please consider donating the Winter Warmth Appeal and help those who are having to choose between heating and eating.

You can donate online: [www.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/winter-warmth-2020](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/winter-warmth-2020) or send a cheque (made payable to: 'Cumbria Community Foundation' and write 'Winter Warmth' on the back) to: Cumbria Community Foundation, Dovenby Hall, Dovenby, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 0PN. Or simply call 01900 825760 and we can take your donation over the telephone.

## DIARY DATES

### DEC

- 1 Tue Buttermere Parish Council, using Zoom platform 7.30pm  
4 Fri Saving our Night Skies, via Zoom 7-8pm

### JAN

- 6 Wed Lorton parish council meeting using Zoom platform 7.30pm  
7 Thu Loweswater parish council meeting using Zoom platform 7.30pm

## DELICIOUS HOMEMADE JAM, MARMALADE & CHUTNEY

Prices range from **£2** for a ministack to **£10** for a 4-jar gift basket



## IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Made locally  
using  
Bassenthwaite  
produce  
where possible

ALL PROCEEDS  
WILL BE DONATED TO:

**Hospice at Home**  
Carlisle and North Lakeland

Contact:  
Christine Edmunds  
0774 695 9003  
or  
01900 85315

## Benefice Services for December & January

6th December - 10:30 @ L'water - HC

13th December - 10:30 @ L'water HC - 15:00 Nine Lessons and Carols @ Lorton

20th December - 10:30 @ Lorton HC - 18:00 Nine lessons and Carols @ L'water

24th December - (Midnight Mass) HC - 11:30pm @ L'water

25th December - Christmas Day - HC - 10:30 @ Lorton

27th December - 10:30 @ Lorton -HC

3rd January - 10:30 @ L'water - HC

10th January - 10:30 @ Lorton - HC

17th January - 10:30 @ L'water - HC

24th January - 10:30 @ Lorton - HC

31st January - (Fifth Sunday) 10:30 Lorton

In case you are not on the email circulation list we thought you'd like to know that Cockermouth Area Churches publish a weekly information Sheet

<http://cockermouthareachurches.org.uk/mc/about/staying-connected/>

[Click here for weekly updates in our Information sheet](#)

Deadline for February is Fri 22nd January, all articles to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date.