

Parish Pump

The next issue of the Parish Pump will be published in March 2026

Copy by 13th February 2026

by Email to:

broughtonparishpump@gmail.com

Mid-Jan — February 2026 Issue No. 320

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Enquiries: Tel 715221

View the Pump online on Duddon Parish Council website—www.duddonparishcouncil.org.uk
Or on village Facebook pages—[broughton in furness community](#) and [broughton in furness locals](#)

YOU'RE INVITED TO A

PANCAKE PARTY



TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY

5-6.30PM

THE COMMUNITY HALL,
GRIZEBECK

SUGGESTED DONATION £2

TO BOOK CONTACT
07453930536
TK&DCHURCHES@GMAIL.COM



GAMES
CRAFTS
QUIZ
COMPETITIONS

Broughton
Drama
Group

The Magic Porridge Pot

a Pantomime by Caroline Batten

Friday 6th February — 7:30pm

Saturday 7th February — 7:30pm

Sunday 8th February — 2:30pm Matinée

Bar • Tuck Shop • Interval Refreshments • Raffle

The Victory Hall

Broughton-in-Furness, LA20 6HN

Adults £7
Children £4
Family (1ad+2ch) £13
Family (2ad+2ch) £19

Tickets available from the Information Centre & Community Shop

BROUGHTON POST OFFICE AND SHOP

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday: 0900 — 1300 & 1400 — 1630

Tuesday: 0900 — 1300 & 1400 — 1630

Thursday: 0900 — 1300 & 1400 — 1630

Friday: 0900 — 1200



Shop Opening Hours

Monday: 0900 — 1630

Tuesday: 0900 — 1630

Thursday: 0900 — 1630

Friday: 0900 — 1630

Saturday: 1000 — 1400

THE PARISH PUMP WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO COLLECT FROM THE SHOP



Broughton Mills, Woodland & Foxfield

On 3rd December we celebrated Christmas and the 80th birthday of our group with a spectacular afternoon tea at Undercrag Studio and Cafe. It was a joy to be joined by past members, presidents and the Cumbria-

Westmorland Federation Chair, as well as so many current members. It was great to hear about the history and escapades of previous members and to see photographs of some. In addition, Helen Lewis provided music, singing and much hilarity with her unique approach to getting us involved. In particular, the donkey song (and Helen's headwear) will be long remembered and talked about! We are extremely grateful to Jess and Ollie for opening especially for us, for providing such wonderful food and looking after us so very well. Undercrag is a special venue and it just exuded warmth, ambience and a buzz of Christmas cheer, thank you again Jess and Ollie.

Our next meeting is on the 4th February, 7.30pm, at Woodland Parish Room when we will be joined by Krestyna, with a presentation about skin care. Please feel free to join us, a warm welcome awaits.

We wish you all a very happy and healthy 2026.

Paddy Lynch

Ulpha & Seathwaite November

Another wet start to our evening — torches and boots the order of the day. It is November and so our AGM beckons! A trawl through our previous year and the activities we had undertaken brought smiles and laughter. From yoga to constructing bird boxes, learning about the canary girls to Beatrix Potter, from Mountain Rescue to comedians and joke tellers. Then there was our Christmas meal, our outing to Kirby, which was actually on one of the loveliest evenings of the year surprisingly! And our games night in January — who knew WI members were so competitive?

There were many highlights, but two perhaps spring to mind, our visit to Calder Abbey in the summer was just so extraordinary and will I'm sure bring us many joyful and amused memories for a while to come, on a dark November night we found ourselves yet again reliving this surreal experience in such a magical place with much joy and laughter! Another memorable event was our 'Beyond Jam..' which was a very successful fund raiser using wine and food as our focus — tasting and quizzes, followed by a spectacular supper.

We are particularly grateful to Emma who organised and curated the wine extravaganza and to Carol and all the members who provided the delicious supper.

After reliving our 2025 activities we completed the formal part of the AGM, which includes voting. We are all delighted that Vicky Wilkinson was voted in once again as our president. She works very hard to provide a varied and interesting programme and to lead us and we are all very grateful that she has agreed to another term.

Lillian proposed the vote of thanks and thanked the committee for their work and commitment throughout the year, Dianne our treasurer, Sarah who organises our outings and meals and, of course, Carol and Vicky whose contribution has already been highlighted. And our members without whom the WI would not exist.

We may be small but goodness me 'if you cannot do big things do small things in a great way' sums us up don't you think ladies?

December

Another year draws to an end and we are celebrating Christmas. This year we decided to return to The Newfield for our celebrations, after such a lovely spread last year — we were not

disappointed. We arrived to a beautifully laid table and the food did not disappoint. We enjoyed a lovely evening chatting, eating, and the odd glass!

It was particularly enjoyable as we were joined by both past members and new members, there was plenty to chat about, catch up on and time to put the world to rights! Prizes were awarded for our competitions that run throughout the year and cups presented. Our 'secret Santa' was a great deal of fun and members returned home with a gift beginning with 'C' for Christmas, or that at least was the idea, but who cares if Cava is replaced with Prosecco, it is all good fun!

Our thanks go to Les and his team at the Newfield who provided such a great meal and provided a lovely Christmassy experience.

Back to reality now we are in 2026, and a reminder that we meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Browfoot Room Ulpha and you will receive a warm welcome. Orienteering fun and games and some very interesting speakers are on the programme- come and give us a try!

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year

Fiona Oliver

Water Yeat Village Hall welcomes the return of



Kim Richey

Two-time Grammy nominated Kim Richey is a storyteller with a voice so pure, arresting and honest, it literally aches with life's truths. She transports the listener to a world where words paint pictures and melodies touch the soul.

In May of 2025, Kim released her 10th album on Yep Roc Records entitled *Every New Beginning*. It has been lauded as "some of the best work of her distinguished career".

Friday 30th January, 8pm £15

www.wegotickets.com/wateryeatvillagehall
No booking fee

Café/table seating
Bring your own drinks and nibbles
www.facebook.com/wateryeatvillagehall/
www.e-voice.org.uk/wyvh

WILDLIFE AND SCENERY OF THE ANTRIM COAST



FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY 7.30PM
THWAITES VILLAGE HALL



Nigel Gilligan presents some images of unusual wildlife and scenery from a recent trip to the Antrim coast, including the iconic Giant's Causeway and Rathlin Island, featured on BBC's *Springwatch*

Admission: £3 suggested donation, including tea/coffee and biscuits
MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS WELCOME

Water Yeat Village Hall presents

Holly Clarke and George Sansome



Holly Clarke, a captivating singer draws from the old ballads and stories, from songs of the supernatural and folklore, to the tales of love and loss. She sings with an infectious energy and passion for traditional song.

George Sansome is a singer who gets right to the roots of what traditional music is all about. His performances place a spotlight on human stories, with masterful guitar arrangements that showcase impressive skills whilst giving the songs themselves the space to shine.

Friday 13th February, 8pm £15

www.wegotickets.com/wateryeatvillagehall No booking fee

Café/table seating. No bar, bring your own drinks and nibbles

www.e-voice.org.uk/wyvh www.facebook.com/wateryeatvillagehall/

DUDDON RIVER ASSOCIATION

We invite you to join us for the
**Duddon River Association
AGM**

4.30pm, Tuesday 10th March 2026
Old King's Head, Broughton in Furness

Please come along to find out more about what we do, including the Duddon Catchment Project, meet our members and discover how you can get involved. Contact duddonriverassociation@gmail.com for more information and to register your attendance.



Photo: Lindsay McCrae

DUDDON RIVER ASSOCIATION THE YEAR AHEAD

We are looking forward to another productive year making a positive impact on our local environment, monitoring habitats and improving the health of our river system which includes the River Duddon, Black Beck, the Lickle and Kirkby Pool.

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers, 2025 has seen great progress across the many areas we are working on as part of the Duddon Catchment Project in conjunction with our partner organisations: Sustainable Duddon, South Lakes Red Squirrel Group and South Cumbria Rivers Trust.

We have removed more Himalayan balsam (a non-native invasive species) than ever before, have conducted MoRPh, riverfly and electrofishing surveys, placed dormouse boxes in suitable woodland habitat, helped the red squirrel population by controlling greys, monitored water quality, bats, mink and other wildlife, built leaky dams and planted trees. We have also organised a guided walk at Sandscale Haws, enjoyed a fabulous Community Lunch and have taken part in Thwaites Gala and the Broughton Show. It's been an incredible year and there's more to come in 2026!

Please join us for our AGM (see opposite). All those interested in finding out more about what we do are very welcome to attend. It will be followed by supper and a chance to catch up informally. If you would like to join us, please email us at duddonriverassociation@gmail.com and we will send you full details of the meeting. We would love to see some new faces!

You can also find out more about the DRA and volunteer opportunities by joining our Facebook Group or by following us on Instagram.

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

SAMUEL ECCLES PAINTER & DECORATOR

NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL

FREE QUOTES

MOBILE: 07540 418866





SEASONED, HARDWOOD LOGS

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Operating out of Duddon Bridge



“Refined interiors for the way you live”

Are you looking to upgrade your current living space to make it truly work for you?

Services include:

- Whole house transformations
- Kitchen and boot room redesigns
- Space planning and room flow improvement
- Holiday let and second home furnishing
- Pre-sale styling and reports
- Colour consultation and refreshes

Please feel free to get in touch on **07432 533848**, via my Instagram [@jenny.taylor.interiors](https://www.instagram.com/jenny.taylor.interiors) or Email jenny.taylor5@icloud.com

DUDDON CLEANING



Domestic carpet and upholstery cleaning service

- Deep cleaning and quick drying
- Cars and caravans cleaned

• Fully insured, NCCA trained member

Call Tony any time for a free survey & estimate on:
01229 770973 or 07862 728544

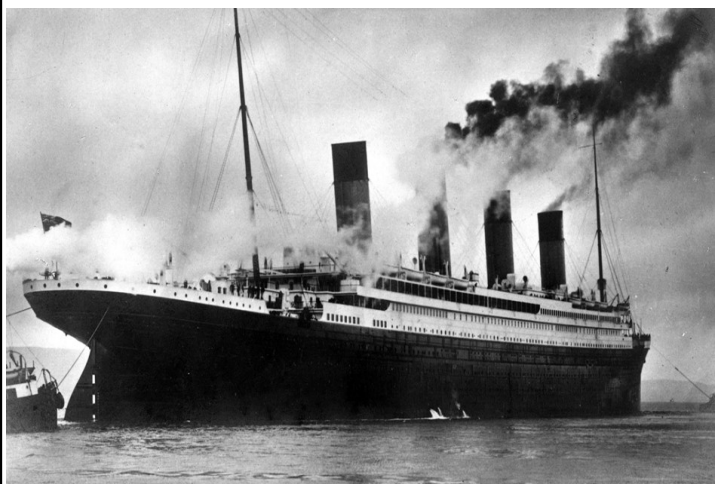
Painter & Decorator

Duddon Valley and Surrounds



Nick Sebley
01229 715021
nsebley@aol.com

WATER YEAT VILLAGE HALL
Presents
Titanic
A Seaman's Perspective



Although over 500 books have been written about the *Titanic* in the English language alone, there is still much controversy as to what happened on the fateful night. Julian has been at sea all his life, is a professional ship-handler and has commanded large vessels with steam engines... join him to take a look at the world's most famous shipwreck.

Through a professional seaman's eyes, he will illuminate the significant, eliminate the nonsense, and focus on the factors that could have made a difference.

A talk by Julian Blatchley

Thursday 22nd January
Starts **7.30pm** – door opens at 7pm
£5 entry - includes tea/coffee/biscuits on arrival

www.e-voice.org.uk/wyvvh www.facebook.com/wateryeatvillagehall/



Restoring Hardknott Forest

Volunteer Days

All are welcome at our volunteer days, if a day is full it's worth adding yourself to the waiting list in case of cancellations.


Directions and joining details will be sent out when you book. There is full information with dates on our website, <https://bag.leeds.ac.uk/projects/restoring-hardknott-forest/get-involved> or contact j.h.hodgson@leeds.ac.uk if you have any questions.

THURSDAY RUNNERS

We are a friendly and welcoming local running club that meets every Thursday 6.30-7.30pm in Broughton Park.

All welcome, regardless of ability. No-one gets left behind, as we do various types of interval training in a small area and we all run at our own individual pace!

For more details, please contact Jackie on:
07598 746807



HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Exciting News!

We now have an active website, that showcases our projects and community information for our area:
www.sustainableduddon.co.uk

Why visit the Sustainable Duddon website?

Like you, we care deeply about the Duddon and its landscapes, wildlife and the communities that call it home. Our website is where you can:



- See what we're up to** – find out about the practical work we're doing to look after the river, tackle invasive species, improve habitats and monitor species.
- Get involved** – whether you've got an hour or a whole day, discover ways to volunteer, help with surveys, litter picks, in the orchard or hands-on conservation.
- Learn as you go** – pick up useful information about local wildlife, water quality and the challenges facing our area.
- Follow our progress** – keep up to date with news, events and project updates from across the Duddon.
- Join the community** – be part of a friendly, community group of people who care about this special place and want to protect it for the future.

Whether you're local, visiting, or just curious about the Duddon, you're very welcome here.

Thermal Imaging

As we write this, we have had the coldest night of the year- -10C at Shap! The roads are treacherous, and there is an amber health warning for all the country. Help keep your home warm and free from drafts by taking advantage of our **free** home thermal imaging surveys. We use a thermal imaging device to identify where drafts or poor insulation, invisible to the eye, are resulting in heat loss. Contact us to arrange a suitable time.



Tree Planting

Our colleagues at Duddon River Association are embarking on the Stonestar tree planting project in the Duddon valley this month. This involves carrying 200 posts, 100 heavy duty tree protectors and 100 trees up from the road through bracken and rocks, digging 100 holes for the trees and erecting the protection. The more volunteer helpers we can muster, the easier the job will be. If you can help, please get in touch at sustainableduddon@gmail.com so we can provide more information.

Or visit our Facebook page – just search for **Sustainable Duddon**.



SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2026

**BROWFOOT
BINGO
FUNDRAISER**



**6 GAMES @ £6 PER BOOK
PRIZES FOR LINES AND FULL HOUSE**



2 X QUICK FIRE GAMES @ £1 PER GAME



**DOORS OPEN 7PM EYES DOWN 7.30PM
at BROWFOOT ROOM, ULPHA LA20 6DX**

Rusland Valley Horticultural Society Ltd

POTATO DAY



**Sunday 25th January 2026
GREENODD VILLAGE HALL**

10am – 2pm

Sale of 120+ varieties of seed potatoes, fruit bushes & trees, seeds, onions, flower bulbs and tubers, and more!
(supplied by Brighter Blooms Nursery, Preston)

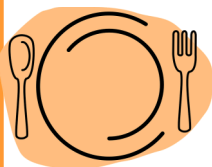
&

HOMEMADE SOUP AND CAKES!

Admission £1 (children free)

See Brighter Blooms website for lists of produce available:

www.brighterblooms.co.uk



Broughton Supper Club

**Wednesday 11th February
Derek Gilfillans
"The Pharmaceutical Industry"**

After a very successful Guest Night dinner in December attended by 19 members and their guests we revert to our regular programme of supper at the Square Cafe followed by a talk from a guest speaker or member.

We meet on the second Wednesday of every month between September and April at the Square Cafe 6:30 for 7:00pm. Wishing all members a happy and healthy 2026 and looking forward to seeing you at one of our meetings soon.

Ian Verber (Secretary)



PARISH COUNCIL DROP IN

The Square Café

The next session will be
Tuesday 10th February 2026
10.45 – 12noon

The Parish Clerk can be contacted at
info.duddonparishclerk.org.uk

You can follow us on Facebook
[facebook.com/theduddonparishcouncil/](https://www.facebook.com/theduddonparishcouncil/)



BROUGHTON FILM CLUB

Friday 20th February
The Ballad of Wallis Island 

Featuring a lonely eccentric who books folk music duo (Tom Basden and Carey Mulligan) for a private gig, this sharply observed drroll film hits all the right notes

**7.30 pm
Victory Hall**

Tickets £5 (cash) • Doors open 7 pm • Bar
Cinema-sized screen • Subtitles

*Make it a special evening with our
Film Club Meal Deal*

6 pm at The Square Café - £20 for 2 courses + film
Book Meal Deal on 716388 by Wednesday 18th February
(vegetarian/vegan option available)



VICTORY HALL WEEKLY EVENTS



Monday Rankin Room
4.45pm-5.45pm Rainbows (4-7 yrs)
5.45pm-7pm Brownies (7-10)
7.30pm-8.45pm Guides (10-14) Main Hall
and Rangers (14-18) Rankin Room

Contact Louise Huddleston, Angela York,
Joscelin Tracey, Sam Addington or Liz Burslem for more info
or register your daughter at www.go.girlguiding.org.uk

WozFit

Monday 6.30pm-7.30pm
Circuit Training £2 per session



Tuesday
6.00pm-7.15pm
Main Hall



For more information contact E: tburslem@hotmail.com

Tuesday 7.15pm-9.15pm
Rankin Room



HOLBORN HILL ROYAL BRASS BAND
Contact Ruth Hughes on **716659** Instruments can be provided

Wednesday 10am-12pm

Pickleball £3.00 includes refreshments



Contact Barbara **01229 869968**

M: **07990327047** E: barbara.birch@hotmail.co.uk



Thursday 7.30 until 9pm

Badminton



Contact Andrew on **889429** or Graham on **716007**

Friday 9.30-11.30

Broughton Under 5's Group £2 for first child,

50p for additional children. Includes drinks & snacks

broughtonunderfives@hotmail.co.uk



Friday 3pm-5pm

Pickleball £3.00 see Wednesday for details

**Gentle
exercise**

Friday 10.30am-11.30am

Rankin Room

Chair based activities to benefit your
posture and physical condition



Booking of the Hall is exclusively on-line at:

<https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Broughton-Furness-Victory-Hall>

VICTORY HALL CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: broughtonvictoryhall@gmail.com

Tel: **07355 930193**

HALL HIRE FEES

The Main Hall

£15 per hour. £12.50 per hour for regular group users.

Rankin Room

£10 per hour. £9 per hour for regular group users.

Green Room

£10 per hour. £8 per hour for regular group users

Evening Function

6pm until closing (as per the licence) £100.

A 50% deposit is required when booking. If the booking is cancelled within 7 days of the event, the deposit will be kept.



LONDON MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL

7 pm on Friday 13th March
Victory Hall

An inspirational programme
of outdoor and adventure films

More details in next month's Parish Pump

Fundraiser for Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team
Hosted by Broughton-in-Furness Film Club



Kath Ord
Lady of the Canyon
 A celebration of Joni Mitchell



Browfoot Room Ulpha
 21st February 2026
 7.30pm for 8.15pm

Tickets £17
 (Child £10)

Available from
Ulpha Post Office
 (1-3pm Thurs)
Manor Arms Broughton
 or online at
www.musicinulpha.org.uk

Minibus from Broughton Licensed Bar



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 30 years experience in the building trade & kitchen fitting

Mike Wolff
 07967 186519. mike_wolff@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 715028

**BROUGHTON POST OFFICE
 COMMUNITY SHOP**

The much anticipated opening of Broughton's new Post Office on The Square took place at 1 pm on Tuesday 9th December

Post Office & Shop Manager Siobhan Rawlins cut the ribbon across the post office counter to cheers from a crowd of onlookers and music from Holborn Hill Royal Brass Band. Attending the ceremony from Post Office Ltd were Area Manager Carol Lister and On-Site Trainer Esher Denwood. Broughton Community Services CIC was represented by Directors Andrew Gittins and Jackie Lancaster.

Speeches were made and a bouquet presented to Business Development Manager Annette Carmichael who initiated and spearheaded the whole project. Thanks were also given to those who helped bring this venture to fruition including donors CGP, the Parish Pump, Kirkby Moor Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, Hyperfast Cumbria Connections Fund, the Lakes 2 Day Trial Committee and everyone who made donations or held fundraising events.

The happy occasion was well covered by Cumbria Radio, Cumbria Crack and the *North West Evening Mail*.

The rush was then on to start using the post office and continued all the way up to the last posting date! Siobhan and Ingrid did a sterling job dealing with all the postal and banking transactions while our team of merry shop volunteers handled a steady stream of customers.

For opening hours see front page.

We would like to thank everyone who has come in and hope to welcome many more in the coming months!

Broughton Community Services CIC

Does your dog pull on the lead, bark incessantly, have Separation Anxiety or other behaviour issue? I help you understand your dog, why they do what they do and show you how to change it. Together we help both them and you become calm and relaxed.

Qualified Dog Listener/Dog Behaviour Coach, (member of the School for Professional Dog Listeners). No gadgets just calm leadership.

To find out more and if the approach will work for you – I know it will for your dog! - call me for a free no obligation chat ;

Sue 07376 977096



**Annual Exhibition from the DVLHG Archives
Saturday 24 January at the Victory Hall 11.00am – 2.00pm**

Again, we have rummaged through our archives to bring out historical photographs and documents to tell the tale of Broughton, Dunnerdale and the Duddon Valley from long ago.

Among the displays will be the early Parish Magazines from the 1870s and items belonging to eminent Victorians who literally helped shape the town, including letters home from a soldier serving on the Western Front and the diaries of a young girl from Broughton Mills.

This year we are joined by the Broughton Mills, Woodland and Foxfield WI who will be on hand to display and chat about a collection of albums and documents dating back to the 1930s and which were collected to celebrate their 50th Anniversary. These are usually kept in the Barrow Archive Centre - but we're borrowing them for the day!

Come along for a chat, coffee, tea and cake.

The programme of talks for the New Year is as follows:

- 25 February, "Millom Castle, the Huddlestons and the English Civil Wars", Jan Bridget
- 25 March, "Wartime Walney", Mick Shaw
- 22 April, "Walls in the Cumbrian Landscape", Dr David Johnson
- 27 May, "Journals of Kenneth Burgess", Stan Aspinall and Nigel Pattinson
- 24 June, "Britain's 1914-18 War Resisters – Communities, Prisoners, Fugitives, Revolutionaries and Broughton in Furness", Cyril Pearce
- 22 July 2026 AGM, "John Ruskin: Victorian Polymath", Dr David Cross

Meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of the month. All at 7.30pm in the Victory Hall.

If you would like to join DVLHG, it costs £10 per year, guests are very welcome at the meetings (£2 per person). Email the Secretary on sec@duddonhistory.org.uk. You may also wish to visit our website www.duddonhistory.org.uk.

Colin Robertshaw (Hon. Sec)

BROUGHTON FILM CLUB

We would like to thank our members for their support during 2025. Ten films have been shown at the Club's monthly screenings while February's Mountain Film Festival raised £1,850 for Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team. In August our Film + Curry evening raised £1,005 towards Broughton's PO & Community Shop.

*We are taking a break in December
and will be back in 2026 with:*

Friday 23rd January

A Haunting in Venice ¹²

*Kenneth Branagh stars as celebrated sleuth
Hercule Poirot in this frightening mystery
with a supernatural twist set after World War II*

**Screening at 7.30 pm
Victory Hall**

Tickets £5 (cash) • Doors open 7 pm • Bar
Cinema-sized screen • Subtitles

*Make it a special evening with our
Film Club Meal Deal*

6 pm at The Square Café - £20 for 2 courses + film
Book Meal Deal on 716388 by Wednesday 21st January
(vegetarian/vegan option available)



**Broughton Chess Festival
Saturday 31st January 2026
1.30 pm to 5.00 pm
Victory Hall, Station Rd,
Broughton-in-Furness**

Can you play chess?
Then come to the Chess Festival!

Adults, Juniors, Experts, Novices - all are welcome.
Play on the Giant Chess Set
Entry is free

Refreshments to keep the brain working

For more information and registration contact
Neill Cooper
email nsc@cplusc.co.uk phone 01229 716916

Under 11s must be accompanied by an adult.

Market St. Art and Antiques

Broughton-in-Furness, LA20 6HP.

- Art & Antiques
- Collectables
- Books
- Jewellery
- Broughton Curios
- Local Arts & Crafts

Items Bought and Sold

07841580284

wallenriggfarm@gmail.com



MESSAGE FROM OUR MP MICHELLE SCROGHAM

As we bid farewell to 2025, I would like to place on record my thanks to everyone who has worked hard to deliver improvements in our communities over the past 12 months.

That includes all those who worked tirelessly to re-open post office services in Broughton, a fantastic example of the strength of local community spirit.

I would also like to thank the thousands of local people who have supported my campaign to resist plans to permanently downgrade Level Three care at Furness General Hospital.

We have many positive developments to reflect on but the highlights for me have included the work to reduce the levels of child poverty locally.

I was therefore pleased to see the abolition of the two-child benefit cap which will directly benefit more than 1,600 children from our area.

Children growing up in poverty are less likely to work as adults and on average earn 25 per cent less, so not only is it morally right to address it, but it's also a financially sound argument.

We know that 70 per cent of those affected by the two child benefit limit are from working families struggling with the cost of living. This is a national shame that I am proud we're fixing.

I have also been pleased by the progress made on improving mobile connectivity in rural areas. For too many years we have been held back by poor phone signal which impact so many residents and local businesses.

I have therefore welcomed the Government's clear ambitions in the 10-Year Infrastructure Strategy on rollout of high-quality, standalone 5G signal.

A Shared Rural Network mast has already been activated in the Duddon Valley, helping local residents, businesses and visitors stay better connected. This mast is already making a real difference in an area where for a long time, many have struggled with poor signal and patchy coverage.

Of course, coverage alone is not enough. We must also focus on resilience: on whether networks stay up during power outages, extreme weather or other emergencies. Most people do not come to me with concerns about coverage maps. They talk about their phone not working when they need it the most. I am grateful to the Mobile Network Operators that have sat down with me as part of my campaign with fellow Cumbrian MPs to ensure we see further progress being made on resilience.

Whatever the new year brings you can be certain that I will be fighting for the improvements we need to see in our communities.

Finally, if there are any issues you need help with, or you have any questions, you can contact me by phone or WhatsApp on **07721 148088** or you can email me at michelle.scrogam.mp@parliament.uk.

Michelle

TWENTY-YEAR PLAN TO RESTORE NATURE AND SUPPORT FELL FARMING IN THE DUDDON VALLEY

The Upper Duddon Landscape Recovery brings together farmers, environmental organisations and the local community to manage 2,800 hectares of land in the Duddon Valley. The 20-year project, which started in late 2025, is led by the University of Leeds together with local farmers, the National Trust, Forestry England, South Cumbria Rivers Trust, the University of Cumbria and Natural England. The project is funded by DEFRA as well as a range of businesses and foundations.

The project will work together with ten land managers, six of them tenant farmers, supporting them to restore habitats and enhance nature across the landscape.

Paddy Deady, the Project Farm Manager and one of the tenant farmers involved in the project, said: "The most significant change I expect to see is an increase in the number of insects and the number of birds. Within a few years I hope we will really be able to demonstrate fully how the project is benefitting nature, benefitting the local community and benefitting the farming community who live here year-round. The project will create and support 14 jobs in the valley providing an important source of employment in the local area."

John Hodgson leads on volunteering and school visits for the project. He said: "We will be able to expand our volunteering and school sessions to include working on local farms as well as in Hardknott Forest. Last year we hosted dozens of volunteer days and visits from local schools, including some brilliant sessions with Millom School, who helped us plant trees and wildflowers, and learned about local wildlife."

The project will restore meadows, heathland, wood pasture, scrub, woodland, temperate rainforest and blanket bog. Alongside restoration of habitats, the project will also help the recovery of local wildlife such as the tree pipit, pine marten and water vole. It is also set to deliver a range of environmental benefits including a reduction in downstream flood risk. River restoration work will improve water quality in the River Duddon and its tributaries.



A volunteering programme will provide opportunities for the local community and visitors to contribute to nature recovery. A new community-based wildflower and tree nursery will grow the flowers and trees needed to help habitats recover.

Steve Jolley, project officer from the National Trust said: "We're really excited to be part of this project which has brought together local farmers to deliver sustainable farming across the Duddon Valley. The area has a strong tradition of fell farming and the National Trust is looking forward to seeing this continue whilst restoring nature in this beautiful part of the Lake District." The project has already started work and has restored peatbog, rebuilt a large section of bridleway and is felling and using larch trees from Hardknott Forest to provide fence posts and timber for the farms within the project area.

Look out for site tours and other engagement events this year, or contact j.h.hodgson@leeds.ac.uk for more information. Newsletter sign up and UDLR website here:





The Community Hall
at Grizebeck
KIRKBY IN FURNESS

Upcoming events

All our events are advertised on The Community Hall Grizebeck Facebook page. Further details on all our events available from our hall manager by emailing hall.manager@grizebeckhall.co.uk, sending a message to our Facebook page or by ringing **07905779584** (Mondays and Fridays).

Burns Night Ceilidh Saturday 24th January

Join us for Ceilidh and Burns night on Saturday 24th January at 7.30pm with Fiddlers Elbow, who will guide you through the dances, Grizebeck's own resident bagpiper Shaun Gregg and Haggis and Neeps supper hosted by Liz Clarkes Catering. For further details use contacts above. Tickets cost just £30.

New to the Community Hall Grizebeck Monthly talks

We are pleased to introduce a new series of monthly talks taking place on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Our first talk will be on
**Thursday 22nd January 2026 at
7.30pm**

and will be by Nigel Gilligan on "A Year in the Life of Lowick Common". Use contact details above for further information.

On 26th February

Martin Cooper will talk about the work of Mountain Rescue.

Regular events

Table tennis Monday afternoon contact Rick Shaw **01229 889624**

Pilates Monday evening Contact Heidi **07519395545**

Whist Drive Every first and second Wednesday contact Michael Irving on **01229 889632**

Flowerguild Contact Jeni Sarson **01229 889685**

Bowling Club Thursday afternoon contact Franek Rewaj **01229 889407**

Craft Club Second Thursday of each month. For further details contact Ali Hooper on **01229 889723**

Surfers Group Assistance in navigating a computer. Friday morning contact Franek Rewaj **01229 889407**

Knit and Natter

Learn new skills or just relax with friends Details: Jan **716155**

**1st & 3rd Friday 2pm – 4pm
Parsonage Room**

THANK YOU

The Valley Churches Christmas Market at Ulpha raised £937.52

We would like to thank all who contributed Raffle prizes. A huge thank you goes to our generous community who supported this much needed fund raiser and those who brought delicious home-made products to sell. The local honey sold well! And once again the popular soup and sandwiches lunch was a sell out.

Sweetheart Sanctuary
WITH LOUISE AND CHARLOTTE
10.30am – 12.30pm
SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY
THE BROWFOOT ROOM ULPHA
TROPIC
£5 includes refreshments
Please bring your mat.
Enjoy a relaxing and rejuvenating Pilates class, followed by a skincare master class and tailored advice to suit your needs.

The Donkey and the Cow

Once there was a donkey who
deeply loved a cow
No one could explain this strange
phenomenon
For the donkey was a chancer
and loved immorality
Flitting twixt his amours like a
bee.
But one day in the summer as the
cow lay chewing cud
She gazed upon the ass with
eyes of love
He fell at once and gazing back
He linked them together like a
key
So they're happy in the meadow
she grazing on sweet
grasses
He content to trot about
No longer chasing lasses.
From time to time their eyes will
lock
And they'll float up on cloud nine
The plucky little donkey and
Jersey milker fine.

Barbara Rigg

KITTY BROWN FASHION SHOW

Victory Hall
Broughton in Furness

Thursday
5th March- 7:30pm

£6 includes tea, coffee
and biscuits

Raffle

All proceeds will go to
St. Mary's Hospice
Charity No. 517738



NEW MOUNTAIN RESCUE BASE



People may have noticed the large steel framework construction being erected near the Broughton Supply, Foxfield. This will be the new base for the Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team. At the moment we are the only team in the Lake District without its own purpose built base. In 2016 the team made the decision to raise funds to build its own permanent base. As always with new projects, delays were incurred, difficulties with landownership, planning and access issues meant it took longer than anticipated. At long last in March of last year all the relevant approvals were in place and work began in earnest. The contractor first had to sink sixty concrete piles to the depth of 13 metres to give a solid foundation to enable the building to be constructed. Passers-by will now see that the construction has a roof and blockwork is taking shape to the walls. At present the new build is on budget and on time, and it is hoped that all work will be completed by April 2026, and the team will be able to occupy their new base.

Many thanks to the businesses, both national and local, clubs, societies and individuals who have helped raise £1.2 million to fund this project. I hope when I write again in April the project will be finished and the team will be able to extend invitations to our opening.

DAVID HUGHES Hon Vice President

Rev'd Victoria Sekasi
Priest in Charge
M: 07453 930536
tkbdchurches@gmail.com
Am at my desk, Monday, Tuesdays
and Fridays

Parish News



Benefices of The Duddon Estuary. Comprising the Parishes of Kirkby Ireleth, Broughton & Duddon and Thwaites

Looking for Answers

Have you ever been in a situation when something that thought you knew was a rock solid, believable truth, turns out to be actually based on a shaky foundation? The song about the wise man who built his house on the rock and the foolish man who built his house on the sand springs to mind. It all comes crashing down! It happens a lot in soap operas where blossoming relationships fail at the first hint of unfaithfulness and we almost rejoice when we can smugly say – I told you so – when Johnny lets Vivienne down and then they have a blazing row about it.

The people who were convinced that the world was flat or that the Sun went round the earth must have been some of those who did not want to believe the new evidence, not wanting to lose face or admit others knew better than they did. Those who advanced the new theories or purported new knowledge often needed courage to persist and the conviction to stand up against the ingrained norms, prejudice and invested interests of the day.

The course I am doing with Emmanuel Theological College has a habit of making us look very hard at what we thought we knew to be "Gospel". They make us take apart facts or beliefs that we had accepted previously were true: asking questions of them, analysing them, but then putting them back together again in such a way as to make them better – more believable, more true, more "Gospel" than before. I often wish they would not, as it is sometimes acutely uncomfortable to have the ground cut out from under one's feet. But at the end of the day to have to ask those difficult, challenging questions is formative and reassuring as we come back to the fact again and again that God, the LORD, is Good and wants the best for us and the best is to know Him.

If you have questions about "Life, the Universe or Anything", a good place to find answers is the Alpha Course we are currently running on a Monday night in the Parsonage Room. We shall seek the answers together – maybe it will add up to 42!

Helen Lewis

From the Registers

Please pray for the family and friends of Alice Barrow, whose funeral was held at St Anne's Thwaites on 29th December.



Brown & Murray

Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney & Probate

Offices in Millom & Barrow-in-Furness
Free no obligation home visits available in Coniston,
Hawkshead, Broughton-in-Furness & Furness Peninsula

Janette Carroll – Licensed Probate Practitioner

Tel: 01229 820021

E-mail: jcarroll@brownandmurray.co.uk

Brown & Murray Legal Services Ltd

Mitchells
LIVESTOCK AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

24th February Show and sale of Store Cattle

Explore life, faith & meaning

Join us on Monday evenings at
7pm for dinner, film and
discussion.

Begins on 12th January in The
Parsonage Room.

To sign up contact
tkbdchurches@gmail.com

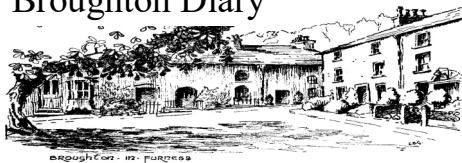
Try Alpha.



alpha.org.uk

Alpha

Broughton Diary



January

- 22** *NEW* monthly talk: 7.30pm,
Grizebeck Community Hall
22 *Titanic*: 7.30pm, Water Yeat Village
Hall
23 Broughton Film Club: 7.30pm, Victory
Hall
24 DVLHG: 11am—2pm, Annual
Exhibition, Victory Hall
24 Burns Night Ceilidh: 7.30pm,
Grizebeck Community Hall
25 Potato Day: 10am—2pm, Greenodd
Village Hall
30 Kim Richey: 8pm, Water Yeat Village
Hall
31 Chess Festival: 1.30—5pm, Victory
Hall

February

- 4** Broughton Mills, Woodland & Foxfield
WI: 7.30pm, Woodland Parish Room
6—8 The Magic Porridge Pot: Victory Hall
(for times see p1).
10 DPC Drop-in: 10.45—12noon, Square
Cafe
10 Ulpha & Seathwaite WI: 7.30pm,
Browfoot Room, Ulpha
11 Broughton Supper Club: 6.30, Square
Cafe
13 CWT, Wildlife and Scenery of the
Antrim Coast: 7.30pm, Thwaites Village
Hall
13 Holly Clarke and George Sansome:
8pm, Water Yeat Village Hall
14 Tropic: 10.30am—12.30pm, Browfoot
Room (see p10)
17 Pancake Party: 5—6.30pm,
Community Hall, Grizebeck
20 Broughton Film Club: 7.30pm, Victory
Hall
21 Kath Ord: 7.30pm, Browfoot Room
25 DVLHG: 7.30pm, Victory Hall
26 Martin Cooper on Mountain Rescue:
7.30pm, Grizebeck Hall
28 Bingo: 7pm, Browfoot Room

March

- 5** Fashion Show: 7.30pm, Victory Hall
10 Duddon River Association AGM:
4.30pm, Old King's Head, Broughton
13 London Mountain Film Festival: 7pm,
Victory Hall

REGULAR EVENTS

Every Tuesday
Coffee Morning, 10.30am,
Square Café



Every Thursday Coffee, Cake 'n Chat: at
Pop Up Post Office, 1—3pm, Browfoot
Room, Ulpha

Every Sunday afternoon
Gardening at The Old
School House, Ulpha



Benefice of The Duddon Estuary

Comprising the parishes of Kirkby Ireleth,
Broughton & Duddon and Thwaites



Church Services February

**St Cuthbert,
Kirkby at 9.30am**

- 1st Sunday — Service of The Word
2nd Sunday — Holy Communion
3rd Sunday — Service of the Word
4th Sunday — Holy Communion

**St Mary Magdalene,
Broughton at 10am**

- 1st Sunday — Holy Communion
2nd Sunday — Morning Prayer
3rd Sunday — Breakfast Church
4th Sunday — Celtic Worship

Duddon Valley Churches

St John the Baptist, Ulpha

- 1st Sunday — 3pm, Family Communion
3rd Sunday — 6pm Evening Prayer

Holy Trinity, Seathwaite
5th Sunday only

Woodland

St John the Evangelist at 6pm

- 2nd Sunday — Evensong
4th Sunday — Songs of Praise

St Anne's, Thwaites at 11.30am

- 2nd Sunday — Family Worship
4th Sunday — Brunch Church

Midweek Service

Holy Innocents, Broughton Mills at 10am



CGP Duddon Parish Trust Fund

The fund is administered by
members of the Duddon Parish
Council

APPLYING FOR FUNDS

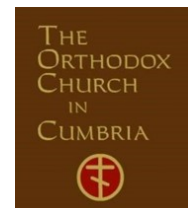
Representatives of local groups from within
the Duddon Parish can apply for funding.
Application forms are available from the
Community Shop, or you can download one
from www.duddonparishcouncil.org.uk

Send your completed form to the Trust Fund
Clerk, Nigel Jones, either by email:
cgptrustfund@gmail.com
or post to: Stonegarth, Church Street.
Broughton-in-Furness, LA20 6HJ

**The next closing date for applications is
28th February 2026**

The Orthodox Community of St. Simon and St. Kentigern Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Cemetery Chapel,
Dalton-in-
Furness, LA15
8LL.



**Every third
Saturday
of the
month,
starting at
10.30am**

www.orthodoxcumbria.org.uk
Email: holy.fathers@gmail.com

The Roman Catholic Parish of St Francis of Assisi

**Our Lady and St James RC
Church, Millom**

Wednesday 5.00pm
Sunday Mass 10.30am

**Sacred Heart RC Church,
Coniston**

Thursday 10am
Saturday Vigil Mass 5pm

Father Mathew Jacob

Tel: 01229 779673

E: saintfranciscumbria@gmail.com
www.saintfranciscumbria.com

**Kingdom Hall of
Jehovah's Witnesses**

2 Holborn Hall, Millom, LA18 5BE
www.jw.org

**Every
Thursday 7.15pm
Sunday 10.15am**



The Methodist Church Services

Kirkby in Furness, Marshside
11am Morning Service,
1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays

6pm Service with Communion
on 2nd Sunday

Millom, Queen Street
11am Every Sunday

You will be made most welcome

The publication of advertisements in the Parish Pump does not imply endorsement of the products/services advertised
The producers of the newsletter accept no responsibility. The Parish Pump is unable to publish anonymous contributions