

Out and About

October 2025
ISSUE 487



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Bonfire Night & Fireworks Display Wednesday 5th November



Starts at 6 pm

Refreshments & Food available from 6.00 pm

Bonfire from 6.30 pm

Fireworks from 7.00 pm

**Admission Adults & Children £5,
Under 5's free.**

Family Ticket £15 (two adults, up to
three children)

For safety reasons, please do not bring your
own fireworks or sparklers.



NEWS FROM THWAITES VILLAGE HALL

Playgroup Bulletin



Playgroup has restarted and welcomes a new cohort of children and their adults as well as older children who are not yet off to pre-school or nursery.

Playgroup operates at Thwaites Village Hall on Mondays from 10 to 12 during term time. Approximately once a half term, usually the second Monday after school resumes, we go to St Anne's school, Thwaites, to familiarise the children with a school environment and to enjoy a different set of play equipment.

THWAITES 100+ CLUB WINNERS

September

- 1st £50 No. 69 Sarah Fox
- 2nd £25 No. 73 Lesley Mallard
- 3rd £15 No. 34 Helen Bailey



THWAITES VILLAGE HALL

Thank you to those who came to the meeting last month and who offered to help. We still have committee roles to fill and need more volunteers to help run the hall. If you think you might be able to help out please email oandacontact@gmail.com

CLOCKS CHANGE



British Standard Time ends on Sunday 26 October so we gain an hour at 2am.

Remember to put your clocks back!

TVH Diary Dates October

MONDAYS

PLAYGROUP 10am—12 noon

INDOOR BOWLS

1.30—3.30pm Cost: £3 per session

Club bowls available

Indoor footwear on carpet

New members welcome

WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7.30pm

Cost: £2 per person; all welcome

FRIDAYS

FLOW 9.30—10.30am

BAT & CHAT LADIES TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm

£2 per person; bats and balls provided

SUNDAYS

TABLE TENNIS 6—7pm

FRIDAY 10th

7.30pm

CUMBRIA WILDLIFE TRUST

Wildlife Recording

Martin Harris

Cumbria Biodiversity

Data Centre



Cumbria
Wildlife Trust



TUESDAY 21st

7.30pm

WI MEETING

Our speakers ,

Sally and Russell Willett,

will tell us about their journey

From Millom to Mera Peak



SCHOOL REPORT



Thwaites School: Ofsted Visit

During the very last week of school before the summer break, Thwaites School received a full, two-day Ofsted inspection which resulted in a very positive outcome.

After a thorough inspection, the two Ofsted inspectors judged the school as follows:

Quality of Education: **Good**

Behaviour and Attitudes: **Good**

Personal Development: **Outstanding**

Leadership and Management: **Good**

Early Years Provision: **Good**



The report includes observations such as, "staff know pupils and help pupils to thrive and enjoy their learning", regarding quality of education, and "pupils are polite and respectful", regarding behaviour and attitudes. For personal development, the area for which the school received the 'outstanding' grade the inspectors felt that "the school provides an exceptional personal development offer. Pupils leave exceptionally well prepared for life in modern Britain."

Mr. Redhead, staff, governors, children, parents and community members were delighted with the result that was shared shortly after returning to school in September. Mr. Redhead feels a great deal of pride towards the staff and governors for their hard-work and dedication, the parents, carers and community members for their support and of course, the children, for their endless energy and thirst for learning.

The full report is now available on the Ofsted website and the school website.

Westmorland Show

The nursery, reception and Year Two children enjoyed a lovely day at Westmorland Show. The rain failed to dampen spirits as the children explored the event in big coats and wellies. They had the opportunity to climb on fire engines and meet firefighters, heard stories about police dogs, enjoyed looking at entries for various competitions and even bought a new mascot (a knitted bear) for school called 'Wes'. The day ended with juice and cake before heading back to school. As always, the children were very well behaved and represented the school well.



Meeting firefighters at Westmorland Show

Ancient Greek Vases

Class Three wasted no time getting stuck in this term. In the first week they put on aprons and made papier mâché Greek vases, which they then painted and decorated in the style of ancient artefacts. This was to kick off their topic for this half-term, Ancient Greece. As you can see, the children had a great time and thought it was a brilliant way to start the year.



Making Greek vases and the finished article

Steel-Signing Ceremony

As part of the Millom Town Deal, the Year Six children from Thwaites School were invited to the site of the new leisure centre, being built on Millom School grounds, to sign the steel framework. This ensures that the children's names will be part of the building for as long as it stands. The children are very much looking forward to the building being finished so that they can use the facilities. The older children were excellent ambassadors for the school, showing super behaviour throughout the visit.

All About Me

Class Two had a great start to the year. The children enjoyed a week of getting to know each other and their teacher through activities that included creating their own self-portraits. By the end of the first week, the children were settled in and ready for the year. The portraits were displayed in the classroom as a lovely reminder of their first week together.

Barrow to Esk Active Travel

The BEAT Route project had a stand at Black Combe Country Fair and Millom and Broughton show at the end of August and gained literally hundreds of supporters. Many completed surveys to help us identify what provisions residents (and a few visitors) would like for getting around *without* a car: 'traffic free routes' to 'enjoy scenery and fresh air while exercising'. Many recorded that they felt unsafe even on narrow lanes that are quiet (until a car comes speeding around a blind bend). We are now analysing over 300 surveys from these shows. The strong support we received helps the project demonstrate demand and gain funding. Look out for updates but in the meantime access our website <https://www.beatroute.org.uk/about/> or send us an e-mail beatroute2@gmail.com





NEWS FROM THE HILL

FILM NIGHT



Saturday 18 October
7 pm for 7.30 pm

HARD TRUTHS (2024, Cert. 12)

Legendary filmmaker, Mike Leigh, returns to the contemporary world with a fierce, compassionate, and often darkly humorous study of family and the thorny ties that bind us.

£5 Bring your own drinks

THE HILL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday 4 October 5.30 - 7.30pm

Come and meet your neighbours at The Hill village hall

Bring your own drinks

September draw winners

- 1st prize £50 no 34 Marianna Benn
- 2nd prize £20 no 35 Tom Oliver
- 3rd prize £20 John Crockett
- 4th prize £20 no 97 Laura Powell
- 5th prize £10 no 56 Dave McGrath
- 6th prize £10 no 68 Etherington
- 7th prize £10 no 3 Julia Aspinall

Advance Notice to Gardeners

Next year's annual The Hill Plant Sale in aid of St Mary's Hospice will take place on Whit Sunday, 24 May. Many thanks to the many local gardeners who donate plants each year.



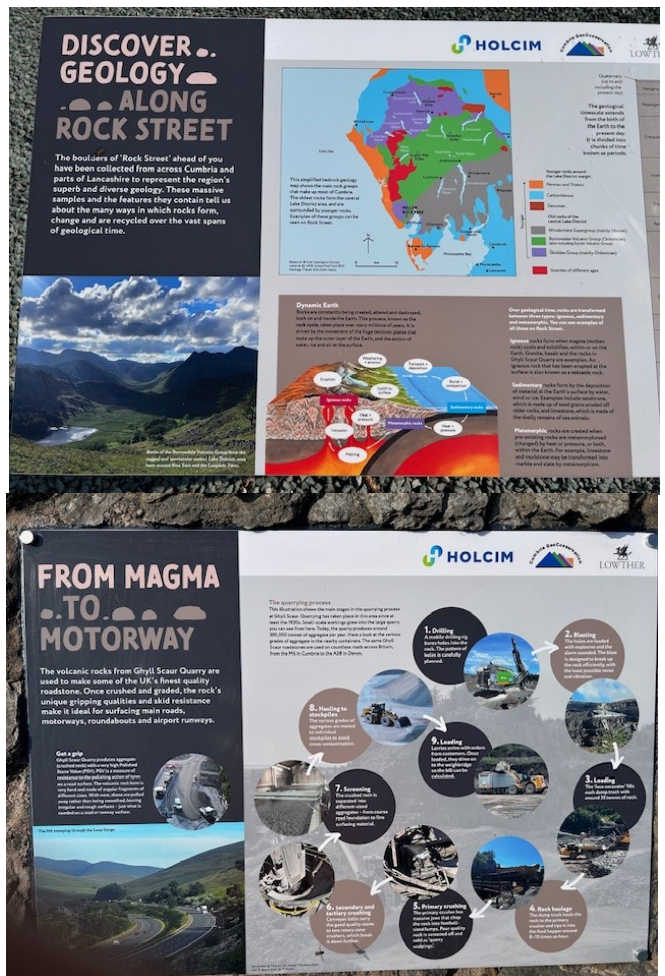
Update from Ghyll Scaur Quarry Rock Park Improvements

We've been busy making some exciting updates at the Millom Rock Park! Thanks to the fantastic work Jack Proctor and Cumbria GeoConservation have done over the years, we've recently invested in new, modern signs to help bring the park to life – especially for curious young geologists.

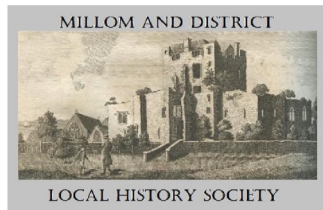
The new boards share lots of fascinating information, from how rocks form in volcanoes, to where different types of rock come from across the country, and even how stone is taken from the quarry and turned into roads. Each rock in the park also now has its own sign, showing its type, age (some are more than 400 million years old!), and origin.

All of the new signs are made from recycled plastic, so they'll last much longer and won't get worn down by the weather. Visitors are also welcomed by a new information board and can see a huge piece of local Iron Ore on display.

We hope you'll enjoy the refreshed Rock Park, and we're planning an opening ceremony soon – watch this space!



EVENTS



Dorian Players
1st Nov, 2 p.m. £10



Medieval+Music
Fish Window Fund
 (price includes tea & cake)
Holy Trinity Church



WILDLIFE RECORDING

FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 7.30PM
THWAITES VILLAGE HALL









Recording wildlife sightings is vital in planning and managing environments to safeguard a range of species and promote biodiversity.

Martin Harris, Recording Officer at the **Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre**, will tell us about the work of the centre and how you can get involved. He will introduce the **Cumbria Wild Watch** survey which everyone can take part in to help us understand what wildlife we have in Cumbria.

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

MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS WELCOME

Flood Tide! Higher Duddon Estuary Walk with Jonathan Powell

Wednesday, 8 October 11:00AM

Wednesday 8 October 2025 brings one of the highest tides of the year - that associated with the full moon after the autumn equinox. It brings a dramatic transformation from the lowest water to the highest in a matter of hours.

The River Duddon was Wordsworth's favourite river - hence his 34 Sonnets to the River. He describes the estuary aptly as being "beneath an ampler sky". The day's interest is captured by the local poet Norman Nicholson who describes the rapid transformation from a vast landscape to a lake.

Our little walk is designed to observe this transformation and the changes of light that it brings. Black Beck joins the estuary nearby and its surrounding fields can be seen to change from grazing to wetland and back. The walk is from Green Road station car park to the estuary embankment, then downstream along what is now part of the King Charles III Coastal Path, passing WWII relics. Upstream, the embankment turns back towards the station and a rough farm road towards Black Beck and the station. So, perhaps a long lens to pull in views of Scafell Pike over the strange watery foreground and also macro kit for the hedgerows ...? Wellington boots are wisely favoured by local dog walkers.



MILLOM TOWN DEAL UPDATE

Millom Leisure Centre

Construction work on the new leisure centre celebrated another important milestone - with a steel-signing taking place in September.



The steel-signing is the equivalent of a traditional 'topping-out' ceremony to mark the completion of the building's steel frame.

The Copeland Community Fund has provided £1 million towards the project and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has provided a £3.1 million grant, as part of its investment in supporting permanent and sustainable change in Millom and all its site communities. Funding has also been provided by South Copeland GDF Community Partnership, CGP, Millom School and Millom Town Council.



Pupils from Millom School took part in the steel-signing event



Marking a milestone: Gillian Elliott from the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, David Savage, Chair of Town Deal Board, Kelly Anderson from South Copeland GDF Community Partnership and Paul Skelton from Nuclear Waste Services

David Savage, Chair of the Millom Town Deal Board, commented: "The steel signing is another significant step forward for the leisure centre. Work is progressing well, and it is important that we celebrate these important milestones. It shows that we are making great progress and are now turning our ambitious plans into reality. We now have Millom Town Deal Ambassadors to help support the projects and we were delighted to be joined by students, who are part of our schools' ambassador programme, at the steel signing event. They are our town's future and it's important that they are involved."

The new activity and leisure facility, also known as Activating Community Health, will offer a swimming pool, sports hall and fitness studios within the setting of a community and leisure hub. It aims to improve levels of community health and wellbeing by providing residents with a modern, multi-purpose and fully inclusive facility. In addition, it should attract visitors to the town to support the long-term financial sustainability of the centre, alongside increased footfall and a boost to overall levels of spending within local businesses.

The Iron Line

Funding has been approved for the **Iron Line** Regeneration Project. Cumberland Council has awarded the £7.1M contract to Story Construction, bringing this project one step closer.



Artist's impression of the Iron Line visitor centre

The Iron Line will turn the Hodbarrow Reserve and former railway line into a 7.5km accessible walking and cycling route, supported by public art, cultural features, and a community-led visitor centre with a café, event spaces, and accessible facilities.

One of the four Millom Town Deal projects which together secured £20.6m from the UK Government's Towns Fund with additional match funding, this project will celebrate Millom and Haverigg's heritage, boost wellbeing, attract visitors, and strengthen the local economy.

GHYLL SCAUR QUARRY COMMUNITY FUND



This community based fund is financed by the operators of Ghyll Scaur Quarry, to support residents within the Parish of Millom Without.

The Trustees are encouraging applications from the community to deliver long term sustainable benefits to our Parish.

The application form is available from the Millom Without Parish Council website - please note the following link:

<https://www.millomwithoutparishcouncil.gov.uk/trust-funds/>

Alternatively please contact the Parish Clerk for an application form:

theclerk@millomwithoutparishcouncil.gov.uk