

JULY/AUGUST 2024



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

**£5.00 PER ANNUM (LOCAL)
£12.00 PER ANNUM (POSTED)**

Letter from the Editor

Dear Link Readers

I must admit I am quite looking forward to not having a Link to publish next month - no more last minute posters dropping into my Inbox just when I thought I'd finished or photos to try and squeeze in somewhere. Speaking of photos to squeeze in - I really wanted to include one of the Sing Owt/Wild Chorus choirs singing at The Big Green Quiz and it wouldn't fit onto the page giving the overall report - so here it is instead.



They were really good so if you get an opportunity to hear them I recommend you take it - check out Cumberlandia 16-18 August (www.cumberlandia.co.uk). Full reports about the whole Big Green Week can be found elsewhere in this edition.

July and August are slightly quieter than usual but there are still some events to enjoy including Cocker mouth Live early in the month, as well as an Organ Concert in Loweswater Church on the 5th July. These are followed by the screening of the Men's Wimbledon Final on the 14 July at LVH and not forgetting the Supper on the Hoof taking place in Lorton on 19 July. The month of July

concludes with the Buttermere Camino on the 27th.

There is also a 77 Club meeting with a talk by Hunter Davis on the 3rd as well as a few other things all advertised in the magazine. August is somewhat quieter with just a Coffee Morning at YTH on the 10th and Cream Teas at LVH on 25th.

For those of you interested in the trials and tribulations of gardening I can report that 2024 has not been a great success in the Editor's garden so far. Due to the horrible weather everything went in late and my french and runner beans never even germinated - if anyone has any spare plants do let me know. The broad beans are struggling and the sweet peas are just starting to flower. The celariac has been attacked by rabbits and is now netted to within an inch of it's life! The only things that seem to be thriving are the potatoes outdoors and my tomatoes and cucumbers in the greenhouse. Perhaps in all the spare time I now have until the deadline for the September magazine I will be able to make some improvements.

Enjoy the Summer (sunshine please)

Rosemary Riley

Centre page photo montage of Loweswater church produced by John Macfarlane, including some additional images kindly provided by Roger Hiley and Rosamund Macfarlane. Front cover image by John Macfarlane.



Vicar's Letter

As I write, we are on the cusp of a General Election. No! Don't turn the page yet! It's probably fair to say that there's a feeling of disillusionment or weariness among many people with regards to politics in our nation at the moment.

Searching for vision, integrity and trustworthiness, strong and convincing leadership and policies, many are struggling to feel persuaded or inspired by what we hear.

However we feel about this current Election, we are blessed to live in a country where we have the right and the freedom to vote in a democratic process. We have an opportunity to influence the way our country is governed over the next five years, and therefore a responsibility, many believe, to cast our vote.

I remember someone once speaking about the quality of priests in the Church of England, and commenting along the following lines: "The quality of clergy is only as good as the laity from whom they are drawn". I think there may be a good deal of truth in that statement. And perhaps we might also say the same of those who represent and serve us in the political arena? If so, then each one of us shares in a responsibility to reflect upon the quality of our own lives - our character, how we serve others, how we

make a difference for the better in our sphere of influence, however great or small.

And for anyone who finds themselves praying, St Paul issues some words of encouragement in the Bible: "I urge you to offer to God petitions, prayers, intercessions, and expressions of thanks for all people, *for kings, and for everyone who has authority*, so that we might lead a quiet and peaceful life with all godliness and dignity" (ISV translation). I

acknowledge that I don't pray as often as I could for those who lead our nation, and Paul's words are a reminder to take this responsibility seriously, not only for the Election process, but for whoever is elected to govern our country on July 4th. As we prepare for this next phase in our nation's life, you might like to use this prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve and give your life for us,
we pray for ourselves, and for all who seek and are appointed to positions of leadership in our nation, that you will give us a spirit of humility and service in the cause of others.

Amen.

Blessings,

Andrea Ward

For anyone wanting to receive home communion or in need of pastoral support, please contact:

Revd. Barbara Robinson, 01900 85234 or 07961902075. Please leave a message and I will get back to you asap. If your need is urgent please contact Revd. Jane Charman, Mission Community Leader on 01900 828028

LORTON NOTES

A full report of the Big Green week can be found elsewhere in the magazine but I would like to mention here the wonderful wildlife displays that were presented in St Cuthberts. These included the results of the wildlife survey carried out in the churchyard the previous Saturday and many displays from the various Melbreak Communities wildlife groups - Curlews, Swifts, Barn Owls and Hedgehogs.



There were also a number of Bird and hedgehog boxes on display. If you'd like to order any of these then please contact Glenis Postlethwaite (glenis@borderhydro.co.uk), 01900 85958



We were also thrilled that 4 local schools (Dean, Braithwaite, Paddle and Lorton) took part in the week by carrying out bio-diverity surveys in the school grounds and then came along to St Cuthbert's on Friday afternoon to present their findings. Barbara Robinson also led a short climate change service for the schools.

May I remind you that we are running a Progressive Supper on Friday the 19th July. Further details can be found on the facing page.

Rosemary Riley

SUPPER ON THE HOOF

(To raise funds towards decoration and ongoing maintenance costs at St Cuthbert's Church, Lorton)

This fun evening will begin with a complimentary drink and canapes at St Cuthbert's Church, and end with puddings & coffee in the Yew Tree Hall

The main course will be provided at different homes in Lorton – please volunteer to do this if you possibly can.

There will also be a raffle at the end of the evening, so please bring along a prize

DATE Friday 19th July 2024, starting at 6.30 pm

PRICE £20 per person, £10.00 for main course hosts

If you are a main course **guest** please take along a bottle of wine

The event is likely to be extremely popular, and it will have an upper limit on numbers, probably 48

Tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis

If you would like to attend/find out more please contact
Rosemary Riley - 07885 360353



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Loweswater Village Hall

Thank you to everyone who supported our evening of Abba music with Cath and Emma on May 31st. A full and very enthusiastic audience enjoyed the music and dance of the Abba era. Our thanks to Cath and Emma for a fantastic evening.

The next social event for your diary is **Sunday July 14th – Men’s Final Day at Wimbledon**. We will be showing the entire televised coverage of the **Men’s Final, live**, whilst serving strawberries and cream with Prosecco, (or alternative). If you’re a tennis fan, this is an afternoon not to be missed. For full details please see the poster in this issue of Link or on our website and Facebook page.

We are delighted to announce that we have secured our next **Arts Out West** event on **Thursday September 26th at 7.30**, when we will be welcoming an evening of “**Gertrude Lawrence: A lovely way to spend the evening**”. This production was nominated for an Edinburgh Fringe Festival Off-Fest award in 2023 and is performed by the wonderful **Lucy Stevens** who previously brought us a brilliant evening of music from Kathleen Ferrier. For full details please watch out for posters appearing in noticeboards and on our website & Facebook page soon.

Don’t forget the **Magnificent Melbreak Showcase** - on **Friday November 1st**, for an evening of local talent, of all ages. If you can play a musical instrument, sing, dance, act or perform, either on your own or with a group of friends or class mates, we would love to hear from you. If you would like to take part, please contact **Val Bell on 07918 882175** for further details

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Penny's Piece

Anyone fancy a £2k electricity bill? No, me neither. However, that was what appeared in my inbox. To quote Sir Alex Ferguson, it was 'squeaky bum time'. I could not work out what was going on and wondered if I'd started growing illegal plants and forgotten about them. Logging into my account cleared the issue up immediately. I'd sent my meter reading in first thing in the morning- first error. Then I'd put a 4 at the start instead of a 2- second error. I'd then blindly clicked the 'yes' button after they'd asked me to check it and I hadn't bothered- third error. I had however taken a photo of the reading so was able to email that across and get it sorted. And no. I'm not faffing about getting a Smartmeter.

Over the half term I discovered my friend had become a Larper- live action role player. In short, Muncaster was having a week-long Medieval Festival and she was going to be one of several people living in a Medieval village for the week. The day I went was one of the couple of nice days we had and I was in shorts and t-shirt. My friend and all the others in the Medieval camp were not. They were in authentic looking cotton smocks with a wool tunic over the top. They must have been boiling. It looked good though and was done properly- no watches or jewellery and mobile phones were hidden in the leather pouch hanging from their belt. I didn't stay for the launch of the trebuchet, but it looked the business. The other thing that struck me about Muncaster was that once you've paid and got in, you could disappear in the grounds for days. If you'd caught the bus and had no car in the car park, how would they know you've left? Especially since there are now glamping tents here and there, so showers and loos. If you had food, you'd be sorted for ages.

We had a great evening listening to the ABBA tribute last month. One of my friends said she didn't really know any ABBA songs. . . and then proceeded to sing along to all of them. ABBA are the type of group you soak up by osmosis as they are ever present. The Beatles and Queen are probably the same for many people. I had a similar experience several years ago when I accidentally saw Marilyn Manson who was

supporting an artist I did want to see. My sister had liked Manson and used to play him often. I thought I only knew a couple of his songs. Turned out there were only a couple I didn't know. That was alarming. I should explain that I say accidentally saw, as I don't especially like Mr Manson. In the same way, I have accidentally seen Slayer 4 times. They still haven't won me over but when they are on you can get to the bar easily or take your time to pick the 'slightly better than the rest', portalo.

The friends I went to the ABBA evening with were a mix of friends I still work with and some I used to work with- one retired. I was in awe that my retired friend managed to talk all night- we'd been for tea at the pub beforehand and she still had things to say. Quite a skill.

By the time you read this I should have been on my summer trip- taking the kids to Lowther- and it will have been sports' day and the colour run. I haven't yet decided if I'm going to recreate the boulder in a washing machine scenario for the kids whilst at Lowther. Might depend on the weather.

Tennis at Queen's is on and seems to be sunny but it made me think. What happens at Queen's and Wimbledon during the rest of the year? There are loads of courts and Centre Court is a good venue as it has the roof. Are there other tournaments we just don't know about or is it the academy and other tennis clubs using it for training etc? I know football, rugby, cricket and athletics grounds get used for concerts. Does this happen at Wimbledon or is it just Sir Cliff if it rains? See you at the show. Shout up if you'd like to help. Penny.



NATURE NOTES – MELBREAK CURLEW RECOVERY PROJECT

For years we have heard the haunting call of the curlew in the Lorton Valley and beyond, signalling that spring is upon us and the circle of life is kicking into action again. Sadly though, curlew numbers have plummeted to such an extent that they are now on the Red List on the UK Conservation Status Report and require us to take urgent action to stop them becoming extinct.

Curlews are the largest wader in the UK and can live up to 30 years old. They tend to spend the winter in the estuaries and mudflats, coming to the grasslands in spring to breed. They are ground nesters, and in our area, tend to nest in silage fields, crop fields and open moorland. Their decline is due to a number of factors such as:

- habitat loss
- agricultural practices, such as early rolling and cutting of grass leading to direct loss of eggs and chicks
- abundant predators, such as carrion crows, badgers and foxes

In late January, a group of residents and farmers in the Melbreak area got together to help the curlews with our own Melbreak Curlew Recovery Project. There are several Curlew Recovery Projects in the UK so we have been able to learn from others, particularly the South Lakes Project.

The Group sprang into action immediately, with some members submitting a funding application to Lake District National Park (LDNP) for protective and monitoring equipment, such as electric fencing, cameras, posts, telescopes, binoculars etc. The application was successful and the Team managed to get enough equipment to protect 9 nests. We are therefore extremely grateful to LDNP since, without grants for this equipment, the project could not have happened.

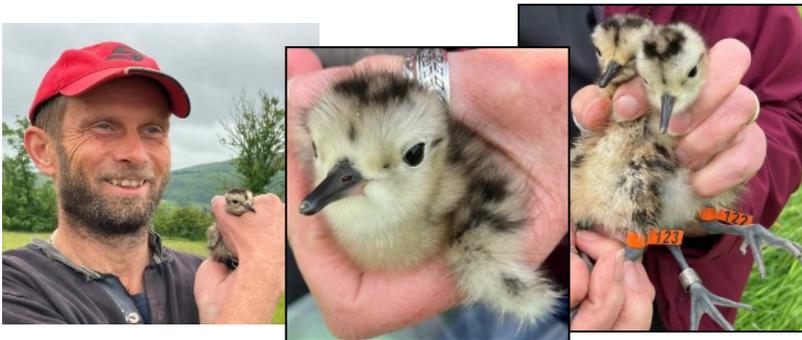
Others started looking for curlews, with small surveillance teams covering Mockerkin, Fangs Brow, Loweswater, Lorton, Stanger, Rogerscale and Southwaite. We had help from local residents, including many farmers, reporting where they had seen or heard curlews, a real community effort. The first curlews were spotted in March (curlew photo by Christian Proctor).



We then established a 10-person fencing team (seen opposite practicing), with members of this team travelling to Kendal to learn how to erect the fencing. The fencing is needed to protect the birds from predators such as badgers and foxes, and to provide the farmers with a boundary to work up to when ploughing fields etc.

During April and May, the really hard work of finding nests started, and permission was sought from local farmers so that we could enter their land. The team have managed to find 4 nests, which is the result of significant time commitments from many people.

After securing the agreement of the landowners/farmers to allow us to fence, the fencing team quickly used their new skills and erected the electric fencing, along with monitoring cameras. Massive thanks to farmers David Errington, Tim Newton and Julie & Jackson Hope for allowing us to carry out the fencing works in their fields.



11 chicks hatched from the 4 nests, and were ringed by local British Trust for Ornithology expert Thalia Sparke. Without the protective work of the Group, it is highly probable that none would have even hatched. The chicks photographed here are in the Lorton area. They don't fledge for 5 weeks after they have been born, and are now busy giving their parents the run around, so please look out for them crossing the roads particularly.

This is just a brief snapshot of what the Group have been up to. There have been many difficulties, but everyone involved in the project has learnt a huge amount about the behaviour of curlews which we can use in future years.

We believe that there were a number of curlew nests in our area which did not find and protect this year. Next year, with the benefit of experience, we hope to find more nests, but we do need more volunteers so we can protect as many of these wonderful birds as possible. We would also love to hear from any local landowners, whether or not their fields are farmed, and who would like to become part of this Project.

Cathy Lee

ECO CHURCH/ECO COMMUNITY UPDATE

What a week it was - the Big Green Week is now officially over and I think residents of Lorton Vale can be proud of the efforts they made. We began with the wildlife survey in St Cuthbert's church yard where we identified a great number of species, particularly flowers - 44 to be exact. This was followed the next day by an Eco Service in St Cuthberts and then on Tuesday we held The Big Green Quiz in Loweswater Village Hall. This was a hotly contested evening, won by just a point or so by the team led by Barbara Robinson - they won a hedgehog house kindly donated by the Melbreak Communities and Linking Lives - a charity from Cockermouth that teams up volunteers with lonely people - <https://linkinglives.uk/project/cockermouth/>. During the evening we were entertained by the Sing Owt/Wild Chorus - a very talented group of singers.

As mentioned in Lorton Notes on Friday St Cuthbert's was visited by children from local schools who presented the results of the bio-diversity surveys they had carried out in their school grounds.

The highlight of the week was the Big Green Fair held in Lorton on Saturday 15th June. Unfortunately we were not helped by the weather (it poured with rain all day!) But those that did manage to attend were rewarded with some highly informative talks by:

- Cumbria Council Waste Reduction Team
- Lee Jackson - the Climate Emergency
- Cumbria Master Composters
- Let's Eat SLOW (Seasonal, Local, Organic, Waste free)
- Cumbria River's Trust.

Here is Lee in full flow

In tandem with the fair we also held a Swap Shop in the school playground which proved popular, especially the plants. Anything left over was donated to charity shops.

The week concluded with another Eco Service at St Bartholomew's Loweswater.

Many thanks to all those who helped including members of the Melbreak Communities Wildlife Groups (too many to mention them all here), Deb Watson who organised the school surveys and presentations and was my right-hand man in all matters to do with set up and dismantling and Jane Charman who oversaw the Swap Shop.

Rosemary Riley

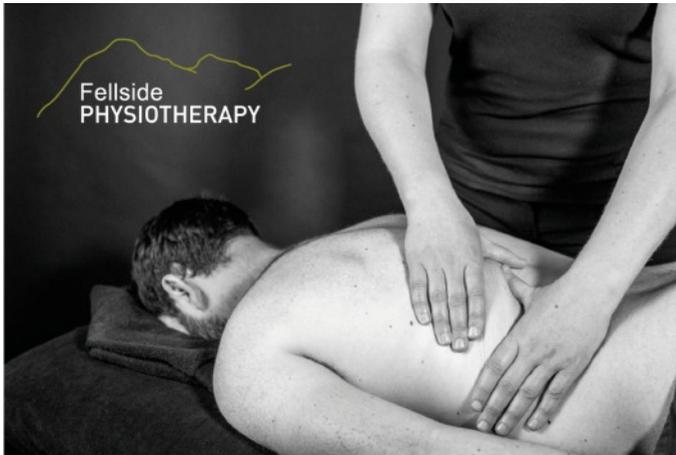


Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st June 2024

1st prize of £25 No 59 Christine England
2nd prize of £10 No 26 Carol Priestley
3rd prize of £5 No 92 Joseph Edmunds

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.



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Yew Tree Hall Management Committee

Notification of Annual General Meeting

Thursday 25 July, 7pm YTH.

Residents of the local community are invited to attend the AGM to participate in the public event. The agenda will include the financial report and the election of 6 members of the Committee.

Lorna Meadley would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support after her recent knee operation, and for the beautiful flowers and cards she has received and the lifts to the various functions.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - MAY 12th to 18th 2024.

Thanks again to all who delivered and collected and to all who gave so Generously for this year's Christian Aid Week.

Final Sum total is £965.26, an excellent result, despite current pressures. So Well Done Everyone!!

THANK YOU - Jan Collins-Webb - Lorton Vale Organiser



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ORGAN CONCERT

In aid of Church Funds

featuring
ALAN WILSON

**St. Bartholomew's Church,
Loveswater**

Friday 5th July at 7.30pm

**Tuneful music for
a summer's evening**

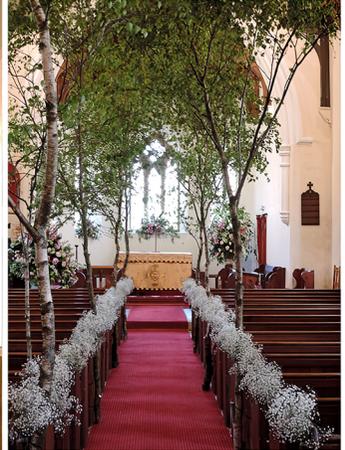


We welcome back
Alan Wilson "Emeritus
Organist and Director
of Music at St Mary-le-
Bow Church and
Queen Mary College,
London"

Tickets: £12.50 includes interval refreshments

**Available from PCC Members, Lorton Shop,
and Billy Bowman Music Shop, Cockermouth.**

Or Tel. 01900 85609





hosted by
Lorton Tennis Club

COFFEE AND £3 CAKE

YEW TREE HALL

SATURDAY
10th August

10.30am to 12.00noon



A Melbreak Communities Event





Loveswater Village Hall

Anyone for Tennis?

Wimbledon Men's Final



Screened Live



& "served" with

Strawberries & Cream with Prosecco,

(or alternative) - included in the ticket price

Sunday July 14th

From 1.30pm 'till "Game, Set & Match"

Large 2.5m x 2.5m screen



Licensed Bar

Tea / Coffee / Soft Drinks

Tickets £7.00



To order your tickets please contact

Lyn Furniss on 07970 218239 or alloyslyn@btinternet.com

For catering purposes, advance booking by Thursday July 11th will be appreciated

loveswatervillagehall.co.uk

Charity No. 526856

Loveswater and Brackenthwaite Show

HELP WANTED. The show is on Sunday 1st September and as ever we are looking for volunteers to help out with parking or directing traffic on the gate.

If you are willing and able to help for an hour (or two) please contact Penny on 07766888102. If I don't answer, do leave a message. Please leave name and number so I can get back to you. Or email penny.lecksta@gmail.com

Penny

Loweswater Ladies June 2024

The saying "they saved the best until last" couldn't be more apt than for our final evening meeting before the summer break. On a pleasant June evening we gathered at Allyson McDermott's Loweswater Studio to hear about her work conserving and recreating historic wallpapers. The evening that unfolded left us in awe of both the projects Allyson and her team have worked on and the range of skills and knowledge that she has built up over the years. She has worked on projects in historic properties the length and breadth of the country – Brighton Pavilion, Temple Newsam, the Bronte Parsonage, The Palace of Westminster and Buckingham Palace to name but a few. To refer to Allyson as a conservator of historic wallpapers is to vastly understate the work she does. What was so staggering to us was the range of different skills required to do the work – it required her to be an art and social historian, scientist, designer, artist and maker. Oh, and decorator, often hanging the wallpaper too.

Existing wallcoverings can often be conserved but sometimes sections need replacing and it is here that the detailed scientific analysis of the materials and techniques used on the original are needed to then be recreated using traditional tools and materials. In the studio we saw the traditional wooden press and blocks used for printing the designs, the wide range of pigments available and a vast array of different wallpapers – flocked, embossed, chinoiserie patterns, designs from across the centuries. It is difficult to do justice to all that was being done in this little corner of Cumbria in a couple of paragraphs. A short video describing the extent of the work can be accessed on Allyson's website www.allysonmcdermott.com. Details of the work done at individual historic properties can also be found on the website. You'll be blown away by what you see.

This was a truly enthralling evening and our thanks go to Allyson for welcoming us (with a rather nice glass of prosecco) into her studio and for giving up her time to tell us about her work. Thanks must also go to Lyn and Jenny for providing the canapes, cakes and cookies.

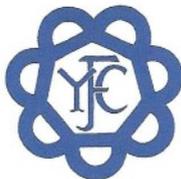
Our Summer Outing is on Thursday 11th July. We will be going to Farfield Mill in Sedbergh, with a stop en route at the Pot Place Garden Centre near Penrith. Morning teas and a light lunch will be provided. Please meet at Mitchell's Outdoor Auction site at 9.30am for a prompt departure at 9.45am. The cost of the trip is £24 for members and £28 for guests. Payment will be taken on the day, in cash. To check availability contact Jenny Burr on 01900 85980 by 1 July.

Doreen Robertson

GREYSOUTHEN YFC COFFEE

MORNING

Saturday 6th
July, 10-12
Lorton Village
Hall



Raising
Money for
Charity

(more details will follow)

Serving coffee, tea, soft drinks and lots of cake!
We will also have some stalls and children's games
available too

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

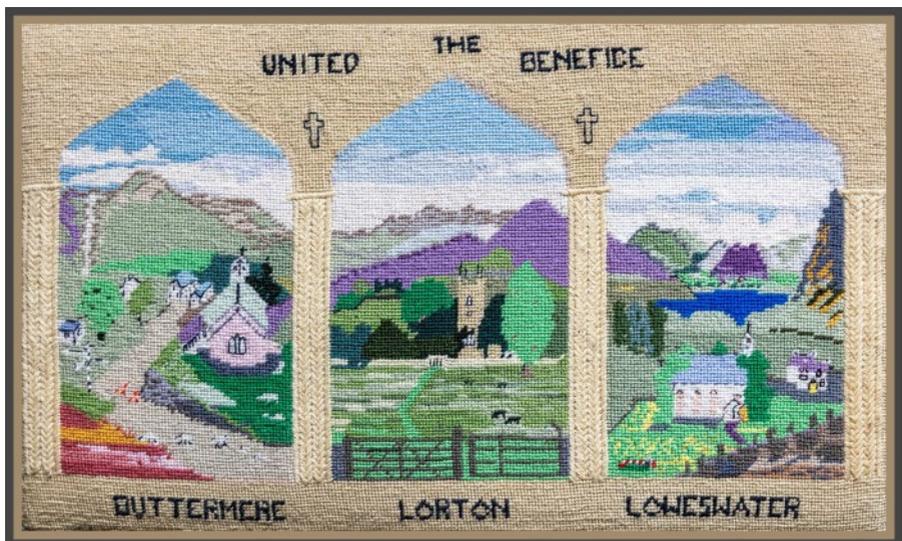
Writing this on the summer solstice marking the official start of summer it seems that this may just be the case. There's a brisk breeze, some sun and a reasonable forecast for the next few days.

If anyone has ever been in any doubt about the beauty of our churches that will surely be dispelled by the stunning photographs in June and this month's Link - taken by John and Rosamund Macfarlane and Roger Hiley. Last month's of St. James Buttermere demonstrated so much of what makes it so loved by locals and visitors alike. The present building dates from 1840 and was restored in 1930. One of the outstanding features of the church are the kneelers which feature local wildlife, farming life as well as religious themes. They were made by a group of local women who met on a regular basis during the early 1990s. The United Benefice churches kneeler (pictured below) was made by Ann Peck of Lorton.

Many visitors come and make a beeline for the Wainwright memorial with the view of Haystacks and take the obligatory photo. Other features include the unusual wrought iron shepherd's gate and twin angels on the reredos carved by Cumbrian farmer Jonathon Stamper in 1998.

Most poignant is the memorial to Alan Catherall who aged 22 was taken prisoner of war by the Japanese to Ambon island, Indonesia where they were subject to extraordinary brutality and he perished. The personal inscription on his grave in the war cemetery on Ambon island reads "No gain of thine, O East, were as dear as this young life so mercilessly taken".

August marks Loweswater's patronal festival of St. Bartholomew. To mark the occasion we have another wonderful centre spread of photographs from John, Rosamund and Roger showing some of the highlights of our church.



Earliest records at St.Bees Priory mention Loweswater as a place of worship in 1125 with monks from the Priory taking services, and bodies being taken for burial to St.Bees along the corpse road in Holme Wood, presumably using the coffin carrier pictured below (photo taken by John Macfarlane). The church today was erected between 1827 - 1829 and consecrated by the Bishop of Chester in 1829. Its large size is thought to be due to an anticipated great increase in population with the opening of a lead mine at Godferhead which ultimately failed. After alterations in 1884 the only item to remain was the board, seen in this montage, with the 10 Commandments, Creed and Lord's Prayer.

The montage highlights the exquisite hand sewn gold altar frontal was given to the church by Joe and Joan Milburn and expertly repaired by Ann Peck in 2012. Gold is the liturgical colour representing Christmas and Easter seasons, signifying the birth and resurrection of Christ, also major feast days. The 4 panels shown represent Jesus as Good Shepherd, Jesus feeding of 5000 with 2

fishes, Jesus as carpenter and the plough frequently mentioned by Jesus. The church was delighted to have a bequest some years ago to alter the windows at the east end of the church in order for worshippers to be able to see the fells beyond.

We were sad to learn of the death of Nancy Fearon this month. Nancy and her husband Joe came to farm High Cross in 1957 before moving to Stanger. Nancy was very active in village life on Loweswater show committee, member of the WI , an early member of the 77 club and great supporter of all Loweswater activities including many years on the PCC and active member of St.Bartholomew's church. Her funeral will take place on Monday 1st July at 1pm. We send our condolences to her family and friends, she will be missed.

Eleanor Ella

From register

Funeral

Nora Forster 20th June



Loweswater Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

The scheme locally is being extended to cover the Brackenthwaite area around Buttermere Road End, to allow the houses and homes in that area to take advantage of the concept of Neighbourhood Watch.

There have been a few examples of unwelcome activity including a stolen gate, which harks back to a similar event in Lorton some time back. If you do see anything going on that raises concern then tell the police, using 999 if it is a crime in progress and 101 for less urgent cases.

If you are concerned about events then also tell your neighbours and this is where Neighbourhood Watch comes in. A confidential list of local members is available (to members only) and "passing the word" between ourselves can often prevent the situation escalating to other properties close by.

Neighbourhood Watch is not just keeping an eye out for the bad guys, it is about being alert to those around us and offering help or assistance in whatever way is suitable. This means continuing to be a good neighbour to each other, as hopefully we are now.

The Neighbourhood Watch Organisation nationally also keeps us all aware of the possibility of computer scams and identity theft and as coordinator, I forward the occasional emails. In this time of fast electronic communication, take care and think twice before clicking any links and only pass information to those who you are 100% certain are entitled to it. More information can be found at <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/>

If you need advice on local security of any sort then give me a call. I don't know all the answers . . . but I know people who usually do and I can ask them to call to see you, with or without their blue light.

Stay safe, but also be vigilant around your properties and livestock for everyone's sake. Keep Lorton and Loweswater the great place that it is today.

Cheers, Roger Hiley, Loweswater.
01900 85040



Oil In Loweswater Club (O.I.L.CLUB)

Thank you to everyone who has shown interest in forming this club for the purpose of buying discounted heating oil.

The first order deadline is 28th September 2024 for members of the club, who are fully signed up and have paid their management fee (fee will be wholly donated to Loweswater Village Hall). There are six order dates for 2024/25.

In addition, there is a 10% discount available to members for block bookings for oil/Aga/Rayburn appliance servicing, by a qualified engineer.

Further information for anyone wishing to join is available on Melbreak Communities Website (Oil In Loweswater Club under services) or by contacting me, Lyn Furniss, at oilinloweswaterclub@gmail.com

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Cockermouth

5 - 7 JULY 2024

LIVE!



It's hard to believe, but Cockermouth LIVE!, our very own local music festival, is in its fifteenth year, and this year will be bigger and better than ever.

Following the success of extending the festival by an extra day last year, the 2024 festival will again last three days, from 5th to 7th July, and there will be events throughout the town all weekend.

Friday night's headline concert at the Kirkgate Centre, where Blazin' Fiddles will be performing, is almost sold out, but there are still tickets available from Billy Bowman's music shop on Lowther Went for Saturday evening's Brass on the Grass (a unique and varied picnic concert in Cockermouth Castle by Cockermouth Mechanics Brass Band to mark national Brass Band Week) and the Cockermouth Community Orchestra's concert at Christchurch on Sunday evening.

There will be strolling minstrels and other family friendly events in town throughout the days, performers in pubs and coffee shops, and the Castle will host a varied daytime programme as usual.

If you'd like to steward or help out in other ways, there's still time to get involved as a volunteer helper - contact Clive Barnard (07920703775) and he will pass your details on and let you know more



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The 'Buttermere Camino' - Saturday, 27th July

Calling all pilgrims! Grasmoor Mission Community will be holding its annual mini Camino (pilgrimage) from St Cuthbert's, Lorton to St James, Buttermere, via St. Bartholomew's in Loweswater on Saturday, 27th July. We will begin at Lorton church at 10am.

There will be times for prayer and reflection as well as fellowship whilst we walk, finishing with a short service at St James' church. The walk is about 11 miles and we hope to arrive in Buttermere at around 4pm. There will be opportunities to join or leave the walk at Loweswater at 1pm. We recommend sharing lifts, arranging pickups from Buttermere or leaving cars there, as the buses finish at 5.00pm and are likely to be busy.

For more information please visit www.buttermerecamino.org
[If you plan on coming, please e-mail us at info@poiema.org.uk](mailto:info@poiema.org.uk)

COMMUNITY Lunches in Lorton **£7.00**

2 course meal at Lorton School, cooked by Chef Helen
Served promptly at 1.15pm. Everyone welcome

Dates: June 10th
July 8th

All profits provide additional support to the children at Lorton School

Booking essential
call Helen on **07790 459064**



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The final meeting of the season, open to all, is advertised below. Our guest is the well-known author Hunter Davies who had a long association with Loweswater when he owned a house here with his late wife, Margaret Forster. Hunter will talk about the times they spent together in Loweswater, and will draw on material and illustrations from his forthcoming book, *Letters to Margaret*. Wine and cider will be on sale at this special event – the cider will be that produced by Mark Evens using his own apples from his orchard in Mosser.

Meetings of the Club will resume at the start of the new season in October, so please watch out for announcements in the Link in the autumn. Once again the Committee will aim to organise an interesting and varied programme of events.



LETTERS to MARGARET

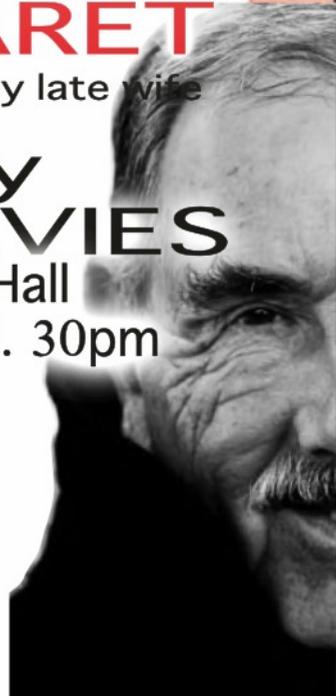
Confessions to my late wife

A talk by HUNTER DAVIES

Loweswater Village Hall
Wednesday 3rd July at 7. 30pm

Refreshments available to purchase
Cider and Apple juice from Mosser
And glasses of wine

All welcome:
Free to Club Members
Non-members £2.50



Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society

Getting to Church in Lorton

As far as we know, people have been attending a Chapel at the current site since the twelfth century. The location is unusual, being placed in the middle of prime arable land, but the Chapel needed to serve both row-villages of High and Low Lorton. It was placed next to the headland, now Church Lane, dividing the two villages' lands.

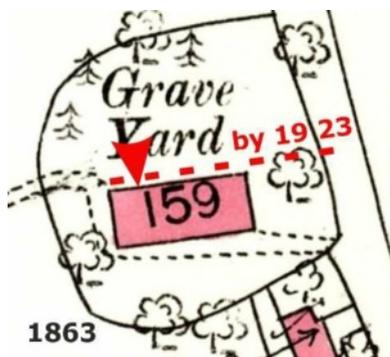
The two straight footpaths from Low and High Lorton may appear modern, but they are probably as ancient as the Chapel. The old paths, through open-arable land, would need to follow the line of the furrows, preferably on a grassy baulk next to a drainage stream. Features that look modern are sometimes ancient, and vice-versa.

Outside of the open-arable land, paths were often created to ease getting to the Chapel. On reaching High Lorton highway, the path from the Chapel also branches off to ancient Highside farm, and then over the fells to Wythop, once part of Lorton Chapelry. Similarly, some of the people from east Whinfell would use the long-gone footbridge over the Cocker, below Woodlands, and then take the footpaths to Low Lorton, as their route to the Chapel. This avoided a long detour via the bridge.

In 1803 the old Chapel had no tower, and just a simple bell-frame above the door in the west wall. The new Chapel, completed by



1809, has its door on the north side. The 1863 map shows the entrance to the churchyard from High Lorton next to the new Sunday School. The path took the old route around the Chapel to the new door (red arrow). The small graveyard retained its medieval curved shape, and the growing number of personal grave-markers must have restricted changes.



The graveyard was then expanded in two stages, but the 1898 map still shows the people of High Lorton walking around the Church building. By 1923 the new path had been made along the north side of the Church building, and the very modern entrance from Church Lane had been created.

Derek Denman

CREAM TEAS



**Loweswater Village Hall
Sunday 25th August
2pm until 5pm**

**All proceeds in aid of Church
Funds**



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DIARY DATES

JULY

- 3 Wed 77 Club host 'Letters to Margaret', a talk by Hunter Davies, LVH, 7.30pm
3 Wed Lorton PC meeting YTH 7.30pm
5-7 Fri-Sun Cocker mouth Live - see poster
5 Fri Organ Concert, St Bartholomew's, Loweswater, 7.30pm - see poster
6 Sat Greysouthen YFC Coffee morning, YTH, 10-12
8 Mon Community Lunch at Lorton School 1.15 pm. To book your place contact Helen.07790 459064
11 Thur Loweswater Ladies Summer Outing
14 Sun Anyone for Tennis, 1.30pm, LVH - see poster
19 Fri Progressive Supper, various venues in Lorton, 7-10p.m
27 Sat Buttermere Camino, starting from St Cuthbert's, Lorton at 10am

AUG

- 10 Sat Coffee and Cakes YTH 10.30am- 12.00. Hosted by Lorton Tennis Club
25 Sun Cream Teas, LVH, 2-5pm

SEP

- 1 Sun Loweswater and Brackenthwaite Show
3 Tue Buttermere Parish Council meeting, Buttermere Old School 7.30pm
4 Wed Lorton Parish council meeting YTH 7.30pm
9 Mon Melbreak Wildlife Group. Open meeting to update on current projects and plan future activities. All welcome. YTH, 7.30pm
11 Wed Loweswater Ladies, A Countryside Classroom, 7.15pm LVH
12 Thu A Place in History: three locations with a fascinating past, Judith Shingler & Alison Peak, Ambleside Oral History Group, Lorton History Society, YTH, 7.30 pm
26 Thu AoW at LVH. Gertrude Lawrence: A lovely way to spend an evening. Doors 7pm. 7:30 start see posters for pricing. Bar available.
28 Sat Games Evening. LVH. TBC

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The United Benefice of Lorton and Loweswater with Buttermere

Church Services July and August 2024

7 th July	Trinity 6	
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater
6p.m	Evensong	Buttermere
14 th July	Trinity 7	
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton
21 st July	Trinity 8	
10.30am	Morning Service	Loweswater
6p.m	Holy Communion	Buttermere
28 th July	Trinity 9	
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton
4 th August	Trinity 10	
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater
11 th August	Trinity 11	
10.30am	Morning Service	Lorton
6p.m	Holy Communion	Buttermere
18 th August	Trinity 12	
10.30am	Holy Communion *	Lorton
25 th August	St Bartholomew	
10.30am	Holy Communion*	Loweswater
6p.m	Evensong	Buttermere

**Note change to regular pattern*

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.

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/>

Deadline for September is Friday 23rd August- all articles, photos(especially for the front cover), funny stories to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date. Thank you