

# Out and About

April 2025  
ISSUE 482

# April



## IN THIS ISSUE

**News From  
Thwaites Village Hall**  
100+ Club Draw Winners  
Diary Dates  
Thwaites Gala

**School Report**  
Science Activities; Drawing and  
Painting; Local History; Buddhist  
Temple Outing; Stone Age  
Studies; World Book Day; Sports  
Event; Exploring Nature

**Police, Fire and Crime  
Commissioner Surgery**

**News From The Hill**  
100 Club draw winners  
Open House; Art Exhibition

**Our Future Coast**  
History of Millom Marsh

**NO Litter!**

**Millom Town Deal**  
Construction begins at Old Bank

## A5093 Road Closure



A temporary road closure has been put in place to allow Cumberland Council Highways Service to remove and replace the retaining wall at The Oaks Farm. The works are expected to commence on **Monday 31st March 2025** and anticipated to complete on **Friday 23rd May 2025**.

**Location:** A5093 The Green, from its junction with Dubdale Brow to its junction with the U4076.

**Closure times:** Overnight from **20.00** to **06.00**, including weekends.

**Alternative Route:** A way for pedestrians and dismounted cyclists will be maintained at all times and a suitable alternative route for vehicles will be signed and available via the unrestricted sections of the A5093, Kirksanton, A595 Whicham and Dubdale Brow.

Should you have any queries regarding this restriction, please contact the Highways Hotline by calling **0300 373 3736** or via the [Cumberland Council website](#), quoting the reference TTROC/13745.

# NEWS FROM THWAITES VILLAGE HALL



## THWAITES 100+ CLUB WINNERS

March

1st £50 No. 88 Gail Savage

2nd £25 No. 13 Stewart Bradshaw

3rd £15 No. 77 Ella Todd

## THWAITES GALA

Make a note in your diary:  
Thwaites Gala takes place on  
**Saturday 7 June.**



We need donations for the bottle tombola and raffle prizes. Please give your donations to:



Terry or Melanie Wright  
Lin Tyson  
Johnathan or Rachel Street

## TVH Diary Dates April

### MONDAYS

PLAYGROUP 10am—12 noon  
28<sup>th</sup> only

### THWAITES INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

1.30— 3.30pm  
7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

Then back in September



### 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  
4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>



BAT & CHAT LADIES TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm  
£2 per person; bats and balls provided

### SUNDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm

TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup>  
7.30pm

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

## MEET DAVID ALLEN

Millom Community Hub Library,  
Salthouse Road, Millom, LA18 5AB

Thursday 3 April

13:00 - 15:00

If any member of the public has a concern around our Police or Fire Services, please come along to my surgery or email:  
commissioner@cumbria-pcc.gov.uk





# SCHOOL REPORT



## Dodge This

Class Three had a fantastic morning at the Millom Recreation Centre, representing their school at a dodgeball event. They enjoyed playing several games against each other and other schools. As always, they displayed excellent team spirit and sportsmanship. Well done, Class Three!

## Manjushri Visit

Class Two enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Manjushri Buddhist Temple in Ulverston as part of their Religious Education Topic on Buddhism. They were given a tour by Clare before experiencing meditation in the main hall and acting out the story of Prince Siddhartha. Lunch in the cafe was a treat and a visit to the gift shop rounded the day off perfectly. Class Two have written letters to Clare and Gyalten thanking them for such a wonderful visit.

## L.S. Lowry Artwork

Class Two had a wonderful time as they put their drawing skills to work, drawing a town scene in Millom Square in the style of L.S. Lowry. They produced fantastic pieces of artwork that I am sure L.S. Lowry himself would have been very impressed with. They then displayed their work in the classroom and discussed their pieces together.



Visiting the Buddhist temple in Ulverston



Cooking Stone -Age style

## Stone Age STEM

Year 5 and 6 immersed themselves in Stone Age life when they discovered how early humans would have prepared and cooked their food, learnt how to light fires using flint and steel, engaged in discussions about a range of Stone Age tools and their possible uses and used the charcoal from the fire for drawing. A huge thank you to Mark from Unit 3 for a fantastic afternoon!

## British Science Week

The children had a blast celebrating British Science Week with a variety of hands-on activities. From exciting experiments to creative projects, curiosity was in full swing across the school! A huge thank you to Millom Stem Club for planning, resourcing and running the events, the children had a great time! Well done, Class Three!

### Great Fire of London

Class One have been writing poetry linked to their learning in history of the Great Fire of London. They then travelled back in time to write their poetry up using real ink and quills. As you can see they really enjoyed this activity and tried their very best to master this way of writing. They then created illustrations to accompany them. They used drawing skills to draw houses from the period of the Great Fire of London and then used red and yellow paint to add fire. These illustrations and the poems written with quills and ink will be made into a book to showcase the children's learning. Well done, Class One.



*Mastering writing with quills and ink*

### Millom Discoveries

Class Two enjoyed an afternoon at the Millom Discovery Centre as part of their local history topic. As well as learning all about the mining industry children enjoyed a trip down memory lane, visiting shops and homes from the past. As always, the children behaved impeccably well and did the school proud. Well done, Class Two.

### World Book Day

World Book Day was a fantastic day at Thwaites. The children enjoyed dressing up for the day and took part in reading activities all morning. For lunch they were treated to a Mad Hatter's tea party, served by the Mad Hatter himself before parents and carers visited school to share a hot chocolate and a book with their children. The day ended with Mr. Redhead reading a book to the children, parents and carers in the hall.



*Enjoying a story and the Mad Hatter's tea party on World Book Day*



### Plant Life

Class One have been identifying and classifying bulbs and seeds before applying their artistic skills to create observational paintings. They then designed an investigation to discover what plants need to grow. They carefully gave their plants different amounts of water to see what affect this has on their growth. Nursery got their hands dirty too and enjoyed a spot of gardening, planting potatoes in the entrance of the school.

### If You Go Down to the Woods...

The whole school had a wonderful time hanging bird boxes and exploring Jerry Wood before enjoying a piece of delicious chocolate cake, kindly donated by one of our wonderful parents. A huge thank you to the owners of Jerry Wood for allowing school to use the woods. I'm sure far more adventures await in the future for Thwaites School and Jerry Woods.

# NEWS FROM THE HILL



## February draw winners

1st prize no 105 Judith Clemens £50  
2nd prize no 89 Russell Cookson £20  
3rd prize no 88 John Stockton £20  
4th prize no 23 Graeme Nicholas £20  
5th prize no 33 John Sutton £10  
6th prize no 42 Roger Webster £10  
7th prize no 19 Sandra Beare £10

## March draw winners

1st prize no 33 John Sutton £50  
2nd prize no 16 Iona Dodd £20  
3rd prize no 86 Mary Crockett £20  
4th prize no 3 Julia Aspinall £20  
5th prize no 75 Alison Nicholson £10  
6th prize no 92 Noel Hodgson £10  
7th prize no 1 Simon Agnew £10

## Drawings of Industrial Millom and Surroundings

by David Bates ARCA



## THE HILL OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday  
5 April  
5.30 - 7.30pm**

Come and meet  
your neighbours  
at The Hill  
village hall

**AND ENJOY  
AN ART  
EXHIBITION  
THIS MONTH**

Bring your own  
drinks

Nibbles  
provided

David Bates (1929-2024) lived in Millom for a year during 1949-50, whilst between art school studies. During that time he produced a body of drawings and paintings of Millom and its industry, including the Hodbarrow ironworks and mines.

His family are delighted to be able to host a free exhibition of some of these works at **The Hill Village Hall** for three days, **from 11am to 6pm on 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

This exhibition represents not only a body of fine art works but also a record of Millom at the height of its industrial period. It will also include works by other artists; David's wife, June Moss and one of David's pupils at Preston Art School, Jim Billsborough, who was a resident of Millom for many years.

This exhibition is timed to coincide with the April Open House evening at The Hill Village Hall, from 5.30pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

All welcome!

## Our Future Coast and the History of Millom Marsh

In North West England, much of the coast is made up of natural habitats like saltmarshes, sand dunes, and mudflats, which help protect the shoreline from flooding. *Our Future Coast* is an innovative five-year project working with nature to safeguard coastal communities around the north west coast of England. It aims to test ways to make these habitats better at protecting us in the face of climate change and sea level rise. As part of the project, we are researching historical coastal change help us understand the sites. We know that coastal areas have shifted and transformed throughout history, and we are exploring how humans have adapted and worked to manage these changes in the past.

In Millom, we have been working with local volunteers to trace the history of the embankment on the edge of Millom Marsh. Official reports and conversations with local people suggested that the embankment was built in the 1950s or 60s, to protect the nearby fields from flooding. When we investigated further, however, we saw that although work had been done to repair the bank then, it had been drawn on the 1860 Ordnance Survey map, a hundred years earlier.

We thought that the embankment could have been built to protect the railway line, completed in 1850, but we were struggling to find any evidence to prove it. After a bit more digging in the archives, we came across a map drawn in 1832 which showed the embankment labelled as 'erected by the Earl of Lonsdale in 1831'. The map also gave us a clue to the purpose of the bank, noting that over 261 acres had been preserved by it, meaning that rather than a flood defence, the embankment was designed to claim land from the sea. With that information, we managed to find an earlier map, surveyed in 1824, which showed what parts of the marsh looked like before the bank was built.

In both maps, the River Duddon (and as a result, the border with Lancashire) is shown running very close to the Millom side of the estuary before turning sharply away, taking a very different path to that of today. The earlier map also shows that some of the fields might have already been protected by 1824 and there could have been older defences. Interestingly, this map calls the land Arnaby Marsh, rather than Millom which, along with evidence from local field names and the shape of the fields themselves, suggests that all the land east of The Hill was probably one enormous marsh.

We hope that future trips to Cumbria's Archive centres will help us find out more about this and how the Duddon has changed through time. If you have any information to add to the story, we would love to hear from you. Contact [claire@morecambebay.org.uk](mailto:claire@morecambebay.org.uk) or to find out more about *Our Future Coast* visit [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/ourfuturecoast](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/ourfuturecoast).



### (NO) LITTER!



Litter on verges and garden waste in water courses is bad for our environment and can be harmful to pets and wildlife. Please dispose of waste responsibly and pick up litter where and when you can - as we appreciate many of you already do.



## Construction Begins at The Old Bank

Construction work on an exciting new Arts and Enterprise Centre - now known as the Old Bank - in the heart of Millom, is set to start from 31 March 2025.

This is the second project to get underway from the Millom Town Deal aimed at revitalising the town, following the successful start of the Activating Community Health project at the beginning of the year.

The Old Bank, once a dormant building, is being transformed into a vibrant hub for creativity, business, and community engagement. Located in the historic NatWest building at Market Square, the centre will feature diverse spaces designed to foster and support local businesses, start-ups, and community interactions. These include a welcoming café, start-up and office spaces, as well as co-working areas and workshops.

Story Contracting Limited, a Cumbrian business, has been appointed as the Principal Contractor for the project. In preparation for the construction activities, Story Contracting engaged with the community at a recent 'Meet the Contractor' event held on 17 January in Millom. The event was successful, connecting the project with skilled local tradespeople and businesses eager to contribute to the revitalization of Millom and Haverigg.

David Savage, Chair of the Millom Town Deal Board, said: "I'm incredibly proud to announce that we are kicking off the construction of The Old Bank, marking the second of our four major projects to get underway. This is a clear sign to everyone in Millom and Haverigg that we are fully committed to revitalizing the town and delivering for our community. This iconic building will once again come back to life and play a significant role in boosting our local economy by supporting Millom and Haverigg in being an attractive place to live, work and visit."



*Artist's impression of The Old Bank development*

Leader of Cumberland Council, Cllr Mark Fryer added:

"This is another important milestone for the Millom Town Deal projects. The Old Bank reflects both Millom's history and the start of a brighter future. This long-standing empty building, will now become a hub of activity, helping to create jobs and opportunities while improving the appearance of our town centre."

As construction progresses, a temporary site office will be established at 4 Market Square. This office will serve as a drop-in point for anyone interested in learning more about the project or the broader Millom Town Deal.

This initiative is part of the larger £29.3 million Millom Town Deal, which has secured significant government funding and additional investments aimed at enhancing the town's infrastructure and community facilities.

The Reactivating Heritage Buildings project, through initiatives like The Old Bank, aims to breathe new life into unused buildings and to make the surrounding public spaces more inviting for residents, businesses, and visitors.