

# OCTOBER 2025



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

**£7.00 PER ANNUM (LOCAL)  
£15.00 PER ANNUM (POSTED)**

# Letter from the Editor

Dear Link Readers

After our mammoth Lorton sub-edition last month, this month it is the turn of Loweswater with Buttermere to shine as our primary contributors. You will have noticed that included with your copy of the Link is a leaflet about the fund-raising campaign for Buttermere church - as highlighted by Eleanor in her Notes. In addition to that we have various events - highlighted in the Loweswater Village Hall article but including the Four Seasons Concert and a Coffee morning. We also have reports from the 77 Club and the Loweswater Ladies as well as information about the Harvest Festival and Supper and the Quiet Day at Poiema. Last but by no means least is the centre spread montage of photos from Loweswater Show courtesy of Roger Hiley.

Not to be outdone Lorton has an upcoming Film Night, its own Harvest Festival and Lunch, the Big Auction Night raising money for the Yew Tree Hall refurbishment and an afternoon tea with live music and Prosecco (what's not to like).

The Melbreak Community Groups are as busy as ever, with a couple of talks in the upcoming months and their usual Nature Notes article (x 2).

I'd like to draw your attention to other events happening in Lorton during October - not least the Apple Day on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the Apple Trail which will be active during the week after that - culminating in prize giving at the Harvest Lunch on the 12<sup>th</sup>, following on from the Harvest Festival Service at 10.30 - see Lorton Notes for more details. We also have a Film Night in the YTH on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There will also be Flu jabs being given in YTH on Saturday 19th October between 09.30-11.30.

Penny's Piece really made me laugh this month and I couldn't resist including a photo of the Wicked Witch of the West in the article (you'll need to read it!). Any resemblance to either myself or Penny is not intended!

Rosemary Riley

Our front cover photo this month is from Tim Brown showing Rain cloud over Haystacks. Given the appalling weather we've been having recently it seemed most appropriate!



## The Greatest Commandment is Love

We have had a lot of weddings in the benefice this year, which has been wonderful that couples have chosen to express their love for one another in church before God and want His blessing.

At the beginning of a marriage ceremony the very character and existence of God's love is sums up in the words from 1 John 4:16, "Whoever lives in love, lives in God and God lives in them." This makes love the most essential aspect of a life of faith. If we claim to follow God but do not love, we have fundamentally missed the point. God and love are inextricably linked.

Love is not just a general sense of pleasantness or politeness extended to each other, but a powerful and transformative force that can change lives.

One of the regular bible readings that couples choose is The Song of Songs 2:7 which speaks of the mighty potential of love, cautioning us not to approach it lightly or flippantly. Showing love to one another is the most essential reflection of the divine. True love is sacrificial and selfless, mirroring the love God so freely shows us.

A lack of love reflects a dismissal of the image of God present in our fellow human beings. Conversely, when we truly live out of a posture of love, we are moved to generosity, patience, kindness, gentleness and all other signifiers of spiritual flourishing.

It is a sacrificial, willingness to go that extra mile for someone else's well-being. Following that example, we are called to extend love to all the world, even those we find difficult to love. We need not fear each other on account of differences and disagreements as 1 John assures us "There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment." So let us live out this divine commandment, ensuring that loves remain at the centre of all our actions and relationships.

With Love and Blessings

Barbara Robinson

For anyone wanting to receive home communion or in need of pastoral support, please contact:  
Rev. 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 Rev. Jane Charman, Mission Community Leader on 01900 828028



# ***Harvest Festival***

*St Bartholomew's Loweswater  
with St James's Buttermere  
Celebrate at St Bartholomew's on  
Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 am*

## ***Tatie Pot Supper & Auction***

*On Monday October 6<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Loweswater Village Hall 7.00 pm  
Admission £13.00 Children £6.50*

*For catering we need to know numbers please.*

*To reserve your place please ring:  
Jan Collins-Webb on 01900 85609  
or Eleanor Ella 07756 341163*



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

Bleak September's mist and mud  
Is enough to chill the blood.  
Then October adds a gale  
wind and slush and rain and hail

This was never more apt than during the latter part of Loweswater Show day. Fortunately, the day started well and as usual it was a good occasion to catch-up with friends not seen for months or years. The Service of Blessing with the Mechanics Band proved challenging in the prevailing conditions!

As you may have seen in the Grasmoor Mission Community Facebook page and at Jan and Jim's stall at the Loweswater Show we have launched the Buttermere Church Restoration Appeal. Several thousands of pounds will be needed to do the minimum work that needs to be done, and we would like to be able to do more, and know how well loved our church is, therefore confident that the funds will be raised. This is all explained in the accompanying leaflet together with details of how to donate. We hope that the idea of buying a slate will prove popular too. We anticipate the raising to be a long term project taking a number of years.

Wonderful to have Buttermere open again, as we go to press the first service in St. James will be taking place following the roof repair and the restored organ. We will be holding our traditional Allsouls service at Buttermere

on 5th November an occasion when we remember our loved ones departed. A reminder - Buttermere services change to 3pm on 26th October.

Harvest Festival takes place at Loweswater on 5th October. We welcome all donations of fruit and veg and non perishable goods to donate to the Food Bank. As usual we will decorate the church on Saturday morning and Harvest Supper and auction takes place the following Monday.

We welcome Mags Todd and Tom as the new caretakers of the village Hall. It is great to have a local in this role.

As I started these notes on a gloomy note and autumn is my favourite season I will end on a cheerful note. A short poem by Emily Brontë

Fall, Leaves, Fall  
Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away  
Lengthen night and shorten day;  
Every leaf speaks bliss to me  
Fluttering from the autumn tree.  
I shall smile when wreaths of snow  
Blossom where the rose should grow;  
I shall sing when night's decay  
Ushers in a drearier day

Eleanor Ella



The 77 Club restarts in October after the summer break and we are delighted to start with a talk by Ingrid Hall on "Loweswater Habitat and Heritage", a story of the recent restoration of the Croft Field Pond below Foulisyke, the habitat improvements done and the extensive history behind the site (see poster below).

Ingrid will be supported by Bethany Berry-Henshaw from the Rivers Trust and Marnie Calvert Nat Park History officer, so a great night is in prospect.

# Loweswater Habitat and Heritage

A talk by Ingrid Hall about the restoration of the 'Croft Field Pond' and the surrounding area.

**Loweswater Village Hall  
Tuesday 21st Oct. at 7.30pm**

**Restoration of the Croft Field Pond**



**Ingrid Hall**

Ingrid will be supported by Bethany Berry-Henshaw from the Rivers Trust and Marnie Calvert Nat Park History officer.

Please note the talk will be preceded by a quick 77 Club AGM where nominations for new committee members would be most welcome.

Poiema Community & Retreat House

## Quiet Day

“For we are God’s handiwork”



This Quiet Day will explore how growing in understanding of our God-given identity, his unique handiwork, liberates us to live more fully and wholly for Him. The day will include short times of led input interspersed with times of quiet to reflect and pray.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Time: 9.45am – 3.30pm

Venue: Poiema, The Vicarage, Loweswater CA13 0RU

Suggested donation: £15-20

**Please bring a packed lunch / Tea & coffee will be provided**

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

[info@poiema.org.uk](mailto:info@poiema.org.uk)



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## LORTON NOTES

As you will see from the poster opposite our main events for October (in addition to the Apple Day on the 5th) are our Harvest Festival and Lunch on 12th October. If you've managed to complete the Apple Trail then do bring your answers along to the Lunch for the prize giving - one prize for children and one for adults. The Lunch (homemade Tatie pots and Apple pie/crumble) will conclude with an auction of produce including the chance to bid for pheasant from Terrace Farm, fuel from Nicholsons and logs from Lake Wood Fuels. We thank everyone for their donations, including anything from your own gardens. In a return to a more traditional Harvest Festival Service we will ask children (and adults) to bring their donations up to the Altar Rail during the service - I do hope many families, and farmers, will attend.

The money raised from the Harvest events will be shared equally between Linking Lives and the Bishop's Harvest Appeal.

Linking Lives is a local charity which provides a befriending service aimed at adults who find themselves requiring some extra friendship and support, and this is provided through weekly home visits or telephone calls.



The Bishop's Harvest Appeal supports:



**Women in Burkina Faso** learning poultry keeping and simple eco friendly farming so they can feed their families and build small businesses. A starter flock of 10 hens and 1 rooster can quickly grow. Each hen can lay more than 200 eggs a year, and sales add up fast with typical income of three thousand to three thousand five hundred CFA francs per bird. That can mean around five hundred and twenty five thousand CFA francs in annual turnover which is about six hundred and ninety pounds. Simple training plus a small flock becomes food on the table and a pathway out of poverty.

**Training a new generation of indigenous church leaders in Northern Argentina** through the CeFA training centre. In 2024 nine men completed the first year-long course. In March 2025 a cohort of 13 women began their studies so that local churches can be served in their own languages and contexts.

I look forward to seeing you all at the various events during October.

Rosemary Riley



## **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

**Sunday 12 October  
St Cuthbert's Church  
10.30- 11.30am**

We invite children (and adults)  
to bring their offerings of  
produce (tinned or fresh) to the  
Altar during the Service

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## **HARVEST LUNCH**

**Sunday 12 October  
Yew Tree Hall  
1.00-3.30pm**

£10. 00 per adult, children free.  
Lunch will conclude with an  
Auction of Produce

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# Introduction to Permaculture

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th of November 2025

10 am to 5 pm



A two day course at the historic Pardshaw Quaker Centre. What is Permaculture? It is a way of thinking that uses nature as a guide to help us plan and do things better.

Come and find out about Permaculture and how to live life in a more sustainable way for yourself, your community and the world around you.

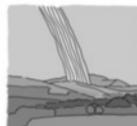
You will learn about the ethics, principles and applications of Permaculture and receive an Introduction to Permaculture course certificate (CPD UK certified).

Cost: £120 with concessional prices

If you are interested please

send me an email on

[graham.wigginton.uk@gmail.com](mailto:graham.wigginton.uk@gmail.com)



Graham Wigginton



### **Loweswater Village Hall**

We are looking forward to once again hosting the **Melbreak Communities Coffee Morning on Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> between 10.00 and 12.00am**. As well as offering a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours, there will be the usual tea/coffee and delicious cakes available, all of which will be complemented by the opportunity to view and buy the ever popular **cards, prints and 2025 calendars from Rosamund and John Macfarlane**, in addition to which, we are very pleased to welcome **Melbreak Wildlife Group** who will be showing displays of their **Barn Owl, Curlew, Hedgehog and Swift Projects** and selling **curlew cards and other curlew-related items**.

**There will be a slideshow selection of local wildlife images displayed throughout the morning, by courtesy of Rosamund and John.**

The village hall committee, in conjunction with **Arts Out West**, is delighted to invite you to a performance of **Around the World in Four Seasons** by the **Lantivet Duo and Joy Becker** on **Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30**. Their performance is based around Vivaldi's Four Seasons, with their eclectic music originating in classical, folk, jazz, pop and funk! Hailed by **Classic FM** as "one of the best things to see", the **Lantivet Duo** captivates audiences with a spellbinding blend of traditional and original pieces. Why not visit <https://www.lantivetduo.com/>, to sample their music. There will be a **licensed bar** and **Sausage Baps** (pre-ordering essential), will be served at the interval.

Further details for both events can be found in posters on the following pages and on our Facebook page and website - [loweswatervillagehall.co.uk](http://loweswatervillagehall.co.uk)



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# Coffee Morning

## In Loveswater Village Hall

Saturday October 11th - 10.00 'till 12.00

# Coffee/Tea & Cakes

and an opportunity to catch up with friends & neighbours

Plus

Sale of Prints, Calendars & Cards by Rosamund & John Macfarlane

With

Displays from Melbreak Wildlife Group of their Barn Owl, Curlew, Hedgehog & Swift Projects, and Sale of Curlew Cards etc.



A Melbreak Communities Event



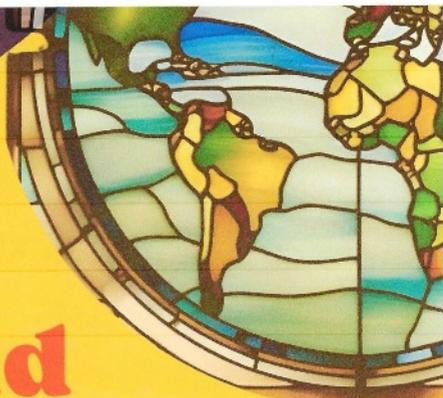
Proceeds in aid of Village Hall & Melbreak Wildlife Funds

[loweswatervillagehall.co.uk](http://loweswatervillagehall.co.uk)

Charity No 526856

Lantivet Duo  
and Joy Becker

# Around the World in Four Seasons



Based on Vivaldi's Four Seasons and spanning 800 years of music, this show is uplifting, haunting, funny, beautiful, occasionally barnstorming and unlike any Four Seasons you have heard before!



Saturday  
October 25th

Arts Out West @  
Loweswater Village Hall  
Doors at 7pm for 7.30 show

**Tickets: Adults - £12**  
**Family - up to 4 (max 2 adults) - £25**  
**U/18 & Students - £6**

Licensed Bar  
Pre-ordered Sausage Baps £5

Tickets:  
[www.tinyurl.com/loweshall](http://www.tinyurl.com/loweshall)  
[loweswaterevents@gmail.com](mailto:loweswaterevents@gmail.com)

### LOWESWATER SHOW MONTAGE

Overleaf you will find another colour centre-spread - this month it is of photographs taken at Loweswater Show. Roger Hiley was obviously the only one intrepid enough to brave the elements with his camera so many thanks for that. The montage only shows a selection of pictures - they can all be found here:

[https://www.loweswatercam.co.uk/250907\\_Loweswater\\_Show\\_2025.htm](https://www.loweswatercam.co.uk/250907_Loweswater_Show_2025.htm)

Going from left to right on each row we have:

The entrance gate  
Cockermouth Mechanics Band  
Sheepdog trials  
The Morning Service  
The Show Date  
The Industrial Tent  
Patient sheep  
A patient horse  
A selection of cars from The Vintage Section

### **Kirkstile Inn Local's Night 2025 In aid of Loweswater Village Hall**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
6.30pm for 7pm

Booking essential. Please phone 01900 85219 or book at the bar.  
**NO bookings will be taken until Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025.**

Further details including price and menu will be advertised in the  
November Link.



Saturday 22nd November at 7.30

YEW TREE HALL

# AUCTION NIGHT

Fundraising Event

**BIDDING TO  
IMPROVE OUR  
VILLAGE HALL**



More than 40 fabulous lots all kindly donated by our community (auction catalogue to follow).

£20 per ticket to include wine, home cooked ham, selection of cheeses, desert.

And the first public tastings of Lorton Ale, some 200 years in the making.



CASH BAR to include casked Cumberland Ale

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW**

Contact Nigel Lee

07827 338834

nigel.w.lee@gmail.com

*Melbreak Wildlife Group*



*Presents*

# Butterflies of the Lorton Valley



Join us for a talk by local butterfly expert and enthusiast, Stuart Medland.

Thursday 9th October

Yew Tree Hall, Lorton, CA13 9UL

7:30

£3.00 entry, teas/coffees on arrival

**All welcome!**



Loweswater with Buttermere PCC  
100 Challenge Club

**The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st Sep 2025**

1st prize of £25	No 56	Rowena Watkins
2nd prize of £10	No 73	Betty Coulthard
3rd prize of £5	No 87	Chris Poate

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

Yew Tree Hall  
Development Group

Drop in session, Wednesday 22 October 4pm-7pm

Come and see the final drawings before we submit them for planning and hear about the exciting projects and exhibitions we have planned!  
For more information email [ythlorton@gmail.com](mailto:ythlorton@gmail.com)



## Farm Shop

**Saturday 10am – 1pm**

**Wednesday 3pm – 6pm**

Low Netherscales Farm, Embleton  
Cockermouth, CA13 9YP

[info@cumbriafarmers.co.uk](mailto:info@cumbriafarmers.co.uk)

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**Cut Flowers**

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**Bread and Flour**

**Rapeseed Oil**

**Apple Juice**

Please join us at Yew Tree Hall on  
Sunday 19th October 2-5.00pm.

Malthouse Club presents

# Afternoon Tea and Live Music

TICKETS £12  
from Nige Lee  
tel: 07827 338834  
nigel.w.lee@gmail.com



The Hearts of Uke Band  
play a bit of everything,  
blues, jazz, classic pop,  
swing and hard rock.

Doors open 2.00pm. Open Bar for Prosecco and Wine

PLEASE CONTACT NIGE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE  
All money raised for hall redevelopment



**Melbreak Wheels - Transport for locals**  
*Melbreak Communities Carbon Net Zero*  
Project

***Are you worried about driving at night? Has your car broken down and need a lift?  
Don't have a car? We can help!***

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be part of the Melbreak Wheels Whatsapp group which has been running successfully since July as a pilot project. This was set up by Melbreak Carbon Net Zero Group as a local community initiative with the aims of

- providing **free** local transport for those who need it.

- reducing the number of individual car journeys by lift sharing; so reducing cost and carbon emissions

- strengthening our community resilience.

**Update** -People who needed a lift have been able to post on the group and volunteer drivers have responded. (Anyone who does not have access to Whatsapp has been linked with a 'buddy' who has and they pass messages on.) The group has run successfully with 8 lifts given by volunteers to people without transport. The idea of car sharing to reduce journeys, carbon and cost has not so far been taken up, and remains an opportunity. The Whatsapp group is continually evolving depending on peoples' needs and with the 77/77A buses finishing on November 2nd, there may be more demand. Or you may feel more nervous about driving in the dark or difficult weather conditions. If you can offer as a driver or if you need transport but are not already signed up, please email Debbie Watson below, providing your mobile number.

**Minibus** - We are also looking for people to be trained as drivers for the school minibus, so that this could be hired for community events or regular weekly journeys. **Please contact me if you would like to help.** We are currently looking for funding for this training.

**Communication** - I will update everyone who completed the original transport survey this month, so look out for emails. If you would like to join Melbreak Wheels or have questions, please email Debbie Watson **beech.lane35@yahoo.co.uk**



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# Lorton Vale Gardening Club



The sun-drenched gardens visited by members this summer were varied both in type and form - always good for expanding creative minds and providing new ideas!

Johnby Hall garden is wild and naturalistic, where wild flowers and old roses spread through the courtyard of this ancient manor house, following on to a wildflower orchard and developing pinetum with some unusual species.

Grange Farm Garden was designed by Peter Scott of Larch Cottage, with nature and wildlife in mind. A pretty garden around the house leads to pathways, past sculptures and interesting features, and out to the wider landscape of a riverbank woodland walk and wildflower meadows, creatively sculpted with mown paths - installations in themselves.

Esk Bank nestles in a stunning landscape, looking up the Eskdale Valley to Harter fell and is a garden developed over twenty years. Creatively designed on a slope to include herbaceous borders, fruit trees, shrubs and woodland areas, there is also a productive vegetable garden, including exotic edible plants, reflecting the owner's Indian heritage.

Gresgarth Hall Garden was designed by renowned landscape architect Lady Arabella Lennox-Boyd and her team. After members enjoyed a picnic in the parkland, this garden did not disappoint. With its own microclimate and Italianate influences (including hot sun!), there is something amazing round every corner, whether it be flowers or grasses, a lily pond or the River Lune, a woodland arbour or a formal terrace, mosaics, statues, or the walled vegetable and herb garden.

There is much to look forward to.....following the success and popularity of Winter Workshops for members, more are planned for early 2026.

There is also an engaging programme of Winter Talks at Yew Tree Hall, so remember to put the dates in your diaries!

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 'Summer and Autumn Bulbs' - Matthew Smith **7.30pm**

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Nov 'Gardening in a Changing Climate' - Elizabeth Woodcock **7.30pm**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 'Ferns, Fabulous Ferns' - Steve Mees **1.30pm**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 'The Fellside Flower Garden' - Emma Greenshaw **1.30pm**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 'Garden Design and Planting' - Tom Atwood **7.30pm**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 'Pottering in North Cumbria: The Path to a Chelsea Garden' - Coralin Pearson **7.30pm**

**Please keep a look out for further details in the Link**

Non- members and guests £4

New members are always welcome. Annual membership £12

Please contact Fiona Lambrick [fionalambrick@btinternet.com](mailto:fionalambrick@btinternet.com)

Karen Battrick

# Loweswater Ladies September Report

Our activities recommenced in September with a fascinating talk by Vicky Slater entitled "A Country Classroom". Vicky and her father "Farmer Kev" have a mixed farm in Ennerdale and for over ten years have provided farm visits for local primary schools and groups. Vicky described how they had diversified, Vicky taking a degree in Primary Education and Kev training with educational access. They then tackled all the Health and Safety issues, converted and built barns to accommodate classrooms and toilet/hand washing facilities and now host over 600 children and teachers per year.

We heard how the children enjoy joining in with the practicalities of farming, bottle feeding lambs, marking them up so they don't get "lost," seeing new puppies and riding in the kiddie trailer out to the fields to see cows and calves. The children also learn where their food comes from and how a simple bag of wheat makes so many different things.

Two emus are kept on the farm and we were shown their remarkable, large dark green eggs, each equivalent to 10 hen's eggs! We also had the opportunity to read some of the letters written by the children who had visited. From these letters you could see how engaged they had been with the whole experience. The "Best Trip Ever" seemed to be the consensus of opinion. It was a fascinating insight into how to engage with primary school aged children in a hands-on, practical way of teaching them a range of subjects that are included in a school curriculum.

Loweswater Ladies are sad to lose our secretary Doreen after six years of sterling service. We are glad that we won't lose her from the group however, and would like to give her our thanks for all she has done whilst being in post.

Jenny Burr

- ⚡ EV charger installations
- ⚡ Testing & Certification (EICRs)
- ⚡ Fuse board changes
- ⚡ Home batteries
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# BURROW



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Due to the nutrient pollution of river catchments in Cumbria, we are replacing septic tanks with modern treatment plants that cut down on phosphates. This ongoing upgrade project is being funded by local planning authorities, so you can have a positive impact on the environment, free of charge.



01768 428 000  
[burrow-environmental.com](http://burrow-environmental.com)



# *Penny's Piece*

"At least the rain kept the dust down!" That was an unexpected response I got from one of the gate crew on show day. I never saw the gazebos that took flight from the main gate and the vintage area so I don't know if the Wicked Witch of the West



was underneath or not. But as the day went on, it felt more and more like we were going to be whisked away. Hence the hasty pack up. At the same time, the many people passing me to go home still managed a smile when they said 'no' in reply to being asked if they were coming back in. I did manage to hear the Mechanics Band at a point when the rain was definitely consistently sideways and it made me think of the Titanic: the band stalwartly playing on while pockets of chaos developed across the field in order to abandon ship.

Ever since then we have either been dry or very wet. There does not seem to have been much of the drizzly damp. There has also been very little warning. It isn't raining. Now it definitely is. There have been lots of conversations with colleagues with secondary aged children about how they've had to put the heating on so they can get blazers and shoes dried out for the next day. Of course, some of them are soaked to the skin because they are too cool to wear a coat. The kids in my class all had a coat during a bad downpour but have now learnt the value in fastening it! Some of the nursery kids are so small they effectively got wet twice. Once when the heavy rain fell and again when it bounced back up. Bless them. Then there was the mystery pong. A teaching assistant in the reception class had been asked to check various children as it was suspected someone had had an

accident. Everyone was fine. Then one boy's coat was found and it stank. Staff all panicked thinking either someone's dog or cat had got into the grounds and kids were rolling in poo or the sewer was blocked and overflowing down the yard (again- yuck!). Not that either. Turns out he and a couple of others had been playing in the compost bin and a bucket of weeds which was now full of stagnant water. Garden bin/ silage smell. Lovely. We are now at the time of year where terrestrial TV- remember that- starts being good again. New series instead of the endless repeats. However, why they have to make everything clash is beyond me. Thursdays for example were Taskmaster. As of this week I need to make a choice between that and Long Lost Family and next week All Creatures Great and Small starts again. If I was going to be ridiculous, I could watch one on the TV, one on the phone and one on the tablet. As it is, I have spent the last 3 weeks watching Bake Off, then switching over for the end of Sewing Bee and watching the start at breakfast the next day. I'm sure they've not clashed before. Please understand I neither bake nor sew. I just find it interesting to see how people create things and put things together. How do they even begin to try some of the flavour combinations? I couldn't do it because I wouldn't just have a bottle of rosewater in a cupboard- mainly because it sounds like perfume and not something you should be ingesting. Sewing two pieces of fabric in a straight line on a machine would be a great achievement for me. Never mind hidden zips, plackets and darts (don't you throw those?). Baking would go wrong as it is not my oven. Sewing would go wrong from the cutting stage onward. I can visualise wood or metal items in 3d but making fabric go round something already 3d is a nope unless it is a superman cape or a head band! I can also use metal coat hangers or wire to make angel/ fairy wings. In short, I can do accessories.

Hope to see some of you at the Lantivet Duo on the 25<sup>th</sup> October. I like The Four Seasons and can't wait to hear what they do with it. It will be change as I am seeing heavy metal band Disturbed the night before. See you there. Penny.



A Melbreak Communities Initiative



Melbreak Wildlife Group

# Open Meeting

Celebrating our local wildlife!



Yew Tree Hall, Lorton  
Thursday 23rd October at 7.30 pm

*Join us for an evening of wildlife! Hear about what the group is currently doing to help support wildlife in the local area.*

*There will also be updates, information on forthcoming projects, and opportunities to find out how you can be involved!*

**All welcome** - Teas and coffee available  
No charge - but donations welcome

## NATURE NOTES - CURLEW UP WITH A CUP OF TEA.... AND CATCH UP !



Our local curlews have now made their way to coastal estuaries, tidal mudflats, saltmarshes and nearby farmland where they will overwinter, feeding in groups before returning in spring to nest and breed ...Time for the Melbreak Curlew Recovery Project's dedicated and committed volunteers to rest, take stock, (drink tea) and plan and prepare for the coming year.

The Curlew Recovery Project has had another excellent year, and is delighted to report that that five curlew nests were located and protected - no mean feat, curlews being very secretive and nests difficult to find. Ten chicks hatched and were ringed by BTO expert Thalia Sparke, and twelve further chicks were sighted, one of which was ringed. The number of sightings locally greatly increased, giving a broader, detailed and positive picture for saving additional nests next year. Additionally, a great deal more was learned about curlew behaviours, activities and calls.

Over the year, more than 40 volunteers from the local and wider community have been actively involved in various essential roles, with those in the field working tirelessly throughout the spring and summer to locate, protect and save curlews and their chicks in and around the Cocker Valley. The growing interest, help and cooperation of farmers and landowners is crucial to the success of the project (14 now provide active support) and the group is better able to access land to locate nests, erect protective fences, and monitor nests and chicks. Farmers have also flagged up sightings of curlews and notified the group when silage will be cut, giving the opportunity to spot any alarmed birds, preventing nests from being destroyed – and in one case rescuing and saving chicks!

Throughout the breeding season, John and Rosamund Macfarlane, award winning wildlife photographers, recorded the activities of both curlews and volunteers, creating an invaluable asset bank. One of their photographs illustrates this article.

The Project, launched in 2024, has been funded by FiPL (Farming in Protected Landscapes,) through LDNPA. The group is excited by the recent news that further funding has been awarded from FiPL, taking it forward into its third year. The purchase of specialist equipment will significantly enhance the group's ability to ensure the survival and increase of the local population of our iconic curlews.

If you would like to be involved with the project, or would like more information, please contact David Gardiner [davidj.gardiner@btinternet.com](mailto:davidj.gardiner@btinternet.com)

Karen Battrick

# COMMUNITY LUNCH'S

Served promptly at 1.15pm.

## REMAINING DATES IN 2025



Lunches <sup>£7.00</sup> held at Lorton School  
Everyone is welcomed

**Oct 13th**

**Nov 10th**

**Dec 8th**

**Christmas Lunch  
@ £13.00**

**Booking essential  
call Helen on 07790 459064**

All profits go to providing additional support to the children at Lorton School



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LORTON FILM CLUB

at The Yew Tree Hall

**Thursday 16th October**

Bar opens 7pm - Film starts 7.30pm

# DARKEST HOUR

£6

Gary Oldman's  
Oscar- and BAFTA Award-winning  
performance as Winston Churchill  
in the perilous days of May 1940

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## DIARY DATES

### OCT

- 5 Sun Apple Day, Lorton - see flyer
- 6 Mon [Harvest Supper, LVH - see poster](#)
- 9 Thu [Melbreak Wildlife Group](#). Butterflies of the Lorton Valley - Talk by Stuart Medland. YTH 7.30. Entry £3
- 11 Sat [LVH Coffee morning - see poster](#)
- 12 Sun [Harvest Lunch](#), Auction and Apple Trail Prize Giving, YTH, 1pm - see flyer and Lorton Notes
- 13 Mon [Community Lunch at Lorton School - see poster](#)
- 16 Thu [Chat & Crafternoon](#). LVH 2-4pm. All welcome. Suggested donation £3.
- 16 Thu [Lorton Film Club](#) - Darkest Hour - YTH 7.00pm
- 18 Sat YTH Afternoon tea and live music - see poster
- 19 Sun [Afternoon Tea & Live Music](#) YTH 2-5pm SEE POSTER for details
- 21 Tue [Loweswater 77 Club Meeting](#), Croft Field Ponds- LVH 7.30pm
- 22 Wed [YTH Development Project Drop in Session](#), YTH, 4-7pm
- 23 Thu [Melbreak Wildlife Group](#) - Annual Opening Meeting. YTH 7.30
- 25 Sat [AoW: Around the World in Four Seasons](#). LVH 7:30pm see poster for details
- 30 Thu [Lorton Gardening Club](#) - Summer & Autumn bulbs - YTH 7.30pm

### NOV

- 5 Tue Lorton Parish Council meeting 7.330pm YTH
- 10 Mon [Community Lunch at Lorton School - see poster](#)
- 13 Thu The great enchantress: Ann Radcliffe's 1794 tour of The Lake, L&DFLHS, YTH, 7.30 pm
- 18 Tue Loweswater 77 Club Meeting - Alan Cleaver Postal Routes - LVH 7.30pm
- 20 Thu [Chat & Crafternoon](#). LVH 2-4pm. All welcome. Suggested donation £3.
- 20 Thu [Lorton Gardening Club](#) - Gdn for Climate Change - YTH 7.30pm
- 22 Sat [Yew Tree Hall Auction Night](#) - YTH 7.30pm.



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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 - [www.melbreakcommunities.org.uk](http://www.melbreakcommunities.org.uk)

**WHEN ATTENDING EVENTS AT THE YEW TREE HALL PLEASE ENSURE YOU PARK RESPONSIBLY**

# The United Benefice of Lorton and Loweswater with Buttermere

## Church Services October 2025

5 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30am	<b>Trinity 16</b> Holy Communion & Harvest Festival	Loweswater
12 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30am 6pm	<b>Trinity 17</b> Harvest Festival Holy Communion	Lorton Buttermere
19 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30am	<b>Trinity 18</b> Holy Communion	Loweswater
26 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30am 3pm*	<b>Last after Trinity</b> Holy Communion Evening Prayer	Lorton Buttermere

\* Please note change to Winter time now the clocks have gone back.



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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](mailto:gmcoffice@grasmoormc.church) with your request.

Deadline for November is Friday 24th October- all articles, photos(especially for the front cover), funny stories, letters to [lortonvalelink@gmail.com](mailto:lortonvalelink@gmail.com) by this date. Thank you