



James Bertlin Tree Planting Page 3

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# CHANGES TO THE UK PENSION LANDSCAPE



The UK pension landscape is set for one of its most consequential shifts in years, with new rules due to take effect from 6 April 2027 that will reshape how retirees, savers and their families plan for the future.

Currently, unused pension pots are typically excluded from a deceased person's estate for Inheritance Tax (IHT) purposes, allowing many savers to pass on pension wealth tax-free. From April 2027, however, most unused pension funds and death benefits will be treated as part of the overall value of a person's estate and potentially be liable for IHT once the value exceeds the nil-rate band each of us is permitted.

For people aged 50 and over, this significantly alters the role pensions play in estate planning. Many people structured their finances so that other assets - such as property or savings - were used first, preserving pensions for beneficiaries. That strategy may now need to be reconsidered.

This is where your Will becomes critical. While pensions are usually distributed according to nomination forms rather than your Will, the value of your pension(s) will start to affect the overall tax position of your estate.

A poorly coordinated plan could leave your beneficiaries facing unexpected tax bills or uneven distributions between family members.

Now is a sensible time to review:

- ***Your Will and whether it reflects your current wishes***
- ***Pension nomination forms to ensure they align with your estate plan***
- ***The potential inheritance tax exposure of your full estate***
- ***Gifting strategies and use of available allowances***

For many, the message is clear: review retirement strategies now. It is not just about retirement income, but also about how your wealth is passed on. Blended families, business owners and those with property may be particularly affected. Trust structures written into Wills may also need reviewing in light of the new tax treatment.

**Speak to one of the team today.**

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## Editor's letter,

As we're heading into April, it's time to get out in the garden, out on the fells, along the prom or maybe just have a chat with your neighbour over the garden fence.

It is so inspiring at this time of year just to breathe in the fresh air, and enjoy the extended daylight and new life. By the way, clocks go forward on Sunday 29th March.

Lots of news stories to discover in this issue of Grange Now, and plenty of events to fill your diary.

In fact, you could be busy every day with just the events listed in Grange Now.

Wishing all our readers a very happy Easter, please remember the next deadline is 17th of April.

Best wishes,

Chris

## Jackie McLaughlin

On 2nd April, Jackie McLaughlin (Barnes) will celebrate 40 years of working at Johnston's of Grange Jewellers.

Affectionately known as "Purple Jackie" because of her love of all things purple- especially amethyst's- Jackie has become a familiar and much loved face in the shop over the years.

Jackie began working for the Johnston family in 1986, and over the past 40 years at the jewellers she has gained a wealth of experience. A true



jewellery lover herself, she may well have been one of our best customers herself! She loves getting to know customers, many of whom have become good friends along the way.

## UK set for a summer of butterflies!

Leading wildlife charity, Butterfly Conservation, is calling on the public to prepare for a bumper summer of butterflies.

This year, alongside its hugely popular Big Butterfly Count, the charity is launching something brand new - a vote to discover Britain's Favourite Butterfly!

The 17th annual Big Butterfly Count is back and better than ever. Following hot on the heels of the first-ever vote to find Britain's Favourite Butterfly, keen citizen scientists are

encouraged to get out for the Count and see what they can spot.

Will the nation's favourite species reign supreme in this year's Count? Or will it have to share the summer top spot with another?

The vote to find Britain's Favourite Butterfly will take place from Friday 15 May - Sunday 7 June, followed by Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count from Friday 17 July - Sunday 9 August. Find out more at [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)

## James Bertlin



On March 3rd a tree was planted in Grange Orchard in memory of James Bertlin.

James was a long standing and fondly remembered resident of Grange. A former manager of The Swan Hotel at Newby Bridge for over 20 years, James was involved in many local groups and societies, including Grange Drama Group, Operatic Society and Cartmel Priory as a volunteer.

The photograph shows members of Caring Together

(a local group which aims to support carers of adults with mental health problems) in Grange Orchard with the winter flowering cherry tree which will act as a much needed pollinator for the fruit trees during winter months. James was a member of Caring Together and his sense of humour and commitment to the group is sadly missed. With special thanks to Judith Shapland and Grange Orchard volunteers for all their help in making the tree planting possible.

## NEWBY BRIDGE HOTEL APRIL LUNCH OFFERS

Served Monday to Saturday, 12.00 noon - 3.30 pm throughout April, in our cosy, log fired bar.

### SOUP & SANDWICH ~£9.95 PP\*

A Sandwich from our Daily Lunch Menu, with a bowl of freshly prepared Soup of the Day.

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\*Regular Price £16.25. £12.00 is our *Fish Friday* discounted price, and is available Monday to Saturday on the *Grange Now* offer ONLY.

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or Ham, Egg, Chips & Peas

Ice Cream (2 scoops) or Caramel Sponge, Sweet Cream & Berries  
or Fresh Fruit Salad

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## Future Deadlines

| ISSUE | DEADLINE | RELEASE  |
|-------|----------|----------|
| GN416 | 17th Apr | 29th Apr |
| GN417 | 15th May | 27th May |



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## Investment Matters

By Chris Hill CFP TM, Chartered MCSI

### **Investment Market volatility**

Recent military tensions in the Middle East have triggered a noticeable rise in global market volatility. With headlines dominated by fast-moving events, it's completely natural for investors to feel unsettled. Periods like these can often prompt people to consider selling out of the markets and moving into cash, hoping to sidestep losses and buy back in at the bottom of the market cycle. However, the challenge is that timing the market is incredibly difficult. Attempting to predict "the bottom" can also mean missing some of the markets strongest recovery days, which historically cluster around periods of heightened uncertainty.

Missing just a handful of these positive days can significantly reduce long-term returns. A more resilient approach is to remain invested and focus on the long view. Markets will always experience ups and downs, but a well-diversified portfolio helps smooth the journey by spreading risk across different assets. Diversification can't eliminate volatility, yet it can make it more manageable. In times like these, sound financial advice becomes especially valuable. Ensuring your investments are diversified, robust, aligned with your goals, and positioned for long-term growth can provide both clarity and confidence, no matter what the headlines say.

The comments in this Editorial are only general and should not be taken as specific advice. It is important that you seek independent advice before taking any action on the above, or any other, subjects. It should be noted that the value of some investments can fall as well as rise therefore you may get back less than originally invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Independent Investment Associates Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

## Mental Health and Wellbeing Awareness Day

### How are you?



**Grange-over-Sands Soroptimists invite you to the Victoria Hall in Grange on Saturday, 16th May, from 10 am, to find out more about mental health and wellbeing.**

Polycrisis is the new buzzword that describes the overwhelming world in which we are living. Work insecurity/unemployment, worries about global warming, the unsettling use of Artificial Intelligence, rising costs, the unreliable lure of social media and ever-more polarised politics all impact on each of us. They can cause panic, despair, loneliness, unease and fear – fear even from being seen to be suffering from anxiety, to be struggling to cope or vulnerable. Ironically the greater the concerns, the less we speak about them, not realising that

many other people feel the same way, but help is at hand. In the UK Week of Mental Health Awareness, Grange Soroptimists are asking 'How are you', and arranging a free one-day event to raise awareness of the challenges affecting mental health today. For example, Andy Airey (3 Dads Walking) and Alex and Hugh Addison (Borderline Challenge) will talk about teenage suicide and rural isolation, and there will be stalls run by people with advice on different aspects of the subject.

Save the date and come along. We look forward to seeing you, and asking that question we hear every day 'How are you'?

To find out more visit our web site – <https://sigbi.org/grange-over-sands>

## Spring garden warning for dog owners as toxic plants return to UK homes and flowerbeds

The spring plants most likely to catch dog owners out.

These are some of the most common plants linked to pet poisonings in UK homes and gardens:

- Daffodils, especially the bulbs, plus water from a vase of daffodils
- Tulips and crocuses, particularly the bulbs
- Lilies and lily of the valley (including in bouquets and gardens)
- Azaleas and rhododendrons
- Foxgloves, ivy, yew, hydrangea and wisteria
- Aloe vera (often kept as a houseplant)

The Royal Horticultural Society also advises that some garden plants can be harmful and recommends checking toxicity information for pets before planting.



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## WHERE CAN I RECYCLE?

Grange Soroptimists and PEAT have compiled a list of where to recycle items that cannot be placed in the regular Council waste and recycling kerbside collections. Given below is a list of where items can be collected, in the hope that it may encourage us to reduce, re-use and recycle products that would otherwise go to landfill.



|                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Asthma inhalers                                                                  | Cohen's Chemists, Ulverston                                                                                                                                                    |
| Batteries                                                                        | Spar, Grange library, House Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) (Guides Lot), M&S, Aldi – box also available at the Repair Café in Methodist Hall – 1st Friday of each month, 5-7 pm |
| Beauty products (plastic tubes/bottles/compacts/palettes, mascaras, eyeliners) - | Sainsbury's                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Blister packs                                                                    | Boots in Kendal & Ulverston, Superdrug Pharmacies                                                                                                                              |
| Chemicals                                                                        | HWRC                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Clothes                                                                          | Charity shops, Salvation Army (RC church carpark), HWRC                                                                                                                        |
| Contact lenses + packaging                                                       | Specsavers and most opticians                                                                                                                                                  |
| Electrical items                                                                 | HWRC, Curry's., B&Q                                                                                                                                                            |
| Light bulbs and broken tools                                                     | B&Q                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Medication                                                                       | Grange Pharmacies                                                                                                                                                              |
| Pens                                                                             | Rymans, Westmorland Shopping Centre, Kendal                                                                                                                                    |
| Rags (textiles unsuitable for resale)                                            | Bay Search & Rescue (in bags marked clearly 'rags')                                                                                                                            |
| Shoes (not slippers)                                                             | Any Clarks store for their ShoeBiz project                                                                                                                                     |
| Soft plastics                                                                    | Grange Co-op, Aldi                                                                                                                                                             |
| Spectacles                                                                       | Grange library, St Paul's Church, Lakeland Optical                                                                                                                             |
| Stamps                                                                           | Grange library, St Paul's Church, Flookburgh Church                                                                                                                            |
| Tetrapacks (pasticized cardboard cartons for milk & other drinks)                | Blue HWRC recycling bags                                                                                                                                                       |
| Textiles (curtains, towels, etc)                                                 | Bay Search and Rescue, Dunelm Mill                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                  | NB Duvets and Pillows must be brand new and in their original packaging                                                                                                        |
| Tools                                                                            | Tools for Self-Reliance (tfsr.org)                                                                                                                                             |
| Toothpaste tubes                                                                 | Blue HWRC recycling bags                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wool                                                                             | Grange library                                                                                                                                                                 |

St John's Flookburgh are collecting phones, tablets, jewellery, stamps and videos – leave in church, and the Arnside Sustainability Group have a base for hard-to-recycle items such as pens at the Arnside Chip Shop.

Grange HWRC at Guides Lot is open Thursday-Saturday, 8 am-4 pm, and full details of items that can be taken are given on the web site – search for guides lot

Any items can be sold or given away on Facebook (Grange Buy and Sell), Cartmel Community page, or the Freecycle Network (freecycle.org)

Clean items of clothing and bedding can be taken to the Women's Centre—Nan Tait Centre, Abbey Road, Barrow, Cumbria, LA14 1LG ([www.womenscommunitymatters.org](http://www.womenscommunitymatters.org)) or to Love Barrow Families, Old Fire Station, Abbey Road, LA14 1XH ([www.lovebarrowfamilies.co.uk](http://www.lovebarrowfamilies.co.uk))

We aim to try and keep this list updated, so details of any other outlets will be welcomed <https://sigbi.org/grange-over-sands/contact-us/>

**Moving in together is a cherished milestone in any relationship, but what happens if that relationship sadly breaks down? If you are keen to take that next step, but also want to protect your pre-acquired assets and secure your financial future, our experienced family solicitors will tailor a clear, pragmatic agreement, delivered sensitively and efficiently, with transparent fees.**

A cohabitation agreement (also known as a living-together contract) is a clear, written record of your shared intentions and records how cohabitants will organise property, finances and responsibilities, and what should occur on separation or death. It protects individual and shared interests, provides certainty, reduces the risk of future disputes and legal expense, and preserves trust by setting clear expectations from the outset.

In England and Wales there is no such thing as a “common law marriage,” regardless of how long a couple has lived together. Cohabiting does not create the legal status, rights, or obligations of marriage or civil partnership. Despite ongoing policy debate, there has been no implemented statutory reform creating general financial remedies for cohabitants.

Professionally drafted cohabitation agreements are routinely enforceable as contracts in the civil courts of England and Wales. They support autonomy, reduce litigation risk, and allows you to focus on building a life together, with confidence, future financial security and legal certainty.

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South Lakes

**My mum doesn't live nearby, but we keep in touch by using the internet. I discovered today that she has been scammed into sending money to people she has never met, because she is very kind-hearted, and I think she has given away her bank details. Whatever can I do?**

Online scammers take advantage of people's kindness, and some are very clever at gaining trust before they ask for money and bank details. It is very embarrassing to admit that you have been scammed, but the cleverest people can be caught out, and it's important to take action as soon as you can.

Check if she can get her money back: Tell her bank about the scam as soon as possible - they might be able to stop the transaction before it reaches the other account. If the transaction went ahead, she can ask for a refund. The bank will make a decision by looking at the evidence, e.g. emails, and they should reply within 15 working days.

Protect from further risks: If she feels personally threatened, she should call 999, and ignore all messages but report them to the police. Remind her to be very suspicious of requests for

money from now on. Her bank should alter her account details to protect her, but keep an eye on her bank statements and look out for any unusual transactions. Also check her credit score to see if there are applications for credit you don't recognise. She should re-set her passwords and update her anti-virus software.

Report the scam: Report the scam to Citizens Advice, who will pass it on to other relevant organisations. Your mother's evidence could help them stop the scammer targeting other people, and she should not feel embarrassed about it.

Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice on any aspect of debt, consumer problems, benefits, housing, employment or any other problems. How to access:

Call 015394 46464 (9.30am – 2pm, Monday – Friday)

- Drop in sessions at Wainwright's Yard, Kendal, LA9 4DP (10am – 1pm, Tuesday and Thursday)
- Adviceline: 0808 2787 984 (9am - 5pm, Monday – Friday)
- email advice via the submission page on our website [www.southlakescab.org.uk](http://www.southlakescab.org.uk)

## Council introducing garden waste service subscription

**A new subscription-based garden waste collection service is to be introduced across Westmorland and Furness from 1 April 2026.**

Residents who wish to continue receiving garden waste collections, or wish to receive future collections, will need to subscribe to the service at a cost of £60 per bin per year. The subscription window will open on 1 April and close on 28 June, with

only bins displaying a valid sticker collected from 29 June. General household waste and recycling collections remain unaffected.

Further information on the upcoming changes to residual waste and recycling collections will be provided later this year as the harmonised service continues to be rolled out across Westmorland and Furness.

## The Cross Bay Half-Marathon

### Will you beat the Bay?

**Saturday 4th July 2026**

Arnside Promenade to Cark Airfield, Flookburgh | 9am start



Photo credit: James Kirby

Scan here for more information or visit: [www.cancercaresouthlakes.org.uk/news-and-events/calendar](http://www.cancercaresouthlakes.org.uk/news-and-events/calendar)



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## Will the Lido really open this year?



Members of Save Grange Lido and council officers and members on a site visit at Grange Lido.

**According to Westmorland and Furness Council work is set to restart on the Grange Lido project, with a planned finish around the end of the summer of this year.**

In the many years of Grange Now trying to report on the site, we have had a number of false starts and changes of plan. So perhaps this time the reality will match the press release.

It would be a great achievement for the town although for many people who would like to see the pool reinstated, it is just a stepping stone. Whatever the future may bring, in the here and now, a smart site that is open is a big improvement and will be welcomed by many people. So fingers crossed and here's hoping!

The project was paused last year after it became clear that the concrete repairs required further assessment in order to complete the work. Work is due to start again at the beginning of April. Officers are exploring whether a phased or partial opening may be possible ahead of full completion.

Work on the £6.8 million Grange Lido and Promenade restoration project began in April 2023, with the aim of reopening the Lido site with a temporary infill of the pool, creating a new multi-use public space from what had become a derelict and deteriorating Grade II-listed site. The project protects the site's significant social and cultural heritage in a way that does not preclude the future reopening of the pool.

Janet Carter, chair of trustees of Save Grange Lido, the local group which is working and fundraising with a view to seeing the lido fully restored as an historic community lido, said: "Following a recent site visit, it was encouraging to see the work already

undertaken to protect the site, and we welcome the extensive work being carried out by Westmorland and Furness Council at Grange Lido. We look forward to continuing conversations with the council as we progress our phased plans to honour the Lido's heritage and create an inclusive and accessible heritage experience for the community and its visitors. This will be followed by the reinstatement of swimming at the Lido for all to enjoy."

Completed works at the lido include an upgrade to the pavilion building, the creation of an accessible entrance from the promenade and the insertion of a removable landscaped feature within the former pool area. The male and female changing accommodation has been stabilised, with works to the roof and terraces completed, along with security upgrades, cleaning, and external decoration. Significant structural and architectural works have also been undertaken, including strategic concrete repairs to the diving board structure.

According to the press release work on the 1,900-metre-long promenade included the removal of unstable sections of the sea defence wall, and application of a durable coating to the promenade's upper surface. There has however been a lot of concern locally about the resulting state of the prom with many voicing concerns on social media.

Interestingly Grange Lido (originally known as Grange Baths) was officially opened on August 18, 1932. Now almost 100 years later, there is hopefully an air of optimism that the 100 year anniversary will see a facility that is open and welcoming visitors, which would be appreciated by the vast majority of locals and visitors.

## Grange-Over-Sands businesses - we need your help!

Local businesses are invited to an informal drop-in meeting to explore how working together could help attract more visitors to Grange throughout the year.

Following early discussions around the Cumbria Coastal Route, the meeting will explore whether there is interest in a collaborative approach to promoting Grange and encouraging more visitors to discover what the town has to offer.

This first gathering is simply about starting the conversation and seeing what ideas might emerge.

Retailers, cafés, restaurants, accommodation providers, attractions, creatives and anyone with an interest in welcoming more visitors to Grange are warmly invited.

If there is enough interest, a future workshop with Cumbria Tourism and local council representatives can be organised to explore opportunities in more detail.

- **Victoria Hall, Grange-Over-Sands**
- **Thursday 9 April**
- **Drop in anytime between 4pm and 6pm**

Linzi Buckmaster  
St Mary's Hospice retail comms lead  
(and Grange shop manager)

## Mayor's Report



**As I write, Nature seems convinced that spring has arrived. I had cause to drive up the Rusland Valley on Friday 13th, so many wild daffodils in full bloom, an amazing sight.**

You may already know but I am pleased to report that the graffiti artist has been identified by the police and dealt with. Nothing to do with me, just down to good policing.

I attended an on-line meeting chaired by the CEO of the Cumbria Combined Mayoral Authority, John Barradell, which is now in existence. Very informative and somewhat reassuring that the additional costs of the new structure will not be crippling. The new Mayor of Cumbria will be elected in 2027.

We have received the initial report on the energy survey of the Vic, which, needless to say, is extensive and very detailed. Much study of the report is needed but indications are that we would be able to provide a more comfortable environment at the Vic at reduced running cost.

Roger Handley

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## Grange and District Natural History Society - Protected Areas in Big Countries



**Pinnacles National Park, West Australia**

**It was a joy on a cool damp evening in Grange to see bright pictures shown by David Evans of his travels in West Australia, in November, their spring.**

His talk was titled Stromatolites, Tingles and Bin Chickens. Stromatolites are mounds of cyanobacteria, built up in sheltered bays, some of the oldest life on Earth. Tingles are some of the 900 species of Eucalyptus trees in Australia. Karri, Jarrah and Malle can grow to 90m in the extreme SW area. Bin Chickens are Australian White Ibis, which have learned to look for food in rubbish bins in Perth's outdoor cafes. Australia is huge & has many National Parks with excellent interpretation of the plants and animals, all very different to us. David explained that the limy sandstone pillars at The Pinnacles National Park are the calcified remains of trees covered by sand dunes. The coast of the extreme SW of W Australia is very varied: white beaches, sandstone cliffs and mangrove swamps. David saw many exotic creatures, King Skunk Lizards, Quokkas, a mini marsupial, Water Dragons, Red-Winged Fairy Wren, lawns grazed by kangaroos, dolphins in the tidal Margaret River.

Dr Joe Hawes of Cumbria University spoke of his

research into Protected Areas in the Brazilian Amazon. Brazil is a huge country with the largest protected areas in the world. His research area is the extreme SW of the Amazon basin, very remote, accessible only by several days' boat travel, along the Juruá River. There are no roads. People in the area used to work as rubber tappers. When this trade collapsed, they were left without a livelihood. The forest floods to a depth of 6-7m during the wet season, making an extreme environment. Joe stayed with local people, sleeping in a hammock and eating the same food. There is an amazing variety of fruits and seeds in the forest, some of which have medicinal value, and dolphins, cayman, manatee, catfish, in the river. Local conservationists have taken responsibility for monitoring breeding success of Giant River Turtles, which breed on the sandbanks on the inner side of meanders. Numbers of hatchlings are increasing near to their villages. Fishing the giant Arapaima fish in the many ox-bow lakes is providing a sustainable source of food and income, especially for women. Conservation by local communities is proving hugely successful. Field visits are now in full swing, see details on the web site [www.grangenats.uk](http://www.grangenats.uk).

Sylvia Woodhead

## 1st Grange and Cartmel Cubs



**Cumbria Scouting organised a huge gathering of over 400 Cubs at Beamish, the living museum, as celebration of Cubs Scouting turning 110.**

1st Grange and Cartmel went along to join the fun. No time was wasted before the Cubs discovered Rowley train station. Sadly, they couldn't wait until Easter before the first train was due, so we ventured into the fairground, where some Cubs enjoyed a ride on a traditional carousel, whilst others used their muscles to ride a traditional boat swing. Cubs ventured back in time to the 1900s, where we met a traditional dentist and saw the tools and methods of dentistry used at the time. Obviously, after a trip to the dentist, we had to call in at the traditional sweet shop and buy a quarter of our favourite sweets.

A quick lunch in the bandstand before we were on a double-decker bus heading to the 1950's. Would you believe TVs haven't always been flat! It was a learning experience to be in a home appliance and toy shop from the 1950s. No trip would be complete without discovering the police station and trying on the old-style helmet and cuffs.

A brisk walk past the chip shop (chips cooked in beef dripping and the smell of salt and vinegar -yummy) back into the 1900's in time for the bakery

taking a fresh batch of loaves from the oven - truly a sensory experience. We joined the tram stop queue, there were 20 of us who dashed up the stairs to travel to the colliery, where we explored some of the old engine rooms and equipment. It was here we met a lady beating her rugs clean and stoking the fire to boil water for washing. We left her inspecting the cleanliness of the outside lavatory - no toilet duck or triple ply luxury toilet roll to be found. We went on to the 1940s farm, where the Cubs were mesmerised by a traditional blacksmith at work, followed by tending the livestock.

We reconvened on the events field to join all our fellow Cubs from around the county and celebrate 110 years of Cubs. All the Cubs received a special one-off badge celebrating such a special event. A huge thank you to the County for arranging a fantastic day out that was so much fun, with some learning mixed in.

The Cubs have had a busy few months and are looking forward to both Packs entering a team into the district Mike Sloan Trophy event, as well as two camps in the Summer.

If your child would like to join in the adventures and make new friends alongside learning new skills - contact John Holmes on 079682767799

## Cartmel Peninsula Craft and Hobby Destash Fair



The third Cartmel Peninsula Craft Destash Fair will take place on Saturday 18th April 2026 at a new venue, Cartmel Village Hall, from 10 am to 1pm, refreshments will be available.

Stalls will offer surplus craft and hobby items – not crafted or completed items, but the materials used, such as fabric, art supplies, yarn, with a new focus on hobbies too - model

kits, jigsaws etc. We will again have a community stall to sell donated craft and hobby items. Over £400 has been raised for St Mary's Hospice through sales of goods donated previously, mainly from Grange Now readers. If you wish to book a stall or donate goods, please contact Janet Jackson on 07713255238.

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### Easter Bunny Afternoon Tea

5th April  
Easter Sunday  
Adults £18 Children £9

Served between 2pm and 4.30pm in the Hazelwood Restaurant. Includes Easter Egg for children, Easter Egg Hunt in the grounds & bouncy castle, bouncy slide and giant games for the kids.

### Fish Friday Special

Available every Friday, 2 for £25

Delicious fresh fillet of fish coated in our Chef's crispy beer batter, deep fried with chips, peas, tartare sauce & lemon wedge. All served with a pot of tea, bread & butter.



### Grand Saturday Night Out

Every Saturday - Only £25.95pp

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## International Women's Day



**On 8th March, International Women's Day, we celebrate two international, inspirational members of SI Grange over Sands.**

Sarah Neill, Marine Biologist and Animal Management Lecturer, an Honorary Member, is currently in Antarctica following in the footsteps of Shackleton. Breaking boundaries at the bottom of the world the all-women team will document climate change, study marine life and honor female polar explorers. A team of 25 female indigenous and non-indigenous scientists, explorers, storytellers, artists and ocean advocates from 9 countries will document a warming Southern Ocean, using GIS data capture, analysis, journaling, and storytelling tools, promoting STEAM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Art/Mathematics) leadership for women.

Helen Cooper, an occupational therapist, is one of our newest members, and has recently returned to Africa for two months to work with children with disabilities. Following a month spent working with the Kyaninga Child Development Centre in Uganda, she is now working with the Jabori Foundation which provides holistic support to families in Kenya. Travelling along dusty roads into the mountains in 35 degrees heat to reach remote villages she holds outreach sessions, teaching and empowering parents to get involved with their child's therapy.

Grange-over-Sands Soroptimists salute the brilliant efforts of both our members, and all the other women forging a different future for the world's girls. Happy International Women's Day.

## Grange Shed

**Our Shed is quite small, a cramped working space and not much storage.**

However, we had a change of some bigger premises in town which were up for auction in the middle of March. It was a workshop space, garages and a garden; we would have been able to get more people in, do different things and work with other groups. It did have a planning indication for house building and we thought we would be competing with builders for it but we lost out to a lady who wants to start a nursery there. That is a better community use than a new house. So we will have to soldier on for a while longer.

Still getting interesting projects. A lady brought in a very decrepit base for plant pots, can you make me ten new ones and two much bigger ones! Now into production lines. Oh, by the way, can you also repair my dancing ornament? And today a chap brought some Chinese lanterns. Never a dull moment!

Please continue to bring us things to repair, we are not yet the "Repair Shop" but are working on it. We look forward to seeing people on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 10.00 until 13.00.

### GREEN GODDESS RIGATONI

**Northern Pasta Co. is one of Kendal's great foodie success stories – starting out on Kendal market, they quickly became a favourite with farm shop customers, and Imogen and Matt continue to reach for the heights in their quest to reimagine pasta with British grains.**

Northern Pasta Co.'s recipe book, *Pasta for the People*, is about to be published. This recipe from the book is full of healthful greens (particularly when made with spinach grown on the farm by Growing Well, which is starting to come through).



Recipe and photography by Nourished by Talia

#### INGREDIENTS

- 250g rigatoni pasta
- 100g frozen peas
- 70g spinach
- Large handful fresh basil
- 2 tbsp tahini
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 1 small garlic clove
- 3–4 tbsp olive oil
- Salt and black pepper
- Optional to serve:
  - Mixed seeds (sesame, pumpkin, sunflower)
  - Nutritional yeast

#### METHOD

- Cook the rigatoni in well-salted boiling water according to packet instructions. Reserve a couple of ladlefuls of pasta water while you drain.
- Place the peas in a bowl and cover with boiling water to thaw out. Drain the peas and add to a blender with spinach, basil, tahini, lemon zest and juice, garlic, olive oil, a good pinch of salt and plenty of black pepper. Blend until smooth and creamy, loosening with a splash of water until you have a silky, pourable sauce.
- Return the pasta to the pan and pour over the green goddess sauce over a low heat, adding more pasta water as needed so everything is glossy and well coated. Taste and adjust seasoning.
- Divide between bowls, then serve topped with mixed seeds for crunch, nutritional yeast for a cheesy kick, and an extra drizzle of olive oil.



## Fundraiser concert for Rookhow's Retreat Away Fund



**South Lakes Acapella Choir will be presenting a concert at Rookhow on Monday 20th April at 7pm.**

This will be a fundraiser for Rookhow's Retreat Away Fund which provides subsidised stays at Rookhow for community groups. The scheme has supported 2,000 people over the last 5 years including refugees, people dealing with trauma and addictions and youth groups from inner city areas. <https://rookhow.org.uk>

The concert is at Rookhow Quaker Meeting House, Rusland Valley

Cash donations on the door. Email Kath to book a space: [kath@rookhow.org.uk](mailto:kath@rookhow.org.uk)

## Totally 80's Ladies Night

**Ladies you are invited to join us for our Totally 80's Ladies Night on Thursday 26 th of April, 7-10pm at the Red Rose, Victoria Road, Ulverston.**

There will be live music from local band Badman Soul. Tickets cost £10 (plus a small booking fee) and all funds raised will be donated to The Eve Appeal a gynaecological cancer charity who focus

on preventing, or improving the early diagnosis of womb, ovarian, cervical, vulval and vaginal cancer.

Dig out your ra-ra skirt and fishnet gloves and come along with the fabulous women in your life for a night of dancing, drinks and fun. Fancy dress is encouraged but optional. Tickets are available from: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FVPC>

Many thanks to local businesses Boudoir Pink and Wild Fanny's for their support with this event.



**Tickets £10\***

[www.trybooking.com/uk/FVPC](http://www.trybooking.com/uk/FVPC)

\*plus 65p booking fee

## The rise of rare whisky and fine wine at auction

**Simon Thompson, Assistant Manager, Auctioneer & Valuer ASFAV**

"Most people have their favourite tippie, a drink they gravitate to above all others, a treat at Christmas they wait all year for, or perhaps a present friends and family buy for birthdays or anniversaries. For some, this deepens over time into a lifelong passion for enjoying and collecting whisky, wine or spirits.

"Collectors are generally driven by the challenge of securing the next acquisition rather than by future gains. But the global market for rare whisky, spirits and collectable wines has seen unparalleled interest over the past decade. In the UK, auction data shows that the rare whisky market has experienced explosive growth, with prices regularly making headlines.

"Buyers from across Asia, North America and Europe regularly participate in UK auctions, drawn by the heritage of Scotch and the rarity of bottles. Large single-owner collections can command substantial figures, and even modest bottles often attract attention from bidders seeking quality at reasonable entry points.

"Have you ever wondered what some of your bottles might be worth if sold? Perhaps one from a trip you took years ago, when you spotted a rare Speyside on the top shelf of a tiny Highland shop. Maybe a Burgundy that you saved for a special occasion that was never drunk. Or simply a once-treasured gift from a close friend or relative.

"Those bottles quietly ageing in your cellar or cupboards, the ones you may barely think about anymore, could very well be the next auction headline."

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## Broadway To The Bay

Tickets are now on sale for GMTS's concert: **Broadway to the Bay at the Victoria Hall, Saturday 9th May at 7.30pm and Sunday 10th May at 2pm.**

Ticket price (£18 per person) includes a cheese platter and a glass of wine on the Saturday, and Afternoon Tea with a glass of prosecco on the Sunday. Advance booking is essential. Book online at: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/gmts](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/gmts) An evening (or afternoon!!) not to be missed. Concert includes songs from: West Side Story, The Greatest Showman, Mama Mia, Chicago & We



Will Rock You to name a few. Hope to see you there - Sally Haines [sallyhaines@gmail.com](mailto:sallyhaines@gmail.com) 07990645581

## Grange Drama



**Rehearsals for our Spring production, 'Pack Of Lies' by Hugh Whitmore, are going very well with characters developing and lines becoming more familiar.**

Performances will be at Victoria Hall, Grange Over Sands. Thursday 23rd to Saturday 25th April at 7.30pm. Sunday 26th April at 2pm

Tickets will be available on the door and via the website [www.grange-drama.org.uk](http://www.grange-drama.org.uk) Adults £12, Under 17 £6

We also have two play readings scheduled: 'The Private Ear' and 'The Public Eye' by Peter Schaffer on March 31st. These two one act plays by the author of Amadeus are both concerned with love but in very different ways. One

follows a young man's path of romance and the other a married couple's return to greater understanding, each influenced by a third party. 'An Inspector Calls' by JB Priestley on May 20th. This play is well known and provides comment on the moral outlook of a group of people at a particular social moment in time. Both the readings have scope for individual interpretation and should provide interest whether you are reading or listening. Play readings will take place at The Institute at 7.30pm. Come and join us. You will be given a very warm welcome and tea and biscuits!

Any questions? Contact us at [www.grange-drama.org.uk](http://www.grange-drama.org.uk)

## Flookburgh Band

**Flookburgh Band announces the retirement of John Iveson, their Musical Director of 28 years. The hugely respected and vastly experienced musician will be hugely missed in the Flookburgh Bandroom and on the local concert platform.**

A trombone player by profession, John has worked with all the major London orchestras and was principal trombone at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. He played with the famous Philip Jones Brass Ensemble and recorded extensively for film and television. John taught at the Royal College and the Royal Northern College of Music and was an examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, as well as being a prolific composer and arranger. An Iveson arrangement is something special in the Brass Band repertoire and many of his compositions have contributed towards the unique Flookburgh sound he has created.

John took up the baton at Flookburgh in 1998 and has led the band to many successes on the contest stage and to a renowned level of performance in the concert hall. Every player who has had the pleasure to play under the "eye" of Iveson,



talks about his exceptional ability to instantly spot a wrong note among 26 players and gently correct the culprit! He always says that the years working with the amateur musicians in the band have been some of the most rewarding in an outstanding international career in music. Many local players are most fortunate to have been able to develop under John's guidance and emerge better musicians for the experience.

The band met recently to celebrate John and his indescribable contribution to the band and music locally, gifts and many reminiscences were exchanged and John agreed to be available to step back into the bandroom when needed.

The band will compete under the direction of Stephen Craig from Thornton Cleveleys in Durham on 21st March and then new conductor Robert Walker from Cockermonth will take up the baton.



**John Iveson**

## Digital Drop in

### Grange Library

First Monday of month: 10:30am-12pm

Monday 2 March, Monday 6 April

Digital drop ins area back at Grange Library! Come along for general IT help and guidance.

Free event



## CHURCH NEWS

### URC

**Despite all the rain, the days are getting longer, and BST will have begun by the time this magazine is printed.**

Sunday 29th March is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. I hope you get your Grange Now in time, to catch that the special joint services to mark this will be taking place on 2nd April, Maundy Thursday evening, at the URC and on 3rd April, Good Friday morning at the Methodist Church.

Our Easter Celebration is at 10.30am on April 5th at the URC. Do come and join us for these important

events in the Christian Calendar.

On Monday 6th April we have our usual Easter Coffee Morning. Please do join us for company & a chat. Please note we will not be serving coffee on Tuesday 7th April because of the event on Monday.

The dates for April's Monday Meet-up sessions will be on the notice board soon, so look out for them & join us.



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## Why relying on AI instead of a Lawyer is a costly mistake



[progressionsolicitors.com](http://progressionsolicitors.com)

We are at the dawn of a new age of tech; Artificial Intelligence agents. While it can be seen that AI may have a place in supporting legal work, depending on it instead of an experienced human is fraught with risk.

AI systems cannot understand the personal, emotional or factual situations behind wills, LPAs, probate, inheritance tax planning or trust arrangements. They generate text based on patterns, not based on understanding, and cannot probe a client's circumstances, explore family sensitivities, or assess issues like fluctuating mental capacity, which frequently arise in private client matters.

Even when an AI-drafted document looks polished, it may fail to comply with current law, omit critical protections or misinterpret a client's intentions entirely. English private client law is heavily context-dependent, and small drafting errors can have life altering consequences for families. AI is also unregulated, uninsured and not subject to any professional duty of care. If something goes wrong, there is no indemnity cover, no liability framework and no ethical obligation to protect your interests. By contrast, solicitors and lawyers are trained, regulated and accountable, offering strategic judgment, tailored advice and human empathy, all safeguards which no AI system can replicate.

Ultimately, using AI alone may seem convenient, but the cost of an error in a will, LPA or estate plan is far greater than the cost of instructing a firm to get it right.



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## St. Pauls



Lunch at the Pheasant Allithwaite

**Our gardens are showing many signs of Spring and as we move into April let's hope we shall enjoy more sunny days.**

At the beginning of March the World Day of Prayer was hosted by St Mary's Allithwaite with the service being prepared by a group of Christian women from Nigeria. As problems throughout the world continue to grow we pray for peace

everywhere, especially for the people of the Middle East.

Holy Week will be celebrated in St Paul's with services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day. Do come and join us, details of services are on St Paul's web site [www.grangepcc.co.uk](http://www.grangepcc.co.uk)

On Sunday 8th March 23 of us, Solo Diners enjoyed lunch at the Pheasant Allithwaite.

## Cartmel Methodist Church

**It has been a tough winter for many of us at Cartmel chapel – we're not getting any younger!**

Now spring is here, some of us at least are looking rejuvenated, and we are looking forward to another season of "coffee and chat" mornings after celebrating Easter with a joyful communion service at 11:00 on Easter Sunday morning (April 5th). Needless to say, we would be delighted to see any visitors who would like to share our celebration.

We start our monthly coffee mornings again on Easter Tuesday (April 7th) and will continue until October. If you would like to get them into your diary, the next few will be on May 12th, June 9th and July 14th. When possible, we tend to have them on the second Tuesday of the month, but this is not always possible. As ever, we will be welcoming visitors and regulars alike between 10:30 and 12 noon with tea, coffee and home-made shortbread. The more, the merrier.

## Cartmel Priory

**As Easter approaches we remember the special events which led into that first glorious Easter morning.**

Holy week begins with Palm Sunday on 29th March as we recall Christ's journey into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Services will take place at 8.00am and 10.30am, but on this occasion, Evensong will be replaced (at 3.30pm) by a performance by Cartmel Choral Society.

Holy Week continues with the singing of Compline, a quiet time of reflection in the late evening. You are welcome to join us at 9.00pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for 15 minutes of this ancient Office.

Maundy Thursday, when Christians remember the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples, there will be a service at 6.30pm. This will be a service of Holy Communion followed by the stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday when the Priory Church will keep the Observance of the Hours (12.00 – 3.00) giving time and space to reflect on the events of the crucifixion. Easter Eve, Saturday 19th

April, is the opportunity to welcome the risen Christ and celebrate the 'light of Christ', the arrival of Easter, and the lighting of our new Paschal Candles. Do join us at 8.30pm

Our joyful Easter Day services will begin at 8.00am. This service will be followed by our 9.30am Family Service and Easter Egg Hunt around the Priory grounds. Do join this lively and growing informal service.

These two services precede Choral Eucharist at 10.30am and Choral Evensong at 3.30pm.

You will be given a warm welcome whether you choose to come to one or all of our services.

Two other events take place during April. Sally Sparkle returns on Wednesday 8th April with two children's shows - She ran Away to the Circus. Performances at 11.00am and 2.30pm. Further details on ticket source.

If you enjoy Celtic traditional and contemporary songs and tunes then come and hear Moonrakers on Thursday 23rd April at 7.30pm. Again, further details on ticket source.

## St Peter's at Easter



**The holy traditions of Easter are marked with an evening service at 7pm at Field Broughton on Maundy Thursday 2 April.**

The next day, there is a Good Friday vigil in church

from 12 to 1pm. Of course there will be a Communion service at 9.30am on Easter Day. Chocolates may be in evidence in the churchyard after the service ... don't tell anyone!

We prepare the church for Easter on Saturday 28 March, the day before Palm Sunday from 9.30am. Please come if you can. We'll be freshening up the church with some cleaning and polishing.

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## St. Mary's Allithwaite

Please come and join us at St Mary's as we 'journey' to the Cross of Good Friday and the empty tomb of Easter. We would love to welcome to one or more of our services.

|             |         |                                            |
|-------------|---------|--------------------------------------------|
| Palm Sunday | 10am    | Holy Communion                             |
| Mon 30      | 7.30pm  | Night Prayer (with a short Reflection)     |
| Tue 31      | 7.30pm  | Night Prayer (with a short Reflection)     |
| Wed 1       | 7.30pm  | Night Prayer (with a short Reflection)     |
| Thur 2      | 6.30pm  | Maundy Thursday<br>Meal & Holy Communion * |
| Fri 3       | 2pm-3pm | Hour at the Cross**                        |
| Easter Sun  | 11.15am | Short service of Holy Communion***         |

\*Please book if you wish to attend the meal

\*\* spend an hour in the silence of church, with some guidance as we reflect on Jesus' final hour on the cross

\*\*\*As part of the Village Easter Extravaganza

If anyone would wish to contact the vicar you are most welcome to use Email: allithwaite.flookburghvicar@gmail.com

Phone: 07810655684.

I'd love to hear from you.

Rev Mark

## St. John's Flookburgh

Please come and join us at St John's as we 'journey' to the Cross of Good Friday and the empty tomb of Easter. We would love to welcome to one or more of our services.

|             |        |                                          |
|-------------|--------|------------------------------------------|
| Palm Sunday | 10am   | Holy Communion                           |
| Mon 30      | 7.30pm | Night Prayer (with a short Reflection)   |
| Wed 1       | 7.30pm | Night Prayer (with a short Reflection)   |
| Thur 2      | 10am   | Morning Prayer (with a short Reflection) |
| Fri 3       | 2pm-3  | Hour at the Cross*                       |
| Easter Sun  | 10am   | Holy Communion                           |

\* spend an hour in the silence of church, with some guidance as we reflect on Jesus' final hour on the cross

If anyone would wish to contact the vicar you are most welcome to use Email: allithwaite.flookburghvicar@gmail.com

Phone: 07810655684. I'd love to hear from you.

Rev Mark

## Hope Church

**Recently a friend told me he wasn't ready to take that step of faith to commit to Jesus.**

Although he believed in God, he wanted firstly to sort his life out a bit more to make himself more presentable. But is this necessary? When Jesus' disciples questioned Him on who can be saved He replied, "with man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." The great thing about following Jesus is that you come as you are. Nobody has got it all together and Jesus came to "seek and save the lost." Easter reminds us that Jesus came and died for ALL of us and when he rose again He achieved victory over sin and death and offered the promise of eternal life to all believers. Jesus is the one who does it all for us – we need do

nothing but take that step of faith and believe. So, come just as you are and join us at Hope Church to celebrate Easter Day – 10.30am on Sunday 5th April at Lindale village hall. Hot cross buns and mini Easter eggs to follow alongside plenty of chatting. Everybody is welcome.



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## Cartmel Peninsula Churches Together

**By the time you read this, we will have sampled a wide range of soups created by people from 6 different churches during our Lent lunches, and will have shared in after-lunch reflection on the wonderful events leading up to Easter – a time that means so much to us all.**

There are still a couple to go at the time I'm writing: so far it's been great – thank you to all who participated and gave so generously.

Easter day itself arrives on April 5th. As I said last time, each Church will hold their own celebrations, but right at the beginning of the day those of us who find the feel of dawn

helps us appreciate in a special way the Bible story of the day of Jesus' resurrection will meet at Hampsfell Rd car park at 6:30 a.m. – ready for sunrise. We'll hold a short, joyful service then adjourn to the nearby St Paul's church for a hot drink and hot cross buns. You would be most welcome to join us, but if that's a bit early, there is the opportunity to come along to Grange Methodist Church at 6 p.m. for a quieter celebration based on the songs of Taizé and silent reflection. Both events will help make Easter a wonderful time for those of us who gather together: we hope you will all have a very happy Easter time, too.

## Grange Methodist Church

**We had a good time at the third "Friendly Food" lunch, where 26 of us enjoyed cottage pie and vegetables followed by rice pudding.**

It's lovely that we're beginning to get to know our "regulars". This is an invitation to anyone to join us for a hot lunch and social conversation on the second Tuesday of the month. We'll gather in the church hall at 12:00 noon on April 14th, when the menu is set to be lasagne with salad and garlic bread, followed by trifle. No need to book, and no set charge, though donations for church funds will be welcome.

Our Holy Week services are joint with our friends at the United Reformed Church. At ours at 7:00pm on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, led by Rev Hayley Edmondson and including Holy Communion, and at the URC at 10:30 on Good Friday, April 3rd, led by Rev Kate Hunt.

Our Toast Church takes a break over Easter, but starts again on Sunday, April 12th. We meet at

9:00am on term time Sundays, starting with breakfast together (cereals and toast) and a chance to share our news and celebrate any birthdays. Then we move into a time of learning more about our faith through songs, stories, games and craft activities. We welcome families (3 generations in some cases) and the young at heart – why not join us?

You may want to make a note in your diaries now that the date of this year's Open Gardens event at Sue and Peter's house in Canny Hill is the 9th and 10th May – more details next month. There's no repair café in April, but please note that the May one is on May 1st.

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# Property Talk

With

**Craig Turner**  
Property Department Manager  
and Valuer



**FRIENDLY HONEST PROPERTY ADVICE**

## Cleaning up in sales

Spring is finally here, allegedly. A time for new beginnings. And traditionally a time for the property market to spring into life.

In reality, the market has been active since the beginning of the year. A healthy market with equal amounts of influence from both buyers and sellers. One with a small degree of negotiation on asking prices in most cases but where the right property at the right price will still go at or above an asking price.

However, as always, the Easter and Spring market is triggering a rise in property marketing and sales. As the weather becomes nicer and gardens burst into life people are venturing out to view property. Viewing diaries are filling quickly and offers are flooding in. So if you're thinking of selling, now is the time to get your property ready to show the world.

That dreaded Spring clean can make a whole world of difference both inside and outside of the property. Presentation has a huge impact on a viewer's first impression and we all know how important these can be. Anything from a quick tidy round to a fresh coat of paint can help. Clean, fresh and bright matches in with the season and presenting a property with minimal distractions allows a viewer to concentrate on the space and layout of the rooms.

The same goes for the outside. Tidy gardens and vibrant colours bring a pleasant scene to any outside spaces, be it sprawling lawn or courtyard garden. Seating spaces can offer a peaceful retreat or an entertaining epicentre and showcase the versatility of a property. We have a number of top tips for making your property and your garden Spring ready for sale on our website, or drop into one of our offices to have a chat with one of our local negotiators.

  
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## Cartmel CE Primary School



**The Busy Bee Class have been busy in the garden, planting and looking after vegetables that are popping up.**

Along with the gardening club, our growing area is starting to become full of life, of the animal and plant variety. They have also been learning all about famous explorers from all over the world and have delved into an interesting box of artefacts, kindly loaned from the library services. Our RE topic of how symbols help to understand and celebrate Easter, has allowed us to get creative and enjoy some of the things that this wonderful time of the year brings. Hot cross buns at snack time were a huge hit!

Class 2 experienced a super arts day with Mr and Mrs Milner. They created 3D felt snowdrops and did some amazing still life studies in chalk and paint of this delicate flower. They also made painted plates inspired by Clarice Cliff. Continuing the creativity, Class 2 have also had moments of reflection whilst carefully creating their beautiful stained glass crosses for their new reflection tree in class. This half term they are studying forests in their topic work and reading the book 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne.

Over the past few weeks, Class 3 have been learning all about Romans and are extremely excited to be visiting Vindolanda, The Roman Army Museum and Hadrian's Wall before the Easter holidays. Our monthly 'Craft'ernoon was attended by members of the local community who



joined Class 3 to create seasonal sheep and lambs. There was a sheep quiz in which we learnt some fun facts and then created sheep using card and wool, before decorating them. We had lots of fun!

World Book Day this year was one to remember. Some children came dressed as their favourite characters, in pyjamas or simply as their happy selves. We spent the day reading, getting crafty and engaging in zooms with famous authors and illustrators such as Marta Altés. Our 'chilling with a book' photo competition produced some fabulous photos and the winners received a brand new non-fiction book and some chocolate eggs for their efforts.

We were extremely proud to host the famous Voces8 to our school for a workshop with our Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils and those of Flookburgh Primary School. It was a fantastic afternoon, full of energy and singing, which is what we love here at Cartmel CE Primary!

## Cartmel Priory School



### World Book Day arrived in style at Cartmel Priory School!

We celebrated with a whole host of events and book-themed activities, including a student vs teacher book quiz, "Bringing Stories To Life" workshops, classroom door decorations and a cake and book sale.....in addition to some very fabulous costumes!

Staying with the reading theme, year 7 students recently received certificates and enjoyed a VIP celebration in the library for passing their accelerated reader criteria levels. Special congratulations go to Rowan & Reyn who became members of the millionaire club, reserved for those students reading in excess of

2,000,000 words, an amazing achievement!

We recently held our cluster primary school gymnastics event; a fantastic afternoon, showing great teamwork, determination and resilience. Thank you to all who attended and a special thanks to our student judges who performed their roles with maturity and professionalism.

Finally, huge congratulations go to our "table cricketeers" who recently travelled to Durham to take part in the Lord's Taverners Table Cricket Festival, where, following a tense final against a team from Northumberland, they were victorious! We wish them luck as they head to the prestigious Lord's cricket ground to play in the final.

## Grange Preschool



### We have been doing lots of talking about growing this half-term.

It has been exciting to see our mini daffodils and colourful anemones burst into flower in our sandpit garden. Our display is showing off our bright handprint flowers and we have been sharing some lovely books about plants as they develop.

We have been measuring our height and comparing the size of our hands with the grown ups, as well as making



cards for Mothers Day and getting involved in all aspects of baby care play.

New life in the animal kingdom is also fascinating and we have small world animals and puzzles for matching up families and learning about life cycles. The wooden eggs are popular for birds nest building or even rolling down our wooden trail ramps!

We have lots of fun playing and learning together at Preschool.

## Flookburgh CE Primary School



### It has been a fantastic and action-packed few weeks in school, with pupils across classes enjoying a wide range of activities linked to reading, creativity and hands-on learning.

The school fully embraced the joy of reading during our special Reading Week. The highlight was a wonderful trip to Waterstones in Kendal, where the children were given the opportunity to spend their World Book Day vouchers. The staff at the store were fantastic hosts and made the visit extra special. The children loved exploring the shelves and choosing their own books, making it a memorable experience that truly celebrated a love of reading.

We focused on the author Roald Dahl, with classes choosing one of his stories and theming the week around it. The celebrations ended with a fantastic fancy dress day on Thursday, where pupils came dressed as their favourite characters.

Bluebird Class have had a brilliant time with exciting learning across the curriculum. In English, pupils have been learning

about persuasive adverts and have been developing their own advertisements for the incredible chocolate bars they created in their Design and Technology lessons.

History lessons brought Ancient Egypt to life when the classroom transformed into an embalming workshop. Pupils learned about the process of mummification and even carried out their own experiment by mummifying tomatoes. They will check on them again in the coming weeks to see how they have changed.

Wainwright pupils also took part in a Key Stage 2 House Curling competition. After watching examples from Winter and Paralympic curling teams, children worked together in their house teams to test their skills. A special well done goes to the house captains from Wainwright Class who helped organise, run and score the event.

It has been a wonderful few weeks full of curiosity, creativity and teamwork, and we are very proud of everything the children have achieved.



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## Lindale Primary School



**We are so proud of all our gymnastics teams who all let their lights shine at our cluster gymnastics event!**

Our Year 1 & 2 team and year 3 & 4 teams advanced to the next round at the district small schools' tournament: all pupils worked incredibly hard in preparation and both teams finished first! They are so excited that they are now through to the county competition. It just goes to show what hard work, resilience and determination can do.

What fun we had on World Book Day! We always love seeing the creative costumes that our families come up with and it is great to see our staff dress up too. The children enjoyed a range of reading-related activities such as online live author sessions, paired reading across school, story box competition and one of our governors coming to read to classes.

For Science Week, the whole school were sorted into mixed-age groups to take part in a range of activities linked to the theme of curiosity. It's always wonderful to see the older and younger children working together.

Our Reception children have been learning about measures through a range of practical activities. They have measured their heights and have also been measuring out ingredients to create their own slime leading to a range of rich vocabulary and mathematical discussion - and some great messy fun too! Some caterpillars have also joined the class and they are looking forward to watching them grow. In February, we really enjoyed our second Role & Play Mini City session where we welcomed children aged 2 and up from our local community. We're looking forward to our next session with Role & Play Mini City in March.



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## Grange C of E Primary School

**Pupils at Grange CE Primary School have enjoyed an action-packed few weeks filled with hands-on learning, community involvement and exciting achievements.**

Year 4 have been delving into important environmental issues through their Science topic on conservation, climate change and pollution. Their studies included exploring the challenges currently facing Lake Windermere and discussing the role we all play in protecting it for the future. The children created informative posters and even wrote to local MP Tim Farron to ask whether more can be done to safeguard the lake. As a valuable extension to their learning, a parent kindly arranged a special visit to United Utilities, where pupils discovered how water is treated and learned about the company's efforts to protect Windermere.

Year 5 also stepped back in time during an immersive Stone Age Day. Ro, from Wood Matters, led the class through a fascinating exploration of Stone Age life, giving pupils the chance to experience traditional skills such as making a flint axe, twisting rope and even lighting a fire using ancient methods.



The school community came together in brilliant style for Grounds Day, with families and volunteers giving up their weekend to support the school's OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) journey. Thanks to their hard work, several new play zones were created—including a tyre area, pallet dens, a stage, a slip-and-slide zone, a music space and even a handmade throne. Children have already been thoroughly enjoying the revamped outdoor areas.

In sport, the Key Steps Gymnastics Teams shone at the District Competition. Key Step 1 achieved 1st place, Key Step 3 took 2nd, and Key Step 2 secured 3rd. Key Step 1 will now proudly represent South Lakes at the County Finals.

Finally, World Book Day was a joyful celebration of reading across the school. Children and staff arrived in an array of book-themed costumes—and plenty of pyjamas—while the pre-loved book swap proved



very popular. Inspired by the picture book *Dragon Dave the Not So Brave*, classes produced poetry, artwork and creative writing. Families also

shared delightful photos of children reading in unusual "extreme" places, capturing the fun and imagination of the day.

## Leven Valley CE School



**We hear from Lawrence Fish (yr 4):**

**I went to Liverpool to see the Ancient Egypt exhibition at the World Museum on the 24th of February. It was a busy morning in my house but we luckily just managed to get out on time!**

It was a long way to Liverpool and I spent the journey chatting to my friends. We were all very excited on the way there.

I was impressed that there were so many amazing things to see like a mummified crocodile, lots of different scarabs and precious jewellery. We filled in booklets about the ancient Egyptian exhibition. I did a word search and drew a picture of a blue scarab. I liked looking at the map of ancient Egypt and spotted the river Nile with Rigby, Samuel and Arnold.

I got dressed up as an embalmer and I had to mummify Mr Nicol. I learnt that they filled the body with anything they could find like small rocks and cloth.

My favourite bit was when we got to see real mummies. The sarcophaguses were amazing because they were covered in hieroglyphs and pictures. I learnt

that intestines are put inside the falcon headed canopic jar.

I had a brilliant day and learnt loads. I'd definitely take my whole family on a nice rainy day sometime again.





## The Choral (12A) Sunday 14th April 7pm (doors 6.30pm)

As World War I rages on, Dr. Henry Guthrie (Ralph Fiennes) takes over a British choral society that's lost most of its men to the army. The community soon discovers that the best response to the chaos of war is to make beautiful music together. Written by Alan Bennett and directed by Nicholas Hytner.

'a quiet and consistent pleasure: an unsentimental but deeply felt drama' – The Guardian  
Screened with subtitles.

**Rating: 12A (infrequent strong language, moderate sex).**  
**Runtime: 2 hours 10 minutes (including 20 minute interval).**

**Bar, interval bacon buns, ice cream, tea and coffee.**  
**Advance tickets from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/vhsg](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/vhsg)**  
**Cash, credit/debit cards, Apple Pay and Google Pay accepted on the door.**  
**Adults: £6.50 Children £4.50**

### BINGO AT THE VIC

**Monday 6th April 7.30pm – 9pm**

Eyes down for bingo night at the Vic! Over 18s only, £1 admission (cash on the door), £5 for 5 games, cash prizes. Bar, soft drinks, tea and coffee, raffle.



## What's On at The Vic

See [www.victoriahall.info/whatson-](http://www.victoriahall.info/whatson-) for more details of all our events.

Follow us on Facebook! Search for 'The Victoria Hall Grange'

Subscribe to our NEW 'What's On @ the Vic' Newsletter! Fill in the form on our website homepage.

### REGULAR EVENTS

**James Reeder Dance Classes** - Weds from 6.30pm.  
Contact: [james@reedersdance.co.uk](mailto:james@reedersdance.co.uk)

**Various U3A groups** - Contact U3A: 015395 35358. Monthly meeting 3rd Tuesday 10.15am - 12noon

**Manjushri Buddhist Meditation Class** – Wednesdays - 11am-12noon in Chamber. £5. [www.manjushri.org](http://www.manjushri.org)

**Parliamo Italiano** - Tues & Thurs - beginners, post beginners & improvers - details: [caroline\\_hakkinen@mac.com](mailto:caroline_hakkinen@mac.com)

**Growing Singing Drop-in Sessions** - light-hearted singing sessions - Thursdays 1.00-2.30pm - £8

**Yoga & Meditation for all** - Mondays 6.30pm & Thursdays 7pm, with Shelley Osman - [www.shelleyosman.com](http://www.shelleyosman.com)

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

**06/04 Mon** - VHSG Bingo at the Vic - Doors 7pm, Eyes down 7.30pm. £1 entry, £5 per Bingo card. Prizes - 18+

**10/04 Fri** - Friday Night Dancers - Ballroom & Latin Social Dance (not teaching): 7.30pm - all dancers welcome!

**11/04 Sat** – Country Roads II – Country and folk music night! - 7.45pm - [ticketsource.co.uk/victoria-hall](http://ticketsource.co.uk/victoria-hall)

**12/04 Sun** - Cinema at The Vic: 'The Choral' (12a) - 7pm, doors 6.30pm - [www.ticketsource.co.uk/vhsg](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/vhsg)

**13/04 Mon** - Grange over Sands Town Council Meeting, with 'Have Your Say!' 7pm

**15/04 Wed** – Lakeland Sinfonia – Live & Local Oboe and strings – tickets from [lakelandsinfonia.org.uk-](http://lakelandsinfonia.org.uk-) 1pm

**17/04 Fri** – Lake District Music – Trilogy Ensemble: Music of home – tickets from [ldsm.org.uk-](http://ldsm.org.uk-) 3pm

**23/04 Thu** – Grange Drama – 'Pack of Lies'– Thurs-Sat 7pm and Sunday 2pm – tickets from trybooking

## From the Library

**Coming soon: Seed Library** – free system based on swaps and sharing. Choose from seeds available or donate extra seeds you may have. Collect a leaflet for more information. Check our "In The Library" board for library events and drop-ins.

**Reading Challenge 2026:** April's Challenge "River Deep, Mountain High" a hit for Tina Turner 1966.

**Digital Drop-in:** general IT help and guidance with our volunteer Charles. **DUE TO THE UPCOMING BANK HOLIDAYS,** dates for the next two months are Monday 13 April & Monday 11 May 10.30am -12pm.

**Exhibition:** Monday 13 April – Friday 8 May, "How People Work and Play" is the subject of David Jones' exhibition of black and white photos.

**St Mary's Hospice drop ins:** second Friday every month - 10.30am - 12pm. See posters in library for contact details. This month Friday 10 April.

**Arts & Crafts Friendship group:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month 1-3pm. Bring your own crafts, supplies and equipment to share expertise and ideas and socialise - this month 7 & 21 April.

**Diabetes awareness:** 10 March – 5 May 11-12.30 Real Food Lifestyle Course, delivered by Public Health Collaboration. Contact Julie Ward 07942 816393 or [julie.ward0303@gmail.com](mailto:julie.ward0303@gmail.com) for information or to join the group.

**Storytime:** Thursdays 10.15-10.45 (school term-time). Bring your toddlers.

**Working and relaxing spaces and public computers are available** - access emails, research online and browse the internet. Computers provide free access to Ancestry, Find My Past,

1921 census and Which Magazine with your library subscription. Printing and photocopying facilities are available at a small cost. We can advise on accessing online resources and digital devices, as far as our own general knowledge allows.

**Opening:** Mon–Fri: 10am–5pm, Sat: 10am–1pm Tel: 01539 713154

**BANK HOLIDAY CLOSURES:** Fri 3 & Mon 6 April. Normal Saturday opening 4th April 10am – 1pm.



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# What's On

## Saturday 28th March

10am - 12pm Newton In Cartmel Village Hall Coffee Morning - Come Along For Coffee, Cake And A Chat At The Hall. Everyone Welcome!

## Tuesday March 31st

Forum AGM beginning at 10.0 in the United Reformed Church Hall with a lovely buffet lunch to follow

## Wednesdays 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

Community Coffee morning in Grange Methodist Church Hall from 10:30 to 12 noon

## Thursdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Grange Wellbeing Walks from the pay-and-display car park behind the Commodore Pub at the Memorial Park end at 11am. Contact Ewen Cameron on 07929 833528 for information.

## Thursday 2nd April

Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society meet at 7.30pm in Cartmel Village Hall for Dr Nick Rayburn's talk about Atlantic Slavery and the Cumbrian Gunpowder Industry.

## Saturday 4 April

Churches Together Men's Breakfast at 8:30am, Grange Methodist Church Hall. Share a simple breakfast, fellowship and prayer together.

## Tuesday 7 April

Coffee and Chat at Cartmel Methodist Church from 10:30 to 12:00 noon

## Tuesdays 7, 14, 21 and 28

Baby group in Grange Methodist Church Hall from 9:30am. All parents and carers are welcome to come with their little ones.

## Tuesdays 7, 14, 21, 28

Cartmel Wellbeing Walks from Cartmel Racecourse grandstand entrance at

11am. Contact Ewen Cameron on 07929 833528 for information.

## Wednesday 8th April

14.00. Kents Bank Station Library Mutual Improvement Class: The Inside Story behind the Northern Franchise Bid of 2004: Chris Kimberley. All welcome; free admission but please book as space is limited. Details [www.stationlibrary.org.uk](http://www.stationlibrary.org.uk)

## Tuesday 14 April

"Friendly Food" lunch and conversation in Grange Methodist Church Hall at 12:00pm

## Saturday April 11th

Beach Hut Gallery at Kents Bank Station. Meet the Artists event with Mike Barlow and Norma Gregory. From 14.00 free admission.

## Monday 13th April

Grange Probus Club will meet at 10.30 for 11am at the Netherwood Hotel for Judith Hughes' talk on "My Time in Africa". See the club report for more information.

## Mondays 13, 20 and 27

South Lakeland Phoenixes. Drop-In/ Good Mood Café for people aged 18+. Are you struggling with your mental health and wellbeing? Join us in our welcoming, inclusive, confidential, safe space between 1:00 and 3:30p.m. for a chat and a brew. Venue: Thornleigh Hotel, 26 The Esplanade, Grange-over-Sands. For more details, including information about weekly sessions, you can visit our website at [www.southlakelandphoenixes.com](http://www.southlakelandphoenixes.com), contact us directly by email at [info@southlakelandphoenixes.com](mailto:info@southlakelandphoenixes.com), or check out the 'What's On' page of Grange Now.

## Tuesday April 14th

Mothers & Others: Jane Bradley from Witherslack will come to demonstrate 'Willow Work' in the Father Magnier Room

behind St Charles Catholic church on Kents Bank Road starting at 7.30 p.m.

## Thursday 23rd April

Flookburgh & District Over 60's Coach Trip To Gretna & Houghton Hall Leaving Flookburgh Square At 9.30am Contact: Wendy Bland 07814470033

## Saturday 25th April 10 am - 12 noon.

Grange-over-Sands WI Annual Coffee Morning Will take place at the United Reform Church Hall, Kents Bank Road, Admission free. There will be various stalls including home- made cakes and a Raffle. Come along, bring family and friends and join us for delicious refreshments - hot/cold drinks and a biscuit for £2.50. All welcome.

## Sunday, 26th April

Next Foodbank 1-3 pm in the Father Magnier Room of the Catholic Church.

## Tuesday 28th April

Mothers & Others: Evening meal for members at venue still to be confirmed, details will be given at our meeting on April 14th.

## Age UK South Cumbria

Accessible Yoga – Grange United Reformed Church every Mon 11am – 12pm

Gentle Exercise Class - Grange United Reformed Church every Tuesday 2pm – 3pm & Thursday 2.30pm – 3.30pm. Currently full, please call for availability.

## Lunch Clubs:

Grange - Thornleigh Hotel - 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Allithwaite - Pheasant Inn - 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Cark - also at the Pheasant Inn - 4th Friday of the month.

Please call 01539 728118 to book lunches, or for further details.



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## RACE NIGHT !!!

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Organised jointly by Lions of Windermere & Ambleside and Grange Over Sands Lions



## Facebook Fun

 **Grange-over-Sands Cumbria** ...  
Ray Urbani · 1 Mar · 🌐

**Lin Brown** not sure at the moment.. someone might have a photo..  
Reply 🗨️ 1

 **Dave Stables** · 6d · 🌐 by Author  
Climbing over the wall for a sneaky dip after haytining was a great way to end a hot evening. Watching for Ted's (Cartmel copper) lights in the car park so he didn't catch us. I once asked him if he ever knew we went in there. "No, I didn't have a clue, I mean, all your cars were there, there was perfect silence but the surface of the pool looked like the aftermath of a bloody tidal wave....but I just couldn't figure it out." Ted was OK.  
Reply 🗨️ 1

 **Jon Gibirdi** · 1w · 🌐  
Why is it not open now, they've been fundraising for years Where's all the money gone

**Lower Holker WI**

On a beautiful spring afternoon, Lower Holker WI met in the village hall. It's an ideal venue, with plenty of off road parking. After the business, the chairlady asked for a volunteer to make a celebration cake for the 100th anniversary of the Institute, and suggestions for a venue with a private room, as a speaker had been booked for the event.

The speaker that day in March was Mr Ken Jones, his interesting subject, Bengal Tigers. These marvellous creatures are disappearing quickly mistily because of human predators. We were transported to India to a reserve dedicated to help these animals, to build up their numbers. The tea hostesses served cake with the cup of tea, which was a nice change from biscuits.

**The Grange Forum**

On Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> 10 members of the Forum enjoyed a walk around Troutbeck led by Andy Lowe who talked about the architecture of the barns, houses and farmsteads ranging from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This was part one and Troutbeck Part two is to be delivered next year. On March 10<sup>th</sup> Malcolm Kimber will talk on the geology of the region. On March 17<sup>th</sup> Wendy Hampton is taking us to Learn about the Quakers and Swarthmoor Hall. On March 24<sup>th</sup> Maurice Steele makes a return visit to talk about "Letterboxes". On March 31<sup>st</sup> we have our AGM and a buffet lunch to close the season. The next season starts on Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup> with a talk Remembering Slavery by Rob David. The new season programme will be sent out in early September.

**Cartmel Art Society**

Last month featured painting birds, for the morning meeting; followed, a fortnight later, by a full day workshop with Catherine McDiarmid, returning to lead a workshop in Portrait Painting. Due to the Easter holidays there will be no morning meeting in April. The AGM will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, starting at 11.00am and finishing around 3.00pm This should be a fun event featuring our Annual Spring Party, with a competition for the best picture. Entries should be mounted or framed. The subject this year is "Still Life", and we hope to see lots of lovely pieces of artwork, in whatever medium that you choose. Members are asked to contribute to a "Jacob's Join", bringing either a sweet or savoury dish for the shared table. Please bring along your own preferred choice of drink.

The AGM is a chance for you to see how we run Cartmel Art Society, and we welcome all suggestions in taking the club forward. If you would like to propose any issues to be addressed, please contact Julia Baker prior to the AGM, to allow time for them to be added to the agenda. Please confirm with Rita Denby if you will be coming. We'd love to see as many of our members as

possible. You can contact Rita by email on: ritadenby45@gmail.com or call her on: 07587 705842.

**Mothers and Others**

The meetings in March have been enjoyed and very well attended, and we are now looking forward to what April has to offer. At 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup>, in the Father Magner Room behind St Charles Catholic church on Kents Bank Road, Jane Bradley from Witherslack will come to demonstrate 'Willow Work' to us, a fascinating craft which I am sure will interest our members and any visitors. The following meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> will be an evening meal for members at a venue still to be confirmed, details will be given at our meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to welcoming our members and visitors at our meetings, we are a friendly group and you will always be greeted warmly. For further details please call Ann on 015395 33856 or Linda on 015395 33482.

**Grange Lions**

After a quiet beginning of the year, we are getting back into meetings and organising events to raise money. For our first event, we are teaming up with Windermere and Ambleside Lions to host a Race Night at Windermere Social Club, 7pm Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April. All money raised will be given to Blood Bikes North West, a fantastic essential charity which purely relies on donations. Why not come along, have a great time betting on the horses, eat a lovely pie supper and then a raffle with amazing donated prizes – it will be a great evening with the huge bonus of raising money! Tickets are £15. Please contact Rachel to buy tickets 0782 198 3300 rachelchilton3@gmail.com. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

**Grange Lecture Society**

We had just one more meeting left in our Ten Talks programme on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March when Andrew Green presented A History of Walking. It was preceded by our brief AGM where Richard and Philip presented our programme for next year. The Lecture Society confirmed that costs for the 2026-2027 season will remain unchanged with guests £10 and membership at £46. We are proud to continue to support our town's heritage through continued use of Victoria Hall which provides adequate seating for our members and guests.

Susan Major's Women Railway Workers in World War II was well received as was the Japanese Gardens Lecture on March 3<sup>rd</sup> by Professor Marie Conte Helm, albeit with numbers a little lower than expected. Our president Peter Ratcliffe is promoting a second Country Roads concert on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of April. We hope many of our members will come along. Tickets are £12.50 in advance or pay at the door - cards or cash. Last year's event was terrific fun. Let's hope for the same. The bar will be open and all are welcome.

**PEAT**

April brings several opportunities to get involved locally. The third Cartmel Peninsula Craft and Hobby Destash Fair will take place on Saturday 18 April at Cartmel Village Hall from 10am to 1pm. The event offers the chance to pass on surplus craft

and hobby materials – fabric, yarn, art supplies, model kits, jigsaws and more – and pick up something new for your own projects. Refreshments will be available and a community stall will sell donated items in support of St Mary's Hospice. To book a stall or donate goods contact Janet Jackson on 07713 255238 or jjackson62@virginmedia.com. On Sunday 19 April, volunteers are invited to join a community litter pick from 10am–12 noon, helping keep our local area clean and care for the environment we all share. Meet: opposite Abi & Tom's Garden Centre in the car park. Equipment: provided, but please bring your own gloves. If you would like to organise a litter pick in your own area, equipment can also be provided – get in touch at peatmessages@gmail.com.

PEAT will also host a community screening of the new "People's Emergency Briefing" film later in April (date to be confirmed). The 45-minute film brings together leading scientists, economists and communicators to explain the climate and nature crisis and what it means for society, followed by discussion about what this means for communities like ours.

**Kents Bank Station Library**

The library and bookshop are open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11.00 to 16.00, offering a huge range of railway books to browse, borrow or buy. Use of the library is free and we offer complimentary teas and coffee in our pop-up station buffet. Our monthly talks continue to be popular – the March session was on 'Cheshire's Best Kept Stations' by Mark Barker. The next will feature a key event in modern railway history. Franchising was an integral part of the privatised railway system which is currently mutating into Great British Railways. In 2004 the Northern Rail franchise was let, integrating local railway operations across the North of England. The winning bid was by Serco Nedrail and we are pleased to welcome the bid leader, Chris Kimberley. He will be revealing the inside story behind the competition. We continue to receive donations of books and railway DVDs; those we already have go into our 'for sale' section. We will be at the Carnforth Model Railway Show on April 25/6 with a display of books and other items. Our neighbours at the Beach Hut Gallery have a new exhibition starting in late March with some amazing work by Mark Barlow and Norma Gregory. We will be supporting their 'meet the artists' event on Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 2.00 – all welcome. More information: 07795 008691 email us on info@stationlibrary.org.uk or visit www.stationlibrary.org.uk

**Grange Probus Club.**

The Club welcomed Andy Lowe in February with his talk about "Making a Great Entrance" accompanied by a fascinating slide show of many examples of front doors in the area from medieval times to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and ranging from castles to cottages. Styles had developed to reflect the fashions of the day and the character of these buildings (and their front entrances) lend much to the attractiveness and popularity of the Lake District. The March meeting was the AGM which heard how the club continued to maintain the target membership of around 30 and had enjoyed an interesting programme of lectures during 2025. Lectures and luncheons had been

well attended and finances were stable. The Club's next event will be a talk by Judith Hughes on "My Time in Africa" at the Netherwood Hotel on Monday, April 13th at 10.30 for 11am. Grange Probus welcomes retired people as new members and meets on the second Monday of each month for a talk, other than June and December for luncheons and March for its AGM. Further information is available from the Secretary, Ewen Cameron at e.cameron1@btinternet.com or 07929 833528.

**Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society.**

CPLHS'S first event for 2026 welcomed Ian Gee to talk about "Wings over Windermere" – very early aviation in the area. Captain Edward Wakefield chose Windermere as the location to develop his new floatplane called Waterbird based on an AVRO machine and which first flew in November 1911 and used a revolutionary new float design that would be adopted by most future floatplanes and flying boats. Windermere continued to be an important aviation site until 1945 and included a factory for the huge Sunderland flying boats during WW2. Captain Wakefield's great-nephew, Richard, in 2008 decided to try to build a replica of the original Waterbird and this flew in 2022 and continues to give occasional displays. More information is available at waterbird.org.uk or waterbird.org.uk/Facebook. In February, Russell Mills spoke about Bohemians in Ambleside and how the London Blitz had resulted in the evacuation there of art teachers and students from 1940 to 1945 - a move that had initially been a shock both to the artists and the local residents. The accommodation had been limited and spartan but most of the incomers came to appreciate and recorded the beautiful local environment and contributed to and brightened up life in wartime Ambleside. Many of the budding artists went on to be major players in post-war British and international cultural. The Society's next meeting will be on Thursday, April 2nd at 7.30pm in the village hall when Dr Nick Rayburn will talk about Atlantic Slavery and the Cumbrian Gunpowder Industry. Further information on CPLHS, membership and activities can be found at Cartmel Peninsula

Local History Society | Bringing Local History to the Community (wordpress.com) or from Stuart Harling on 015395 36296.

**Cartmel and District Flower Club**

Our next meeting is on Monday April 20th at Cartmel Village Hall 2.00pm. Our guest demonstrator is Patty Dawson from Morland with "A Special Place". If you would like to join us the subscriptions are still open, all our members and visitors are welcome so come along and enjoy a lovely afternoon of floral arrangements and refreshments for more information contact Isobel 015395 33136.

**Grange Garden Society**



The Grange Garden Soc meet once a month on the third Friday at the URC hall, at 2pm in the winter and 7 pm in the summer. Visitors are always very welcome to join us at a cost of £3 and new members very welcome. In February we had a very interesting talk about Packwood House in Warwickshire given by Steve Halliwell, and in March Jan Tomlinson a member of the group gave a talk about 25years of pleasure gardening at

Hillcrest in Grange.

Our next talk on April 17th at 7pm will be given by Emma Cowan whose garden Hylands House in Kendal will be open for the first time this year in the NGS open garden scheme on June 6th and Sept 12th. Emma moved to Hylands House, an Arts and Craft house, in 2020 and in the past 5 years has transformed the garden from a wilderness into a beautiful 2.5 acre garden with a wildlife pond, exotic area, kitchen garden, orchard, woodland walk, wild areas for nature to flourish and some amazing sculptures.

**Grange Soroptimists**



At the March Club meeting members enjoyed a very interesting talk by Annette Hennessy about the work of PEAT. Nine members marked International Women's Day (March 8th) by joining staff and volunteers of Barrow Women's Centre on a march in Barrow. It was a very lively event with the Boom Dang drummers leading the march. Six members took part in the annual Swimathon in Kendal raising money for ShelterBox which provides tents and equipment for families in disaster areas. Members have been following the work of honorary member Sarah Neill who is in Antarctica leading an all women expedition. Members are resuming their work in the Sensory Garden and members continue to help at Barrow Women's Centre. Another Sewing Bee was held, producing cloth bags for mastectomy patients drain bags and these will be presented to Westmorland General Hospital. Planning for the Mental Health Awareness Day on May 16 th is underway. Anyone interested in joining the club or getting further information please contact Mary Ann on 015395 32265 or www.sigbi.org/grange-over-sands/

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## In Memory: Hazel Smith

Luke, Holly and Lucy are saddened to announce the passing of their wonderful Mum, Hazel Smith, of Grange-Over-Sands, on Tuesday 24th February.

She will be sorely missed, not only by her loving family, but by her many friends in Grange, a place she shared and loved with her partner, Peter Denison.

After a private family cremation, a celebration of Hazel will take place in Grange-Over-Sands later in the year. Thereafter, she will join her late husband, Victor John Smith, in St Andrew's Church, Grinton, North Yorkshire.

Luke, Holly and Lucy would like to express their heartfelt thanks to Hazel's friends for their kindness and support over the last four months. To honour Hazel and her love of Grange, her children hope members of the community will consider making a donation to the Grange Promenade Volunteer Gardeners in her memory, for the care and development of the promenade gardens that she cared for so much. Search for GrangePromGardeners at [www.gofundme.com](http://www.gofundme.com)



## Dear Editor,

Please could the three W & F councillors together with the Grange Town Council make a joint request for the Windermere Road Car Park to have an agreement similar to the Hampsfell Car Park and Berners Car Park, for a reduced long time parking fee. There are twelve businesses in that area of the town known as Yewbarrow Terrace and The Boulevard on Windermere Road. When the new Spar and Petrol Station becomes operational there will be even more 'workers' parking spaces needed.

Berners Car Park is £1-60 all day, despite the wrong price on the post by the Fire Station. Hampsfell Car Park has an Early Bird £1-20 ticket all day if bought between 6pm and 9am.

Judith Shapland

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Dear Editor,

Families across Lebanon are being forced to flee their homes as the conflict in the Middle East grows. More than 700,000 people have already left their homes after repeated bombings and evacuation orders. Many towns and cities are now under fire and Lebanon is on the brink of a major humanitarian crisis.

Family homes are being destroyed - people are escaping with almost nothing and taking shelter wherever they can - schools, communal shelters set up by the government, crowded public buildings, or makeshift shelters. Many are already full, and some families have no choice but to sleep outside amid ongoing airstrikes.

At ShelterBox, we've launched an urgent fundraising appeal to help fund our response. We're working with a local organisation and Rotary in Lebanon to support families who have been displaced. Together, we're preparing to support people with essential items that are urgently needed - things like blankets, mattresses, food containers, solar lights, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits.

If your readers can support, by sharing our appeal or donating, it would make a real difference to families who have been uprooted from their homes.

Haroon Altaf

Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa

ShelterBox

<https://shelterbox.org/lebanon-middle-east/>

Dear Editor,

As a resident of Grange, I thought you might be interested in the following. I am a Botanical artist, and have been given one of only 19 places in the International RHS Botanical Art and Photography exhibition 2026. The Exhibition will be in the Saatchi Gallery, London from June 19th to August the 2nd. Nearer to home, some of my work will be on exhibition in the Beach Hut Gallery from April 11th. Norma Gregory



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Next deadline is 17th April, subject to space. Five items max. Single items max £200, in writing to our offices or e-mail [info@grangenow.co.uk](mailto:info@grangenow.co.uk), include your name and address.

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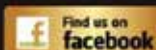
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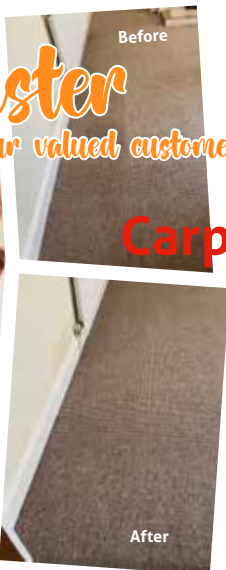


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