

The Borrowdale News

August/September 2019



‘Derwentwater’ from an Oil Painting by Gill Bulch

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HOUND TRAILING IN BORROWDALE

Racing hounds has been going on for generations, but hound trailing was really established when the Hound Trailing Association was formed in 1906.

Borrowdale was a stronghold of the sport in the 1940's and 50's.

Victor Brownlee, who farmed at Stonethwaite Farm but has now retired to Greystoke, and his daughter Christine are keen exponents of the sport. Indeed Victor has notched up almost 1500 winners. Some record!

His two best dogs have been Shannon and Melody. Another notable one was Mahdi who was



Victor and Christine Brownlee

injured as a pup in March one year and laid up. However Stanley Jackson from Nook Farm took him on and built him up on the fells around Rosthwaite. By mid-summer Mahdi was ready to race, and being unknown to the bookies won at 33/1. A nice touch enjoyed by several others as well when they saw Victor and Stanley putting on their fivers. However, hound trailers aren't in it for the money. The prize money for the winner is £8 at a normal meeting, hardly paying the expenses.

Other hound trailers in the valley have included Ben Patterson, Joe Hind, Billy Bland, Robin Chapman and Peter Jenkinson.

The meetings used to attract good crowds, with about 15 bookmakers attending. This is now down to 3, partly due to present regulations and red tape. Unfortunately, the number of pups registered this season has gone down from 300 to 82.

Once they are retired the hounds are usually sent to a re-homing centre, and apparently are quite in demand.

Is a traditional lakeland sport in danger of dying out?

Look out for a possible meeting being held in Grange in the autumn.

THE LEGENDARY STORY OF BORROWDALE HOSPITALITY

I was given the privilege of reading wonderful expressions of gratitude for holidays spent at Longhwaite Farm, Rose Cottage and Yew Tree Farm in old visitors' books from 1905 to 1963. Ann Bland's and Judy Figg's families, the Pattinsons and Porters took visitors when there was no TV, emails or texting – visitors wrote their thanks with delightful comment, poetry and drawings. This is a glimpse at what I hope will be a story on display to enjoy as part of the Borrowdale Story at Grange Chapel.

1. 1939.

A wonderful holiday. Blissful relief from strains of work, fever of war, splendid cooking, homeliness and hospitality and such things as money can't buy – these have been ours at Longhwaite Farm. We will always remember the Pattinsons' kindness.

The crags and fells, the becks and gills, the Lakes and trees and bracken gay.
Combine to soothe and ease the ills which come to us from day to day.
And after long and arduous climb the peaks and pikes display their charms
But none can equal or compare the joy and welcome at the farm
The jolly fire, the cosy room the cups that gleam in lamplight warm
All to show the friendly homely ways of Pattinsons at Longhwaite Farm.



Ben and Betty Pattinson

2. 1909.

Really now what can I say
On leaving Borrowdale

Should I attempt a “gourmet” day ?

Expressions surely fail !

Cooked to a T were the meals we have eaten

Once tried you'll admit that they cannot be beaten

Tramping and climbing we've spent our short week

Though mistakes we have made – of them we won't speak

A jolly fine time in a jolly fine place

Good weather etc. but time runs apace

Excuse the last time for our train we must race.

3. When the days come that I must live alone in my own thoughts

And when my eyes are dimmed and cannot see the shadows on the hill – cast
by the clouds.

And when I can no longer hear the far-off sounds of hurrying streams and sheep

Then will I turn my mind to those great days I spent upon the fells, and turn
them over one by one

And count them as jewels, that no one can take from me.

4. Well lined with egg and porridge we started out each day,

With hopes high as the mountains we determined to assay.

We met with bogs and boulders, with scorching sun and rain.

Jill bearing the scars of adventure we stumbled home again.

Then they fed us – how they fed us, they gave us a seat outside.

Calamine for sunburn, and soaking things they dried.

They gave us a shout of welcome, however late we came.

Of course, the maps and compass were usually the ones to blame.

A heavenly white washed farmstead set in a ring of hills.

Where sheep go by and Jessie her guests with good things fills.

Now returning to the turmoil of every day affairs,

It gives comfort to remember there is such a place as this.

Article written by Patricia Roscamp

GRAVEYARD AT SAINT ANDREW'S

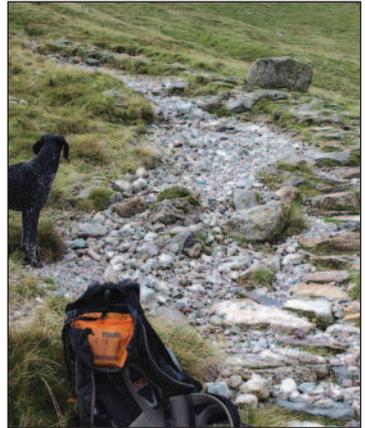
First a belated but much felt thank you to Clifford Thompson. He has done a good job for many years. Second profound apologies: we failed to find someone to replace Clifford and for a couple of months the place was really not good enough. Thirdly we now have the matter in hand Harvey Big Foot is doing a good job. This is a Village Churchyard and it does not aim to look fully manicured - but it will look tidy, respectful and appropriate. As we plan forward we shall seek to find the right balance between the Environmental and wild life and good order.

NATIONAL TRUST UPDATE

The upland path team have just completed their helicopter lifts for the summer of 2019.

Whenever we repair erosion damage on the high fell paths, the stone we use is (wherever possible) sourced from elsewhere on the same fell, or nearby, to ensure that it's in keeping with the surrounding landscape.

The bags are filled by hand, and before we take any stone at all we inspect it to make sure we're not disturbing rare lichens or plants. The bags are then lifted into position by helicopter, so that we don't create more erosion damage by moving the stone. However expensive and time consuming this is it is the only way to get materials to sites where there simply isn't any or the material there is unsuitable for our work. Thank you to everyone who donates to make this work possible.



Erosion scar beside the path at Gillercomb



Bag Filling at Gillercomb

as well as materials to replace a ladder stile on Eagle Crag in Langstrath. Following some feedback on the last ladder stile we built above Seatoller, we've come up with a modified design to make the Eagle Crag one more dog-friendly – please let us know if it works.

Meanwhile construction work is continuing on the hydro-power project on Combe Gill. We're deliberately keeping the 'work corridor' as narrow as possible and

The flights that have just happened have moved stone from Brandreth to fix erosion on Gillercombe, a short flight to move stone to a work site on Blencathra, and another short flight to fix erosion around existing stone-pitched paths between Combe Gill and Glaramara summit. At the same time we've also taken the opportunity to lift the pipes for the hydro-power scheme at Combe Gill,



Rangers building the ladder stile at Seatoller

we're protecting the topsoil and turf so that it can be replaced once work is finished. The rangers have strimmed a footpath diversion route to take walkers around the opposite side of the knoll away from where the diggers are working.



Deliberately keeping the corridor of works as narrow as possible to minimise damage

National Trust rangers are running a series of free guided walks between 14 – 22 September for Heritage Open Days. These will include guided walks to see the hydro power projects in the valley on Tues 17 Sept, and at Thorneythwaite on Thurs 19 Sept. For the full programme including times and venues, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/borrowdale

THE BORROWDALE STORY 2020 CALENDAR

The Borrowdale Story Calendar for 2020 is HERE! If you have 20 – 20 vision you will be queuing up for your copies of this wonderful calendar.

Sales of the 2019 Calendar exceeded expectations in that we ordered 300 copies (which had been the number sold in 2018) but these sold out within a month. A further 200 were ordered and sold by the end of the year.

There are many calendars depicting views of the Lake District as a whole but there has been nothing but praise for this calendar which portrays the beauty and diversity of the very special Borrowdale Valley. We hope you agree that we have maintained that standard for the 2020 edition. It is available at last year's price of £6 each (£9 if posted out).



Here is July's photo

They are now on display and available to purchase from both Churches in Grange or directly from David Woodthorpe on 017687 77828 or woodthorpe475@btinternet.com

Our friends at Seatoller House, The Glaramara and The Borrowdale Gates Hotel are once again helping the Borrowdale Story by stocking these calendars and we are very grateful to them.

David Woodthorpe
(Chairman Borrowdale Story Project)

SEPTEMBER 15th 2019

This is a big day in Borrowdale - it's all happening!

First the Spiritual. Thanks to the team up at Honister we are able to use "The Cathedral", that great chasm of a cave where miners over the centuries have struggled to cut or blast out some of the finest Slate in Europe. We shall convert it into a church with altar, choir, seating for 80 and possibly the Countryfile TV team, for a simple service of Holy Communion.

Why? I am not really certain but we wanted to take our worship and our prayers out of the church building and, deep in the mountain, worship God who is the creator, stimulator and sustainer of all people, all places, all situations. If you wish to join us please give me a ring or email me. It's free but we do need to know who's coming. As I write forty of the places have been taken.

Then there's The Shepherds' Meet where the farmers come together to show their finest tups and ewes. Farming is the traditional and key industry in the valley and it's a privilege for all of us to have view of their achievements and work. There is a dog trial, a shearing exhibition, a fell run and the farmers' wives produce wonderful tea and cakes. It's all free but do leave a donation.

The Scafell bar will be open all day and probably most of the night.

Thirdly we honour the artists of the valley. Glass Fusion, Cabinet Maker, Potter, Photographer, Painter. The artists are a crucial and vital ingredient of any community. They have the gift of observing and expressing the underlying truths about life - without using words. That must be good! Their work will be on show in The Institute between 10am and 5pm on Saturday (14th) and Sunday. All for sale - 50% of all takings go to Cancer Research.

So quite a weekend.

BORROWDALE SHEPHERDS' MEET

Rosthwaite on Sunday 15th September 9.30am through to 5pm

Farmers show Tups and Ewes

Farm Dogs show skill and discipline

Fell Run

Tea and cakes - very good

Free but leave a donation

Scafell Bar Open all day, not free but very good

VALLEY ARTS 2019

Saturday and Sunday 14th and 15th September
at The Institute, Rosthwaite. 10am till 5pm

8 Wonderful Artists from the Valley
displaying their work - and it's all for sale!

Cabinet Maker • Photographer • Potter
Glass Fusion Artist • Painter • Herdwick Wool Artist

All Welcome
Free Entrance

(50% of all takings go to Cancer Research)

MASS IN THE MOUNTAIN

Sunday 15th September 11am
at

Honister Slate Mine in the 'Cathedral'

Choir: Gaudeamus

It's free entrance - but you need a ticket from:

Malcolm: 017687 77671

malcolmstonestreet@gmail.com

(There are only 80 tickets and near half of them have gone so....)

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SPOT THE SPOT

Where are these steps?



Answer at the bottom of page 12.

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stay active, learn new things
and make new friends?

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Retired or semi-retired and want to stay active, learn new things and make new friends? Skiddaw U3A is having its **Open morning** on Wednesday 18th September from 10.00 to 12.30 in Southey Street Methodist Hall. Here you will be able find out details of the more than 50 activities on offer and for sign up for groups. Or you can visit our website www.skiddawu3a.co.uk or contact **Debbie Morgan 017687 8010**.

Our next monthly meeting in October will be held in Crosthwaite Parish rooms on Wednesday 16th October when the guest speaker will be **Prof. Doug Thompson** who will be talking about "Australian art". All meetings begin at 10.00am for coffee and 10.30am for the talk."

SNIPPETS

Marjorie Hind died in Australia on 13th June. Her ashes were brought back to England by her daughter **Susan**, and buried in Saint Andrew's churchyard, next to those of her husband **Joe (Hookey Joe) Hind**.

Been having a rough time down at **Grange**. Parapet of bridge destroyed, road closed by The Gates - tree down and a severe rock fall on the road just north of Grange Bridge. It's tough down here.

Wonderful bunch of **Pirates** gave us two performances of **Treasure Island** - that was the school play. It was excellent and then on to **The Leavers Service** and sad goodbyes to Ben, Sianna, Andy, Laura-Jane, Nell, Holly, Marianne, Rebecca and Theo. Snippets thinks we have a great school with a wonderful bunch of kids and great team of teachers, supporters, parents and governors.

TWO BIG FUNDRAISERS FOR THE INSTITUTE

Friday 23rd August 7pm

Herdwick Evening and Gift Day

Supper: Homemade Herdwick Pie and Peas - a la David Jackson

Bar Open

Auction of Lambs and a lot more.

Entertainment: The Voice

Tickets: Stanley Jackson and others 017687 77677 - £10

Friday 21st September 8pm

Prosecco and Pudding Evening

At:

The Pines, Grange

By kind invitation of Deip and Joan Guha

Gift Day for The Institute

Tickets available

EVENTS IN THE VALLEY

4th August	9-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. Walkers Service. 10-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. 4pm Holy Trinity, Grange. Evensong.
6th August	7pm The Institute. Trustees Sub Committee - planning.
11th August	9-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. Walkers Service. 10-30am Holy Trinity, Grange. 12 noon Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. Baptism.
13th August	9-30am Northside. Borrowdale News Editorial Group.
18th August	9-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. Walkers Service. 10-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. 4pm Holy Trinity, Grange. Evensong.
21st August	10-30am Parish Coffee Morning at Royal Oak
21st August	10-30am Coffee Morning at Royal Oak, Rosthwaite
23rd August	7pm Herdwick Evening at The Institute. Supper, Entertainment, Auction, Gifts.
25th August	9-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. Walkers Service. 10-30am Holy Trinity, Grange.
1st September	9-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. Last Walkers Service. 10-30am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. 4pm Holy Trinity, Grange. Evensong.
3rd September	3pm Bybeck, Borrowdale Story Meeting.
4th September	School returns for Autumn Term.
8th September	10-30am Holy Trinity, Grange.
14th-15th September	10am till 5pm Valley Arts Exhibition at The Institute.
15th September	9-30am till 4pm Shepherds' Meet at Rosthwaite. 11-00am Mass in the Mountain (no service at Saint Andrew's or Holy Trinity). 4pm Holy Trinity, Grange. Evensong.
21st September	8pm Prosecco and Pudding at The Pines, Grange. Tickets Available.
22nd September	10-30am Holy Trinity, Grange.
23rd September	7pm Trustees at Institute.
24th September	Copy Date for Borrowdale News.
29th September	10-30am Holy Trinity, Grange. 4pm Holy Trinity, Grange. Evensong.

Dates Forward

19th October	Hal Fowler Sings at Saint Andrew's. 7pm.
20th October	Harvest at Saint Andrew's.
3rd November	Gladioli Service Saint Andrew's 10-30am.
8th or 29th Nov	Farmers' Service and Dinner. To be arranged.

Contacts:

Vicar: Charles Hope. 017687 75855. charleshope@bopenworld.com. Mobile: 07884 070619

Head Teacher: Borrowdale C of E School. Ralf Smits. 77686. ralfsmits@keswick.cumbria.sch.uk

Chairman of the Parish Council: David Hindmarch. 77611. hndiddy1@hotmail.co.uk

Editor of Borrowdale News: Malcolm Stonestreet. 77671. malcolmstonestreet@gmail.com

Chairman of Borrowdale Story: David Woodthorpe. 77828. woodthorpe475@btinternet.com

Chairman of The Borrowdale Institute: Malcolm Stonestreet. 77671.

malcolmstonestreet@gmail.com

*Spot the Spot answer - Opposite Longthwaite Youth Hostel,
the steps leading up to Moraine House*