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ISSUE 423 DECEMBER 2026
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Hut Fest at Ravenstown Club - page 3

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Should I Gift my Property to my Children?

As the festive period approaches, many clients ask whether they should gift the family home to their children with a view to avoiding paying care home fees in the future.

It is very rare we would recommend gifting your home to your children during your lifetime as there are some very serious pitfalls to consider.

If you are considering making a gift of your home to your children, you should be mindful of the following consequences:

1. You may need to pay a market rent to your children
If you gift your property to your children and they live elsewhere, you will need to pay your children a market rent if your estate will be subject to inheritance tax.

If you do not pay a market rent, HM Revenue and Customs will argue there was no valid gift to your children because you have retained the whole benefit of the property. This means your property would still form part of your estate for inheritance tax purposes.



2. Your children may have to pay higher rate Stamp Duty Land Tax or Capital Gains Tax
Your children may have to pay higher rate Stamp Duty Land Tax if they buy another property as they are a second homeowner.

Your children may also have to pay Capital Gains Tax on any increase in value on your home when it is sold if they are not living in that property as their first home.

3. Your children could divorce or be made bankrupt
If one of your children were to divorce or get into financial difficulty, your home could form part of ancillary relief or bankruptcy court proceedings and your property may need to be sold.

4. Local authorities may refuse to fund your care
If you require residential or nursing care, the Local Authority may argue you have gifted your home to avoid paying care home fees and refuse to fund your care.

If you are considering making a gift of your property you should take legal advice. Your solicitor can advise on ways to gift your property under the terms of your Will whilst also protecting a share of your property against care home fees.

Get in Touch
Originally established in Kendal in 1871, Arnold Greenwood has been trusted by generations for clear, dependable advice. For advice on Wills, Inheritance Tax Planning, Lasting Powers of Attorney, estates or trusts, contact a member of our team at our Kendal or Grange over Sands office.

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Editor's letter,

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas. A big thank you to all the advertisers who make this community newspaper possible. Please show them all your support this Christmas and shop local wherever you can.

Don't forget to shout up the chimney and leave out a mince pie.

Next deadline is 16th December (The first issue of 2027) and this will be delivered out by New Year's Eve.

Best wishes, Chris

Hut Fest at Ravenstown Club



This year the money raised was for 3 causes Muscular Dystrophy UK, Grange United Junior Football Club and Cartmel Cricket Club.

Total amount raised was £16000 which £8000 was given to Muscular dystrophy uk and £4000 each to Cartmel cricket club and Grange United jfc.

The committee for the event have organised this 3 times now and it's gone from strength to strength. A massive thank you must go to the head of the committee Danielle Lambeth who worked tirelessly to make such a great day happen.

The committee would like to thank all the sponsors, helpers, donations, bands and acts, and everyone who contributed in any way at all to make this such a success.



Santa



This year Bay Search and Rescue have teamed up with Grange Lions again to bring Santa to the area.

Despite Santa being very busy making and wrapping presents, we managed a quick meeting with Santa and his helpers and have organised the following dates! All weather dependant. Please note that we have changed the date for Allithwaite to Friday 11th as Santa was double booked!

We are also hoping to branch further and do a couple of sleigh runs in Kendal too! We are always looking for helpers at our Santa Sleigh nights so you fancy a walk for a couple of hours, you are very welcome – please contact Rachel on 0782 198 3300, rachelchilton3@gmail.com for more information. No commitment to Lions at all. Please check out our Facebook pages for Santa updates. See you all very soon!



grange NOW

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www.grangenow.co.uk
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Future Deadlines

ISSUE	DEADLINE	RELEASE
GN424	16th Dec	30th Nov
GN425	15th Jan	27th Jan

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Investment Matters

By Dan Birch APFS

The Biggest Risk to Your Investments Isn't the Market

In the 2026 Autumn Budget the chancellor confirmed two key changes affecting savers from 6 April 2027.

Tax on savings interest outside ISA's and above your Personal Savings Allowance (PSA) will rise to 24% for basic-rate taxpayers, 44% for higher-rate taxpayers and 49% for additional-rate taxpayers. The PSA itself is unchanged at £1,000 for basic-rate taxpayers and £500 for higher-rate taxpayers and £0 for additional-rate taxpayers, allowing you to earn this much in interest before any tax is due.

In more positive news, the proposed reduction in the Cash ISA allowance has been scrapped. Plans to cut the Cash ISA limit for under-65s from £20,000 to £12,000 from April 2027 have been reversed. Savers of all ages will continue to be able to contribute up to £20,000 per year tax-free into cash ISA's, stocks and shares ISA's or a combination of both.

The Government has also abandoned the related anti-avoidance measures that were due to accompany the ISA reform, meaning there will be no additional charge on interest earned in cash held in stocks and shares ISA's and no restrictions on transferring stocks and shares ISA's into a cash equivalent ISA.

Tax and financial legislation can change regularly, particularly following the annual Budget and Spring Statement. By meeting with your Financial Planner regularly, you can stay up to date with these developments and make the most of available tax-efficient saving and investment opportunities.

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.

From the Library

Opening hours: There are temporary adjustments to reduce unexpected disruptions. We are open Monday – Friday & Saturday morning, as before, with a daily lunch time closure of 1-2. Christmas paraphernalia on sale. Cash only please.

Home Delivery Service: We have availability for our library home delivery service - an offer for customers unable to visit the library with no one to collect items for them. Contact us to learn more about this service.

Exhibition: The Soroptimists' "Orange The World" display, in support of UN campaign to eliminate violence against women is in the library from Monday 30 November to Saturday 5th December.

Department of Work & Pensions Mobile Drop In: first & third Tuesdays in the carpark. December dates 1& 15 October. Staffed by experienced Work Coaches, offering support with job searching, training and other associated advice.

Digital Drop-in: IT help and advice with Charles - first Monday each month 10.30 -12. This month Monday 7 December.

Reading Challenge 2026: A Spaceman Came Travelling", a festive hit for Chris de Burgh in 1975. Hand in competed Book Challenge 2026 entries by Saturday January 8. Winning entry to be pulled the following week. **Storytime:** Termtime10.15-10.45. Bring toddlers for stories, rhymes and games. We're keen to chat to childcare or nursery groups who think they might like to attend regularly.

Working and relaxing spaces and public computers are available. 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

Open: Mon–Fri: 10am –5pm, Closed for lunch daily 1-2pm. Sat: 10am –1pm Tel: 01539 713154

Christmas & New Year: closing Thursday 24th December 1pm, re-opening Saturday 2 January 10am.



Grange-over-Sands Takeaway Crowned Best in England!



A family-run business in Grange-over-Sands is celebrating an incredible achievement after Fish Over Chips was named Takeaway of the Year at the English Food Aw ards, taking home the title of Best Takeaway in England.

The award ceremony took place in Wolverhampton on 9th November, and for the team at Fish Over Chips, the evening came as a huge surprise.

The business had been amazed just to receive a nomination, having known nothing about the awards before being contacted. Little did they know they would be returning to Grange with one of the biggest titles in the country!

"We are incredibly proud of what we've achieved, but this is not something we could ever do alone. Our amazing team deserve so much credit. Their hard work, dedication and commitment make everything possible, and we are so grateful to have them alongside us. We'd also like to thank every single one of our customers, both local residents and those who travel to visit us."

And while there may now be another trophy on the shelf, the team at Fish Over Chips remain focused on what they have always done: serving their customers, looking after their community and doing what they love.

St Paul's Christmas Tree Festival

St Paul's Church will once again be hosting the Christmas Tree Festival this December.

We do hope you can join us to see the fantastic trees at either the opening reception or during the following 3 weeks that the festival is open. This year's opening reception will be held in church on Thursday 3rd December at 7pm when Tim Farron will open the festival and the choir from Grange CE Primary School and Bay Community Singers will entertain us. The festival will then be open every day from Friday 4th December up to and including Wednesday 30th December (apart from service times and Christmas Day and Boxing Day). Everyone is very welcome.

Last year we had nearly 250 people at the opening reception and approximately 850 visitors during the 3 weeks the festival was open. £1916.94 in donations was shared between 2 chosen charities.

This year donations received will be sent Community Action Nepal (www.canepal.org.uk) and Growing Well (growingwell.co.uk)

NEWBY BRIDGE HOTEL

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Available until 30th December
Monday - Saturday (excl. 25th December)
Sunday Evening by arrangement only for large groups
LUNCH: Served 12 noon - 3 pm
2 courses £24.95 pp / 3 courses £29.95 pp
DINNER: Served 5.30 pm - 8.30 pm
2 courses £29.95 pp / 3 courses £34.95 pp
Optional Tea/Coffee & Mince Pie £1.50 pp
Local Discount is applicable to bookings of 10 or under

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY NIGHT

Homemade Curries, Disco, Traditional Piper and a Toast Drink at Midnight
£40.00 per adult/ £20.00 per child (under 12)
Thusday 31st December 2026: 7 pm - Midnight

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Eighty years of the Grange-over-Sands Christmas Tree

Part 2

Elements have been added to the event over time, including a shop window-dressing competition and town trails. The switch-on has moved forward, from just a few days before Christmas to late November or early December. While the town's mayor flicked the switch for many decades, that honour now goes to deserving local individuals or families.

However, the tree's history may be more remarkable for what hasn't changed in 80 years. Music has always been provided by the Flookburgh Band – at first on platforms in the gardens but now on Yewbarrow Terrace. Carols have been sung by local groups, starting with Grange Soroptomists. The switch-on is still organised by volunteers and draws a big crowd whatever the weather, while Father Christmas still brings gifts for all – even to those who admit to queuing twice. Many who grew up in Grange have happy memories of the occasion and still enjoy it today, either in person or via social media.

Also unchanged is the generosity of the town in supporting the lighting. It costs around £1,500 a year to stage the event and keep the lights on throughout December, and we receive kind donations from local individuals, organisations and businesses. If you would like to donate, please call into Johnston's on Main Street or make a BACS payment to Grange-over-Sands Christmas Tree Committee, sort code 20-45-28, account number 43690776. We look forward to seeing you from 6pm on Saturday 28th November… and here's to another 80 years!

History by Sam and Tom Holman. Thank you to those who helped with research, including staff at Grange-over-Sands and Kendal Libraries, the Christmas Tree committee, Anne Clark, Ron Shapland and John Evans. If you have any memories or facts to add to our history, please email samholman54@gmail.com.

By Sam and Tom Holman



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Promenade Gardeners joined with the U3A gardeners

Together we can do great things…. No, not the start of a management tutorial,but the words of Mother Theresa.



And in that spirit, the Grange Promenade Gardeners joined with the U3A gardeners to clear and tidy up the garden on the promenade adjoining the train station. A huge amount of old plant material and weeds were removed and new plants/ bulbs were put in. We also rejuvenated the large pots nearby, clearing and planting. The result is a tidy weed free garden where residents and visitors can enjoy glorious views of the bay.

> The prom gardeners generally care for approximately two thirds of the promenade and U3A, who share responsibilities care for the section between the subway and the station. As volunteers who receive no statutory funding , we raise funds from donations and events. Our next major effort is at the upcoming Victoria Hall Christmas Fair. Please come along to buy classic Christmas wreaths and plant related Christmas gifts. (the team have been hard at work preparing exciting and novel items)… Have a great run up to Christmas and perhaps have a walk along the promenade to fully appreciate the promenade gardens. daverimmer098@gmail.com

Friends at Christmas

Arrangements and preparations for our Christmas day get-together are well under way. Invitations have now been delivered and replies are being received. If you live on your own, in Grange or the surrounding area, and will be spending Christmas day on your own you would be welcome to join us. We enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner, entertainment and, most importantly, companionship. This is a free event, however you do need a ticket to attend. If you are interested in joining us, you can contact Steph on 36426 for more information.

Fundraising calendars for St. Mary's Hospice

Two calendars are available - one is a mix of animals, landscapes and flowers.

The other was influenced by the film calendar girls both are available at picturethis.uk1@gmail.com and 50 percent of profits go to St.Mary's hospice

Levens Choir

A Renaissance Nativity. The Christmas story, told through the sublime music of Tallis, Palestrina, Schutz and their contemporaries. Victoria Hall, Grange - 12th December, 7.30pm and St Mary's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale - 13th December 3.00pm. Tickets £15 from www.levenschoir.net or on the door. Children and students free.



Everyone Welcome!

Christmas FAIR

FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2026

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

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New Handrails in the Veterans' Garden



For those who like to use the footpath off Main Street down to the Veterans' Garden for a few quiet minutes, you will be pleased to know that there is now a good-looking but sturdy handrail to help you down (or up) the steps.

This has been installed by Grange Town Council using a small pot of money we get from housing developers when new dwellings are built. The same pot was used previously to pay for the handrails in Park Road Gardens.

I hope you enjoy using them. Councillor Tricia Thomas

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Marine Survey, Earnse Bay © Sylvia Woodhead



Birds of Morecambe Bay- © Peter Cairns

Scott Petrek, Cumbria Wildlife Trust Southern Reserves Officer, gave a 'masterclass' in identifying birds in Morecambe Bay and the Solway.

Each estuary has an international protection designation, Special Protection Area. Stretching from Ravenglass to Fleetwood, birds of Morecambe Bay are monitored by volunteers recording 200,000+ wintering birds each year, including 150+ species, The Bay is a crucial site for overwintering oystercatcher, curlew and eider ducks. These ice-free estuaries provide food for birds, which fly in from Iceland, Arctic Canada, Scandinavia. By use of annotated photos and videos of the flocking behaviour, Scott explained how to identify ten of the most common birds. Dunlin for example are no larger than blackbirds, and their plumage varies throughout the year. The slightly larger Knot form the classic murmuration flocks. The Society plans to hold a high tide birdwatch on Grange Prom in December. Our winter programme can be downloaded from www.grangenats.uk.

The Wrong Units. I would like to apologise for a typo which slipped past the proofreader in last month's account. An adult dormouse weighs less than half an ounce, about 12 grams, The units should, of course, have been grams. Life in Morecambe Bay:

Announcing the publication of a new book. Art meets Biology. Following the display of nine pen-and-ink drawings by the local artist Christine Isherwood, Peter Woodhead has written a biological account of each drawing. Priced at £10.00, this is the ideal Christmas present. Available at Grange Nats meetings.

Grange Men's Shed

This has been a month we do not wish to repeat. We have been struck with Flu and half our regular attenders have not been able to come to the Shed.



At the time of writing this I am still not sure if we will be able to open on all our usual days.

On a lighter note, Christmas is coming and the St Paul's Christmas Tree Festival is almost here. It is a good job we started on our tree early as our star lumberjacks have also been down with Flu. I am hoping they will soon be back to finish it. The festival event will start on Thursday 3 Dec at 19.00.A sneak preview of the tree is here, it will look a lot better with the lights on and when it is moving. Don't miss it.

The final Repair Café of the year was in November, there will not be one in December, as usual.

We will still be there for you. Remember, Back Yewbarrow Terrace, behind the Paragon Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 10.00 until 13.00.

Following our successful 'Soup and a Roll' meeting on 22 October, we held another on November 19. These gave the opportunity for men who were interested to joining the Shed to share their ideas of more activities than we currently offer. The Shed exists to address isolation and loneliness among men in our area through social contact. The next meeting will be at St Charles Borromeo Church Hall on Kents Bank Road on Wednesday 16th December at 12.30. A warm welcome awaits you!

Katie Plumb Ceramics



Local potter Katie Plumb has enjoyed a busy festive season hosting lessons and exhibiting at Christmas markets.

With a unique style of creating lakeland mountain landscapes using glaze techniques, she produces, mugs, jugs, bowls and decorative pieces. Visitors regularly come to Katie's studio in Windermere to spend time learning how to 'spin the wheel' and hand build, often for the first time. After completing an MA in ceramics at University of Central Lancashire, Katie has taught everyone from children at local schools to members of Gatesbield retirement home and every age in between.

Katie is looking forward to 2027 with more sculpting, time on the wheel, teaching students and experimenting with new glaze. Her new year's wish...a bigger kiln! Find out more on instagram at katie_plumb_ceramics or email katieplumb123@gmail.com


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Property Talk



With

Craig Turner
Property Department Manager
and Valuer

FRIENDLY HONEST PROPERTY ADVICE

Yule love selling with Poole Townsend

As the year draws to a close we can look back on ups and downs within our lives, the wider world and, in this case, the property market. Life just seems to be a rollercoaster for most of us as we find ourselves in the middle of another period where the cost of living is increasing.

Unfortunately we don't have the control on these things we would like and the political worlds both at home and abroad still continue to effect how we go about our lives. The Budget has been and gone with little impact on the world of property. The same can't be said for the mid terms in America. The 'blue wave' flooded across The States on the momentum of cost of living issues and the war in with Iran.

As costs increased around the world inevitably (and as predicted) interest rates have finally followed. 4% base rates are here and with this comes increases in mortgage payments for those on variable rates and higher costs for those coming to the end of fixed rates.

The market has found itself in a position where diaries are quiet as fewer properties are put up for sale but sales are still happening with people still viewing and offering. The Christmas period is always less hectic than other times but the New Years bounce is just around the corner and we are busying ourselves in preparation.

Excitingly we have new plans for the New Year to help improve our offering to our sales clients and maintain our standing as the estate agent with the highest level of sales across the South Lakes and Furness region. More on that to follow in the coming months.

In the meantime we move into Christmas filled with festive joy and anticipation for the New Year. If you're looking to buy or sell a property in the coming months make sure you contact one of our local experts here at Poole Townsend and may we take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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St Mary's Hospice announces return of memorial services across Furness and South Lakes



Five special services will bring communities together this Christmas to remember loved ones and celebrate their lasting memories.

St Mary's Hospice is delighted to announce the return of its much-loved Light Up A Life services this December, offering people across the local community an opportunity to come together, remember loved ones and celebrate treasured memories.

This year, the hospice is expanding its programme with the addition of a new service at St Mary's Church in Windermere, giving even more people the opportunity to take part in these special festive gatherings.

The annual Light Up A Life campaign recognises that, while Christmas can be a time of celebration, it can also be a particularly difficult period for those who are missing someone special. The services provide a peaceful space to pause, reflect and remember, surrounded by others who understand the importance of keeping loved ones' memories alive.

Everyone is welcome to attend, whether they wish to remember someone who has died recently or honour someone who will always hold a special place in their heart. You do not need to have a prior connection to the hospice to join.

The Light Up A Life services will take place at the following locations:

- **Grasmere: St Oswald's Church – Wednesday 2nd December, 6pm**
- **Ulverston: St Mary's Parish Church – Saturday 5th December, 3pm**
- **Cartmel: Cartmel Priory – Sunday 6th December, 3.30pm**
- **Barrow: St Paul's Church – Thursday 10th December, 6pm**
- **Windermere: St Mary's Church – Saturday 12th December, 2pm**

As part of Light Up A Life, supporters are invited to dedicate a light in memory of a loved one. Each dedication helps St Mary's Hospice continue providing compassionate care, comfort and support to local people and their families when they need it most.

Those who make a dedication will have their loved one's name included in the order of service, with a personalised message star placed on the hospice Christmas tree alongside a light shining in their memory. The tree will provide a special place to reflect throughout the festive season.

Loved ones' names and dedications will also feature in the hospice's online memorial book, which will be available to view on the St Mary's Hospice website from 17th December. Copies of the service order will be available to collect at the church services or from the hospice reception after 9th December.

Dedications must be submitted by Monday 16th November.

By dedicating a light, supporters can create a lasting tribute to someone special while helping ensure St Mary's Hospice can continue to be there for local people and their families going through some of life's toughest challenges.

For more information about Light Up A Life, to dedicate a light or to find out how to support St Mary's Hospice, visit the hospice website: stmaryshospice.org.uk

Grange Drama





Our January play, 'Good Things' by Liz Lochhead, has been cast and rehearsals are in full swing.

The play will be performed on Thursday 28th January to Saturday 30th January 2027 at Cartmel Village Hall. Ticket information will be available next month.

Grange Drama, together with Friends of Grange Library, are planning another 'Christmas Play Extravaganza' on Tuesday 1st December at 7.00pm. It's a free event so why not come along to Grange Library on Tuesday 1st for a fun programme of play readings, poems and carols and get yourself in the mood for the festive season.

Everyone at Grange Drama would like to thank readers for their support this year and wish all a 'Very Merry Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year.

Any questions? Contact us at www.grange-drama.org.uk

Cartmel Choral Society Christmas Concert: Cartmel Priory

A beautiful setting, glorious choral music and much-loved Christmas carols will bring festive cheer to Cartmel this December on Sunday 13th December at 3.30pm

Cartmel Choral Society invites you to join them in the magnificent Cartmel Priory for a Christmas concert celebrating the season with wonderful choral music and familiar carols. Come along and enjoy the music in a special setting.

The programme features Charles Gounod's St. Cecilia Mass, two movements from Josef Rheinberger's Star of Bethlehem, William Matthias's Sir Christèmas and Peter Warlock's Adam Lay y-Bounden. The concert will also include a selection of popular Christmas carols, inviting the audience to join in and share the festive spirit.

The choir will be led by Music Director Ian Jones, with David Pipe on organ. The soloists are soprano Pam Self, tenor Simon McCleery and bass Paul Chamberlain.

Admission: £12 on the door, £10 in advance, under 18s free. Bar available, free mince pies. Advance tickets are available online at www.cartmelchoral.co.uk and from members of the choir, email: cartmelchoral1908+tickets@gmail.com



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The Festive Season with Flookburgh Band



The band is looking forward to a busy Christmas season and hope that you are able to join us at some of our events.

Our annual Christmas concert is on Saturday 19th December at 7pm in the Victoria Hall with all your Christmas favourites and carols to sing along to. Tickets are £12 from Cockles in Flookburgh, Johnstons of Grange, online at www.flookburghband.co.uk and at the door.

By kind invitation of Lucy Cavendish, we are delighted to be returning to Holker Hall to play a Carol concert on Friday 18th December at 6.30pm. This event was very popular last year, so to make sure everyone has a seat, this year it is by ticket only £3.50 (all proceeds to the band) and these are available now from the Holker Hall website. www.holker.co.uk. Please visit the webpage for further details.

Again, we are privileged to support the Light up a Life Service for St Marys Hospice at Cartmel Priory on 6th December at 3pm. This is a free to attend event to remember loved ones.

You can hear the band playing carols at Yew Tree Barn on 5th (2pm) and 6th (12pm) of December and again on Flookburgh Square on Christmas morning at 11.30 am. Throughout the season, listen out for our junior players who really enjoy going out to play carols and spreading Christmas cheer around the area, beginning with the lighting of the Christmas tree in Grange over Sands on 28th November at 5.45pm. The band would like to thank you all for your unwavering support throughout the year and hope that our music this Christmas brings you joy and happiness.

St Mary's Hospice celebrates success of first Make A Will Week



St Mary's Hospice and local solicitors Arnold Greenwood are celebrating the success of their first-ever Make A Will Week partnership.

From 26th October to 1st November 2026, Arnold Greenwood Solicitors, based in Grange-over-Sands, supported St Mary's Hospice by generously donating their time to help local people write or update their Wills. In return, participants were invited to make a donation directly to St Mary's Hospice or consider leaving a Gift in their Will. In total, Make A Will Week raised just under £2,000 in donations. "If anyone would like to learn more about leaving a Gift in their Will, please get in touch with me: alison.alger@stmaryshospice.org.uk or 01229 580305."

A different way to shop this Christmas

If you are trying to avoid buying the same Christmas presents as everyone else, an auction can be a very different place to start.

At 1818 Auctioneers, our sales bring together an ever-changing mix of jewellery, watches, silver, books, ceramics, pictures, collectables, whisky and unusual decorative pieces. Some are valuable, some are modestly priced, and many are unique.

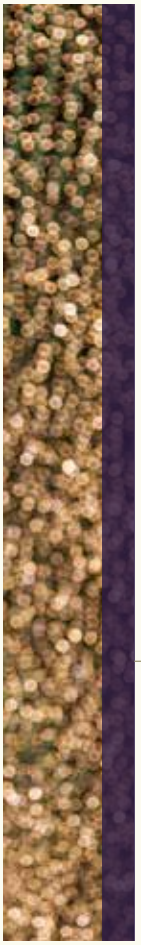
Instead of choosing from rows of identical products, you might find a vintage brooch, a signed book, a piece of local art, an old silver object or something slightly eccentric that simply suits the person you are buying for.

There is also the pleasure of buying something with a bit of history behind it. An object may be decades or centuries old, have a fascinating backstory, or be connected with a particular place or maker, making even a relatively inexpensive gift feel more significant.

Auction does require a little more planning than conventional shopping. Sales run for a set period, bids are placed online and, if you are successful, collection or delivery needs to be arranged. But for people who enjoy the hunt, that is often part of the fun.

It is worth setting a budget before you bid and remembering to allow for buyer's premium and any platform fees on top of the hammer price.

If you are looking for something a little different this Christmas, browsing one of our auction catalogues might be a good place to begin your search.



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December Newsletter

ALLITHWAITE & CARTMEL PARISH COUNCIL

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Volunteers

A very big thank you to everyone who volunteered their time this year in the Allithwaite Orchard, the mini libraries and Allithwaite Quarry. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Season Greetings

Wishing all our residents a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year!
We would like to thank everyone who helps make our villages such wonderful places to live.
We look forward to working together in the year ahead and wish you all the very best for 2027!



Cemetery Land Extension

Thank you for those who have responded to our consulation so far. There is still time to let us know your thoughts on the on the possibility of a future extension to Cartmel Cemetery. Please let us know your thoughts by scanning the QR code below or visiting our website.

If you own any suitable land in or close to Cartmel and would be interested in selling or donating, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Consultation end date - 31/01/2027

Councillor Vacancies

We have vacancies for co-opted councillors. If you would like to get involved -
we'd love to hear from you!

You can also support the PC without being a councillor! Volunteers are welcome to join our working groups. Please contact the Parish Clerk for further information

Mini Libraries

Allithwaite & Cartmel mini libraries are seeking donations of paper-backed books.

We would kindly ask that hard backed books are **not** donated due to limited space.

Updates

Allithwaite Orchard
We would kindly remind residents and visitors that dog walking is not permitted in the Orchard.

Meeting Dates

Thursday 14th January
Cartmel Village Hall
7pm

Thursday 11th February
St. Mary's Church Allithwaite
7pm

Agendas are available on our website and community noticeboards.

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Cartmel Priory School

Remembering Miss Brown

Our school community has been deeply saddened by the recent loss of our Assistant Headteacher and SENCO, Gemma Brown.

Gemma was a dedicated teacher and leader who cared passionately about young people. Throughout her career, she worked tirelessly to help students succeed, supporting them not only in their education but also in their personal growth and wellbeing.

She was known for her kindness, warmth and determination to make a difference. Whether working with students, supporting families or helping colleagues, Gemma always gave her time generously and put others first.

Gemma played a huge part in shaping our school. She believed in every child and worked hard to ensure that all young people had the opportunities and support they needed to thrive. Her positive influence can be seen in the lives of the many students she helped and the staff who had the privilege of working alongside her.

The love and respect shown by former students, families, colleagues and friends is a testament to the extraordinary person Gemma was and the difference she made.

Although words cannot fully express how much she will be missed, we are grateful for everything she gave to our school and community. Her legacy will live on through the people whose lives she touched.

Our thoughts remain with her family and loved ones at this incredibly difficult time.

Flookburgh CE PrimarySchool





Autumn is definitely here – but the energy and excitement at Flookburgh is not dampened or dimmed.

October finished with a bang – our youngest children went to the The Coro to watch the Gruffalo, supported by a merry band of staff and parents. Friends of Flookburgh School helped subsidise the trip through their tireless fundraising.

Our Key Stage Two children enjoyed a House Football tournament. The house captains were great role models, organising, encouraging and inspiring their teams. They are relishing developing their leadership skills.

As a school we were fully emersed in the Feet First initiative from the council, which encouraged active approaches to getting to school – we saw scooters, bikes, skateboards, walkers and even 'park and striders'. So many children managed all five days!!

Since the start of November, our football teams have been successful at the Cluster Tournament. Our girls finished first - no doubt inspired by joining our after-school club and the house competitions.

Bluebird Class have spent the day exploring Manchester – delving into Roman remains, the industrial past at the Museum of Science and Industry, as well as natural history in the Manchester Museum. We even had a sneaky peak at the two universities on Oxford Rd – I wonder how many of these children might go on to study there?

We have an Open Day on 24th November – please book an appointment to see how our children learn and the exciting grounds we use to support this.







Grange CE Primary School







Following the wonderful concert we shared last month, we were delighted to welcome Norman French, Chair of the K Shoes Male Voice Choir, and Glyn Jones back into school to present an incredible cheque for £751.80 towards our Garden Room Project.

The children were thrilled to meet them and learn more about the fundraising efforts behind such a generous donation. We are extremely grateful to the choir and everyone who supported the event. Their kindness and community spirit will help bring our Garden Room vision closer to reality, creating an inspiring outdoor space where children can learn, explore and flourish.

We are also excited to be hosting an OPAL Showcase Event on 27 November. We are incredibly proud to have one of the best school playtimes in the country and look forward to welcoming schools interested in beginning their own OPAL journey. Our play provision continues to grow and flourish, and we are especially excited to open our brand-new Sandpit Zone. The children have recently enjoyed helping to move several tonnes of sand into its new home, and we cannot wait to see the area full of imaginative play. A huge thank you to all the staff and volunteers who have helped make this possible.

Remembrance has also been a significant focus across school this month, giving children opportunities to reflect on courage, sacrifice, peace and hope. We were especially proud of members of our school choir who represented Grange CE Primary School at the Civic Remembrance Service at St Paul's Church, leading Let There Be Peace on Earth before laying a wreath at the cenotaph. Back in school, children explored remembrance through artwork, poetry, history and reflection, developing a deeper understanding of why we remember and the importance of working towards a more peaceful future.

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Leasehold Management Companies: What you should know

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If you own a leasehold flat or apartment, the building's freehold will usually be owned by a landlord or collectively by residents through a management company. Understanding how freehold ownership and management companies work is essential because it affects how your building is maintained, insured, and managed.

A management company allows leaseholders to have control and responsibility over day-to-day management of their building such as repairs, maintenance and insurance. Flat owners may manage these responsibilities themselves or appoint professional managing agents to assist. Like any other company registered at Companies House, the management company must comply with legal requirements such as filing annual returns. Part of this return consists of providing the accounts of the company certified by an accountant.

In smaller developments, the freehold may instead be owned by an individual landlord or jointly by residents. Whilst it is preferable nowadays to own the freehold collectively by way of a management company, some residents may not want the hassle of Companies House and therefore the freehold can be owned collectively under a trust deed. A downside to this is that upon every sale of each flat, a change to the freehold ownership is also required.

Understanding how freehold structure will affect your leasehold ownership will help you make informed decisions and avoid future complications.



015395 38288

Ulverston | Windermere | Grange | Barrow | Lancaster

Lindale School







While talking about the changes at this time of year, the early years collected some autumn treasures around the school grounds and produced some gorgeous leaf rubbings. Working carefully, they also enjoyed using tools to hammer golf tees into pumpkins – what fun!

Our November Role & Play Mini City session was a great success. There was an astronaut roasting marshmallows, post being delivered, some trips to the nail salon and babies being cared for.

We can't wait for the Christmas-themed session in December.

We are taking the whole school (reception to year 6) swimming this half-term. Swimming is such an important skill and it is great to see everyone making progress with their confidence and ability.

Year 5 and 6 recently welcomed artist Hannah Maia into class for an inspiring workshop about peatland conservation. Hannah brought a sample of sphagnum moss and explained its vital role. The children were fascinated to learn about the historical uses of moss, including its use as wound dressings during World War One and as a natural way to keep food cool. After exploring the different layers that make up peatlands, the children created their own layered collages inspired by the blanket bog of Skiddaw.

The whole school walked up to the memorial where we held our Remembrance Service. The children laid crosses and read the names of local people who fought in the war, paying tribute to their service and sacrifice. We also shared poems, prayers, readings and a two-minute silence.

Cartmel CE Primary School







This month, our school community was deeply saddened by the death of Gemma Brown, our much-loved Clerk to Governors and parent within the school.

Gemma was a special and valued member of the Cartmel community whose kindness, warmth and support touched many lives. She will be remembered with great affection and will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

In Class 1, pupils have begun their new topic on the Lake District. They are looking forward to learning more about the area in which they live, exploring maps of the local community and developing an appreciation of the stunning landscape that surrounds them.

Whole-school Forest School sessions have once again been a highlight. Children enjoyed roasting marshmallows around the fire, creating clay art, making nature fireworks, hugging trees, and exploring native bird species. Inspired by the work of environmental artist Andy Goldsworthy, pupils also created their own beautiful pieces of tree art using natural materials.

Our Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 football teams represented the school at the cluster football tournament. The children demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout and were a real credit to the school.

School Council has been very active and building on our Artsmark Platinum success, organised an Autumn Arts Competition, receiving many wonderful and creative entries from across the school.

Our Community Christmas Fair takes place in Cartmel Village Hall on Saturday 21st November from 10am – 2pm, with lots of stallholders to buy your Christmas gifts. We hope to see you there!

Allithwaite School

Snowy Owls were delighted to travel by train to the Coro to watch The Gruffalo come to life on stage.

Back in class, they have been enjoying the stories of Julia Donaldson, using her books to inspire storytelling, discussion and imaginative play. They are now looking forward to a visit to Holker Hall, where they will explore the Christmas decorations and observe signs of winter in the gardens.

Tawny Owls have been developing their sewing skills in DT by making their own pouches. In English, they completed work based on Julia Donaldson texts, with The Highway Rat proving particularly popular. This half term, they have started learning about the Arctic and comparing local weather with weather around the world, leading to the creation of their own



weather reports.

Barn Owls have been learning about mummification through instructional writing, creating guides on how to mummify a friend. In Geography, they have explored the UK using atlases and postcard clues to identify mystery locations. They have also begun their Cloth, Paint and Thread art project, drawing inspiration from artists Hannah Rae and Alice Kettle.

Eagle Owls finished last half term



by creating working Solar System orreries, combining science, design and woodworking skills. They have now begun studying the Ancient Maya, investigating artefacts and reading Oh Maya Gods! to support their writing about an abandoned Maya city.

All of Key Stage 2 recently visited Leighton Moss and Trowbarrow as part of an environmental project. The children explored geology, searched for fossils, enjoyed pond dipping and spotted a variety of bird species. We look forward to building on this learning in the months ahead.

URC

As I write this winter has just arrived, cold, bright & lovely. I don't suppose it will be as pleasant all the time, so we just have to appreciate the good bits and wrap up against the other times.

However, we do have good things to look forward to as we turn our thoughts to Christmas. We gather for our Community Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 5th December with stalls & company. Always a cheerful occasion.

Our Midweek service on Thursday 10th December will take the form of Christingle, a lovely start to Christmas. Everyone welcome.

And, of course, on Thursday December 17th at 6pm, we have our Community lantern-lit Carol service with the Bay Community Singers to make the carols go with a swing. Do join us for a happy celebration of the heart of the Christmas Season.

Our Meet-up sessions will take place every Monday from Monday 30th November until Monday 21st through the season of Advent. Do join us.

Christmas Greetings to you all.

Cartmel Priory

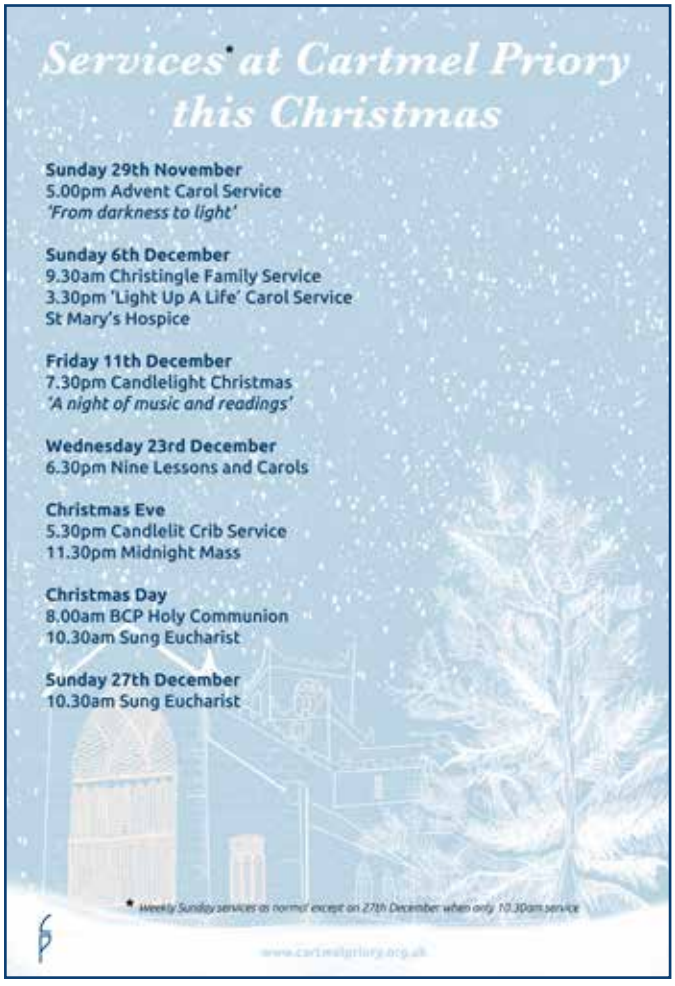


Remembrance Sunday in Cartmel proved an especially moving occasion.

We were joined by a Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria and by three musicians. Mikey Anderson of Flookburgh Band flawlessly played Last Post, Reveille and Sunset, and following the reading of the names of the Cartmel Fallen and the Cartmel Martyrs, contralto Jess Dandy, accompanied by Stephen Threlfall (cello) sang Pie Jesu by Duruflé. As the service moved to a conclusion at the war memorial, Stephen and Priory Director of Music, David Pipe, played Elgar's Sospiri. Thank you to everyone who played a part in the service.

Now we look ahead to Advent and Christmas and a very busy period beginning on 28th November with Carols with The Carrolls - a free family event beginning at 6.30pm. Service details are publicised within Grange Now, but please note that on Advent Sunday, 29th November, Evensong will be replaced by a candle lit Advent Carol Service beginning at 5.00pm. You will be most warmly welcomed at any or all of these services.

One change to note is that there will only be a 10.30am Communion Service on 27th December.



Grange Methodist Church

Thank you and well done to everyone who has carefully noted where our different activities are taking place while we are out of our building and has managed to join us!

As Christmas approaches, we are planning some special activities in addition to our regular ones.. Throughout Advent, our minister, Rev Hayley Edmondson, will be leading an Advent study group at Fell Church at 2:00pm on the first 4 Tuesdays in December, looking at the songs in the first Christmas story. Our Nativity service is at Fell Church at 11:00am on Sunday, December 6th, led by members of our Toast church. Our Carol service is at Fell Church at 7:00pm on Monday, December 21st and our Christmas Eve Holy Communion service is at 8:00pm at Fell Church. On Christmas Day itself, we will join with our friends at St Paul's for their service at 11:00am. Then for those who wish to see the New Year in with praise, worship and prayer, we have a Watchnight service at Fell Church at 11:30pm on Thursday, December 31st.

Please note that the December Friendly Food lunch is on the third Tuesday. Everyone is invited to join us in St Paul's church from noon on Tuesday, December 15th for a festive buffet: Turkey, ham, roast potatoes, pigs in blankets and salads, followed by mincemeat slice and custard and non-alcoholic mulled wine. No need to book and no set charge; donations welcome for Grange Methodist Church.

Cartmel Methodist Church

We are looking forward to Christmas: our carol service will be on Sunday December 13th at the usual time of 11am.

The service will be led by members of our small congregation, who will have asked people in advance to choose their favourite carol, and perhaps a reading as well, to use in the service. After that there will be one more Sunday morning service, on December 20th, before we close for our winter break until February half term – we will gather again for worship at 11:00 a.m. on February 14th. The chapel, though, will still be open each day as usual from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. if you would like to pop in. Expect it to be chilly inside! Happy Christmas, everyone.





Cartmel Peninsula Churches Together

By the time you read this, we will have held our annual Advent Sunday carol service at the end of November, but will still be looking forward to an Advent quiet morning on Saturday December 5th.

Revd Sue Nicol will lead us once again, but as the Methodist Church is closed for refurbishment this year we are grateful to St John's, Flookburgh for hosting us. Tea/coffee will be available from 9:30, we will have an introduction at 10:00 followed by a substantial time for silent reflection before we gather together to share any thoughts people feel they would like to express before closing by sharing communion together. We will finish by 12 noon. Many of us will join in the Grange community carol service at the United Reformed Church with the Bay Community Singers, and the different churches will enjoy their own Christmas traditions and services. We hope you will all have a wonderful time wherever you find yourselves.

St. Charles Borromeo

Greetings to all Grange Now readers.

We began the month along with all other churches in Grange by remembering those who have died in warfare. There was the Last Post, the two minutes silence, the Reveille and the names of those who had died from our local churches were read out before Mass began on Sunday the 8th.

Later on some of our congregation shared in the civic ceremony. In contrast, at the end of this month there will be the annual Advent Carol Concert hosted by the sisters at Boarbank Hall. 3.00pm on Sunday 29th November, all welcome. This Advent Sunday is the beginning of our church year and so the cycle begins again. A timely reminder as the year itself dies down that life may seem to be in decline, but that rebirth is already underway. God bless all who read this.

St. John's Flookburgh

Bob's Hair & Beauty are holding one of their fantastic raffles to raise funds for church.

Why not pop in a buy a raffle ticket or 2 in the hope of winning a Fortnum & Mason hamper. Thank you to everyone to has already bought a ticket…..there's still to grab yours! The draw will take place on December 23rd.

Please put these dates in your diary:

29th November - Advent Sunday, 10am - Holy Communion
6th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent, **10am** - Holy Communion
13th December - 3rd Sunday of Advent,10am - Holy Communion
20th December - 4th Sunday of Advent, 3pm - Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve - Christmas for the Kids Service, 4pm (costumes optional)
Christmas Eve - Midnight Communion, 9.30pm
Do join us if you can.

Here is to a wonderful Christmas 2026 and a very happy New Year.

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. Mary's Allithwaite

St. Mary's will be celebrating Jesus coming into the world with a variety of services and events.

All are welcome, we would love you to join us; come and ask questions, come and enjoy the carols and the fun.

The details, all in December:

Sunday 6th 10 a.m. Christingle, family fun as we think about Jesus as the Light of the world.

Wednesday 9th at 5.45pm The Big Sing, rain or shine meet at St Mary's to sing carols in the village.Then from 7pm we join with the Flookburgh band at the Pheasant for more festive music

Sunday 13th Vocal Joy, an enthusiastic group of singers will join us for our Candle- light Carol Service to be followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Monday 14th Soul Fuel for secondary school folk , Christmas party at 5.30p.m.

Wednesday 16th 11a.m. Holy Communion

12 noon Community lunch, join us for a free hot lunch and friendly company. We welcome any newcomers . This will be a charity fund raiser.

Friday 18th 9.00 -10.45 a.m , the Tots group Christmas party.

Tuesday 22nd 10.00 -11.30 am : Elevenses Christmas Special, drop in for a brew, a chat and some carols.

Thursday 24th 4.00 p.m. Crib service, kids (and big kids) come dressed as part of the nativity scene for a family celebration of the Christmas story.

Friday 25th 10.00 am Christmas day family celebration of Jesus' coming into the world.

A Happy and Peaceful Christmas to you all.

St Peter's Field Broughton Christmas Programme

Christmas carol singing round the parish (all at 6pm) will be at Field Broughton in the churchyard on Tuesday 15 December, Lindale Village Hall on Thursday 17 December and High Newton Village Hall on Friday 18 December.

Collections will be held for Derian House and St Mary's Hospices. The usual mulled drinks will be available to keep us warm!

Christingle service with Blessing of the Crib – especially for families - on Sunday 13 December at 4pm.

Nine Lessons and Carols on 20 December at 6pm.

Christmas Day Communion at 9.30am.

Celebration of Epiphany with Holy Communion at 9.30am and lunch in the Parish Rooms afterwards on Sunday 3 January, 12.30 for 1pm.

The St Peter's Field Broughton YouTube channel enables those who can't be with us physically to join us in worship. Sunday and other service videos appear as early as they can be most Sundays. Enjoy them at home, on the move but of course join us in church whenever you can.

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Hope Church

Here at Hope Church we recently had a visit from Paul Rawson who runs Blackpool and The Fylde Street Angels.

The Street Angels are an independent Christian charity offering support to adults affected by homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction and more. They work in close partnership with the Council and many other organizations

It was interesting to hear about Paul's own personal journey from taking drugs as a young man, to finding faith in Christ and freedom from drugs, and finally setting up the charity in Blackpool. We were all very impressed with the valuable work that they do.

Closer to home, we are planning our church Christmas service for Sunday 20 December, meeting as usual in The Village Hall in Lindale at 10.30 am. We will have readings and carols followed by tea, coffee, mince pies and lots of friendly chatter. It was lovely to have visitors from the village last time, and hopefully a few more might be brave enough to venture in and see us this year! Do look out for an invitation coming through your door in December. For any queries our contact number is 07384 221497.

St. Paul's

Once again we will be having a Christmas Tree Festival in St Paul's.

The opening reception will be on Thursday 3rd December at 7pm. It will be opened by Tim Farron MP with musical entertainment from Bay Community Singers and pupils from Grange Primary School choir. Mince pies and seasonal punch will be served. The Christmas Tree Festival will run from Friday 4th December- Thursday 31st December 10-4pm daily. It will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day and for all services.

We are starting a new monthly Parents and Toddler group at St Paul's, meeting during the school terms. Our first session will be on Thursday 10th December in church from 10-11.30am.

We welcome all parents and carers with babies and pre school children for refreshments, a chance to chat, play, a story and songs- all among the Christmas Trees on this special occasion.

You are invited to attend our Christmas services here in St Paul's. That will take place on

Sunday 20th December

11am-Holy Communion

4pm- Lessons and Carols

Thursday 24th December

4pm-Crib Service

11pm- Midnight Mass

Friday 25th December

11am- Holy Communion

Sunday 27th December

11am- Holy Communion

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Please remember: our limit for society reports is **200 words**, to ensure everyone gets in.

Crake Croquet Club



If the shorter days have impacted your sporting life, why not come and try your hand at croquet. At Crake Valley (Greenodd). We keep our lawns open all year. Only puddles, frost and snow stop play.

Croquet is a sport that is available to all ages and abilities, as it does not rely on physical strength or athleticism the young and old, male and female can play on equal terms. Hand/eye co-ordination, imagination and tactics are the key ingredients to a successful game.

We have all of the equipment you need, so why not come along and try your hand at something new. There's a Roll-up every Tuesday and Saturday morning. And if you find its for you there's plenty of fun to be had, we host tournaments that attract players from all over the country and as a club enter into many regional and national tournaments.

Cartmel Art Society

The final meeting for this year will be 9th December, from 12 noon until around 3.00pm. This will be the Christmas Party, so please bring along a small contribution, either sweet or savoury, for a Jacob's Join, as well as your preferred drink. This year's Christmas competition is "Wish you were here!", with your entry presented either mounted or framed. We'll also be having an art-based "Secret Santa", valued around £5. Finally, a Singalong hosted by fellow member Kev Bell, which is sure to be lots of fun. A great opportunity for all our members to meet up.

Our first morning meeting in 2027 will be 13th January, led by Jan Hoggarth. The theme for this session is "Colour Mixing", and will be particularly interesting to our newer members. Please bring along all your usual painting materials. The full day session on the 27th of January will be a workshop and demonstration in oil painting, led by returning professional artist, Ben McLeod, themed on "Atmospheric Forests". Please remember to bring your lunch and refreshments for the day.

Grange Forum

In October the Grange Forum held 3 meetings with informative talks on Remembering Slavery, Wild Namibia, and Lakeland Bridges. Andy Lowe who spoke about Lakeland Bridges is a frequent speaker at the Forum and is also taking us on a guided walk around Troutbeck next March. Our November talks were varied. On Nov 10th we had an entertaining talk by Colin Perry about ' The Life, Loves and Films of Errol Flynn. Flynn was a swashbuckling hero in many films but was also a reporter and a keen yatchsman. His drinking and womanising were legendary and he sadly died aged only 50. Nov 17th Rev David Wilmot informed us 'How to get to Everest' and Nov 24th we enjoyed a trip to 'Costa Rica and beyond' with Alan and Julie Walker. On Dec 1st at 2.45pm we will be meeting for afternoon tea at the Cumbria Grand. Dec 8th promises to be an interesting talk by Janet Niepokojczycka on 'Packhorse Ways and Packhorse Days '. Janet has been interested in packhorse ponies since the 1980's and even climbed up Scafell with her pony. Dec 15th is our annual quiz devised by Ann Anderson with a break for coffee and cakes. We have been delighted to welcome many visitors to our talks and hope that some will think about becoming members in the future. Meetings are in URC hall and start at 10.15am. Refreshments are served from 9.45 am. Cost for visitors £5 including refreshments.

Cartmel and District Flower Club

Our next meeting is our Christmas Gala 7th December at Cartmel Village Hall 2.00pm with Sara Barrow from Cheadle with "Santa Claus is Coming to Town". We will have mulled wine, mince pies, and a raffle . Get your tickets as soon as possible so please come along and bring a friend for lovely Christmas party. Members and visitors are all welcome and don't forget our January lunch on the 18th please put your name down for this event. For more information contact Isobel 015395 33136.

PEAT

As another year draws to a close, so does PEAT's annual programme. It's been a busy year, with conversations, activities and opportunities to work together to make a difference to our community and environment.

We're now turning our attention to 2027, reflecting on what we've achieved, what we've learned and where we might best focus our energies next. We already have some exciting plans, including a Retrofit event in February, exploring ways to make our homes warmer and more energy efficient, and an event on Waste and the Circular Economy in March. Our popular Repair Cafés will continue throughout the year, helping people save money, reduce waste and share skills. We're also continuing to support the development of the flexible bus service for the Cartmel Peninsula, building on our community conversations about local transport. In these challenging times, we believe that local action, connections and collaboration matter more than ever. We'd love more people to help shape what comes next. If you have ideas, energy or simply an interest, please get in touch. And finally, do look out for PEAT's Christmas tree at the St Paul's Christmas Tree Festival! Wishing everyone all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

Kents Bank Station Library

The Library now has a dedicated Study Room, available by appointment to consult specialist books and journals. We've had yet more generous donations of railway books, British and overseas, as well as some rare tram publications. We also have a large quantity of railway DVDs and videos available for sale or to borrow.

We held a successful annual general meeting in November and trustees (we're a not-for-profit community interest company) were re-elected as well as several new members. We have recruited three new volunteers recently but we would love to have more. Please contact us if you're interested in discussing what's involved. We welcome a range of skills and interests.

We're looking forward to our Christmas Fair on December 12th (see 'What's On' with our friends in The Beach Hut Gallery and Friends of Kents Bank Station and Foreshore). We hope to be open for a couple of days between Christmas and New Year together with our neighbours in The Beach Hut Gallery – please check our website for details. info@stationlibrary.org.uk www. stationlibrary.org.uk

Grange Lecture Society

We have had a very successful start to the season. The first three of the TEN TALKS programme have been well attended. Members have commented that they like the wide variety of entertaining topics. This was ably demonstrated on Tuesday 10 November when Norman Harris described the difficulties and delights of riding his Harley Davidson Electra-glide across America from Philadelphia to San Francisco and back again.

On Tuesday 24th November Jenny Fenwick regaled us with the adventures of her Mary Quant dress – bought in the 60s, left in the attic then displayed at the V and A. The final talk for this year is on the 8th December. Janet Hargreaves will tell us about Bugs, Babies & Bed Baths: home nursing in Westmorland before the NHS. This talk will allow the audience to decide if health care was more personal and attentive than the present system.

If looking for a Christmas present with a difference for someone who lives in South Cumbria why not consider a subscription to Grange Lecture Society? For the Five Talks for 2027 £25 will give a friend interesting educational entertainment at Victoria Hall on Tuesday nights, dates as per the programme on our website: https://www.grangelecturesociety.co.uk/

Cartmel Peninsula Repair Cafe



For the last Repair Café of 2026 on November 13th, we moved to our new home at the United Reformed Church Hall and it definitely wasn't an unlucky date for us! Our excellent team had planned out how best to use the new space and it all worked beautifully, with a steady flow of people bringing their items for repair and enjoying the hot drinks and cakes. Our thanks to the URC for the use of their hall, where we will be meeting for some months to come whilst the Methodist Hall is renovated.

If you have your diary for 2027, you might like to put in the dates for our next round of cafes which will be on January 15th, February 12th and March 12th. We look forward to seeing you then and in the meanwhile, we hope you all have a very enjoyable festive season.

Grange Probus Club

The Club's rescheduled talk by Chris Kirk on Artificial Intelligence (AI) had to be cancelled at the last minute due to Chris's illness. However, Probus members Ewen Cameron and Gordon Woolley were able to stand in with a talk on Berlin – Cold War City. Ewen provided a short history on how Berlin had become the capital of Germany in 1871 and the momentous events through the First World War, the rise of the Nazis, the outbreak of the Second World War and the Allies' plans for post-war Germany at Yalta in 1944. Gordon had been carrying out his National Service in the city in 1947 and was able to recount conditions and events during the Berlin Blockade by Soviet Russia. Ewen covered the building of the Berlin wall and his experiences whilst serving there as a paymaster in 1985 and 86. He concluded with the fall of the wall in 1989 and the city today. The Club's next event will be its Christmas Luncheon on Monday, December 14th at 12.15 for 1pm at the Netherwood Hotel. 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 Village Society.

CVS's 2026 Annual Lecture by Colin Burke on a Who Visited Cartmel and Made a Difference (and Who Didn't) was presented to an audience of 80 people. Based around his book, A Brief History of Cartmel, Colin covered a series of historic significant episodes dating from the earliest pre-historic inhabitants of the Cartmel peninsula and described how each (with the odd exception) had made an impact at the time and had contributed to the historic and picturesque village that we know today. As well as his entertaining and informative narrative, Colin displayed a series of AI-generated detailed images of how events might have appeared. CVS chairman Ian Holcroft thanked Colin for his talk and reminded everyone of the debt owed to Anne Rowbotham for her legacy of £250k which had allowed the society to make grants of around £10k per annum to enhance life in the village, including the free annual lecture. He also remembered and commended the late David Crabtree who, as CVS treasurer, had managed the funds which still stood at over £300k. Colin Burke will be giving a different talk on historic Cartmel to the Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society in March 2027.

Cartmel Village Poppy Collection.

Poppy collection points in the village shops, pubs and schools raised £926 for the Royal British Legion.

Lower Holker Village Hall

Grange Now December 2026. November 2026 200 Club winners, 1st £40-23-Jackie Croft, 2nd £25-199-David Nicholson, 3rd £15-6- Alan Thompson, 4th £10-64-Jeff Fleming. Christmas Bingo Tuesday 8th December, doors open 7pm for 7.30 pm start.

Fabulous prizes! Refreshments on the night! Christmas Quiz Friday 18th December,

Doors open 7pm for 7,30 pm start. Bring own drinks/glasses and nibbles. Cash prize of £30.00 available. Yoga, Tai Chi, Dancing, and Aerial Hoops, Indigo Wellness, (ladies fitness), U3A Badminton, U3A Ukulele, and U3A Pickleball are available. Table Tennis Club details- Peter on lowerbirkby@gmail.com. Sewing Machine Classes every Friday morning 10-12, £15.00 per session, bring your own machine. Contact Natasha on Natashal27@outlook.com or 07901751197. Please follow us on Facebook at lowerholkervillagehall for all our latest news. Website is lhvh.co.uk. The Bowling Club is contact Ron on chrisonenil@btinternet.com. The Hall number 07718 473144(Caretaker), Secretary's (Rhona) mobile 07484 784854

Grange Fell Golf Club

Earlier in the Autumn the Ladies section held the inaugural lunch for the past Lady Captains of Grange Fell Golf Club at the Grange Hotel. A delicious lunch was enjoyed by 18 ladies and lots of memories were shared. The junior



section played for their final trophy of the season, the Cartmel Football Junior Cup, and the winner was Lenny Kendal with nett 36. The Ladies at Grange Fell presented the junior section with the Fell Futures Trophy for the overall winner of the 2026 competitions and this was won by junior section Captain Lennon Daggett. The Veteran's Trophy, a medal competition, was won by Alan Paisley with a net 70 following a 3way card playoff. This was also the deciding competition for the Stanley Drinkall Trophy based on the aggregate 3 best gross scores in medal competitions over the year. The winner, with only 1 point difference, was Craig Davidson with Graham Shepherd runner up. The ladies recent flag competition was won by Emma Curwen finishing on the 19th hole. The recent Captain's team v President's team match resulted in a win for the Captain by 1 point. A very successful Presentation evening took place at the end of October where all winners were celebrated from across the Club and trophies were presented.

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Merry Christmas

Christmas Collection

We are again appealing for goods for the Food Banks at Ulverston, Barrow and Millom

In 2026 around 6.5 million adults and 2.2 million children in the UK—about 12.2% of all households– faced food insecurity according to July 2026 data from the Food Foundation

Christmas can be especially hard for the people who use our service, so could we give them some

Christmas goodies

Christmas selection boxes, Christmas biscuits, Christmas cakes/puddings/mince pies, tins of ham

as well as the usual items

baked beans, UHT milk & juice
pasta sauces, tinned fruit,
tinned rice pudding & custard
small jars of coffee, tea, jam, biscuits, toilet rolls

Father Magner Room, 1-3 pm
behind St Charles Church, Kents Bank Road
Sunday, 6th December 2026

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Friends of Grange Library News

On Tuesday December 1st we are once again hosting Grange Drama in another Christmas Play Extravaganza. It is a free event so why not come along to the Library at 7.00 p.m. on the 1st for a fun programme of play readings, poems and carols and get yourself in the mood for the festive season? Seasonal refreshments will be provided alongside the popular Surprise Raffle!

Later in the month our regular Reading Friends meeting on Thursday December 10th will also take on a Seasonal flavour when we shall be chatting about our favourite Christmas memories ~ from our very best Christmas presents to long standing family traditions. Please note that due to the lunchtime closure the session will start at 2.15 p.m. There will be no Cake and Games afternoon this month, but they will resume in January 2027.
In the meantime, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year from us all!



CHRISTMAS BINGO AT THE VIC

Monday 7th December 7.30pm – 9pm

Eyes down for Christmas bingo night at the Vic! Join us for a festive night of bingo – Christmas jumpers encouraged!

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 - December

See www.victoriahall.info/whatson- for tickets and 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
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
Growing Singing Drop-in Sessions - light-hearted singing sessions - Thursdays 1.00-2.30pm - £8
Yoga for All - Mondays 6.30pm & Thursdays 7pm, with Shelley Osman - www.shelleyosman.com
Parliamo Italiano - Tues & Thurs - beginners, post beginners & improvers - details: caroline_hakkinen@mac.com

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

07/12 Mon - VHSG Bingo at the Vic - Doors 7pm, Eyes down 7.30pm. £1 entry, £5 per Bingo card. Prizes - 18+
08/12 Tue - Lec Soc: Janet Hargreaves - Home Nursing in Westmorland before the NHS - 7:15 start
11/12 Fri - T-Rex - Classic rock. Bar available- tickets £25 from 'Handbags & Gladrags' & 'Grange Emporium' - 7pm
12/12 Sat - Levens Choir: A Renaissance Nativity – Christmas choir concert - tickets £15 - 7.30pm
13/12 Sun - Cinema at The Vic: 'Last Christmas (12a) - 7pm, doors 6.30pm - ticketsource.co.uk/vhsg
14/12 Mon - Grange over Sands Town Council Meeting, with 'Have Your Say!' 7pm
16/12 Wed - Games-over-Sands – 6.30-9.30pm boards games, ttrpgs, more - gamesoversands@protonmail.com
18/12 Fri - Lakeland Sinfonia - performing Bach, Pachelbel, Vivaldi & Corella - 1pm - tickets from lakelandsinfonia.org.uk
19/12 Sat – Flookburgh Band – Christmas Concert - 7pm

Last Christmas (12A)
Sunday 13th December
7pm (doors 6.30pm)

CINEMA at the VIC



Set against a festive London backdrop, the story follows Kate, a young woman who continuously makes bad decisions - including her latest gig working as an elf in a year-round Christmas shop. When the mysterious and charming Tom walks into her life, he begins to see through Kate's barriers, challenging her cynical worldview. Set to the iconic music of George Michael and Wham!, featuring classic hits and unreleased material, this heartfelt romantic comedy-drama is a moving holiday journey about life, healing, and learning to love again.

Directed by Paul Feig and co-written by Academy Award® winner Emma Thompson, starring Emilia Clarke, Henry Golding, Michelle Yeoh and Emma Thompson.

Screened with subtitles.

Rating: 12A (moderate sex references, language).

Runtime: 2 hours (including 20 minute interval).

Bar, interval bacon buns, ice cream, tea and coffee.

Advance tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/vhsg

Cash, credit/debit cards, Apple Pay and Google Pay accepted on the door.

Adults: £6.50 Children £4.50

What's On

Tuesdays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Cartmel Wellbeing Walks from Cartmel Racecourse grandstand entrance at 11am. Contact Ewen Cameron on 07929 833528 for information.

Tuesdays 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 December

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

Tuesdays 1, 8,15 and 22 December

Advent group led by Rev Hayley Edmondson at Fell Church at 2:00pm

Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 December

Community Coffee morning run by Grange Methodists at St Paul's from 10:45am

Thursdays 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

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.

Friday 4th December

Grange Natural History Society, Lichens in Cumbria, by Pete Martin, 7.30 pm, United Reformed Church Hall, Kent's Bank Road. Non-members welcome £3.00 per head

Saturday 5 December

Churches Together Men's Breakfast at 8:30am at 16, Charney Court LA11 6DL. Share a simple breakfast, fellowship and prayer together.

Saturday 5 December

Churches Together Advent Quiet morning at St John's church, Flookburgh at 10:00am (refreshments from 9:30)

Sunday 6 December

Nativity service led by Grange Methodist Toast church at Fell Church at 11:00am

Mondays 7, 14, 21 and 26

South Lakeland Phoenixes. Chatty Café for people aged 18+. Are you struggling with your mental health and wellbeing, or are you feeling lonely and socially isolated? Join us in our welcoming, inclusive, confidential, safe space between 1:00 and 3:30 p.m. for biccies and banter. Venue: Thornleigh Hotel, 26 The Esplanade, Grange-over-Sands. www.southlakelandphoenixes.com

Tuesday 8th December

Lower Holker Village Hall, Fabulous Christmas Bingo. Doors open 7pm for 7.30 pm start. Fabulous prizes available. Refreshments provided.

Wednesday 9th December

Kents Bank Station Library at 2.00pm: Launch of Tiina Sepp's remarkable new book 'The Northern Esoterica Society' All welcome, free admission but please pre-book on 07795 008691

Saturday December 12th:

Christmas Fair at Kents Bank Station, 11.00 to 16.00. Lots of seasonal gifts, mulled wine, mince pies, model railway and more. Free admission, all welcome.

Monday 14 December

Grange Probus Club will meet at 12.15 for 1pm at the Netherwood Hotel for their Christmas Luncheon. See the club report for more information.

Tuesday 15 December

"Friendly Food" lunch and conversation led by Grange Methodists at St. Paul's at 12:00pm

Friday 18th December

Lower Holker Village Hall, Christmas Quiz, doors open 7pm for 7,30 pm start, Bring drinks/glasses/nibbles. £30.00 cash prize available. Up to 4 in a team at £2.00 entry fee.

Friday 18th December

Grange Natural History Society, Social Evening, 7.00pm, United Reformed Church Hall, Kent's Bank Road. Non-members welcome £3.00 per head

Friday 18th December

Christmas Fayre from 12pm to 4pm at Cartmel Village Hall. The fayre is open to everyone and will feature festive stalls, raffle prizes, a tombola, cakes and refreshments, Christmas crafts and carols. We're also using the event to raise funds for two wonderful charities, Alzheimer's Society and Dogs Trust.

Sunday 20 December

Songs of Praise gathering led by Grange Methodists at Fell Church at 4:00pm, followed by a buffet tea.

Monday 21 December

Carol service led by Grange Methodists at Fell Church at 7:00pm

Thursday 24 December

Christmas Eve Holy Communion service led by Grange Methodists at Fell Church at 8:00pm

Thursday 31 December

Watchnight service led by Grange Methodists at Fell Church at 11:30pm

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:

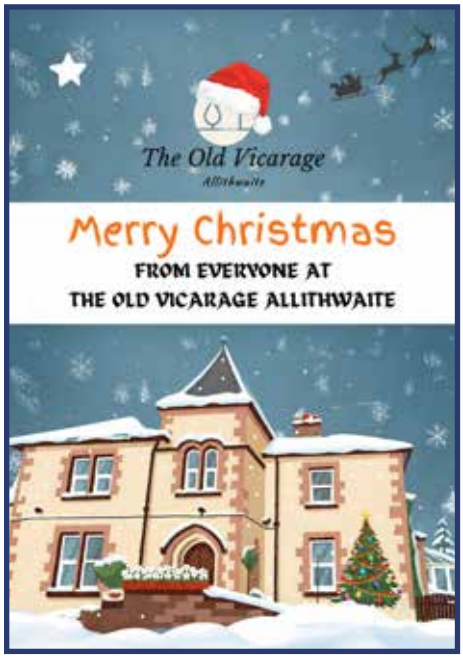
Grange - Thornleigh Hotel - 3rd Wednesday of the month.

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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SPICED CELERIAC BUTTERNUT SQUASH PIE

This is a lovely, comforting recipe for those moments when only a pie will do. Keep everything nice and chunky below the crisp top, or you risk ending up with vegetable mush. This will also work beautifully with carrots, parsnips or a swede – any dense root vegetable or a different squash would be equally delicious.



Serves 6

INGREDIENTS

- 1 celeriac
- 1 small butternut squash
- 2 leeks, washed and trimmed
- Large pinch of salt
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tbsp Sri Lankan Curry Powder
- 60g (4 tbsp) butter
- 60g plain flour
- 600ml vegetable stock

TOPPING

- 150g butter
- 1 x 250g packet filo pastry sheets
- 2 tbsp black onion seeds

METHOD

1. To prepare the filling, peel the celeriac and squash. Cut into chunks: it's hard, with round vegetables, but aim for cubes about 2cm (¾in) along each edge. Slice the leeks into 1cm (½in) rounds.
2. Preheat the oven to 200°C fan/220°C/425°F/gas mark 7. Spread everything over a baking tin (pan), in a single layer if you can manage it. Dress with the salt, olive oil and 1 tablespoon of the tandoori blend. Toss so that all the veg is covered and roast in the oven for 20 minutes. The veg will be going into the oven again later, so don't overcook it in the early stages, or you're going to end up with a mush.
3. Melt the butter in a large saucepan and add the flour. Stir through and cook for at least 2 minutes over a gentle heat. Add the remaining tablespoon of spice blend, then whisk in a splash of the stock. Keep adding the stock bit by bit, until you have a smooth sauce. Reduce until thick enough to coat the back of your spoon, then stir through the roasted vegetables.
4. Tip into a roasting dish. Set the filling aside to cool while you prepare the topping.
5. Melt the butter in a small saucepan. Use a pastry brush to paint butter all over a sheet of filo, keeping the rest covered with a damp dish towel (filo dries out really fast). Scrunch the sheet up by pulling it in with your fingertips to create ridges, peaks and valleys in it. Place in a corner of the dish over the pie filling.
6. Repeat with more sheets of filo, until the entire surface is covered. Top with the black onion seeds.
7. Bake at 200°C fan/220°C/425°F/gas mark 7 for 30 minutes, until crisp and golden brown on top. Allow to cool for 5 minutes before serving.
8. From Spice Kitchen by Sanjay Aggarwal. Signed copies available at Low Sizergh Barn along with Spice Kitchen's sari-wrapped spice tin gifts

Letters to the Editor are published on the understanding that they may have to be shortened to fit available space. Publication of a letter in no way reflects the views of Grange Now. All letters must be accompanied by a name and address even if the correspondent requests anonymity. In this case 'name and address supplied' will be added.

Dear Editor,

I think I will not be the only one to regret the closing of Brennans, the newsagents in Grange station. I understand the family faithfully served the community for something like 35 years and I would like to record my thanks to them here for the sterling service they performed for those of us who still welcome our daily paper. Always there, obliging and helpful and reliable in keeping, in my case, the daily paper for me, even on days when I could not collect it on the due day. I think one of your correspondents in the last edition of Grange Now wondered if there was a call for a delivery service for paid daily newspapers. I think there is but probably not big enough to make it worth anyone's while to do it. Does any other daily newspaper reader have thoughts on this?

Regards, Janet Eccles

Dear Editor

Is there anyone out there who knows what is happening with our Lido/Bathing Pool? Surely someone must know something, particularly as there have been workmen there in recent weeks? At a Town Council meeting in June we were told that the Pool would be opening "soon" but six months on, there is no sign of this happening. Facebook users have been asking questions and posting opinions but have been ignored. This is not just frustrating but embarrassing. Will we see any progress on the Pool and Promenade in 2027?

Yours, Frank McCall

Editor note - we asked for an update from Cllr. Tim Bloomer and received the following response..

Dear Editor,

I am very much aware of the excitement and indeed frustration regarding the Lido and recent activity on the site. Given the commercial nature of negotiations, I am sadly not in a position to announce firm agreements and commitments at this precise time. However, I can say that I am very happy with progress on many fronts and look forward to positive outcomes very soon. Our town has waited 33 years for a resolution to this huge challenge. We have never been closer to having one.

Cllr Tim Bloomer
Liberal Democrat Councillor
Grange & Cartmel Ward
Westmorland and Furness Council
South Lakeland House I Lowther Street I
Kendal I LA9 4DQ

SITUATIONS VACANT



derian house children's hospice

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Action for Children

Dear Editor,

Just a note to thank all friends and family that came to Mick's 80th birthday party on Saturday 7th November.

What a wonderful night we shared.

The collection (instead of gifts) that was available raised nearly £350 that has been donated to the charities named:

Action for Children, Children in Need and Derian House Children's Hospice.

Very many thanks to all who contributed.

God bless you all.

Jean and Mick Malkin

Dear Editor,

Papers delivered to your house

A letter in the last Grange Now was asking about getting papers delivered.

I suggest NewsTeamgroup.co.uk as we get the Telegraph delivered every morning.

Thank you , Sylvia Brown

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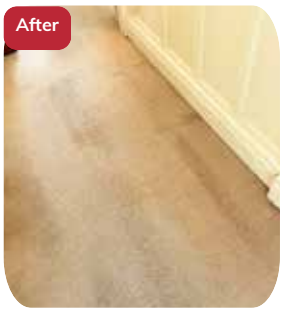


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