

**MAY 2022**



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

# Letter from the Editor

Dear Link Readers

We have another bumper issue for you this month - jam packed with all the usual articles from Penny, John, Gill, Doreen and Roger to name but a few. Special thanks to Roger Peck for diligently writing his Lorton Notes for every edition going back 20 years. This month he makes his final contribution. I'm sure his musings will be missed. Find out in June who has stepped into his shoes.

In addition to all those articles we also have a very interesting article from Les Webb about Geology and Dancing! Go to page 5 to find out more. Grace from Year 4 of Lorton School has written a lovely poem about Daffodils in place of the usual article as the school has been on holiday. We have notices about 2 Jubilee Celebrations - one in Lorton and the other in Loweswater. Did you know we now have an outdoor table tennis table in Lorton - go to page 11 to learn more. There is also a poster giving information about the Indoors Bowls Club held

weekly in Lorton - you can't say there isn't plenty of activity going on in our valley.

There are two exciting Eco Church events taking place over the next few weeks - The GMC Spring Gathering on 14<sup>th</sup> May and a Count on Nature event on 11<sup>th</sup> June. There is also the Climate Sunday Service on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Jane Charman, who usually writes our Vicar's Letter, is currently on holiday. We therefore have a 'guest' contributor - Adrian Thompson, Team Vicar, Grasmoor Mission Community.

Hanneke and Vince have written a summary of the Lorton Ukrainian Refugee Open Meeting on pages 20 and 21. You will find more information about the poetry trail in this edition of the Link as well. There are two more obituaries this month - one for Ron and Win Silverwood and a second for Mike Suckling. Eleanor remembers Bill Clark as well in her St Bartholomew's and St James's Notes. It is always good to share memories.

Rosemary  
07885 360353

Our cover picture this month is taken by Roger Hiley - A misty morning sunrise over Grasmoor



### Christian hope for all creation?

It's spring time again and the increase in the hours of light and sunshine, as well as lambs in the fields and flowers in bloom, are helpful in helping many feel more cheerful! Nevertheless, there is war again in Europe and the whole global community is challenged by global warming! So, is there still hope for creation? The bad news is that our greenhouse gas emissions are causing widespread environmental disasters! Our relationship with the earth seems to be so disrupted! Why?

In answering from the Christian perspective: Remember Eden? "The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and care for it" (Genesis 2, 15). But, very soon after, Adam and Eve turned away from God, causing the relationships between God, people and *the earth* to be disrupted... "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it... It will produce *thorns...for you...*" (Genesis 3, 17, 18).

But, as churches across the world remembered recently on Good Friday, many years later, as Jesus died, wearing a crown

of *thorns*, the earth itself responded - the sky turned black and "the earth shook" (Matt 27:51) ... But then, three days later - as churches again celebrated, with enthusiasm, recently on Easter Day '22 - on that first Easter Day, the ground shook again, with a "violent earthquake" at his resurrection (Matt, 28, 2). It seems that Jesus not only wanted to repair the fractured relationships between God and people, but also the disrupted relationships between God, people and *the earth*! So, the "Good News" this springtime and Easter season is that, even though creation is groaning (Romans 8, 22), Jesus is restoring the hope of all creation!

Yet, as we wait in hope, God also continues to call us all to play our parts in being good stewards of his creation. You may wish to learn more about how local churches are planning to play their part. If so, please note inside this magazine, details of the Grasmoor Mission Community Spring Gathering Day, Saturday 14 May '22, Christ Church, Cockermouth: 'Towards Net Zero': All Welcome!

Adrian Thompson, Team Vicar, Grasmoor Mission Community

LORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE  
APRIL 2022



What is a Green Church? Our very own St Cuthbert's Church is Green and Gold! It has been awarded Gold by the Christian charity A Rocha UK Award Scheme "Caring for God's Earth". This award scheme is open to all churches. St Cuthbert's, Lorton, is the smallest to receive Gold.

8 W.I. members and 3 guests met on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at Lorton Church, where Rosemary Riley gave us a guided tour of the churchyard, pointing out all the additions which had gone towards winning their Gold Eco Award. Items included a wildflower area, nettle tub, brambles along the wall, bird boxes and owl boxes. Trees such as rowan, silver birch and spindle have been planted around the graveyard. Returning to the Yew Tree Hall, Rosemary gave us a presentation on how the project working group had been formed and the work done to both the church and the churchyard in order to be awarded Gold. Links were forged with the Parish Council, Melbreak Communities, Lorton School and other groups. The wildflower area was a joint project with the Parish Council, and Lorton school will be asked to make bug boxes.

Work towards the award included climate change sermons, benefice walks, energy surveys, wildlife surveys, toilet twinning, monitoring the church carbon footprint and changing to a green energy supplier. The work continues, with Rosemary engaging with other communities via talks and presentations, encouraging other

churches to apply and holding coffee mornings and swap shops.

Following questions, Elly thanked Rosemary for her presentation. Then we enjoyed a shared supper and social chat and Melissa Davies called in to tell us about the Poetry Trail she is organising. She appealed for an answer to one question "What do you feel when you walk through a wood?". Melissa will turn the answers into poetry which will form a trail in Lanthwaite Wood near Crummock Water. There was a short business meeting, where we were reminded that the Archives are still available for members to read and which also included the reading of thank you cards from the County guests at our Birthday party. Bulb catalogues are available from Elly and news from County and National was referred to.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, in the Yew Tree Hall, starting at 7.15 and will be our AGM. Please watch out for and respond to Kris's email about this very important meeting and ensure your unnamed voting papers are returned in a sealed envelope either to the meeting or to President Ann by the 10<sup>th</sup>. The meeting starts with a Fish and Chip Supper so please contact Kris with your choices by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

## Cumbrian Geology and English Folk Dancing

That's an unusual combination for a short article. Geology first, which I've always found interesting, even though I was brought up in Birmingham where it's largely invisible and not exactly at its most fascinating. The Cumbrian landscape is altogether different, which may explain why it seems to be overflowing with retired Professors of Geology and self-educated amateurs. I recently joined the U3A Cockermouth Geology group, which meets monthly at Eaglesfield Village Hall. A recent talk was all about the Cumbria GeoConservation Group, which I had never heard of and which documents and looks after important geological sites in the county.



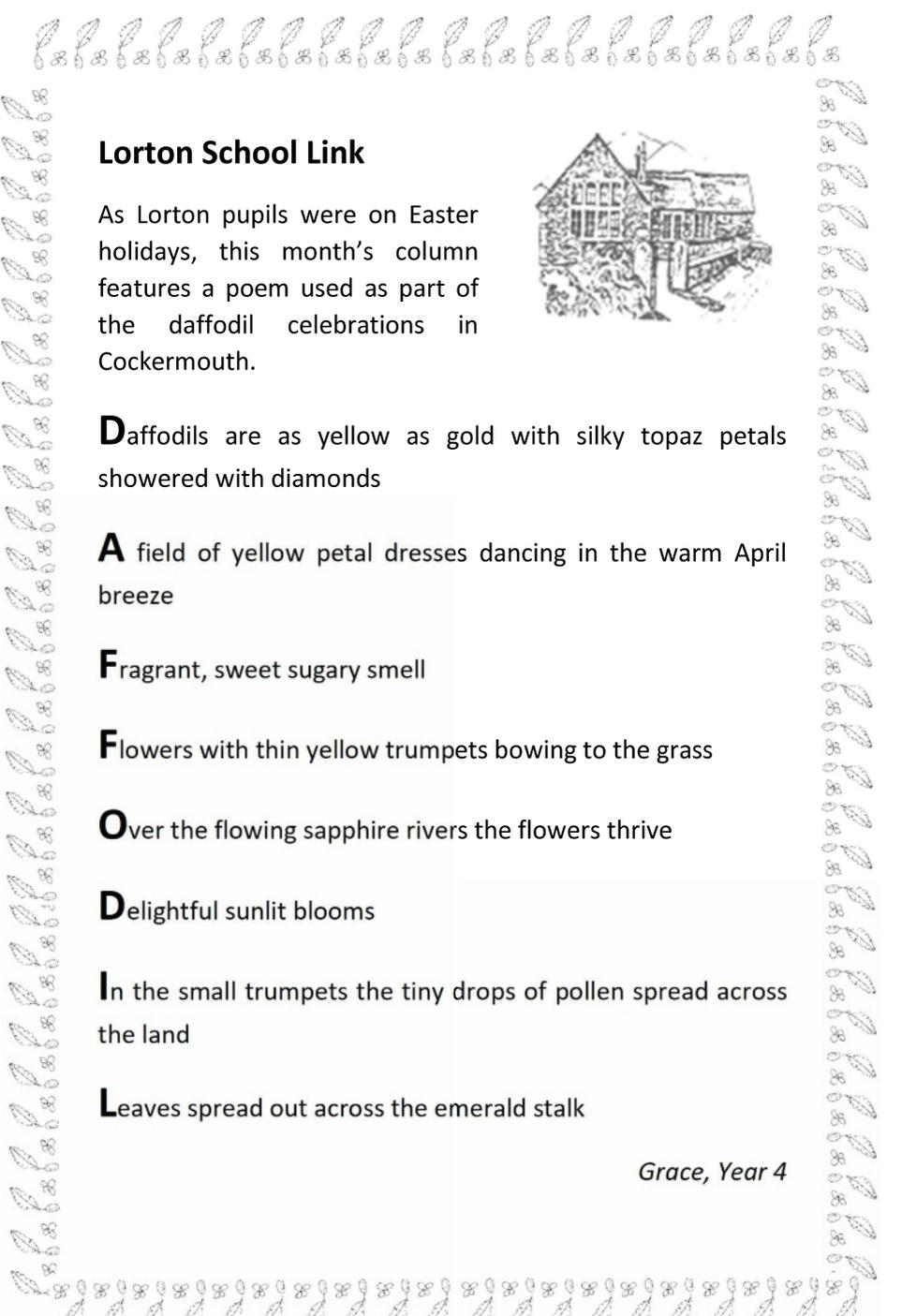
Their website (it's actually within the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre website, [www.cbdc.org.uk](http://www.cbdc.org.uk)) is a mine of information with an interactive map showing you where their 280 sites are located. There's several in our valley, the picture here showing one just over the fells in Ennerdale - these are the moraines left by the retreating glaciers near Black Sail.

There's a number of Geotrails listed which take you around interesting geological landscapes such as Eycott Hill, which was acquired by Cumbria Wildlife Trust a few years ago. It's just off the A66 and has great views of Blencathra. There's a guided walk around the site on 10 May as part of the forthcoming GeoWeek 2022 (7-15 May), the purpose of which is to get the public involved in finding out about geoscience. There's loads of events all around the country. No time to tell you about Cumberland and Westmorland Geological Societies, but look them up online to see their programmes of walks and talks.

On moving here, Jan and I started Scottish Country Dancing in Cockermouth and then tried English Folk Dancing for something a bit less demanding. We still do both, but the Keswick Folk Dance Club in Portinscale is struggling to get enough dancers. So, I thought that I would start an English Folk Dance Group within Cockermouth U3A. It's alternate Tuesdays, 2-4pm, at Embleton Village Hall. You do have to be a member of U3A, but that's only £10 pa. If you're interested, have a look at the Cockermouth U3A website or get in touch with me about either group as below.



Leslie Webb, Damson Ghyll, Loweswater; 01900 85609, [les@damsonghyll.co.uk](mailto:les@damsonghyll.co.uk).



## Lorton School Link

As Lorton pupils were on Easter holidays, this month's column features a poem used as part of the daffodil celebrations in Cockermouth.



**D**affodils are as yellow as gold with silky topaz petals  
showered with diamonds

**A** field of yellow petal dresses dancing in the warm April  
breeze

**F**ragrant, sweet sugary smell

**F**lowers with thin yellow trumpets bowing to the grass

**O**ver the flowing sapphire rivers the flowers thrive

**D**elightful sunlit blooms

**I**n the small trumpets the tiny drops of pollen spread across  
the land

**L**eaves spread out across the emerald stalk

*Grace, Year 4*

LORTON CELEBRATES



# Platinum Jubilee



**Friday 3rd June**

**Come and join our Jubilee celebrations at the Yew Tree Hall**

- ★ Afternoon Tea
- ★ Exhibitions
- ★ Fun for all the family

2.30pm

**Official Opening of The Jubilee Garden**



Cutting of the ribbon will be followed by a garden viewing, glass of Pimm's and photo opportunities.



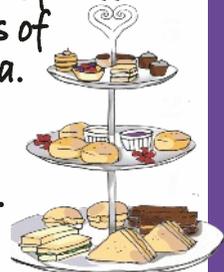
3.00-5.00pm

**Afternoon Tea in the Yew Tree Hall £4**

Enjoy a delicious Afternoon Tea of sweet and savoury fare, view displays of local and historical memorabilia.



Children can colour a crown, try the lucky dip and have fun.



The Whinlatter Whistlers will be playing too.

**YEW TREE HALL COMMITTEE**

## *Penny's Piece*

To prove that I over bought on Xmas food, we ate the second piece of beef on Easter Sunday. It was delicious and there was enough left for beef and chips on Holiday Monday- as it should be. All joints of meat should be bought for a meal for x number of people and enough for chips or sandwiches the next day.

I am interested to find out if anyone else has any family traditions (odd or otherwise) around Easter. One of my friend's family does pancake day in style. They have a competition to see who can eat the most homemade, plate sized pancakes. I think the record is 17 and this will stand for posterity as it was decided that this was the last year after 'father' had to be helped to lie down on the sofa. The same family also does who can eat one of their easter eggs the fastest. When you have done you prove it by putting the empty box on/ over your head. I feel that I should point out that the youngest member of this family is now 24. Would still like to see it in person though. My birthday can be close to Easter depending on when it falls, so as a child I sometimes got given lots of eggs as birthday presents. I was in my early teens before I found out that easter eggs were in fact whole eggs and not just a half egg with sweets inside. You see my dad was a definite chocaholic, so he would help out by sneakily opening and eating the back out of each egg. This would be a little harder these days as the eggs have both parts melted together and the packaging is somewhat tamper-proof. Here is a mystery of the modern age. Why do some multipacks of KitKats have the traditional foil and paper sleeve wrapping and some have a plastic wrapper? All the important questions raised here.

During another cycle event passing by, we

had the usual choruses of 'car!' as they met on the bend. There was however another shout along the road between the two lay-bys 'pothole!'. They were not wrong but it did make me smile.

During my holidays I did a litter pick, just from home to the seat along the side of the lake and back, but still managed to get half a bag. Most was along the sides of the laybys, a deflated football by the lake and the unfortunate bags of dog mess. On the plus side, lots of people saw me and for a few days we were looking good. I will have to go out again soon to clear up after the Easter holidays and before Mayday Bank holiday. Still don't get why people can't just take their rubbish with them or find the bin.

Crazy golf. Forget roulette, crazy golf is the ultimate game of chance in my opinion. I did get beaten by a two-year old on one hole, so that shows how well it was going. The combination of hitting it too hard, not hard enough, wrong angle so it came straight back to me and missing the hole from 2 inches away, that day, I was hopeless. Not that I am Masters level on a good day or anything, but I've never been that rubbish. Oh well, something to improve on. Definitely going continue to stay away from a proper course. Can you imagine? It would take ages to hit the ball- in the wrong direction and turf laying may be needed. I have no actual experience to know that this would be accurate but a very strong feeling. Either that or some poor person would need an ambulance after a wayward club clobbered them. I'll leave you with that image. Take care. Penny



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## LORTON NOTES

We are grateful to those who helped decorate the church for Easter, which looked joyous after the sombre season of Lent. The joyous mood has spread to the countryside, for although the sunshine has not matched that of a remarkably sunny March, there has been some wonderful blossom on the trees and flowers in the greening hedgerows. The weather has also been kind to the new born lambs which, if given half a chance, give the impression that it is great to be alive. It is great to be here at this time of year.

The weeks surrounding and following Easter contain a number of the Church's Principal Feasts, the first after Easter being Ascension Day which this year falls on May 26. We shall be having a service of Holy Communion in the evening at 7.00. Hopefully the weather will be kind enough for a pleasant walk to church.

May is an important month for the running of our church, as after the service on the eighth we shall be holding our Annual

Parochial Church Meeting at which members of the congregation are invited to give their thoughts and ask questions about the church finances and other matters concerning the way the church operates. This year will also see a changing of the guard, as I shall be stepping down as churchwarden after twenty years and Keith will be stepping down after sixteen. As the years pass I am becoming aware of my own mortality and think it advisable that some of the things I am doing be spread around other members of the congregation. One of the things I am passing on is the writing of these Notes, so this is the last time they will be signed by:

Roger Peck.

From St. Cuthbert's Church Registers:

April 2 Thanksgiving and burial of ashes:  
Marion Burton.

**DASHING HOUNDS**  
**MOBILE DOG GROOMING**



**WE COME TO YOU!**

Contact **Zoe** on **07436053993**

Outdoor Table Tennis has arrived.

Easter Weekend 2022, the sun shone, and the dry spell continued, apart from a short shower on Easter Monday morning. The fine weather was ideal for outdoor Table Tennis. Thanks to a very generous anonymous benefactor, at last residents and visitors were able to enjoy a game of Table Tennis outdoors on the Lorton Parish field. Situated in the corner of the field close to the outdoor classroom this table is open to everyone. You can use your own bats and balls. But the Yew Tree Hall Table Tennis Club has very kindly offered to donate some and these will be found in a plastic box, under the table. Please always return to the box after use.

Thanks also to Penny Poole who masterminded the ordering of the table and supervised the construction by Harvey and Fin.

Don't forget the Parish field is a Dog Free Zone, as the field is primarily used by children at the school.



# Ullock Village Hall



## ***Garden Night*** ***Friday 13 May 2022***

### ***Gardening for Wildlife***

**A talk by Helen Shipton-Smith of Helen's Herbs**

**Lots of plants for sale including a selection from Helen's nursery**

**A chance to chat while enjoying a cuppa and a bite to eat**

**Any donations of surplus seedlings or good plants are welcome for the plant stall**

- ***6.45pm Plant Sale***
- ***7.15pm Helen's Herbs – Talk***
- ***8.00pm Savoury & Sweet nibbles***

***Tickets £6 including Refreshments***

***Please call 01946 862300 or 861458***



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**Locations:** Keswick • Cockermouth • Eaglesfield • Lorton • Gilcrux • Blindcrake

# Thank you for raising £443

A big thank you to everyone who attended the Garden Club Coffee Morning on the 9th March. **Your very generous support raised a total of £443 in donations for the DEC Ukraine Appeal.**

Also many thanks to everyone who baked cakes, helped on the day and contributed to the Seed and Seedling swop. All helping to make the event such a success.

*'Sunflowers of Ukraine'*



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A stylized white outline of a mountain range above the text 'Fellside PHYSIOTHERAPY'.

PRIVATE • BUSINESS • EVENTS

# LORTON VALE GARDENING CLUB

The April coffee morning went splendidly - a grand total of £440 raised for the Ukrainian appeal! It was really good to have such fantastic support for such a worthy cause - thank you to all who contributed so generously. The plant and seed swap raised £90 too, even though it was so early in the gardening year. Well done, Catherine and Henry!

The first garden visit of the year will be on Thursday 5th May, to Summerdale House, Nook, Lupton LA6 1PE. This is a one and a half acre garden, part walled, set round an eighteenth century former vicarage. There are separate hedged areas, each with its own theme, linked by cobbled pathways. The garden has good spring planting and fine views of Farleton Fell. The owners, Gail and David Sheals also run the small adjoining RHS Gold Medal winning nursery.

The visit starts at 2.30, and the cost is £5, but they don't do teas.

Directions: 7 miles south of Kendal , 5 miles west of Kirkby Lonsdale . From junction 36 of the M6, take the A65 towards Kirkby Lonsdale. At Nook, take a right turn to Farleton. House and nursery are on the right hand side.

If you would like to come, please contact either Fiona, 01900 85710

[fionalambrick@btinternet.com](mailto:fionalambrick@btinternet.com), or Nicola 017687 76483 [lawses@btinternet.com](mailto:lawses@btinternet.com).

See you there!



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Facebook: S McAdam Garden Services

# Loweswater Parish Communities Platinum Jubilee Celebration

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022

11:30 Planting of tree, The Grange

12:30 Celebratory lunch, Village Hall

All are welcome to join us in our celebration of Her Majesty's landmark. Lunch will be on the basis of bringing food (mains or dessert) and drink for sharing. Please contact Lyn Furniss, who has kindly agreed to coordinate [alloyslyn@btinternet.com](mailto:alloyslyn@btinternet.com) 0190085147



## ECO CHURCH/ECO COMMUNITY UPDATE



Invitation letters for our Spring Gathering have been circulated as widely as possible, but if for some reason you have not received one please email your intention to attend to [gmcoffice@grasmoomc.church](mailto:gmcoffice@grasmoomc.church) or phone Sue Lake on [017687 75742](tel:01768775742) Our plans have now taken shape, as follows:

**From 1030**

### **Refreshments**

*Coffee, tea and pastries and a chance to renew acquaintance with friends from other churches*

**1115**

### **Worship**

**1130**

### **'Climate Change: an eye opener'**

Lee Jackson

**1230**

### **Responses and questions**

*These will be fed into our afternoon session*

**1300**

### **Lunch**

*Please bring a packed lunch. There will be time to browse the displays and resources and talk to people with knowledge of specific areas*

**1400**

### **'What are we already doing?'**

Rosemary Riley

**1430**

### **The Eco Church Journey**

Consultation in church groups. What more can we do and what support will we need? Are there things that we can do better as churches together?

**1515**

### **Feedback**

**1545**

### **Closing prayer**

### **About Lee Jackson:**

Lee is Commercial Director of Smart Carbon, a carbon emissions reporting consultancy [Carbon Reporting Software | SmartCarbon Calculator](#). He is Co-founder of CACTUS (Climate Action for Corporate Travel Urgent Sustainability) [CACTUS – Climate Action Group for Corporate Travel](#). He runs greenhouse gas accounting courses through Northumbria University and is a community trainer with CAfs (Cumbria Action for Sustainability) <https://cafs.org.uk/>



## Count on Nature Wildlife recording event

Come along and help record wildlife!

As part of Churches Count on Nature and Love Your Burial Ground Week St. Cuthbert's Eco-Church has joined forces with Cumbria Wildlife Trust to record wildlife in the church grounds using i-Naturalist and other methods.

Full training will be provided, please bring suitable outdoor clothing and a smartphone if you have one.

Simply turn up on the day!

Date:

Sat 11 June 2022

Time:

10.30am–12.30pm  
(drop-in)

Location:

St. Cuthbert's Church,  
Lorton

Under 16 years to be  
accompanied by an adult

For more information contact [tanyastp@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:tanyastp@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk)

This is a free event run as part of Cumbria Wildlife Trust's 'Planting for Pollinators' project, in conjunction with Lorton Parish Council and St. Cuthbert's Eco-Church.



**Cumbria**  
Wildlife Trust

Green Recovery Challenge Fund



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

The  
National Lottery  
Heritage Fund



**Cumbria**  
County Council

# Loweswater Ladies April 2022

Our April meeting turned out to be a rather busy one. An Extraordinary General Meeting had been called to ratify our constitution. Copies of the constitution had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting and members voted unanimously to adopt the constitution.

We then proceeded to the main event , our puzzle and games evening. There was something for everyone on offer. Word games, dominoes, visual puzzles, maths and logic puzzles and jigsaws. Points were earned by successfully completing the puzzles or by winning a series of games. The most successful player of the evening was Carolyn, closely followed by Karen B. They were given Puzzle books as prizes to further hone their skills. This month's raffle prize, a rather sizeable Easter Egg was won by Karen W.

During tea, Melissa Davies stopped by to tell us about the poem she is going to write to form a Poetry Trail in Lanthwaite Woods. She is inviting contributions from the local community to answer the question - How do you feel when you walk through the woods? The deadline for contributions is 3rd May. A big thank you to Val, Jenny and Joan for stepping in at short notice to provide the tea.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 11th May at 7.15pm in LVH**. Our speaker will be the author Jean C Briggs who will introduce us to her detective saga featuring none other than Charles Dickens.

Doreen Robertson

Loweswater with Buttermere PCC  
100 Challenge Club

## **The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st April 2022**

1st prize of £25 No 88 Hugo Thomson  
2nd prize of £10 No 31 Miles Davies  
3rd prize of £5 No 72 Mark Elliott

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

turbance, labor, or affectation; easily.  
quiet; repose; facility: *v.t.* to free from pain, anxiety, or trouble: give

**Easy Street** (strēt), a position of financial comfort. [Colloq.]

# LORTON LITTLE LIBRARY

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## Summary of the Open Meeting to Support Refugees

in Lorton - 9th April 2022 at Yew Tree Hall

On 9th April 2022 just over 40 residents from Lorton and surroundings got together in the Yew Tree Hall for an Open Meeting to have a community talk about the type and level of support the village could offer to Ukrainian refugees and their hosts.

Our role in setting up this meeting was to gauge whether there was interest in the Lorton Community to form a working group to support refugees and their hosts. We envisaged that this working group would have a fixed term, perhaps 6 months to begin with and we would review at that time.

We gave out an information sheet regarding support for hosts and refugees and with links to organisations, as well as a questionnaire.

We looked at the current situation regarding the national and local support for Ukrainian refugees.

1. **Personal Sponsorship**, when a UK family welcomes Ukrainian refugees in their home, is now open - 'Homes for Ukraine'. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-scheme>. Currently the visa applications process proves to be a difficult and long process, but seems to be improving. Currently (20 April 2022) there are 176 hosts and 522 Ukrainians in Cumbria.
2. **Community Sponsors**, where groups/organisation, such as church, charities, communities are hosting refugees. This route is not yet open.
3. **Sanctuary Breaks** (Respite breaks), where refugees are offered a break for 1 day or up to a week. One example of this is in Yorkshire. [cityofsanctuary.org/group-activities/sanctuary-breaks/resources/](http://cityofsanctuary.org/group-activities/sanctuary-breaks/resources/)

We discussed:

Other Local Initiatives: learning from other local communities such as: we attended a similar meeting at Gilcrux and networked with local initiatives in Dearham, Drigg, Workington Refugee Organisation, etc. These links have been established during March/April 2022.

A resident of Dearham, Rachel Tate, gave a very moving and inspirational account of the journey she and her family have been on. First she described how her family came to the decision to host a refugee family. Then she described the matching process with a family from Kyiv (mum, 2 teenage daughters and their dog), this family's journey through Europe and finally the difficulties with obtaining visas. Unfortunately, although the system in obtaining visas seem to be improving, this family from Kyiv is still waiting today (20 April 2022).

Support from residents: After a short article in the April Link and on social media, local people have contacted us with a variety of offers of support e.g. transport, teaching English, arts sessions, general support and equipment such as bikes, bedding, etc. We have created a spreadsheet to capture the range of skills, expertise/experience been offered in Lorton and surroundings.

Support from local organisations: Lorton Primary School, the Parochial Church Council and Yew Tree Village Hall Committee have offered their support.

Issues for refugees living in a rural area: It will be important for the refugees living in rural areas to be able to meet up with others to minimise a feeling of isolation. The Yew Tree Hall, School and Parish Council field would be valuable resources for this.

Transport: One of the major challenges of living in a rural location is the poor provision of public transport. A small community car could be a solution or access to a pool of volunteer drivers.

Questionnaires: We will respond to those people who kindly completed and returned a questionnaire. All 33 respondents were in favour of progressing a Lorton Community initiative to offer support to displaced Ukrainian citizens. A few conditional offers of accommodation in either people's own home or in other properties have been made. More than 20 people offered support in the form of transport, English language, befriending, support with applications to GP, benefit access, etc. More than 20 people would be interested in supporting the provision of 'Sanctuary Breaks' (respite breaks).

### Next steps

A small number of people will meet on 28 April 2022 at 19:00 at the Yew Tree Hall to discuss the possibility of forming a working group and its task. If you are interested in being part of this, please contact us.

We would like to thank everybody for their support.

Hanneke van Schelven: [hvanschelven@icloud.com](mailto:hvanschelven@icloud.com)

Vince Mercer: [vincemercer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:vincemercer@hotmail.co.uk)

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

It seems I was a little premature in my last Link notes suggesting spring was really established as what followed was far from spring like. Now we are having some lovely sunny days and the gardens are really growing apace.

During Holy Week all our churches celebrated Candlelight Compline, a peaceful and thoughtful way to end a busy day. Loweswater held the Good Friday Devotional service and Holy Communion on Easter Day. We had wonderful anthems from the choir and Quentin gave us a splendid solo performance from St Matthew Passion. We are fortunate to have such talent. Special thanks to Sue for the music and all her work with the choir. The ensuing Easter egg hunt in the churchyard proved popular with the children. Easter Day Evensong at Buttermere produced a packed church with 25 people, many visitors. It was good to welcome John Scadding back playing the organ after an absence of more than two years. We are grateful to Archdeacon Richard and Canon William Rogers for leading our services. Our Lent lunch held at the end of March succeeded in raising over £300 in aid of the Ukrainian Humanitarian Appeal. At our last PCC meeting we agreed that we would match whatever was raised from our own funds. Happily we are able to contribute over £600 to that most worthy cause. The APCM will take place on 5th May this year, all are welcome to attend. This is the occasion when new members of the PCC may be appointed and gives the congregation a chance to ask questions and see the Treasurer's accounts. As many will know Rob Silverwood died this month in Holmewood where he had lived for the past three years due to ill health. Rob and Win lived for many years at Thrushbank

following his retirement from farming. We lost a kind and unassuming member of our community who was a loyal and active member of the church where he and Win were responsible for the shining church brasses and grass cutting. His obituary appears elsewhere in this issue. We send our condolences to his daughters and families. Last month a large number attended the funeral of Bill Clark of Fangs Brow farm. Bill and family had farmed at Fangs Brow since the late '60s. Bill, a great family man, was a well known figure in the farming community with a special love of horses. This was reflected in his arrival at his funeral in an impressive horse and carriage. We extend our sympathies to his wife Ruth and his large family.

Our first wedding of the season took place on Saturday Easter Eve in St. Bartholomew's. A local couple, the groom Jordan grew up in the valley as did several generations of his family. We wish them much happiness in their marriage.

Just a reminder that Christian Aid week begins on 15th May. Let's hope we continue the tradition of generous giving.

Please note as from the middle of May services at St. James will be on the first and third Sundays ie the same days as Loweswater services. This will continue until the clocks change in October.

From St. Bartholomew's church Registers:  
Funeral and burial  
31st March - William Clark

Wedding  
16th April - Jordan Bland and Natalie Finn

Eleanor Ella



The Melbreak Communities

You are invited to come along to an  
**Informal Farm Walk**  
at Armaside Farm



**Sunday 8th of May - 2pm**  
**meet at the farm**

Come along and say hello to Herbert our Hereford bull, see some lambs and newborn calves.

We can explain why we are managing the land using herbal ley crops and paddock grazing.

No booking required.  
Remember to wear suitable footwear.  
**STRICTLY NO DOGS.**

WE ARE 1.5MILES FROM LORTON  
TOWARDS COCKERMOUTH





## Loveswater 77 Club

In the past, in normal times, we have often had a coffee evening in May. This year we are concentrating our energies on the Loveswater Parish Communities Platinum Jubilee Celebration to be held on Thursday 2 June. This event is organised jointly by the Parish Council, Loveswater Ladies, and ourselves. It is open to all members of the community, and we hope as many people as possible will attend. Please note that everybody is asked to bring some food and drink for sharing, and full details are given elsewhere in this edition of the Link.

Date for your diary. This year the trip will take place on **Tuesday 28 June**. We shall go by coach to the Alhambra Cinema in Keswick for a private showing of *Murder on the Orient Express* and then the coach will take us to Bassenthwaite Lake Station to have afternoon tea in the train featured in the film. Details of how to reserve your place will be given in the June Link.

John Hudson



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# FILM NIGHT

At Yew Tree Hall  
Lorton

Tues 24th May

## The Reason I Jump

"exploring the experiences of  
non speaking autistic people -  
based on the book by Naoki  
Higashida

Doors and Bar 7pm Film starts 730 pm

Film Hub North



National  
Media  
Museum



Cumbria  
County Council



Cine North is a strategic partner of Film Hub North, part of the BFI Film Audience Network and BFI Neighbourhood Cinema, both funded by the National Lottery

Enquiries- Eleanor 07497 618364

## How do you feel when you walk through the woods? What do you see?



We would like to make your words into a poetry trail.....all you need to do is respond to the question above—you can give a few words, a couple of sentences or even paragraphs. It's completely up to you.



It's not too late to send your thoughts to be included in the community poem! During May local poet Melissa Davies is using responses to build a poem celebrating voices from our communities. Come July, the poem will be installed as a temporary walking trail in Lanthwaite Wood for locals and visitors to explore.

The more people who respond, the richer the poem will be so please don't be afraid to submit even a word or two! Anyone can be involved, any age at all so we encourage you to get other people responding too. You could even send me a photo of children's written responses... **Please email words/pictures to [contact@melissadavies.co.uk](mailto:contact@melissadavies.co.uk)>asap.**

*Thank you and happy writing!*



## Remembering Rob and Win Silverwood – our delightful neighbours

After retiring from farming in Derbyshire in 1988, Rob and Win moved to High Gap in Loweswater in 1991 and became active members of the village and church communities. Rob mowed the grass in the churchyard, Win arranged the flowers in the Church, and they combined forces to polish the brass. At the Loweswater Show, Rob directed the parking and Win acted as a steward in the marquees. They ran a bookstall together at the annual fete. Both enjoyed gardening at home, visiting gardens elsewhere, and they absolutely loved the Lake District. Rob painted in water colours and was an enthusiastic amateur geologist. He set himself the task of visiting as many tarns as he could - his favourite being High Nook – and he continued walking, albeit on lower ground, up to the age of 90.

Win passed away in 2016 after a long illness. Rob, who had been her devoted carer, continued to live at High Gap until 2019 when he moved to Holmewood in Cockermouth. He lived contentedly there (playing lots of Scrabble) until he too passed away on the 13<sup>th</sup> April at the age of 94. We miss them both.

Carolyn Davis, High Thrushbank Cottage

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## MIKE SUCKLING

Mike Suckling, who died on 16 March a couple of months short of his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday, settled in Lorton thirty years ago. Originally planning a career in medicine, he decided one day that it wasn't for him and signed on with the Army at Kensington Barracks in London, the home of the Horse Guards. He moved later to the Royal Sussex regiment – because he couldn't ride a horse, the story goes – and served as an officer in the Korean War in the early 1950s. Leaving the army after a few years he moved into local government, working in central management bodies rather than for any individual local authority, and concentrating on the technological side. He was fascinated in particular by computers, as shown after his arrival in Lorton by his willingness to undertake any printing job on the impressive battery of equipment in his and Lois's home.

Much of Mike's Lorton activity in this respect and others centred on St Cuthbert's Church. For many years he produced the annual Lorton Vale calendar, painstakingly selecting and editing twelve local photographs and constructing inventive captions; the calendars were sold in aid of church funds. The Suckling stall at the Christmas Fair sold not only calendars and cards, but hand-made wooden puzzles and other woodwork such as bird-tables and squirrel-boxes, manufactured in the workshop in Mike's barn where he was often to be found. Also on sale were copies of the annual 'Brain of the Benefice' word-puzzle, another product of Mike's fertile imagination, and the result of hours of creative work and careful checking by him and Lois; with words, as well as hands, Mike was a great craftsman, and a crossword-puzzle solver of renown. For the greater part of his years in Lorton, Mike was church treasurer, producing impeccable accounts and annual reviews beautifully presented. At church meetings he would seize on any point which seemed to him to require examination, and provoke deeper and often useful discussion.

In church, and also in the Cockermouth Harmonic Society and other local choirs, Mike's powerful bass voice was highly valued. He claimed to have no musical training, and was certainly grateful for guidance when it came to learning a piece which was new to him – or which he claimed 'never to have seen before in his life', not always quite the same thing. He was immensely diligent in practising at home; in this, as in so many ways, he liked to get things right. But he would entirely and gladly accept an authoritative view by another, provided that that person really knew what he or she was talking about – it was imprecision and lack of real authority that he objected to.

A man of quick and penetrating intelligence, of great human warmth and generosity, of impetuous moods on occasion but no malice, Mike Suckling dominated but never threatened. It is hard to imagine Lorton without him. He will be greatly missed.

Lorton &  
**Derwent Fells Local History Society**

Brackenthwaite Buttermere Embleton Loweswater Mockerkin Pardshaw Wythop

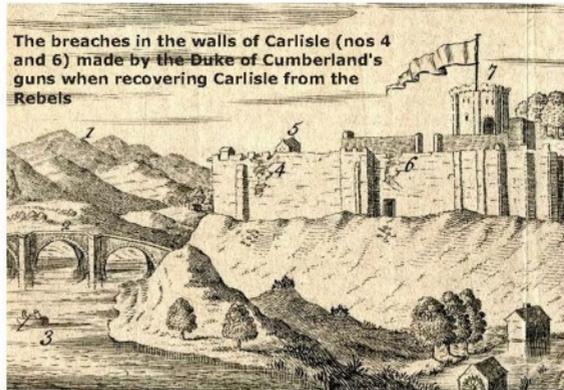
www.derwentfells.com

## Cumbria and the Jacobites

by **Dr Bill Shannon**

**Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton on Thursday 12 May, at 7.30pm,  
and also streamed live using Zoom for members**

Bill Shannon is an independent researcher and author in history, principally landscape history and the history of cartography. After retiring in 2002, he took an MA and a PhD at Lancaster University. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.



In 1715, an English Jacobite army led by the Earl of Derwentwater met with a Scottish Jacobite army, and headed south to defeat at the Battle of Preston. Thirty years later, another Jacobite army captured Carlisle Castle before continuing south to Derby. Returning to Scotland in December 1745 they engaged in perhaps the last battle on English soil, at Clifton near Penrith. The talk will explore the events of those two years, and the local involvement.

This meeting will be held at the Yew Tree Hall in the same manner as the March meeting. There is no need to book. Face-masks are optional. The talk will be streamed live using Zoom for members who are unable to attend the meeting, or who prefer to continue to participate from home. A Zoom link will be sent to all members by email some days before the meeting.

**Visitors are welcome at £3**

**Our Next Event: will be on Thursday 9 June when , after our short AGM at 7.30 pm, members of Ambleside Oral History Group will present 'World War II; earning a crust'**

# LORTON BOWLS CLUB

## Want to try something new!

Why not try Short  
Mat Bowls at the  
Yew Tree Hall!



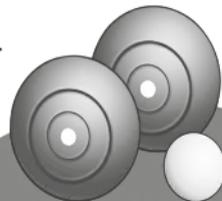
Played on a mat 45ft in length x 6ft wide

- ★ Meet every Monday evening 7pm-9pm
- ★ Suitable for all ages and abilities.
- ★ Free Trial: First two sessions are free!  
(just £2.50 a session thereafter)

So if you want some gentle exercise and good fun then pop along to the Yew Tree Hall and give it a try.



All you need is flat soled shoes or slippers (plimsols are ideal), as we provide all the other equipment for you to try out the game.



IF YOU'RE INTERESTED - please get in touch with Ann Peck  
[annrogerpeck@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:annrogerpeck@yahoo.co.uk) or tel: 01900 85236

## DIARY DATES

### MAY

- 4 Wed Lorton parish council meeting 19.30 YTH
- 5 Thu Loweswater parish council meeting 19.30 Loweswater village hall
- 8 Sun Informal Farm Walk at Armaside Farm. Meet at the farm 2.00pm
- 11 Wed Loweswater Ladies, 7.15pm LVH - Charles Dickens investigates
- 12 Thu Cumbria and the Jacobites, Dr Bill Shannon, LDFLHS, 7.30 pm YTH and via Zoom
- 13 Fri Garden Night at Ullock village hall
- 14 Sat GMC Spring Gathering, All Saints, Cockermouth, 10.30am - 4p.m.
- 14 Sat 10am coffee morning at YTH, 11.30am BBQ & Duck Race on Boon Beck Field
- 24 Tue Film Night, The Reason I Jump, YTH, 7.30pm, Doors at 7pm
- 31 Tue Buttermere parish council meeting 19.30 Old School Room

### JUNE

- 2 Thu Loweswater Jubilee Celebration, Tree Planting at 1130a.m at the Grange Hotel, Loweswater. Celebratory Lunch at the Loweswater Village Hall 1230p.m.
- 3 Fri Lorton Jubilee Celebration Official Opening of Jubilee Garden and a glass of Pimms, 2.30pm, YTH Hall Garden and Afternoon Tea at 4p.m, YTH
- 9 Thu World War Two: Earning a Crust, Ambleside OHG, LDFLHS, 7.30 pm YTH and on Zoom
- 11 Sat Eco Church Count on Nature Event, St Cuthbert's Lorton, 1030a.m - 1230p.m
- 15 Wed Loweswater Ladies, Walk and Supper, LVH
- 28 Tue 77 Club Trip. *Murder on the Orient Express* - Alhambra Cinema and Bass Lake Station

Please note that Indoor Bowling takes place every Monday in YTH from 7-9p.m, with Table Tennis in the same venue every Wednesday from 7-9p.m apart from when there is a Parish Council Meeting, when Table Tennis will be on the Tuesday. There are Keep Fit sessions in LVH every Monday 9.30-10.30a.m and every Friday 5.30-6.30p.m. These will not be listed every month in Diary Dates but can be found on the Melbreak Communities diary page - <https://melbreakcommunities.wordpress.com/diary-of-events/local-events/>

# The United Benefice of Lorton and Loweswater with Buttermere

## Church Services May 2022

1 <sup>st</sup> May	3 <sup>rd</sup> <b>Sunday of Easter</b>		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	CW
8 <sup>th</sup> May	4 <sup>th</sup> <b>Sunday of Easter</b>		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
15 <sup>th</sup> May	5 <sup>th</sup> <b>Sunday of Easter</b>		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	CW
6.00pm	Evensong	Buttermere	CW
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	6 <sup>th</sup> <b>Sunday of Easter</b>		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
26 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Ascension Day</b>		
7.00pm	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
29 <sup>th</sup> May	7 <sup>th</sup> <b>Sunday of Easter</b>		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW

If anyone would like the Information Sheet sent directly to their inbox please email Sue Lake on gmcoffice@grasmoormc.church with your request.



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Deadline for June is Friday 20th May, all articles, photos, funny stories to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date. Thank you