

Out and About

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Speeding



Cumbria Police have taken account of concerns about cars exceeding the 30mph limit on the A5093 at The Green.

As a result they carried out speed checks in the area on 10 December, with no speeding vehicles identified. Checks were also carried out on 11 December by Matthew Garrett and PCSO Paul Booth during the evening. Further checks will be undertaken at speeding hotspots in the Millom area over the coming weeks.



And another thing for the detectives

Last month while cycling along the near-deserted Broadgate to Corney fell road, a resident spotted a collection of vans, camera equipment, and a shepherd's hut on wheels. This rather incongruous assemblage certainly piqued the interest of the sheep as well as the cyclist. What was going on? Apparently, it was filming for an episode of *Peaky Blinders*, for which the shepherd's hut was to be incinerated! The episode may be shown in the Spring: watch out for it and if you discover when it's televised do let Out and About know.

NEWS FROM THWAITES VILLAGE HALL



THWAITES 100+ CLUB WINNERS

December

1st £50 No. 25 Carol Phifer

2nd £25 No. 06 Jack Giles

3rd £15 No. 14 Rick Browne

January

1st £50 No. 28 Helen Livesey

2nd £25 No. 09 Carol Pogrel

3rd £15 No. 90 Jonathon Street

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

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

Playgroup Bulletin



In January playgroup (2) turned three years and we note how many children have now gone on to nursery and school. Some have younger siblings who are now attending. Also there is a notable population of parents and grandparents who attended the sessions of playgroup (1) in Thwaites Village Hall a generation ago!

We are always happy to see new faces so please do come and join us Monday mornings during term time from 10:00 to 12:00 in Thwaites Village Hall. There is a small charge of £2/child + adult (additional child is 50p). Once per term St Anne's school at Thwaites invites us to have a session in their hall, usually (but not always) the Tuesday after the first Monday children go back to school. Contact the Playgroup facebook page or Out and About if you have questions or need more details. We look forward to seeing you!

TVH Diary Dates February

MONDAYS

PLAYGROUP 10am—12 noon

THWAITES INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

1.30— 3.30pm



Club bowls available
Carpet shoes to be worn; all welcome

WEDNESDAYS

HAPPY FEET 9.30—10.30am

WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7.30pm



Cost: £2 per person; all welcome

FRIDAYS

FLOW exercise session 9.30—10.30am

BAT & CHAT LADIES TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm

£2 per person; bats and balls provided

SUNDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm



FRIDAY 14th
Cumbria Wildlife Trust 7pm

A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galápagos (*see P3*)



TUESDAY 18th
7.30pm

THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS: THEIR UNIQUE GEOLOGY AND WILDLIFE

FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY 7.30PM
THWAITES VILLAGE HALL



One of the world's foremost destinations for wildlife-viewing, the Galápagos Islands archipelago shelters a diversity of plant and animal species, many found nowhere else. Conservationist, Dr Ceri Gibson, shares the experiences of her recent trip.

Admission: £3 suggested donation, including tea/ coffee and biscuits

**MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS
WELCOME**



MOUNTAIN FILM

FESTIVAL

28 FEBRUARY

@BROUGHTON

7 PM VICTORY HALL

AN INSPIRATIONAL
EVENING OF
ADVENTURE
FILMS

Duddon and Furness
Mountain Rescue
Fundraiser



PURCHASE ONLINE AT WWW.CITIZENTICKET.COM

SELECT BROUGHTON-IN-FURNESS ON EVENTS PAGE -

FILMS £10 ONLINE

FILMS £12 CASH ON DOOR

CURRY + FILMS DEAL £25 ONLINE ONLY

Millom Rock Park

The Aggregate Industries team at Ghyll Scaur Quarry are currently in the process of updating the signs and giving the rock park a general tidy up. We have ordered new modern signage, we have moved away from having wooden signs as these have deteriorated over the years and instead we've chosen a plastic recycled material which will be more resistant to the weather.

We have already started to redo the paths and top area by scraping off the old coverings and replaced it with fresh stone. We hope you agree that this is a good start.



New stone path to Millom Rock Park

We are hoping to get the new interpretation boards finalised and installed this Spring.

Ghyll Scaur has been an active part of the community for many years, the majority of our staff (15) are local to the quarry which is good for the area and this also helps keep the focus on the area and what is required. In consultation with the Ghyll Scaur Quarry Liaison Committee a Community Fund has been established which supports a wide variety of projects in the Parish and in Millom.

Gary Jacques has been the manager at Ghyll Scaur Quarry since August 2023 and can be contacted by telephone on **01229 774226** or email gary.jacques@aggregate.com

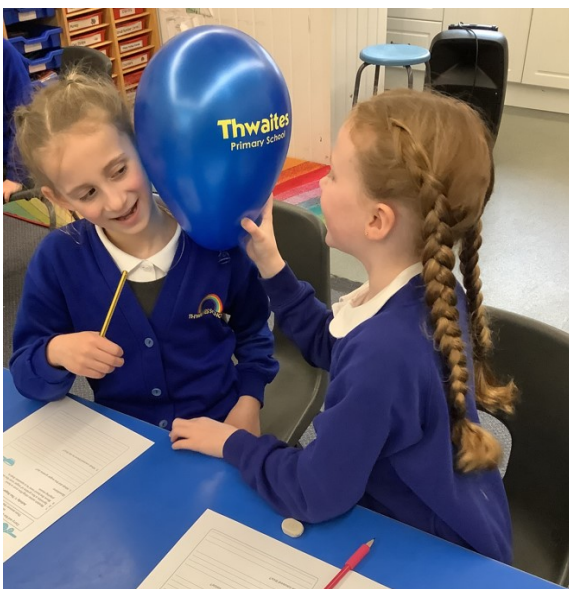


SCHOOL REPORT



Lights, Camera, Action

Thwaites Nursery and Primary School's Christmas play, held at the Village Hall, was fantastic. 'The Greatest Snowman' was a song-filled extravaganza that each child took part in. Sammy the Snowman made friends with some kind children who helped him come to life with a little magic dust from Santa Claus himself. The new media facilities at the Village Hall enhanced the play perfectly as the cool blue lighting gave the hall an icy, wintery feel. Thwaites Nursery and Primary School would like to say a huge thank you to all at the Village Hall for their wonderful hospitality.



Speaking through a balloon!

dance party, all in the name of science, as they observed granules of sugar on taut clingfilm jumping to the vibrations of the sound. You could say the lesson was 'jumping'.

Bridge Building Project

Young engineers were given the chance to shine during a STEM bridge building project. Children were given an afternoon to research, design and build a bridge from construction materials that would hold a kilogram weight. The children displayed fantastic teamworking and problem-solving skills to build strong bridges that met the design criteria. The children really enjoyed having the freedom to make mistakes and improve and showed the school values of resilience and enthusiasm.



How strong is our bridge?

Continued overleaf

.....continued from P4

Litter Picking

The children in Class One have been learning about animals and their habitats this term. As part of their learning they completed a litter pick in the local area and learnt all about how litter can negatively affect the environment where animals live. The children showed great empathy for the animals during discussions about the litter and vowed to ensure they always put litter in the bin in future as well as making sure others do the same.

Nursery Vets

The children in nursery have been learning about farm animals and how we care for them and have had such fun role-playing as vets and farmers. There have been many a sick and poorly teddy bear this week and the children have worked diligently to bandage them up, give them their medicine and care for them until they get better.



Learning to care for animals

NEWS FROM THE HILL



100 Club Draw Winners

DECEMBER

- 1st 53 Lesley Mallard £50
- 2nd 20 John Cooper £20
- 3rd 30 Colin Garnett £20
- 4th 75 Allison Nicholson £20
- 5th 107 Sandra Beare £10
- 6th 35 John Crockett £10
- 7th 78 Niki Blackhurst £10

Bonus Prizes

- 1st 107 Sandra Beare £100
- 2nd 84 Chris Sharpe £100
- 3rd 2 Yvonne Ashburner £50

FILM NIGHTS

We are now hosting regular film nights at The Hill village hall on the third Saturday of the month.



Our next screening is on **15 February**:

The Fall Guy, starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt
Rated 12 Duration 126 minutes

A 2024 American action comedy film directed by David Leitch and written by Drew Pearce, loosely based on the 1980s TV series. The plot follows a stuntman (Ryan Gosling) working on his ex-girlfriend's (Emily Blunt) directorial debut action film, only to find himself involved in a conspiracy surrounding the film's lead actor (Aaron Taylor-Johnson).

7pm for a 7.30pm start; £5 on the door

THE HILL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday 1 February
Saturday 1 March
5.30 - 7.30pm

Come and meet your neighbours at The Hill village hall

Bring your own drinks
Nibbles provided

NEXT MONTH

Saturday 8 March

Flanders and Swann tribute group

7pm for a 7.30pm start

BYOB ; £10 cash on the door

Please contact Alan Parsons to book: 772515



How many £'s are escaping through your doors and windows?

Sustainable Duddon have started conducting free thermal imaging home surveys to anyone in the Duddon, Millom Without and Broughton area. Below are pictures from some initial surveys. These illustrate how a survey can provide the householder with useful information about the thermal properties of their home, e.g. where they might benefit from more insulation. The thermal imaging camera predominantly records heat and cold as opposed to the colours visible to the human eye. Cold things show blue and warmer things red and yellow.

Kitchen window lintel This picture shows how a stone lintel above the kitchen window is acting as a bridge of cold between the outside and the inside. The lintel shows dark blue and is surrounded by the paler areas of wood and plaster, both poor conductors of heat, and therefore giving better insulation.



Hall ceiling from entrance To the human eye this ceiling is, as usual, flat and white. The thermal imaging camera reveals that the ceiling has large rectangular cold spots (the blue) framed by warmer strips (the pink). This indicates that between the joists there is insufficient lagging, and heat rising to the ceiling is being unnecessarily lost.

Utility ceiling This picture revealed that an unlagged pipe (showing bright yellow) is heating an internal space between ceiling and the floor upstairs. This was invisible to the human eye and the householder wasn't aware of this pipe.



If you would like a survey, which is done by volunteers and is completely free, get in touch with Sustainable Duddon by email sustainableduddon@gmail.com or using the chat function on our Facebook page.

COURSES

Apple Grafting Course

We intend to run this very popular course on Saturday **1st March**, 10-13.00 at The Browfoot Room, Ulpha. Places book up quickly, so if you haven't already reserved a spot, please get in touch asap.

MoRPH River survey course (Modular River Physical)

This course consists of both a theoretical and practical element and explains how to conduct a MoRPH survey to give your local river a 'physical habitats health check'. The course is pencilled in for Saturday, **29th March**. Please get in touch for further details and to reserve your place.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS



Nature Conservation: Want to make a difference or learn new skills in 2025?

We have some fantastic volunteering opportunities with the **Duddon Catchment Project*** this coming year. It's not only a great way to help protect and improve the local environment, but a good excuse to get outside more often, meet new people and gain new skills and experiences.

Thanks to generous grant funding from Cumberland Council, we have now purchased substantial equipment to enable us to monitor the weather, wildlife, water quality and river life in the project area, as well as support habitat improvement activities such as balsam bashing, tree planting, leaky dam creation and dormice boxes. It is a really exciting and ambitious project, intended to run over many years, and complements the pioneering work already taking place in The Upper Duddon Landscape Recovery Project.

We have a wide variety of volunteer roles that we are looking to fill and there really is something to suit everyone! Whether you only have a small amount of time to give on an ad hoc basis or are able to take on a regular volunteer role undertaking monitoring throughout the year; whether you have no relevant experience or are already an expert; whether you are still at school or college and wanting to build experience in environmental areas, are a family, or are already retired - there is a role for you and we really need your help!

Would you like to join our team of volunteers in one of the following areas? Equipment and training (if required) is provided:

Bat sound monitor surveys - volunteers will spend several hours per month conducting surveys in various locations and recording their findings.

Mink rafts - volunteers will conduct weekly checks on one or two rafts, looking for footprints in the clay pads, taking photographs of any new prints and recording this data.

Wildlife cameras - we need someone to oversee the camera siting and monitoring, and to coordinate the findings. Volunteers are also needed to site and check the cameras and move them at intervals.

** The Duddon Catchment Project is a partnership project between South Cumbria Rivers Trust, Duddon River Association, Sustainable Duddon and South Lakes Red Squirrel Group. The project covers the area from Hall Dunnerdale Bridge to Millom and the Duddon Estuary, and includes Black Beck, Kirby Pool, the Lickle Valley and Woodland.*

Dormice boxes - we are looking for someone to lead this project, plus willing helpers to site and periodically monitor the boxes.

Riverfly surveys - monthly surveys will be conducted from May to September. We already have a few people trained to perform these surveys, and are looking for (untrained) volunteers to help them on survey days.

Electrofishing - each survey requires several volunteers to spend a day alongside a trained leader. Volunteers need to be fit enough to wade in becks.



Electrofishing to check the status of fish populations

Tree planting - we aim to plant several hundred trees this year, both before March and in the autumn. We are looking for a large number of volunteers to help with these one day sessions.

Himalayan balsam bashing - weekly work parties from June to September will continue the great progress we have made eradicating this non-native species. These two-hour sessions require a degree of physical effort.



Eradicating Himalayan balsam: many hands make light work

Data recording and data management - a desk-based role which is suitable for those less able to get out and about. This is a crucial job, responsible for ensuring all the valuable data we capture is properly recorded and managed, to allow comparisons year on year.

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, want to find out more, or have a particular area of expertise, knowledge, talent or interest, please contact us either by email, duddonriverassociation@gmail.com or sustainableduddon@gmail.com, or call Rick on 07712 252753.