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## Out and About In Thwaites

### April 2021 - Issue No 447



## EV Chargers are coming to Thwaites Village Hall

When the government announced that by the year 2030, it would be banning the sale of new petrol and diesel cars in the UK, a lot of people in places like Cumbria were understandably confused. After all, if we were all supposed to be switching to an electric vehicle (EV), there would be some infrastructure in place to keep them charged up by now wouldn't there?

Unfortunately for the more remote and rural areas of the country, the larger chargepoint providers have been concentrating on making sure that motorway service stations and inner cities are well catered to while Cumbrian towns and villages miss out. This is why Thwaites Village Hall has teamed up with community benefit society Charge My Street to install the village's first EV chargepoint.

The chargepoint will mark Thwaites out as one of the few villages on the map of Cumbria that will cater for EV drivers and opens the choice of switching to an EV to all residents. Public charging is a massive part of making the switch to EVs easier for all drivers no matter where they live, and Thwaites is placing itself firmly at the forefront of this drive.

To use the chargepoint, drivers will simply park up next to the socket which will be located on the outside wall of the hall and plug their car in. They will need to open up the chargepoint app on their phone at which point they can press the button to start the electricity flowing.

Further updates will follow once the installation dates are confirmed



**The costs of Installation and Maintenance are the responsibility of ChargeMyStreet and there is no contribution from the Village Hall Funds. We provide the car parking space under an agreed lease. The Village Hall will also be able to use this example of its "green credentials" in bidding for future grants to reduce the Environmental Impact of operating our Village Hall.**



# The Big Spring Clean

Over the winter period when vegetation dies back the volume of litter strewn along roadsides becomes horrifyingly conspicuous. The vast volume of such visible litter suggests littering is accepted and normal behaviour (it isn't!) and is symptomatic of a lack of understanding of and respect for our environment.

The Parish Council have not been able – with coronavirus restrictions – to organise litter picks this year as in previous years. Undeterred individual residents from Buckman Brow, Broadgate, The Green, Hallthwaites, The Hill, Lady Hall and Millom have taken up litter pickers, high vis tabards, thornproof gloves, and plastic bags to collect litter along our roads and lanes (where it has been safe to do so) during the first part of March.

Other residents have worked individually along wider sections of the A595 where litter has become deeply embedded along the verges and entangled in brambles and hedges. Most of the litter is plastic based fast food wrappers and drink containers which will puzzle archeologists of the future. Worryingly, a substantial number of beer and cider cans have been collected from the roadsides.

To date over 90 bags of waste have been collected along with a horrifying assortment of items that have been fly-tipped. Items collected include innumerable pieces of PPE, enough tyres for several vehicles, hubcaps, other plastic car parts, oil drums, bathroom fittings (at least 2 toilet seats), a wheel barrow, bicycle rack and mudguards.

A number of residents collect litter year round when walking. These ongoing efforts and especially those of the litter 'task force' during March have made a real difference to the state of our roads and, we hope, make road users take note of our environment.



## Litter blitz - Hall Bank layby (between The Hill and Millom)

Residents battled with brambles, branches, rain and hail for several hours on Saturday 13 March to give the Hall Banks layby a long overdue spring clean. The group collected over 20 bags of waste, plus tyres, other car parts, a large drum, tarmac laying residues, the usual toilet seat, general debris and many kilogrammes of builder's rubble. Ghyll Scaur Quarry employees supported the clean-up effort. The area is looking much more presentable now





## Thwaites Village Hall 100 Club Winners

1st - No 52 - Keith Brown £30  
2nd - No 24 - Steve Kruger £15  
3rd - No 51 - Richard Bishop Miller £10  
4th - No 29 - Angela Flannery £10

## The Hill Village Hall 100 Club Results March, 21

1st £50 John Irwin 66  
2nd £20 Josie Garnet 31  
3rd £20 Helen Chew 17  
4th £20 Cyndy Clarke  
5th £10 Linda Kilburn  
6th £10 Sue Fox  
7th £10 Janet Hornsby



## Copeland waste collection



Your recycling and waste calendar - Copeland Borough Council will no longer send out printed card waste calendars to every home.

Everyone's calendar can now be found quickly and easily on the website, [www.copeland.gov.uk](http://www.copeland.gov.uk). This means your calendar is printable, portable and always right up to date. It's also much kinder to the environment, and represents better value for money.

If you do not have access to the internet, and you need a printed copy of the calendar, please contact Copeland on 01946 598300.

## Environment Group

The Parish Council would like to support development of a residents 'Environment Group' to consider how to address climate change at a local level. Please contact Millom Without Parish Council ([millomwithoutparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:millomwithoutparishcouncil@outlook.com)) if you would be interested in: joining this group and/or attending information sessions.



## Ewe don't say

This month we see the transition from winter to spring. This is a busy time of year for farmers and their animals and one indicator of this change in seasons is the sight of lambs in the fields.

The work - for the ewes - starts in the autumn when the lambs are conceived. After a gestation period of approximately 5 months the lambs will be born and almost immediately be on their feet. After 5/6 months of gambolling in the fields the lambs will weigh nearly 45kg and will be ready for market.

For a majority of the year ewes are carrying or caring for their lambs. Both ewes and lambs are particularly vulnerable to dogs and incidents of sheep worrying in England have increased by 40% in the last 2 years. The cost to farmers of these attacks was close to £3 million. Especially at this time of year please keep your dogs on leads when accessing fields with livestock to ensure your dog cannot worry sheep.

# Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) PUBLIC MEETINGS - THANK YOU



The council would like to thank all those who took part in the online public meetings which were held earlier this week. The conversations we have are really important to us and help to guide our engagement with the parties developing the plans for the proposed GDF.

We will continue to represent the residents' views throughout the process so please keep in touch and feel free to contact us:

via the website [www.millomwithoutparishcouncil.com](http://www.millomwithoutparishcouncil.com) or through Facebook Messenger

email: [millomwithoutparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:millomwithoutparishcouncil@outlook.com)

We hope to run more public events should the need arise and look forward to the days when these can be genuine meetings with real people in the room together.

[https://millomwithoutparishcouncil.com/?post\\_type=gdf](https://millomwithoutparishcouncil.com/?post_type=gdf)

## Covid-19 Road Map - Thwaites Village Hall

The Covid-19 Road map as set out by HM Gov, means that from 29th March the Tennis Court will re-open in line with continuing Covid-19 guidance. The supporting information of the Road Map can be read in more detail at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021/covid-19-response-spring-2021-summary>

The Village Hall Committee welcomes users to note the continuing guidance on social distancing, and supporting good hand hygiene.

We also want to remind users of the Playing Fields that **no dogs are allowed in this communal space**.

The Village Hall in line with the Road Map and subject to any changing guidance, is expected to re-open for "normal business" from **17th May** onwards. We will of course keep you updated as further guidance is released by HMG.

Our social Committee is looking at options for a community event during the Summer, once the full restrictions are taken off after 21st June. This does mean that our 2021 Annual Gala will be cancelled this year.

We thank you for keeping our community safe