

Out and About

June 2025
ISSUE 484



IN THIS ISSUE

**News From
Thwaites Village Hall**
100+ Club Draw Winners
Diary Dates
Playgroup Bulletin
New school bench

School Report
VE Day walk
Learning about water
Making robots
Rainbow shop
Books exchange

News From The Hill
100 Club draw winners
Open House
Plant sale result

Community Plan
Protection from fraud

What's On
Tomsteads Open Garden
Talk on David Bates
Millom and Broughton Show

Millom Town Deal
The Old Bank progress

Environmental Matters
Himalayan Balsam bashing

Thwaites Village Hall Gala



7th June
1 - 4 pm



A Great Family Fun Day Out
With a special theme to mark the
80th anniversary of VE Day

Raffle, Tombola, Bouncy Castle, Food and
Drink, Children's Games, Live Music, Fancy
Dress Competition, Dance Performances and
much more

Admission £5 per person, £15 family ticket
(up to 6), under 5's free. Bouncy castle and
lots of children's fun activities included
within admission price

FREE BUS from Millom Square, stopping at The Hill
and Thwaites Village Hall. Bus leaves Millom every
half hour from 12:15 until 15:45 and departs from
Thwaites Village Hall every half hour from 12:30
until 16:00 (all times approximate)

Possibility of a free bus service between Broughton
and Thwaites Village Hall: look out for details.

NEWS FROM THWAITES VILLAGE HALL



Playgroup Bulletin



Play group will be meeting again at Thwaites School on **9 June** from 10:00 for a fun change of activities and familiarisation with a school environment.

Save the date: the last session of the academic year will be on **Monday 7 July** at Thwaites Village Hall. We are planning a party: do come along!

TVH Diary Dates June

MONDAYS

PLAYGROUP 10am—12 noon

WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7.30pm

Cost: £2 per person; all welcome

FRIDAYS

13th, 20th, 27th

BAT & CHAT LADIES TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm

£2 per person; bats and balls provided

SATURDAY 7th

THWAITES GALA 1—4pm



TUESDAY 17th

7.30pm



New School Bench

Millom Without Parish Council has donated a brand-new bench made from recycled plastic to Thwaites Nursery and Primary School. Head teacher, Mark

Redhead, said: "A big thank you to Millom Without Parish Council for providing this wonderful seat. The children have already been making use of it, sheltering from the sun on a hot summer's day."



THWAITES 100+ CLUB WINNERS

May

1st £50 No. 82 Ceri Gibson

2nd £25 No. 85 Margaret Forsman

3rd £15 No. 22 Beverley Sharp

GOING GREEN AT THE GREEN

As in previous years, an area of the gala is designated for 'Green matters'. This area will include displays from

- Duddon River Association
- Furness and District Beekeepers' Association
- Millom Marsh Project
- South Lakes Red Squirrel Group
- Sustainable Duddon

and others.

This is our contribution to the Great Big Green Week (7—15 June) so come along and find out what you can do for our environment.

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK



SCHOOL REPORT



Walk to Remember

The children of Thwaites Nursery and Primary School completed either a 5k or a 1k walk as part of our VE Day celebrations. The children were raising money for school funds and the charity *Help for Heroes*. The weather was beautiful, making the stunning walk even more fantastic.

A huge well done to all the children who took part and the staff for their support. A huge thank you to all parents and carers who joined us, and an especially big thank you to Mrs. Barrow for planning and signposting the routes, leading the way and baking delicious cookies, and to Mr. and Nana Barrow for serving the cookies and juice to our wonderful walkers.

Water, Water, Everywhere

This half-term the children in Class Two have been learning all about water in science. As part of their learning they visited Black Beck river to identify and understand what factors affect the movement of water in rivers and spent an afternoon at Hodbarrow Lagoon. They observed water movement, had fun with the placement of rocks to change the direction of flow and tested the quality of the water using reagent strips.



Inspecting the water at Hodbarrow Lagoon



Full STEAM Ahead

This half-term children across the school have enjoyed STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) activities. All of Key Stage Two designed and built 'doodle robots' that use motors to jiggle and draw. Class Three enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon with Unit 3, consolidating their science learning on 'properties and changes of materials' and Class Two have designed and made a prototype cruise ship aimed at children, using craft materials and their fun-packed imagination.

A 'doodle robot': combining art with science

Rainbow Shop 2.0

Since its introduction, the Rainbow Shop at Thwaites Nursery and Primary School has been a roaring success, with children working hard to display the school values and saving their rainbow notes to buy toys, games and stationery.

Using money from last year's duck race they purchased a new structure for the shop and then used money kindly donated by the Village Hall to buy brand-new stock, chosen by the children of Thwaites. Last week, Mrs. Tyson of the Village Hall and our newly appointed governor of Thwaites, visited school to officially open the new and improved Rainbow Shop, much to the delight of the school council and Mr. Redhead (who is desperately saving for a glow in the dark monster truck). A huge thank you to Mrs. Tyson, Mrs. Barrow and the Village Hall for their contributions.



Opening of the new and improved Rainbow Shop

Call of the Wild

In Class One, the children have enjoyed learning all about animals. This has included creating a savannah in the school grounds, complete with grasslands and a watering hole. They also spent the afternoon creating wild animals out of clay outside in the sunshine, whilst the nursery children have been busy, 'going on a lion hunt'.



Making clay animals for the newly-created savannah

Take a Book, Leave a Book

A new feature has been added to the entrance at Thwaites Nursery and Primary School. The 'Take a Book, Leave a Book' display has already proved popular with the children and is encouraging reading across the school. In the entrance there is a display of books that are available for the children to take home. These books are free of charge and children are welcome to keep them forever. If, however, they wish to return the books, so that other children can have the chance to read them, that is fine too. Children can also bring in books from home that they don't read anymore so that their friends can take them home and enjoy them too. The books are constantly restocked so there is always a good selection.

NEWS FROM THE HILL



May draw winners

1st prize no 80 Jackie Sayer
2nd prize no 100 Joan Wilson
3rd prize no 99 Sheila Welsh
4th prize no 6 Jill Barnes
5th prize no 104 Victoria Guyatt
6th prize no 97 Tom Oliver
7th prize no 114 Bruce Hatton

Over £1700 raised for St Mary's Hospice

The Hill annual plant sale and open garden took place at Parkhead Farm on Sunday 25 May. The long spell of good weather had broken so teas and cakes were served in the barn. But, mercifully, the sun shone throughout the breezy afternoon, so people could enjoy sitting out in the garden and chatting in the farm yard. Thanks to everyone who came, to the many people throughout the village and beyond who had grown and donated plants, and baked such delicious cakes. A superb team of volunteers made the busy day run smoothly. By the end of the day, the total raised for St Mary's Hospice was over £1700.



THE HILL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, 7 June
5.30 - 7.30pm

Come and meet your neighbours at The Hill village hall

Bring your own drinks

Nibbles provided

COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE



The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday 19 May at Thwaites Village Hall.

The Chair of the Parish Council, Carl Carrington, delivered a report on the activities and achievements of the Parish Council in the past year. The annual report will be made available on the Millom Without Parish Council website in the next few weeks.

The Chair then presented the second Community Plan which will be the basis of the Parish Council priorities over the next few years.

This Plan builds on the community consultations held at both the village halls and ensures the community voice is both heard and addressed within the plan.

The new Community Plan will also made available on our website in the next few weeks.

HELP PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FRAUD



Cumbria Police have drawn up a one-stop advice 'toolkit' on the best ways of preventing fraud and protecting people against fraudsters.

Det Supt Ian Hussey, who oversees the work of Cumbria Police's Economic Crime Unit, said: "Anyone from any walk of life can be a victim of fraud and economic crime, and fraudsters operate in a professional manner designed to deceive. Fraud is ever evolving, with offenders exploiting the latest trends or technology."

Examples include scam texts, fraudsters cold-calling by phone to prey on vulnerable people, efforts to defraud people online and bogus tradespeople targeting homes door-to-door.

To minimise your risk of falling victim to fraud visit: [// www.cumbria.police.uk/police-forces/cumbria-constabulary/areas/campaigns/campaigns/fraud-prevention-toolkit](http://www.cumbria.police.uk/police-forces/cumbria-constabulary/areas/campaigns/campaigns/fraud-prevention-toolkit)



Cumbria
Wildlife Trust

OPEN GARDEN TOMSTEADS

WOODLAND, BROUGHTON IN FURNESS LA20 6DG

SUNDAY 22nd June, 10am - 4pm

£5 entry (accompanied under 16s free) includes tea/coffee and biscuits
SORRY—NO DOGS



- *Moth Trap (from 10.30am)**
- *Guided Walk (11am)**
- *Pond Dipping (12–1pm, 2–3pm)**
- * Tombola**



All proceeds to Cumbria Wildlife Trust

**Millom and Broughton
Agricultural Society**

OPEN SHOW
Saturday 30 August

Schedules out soon!!!

Why not enter our
Handicraft, Produce
or Horticultural Classes

Handicraft and Produce
Closing date Friday 15 August

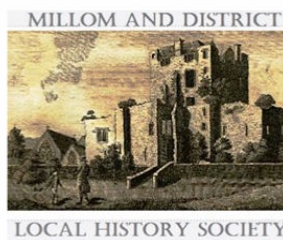
Horticultural Classes
Enter on the day

Enquiries to Penny Moreton
01229 771202

yrushmarathons@btinternet.com

www.millomandbroughtonshow.com

Follow us on



13-15 June 11.30-6 p.m.
Talk 3 p.m. 14th June



Holy Trinity Church, Millom
David Bates: his life and works.
Exhibition and talk by his son, Malcolm
Bates. Free. Refreshments available.

Whilst living in Millom during 1949-50
artist David Bates drew and painted
local scenes. These will be on display.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS



Himalayan Balsam Bashing Starting Now!

Our volunteer balsam bashes are just starting up again for the season as we continue our work to eradicate this harmful invasive species from our catchment. This year we will be focusing on the badly infested areas we tackled last year: Thwaites Village Hall, The Green (along Black Beck from Hallthwaites to the station), Underhill, Hill Brow and Buckman Bottom. We will also be revisiting the areas where we have made very good progress in recent years, (eg. the area south of Duddon Bridge and in the Lickle Valley), to make sure that no new plants establish themselves.

An Invasive Non-Native Species

For anyone who hasn't come across Himalayan balsam before, it is an attractive pink flowered plant which has a devastating effect on biodiversity. It is especially prevalent around rivers and becks. Fast growing and tall, with a dense habit, Himalayan balsam quickly colonises entire areas, outcompeting native species for light, space, nutrients and pollinators. When it dies back in the winter it exposes the soil which then erodes, damaging the river banks, significantly reducing water quality and endangering trees and other vegetation.

Volunteer Sessions

Weekly sessions will commence from the beginning of June and run through until September. These sessions usually last about two hours and the first few sessions are scheduled as follows, **meeting at 10.00am at Thwaites Village Hall:**

Sunday 8th June

Sunday 15th June

Sunday 22nd June

Volunteering Information

Balsam bashing is suitable for older children as well as adults of all ages - volunteers just require a reasonable level of fitness to access the sites and to be able to pull up balsam (this isn't hard due to their shallow roots). Here are a few things to remember:

Wear suitable old clothing - long sleeved, hard wearing tops and trousers are suggested (e.g. old boiler suit) due to brambles, nettles and ticks.

Bring gardening gloves.

Dress for the weather - sunhats/sunscreen and/or waterproofs - and wear wellies or walking boots.

Bring a drink - it's thirsty work!

Pay attention to your safety, especially when working on river banks.

We have a Volunteer WhatsApp group to help us coordinate the balsam bashes and report on the number of plants destroyed. If you'd like to get involved in volunteering, join the WhatsApp group and spend time with us outdoors improving the natural environment, please email us at duddonriverassociation@gmail.com. We'd be very grateful for some extra help!

Email: duddonriverassociation@gmail.com

Instagram: [@duddonriverassociation](https://www.instagram.com/duddonriverassociation)

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/duddonriverassociation

Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/duddonriverassociation



The Old Bank

Work is moving ahead on the restoration of the historic Old Bank building in Market Square, Millom - part of our £29.3 million Millom Town Deal.

Led by Cumbrian business, Story Contracting Limited, the *Reactivating Heritage Buildings* project is bringing this iconic former NatWest building back to life. So far, some structural repairs, damp proofing, timber treatment, and major internal works have been completed across all three floors.



Plaster has been removed and timber treatment carried out

On the ground floor, damp proofing has been successfully completed, and preparatory work is underway to create new structural openings in line with the approved architectural plans. Steel beams are expected on site shortly to facilitate further internal modifications, and final design work is ongoing for the floor slab and access to the building's original safe room.



Major internal works have been completed

On the first floor, wallpaper has been stripped from the ceilings, structural repairs to a load-bearing wall have been completed, and timber treatment across the entire floor is now finished. Around 30% of the internal wall plaster has been removed, and repairs are underway on the original sash windows.

The second floor has also seen good progress, with all plaster removed from internal walls and timber treatment works completed in full.



External scaffolding is now fully installed

External scaffolding is now up and work on the gable wall and chimney is well underway, prior to roofing work. Plans are also underway for new facias on the commercial frontage.

Once finished, the building will become a modern hub for business, creativity, and community - featuring a café, co-working and office spaces, and workshops designed to support local people and start-ups.