

The Borrowdale News

September 2016



'Herdwick Tup' by Gill Bulch

(The Borrowdale Shepherds' Meet is on Sunday 18th September)

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BORROWDALE SHEPHERDS' MEET - SUNDAY 18th SEPTEMBER

With a collective 'fingers crossed' for a lovely autumn day, the organising committee has everything in place for this year's Borrowdale Shepherds' Meet.

Opening to the public at 10-30 am, proceedings will start with the traditional Fell Sheep judging and an absorbing commentary by William Rawling. Children will be catered for at 11 am, when there will be 'Team Games' for 5-11 year olds. There will also be a Pet Show during the day, and a 'Herdwick Trail' to encourage children to explore the show field.



This year will see the return of a Terrier Show, with classes for Border, Lakeland, Jack Russell and Crossbred breeds. This will be followed by two sessions of highly entertaining dog racing. One session will be an Open Invitation Race for any breed of dog. The other will be heats and a final for Terriers. The races always prove very popular.

Something new for our visitors this year will be archery, under the close supervision of instructors (minimum age 8 years).

More traditional events planned for the day will be a Stick Show, Cumberland & Westmorland Wrestling (anyone can have a go), the Dalehead Fell Race and a Herdwick Hand Clipping Competition. The Demonstration Hound Trail will be a noisy affair, with hounds barking and owners calling them, as they cross the finishing line on the show field.

The craft marquee will have some new stalls this year, and there will be more trade stands on the show field. There will also be demonstrations throughout the day of Wool Spinning by Liz Goyder and Oak Swill Basket Making by Owen Jones.

Catering will feature a BBQ by Nichol End Marine, and Borrowdale School will once again have a team of helpers to raise much-needed funds with their 'Feeding Station'.



The organising committee is proud to be continuing the centuries-old tradition of a Shepherds' Meet. The sheep show and many of the other traditional events and crafts on display are all an important part of the Lake District's cultural heritage. The Borrowdale Story will provide visitors with further insight into the history of the valley.

Rev Charles writes ...

Driving up Borrowdale always puts a smile on my face. There is something about the hills, the water, the fields, something about the way the landscape fits together is so beautiful, you just want to smile at it!

I still have to pinch myself to realise that yes, I am really here – Keswick and Borrowdale are two parts of the patch of which I am the Vicar, and so have a duty of spiritual and pastoral care – and it's a delight!

I know there will be many challenges ahead. New people to meet and get to know, the size of the area (it takes more than five minutes to get from A to B!), new issues to address (farming, rural life and tourism to name but a few), new churches (with their own character and uniqueness).

But life is fun! And to be enjoyed!

Kathryn, my wife, and our children Megan (15), Emily (13) and Katy (11) have all settled into Keswick and slowly this is starting to feel like 'home'.

We all look forward to getting to know you all and being here with you all too. Thank you for your welcome.



*From the left: Katy, Emily, Kathryn, Megan & Charles
on Bamburgh Beech, just before leaving Prudhoe for Keswick*

If I can be of any help, do get in touch (75855 or 07884070619) or my email charleshope@btopenworld.com. If there is no answer leave a message (my powers of telepathy are limited!) - If it is urgent then I try and return calls as quickly as possible, otherwise I aim to return calls within 24 hours.

Looking forward to meeting you all!

Charles

BORROWDALE CONNECTED

New, shiny green cabinets are in place in Grange and Rosthwaite, fibre optic cable is laid and power is installed I am told by the Parish Clerk. Borrowdale now joins the digital age with the arrival of high speed broadband thanks to the “Connecting Cumbria” initiative (find out more at connectingcumbria.org.uk).

After a tantalising wait, residents and visitors alike should soon benefit from improved internet connection speeds: no downloading movies overnight or glacially slow social media uploads/downloads to share experiences. Sadly, as a resident of Mountain View at the upper end of Borrowdale, links to the e-world will remain via traditional copper wires so any speed improvement is uncertain. One thing is for sure though, it couldn't get slower and we live in hope. For any neighbours in the upper end of the valley, let's see what happens with our broadband service and if it's not what we hope for perhaps we should band together to search out a collective solution, which seems a not unusual approach judging by a quick search on Google.

As a newcomer to the Valley I am fascinated to see the benefits that should come with the new high speed connectivity and am sure the impact will be monitored. It surely has to be positive and Borrowdale does seem like an ideal case study. An offering of high speed connectivity by the hospitality trade to their guests will be a real marketing opportunity, allowing visitors to keep in touch and share their experiences online with friends and family. With so much of our wider UK economy now driven by the service sector and the ability to work from home or remotely now commonplace, a connected Borrowdale may prove a magnet for those searching for an inspirational place to work from. But perhaps more importantly is that existing residents no matter what their age will be able to stay in contact with friends and family wherever they are, far or near. Borrowdale is a wonderful place but it doesn't need to be an isolated or lonely one in which to live.

Kevin Crisp

What to look for in September....

The Borrowdale Story in Grange Chapel has a whiteboard where visitors can record wildlife sightings, and this has proved very popular.

Sightings have included the expected.....

Red Squirrel, Red Deer, Heron, Mallard, Dipper, Cuckoo (heard) and Woodpecker.

The unexpected.....

Badger, Stoat, Lizard, Snipe, Woodcock, Sedge Warbler, Kingfisher and Mountain Ringlet butterfly.

Not to mention the downright ridiculous.....a Giraffe on Catbells!



The Borrowdale News - SNIPPETS. SEPTEMBER 2016.

Wonderful weddings - Jack Kelly and Charlotte MacRae filled Saint Andrew's with beauty, light, wonderful music and much joy, hope and laughter. All this was our way of praying for them. That was on 30th July. Then on the 4th of August Holy Trinity was abuzz with the Devon burr as Bob Kemp, a boat builder, pledged himself to Debbie Crowther. They had a child called Storm - who, unlike the famous dog of that name was a girl and very good. Reception in the Institute.

Joan Chapman had died at Barrack Court in Low Hesketh and was cremated in Carlisle. A large gathering filled the Chapel on the Bridge in Grange to remember and celebrate this great daughter of the valley. The Youth Hostel Association and other voluntary rural groups bore witness to her dedication to The Lakes.

Lingholm Estate now has its own 200 foot long Jetty: S. Nutkin and Mrs T Winkle would approve.

David Woodthorpe, Chairman of the Borrowdale Story, a high falluting sort of guy, took an overview of things during August.

First a new road then a formidable chimney now a Royal Bridge. **The Packhorse bridge** at Watendlath was hurt by Desmond. This is the bridge that Prince Charles honoured with a simple graffiti of his name and the date. Now it will be rebuilt and guess who got the job?



D. Woodthorpe: Over Bassenthwaite approaching Derwentwater

All those who enjoy pulling the **The Borrowdale News** together want to express their profound thanks to the eight faithful deliverers of this extraordinarily useful journal. Thank You all!

Now the Borrowdale Road - **Snippets Post Bag** has been packed with comments and not one of them show any gratitude for the recent work: ***"It's a joke" / "I can not see the point of just sticking a layer of tar down and then pebble-dashing it" / "The road surface was rubbish and still is" / Serious Cyclist comments: "my friends are still there, but dangerously, disguised - potholes." / A Government Minister: "We are aware that many roads need attention and an extra budget of nine million pounds has been allocated"***

Snippets asks: **Should the road be our first major campaign?** Letters to the editor by September 22nd on this or any subject.

The **Environment Agency** will remove excess shingle banks deposited during the winter both above and below Grange Bridge - any moment now!

The Church's big celebration this year will be **The Farmers' Service** on 2nd December 7 pm (half an hour) followed by a David Jackson Dinner in the Institute. So this will be the main parish Harvest Festival Type event - for everyone: but for the farmers it's compulsory. Both Churches will sing traditional harvest hymns and offer special thanks on 2nd October. The School has some very special plans that will put us all to shame.

Worship and Dates...

- 3rd September ALL welcome to THE house or vicarage warming - Saint John's, Keswick between the Bishop's and the Church - between 7 and 11. Come and go as you please.
- 4th September 10-30 am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite
4 pm Holy Trinity, Grange. Evensong.
- 5th September 9-30 am Borrowdale News Editorial Group at Northside.
- 6th September 7 pm Borrowdale Story Committee Meeting.
- 11th September 10-30 am Holy Trinity, Grange
A service honouring the Methodist Tradition.
- 12th September 1 pm Borrowdale Church PCC. At Northside.
- 18th September 10-30 am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite.
Holy Communion and Confirmation Preparation Service.
4 pm Holy Trinity, Grange. Evensong.
SHEPHERDS' MEET ALL DAY - ROSTHWAITE.
- 25th September 10-30 am Holy Trinity, Grange. (CAKE SUNDAY)
- 30th September 10 am - 12 noon. COFFEE MORNING at The Vicarage
in aid of Macmillan Cancer Research. Everyone very welcome.
- 2nd October 10-30 am Saint Andrew's, Stonethwaite. Harvest.
4 pm Evensong at Holy Trinity, Grange.

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Advance Notices:

- 30th Oct 10-30 am Confirmation and Communion.
Saint Andrew's Stonethwaite with the Bishop of Carlisle.
- 6th Nov 10-30 am Sung Eucharist. Holy Trinity, Grange. Gaudeamus Singers.
- 2nd Dec Farmers' Service and Supper (David Jackson)
Saint Andrew's and The Institute.

NEEDED - a person with skills and IT Software - to take the information we have for this magazine and lay it out ready for print - a monthly task. 2 x A4 Sheets.

Please offer to help: Malcolm 77671 or malcolmstonestreet@gmail.com

VALLEY LASS TAKES ON ROLE OF KESWICK TOURISM MANAGER

Born and brought up in the Valley, Vanessa Metcalfe is a real local lass. She grew up in Grange before moving to Rosthwaite for 19 years. After a short spell in Greystoke she then moved back to Grange and lives in a National Trust Cottage with her wife Kathryn and three children, Ben, Abi and Poppy.



Vanessa and her daughter Abi

Talking about her recent appointment Vanessa said, “I was really thrilled to get the Tourism Manager role with Keswick Tourism Association. Having lived in Borrowdale almost all my life (I spent a few years in Greystoke), I feel a very strong connection with Keswick and the surrounding area. I grew up with tourism being a part of life here and that has not changed. I spent my school holidays working at The Grange, Grange Bridge Teashop and Yew Tree Restaurant and most people, including my mother, ran a B&B.

Keswick Tourism Association is an independent, member run and funded organisation. My role as Tourism Manager is to promote the Keswick area as a tourism destination and also promote those businesses that are members of KTA. Our website keswick.org features a Borrowdale page and I am keen to develop that and include the Borrowdale Story so people can learn more about the history and heritage of the area.

I am keen to promote all aspects of the area, including farming and agriculture. I have recently been working on the 2017 Keswick Guide and have put together a farming calendar to inform and educate our visitors.”