



Lyvennet Link

May 2020

**The Newsletter for
Maulds Meaburn,
Crosby Ravensworth,
Kings Meaburn and
Reagill**

Number 199

LYVENNET LINK

Next Issue - 1st June 2020

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The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor, the Parish Council or MMVI. The right to edit any contributions is reserved and inclusion is subject to available space. Articles and contributions etc., would be appreciated preferably by e-mail nickthomas@macace.net. Please send items as either text in the body of the email or as a word document. (apple-mac files acceptable)

Please do not send Microsoft publisher documents as I am unable to open them.

Text as an image file (e.g. a scanned document or photographed page) is not acceptable.

This edition is being sent out as an email.

It has been kindly distributed by Darren and Sarah Rogers and Kitty Smith.

Their contact lists will not reach everybody, so please feel free to distribute this as you wish.

Welcome to the May edition of the Link.

The response to the reminder for copy has been wonderful and as a result this edition runs to nearly 50 pages with many photographs, which would not have been possible nor practical with a printed newsletter.

Thanks are due to all the contributors and in particular to Darren Rogers who as well as contributing has done a lot of communication with other contributors. Also to Kitty Smith who organised a number of other contributions.

I also have to thank the weather, or at least the return of more normal weather, if not for which I might never have got in from the garden to put this together.

Please keep contributions flowing for the next issue.

A few people have said that they are working on articles and it would be great to see those come to fruition for the next issue or maybe even the one after that.

If you are glancing through this issue then it might help to know that it has been organised thus:

News items
Regular features.
Recipes.
Poems.
Illustrated Features
Photographs.

Doesn't all that sound exciting!

Wishing all readers good health through these unusual times.

Nick Thomas.

cover photo by Kitty Smith.

NEWS FROM CROSBY RAVENSWORTH SCHOOL

Well school might be closed, but after the Easter holidays there is plenty of learning still going on. Use has been made of the school website with a dedicated 'Home Learning' page for nursery, class 1 and class 2. This term, class 1 are looking at the topic 'Good to be Green' and for Class 2 it is 'the Railways'. In addition there are literacy and numeracy lessons for each day of the school week and the children are being encouraged to read each day too again making use of an online reading site. There is also 'music of the day', 'fact of the day', and 'thought for the day' and a 'Hall of fame' where the children have sent in photos/videos of what they have been doing whilst learning from home. Please take a few moments to visit our website and look at the Parents tab, and then 'Home Learning'

If that weren't enough all children (and mums and dads too) are invited to join in a 'Kahoot' live quiz via 'Zoom'. So far the topics have been Easter and Capital Cities! Mr Priestley has also been trying out a 'virtual classroom' again using 'Zoom' which has met comments such as "The beard is coming along nicely Mr P"!! The children hope that you continue to stay safe and remember WASH YOUR HANDS.

Sarah Rogers

Lambs and Rainbows at Reagill

Life is much the same in our village apart from the fact that there are no visitors in the holiday lets and no second home people. However the farmers are busy lambing and making the most of this lovely dry weather. The majority of people are self isolating and everyone is being neighbourly and helping others. However, some of us are 'key workers' and have to continue working.

Anyway, on the plus side houses are being painted and gardens tidied up. The woodpecker is back together with lots of sparrows and wild birds.

We are so lucky to live in this beautiful part of the world and our hearts go out to people less fortunate who are suffering during this dreadful pandemic."

Margaret Wilcox

THANK YOU' FROM LOW HOWGILL BUTCHERS AND DELI AND STEPHENSONS FRUIT & VEG

Many of you are using the free delivery service offered by the businesses in Appleby bringing to us meat, fruit and veg, and other grocery items. Jennie and her team at Low Howgill just wanted to say 'thank you' to the people of CR and MM for having central drop off points at the village halls which makes their job that much easier. You can imagine not being familiar with house/cottage names and how that can impact on delivery times. Also the staff and volunteers are working long hours to ensure that we all get what we have ordered.

For those of you who haven't used this service yet or were not aware of it, (and it's open to everyone, not just 'vulnerable residents') it's really straightforward....delivery is made to MMVI and CRVH on a Wednesday late afternoon/evening. By midday on the Tuesday you need to have emailed your order to steve@low-howgill.co.uk or call 017683 51644. Within that email put your name, address and telephone number and specify whether MMVI/CRVH drop off point. Then detail the items you would like to order. It's helpful to use headings such as 'meat', 'fruit and veg', and then itemise the items underneath along with quantities. If there are some things you would like from other businesses in the town, list them and then volunteers will collect those items too if available. On the day of delivery once your order has been put together you will be called by Low Howgill, told the amount and then you can either pay using your card over the phone or via online banking.

To date the deliveries have worked really well, the items received, top quality and it's great to SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES. Any questions please contact Sarah Rogers on 715575.

HAVE YOU RUN OUT OF READING MATERIAL? IF SO MMVI CAN HELP.....

After weeks of staying at home, do you need some more books to read? If so there are shelves and shelves full of books, both adults and children's, on the shelves at MMVI. We have photographs of the shelves and lists of other available books which can be emailed to you, for you to then select which titles you would like. We can then arrange to drop them on your doorstep or leave them somewhere for you to collect. If interested please email sarrog@btinternet.com or ring Sarah on 715575, or m.jarvis746@btinternet.com, Margaret on 715441.

VE Day Celebrations....how about a stay at home version?

As you will already know the Early May Bank Holiday this year has been put back to [Friday 8th May](#) to coincide with this very important anniversary, remembering the end of the Second World War, 75 years ago. Lots of celebrations had been planned but can now not take place due to COVID 19 and the rules on social distancing.

However, how about a stay at home version? Why not decorate your house in red, white and blue and enjoy a picnic in your garden. Whilst we cannot all be together it will make a pleasant walk around the village seeing the different displays. Only recently a local resident commented on how the Easter display in the village bus shelter on Easter Sunday had brightened up his walk to collect his newspaper and so small gestures like this can help to lift spirits. Please join in if you can.

Sarah Rogers

OLD HABITS!

In the present state of lockdown and social distancing, when April arrived, I'm not sure why I turned the page over on the calendar in the kitchen, as everything was cancelled, but it's just one of those habits hard to break, plus I am beginning to need it to remind myself as to which day of the week we are on, let alone the date!! Anyway, the first entry was a trip to the dentists for Katie, for a routine check up. It goes without saying that she was happy about this cancellation. The same did not apply to Monday 6th April as that was when Katie was meant to be going to Goodison Park with Daddy and Grandad to watch her favourite football team, Everton, beat Leicester City (well that's the result she wanted, Grandad wanted it to be the other way round, and Darren being a Leeds supporter wasn't bothered either way!) That trip had been one of her Christmas presents. Next was a visit to the 'Tree tops' adventure trail at Brockhole Visitor Centre, a father/daughter bonding day, whilst I would have taken Shona on a good walk. Then a week's leave and a holiday on the Yorkshire coast, returning for Easter; Grandad's 78th birthday and finally a 'me day' with a needle felting course at Greystoke cycle cafe booked (one of my Christmas presents). I would now have had my very own needle felted Herdwick sheep doorstep in my hall way.

INSTEAD, apart from the odd trip to Appleby and Penrith to collect essential shopping and prescriptions, we have been at home. Katie has been doing the school work emailed to her at home, I have been working from home but Darren has still been travelling to Carlisle to work. Katie and I have been doing

plenty of walking and have gone on bike rides. After all of this I am hoping that at least one of the numbers will have dropped off my 'size 16'.....size 6 would be nice!! We don't now see Grandad every night, only twice a week when we drop off his shopping and even then it's at a safe distance, but we are able to face time him. Thank goodness for technology. Darren's mum was 70 in January and we treated her to an ipad.....living 140 miles away from us, this has been a godsend as she has been able to still 'see us'. It has also provided us with entertainment when she has paused it by mistake or we see the ceiling in her lounge rather than her face!! 'Zoom' is an app we are hearing mentioned more and more, and this has enabled Katie to still take part in her dance classes and even keep on with her piano lessons. Our windows at home are spotless and the garden is completely weed free.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, at times like this it brings it home just how lucky we are to live where we do and what a fantastic community support network we have with everyone helping one another no matter how big/small the task. It also reinforces the need to 'buy local' and support our local businesses as without them in times such as these where would we be? How easy is it to get a delivery slot/click & collect from the supermarkets? Virtually impossible! Jon and Katie at the Butcher's Arms are providing a great take away service on meals and we have enjoyed their home baked bread; Michelle has been busy baking and Kitty making her jams and chutneys. Then there is the free delivery service of food items from Low Howgill Butchers and Stephenson's Fruit & Veg and other Appleby businesses. The staff there and volunteers are working very long hours to ensure that our orders are processed and delivered.

So yes, April was not the month we had planned, but we have our health, there is food in the cupboards and fridge/freezer and the sun is shining.....

Sarah , Darren and Katie Rogers

PLANTS FOR SALE

There are plants for sale (by donations!) on the church wall. These are just what have come from my garden I have been tidying up and cutting back. If you have any that you would like to add for other people to take, please feel free to pot them up (and if you can name label them) and bring them up to the church.

All donations made will go to St Lawrence Church.

Many thanks Jill Winder

Your parish church, St Lawrence

Sad, sad, sad though it is that we have had to close and lock our doors [again], the major difference from the 2009 closure is that this time we know, without the shadow of a doubt, that we will be re-opening soon as social distancing measures are lifted.

Also that:

- God doesn't shut His doors, ever - welcome access, if we take advantage of it by praying/listening on a walk, lambing, in the bath, wherever.
- Your parish church will be reopening soon, when the deferred Marriages and Baptisms will be well-celebrated and much appreciated.
- Meanwhile, we are able to hold graveside burials, as happened for Mrs Gwen Jackson of Wickerslack and Haberwain Cottage on April 14th. Immediate family are allowed to attend.
- By the time we are allowed to re-open, the Wilkinson organ pipes will be in place within the frame, which is already up in all its renewed splendour. It will be playable again!
- We are still a family, a church and community family which, whilst missing the physical connection, still can care and help, pray and ring up.
- Don't forget the church website with live streaming from Rev. Stewart Fyfe and Rev. Andrew Sterling of the Methodist church which is: www.northwestmorlandchurches.org.uk
- Phone your PCC members for a chat. Numbers are on the board in the [open] church porch
- St Lawrence is part of the **Parish Coronavirus Support Network** along with the Parish Council, Charities and First Responders. Please, if you are self-isolating on the basis of age or underlying health conditions, and have not been contacted already, then let us know how we can help. Phone David Graham [715 348], Joan Raine [715 351], Richard Backhouse [715325] or Alex Barbour [716001]

Alex Barbour

Monthly Summary - March 2020

A very average month - particularly dry second half.

After the rains of February and a wet first half to this month, it's almost difficult to comprehend that come the month's end the ground would be firm and drying out and that we were on the verge of recording an (meteorological) '*Absolute Drought*' of 15 consecutive days with no rain.

In spite of the last 14 days of the month failing to record any rain, the month was marginally wetter than average and to complete the 'averageness' of the month, it finished just marginally warmer than average, but only by 0.06°C.

Sunshine totals were also above average, but the month contained a mix of some cool nights, ground frosts being slightly above average and warmer days. Within that mix, March recorded both its lowest and highest mean sea level pressure at this site.

The first half of the month was generally unsettled with all of the month's rain having fallen by the 17th, thereafter high pressure built and the weather became settled and dry, containing some fine spring days with temperatures and the sunny days at their peak during the 24-27th.

Consequently the mean minimum temperature for the month finished slightly below average whilst the mean maximum was slightly above, but by a slightly larger margin.

MSLP of 1015.3 Mb was +2.8 Mb above the local average for the month and overall a mean minimum of 1.50°C and a mean maximum of 9.31°C saw the temperature 0.06°C above the eleven year average for this site.

It was the coldest since 2018 and of the twelve now recorded, five have been colder and six have been warmer - the highest maximum temperature recorded being 17.0°C (26th), the lowest minimum -3.0°C (20th).

Rainfall of 94.9 mm (CR School 117.4 mm) was 113.5% of average for 2008-19 and made it the driest March since 2018 - of the thirteen now recorded, eight have been drier and four wetter.

During the month the following was recorded:

Snow fell on three days (2nd, 12th and 29th), hail fell on two days (1st and 2nd).

There were nine air frosts and twenty ground frosts

Gusts of wind exceeding 50 mph were recorded on four days - the maximum gust being 59 mph (17th).

With 19.8 mm the 7th was the month's wettest day.

Darren Rogers

Community Spirit and Health and Wellbeing throughout Lockdown

Across the Nation and within the 4 villages this publication covers, most of us will be feeling grateful for the community spirit, friends and neighbours and family during this lockdown. Knowing there is someone we can turn to and put a name to the face of the volunteer who offers help, is much more comforting than an unknown face appearing at your door offering to do your shopping. Then in trust you hand over the money and they never return with the ordered goods. A special thank you to the businesses, individuals and volunteers who have excelled in going out of their way to obtain and supply both essential goods and prescriptions plus those extra treats to brighten someone's day.

An example of community spirit enhancing health and wellbeing was the doorstep bingo session in Stoneworks garth, I'm delighted that the mothballed health and wellbeing clubs equipment could be put to some use. Something to look forward to aids mental health coupled with expected anticipation and an added uplifting experience if you were lucky enough to win one of the prizes.

Prior to the lockdown the community held the annual parish litter pick, community spirit again at its finest, as for the first time ever we ran out of equipment and bags, causing a slight delay before more equipment were hastily sought. Thank you to everyone who turned out and to the Butchers Arms who adhered to the rules and presented the bacon sandwiches as takeaways. Litter picking equipment is still available, if you require them please let me know. An extended thank you, to the litter pickers, who carry out the good work throughout the year, and to those who have found new routes to pick during lockdown.

Creating or achieving something is a factor for mental wellbeing, be it baking, crafts or whatever activity gives you a sense of achievement. Before Easter I distributed a few "Share the love crafts packs" with examples of cards and ideas on reaching out to friends and loved one's. The pack consisted of Henry Huggings, and Hilary Heart with their long arms reaching out to give someone a virtual hug, a teapot shaped card to decorate with a little verse **I'd like to come and visit you and have a cup of tea but as this isn't possible have this one on me**, pop in a tea bag and send it to someone you are missing. Has the spread the love packs worked? Has anyone one received one of the homemade "Share the Love cards?".

Nature and open space is conducive for mental health, with the exceptional dry spring we are lucky if we are not housebound and can get outside for a walk and enjoy what is around us. The sight of spring flowers and ducklings certainly uplift me.

The unwritten bragging rights of spotting the first Oyster catcher or the first swallow, heralding that summer is on its way, with the observer delighting in informing you whether they spotted the birds on an earlier or later date than the previous year. If only we could spread the bragging right to home owners, who deter swallows who choose to nest in their "Des Res"! s Swallows are not vermin they are amazing little birds who come home to the place where they were hatched. If they choose your home, be proud to be their host and brag that they have chosen to live with you, in your "Des-RES" they will make a mess but it's only temporary. One of the most memorable presentations at the health and wellbeing club was the educational talk on 'Disappearing Swifts' where we learned the design of newly built houses and renovations weren't suitable for swifts and swallows. This fact struck a chord with the members who bulk bought swift nest boxes to put on their own homes and on community buildings, lets help nature anyway we can.

The 75th VE day commemorations are to be held on the weekend of the 8th of May although these celebrations are to be dumbed down, you can still brighten someone's day with decorate your House and Garden in Red White and Blue. Stay safe and hope to meet up again soon

Joan Raine

LYVENNET COOKBOOK

Foresters Casserole

Ingredients

6 Chicken Breasts

1 Large onion chopped

8oz Button Mushrooms

Half a pint of chicken stock

10floz Apple juice or Grape juice if you prefer

1 Tablespoon Plain Flour

You can add some cream when cooked to enrichen.

Method

Fry chicken breasts in a little oil to brown and place in a casserole dish.

Fry onions in the pan until transparent.

Add the mushrooms & cook for a few minutes.

Add flour & stir around for a minute

Add the apple or grape juice along with the stock, seasoning with salt & pepper & a little mixed herbs.

Stirring all the while & bring to the boil .

Pour onto the chicken when it thickens.

Place in the oven for an hour at 175F.

Patricia Tansley, Silver Street Crosby Ravensworth.

Treacle bread

Ingredients

- [butter](#), for greasing
- 225g/8oz [plain flour](#), plus extra for dusting
- 225g/8oz [self-raising flour](#) (or use 225g/8oz plain flour and 1 tbsp baking powder)
- 1 tsp [bicarbonate of soda](#)
- 2 tbsp black [treacle](#) (or use maple syrup, honey, pomegranate molasses or golden syrup)
- 50g/1¾oz [porridge](#) oats, plus 1 tbsp for sprinkling (these are to add texture - can be left out if none available)
- 475ml/17fl oz [milk](#)
- 1 tsp [sea salt](#)

Method

To make the treacle bread,

preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6 and grease a loaf tin with butter.

Mix all of the bread ingredients together in a large bowl until a soft, sticky dough is formed.

Place in the loaf tin and sprinkle the remaining oats on top (if using).

Bake for around 35–40 minutes, or until golden-brown and the bread sounds hollow when tapped on the bottom.

Place on a wire rack to cool.

Karen Asquith

With the deeper hedgerows and woods having abundant supplies of Ramsons, thought a recipe to go with pasta could work?

Wild Garlic Pesto [*Allium ursinum*]

Why not go foraging in the hedgerows and woody places for Ramsons wild garlic right now - you will smell it soon enough. It has pretty, star-like white flowers which you can include. May be called bear leek [ie only fit for bears to eat], Gypsy's onions, stinking Jenny.

Ingredients:

125 g [just over 4 ozs] Ramson's wild garlic leaves
125 g hazelnuts or pinenuts or walnuts
2 fl ozs rapeseed oil [or olive] add more if you need
tspn apple cider vinegar [totes optional]
handful of parmesan cheese [optional -ish]
squeeze lemon juice [optional]
salt and pepper

Method:

- As soon as you pick the wild garlic, wash it gently then put in pan of boiling water to blanch it. Lift out and plunge immediately into a bowl of iced water to stop it cooking [or you will have an unattractive mush].
- Drain and squeeze out excess water
- Lightly toast any nuts you want to use 'til light brown [under the grill?]
- Pop all ingredients, except for lemon juice and s/p, in a blender or processor and pulse to a chunky paste.
- A watery puree is **not** the look we are aiming for
- Add seasoning and lemon juice.
- Yum on any pasta.
-
- PS to freeze, leave out parmesan, line ice tray with plastic wrap, spoon mixture in.
On defrosting, then add the parmesan if wanted.

Alex Barbour [slightly better at this than baking, I promise]

Rhubarb Fool

1lb Rhubarb stewed in a little water
Add sugar to taste
1 either Strawberry or Raspberry Jelly
300ml double cream (whipped)

Method

Stew the Rhubarb until soft
Add sugar to your own taste

Melt the jelly in the stewed rhubarb
do not make as usual in boiling water,
just put the cubes as they are into
the stewed Rhubarb to melt.

When cool add the whipped cream.

Place in the fridge to set.

Kitty

Spring at Midtown

The daffodils are swaying,
The hens are laying.
The birds are in flight,
Not a ewe out of sight.

Dan is undertaking the jobs,
Getting in all of the Hoggs.
The lambing shed is overflowing,
Keeping us all ongoing.

The fresh bale of silage smell linger,
The morning frost painin the little finger.
Frame and swift on call,
Not going to let those ewes fall. Working around the clock,
Checking on the flock.
The sheep cake is being laid,
Which means Massey Feeds will be paid.

The pet lambs need a mum,
Betty thought that would be fun.
Sheep running through the pens,
Counting them in hundreds and tens.

Sheep tags being acquired,
Dad getting all the family hired.
Matching the lambs in numbers and letters,
Can these fields get any wetter?

The adopter is taking the strain,
It's time to feed the sheep again.
The milk whisk is on fire,
But there are still sheep in the byer.
Everyone tries to remain calm,
That is spring at Midtown Farm.

By Michelle Fisher

When the clocks go forward
There's a change in the air
The days get much longer
And spring's finally here

But this year is different
The year 2020,
It's a brand new decade
With problems aplenty

Coz everyone's worried
The fear's now widespread
Coz there's this new virus
And now thousands are dead.

Most people ignored it
When it seemed far away
But now it's among us
And we're scared every day

Our doctors are heroes
And our nurses are too
And all the paramedics
And the ambulance crew

They're working all hours
They're bravely saving lives
And all the time wishing
They'd chosen 9-5s

There's all the shop workers
doing extra hours
While shoppers demand stuff
Like they've got super powers

Big up the mums and dads
who're trying not to shout
Coz kids can be stressful
When you can't take them out

And shout out to the neighbours
Who wave across the street
And happily go shopping
When you've nothing left to eat

And in lockdown I wonder
How many people think
I wish I'd seen so-and-so
We should have had that drink

Is there something we can learn
From this situation?
maybe there's a message
To spread across the nation?

Let's not go back to "normal"
When this pandemic ends
Let's try and be better
neighbours, partners and friends

Lessons learnt in lockdown
Can be used another day
Coz one thing's for certain
Life won't always be this way.

Marie Raine.

Behind A Closed Pub Door. The Butchers Arms Community Pub

Wow, what amazing, unprecedented times we are going through! No one could have ever predicted this pandemic and certainly not the impact it is having on all of us. We feel so incredibly lucky that we can actually continue with a small amount of normality by getting out of bed and going to work, as lovely as our home and setting is, we would be climbing the walls so take our chef hats off to all of you staying at home.

When the government told us to shut the doors on 20th March we did just that, finished off our beers, put pen to paper and turned The Butchers into a takeaway! Something we never thought we would ever have to do and now entering week 5 of takeaway meals, we are flabbergasted by the support we have seen from the local community and beyond. You are literally keeping us going!

For those that don't know we're changing the menu weekly to keep it interesting, topping up the crisp pot with some childhood favourites and keeping the takeaway beers flowing. We're sending out the weekly menu on social media platforms, adding to our website (www.thebutcherscrosby.co.uk), the pub secretary kitty keeps emailing all shareholders & other supporters of the pub and those subscribed to our mailing list receive information also. We're happy to offer a delivery service where possible to those that can't get out but collection works best for us complying to social distancing rules of course!

We're currently opening Wednesday - Saturday 4pm - 7pm and Sunday 2pm - 7pm. Just give us a ring on 01931 715500 and we take your order, book you a time slot and take payment over the phone.

We really must thank the LCP Directors for working with us during this time, to quote one director "we'll all swallow a bit of this pill" We are truly thankful to be part of this community.

We are very much looking forward to the time when we can open the doors again and welcome you all back to our lovely little pub, but in the meantime, stay safe and thank you for your continued support. Love from us both.

Jon & Katie



Take Away Menu

Wednesday 29th April 2020

Please place orders by ringing us on 01931 715500

OPENING HOURS

Monday/Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday	4pm - 7pm
Sunday - (roasts available)	2pm - 7pm

MENU

12" Pizza (gfr) - Margarita (v)	£10
- Veggie feast (v)	£10
- American Hot Meat Feast	£10
- Ham + Pineapple	£10
- Cajun Chicken, Sweetcorn + Sour Cream	£10
- Four Cheese + Red Pesto (v)	£10
Fish, Chips + Mushy Peas, Tartare	£10
Sticky Chilli Pork Ribs, Slaw, Skinny Fries	£10
Sweet + Sour Chicken, Fried Rice, Prawn Crackers	£10
Lamb Madras, Fragrant Rice, Mango, Naan	£10
Butchers Steak Burger, Cheddar, Bacon, Fries, Slaw	£10
Fish Pie, Creamy Mash, Greens, Bread + Butter	£10
Steak Pie, Dripping Chips, Mushy Peas	£10
Chicken Caesar Salad, Anchovies, Croutons	£10
Sweet Potato, Chick Pea + Spinach Curry, Rice, Mango, Naan (v)	£10
Sides - Skinny Fries / Dripping Chips / Slaw	£2
Kids Pizza (choose from above)	£6
Chicken Nuggets, Chips + Peas	£6
Fish, chips + peas	£6

PLEASE ASK ABOUT OUR DESSERT SELECTION



How It Works

Collection

Ring us with your order on 01931 715500 from 3pm Wednesday - Saturday and 11am Sunday.
Select a collection time. We will limit to 10 minute time slots to make sure we comply with the advice.

Please pay for your order over the phone with a debit/credit card. I'm sorry we will **not be accepting cash**

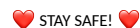
Turn up to collect your order at the agreed time and park in the car park, get out of your car so we can see you have arrived and stay in the car park. We will put your order on a table outside the front door. Please wait for a member of staff to close the door before collecting!

Delivery

This will be available to those who are in isolation in accordance with government advice.

As above, place and pay for your order over the phone. Your delivery will be delivered to your door. We will have to be selective on delivery times due to running skeleton staff. We will knock, leave the order on the door step and leave.

We thank you for your custom at this worrying time and we very much look forward to resuming the normal personal service we usually offer.



Isolation Birders WhatsApp Group

A new WhatsApp group called Isolation Birders was set up on 1 April 2020 for people in our area to report local sightings of birds (and wildlife) and exchange information which may be of interest. We are very fortunate to live in an area which is rich in wildlife and the present circumstances provide ample time and opportunity to enjoy the natural world. Spring is a great time for watching birds – they are extra busy with nesting activity, and attracting attention more than ever with their birdsong. The lack of foliage on the trees means they are more visible for the next few weeks.

In the short time the group has been in existence, reports have included local sightings of Green Sandpiper, Stonechats, Sparrowhawks, Tree Sparrows, Long-tailed Tits, Coal Tits, Pied and Grey Wagtails, Bullfinches, Golden Plover, Red Kite, Shelduck, Redshank, Dunnock, Stock Dove, Goldcrest Nuthatch and first sightings for the year of Wheatears on 29th March, and Sand Martins, Swallows, and House Martins all on 6th April. Bird calls recorded have included Chiff Chaff, Willow Warbler, Green Woodpecker and Greenfinch. Interesting anecdotes about birds have also been shared.

Many photographs have been posted including a very tame Robin inside a group member's house and an early "woolly bear" caterpillar on Crosby Fell!

The group is open to anyone with an interest in birds and/or wildlife regardless of experience or proficiency. If you'd like to join, please email your mobile phone number to the group's administrator, Mark Fallon – drmfallon@gmail.com

The following Photos submitted by members are all local – Dipper, Bullfinch, Goldfinch, Dunnock, Wheatear, House Sparrow, Robin indoors, Oystercatchers at Meaburn Hall

Steve Holroyd









Red Squirrels

'Our' Red Squirrels in the parish appear to be doing quite well at present with the occasional sighting being reported.

At present anywhere around Flass and Reagill appears to be the best place to see them. One lucky person in Crosby Ravensworth recently had one on a window sill as well.



But it is important to keep reporting any sightings or indeed to let us know if you used to see them on a regular basis but don't do so now.



One important thing that you should be doing at this time of year is:
Clean and disinfect your feeder if you have not already done so.
Supplementary feed at this time – but don't ram your feeder full of food, just use 8-12 nuts
at a time
Naturally any sightings of greys or reds with S/Pox need to be reported to Gary asap –
07974 788 434. Any of course, why not take a photo' or two. Send them to me and I'll
include them in the report that I compile (now bi-monthly) and you can also post them on
the P&DRSG own Facebook page.

Slack Randy and Lane Head

Many of you will have read my e-mail on the subject of Lane Head and Slacks, both sitting up at the top of Dalebanks near Oddendale – so a big thanks to all who replied.

When I sent that e-mail out I was very aware of the great sense of irony that there was someone who would have told me everything there was to know straight away and then more besides – of course I'm referring to the late, great ... Ted Relph.



His local knowledge and being involved in the Commoners Committee he would have known. Who hasn't walked up on Crosby Ravensworth fell, seen the disused farmstead and just wondered about its history?

On the OS map the area/farms are shown as '*Lane Head*' and on the 1900 1" OS map it also seems to name the second one as '*Slacks*' – of course this being the '*Slack Randy*' that we all still know the area by.

Firstly, why is it called Slack Randy?

Having spoken to Kitty Smith it would appear that it gets its name from the rough and hilly ground thereabouts.

And how did Kitty know that?

Why of course, Ted told her - and then from Alex Barbour:

Slacks is the farm name and means 'hollow' according to my Cumbria place-names book.

'Hollow' could well include hummocky/hilly ground as Ted has said

Randy.....does this originate in Old English/Old Norse - *Rain/rein* meaning boundary?



Lane Head

And from Kitty there was far more about the history of Lane Head – a personal knowledge.

Kitty's father lived there as a teenager with his three brothers & sister before moving to Oddendale Hall, this being just before her Auntie Alison was born.

Kitty's dad was Bob Fisher, her mum, who lived at Haber, Betty Laycock and they met walking to school together - which was then Monks Bridge at Crosby.

When Kitty was little she lived at Haber Farm.

Her mum, Sister (Marguerite) & herself (at about 4/5 years old) would bake for Jack Smith the next occupant at Lane Head, a wirily little bachelor with a stooped stance.

They would walk the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile with the baking & he would give us some sweets.

His only chance of water was a well on the fell - he died in 1971 at the age of 56.

Lane Head & Slacks, are owned by The Metcalfe Gibson Family from Ravenstonedale.

Kitty knows of two people that wanted to buy Lane Head but because of planning law and the fact that it hadn't been occupied for 25 years, no permission could be gained and hence why it's in its current state.

Lane Head is to be surveyed for the National Park (Alex Barbour and others) and prior to the Covid-19 outbreak they were able to pay one visit to the barns before lockdown and she tells me that there is much more recording to be done there.



Alex adds that she believes the owners may have sold one or two houses within that fairly extensive and important 'township' recently.

The two farms have obviously been there for some time – but from when?

I can't answer that question and it obviously pre-dates the first census that was taken, so maybe the local archives might be able to shed some light.**

Beginning as far back as 1682 there is the following, all being listed as living at either '*Slacks*', '*Lane Head*' or '*Slacks, Lane Head*':

1682 – the will and inventory of Edward Thwaites, yeoman

1685 – the will of Jane Thwaites (widow)

1692 - the will and inventory of John Richardson, yeoman and weaver

1694 – the will of John Cowper

1697 – the will of John Harrison

Moving onto 1738 - the will and inventory of Henry Dodd (yeoman).

In 1847 there was a Jonathan Rigg and in 1893 a Margaret Moss (married woman!)

Clearly there is a rich history up at Lane Head and it would seem that there was possibly quite a decent sized 'enclave' (township) up there.

** held in the archives at Carlisle

Darren Rogers

LAKELAND DIALECT SOCIETY

Creation

Ted Relph, North Westmorland

written for the Dialect Service held at Ings, 23rd June 1991

T'was aw med i t' ya week, this waarld, that's what oor Bible tells,
Hooivver did God mannish, like, creatin' aw these fells?
Thoo sees, he started off wi' nowt, yit finished up wi man;
Ah'll tell the whatt, it seems te me, He mun hev hed a plan.

Noo, furst ev aw, He gev us leet, he just said, "Let there be"
An sure eneuf that leet appear'd, t'was good, as God could see.
It shone aw roond, byath hee an' law, an' wunderfu' an breet,
He cad'd it Day, as yer can mind, an' darkness He caw'd neet.

An' than He gev us land, an' sea, He gev us t' sun an' t' meun,
An t' trees an' plants 'at roond us grouw, an' heaven up abeun,
We've primroses an' cooslips, an' hawthorn blossom fine -
Sec bonnie Solwa' sunsets, an' t' meunleet's silver shine.

He gev us t' troot wat cuz up t' becks n' t' fish 'at swims in t' sea.
An' spuggies, spinks an' watter pyats an' t' eagles fleeyen free,
An than He cu wi t'beass an' yows, an' ivvery creepin' thing
Laal' urchins, brocks an' mowdies, an t' foxes up in t' ling.

Than, last of aw, He med some fwoak, in t' paradise te bide,
A parfect waarld i' ivvery way, it spread beath far an' wide;
God rested on the Sabbath, cos He saw 'at it was good
Wi lakes an' fells an' floowers an' birds an' t' squirrels up in t' wood.

We hev God's warld aroond us yit, but man seean fell frae grace;
Abusin' God's creation, an' polluten' ivvery pleace;
Earth's gitten auld, time's runnen oot, ov that ther's but laal doot;
We mon hod bak, an' seek God's will, an let His plan wark oot.

Crosby Ravensworth Parish Tree Group

We have completed our planned planting for 2019/20 and following this article is a newsletter we have produced and distributed across the country to encourage parishes across the country to start similar initiatives. As we say at the end of the newsletter, if every parish in the UK planted as many trees as we have that would be 22 million trees planted this year!

Last week we heard that a nursery in North Wales was going to mulch thousands of 2 year old oak trees because they couldn't sell them. The tree group have purchased 3000 which have been heeled in at Maulds Meaburn by a team of volunteers observing social distancing!



3000 Oak trees heeled in for next winter and fenced off to keep the rabbits out!

Drew Woodward

If anyone wants Oak trees planting on their land next winter you know where to come!

That said, all of these trees will not be planted in the parish as we will again be looking to plant a variety of native broadleaves. We have an arrangement where the surplus oaks will be redirected by the Woodland Trust

The effects of the virus lockdown will prevent us approaching farmers and landowners to seek permission for the next round of survey work and will also prevent the preparation of survey maps as we need to establish farm boundaries before this work can commence. Hopefully we can get this work moving in June. It will also prevent our volunteers from monitoring the growth of this year's planting although we are all checking those trees on public roads and footpaths!

In the meantime we are still fund raising. Westmorland Dales Landscape partnership, Eden Community Fund and the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust are all in our sights!

And finally, as always, we are looking for planting opportunities, particularly on field boundaries, for planting trees and hedges next winter. If you would like us to survey your land to establish the quantity, age and species of trees, please contact me on the number or email below. Similarly please contact me if you would like to be involved with the tree group in any way. It isn't all tree planting - we need surveyors and admin people as well – training will be provided!

Drew Woodward, Brookside Cottage – 01931-715997 – agwoodward@aol.com

Crosby Ravensworth Parish Tree Group

Crosby Ravensworth Parish is nestled in the Lyvennet valley in Eden, surrounded by fell and farmland.



View across the Lyvennet valley

Steve Holroyd

Many farmers were doing a great job using areas of fields for new plantations, but we were losing many large individual trees to winter storms and ash die back. What would our beautiful landscape look like in the future? How would our wildlife survive? Can we do a bit for the climate emergency?

The community of Crosby Ravensworth makes things happen. We set up the Lyvennet Community Trust to provide affordable housing and the community bought the Butchers Arms Pub, the flourishing hub of our community.



The Butcher's Arms from Bank Head

Steve Holroyd

So in April 2019 we set up a group to tackle the tree problem across the parish, aiming to restore and enhance our local landscape. With support and advice from the Woodland Trust, volunteers surveyed farmland and verges throughout the parish. We recorded the species, age and location of the existing trees and identified potential areas for new planting.



Dead Ash

Steve Holroyd

Of the 4,788 trees recorded we found 92% were over 50 years old and 75% were over 100 years. 24% were ash and many showed signs of ash die back. We shared our results with the farmers and landowners and agreed planting schemes for November 2019-March 2020.

The project required trees, protectors and planters.

The Woodland Trust has provided some trees, tubes, stakes and tree crates. We received grants from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Sustainable Development Fund, Friends of the Lake District, Cumbria Community Foundation, National Lottery and Crosby Ravensworth Parish Council.



Planting on Maulds Meaburn village green

Steve Holroyd

A team of over 30 local volunteers of all ages are involved in planting the trees and installing the tree protection necessary to prevent grazing by sheep, cattle and deer. The Westmorland Dales apprentices have been a great support and YDNP young rangers gave their time and effort too. Over 900 volunteer hours have been logged to date and the buzz from our volunteers has been great for community bonding.



Volunteers building tree crates

Steve Holroyd

So by mid-March we have planted 1772 trees and 1179 hedging plants. We are planning similar levels of planting in future years as we continue our survey of the parish. That will, of course, require more funding! With that in mind we have a crowd funding page at:-

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/crosbyravensworthparishtreegroup>

There are over 12,000 parishes in the UK. If they all planted the same number of trees as Crosby Ravensworth this would equate to more than 22 million trees per year.

Drew Woodward

From Crosby to Australia

I've used this extended lockdown period to get the family history back on track and found myself traveling some 9200 miles from Crosby Ravensworth to Pemberton in Western Australia.

The link to Crosby comes via Deborah Isabella Pattinson who was born in 1868, the daughter of Joseph & Agnes Pattinson. She appears to have spent her life before marriage at Low Row in Crosby before marrying James Littlefair in 1893. My connection is through the Littlefairs from Kirkby Stephen where I used to decamp from Penrith to spend every summer with my grandparents.

By 1901 Deborah and James were farming at Burtree near Great Asby and already had 3 children and by 1911 there were 3 more. For whatever reason I have not been able to fathom, life changes around the 1920s and on 6 September 1923 the family set sail from London on P&Os Barrabool to Freemantle in Australia arriving on 10th October. Deborah was 55 – not sure I'd be brave enough to up sticks to a new world at that time of life, but there must have been good reason.

From research in the Australian newspaper archives, the Littlefair family had very active leading roles in the local Pemberton community, especially cattle farming. Daily life and events seem akin to life back here in Westmorland, the local show, pasture & silage competitions, local cricket matches, the annual ball, although there are some subtle differences and challenges like masses of rabbits and troublesome thistles, bush fires and the impact of power farming.

In 1945, son Jack Littlefair writes to the local paper in support of a proposal to create a community hotel for the provision of social and cultural amenities. Sound familiar?

As a nod to their local heritage the family named one of their farms Gaythorne (James was brought up at Gaythorne Hall along with 7 other children including Septimius & Octavius) and Grasmere.

Deborah died in 1940 aged 72. I am so proud they made a good go of life down under, but the question that riles me is what was their final push to leave Westmorland? Any theories gratefully received.

Jill Brown, North View, MM



WHY NOT A COMMUNITY HOTEL?

PROPOSITION FINDS FAVOUR

Great interest is being evinced in the proposal for a community hotel, whilst Bunbury which has had a similar proposition suggested for it, seems to find gratification in the fact that other districts are also becoming interested in the idea, namely Cunderdin and Manjimup. In all three districts the question is receiving increasing support.

Readers' views are published hereunder:

Mr Jack Littlefair, of Eastbrook, writes:

A community hotel for Manjimup. Why not? It is the soundest scheme yet advanced for the provision of the various social and cultural amenities which should go to make up the life of any present day country town. The principles involved in a scheme of this nature are such that if adopted and acted upon by the people of, and those served by Manjimup, would entitle them to the claim that they had taken a step in the bringing about of the "New Order" which depends on the acceptance of such principles by the people of the world for its very establishment. To a comparatively young town, whose residents are imbued with a progressive spirit, this community hotel offered boundless possibilities; it is the key to the whole situation. In fact it could and should be the foundation stone upon which the future welfare of Manjimup should be built. What better memorial could there be to those boys who have served and given their all for their country in this great struggle. Perhaps then all may not have been in vain. I say, "Spring to it Manjimup."

"Practical" justifies his nom de plume when he writes strongly supporting the scheme. Go to it, he says. I am prepared to put in £1000 to help bring the community hotel into being for Manjimup.

Interesting is a reader's comments in the "South Western Times" which circulates in Bunbury. Signing himself "Progress" he says I do not visualise a pipe dream of Hollywood rhapsody, but I would confidently look forward to a modern residential hotel whose bus would meet my train, when I would be received and shown to my accommodation, not by a gold braided be-medalled individual, but by a trained recep-

tionist. At the present time to arrive to find no taxi (he is referring to Bunbury), to walk around an apparently deserted joint and to rely on a yardman can be bettered. When I got to my rooms I would find modern accommodation, complete with bath and lavatory and not to search along corridors to find a community bath and toilet. Frank Sinatra I would not expect to croon me to swoon, neither would I be blacked out by the relics left by the visitors of the previous midnight. I could do without the manager's compliments and his invitation to have a cocktail; also I wouldn't mind the boss not suggesting that I "turn it on" for him and his friends. I would expect to find a business run for the benefit of residents, where howling drunks would not disturb the early hours of the morning, a place where the sale of "booze" was not the beginning and end of service, where the "Queen Anne" front of bars and lounge did not cover a "Mary Ann" back of antiquated bedroom and lavatory arrangements. No one would suggest that public benefactors would finance such a scheme, but there is no reason why investors should not combine personal profit with public gain; that from the profits of the business attractions should be provided to encourage visitors to come again—tennis courts, bowling greens, etc., all of which could be more than self supporting. In other words that the exorbitant profits to the trade should be utilised not only for personal gain but to make Bunbury the most attractive seaside resort in the State. There would be an indirect profit in the added prosperity of a hugely increased tourist trade—there is nothing new about this, it has been done by Governments, local authorities and private enterprise in many places. I certainly hope the lead will be acted upon.

Q and girls of Pemberton will parade and march past the flag at 10.30 a.m., and the morning service will be special for the children.

Eastbrook Hall

SUCCESSFUL BALL

The fourth anniversary of the opening of the Eastbrook agricultural hall was celebrated on May 21st. The function was well-attended by the people of Eastbrook and district, and a good representation came from Quinninup. Under the efficient supervision of the M.C. (Mr. James Littlefair), everything ran smoothly throughout the evening, which passed delightfully for everyone.

The music supplied by the Rooney orchestra, was, as usual, of the best. The supper was excellent, and the person responsible for the making of the coffee must be commended on his good taste.

Judging from the success of the last few dances at Eastbrook, it seems a fact that they are again coming to the fore.

survives at all when there is little inducement to people to remain in it."

Rabbits and Thistles.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I trust you will allow me a small space in your columns to make a few remarks regarding the pests which dairy farmers have to contend with in the heavily timbered country of the South-West. Among the pests of today the rabbit ranks first in the eye of the public, and the farming community in particular. Settlers in this district, with few exceptions, are only beginning to realise the serious nature of this menace, and considerable numbers cannot see much hope for the future with rabbits in the place of cows. While so much is being said about the rabbit pest about 90 per cent of the settlers seem to be unaware, or to close their eyes to the fact that they are encouraging, or at least, doing practically nothing to discourage a pest which year after year is increasing at an alarming rate, namely, the thistle. Persons travelling round the country day by day can see acres upon acres of these noxious weeds taking the place of the clovers and grasses, essential to successful dairying. In this district there are frequently seen whole paddocks where a human being cannot possibly get in among the thistles to find the stock, which may have found a way into this terrible maze. If settlers themselves cannot make up their minds to eradicate this pest from their holdings, I think it is high time that the department responsible for the enforcement of the Noxious Weeds Act took action, and used their powers under the Act to compel all settlers to take steps to destroy this pest, before it distributes its seed over the paddocks of their neighbours. The remarks of Mr. W. G. Burges regarding co-operation amongst farmers themselves, being necessary to control the rabbit pest, may well apply in this case also. I trust that this may be the beginning of some active campaign towards the eradication of this pest.—Yours, e

J. J. LITTLEFAIR.

Eastbrook, via Bridgetown.

The weather once again has been lovely for my walk up this beautiful valley, the Daises are popping up now.

at Crosby School we used to sit for ages making daisy chains & wore them as a necklace.

My wild flower grass is coming on well, cowslips are always first, the red campion is just about to burst into flower.

The birds are singing a lot today & popping about, we have a chaffinch nesting in the Cotoneaster , a little wren singing

at the top of its voice on the very top of the weeping dwarf willow , so lovely.

Blossom is starting to come now, everywhere is looking so good just now & colourful.

Thank you for the emails to say how you are enjoying my script & pictures, I do hope you are all well & enjoying the sunshine & your gardens.

If you have any of my jam jars, when finished please place in the bag at Midtown Farm which is on the garden fence.

My niece and I are doing are great trade on baking & preserves. Thanks for your support.

If you want to reserve anything just get back in touch. Box of cakes £3.50p All preserves £1.50p

Kitty Smith

Image 1. My niece Michelle with her pet sheep. Nice art work !



Image 2. The well is what Jackie Smith used to get his water, he lived at Lane head on the fell. He died in 1971 at the age of 56. It would be hard work fetching & carrying as it is quite some walk. My grandparents had to do the same, bet that would test the muscles.



Image 3. Rhododendron in Crossrigg Wood, what a beautiful splash of colour, my friend took it who lives at Morland.



Image 4. Oddendale lambs, I talked to Alan at a distance who lives at Oddendale Old Hall. He said lambing has gone well & he said some lambs hadn't had the experience of rain on their backs. He has not lost the amount of lambs dying due to good weather. I will try to take a video next week of the lambs racing each other that is such fun.



The next 12 photographs have been sent in by David Nattrass taken around Kings Meaburn











