

Out and About

December 2024 / January 2025

ISSUE 479



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PREPARING FOR WINTER

As we move into winter, with memories of harsh conditions and power cuts last December, maintaining a reliable power supply is a key concern for our communities.

Keen to hear about the steps being taken to enhance the reliability of our network, Millom Without Parish Council recently set up a meeting with representatives from Electricity North West (ENWL), the company responsible for the transmission of electricity to our homes and businesses within the Parish. ENWL kindly provided a summary of the actions they are taking, which you can read on P7.



**Best wishes for the festive season.
Out and About will be back in February.**



NEWS FROM THWAITES VILLAGE HALL



THWAITES 100+ CLUB NOVEMBER WINNERS

- 1st** £50 Kate Gould
2nd £25 Freya Gould
3rd £15 Helen Bailey

The next draw will take place during the first week of December.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL MEMBERS AND THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING TVH.

Playgroup Bulletin



Thwaites school again hosted the playgroup on Monday 11th November, thank you! A one minute silence was observed (nearly) to remember those who gave their lives during the world wars and other conflicts. The playgroup will return to school for another session in January, most probably Monday 20th.

The final session of 2024 will be on 16th December from 10:00 in Thwaites Village Hall for a Christmas party. Santa has been invited and he will be giving a small present to each child. Adults are requested to bring a very low value present from Santa for their child: why not consider a second-hand book or toy?

Playgroup will resume on 13th January 2025. This will be the start of the fourth year of the re-established playgroup and it is notable that some of the children who attended the first playgroup are now bringing their children! Everyone is welcome so do come along and join in the fun!



TVH Diary Dates December / January

MONDAYS

PLAYGROUP 10am—12 noon
until **16 December**, then from **13 January**

THWAITES INDOOR BOWLS CLUB
1.30— 3.30pm
until **9 December**, then from **6 January**
Club bowls available
Carpet shoes to be worn; all welcome

WEDNESDAYS

HAPPY FEET 9.30—10.30am
FITNESS FOR MEN 12 noon—1pm
**NO DECEMBER CLASSES, BOTH CLASSES
BACK ON 8 JANUARY**

WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7.30pm
4, 5, 11, 12, 19 December, then from **2 January**
Cost: £2 per person; all welcome

FRIDAYS

FLOW exercise session 9.30—10.30am
until **13 December**, then from **10 January**

BAT & CHAT LADIES TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm
6, 20 December; 17, 24, 31 January
£2 per person; bats and balls provided

SUNDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm
December and January all sessions as usual

FRIDAY 13th December

Cumbria Wildlife Trust 7.30pm
A Year in the Life of Lowick Common



FRIDAY 10th January

Cumbria Wildlife Trust 7.30pm
Wild Ennerdale

Tuesday 21 January

WI 7.30pm



EVENTS

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER, 7.30PM

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF LOWICK COMMON



A journey through Lowick Common led by local naturalist ,Nigel Gilligan, to show the wealth of creatures and plants this mixed-habitat reserve supports.

FRIDAY 10 JANUARY, 7.30PM

WILD ENNERDALE



Ennerdale has been declared a National Nature Reserve following a partnership between landowners to change the landscape, resulting in the return of abundant wildlife. Partnership Officer, Rachel Oakley, tells us more.



Illustrated talks at Thwaites Village Hall Admission: £3 suggested donation, including tea/coffee and biscuits **ALL WELCOME**



“Don’t call me little!”

Red Riding Hood

by Paul Jordin



Friday 24th January — 7:30pm
Saturday 25th January — 7:30pm
Sunday 26th January — 2:30pm Matinée

Bar • Tuck Shop • Interval Refreshments • Raffle

The Victory Hall

Broughton-in-Furness, LA20 6HN

Adults £6

Children £3.50

Family (1ad+2ch) £11

Family (2ad+2ch) £16

Tickets available from Broughton Post Office

MILLOM AND DISTRICT



LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Millom and District Local History Society will meet informally at Millom Library on Saturday 7 December and Saturday 4 January (and every first Saturday) from 10am - 12 noon to discuss all aspects of local history. Everyone is welcome.



SCHOOL REPORT



Lest We Forget

We began the month by marking Remembrance Day at school. The children in Year One and Year Two worked with STEM Ambassadors from BAE and enjoyed a variety of poppy based activities such as making paper, creating vibrant pointillism poppies and pairing up to make beautiful hand printed butterflies. The children then sat and listened carefully to a moving story about two best friends who go off to war together.

The school respectfully took part in an assembly delivered by ex-servicemen and women who taught the children all about Remembrance Day and Armistice. The children listened to the 'last call' before observing a two-minute silence, during which they were encouraged to think and remember all of the soldiers, civilians and animals who have been killed or injured during conflict. The children were then presented with a book for the new school library based on the war and Remembrance.



Remembrance Day poppies

Basketball



Developing basketball skills

The children in Class 3 enjoyed a morning of basketball at the Millom Recreation Centre. The Thwaites children joined pupils from other local schools to practise their skills through a variety of fun-packed games. There was a circuit of activities that the children moved around based on different basketball skills. The children were supported and guided by sport leaders who were pupils of Millom Comprehensive School. This half-term's topic in PE has been basketball and the children have been developing their skills over a number of weeks so they relished the opportunity to show off their basketball skills. All of the children had a fantastic time and were very proud of their performance.

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It's Christmas!

It's the start of the Christmas season and the children of Thwaites School have been getting in the festive spirit. All children, from nursery to year six enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of crafting, making Christmas decorations for the Christmas tree that will be displayed in St. George's church in Millom. Children were given the freedom to create their own imaginative decorations and the results were amazing. The Christmas tree, along with many others, will be on display over December so pop along and have a look if you get the chance.

Bubbles, Bubbles, Everywhere

The wonderful Unit 3 have been into school again. This time they were visiting Class Two as part of their 'States of Matter' topic. The children had an amazing afternoon. They cracked eggs on their heads, made slippery slime and enjoyed creating fantastic GIGANTIC bubbles, all whilst learning about solids, liquids and gases.



Creating gigantic bubbles



Tree decorations
crafted by the children

Job Advert

At Thwaites School there is currently a vacancy for an after-school club assistant.

Please see information below:

Working hours will be 10 hours per week between 3.30 pm and 5.30 pm, Monday to Friday (term time only). Hourly rate £12.64

Thwaites School is seeking to appoint an After-School Club Assistant for our thriving after-school provision. We are looking for someone who is energetic, passionate and enthusiastic to join our friendly, motivated and supportive team.

Qualifications required: NVQ Level 2 Please contact the school for more information by emailing admin@thwaites.cumbria.sch.uk or by telephoning **01229 772554**.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check will be required for this post as are up to date and relevant references.



NEWS FROM THE HILL



100 Club Draw Winners

OCTOBER

1st £50 No 89 Russell Cookson
2nd £20 No 23 Graeme Nicholas
3rd £20 No 71 Gloria Parsons
4th £20 No 64 Kath Barnard
5th £10 No 119 Sam Parsons
6th £10 No 53 Lesley Mallard
7th £10 No 95 Caroline Usher

100 Club Draw Winners

NOVEMBER

1st £50 No 38 Sally Gumz
2nd £20 No 1 Simon Agnew
3rd £20 No 28 Robert Falconer
4th £20 No 48 Howard Proctor
5th £10 No 36 Lesley Grieve
6th £10 No 50 Linda Kilburn
7th £10 No 91 Mrs Tattersall



We want to extend our thanks to the residents of The Hill who attended a recent drop-in to discuss their ideas for the next Community Plan. We also welcomed the opportunity to share some information on emerging projects and listen to feedback, as we move forward in developing the next Community Plan.

THE HILL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday 7 December
Saturday 4 January
5.30 - 7.30pm

PHOENIX SINGERS

Saturday 14 December
5.30pm onwards

Come and enjoy some Christmas music
£2 on the door to include mulled wine and a mince pie.
Feel free to bring your own drinks and nibbles too.

Saturday 11 January
FILM NIGHT

Friday 24 January
MUSIC GROUP

Details to be finalised. Look out for publicity nearer the time



More exciting Town Deal news!

Progress is being made on the design and build of the Iron Line.

Working closely with the Millom Town Deal Board and Cumberland Council, Story Contracting will help turn the ambitious plans for the Iron Line into a reality, enhancing the area's natural beauty and creating lasting benefits for the community and visitors.

The £10 million Iron Line project is set to create an inspiring coastal pathway across the RSPB Hodbarrow Reserve, featuring more than seven kilometers of enhanced walking and cycling routes.

This fully accessible route will connect residents and visitors with the natural beauty of Millom's and Haverigg's coastal landscape while encouraging outdoor recreation and healthy living. This inclusive pathway will be complemented by a new welcome centre with café, multi-purpose events room, and parking for approximately 80 vehicles.



Artist's impression: Iron Line welcome centre

Preparing for winter: Electricity North West's Commitment to Cumbria

As winter approaches, Electricity North West is taking significant steps to ensure the resilience and reliability of our power network in Cumbria. Our dedicated teams work tirelessly to prepare for the challenges that winter weather can bring, focusing on key



areas such as tree cutting and substantial investments in the network. While the network is resilient, we know that storms can affect the overhead line network in particular which is more exposed to tree branches and flying debris during high winds, and also snow and ice.

Tree cutting and maintenance

One of our primary initiatives is an extensive tree-cutting program. Trees and branches can cause significant damage to overhead power lines during storms, leading to power cuts. Our in-house tree teams work year-round to trim trees near power lines, reducing the risk of outages. This proactive approach has already seen the vast majority of identified spans (distance between poles) have trees cut back, enhancing the reliability of our network.



Preparing for the challenges of winter weather

Ensuring reliability of our power network

Investing in the network

We are also investing heavily in the infrastructure to improve reliability and resilience. By 2028, we'll invest millions in various projects across Cumbria, including:

- £20 million** to improve reliability for customers with the poorest service.
- £35 million** for storm resilience, particularly in areas like Alston and Coniston.
- £9 million** to replace over 200 small rural substations.
- £5 million** to underground visually intrusive overhead lines.

These investments will help us respond more effectively to incidents and minimize the impact of power cuts.

Customer preparedness and support

We encourage all customers to prepare for potential power cuts by having an emergency kit ready, including items like torches, batteries, and non-perishable food. Additionally, we urge eligible customers to sign up for our free **Extra Care Register**. This service provides additional support during power cuts, such as priority updates and assistance with essential needs.

At Electricity North West, we are committed to supporting our community. We care deeply about the well-being of our customers and are here to help you stay safe and connected this winter. For more information or to sign up for the Extra Care Register, visit www.enwl.co.uk/ExtraCare or call us on **105**.

If you have a power cut, remember to let us know, so we can keep you updated. Don't leave it to someone else. Also, if you see damaged lines or equipment, **call us immediately on 105** or if there's a danger to life, call 999.