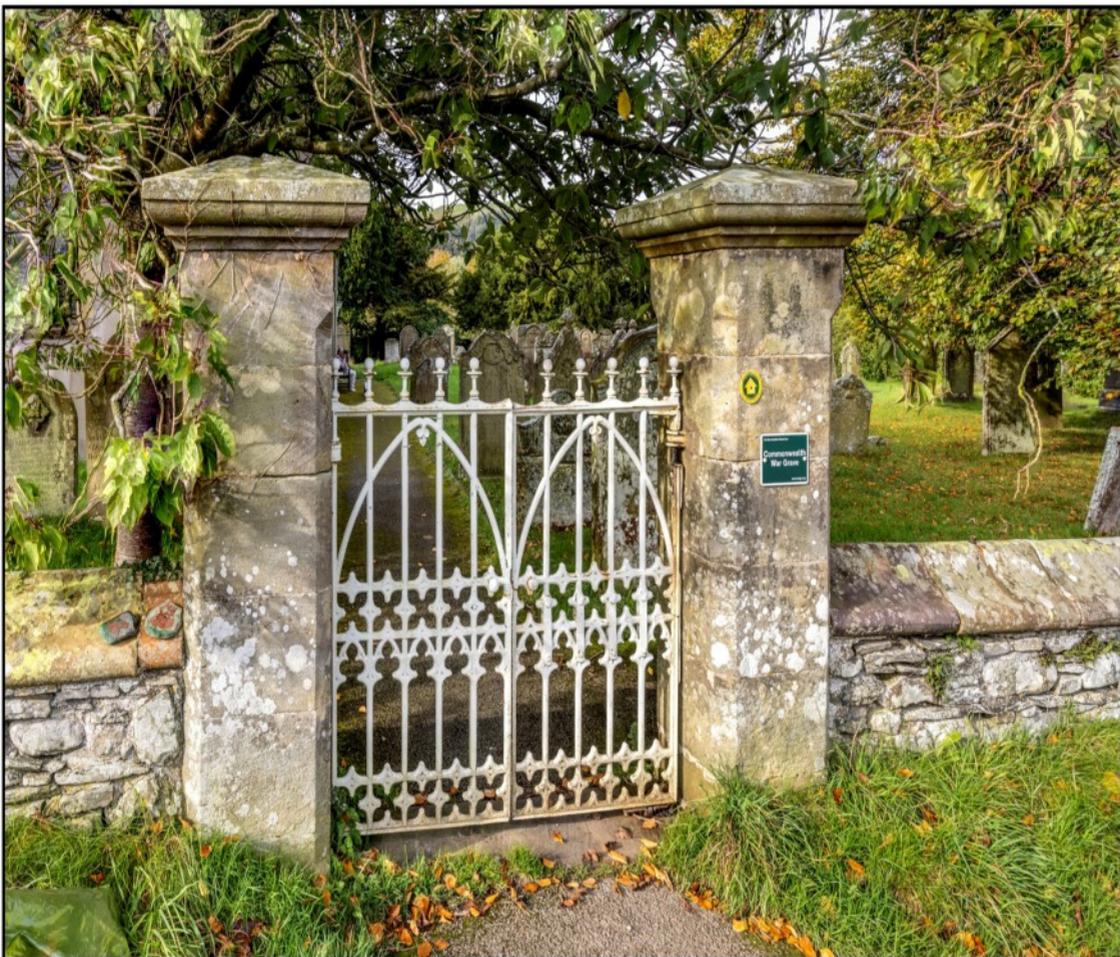


NOVEMBER 2023



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

Letter from the Editor

Dear Link Readers

I have come to the conclusion that my Link contributors are involved in a conspiracy to see how difficult they can make it for me to fit all the articles and posters into a standard edition of the Link. I thought I had beaten you this month until some last minute contributions appeared and I had to add another 4 pages - so welcome to a mega-edition for the November Link.

We have a wide variety of events taking place both this month and next including a wildlife talk about Curlews, a Christmas coffee morning, the ever-popular Locals Night at The Kirkstile, a talk about the restoration of Arctic flora in the Lake District and an Advent Quiet Day - to name just a few. Full details of all these can be found throughout the magazine.

Sadly we also have 3 tributes to those who have passed away in the last few weeks but it is always good to share memories.

Some of you may have noticed that there were some technical issues reproducing the chart within the thought-provoking article by Les Webb about heating sources. These have now been overcome

and so we are printing his article again - hopefully it will now make complete sense.

I know many of you have been following the developments regarding the proposed changes to Crummock Water, specifically the removal of the weir. There have been various meetings and consultations which have culminated in the creation of an open letter to you all from Buttermere, Lorton and Loweswater Parish Council chairs and Supported by Melbreak Communities. This can be found in the centre pages.

We have 2 other quite unusual articles - the first has come about as a result of the Quiz and Games Night held recently at the YTH. Quizzers were asked to write down an overriding childhood memory and these have been compiled by David Hulme and can be found on page 20. The second was sent to me by Sheila Drewery (nee Cunningham) who used to live at Loweswater and who at the age of 75 is having her first book published. Take a look on page 22. I do hope many of you will consider buying it.

Finally I'd like to draw your attention to the report about the Buttermere Camino and the photo of our intrepid pilgrims on page 24 - they certainly look as though they enjoyed themselves.

Rosemary Riley

Our cover picture contributor this month is John Macfarlane - the entrance gates to St Cuthbert's Lorton. As we enter remembrance November, we can remember that the graveyard is a Commonwealth War Graves site (see sign on right hand gate pillar).

VICAR'S LETTER



November is known as a month for remembering.

All around us people are wearing poppies, a symbol that we remember the lives of those lost in war. A poppy because it was one of the only plants to grow on the otherwise barren battlefields.

Remembrance Sunday is a national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

We must remember, so that history doesn't repeat itself and that everything that everyone sacrificed isn't for nothing. Remembrance is just thanking them for what they did and commemorating them as a whole.

The Christian faith has a strong tradition of remembering. As Jesus approached his own death, we're told that he shared a simple meal with his friends. He urged them to remember him every time they break bread or drink together. He knew that he was going to die but he wanted his

friends to know that he would never leave them.

This act of remembrance is associated with life and all that lies ahead, not simply what lies behind us.

As we read and hear what is going on around the world today. Wars, violence, corruption and immorality. Wars cause unforeseen consequences that were never possibly considered before the different sides begin their hostilities. All wars lead to senseless suffering and innocent deaths and symbolises our failure to live in peace as communities and nations.

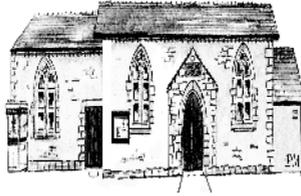
True peace can come about as a gift from God and just like justice and prosperity, it is one of the blessings that God promises us for the future.

A quote from Eleanor Roosevelt: "It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."

Blessings and Peace

Barbara Robinson

Ullock Village Hall



In Association with Arts Out West

'Auf Wiedersehen, Me Duck' ***Friday 24 November 2023 at 7.30pm***

With "two grand voices – individually and in harmony" the Anglo-German duo ***Paul Walker & Karen Pfeiffer*** offer in their concert of 'Auf Wiedersehen, Me Duck' a versatile miscellany of self-penned and imaginatively arranged songs, delivered with guitar and woodwind instrumentation. ***'Auf Wiedersehen, Me Duck'*** is by no means a concept show, but there is certainly an unmissable thread that goes through the songs and banter linking the two cultures in an entertaining way.

The duo has toured its shows extensively taking in New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Ireland and most corners of the UK, wooing audiences with Karen's southern German accent tinged with an 'oatcake induced' North Staffordshire dialect from Paul's heritage.

A memorable performance of great music, fun and the odd German 'joke'. Not to be missed!

Tickets £12, Children £6, Family of 4 £25

01946 862300/ 861458

Online: www.kirkgateartsandheritage.org.uk

B.Y.O drinks

Join: [facebook.com/ullockvh](https://www.facebook.com/ullockvh)

The Loweswatercam Calendar 2024 is now in stock and available to buy, for yourself or as presents for friends and family.

Full details at :- www.loweswatercam.co.uk/2024_Calendar_Offer.htm

A3 size full colour local photos plus space for appointments. Copies can be posted from here or purchased at Lorton Shop.

Melbreak Wildlife Group presents
**Conserving Curlews:
A Tale of Dedication and Hope**



Photo: John Dodds

Join us to hear Susannah Bleakley from Curlew Recovery South Lakes talk about their work to improve breeding success for this iconic farmland bird. Susannah will discuss with us whether a similar project, in the Melbreak area, could be set up to help our breeding curlews.

**Monday 20th November
7.30pm-9pm
Yew Tree Hall, Lorton**

All welcome

No charge - but donations appreciated to help fund projects



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YEW TREE HALL



Christmas COFFEE £3 MORNING

SATURDAY NOVEMBER
25
10.00-12.30pm
please note earlier start

Hamper
Raffle

Melbreak Makers
Craft Making stall

FOR SALE
Lorton Vale
Christmas Cards
& Calendar's

Lorton Vale
Calendar
2024



A Melbreak Communities Event

Penny's Piece

At time of writing, we are approaching the October half term. This means two things. Firstly, sorry about the weather. Secondly, I will have been in our new school building a whole 4 years- we moved in the half term. We have just spent a week and a half having to walk the long way round the building because we couldn't use the playground door. 'Why couldn't you use the door?' I hear you ask. A building report which took place just after Easter finally landed. To cut out the technical details, apparently the whole end wall might not be properly knitted in and could collapse anytime. Great. The head said he hadn't been told how far to fence off. I asked if 'a bloody long way' was a viable measurement. He thought I was joking when I said all future builds need to be built by the kids, using Lego. I'm not joking. Yes, it would be ridiculously expensive, but at least Lego knits together by design. The good news is that a follow up meeting with people in the know has cleared it as ok.

I forgot to tell you last time, that as well as going to Crete, I then went up to Glasgow for a couple of nights. I hadn't been to Glasgow for a couple of decades, so it was very different to the city I remember. Well, except for the Duke of Wellington with the cone on his head. We did as many museums as we could and included as much Mackintosh stuff as we could. I recommend the science museum and the Riverside Museum if you are interested in trying out practical science (great for young and old) vehicles from across the eras. We did have an experience we had not planned for. There was a Banksy exhibition on at the GOMA (Gallery of Modern Art), but it wasn't as simple as turn

up, walk in and see it. We tried to book tickets online, but they were all gone, and it said to see the venue. We arrived at the queue at quarter to nine in the morning and were already being told we might not get tickets today. We stuck with it hoping the people queuing with kids would drop out. Nearly 2 hours later we got to the counter to be told the earliest we could get tickets for was 2. . .am. We asked what the latest time was and got tickets for then instead. We went to bed at 8pm, got up at 2 and got into the gallery at 3:45am. That was after a bit of mild panic that I was driving in the Low Emission Zone and then being unable to pay for parking as it wouldn't accept our attempt to pay by phone, did not accept card and we were a pound short in cash. The exhibition was immersive. There were stencils, recreations of some key works, videos from people like Stormzy (Banksy designed the stab-vest he wore for Glastonbury) and quotes from the man himself on the wall. I liked the one about how his life has changed from sneaking out, so his mum didn't know, to sneaking out so his kids don't know. We also had to animate some puppets we had seen moving on our way in, from the other side for the people following. There were examples of when he has nearly been caught, including once when he asked Keith Allen to create a distraction while he (dressed as an old man) hung a doctored version of a painting over the original in a gallery. Keith nearly dropped him in it. The final part on the way out was a wall, where we could graffiti for ourselves-legitimately. We were back in bed by 5:15am. Memory made. Penny.

Locals Night at Kirkstile Inn

In Aid of Lorton School After School Club

Tuesday 12th December 2023

6.30pm for 7pm

3 Course Meal

Crispy sticky chilli and sesame cauliflower
Asian soy and sesame sauce

Slow roasted beef cheek

Yorkshire pudding, buttered mash, roast potato, roasted carrot and parsnip, red
wine jus
(Vegetarian option available)

Chocolate fondant

Double jersey ice-cream

Complimentary glass of wine, beer or soft drink.

£20 per person / £10 per child

All of this will go to the appeal.

Please pay on arrival by cash or cheque only.

**Booking essential. Please phone 01900 85219 or book at the bar.
Please note that bookings will not be accepted before 1st November**

Please note that specific tables cannot be allocated.

Loweswater Village Hall

Christmas Gathering



Thursday December 21st 2.00 to 4.30

Come and join us for a festive gathering for all the family



Santa's List

- Free Entry**
- Children's Activity Table**
- Tombola**
- Quiz**
- Mulled Wine & Mince Pies**
- Christmas Carols**

Proceeds to NSPCC

loweswatervillagehall.co.uk

**Lorton Vale
Gardening Club**



"Restoration of Arctic Flora in the Lake District"



a talk by
Peter Barron

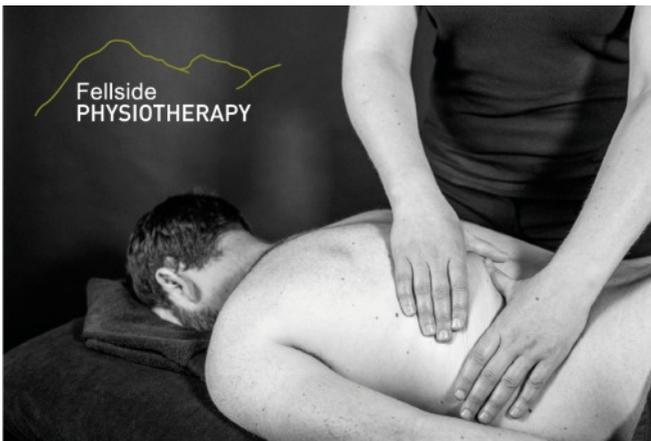
Peter works for the John Muir Trust, which is dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the landscape of wild land in the Lake District.

Prior to joining the Trust, Peter worked 23 years as a ranger for the Lake District National Park.

Yew Tree Hall Thursday 30th Nov
at 7.30pm.

Visitors welcomed £4 including refreshments

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Lorton Vale Gardening Club



Our October meeting was introduced by Chair, Liz Irlam, who took us through a brief AGM and thanked retiring committee members Elly Rowland, Lois Suckling and Dorothy Walker for their invaluable contribution and support over many years. Liz welcomed Tony Robinson, the first guest speaker of our Winter Programme, who treated us to a very interesting and informative talk- **Bonsai – All you need to know**

Tony brought along his bonsai tools and several stunningly beautiful bonsai for illustration, which included deciduous Maples, just turning into autumn colour, and evergreens, including rare Juniper, Japanese Pines and Chinese Elm.

Not only a form of gardening, but a form of aesthetic art, bonsai derived from the 8th C Chinese Empire and developed in Japan under the influence of Zen Buddhism. Bonsai means ‘a tree planted in a shallow dish’ and it is not unusual for bonsai to be passed down through generations, some being 200-300 years old.

A gift over 30 years ago turned into a hobby and a passion – or, as Tony freely admits, an obsession! He has won numerous awards and has a collection of over 60 trees, many grown and cultivated himself.

Tony guided us skilfully and practically through the stages of how to grow a bonsai from a sapling, (which can take decades!); how to plant, water and feed, making sure the plant medium is porous and aerated (a certain type of cat litter works well!); how to wire a tree until it ‘sets’ to a desired shape; how to prune and what qualities to aim for; how to grow a tree over a rock and even how to make two trees from one!

The depth and shape of the shallow dish (usually oval or round) is of the utmost importance to enhance the aesthetic of a particular tree and one of Tony’s trees is planted in a dish he had purpose made himself.

This was a comprehensive and inspiring talk from an expert who clearly loves his art and was indeed ‘All you need to know about bonsai’

Karen Battrick

The next Talk is on Thursday, 30th November, 7.30pm, Yew Tree Hall

RESTORATION OF ARCTIC ALPINE FLORA IN LAKELAND

By PETE BARRON of JOHN MUIR TRUST

Non members welcome - £4, including refreshments.

Loweswater Ladies October 2023

A late change to our programme allowed us to welcome Ann Lackie Lingard to our October meeting. A zoology graduate and former research scientist Ann lives on a smallholding within sight of the Solway. She now writes books and articles about the countryside and shore and novels with a scientific background. Her presentation for us was about The Solway Firth. We heard not only about the varied shoreline with its dunes, mudflats, saltmarshes, submerged forest and peatlands but about the people who lived along the Solway. The history, geology and changing character of the shoreline have influenced the lives of the people in the area and Ann brought this to life for us with some shoreline finds and anecdotes from local people she had meet. Ann was equally enthusiastic whether talking about the failed attempts to run a railway across the Firth over a now demolished viaduct or about the tiny burrowing mud shrimps to be found on the lower shore. Ann writes a blog about the Solway www.solwayshorewalker.co.uk and has contributed to a website along with photographer James Smith about the Solway Junction Railway and Viaduct which readers may like to dip into for more information www.crossingthemoor.wordpress.com. It was a fascinating presentation and well done to our programme organisers, Judy and Joan for finding us such an excellent replacement speaker at short notice.

Members should have now received details of our Christmas meal at Hundith Hill Hotel on the evening of Wednesday 13 December. Please book your place as soon as you can, including your menu choices, with Jenny Burr.

Michelle of Lakeshore Arts will be joining us for our next meeting on **Wednesday 8 November at 7.15pm** in the village hall. Michelle creates bespoke fused glassware and will be showing us some of the techniques used in her work.



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POPPY APPEAL 2023

We are now coming up to the Royal British Legion's annual Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Day. Although many donations to charities are online now, the Poppy Appeal still retains the traditional ways of providing poppies by door to door, shop and town centre collections as well as requests for online contributions. During recent years door to door collections have become more difficult as we use cards for payments so much more and carry less cash. However, we shall soon be making our local house to house collections for this year's Appeal and hope this little reminder will help you to be able to give us a cash donation.

Joan Warren and Kathryn Mitchell

Diana Johnson 1930-2023

In July 2023 my parents Diana and Roger Johnson moved to Lorton from Warwickshire and it was a great privilege for ten weeks to have my Mum Diana Johnson so close by. We shared precious moments and it enabled my family to impress upon Mum how much we loved her and to say farewell.

Mum was a nurse, midwife, health visitor and teacher by training but also an extraordinarily caring and kind mother to myself and my two brothers. Mum worked tirelessly in looking after us such that our formative years were happy and stimulating. Mum was an excellent cook, we always had delicious healthy meals whatever the situation and her 'Tender Loving Care' knew no bounds. Mum gave of herself and her time without the slightest hesitation. Mum had the ability to nurture people, her caring and loving nature meant my wife Judith and daughters Lucy and Jenny felt embraced by Mum and always supported by her.

I could not have had a more caring and devoted mother. Mum has now moved on to a better place and leaves behind her husband Roger, three sons, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Richard Johnson



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LORTON NOTES

In a very timely manner John Macfarlane visited St Cuthbert's a few days ago and took the lovely photo of our gates on the front cover and also this one of our Eagle Lectern.



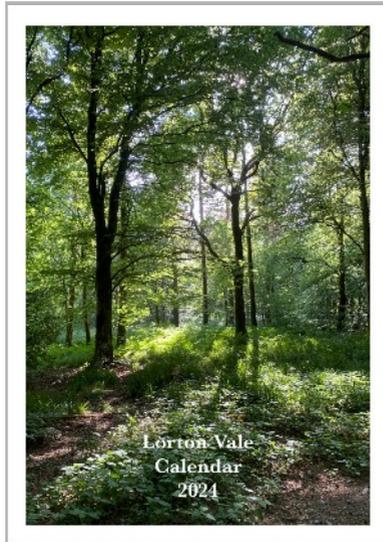
The Lectern dates from the early 20th century - being presented by Elizabeth Harbord - Oct 1905. The Harbord family built Lorton Park in the 19th Century. They were a Liverpool family but were related to several families in the Lorton area including the Lancasters and the Wilsons. [Source of Information: The Harbords and Lorton Park, an article in the Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society Journal No.45.]The picture looks even more impressive in colour so if you can do look at the electronic Link on the Melbreak Communities website.

We enjoyed a very successful Harvest Supper last month and including the auction of produce we raised just over £850 to be split equally between Hospice at Home and the Bishop's Harvest Appeal. Many thanks to all who helped, donated and enjoyed the fun.

As usual we will be holding the Remembrance Sunday Service on 12th November and Clive Barnard has kindly agreed to play the Last Post and Reveille. This is a meaningful and poignant service and I hope many of you will be able to attend. As November progresses we move into the season of Advent and the preparation for Christmas and all that entails.

LORTON NOTES CONT

Our Lorton Vale calendars and christmas cards will be ready soon and will be on sale both at the coffee morning on the 25th November and at the Christmas Fair being held on December 9th. It would be helpful though if you could pre-order in case a second print run of calendars is required.



Please see the flyer included with this Link for more information about the Fair and the stalls that require donations.

From the Register:

Baptism - 10/09/23 Oliver Gerald Edmunds, seen here with his parents and big brother Joseph

Funeral - 3/10/23 Kathryn (Kathy) Walton Johnson

Funeral - 9/10/23 Diana Johnson

Rosemary Riley



Open letter from Buttermere, Lorton and Loweswater parish council chairs, and supported by Melbreak Communities, about Crummock Water

Now that United Utilities (“UU”) has held its last drop-in session about plans for Crummock Water, we thought it might be helpful to summarise the position, as we understand that the consultation process is now largely complete (although we continue to raise points with UU and other organisations). The next stage is likely to be a planning application in March 2024, and subject to that, work is due to begin in 2025.

There is now a page on the Melbreak Communities website which signposts to the relevant information on the UU website (www.unitedutilities.com/crummock) which we recommend everyone reads and considers, as well as containing a longer version of this letter, and some written answers which UU provided the parish councils in August 2023.

For clarity of the legal position, only Buttermere Parish Council will have a formal role in the planning process as a statutory consultee, but the other parish councils are able to comment, as are individuals.

Parish councillors in all three parishes are aware, as is Melbreak Communities, that there is a mix of local views about the proposed works. Some people are passionately against the concept, some are very much for it, and some are in between, but maybe with concerns. There is little doubt that most people are worried that there will be considerable disruption whilst the work takes place.

Over the past year parish councillors and Mike Milner, clerk to all three parishes, have worked hard on your behalf to understand UU’s plans and gather the views of the local community. We recognise that this is a significant project which will impact our lives, businesses and the look of our lovely valley. We have attended all UU’s drop in sessions, and the public meeting and a separate Q&A session for councillors in June. We have considered pages of documents and diagrams, and asked numerous questions of UU in writing, and in person. We have had discussions at parish council meetings, and heard the views of the public at some of those meetings; we are out and about in the local community in our daily lives and have talked about the plans with residents in person, by phone and email. We have met and written to a number of other involved organisations and individuals, including local landowners. We have made site visits. We put in a detailed response to the Scoping Document which UU submitted in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment which will form part of the planning application (all of which can be seen on the Lake District National Park Authority’s (“LDNPA”) planning portal on its website). Councillors are all unpaid volunteers.

We know that there are four key issues. For more information on each of these, please see the Melbreak Communities website:

- Whether UU is planning to drop the level of the lake by too much;
- The effect on downstream flood risk;
- The impact on wildlife;
- Whether it is appropriate for UU to be decommissioning a reservoir.

Once the planning application is submitted, the parish councils will review it in detail and reach a conclusion as to their views, which will take into account local opinion. They will comment on the application, probably in some detail, and Buttermere Parish Council will indicate whether it supports or objects. At the planning application stage the parish councils can only make comments on matters which are proper planning considerations; they are already taking steps to make sure they are fully informed on what those will be given that this is an unusual development. It is important to understand that the parish councils do not have the power to stop this work – they will be one voice amongst many, and the planning authority may go against the parish council views. The parish councils themselves cannot reach a concluded opinion on the scheme until UU puts in its final plans.

As set out above, the parish councils need to understand local opinions and we believe that we do have that understanding. Parish council meetings are advertised in The Link and on The Melbreak Communities website. Crummock Water is an agenda item for every meeting, followed by the section at which members of the public can raise their views. Harriet Davies, chair of Buttermere Parish Council who is co-ordinating the responses on behalf of all three councils attends all parish council meetings so that there is an overview of the issues and concerns.

We think that we have raised all the most pressing and valid issues and concerns which members of the community have with UU, some of which we are continuing to discuss with it and English Nature and will be factors in us considering the planning application. UU has also had ample opportunity to listen to feedback itself, through the three rounds of drop-in sessions which it has had, and the public meeting in June. If any residents of Buttermere, Loweswater or Lorton have any concerns which they think councillors are unaware of, please either attend your local parish council meeting, speak to a councillor, or email Mike Milner (buttermereparishclerk@gmail.com), making clear which parish you live in, and he will ensure the chair of that council, and Harriet, see it. Blindbothel Parish Council is also in communication with us, and residents of that parish should also take steps to communicate with their councillors if they wish to raise points (contact details are on the Melbreak Communities website).

Harriet Davies – Chair, Buttermere Parish Council

David Robinson – Chair, Loweswater Parish Council

Chris Poate – Chair, Lorton Parish Council

Glenis Postlethwaite – Chair, Melbreak Communities, & Councillor, Lorton Parish Council

Nature Notes - The Beauty of Butterflies



For the furthest flying butterfly of all, the Painted Lady, the 2,500 mile flight from Europe to tropical Africa each year is easy. They've been known to make a round trip of up to 7,500 miles. Their numbers might be up this year, but I haven't seen a great many. The Monarch butterfly travels up to 1,000 miles each year south from northern America, to spend a warmer winter in Mexico. But it's a very rare visitor to the UK and therefore no surprise that I haven't seen any of these.

Another butterfly that risks a long migration, 1,000 miles or so from southern Europe to the UK each year is the Red Admiral. And this year, with Butterfly Conservation's 'Big Butterfly Count' recording a 77% rise over the past 13 years, I've never seen so many.

It may have a wing span of just 2 – 3 inches, but the Red Admiral can still reach speeds of over 12mph on its migrations...even just across the garden. And it can be found all across the world, from the UK to New Zealand, from sea shore to gardens, from town centres to mountain tops.

Its life cycle is not unique, but it is, as is the life cycle of any butterfly or moth, intriguing. The female lays her small, green eggs on the underside of a nettle leaf from early summer. In about a week the caterpillars emerge. These are black, with spiky white dots and short black spines. Simply put, compared with the glorious beauty of their strikingly smart black, red and white parents, they are decidedly scruffy. Each caterpillar will eat its nettle leaves voraciously for a fortnight and then enter the pupal stage, where it turns itself into a chrysalis. Two weeks later, and in a way far beyond my comprehension, it emerges triumphantly as a fully-grown adult.

With a life span of 6 – 11 months, the Red Admiral lives longer than most butterflies, which perhaps partly explains why I have seen so many...feeding on fallen apples, sipping nectar from Michaelmas daisy flowers, and especially when I disturb them as I walk to the bottom of the garden to fill the bird feeders. Here dozens are gorging on the rotting sweet juices of wind-blown rowan berries, and they rise in clouds as I pass. But the main reason is climate change.

Warmer temperatures mean Red Admirals can now over-winter successfully in the UK, so more adults in the early summer, meaning more eggs, more caterpillars, more chrysalises, more adults, and so on...

So, climate change is possibly not all bad, but for every species that increases because of it, there will be many more that decline. The Red Admiral just happens to be one of the lucky ones. And aren't we when we are able to see them in such numbers!

Peter Battrick – Member of Melbreak Wildlife Group

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

As I write October draws to a close with roses and annuals still in flower due to the milder weather and the leaves just beginning to turn. Storm Babet has only manifested itself in gusty winds here though a huge problem elsewhere and our thoughts are with those whose lives have been so disrupted by the severity of the wind and rain.

Loweswater church looked lovely decorated for Harvest. The ensuing tatie pot supper on Monday was enjoyed by many. The traditional lively auction followed with Andy Burr our always entertaining auctioneer. We donated food to the Food Bank and split the proceeds between our two churches and the Bishop's Harvest appeal. Thanks to all who helped both decorating the church and with Harvest supper.

November is the month of remembering, starting with the life of the saints then Allsouls when we remember those loved by

us and past from our sight and Remembrance Sunday our national day of remembrance for the fallen and injured in war. We then prepare for Advent the start of the church year a time of waiting in joyful expectation for the birth of Christ.

Buttermere Old School has an attractive shiny new website complete with some carefully chosen photos - www.buttermerevillagehall.net

It is very informative and we hope will encourage more bookings and will help with the smooth running of the venue. Our church architects are including the Old School in plans for our churches's renovations and will be surveying the building in due course.

Eleanor Ella

St.Bartholomew's register
Baptism

30th September Maximilian Rufus



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CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

Written by participants at the Tennis Club Quiz & Games Night on 14th Oct

- Playing tiggy with pet lambs on the farm at home (aged 7 in 1992)
- Starting the milking machine (big green button!) - Rosie Lester Blindcrake
- Going conkering with my brother in Harris Park – Emma Smith
- I remember snowy days at school. We went in our wellies! We dried our coats & tights/socks on the fireguard round the classroom stove: rising steam!
- Star Trek pyjamas and running outside to pull the lever on the bin lorry AND being TOLD OFF!
- I remember a full size swing in front of the chimney breast/fireplace – “from SANTA”. About the same time I was thinking “Wait a minute...”Why did Santa not burn his bottom on the coal fire? – Sim R
- Playing with turnips (actually swedes) in the turnip yard before feeding them to the cattle
- Civil War in Rhodesia as a child 1974-1980 – Mel Avery
- I remember grandma baking bread: yeast bubbling in the little well made in the middle of the flour
- A field of colourful butterflies rising into a blue sky
- I remember trying to set sail in an old tin bath (very leaky) in the beck....got my dress and knickers wet and was scared to go home!
- Going with my grandad crabbing in the boating lake at Fleetwood...lots of crabs but no fish when I tried to move up!
- 1978 – I was an unruly child prone to doing very naughty things. My dad had a new car and I used the cigarette lighter to make little burn circles on the car’s upholstery. My dad was horrified! So...I blamed my brother. It was easy to see my brother being smacked!
- Learning (for a Brownie badge) where our nearest phone box was in case we needed to ring for an ambulance.
- Liverpool losing 2-1 to Arsenal in the ’71 Cup Final AND beating Newcastle in the ’74 Cup Final. My mum altered the ’71 on my Liverpool kit to ’74!
- Getting a 10p mix from the sweet shop – you got about 20 sweets for that!
- Ladybird plague of 1976 – C Macleod
- Running up and down the beach at Perranporth; feeling the warm sand between my toes and running in and out of the sea; jumping when the waves came past and trying not to get cold – by dipping my whole body in at least once a minute. AND – keeping an eye out for jellyfish and splashing my brother! – Arthur
- Finally a dubious one! Grandad always gave me sweets until I was 14...then it was 20 Embassy Regal!!!

Dave Hulme passes on his thanks to all who contributed.

Margaret Stober 1924 – 2023

Margaret lived for many years in Lorton with her husband John after his retirement in 1981. They were both very involved with village life and numerous activities in the valley.

They loved music and attended concerts in the area, as well as the theatre in Keswick. Sadly John died in 2010, but after some time Margaret felt able to resume her life in the community and take part in a number of activities.

In 2015 Margaret moved to York, and lived there until her recent death from a short illness following a fall. She kept in touch with her friends in Lorton, and was an avid reader of 'The Link' which she would read from cover to cover.

Sue Ralph



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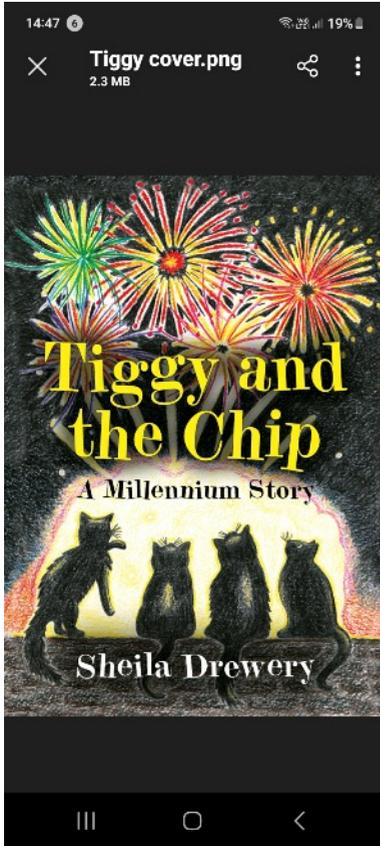
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I am perhaps best known as having lived at Palace How, Loweswater (Loweswater Post Office) and for my 50th Anniversary poem of Loweswater Village Hall. I hope it is still hanging there.



I wrote a short story in 1999 and for my 75th Birthday I am having it published. (well better late than never). It will be available on Amazon, hopefully from 27 November. It is a Millennium Childrens' Story. I got some printed for my Grandchildren etc in 2000, a copy of which went in The North West Evening Mail's capsule which is buried for 100 years.

The book is entitled Tiggy and the Chip and although aimed primarily at the junior reader as it has a bit of social history (Millennium Bug) in the story anyone may enjoy reading it. I have adults wanting to buy it, in fact my GP wants to buy a copy.

The price has not been fixed yet but won't be any more than £6.99. Make a nice Christmas present too.

Thank you.

Sheila Drewery (nee Cunningham)

Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st October 2023

1st prize of £25	No 95	Victoria Jay
2nd prize of £10	No 37	Miles Davies
3rd prize of £5	No 73	Diane Gordon

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.

Poiema Community & Retreat House

Advent Quiet Day



During this Quiet Day we shall be exploring Advent themes of longing, promise and hope, as we look forward to the coming of Christ our Lord and King.

The day will include short times of input and times of quiet for personal reflection and prayer.

Saturday 2nd December 2023

10am – 3.30pm

Venue: The Vicarage, Loweswater CA13 0RU

Suggested donation: £10-15

Please bring a packed lunch

There are limited spaces for this event, so please book your place.

For more information and to book your place, e-mail us at:

info@poiema.org.uk

ECO CHURCH/ECO COMMUNITY UPDATE

Having cancelled our previous attempt at the 2023 Buttermere Camino, due to a foul weather forecast earlier in the year - 7 intrepid pilgrims (plus two canine companions) joined the Camino on October 7th. We began this mini-Camino a couple of years ago, and it joins the churches of St Cuthbert, St Bartholomew and St James in Lorton, Loweswater and Buttermere, about an 11-mile walk. Our ambling was somewhat intentional; as well as enjoying the walk, we stopped in each of the churches to reflect on the lives of their namesakes. There were also times along the way reflecting on various aspects of the landscape, thinking about what they might be saying to us about our own pilgrimage of life. After each time of reflection, we spent 10 minutes walking together in silence. These times brought a strange sense of togetherness on our journey, even though we weren't verbally connecting, as well as giving us additional time to reflect.

There had been considerable rain the previous few days which made the landscape beautiful, and the going soft! Too soft for the usual route down the west side of Crummock Water via Scale, so this year we stayed on the east side, electing to follow the somewhat erroneous OS marked paths on the flanks of Rannerdale Knotts. We ended the day in St James Church, tired but thankful for a purposeful walk and with plenty of food for thought over the coming days and weeks.

Perhaps you might like to join us next year?! Saturday 27th July 2024 has been pencilled in for the next Buttermere Camino...



Pete Ward (photographer)

Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society

What distinguishes a market town is its market, and Cockermouth remains a true market town due to Mitchells. There will be a Talk to L&DFLHS Members (and to visitors - £4 cash fee per person on the day) about the 150-year history of Mitchell's, the prominent local firm of auctioneers. It will take place in the **Yew Tree Hall on 9 November at 7.30pm.**

The talk will be given by Ian Powley, chairman of the firm. He will trace the history of the business and explain how it evolved from the days of its founder, Robinson Mitchell (pictured) who was a pioneer in the auctioning of livestock, to the present-day business.

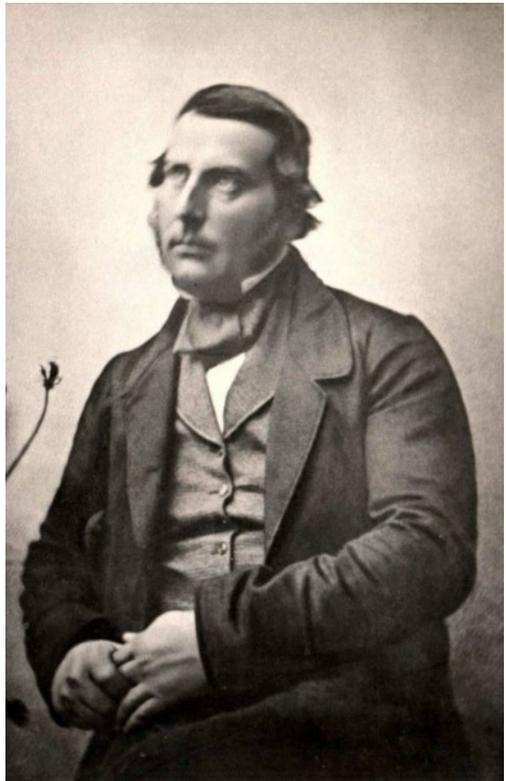
Ian Powley has pursued a business and farming career in Cumbria including many years at Carrs Billington, the agricultural support business, before being appointed to the board of Mitchells which he now chairs.

On display in the hall will be a series of panels illustrating the history of Mitchells, prepared for their 150th anniversary by Gloria Edwards.

Also, a commemorative booklet about Mitchells will be on sale, price £5 cash.

Please note: we're looking for someone to act as the Zoom host for the occasion so that we can live-stream the Talk to Members of the Society.

Charles Lambrick
Chair, L&DFLHS





The copy deadline for this issue of The Link was before the October meeting of the 77 Club, so a report will follow next month. The next meeting is on **Tuesday 14 November** when there will be a presentation by Mark Lee from Torpenhow. Mark has made a great success of his cheesemaking business, which has received national and international awards. He plans to bring some of his products for us to sample, so this should be a meeting to remember. If you didn't pay your annual subscription in October you can still pay £10 at this meeting to join the Club for the year. Membership is open to all.

The following meeting of the Club will be the Christmas Party on Saturday December 16 at 3pm in Loweswater Village Hall. As usual there will be plenty of food and entertainment will be provided. The Party is free for members but non-members are asked to pay a charge to attend. The first meeting of the New Year will be on Tuesday 23 January when we shall hold a traditional Burns supper. Details of the programme for the remainder of the year will be published later.

Carolyn and John

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Kathryn Walton Johnson (Kathy)
1936 - 2023

I first met Kathy many years ago when she was singing at an informal evening gathering, where I was struck by her beautiful rich voice. I enjoyed her singing many times afterwards, as a soloist and in small ensembles.

Singing was one of the main passions in her life, and she took part in competitions and festivals, winning many trophies. She sang with various choirs in the county, and organised concerts locally in aid of charities.

Another great passion was for gardening. She created the wonderful garden at Palace How, which was open to the public at times and attracted widespread admiration. She was a good artist, producing fine paintings, and designing a number of the lovely kneelers in Lorton Church.

Kathy was a member of the Cockermouth Rescue Team for a while, and always had a love of the mountains in Cumbria and in Scotland, where she and her husband Alan spent many holidays, walking, climbing and painting.

She was a keen tennis player and very involved in setting up the Lorton Tennis Club with its excellent courts.

It is very sad that in her last years she suffered from dementia which robbed her of a life which had been so full of energy and talent. But we should remember her as we knew her and enjoy those memories.

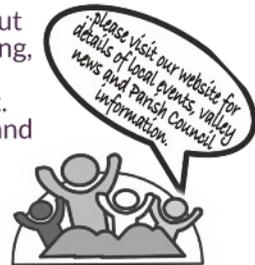
Sue Ralph

**The
Melbreak
Communities**



**AGM
YEW TREE HALL**

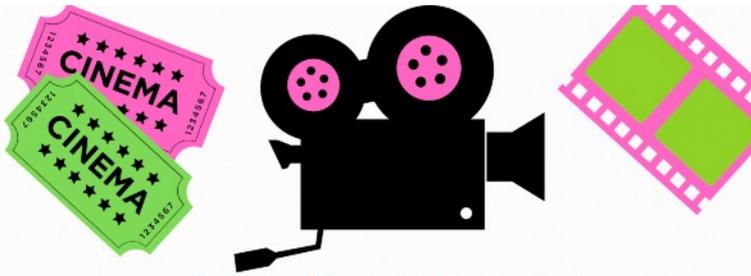
Come along and join us at our AGM to find out about our latest initiatives: Melbreak Net Zero (retrofitting, solar PV, home insulation, heating systems) and, under development, a 'community orchard' project. We will also be reporting on our ongoing projects and activities: Melbreak Wildlife, Melbreak Makers, Community Hydro, Dark Skies, the Environmental Book Group, the Emergency Plan and our regular schedule of monthly coffee mornings.



And don't forget The Melbreak Communities can offer grants of up to £200 for youth volunteering opportunities, including World Challenge Expeditions!

Please join us to find out more

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER AT 7.30PM



LORTON FILM NIGHT AT YTH

THURSDAY 16th November

“Barbie”

**A riotous, candy-coloured fable
with Margot Robbie
and Ryan Gosling**

Doors and Bar open 7pm

Film starts 730pm

£6 Entry

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VILLAGE HALL

Thank you to everyone who supported the Arts Out West evening, with ploughman's supper, on October 6th at Loveswater Village Hall, and the Melbreak Communities Coffee Morning on October 14th, which the Village Hall Committee was pleased to host. Both events were warmly enjoyed by all who attended.

The committee's next event in the hall will be a repeat of last year's successful **Christmas Gathering on Thursday December 21st, from 2.00 to 4.30**. For more details, please see the poster in this issue.

Wine Tasting

7pm Friday 12th January 2024

Loveswater Village Hall

Finger buffet to accompany

£16 per ticket, available from

David Robinson

0190085234 david@loweswater.net



Proceeds to Loveswater and Buttermere churches

- ⚡ EV charger installations
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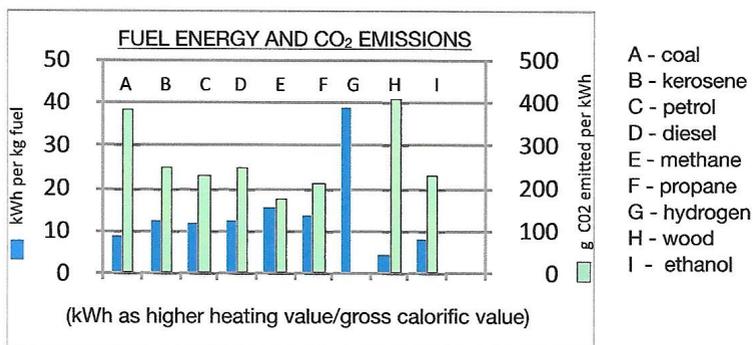
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THE VALLEY'S GETTING COOLER?



As we head into Autumn, it's a good time of year to think about our energy use. For domestic use in the valley, this is probably either oil (kerosene) or LPG (propane) plus electricity from the grid or solar panels. The bar chart above shows a couple of interesting parameters - how much energy (kilowatt-hours, kWh) we get from 1 kg of fuel and the CO₂ emissions from 1 kWh of fuel. For the latter, a useful reference is the level from grid electricity - this is now about 225g per kWh at the point of use, which contrasts with 500g per kWh in 2008.

The biggest CO₂ emitters (per unit mass) are the solid fuels, coal and wood, although the latter is often counted as zero as it's a renewable material, albeit over quite long timescales for most trees (this is a big topic and would take another page to go into fully). Natural gas (methane) is usually the fossil fuel of choice (if you can get it). One way of looking at methane (CH₄) is as a halfway house to using hydrogen as 50% of its energy comes from the hydrogen component, although this only accounts for 25% of its mass. All other hydrocarbons have higher CO₂ emissions than methane (as they contain less hydrogen) and kerosene is the worst. Ethanol is incorporated in standard petrol (10% in the E10 grade), but its CO₂ emissions are discounted if, as normal, it's produced biologically (as bio-ethanol).

We've probably all got heat pumps (HPs) at home in the form of fridge-freezers, but, along with quite a few others in the valley before me, I've just installed one for heating, in my case an air-source HP using propane (a hydrocarbon) as the working fluid/gas. Containing less than 1 kg propane in a sealed system, this is so much more efficient than burning the stuff (LPG) in a conventional boiler, even including the grid electricity to turn the HP's fan and compress the gas. Having said that, I do also have two cylinders of LPG to fuel the hobs on the Range cooker, but this use is relatively small.

And the title of this piece - it has to be caused by all the energy being sucked out of the local atmosphere by all these heat pumps?

Leslie Webb, Damson Ghyll, Loweswater (les@damsonghyll.co.uk).

DIARY DATES

NOV

- 1 Wed "Dark Skies Evening" in Loweswater's Holme Wood. FOLD Event. 7.15pm.
- 1 Wed Lorton Parish Council meeting 7.30pm YTH
- 2 Thu Loweswater Parish Council meeting 7.30pm LVH
- 3 Fri Retrofit made Easy, Renovation for a warm and healthy home; Melbreak Communities' Zero Carbon Project, with Cumbria Action for Sustainability, YTH 7pm. <https://cafs.org.uk/events/>
- 4 Sat DARK SKIES singing workshop, led by Dave Camlin.
No singing experience necessary! 1.30 - 4, YTH*
- 4 Sat Whinlatter Forest Park Enchanting evening of music with floor spots, guests and session - part of the DARK SKIES Festival. 7pm Cafe Ambio*
- 4 Sat Wine Tasting Evening YTH 7.30pm. Tickets from Nigel Lee/Village Shop - details In Link
- 8 Wed Loweswater Ladies, Fused Glass Demo, 7.15pm LVH
- 9 Thu Mitchells - Auctioneers for 150 years, illustrated talk by Ian Powley , Lorton & DF Local History Society, 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome (£4), YTH
- 13 Mon Helen's Community Lunch at Lorton School, 1.15pm
- 13 Mon The Melbreak Communities AGM YTH 7.30pm Everyone welcome
- 13 Mon Farmers Discussion Group, The Kirkstile, 8p.m
- 14 Tue Loweswater 77 Club Talk by Cheese maker Mark Lee LVH 7.30pm
- 16 Thu The Urban Geology of the City of London, The Arts Society Cumbria, Hundith Hill Hotel, 2 pm, £8
- 16 Thu Film Night, Barbie, YTH. Doors at 7, film starts 7.30
- 20 Mon 'Conserving Curlews: A Tale of Dedication and Hope' talk by Susannah Bleakley. Melbreak Wildlife Group. All welcome. YTH 7.30. See poster
- 24 Fri 'Auf Wiedersehen, Me Duck' , Ullock Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25 Sat Christmas Coffee Morning YTH 10-12.30. Calendars/Christmas Cards - Melbreak Makers Craft Making Stall - Hamper Raffle.
- 27 Mon Farmers Discussion Group, The Kirkstile, 8p.m
- 30 Thurs Restoration of Arctic Flora in Lake District, illustrated talk by Peter Barron. Lorton Vale Gardening Club - YTH 7.30pm. (Visitors welcomed £4)

DEC

- 2 Sat Advent Quiet Day, 10am – 3.30pm, The Vicarage, Loweswater CA13 ORU. See poster for more details
- 5 Tue Buttermere Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm Buttermere Old School
- 9 Sat Lorton Christmas Fair, Lorton School, 10.30am - see flyer
- 11 Mon Helen's Community Lunch- Special Christmas Dinner. Lorton School at 1.15pm
- 11 Mon Farmers Discussion Group, Christmas Meal, The Kirkstile, 7.30p.m
- 12 Tue Locals Night at the Kirkstile - see poster. Booking essential
- 13 Wed Loweswater Ladies Christmas Evening Dinner, Hundeth Hill Hotel
- 16 Sat 77 Club Christmas Party at LVH at 3pm
- 21 Thu Christmas Gathering LVH, 2 to 4:30 pm

*For booking details see <http://www.davecamlin.com/folk-forest>

Please note that Table Tennis takes place in YTH every Wednesday from 7-9p.m. unless otherwise notified. There are Keep Fit sessions in LVH every Monday 9.00-10.00a.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 November 2023

Nov 5th 10.30am 3.00pm	2nd Sunday before Advent Holy Communion Evensong	Loweswater Buttermere
Nov 12th 10.30am	Remembrance Sunday Holy Communion	Lorton
Nov 19th 10.30am 3.00pm	4th Sunday before Advent Morning Worship Holy Communion	Loweswater Buttermere
Nov 26th 10.30am	Christ the king Holy Communion	Lorton



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Service information for the Grasmoor Mission Community and news of other events is published weekly on a Friday in our Staying Connected news sheet. The sheet is available on the GMC website or if you would like it sent directly to your inbox please email Sue Lake on gmcoffice@grasmoormc.church with your request.

Deadline for December/January is Friday 24th November - all articles, photos, funny stories to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date. Thank you