

This Month - Out and About:

Public Meeting -
Geological Disposal
Facility (GDF)

National Census
Day

Covid-19 -
Community Support
Plaque

Thwaites 100 Club -
Your Help is Needed

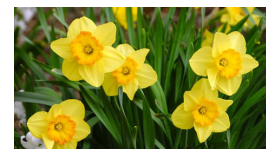
Lateral Flow Tests

Road Verges - Can
you help?

Home Energy Drop-
Ins

Litter Picking in the
Times of Covid

Out and About In Thwaites March 2021 - Issue No 446



Public Meeting (on-line) to Seek

Local Views on the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF)

As many will be aware the nationwide search for a location for the deep disposal of radioactive waste has begun, with Copeland being identified as a possible area to host the facility. This includes a specific investigation of land partly within the parish of Millom Without.

An initial call for interested parties to investigate possible locations for the GDF resulted in the proposal for Ghyll Scaur Quarry to be considered. As a result a report was compiled by the Government body charged with delivering a GDF, Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) assessing the suitability of Ghyll Scaur. The full report can be viewed below <https://millomwithoutparishcouncil.com/gdf/mwpc-begins-engagement-with-copeland-working-group/>

In response to this area being identified, an online meeting was held between the South Copeland Partnership (the group of parish and town councils in the South Copeland area) including representatives from Millom Without Parish Council at which the community team from RWM and the chair of the Copeland GDF Working Group Mark Cullinan introduced the aims of the project and how they will interact with communities.

The potential of this development is not only in Copeland but within Millom Without and this makes it a high priority issue for the Parish Council and we will be engaging with the GDF Working Group as closely as possible to keep informed of progress and to represent our community as fairly as possible. Updates will be published on Facebook Page and our Parish Council Website



How to book your place for the GDF Public Meeting?



To help us understand the issues and concerns of Residents as the GDF project progresses, we will hold a Public Meeting, using the Teams Platform (on-line) on:

- Monday 22nd March 21
- Time: 7.00pm

To book your place on this "**community conversation**", please drop an email to oandacontact@gmail.com.

In return we will send you the link to join this on-line event.

Our aim is to listen and understand how best to represent residents issues as this project develops.

National Census Day - 21st March 21

The census is a **unique survey** that takes place every 10 years in **England and Wales**.

By taking part, you'll help inform decisions that shape your community.

census2021



National Census Sunday 21 March Census Day is Sunday 21 March 2021. Ahead of Census Day the Office for National Statistics (ONS) will send you a letter in the post with an access code and instructions to complete the census form online. Everyone should have the support they need to fill in the census. If you, or anyone you know, needs help, there's a wide range of support services available.. From 1 March there will be a dedicated contact centre where census staff will be on hand to give help over the phone, in a web chat or on social media. This contact centre can give you help over the phone and guidance in a range of languages and accessible formats, including paper questionnaires and large print.

Covid-19 Community Support Plaque



This is in recognition to all the businesses and volunteers who have helped in the pandemic. The plaque has been donated by Kevin Chapelhow and Around the Combe, who have placed similar plaques in other local communities. Our thanks go to Kevin and Around the Combe in supporting this community recognition.



Thwaites 100 Club - Your Help is Needed



Thwaites 100 Club has played a key role in supporting Thwaites Village Hall in meeting its expenses and investing in new facilities. Given our closure for most of last year and continuing into this year, our income has fallen away, but our fixed costs remain.

The 100 Club is needed more than ever to maintain a sustainable Village Hall

On page 5 of Out and about is the application form for new members to complete and be part of the monthly draw to win cash prizes. The deadline for your application is 20th March.

Lateral Flow Community Testing Sites are now open in Cumbria



Cumbria County Council are pleased to announce that several community testing sites are now available to the public for those who are unable to work from home and those who are in greater community contact as part of their job. These tests are to detect the virus, not to ease lockdown restrictions at this stage. Complete with strict and safe COVID-19 precautions in place, five test sites are now up and running in Carlisle, Aspatria, Kendal, Penrith and Millom, with more to follow soon.

Millom: Millom School, Salthouse Road, Millom, LA18 5AB• Saturdays: 09:15 – 12:30• Wednesdays: 17:30 – 19:30

We are encouraging people to #StayLocal and not to travel excessively to testing sites far away from their homes.

Road side verges and what you can do to help our environment?

We are all more aware of our environment and most will not be surprised that more than 60% of the plants and animals in the UK are now under threat and one in eight face extinction. Roadside verges are a sanctuary for wildflowers, pollinating insects, reptiles and small mammals and provide essential green corridors for these species to disperse. Wildflowers don't need fertilisers to thrive but prefer poor soil and this is one reason why they are found on roadside verges. In soils that are rich a few plants such as hogweed and nettle grow so well that other wildflowers can't compete with them. A few tips to enhance our roadside verges are below and there is further information available on line, such as at

<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/eLibrary/Content/Internet/534/38749919.pdf>

How can you help to conserve our roadside verges and provide better for precious wildlife?

- **Avoid blanket spraying of verges**
- **Avoid driving on verges. This kills plants and damages the soil structure.**
- **Avoid excessive cutting of verges: If you have a verge by your property, don't waste time and energy turning it into a lawn but instead leave wildflowers to grow. Cut verges later in the year when wild flowers have seeded.**
- **Although it might seem like a public-spirited thing to do, please don't plant bulbs or other cultivated plants on roadside verges but keep them in your garden.**
- **Take an interest in your local verges, and talk to others about what you see, especially if you see damage to verges.**

Home energy drop-ins



The Cold to Cosy Homes Cumbria team is throwing open its doors (virtually!) to answer people's burning energy. The team is holding online Q&A sessions in March, starting on Wed 3 Mar, 3pm Wed 24 Mar, 7pm. These events are free to attend and are open to everyone all across Cumbria. People can drop in and put their questions to the team on everything from baffling bills and devious draughts to tricky tariffs! Even if you don't have a question, you are welcome to come along and pick up tips from others' questions. All you need to do is to register at <https://cafs.org.uk/events/> and the team from Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAFS) will send you a Zoom link. Cold to Cosy Homes Cumbria continues to offer free energy-saving advice and equipment, along with referrals for a range of other support, to help you make your home warmer and more comfortable. The service is available across Cumbria, and has already helped hundreds of households to save money on heating bills and do their bit for the planet by using less energy. It is free for people who meet one of the eligibility criteria, including a range of health conditions, income levels and other circumstances, from bereavement to periods of homelessness. The advice can be accessed by ringing 01768 216500 or by going to cosyhomes@cafs.org.uk. What you get: A free advice phone call from a qualified assessor, so that we can find out more about your home and the services you could benefit from. These might include: Energy-efficient equipment such as LED bulbs, sent to you in the post; Professionally installed draughtproofing; Advice and help with your energy bills and switching energy tariff; Being referred to other support and advice agencies or for other grants. The service is provided by Cumbria Action for Sustainability, and we've been helping people to save energy in their homes for more than 20 years. It is funded by the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme and we work in partnership with the Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) and councils in Cumbria.

The Hill Village Hall 100 Club Winners February - 21

£50 Stan Towndrow
62
£20 Alan Parsons
70
£20 Ian Davidson 23
£20 Adam Read 76
£10 Paul Weston 99
£10 Caroline usher
95
£10 Stephen Hawse
101

Thwaites Village Hall 100 February 21 - Winners

1st No 61 Karen
Bishop Miller
£30.00
2nd No 73 Cathy
Holland
£15.00
3rd No 10 David
Forsman
£10.00
4th No 42 Carol
Phifer
£10.00

WINNERS

Litter Picking in the Times of Covid

The problem of organised litter-pick events within the Parish Community Plan continues due to the ongoing Covid restrictions. The advice from the Keep Britain Tidy campaign is to avoid organised litter-picking but encourage individual pickers to do their bit, when they can. In line with this, we're afraid MWPC is not able to take a lead on any such activities.

However, now is the ideal time to put in a big push before the roadside vegetation grows back. A number of people will be making independent litter picks at the end of this week and the forthcoming weekend to try and make a difference. We've all seen the rather disappointing levels of litter along our Parish highways and any reduction now will help.

It can be as simple as taking a carrier bag or two with you on a regular walk and putting it in your house bin or one of the public litter bins. If you collect a lot of litter you can phone Copeland Council and they will arrange a pick up or contact MWPC and we can help too - use the email address oandacontact@gmail.com, where you can also get information about the hand-held grabs we have available to borrow.

Anyone making their own litter pick, please follow the guidelines on the linked page and the Government Covid guidelines and do it safely. If you'd like to know of any particularly bad roadside sections please contact us and if you'd like to log-in the location of a litter-pick and what you collected, perhaps with photos, it would help us to coordinate any future picks.

Make safety your first priority and thank you to everyone for helping keep our beautiful Parish tidy. <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean/coronavirus-guidance>

Thwaites Village Hall
Reg Charity No 520347
100+Club

The 100+ Club is a fundraising monthly draw with the chance to win four prizes

1st prize of £30.00

2nd prize of £15.00

3rd prize of £10.00

4th prize of £10.00

(Prize money will vary depending on number of sales)

The monthly draw will take place from April 2021 to March 2022 on first

Wed of every month in Thwaites Village Hall. Winners will be announced in
“Out and About” and on village hall notice board

I _____ would like to have _____ numbers in the

Thwaites village hall 100 Club 2021 / 2022 Draw

I enclose £12.00 per number. (Cash or Cheques made payable to Thwaites
Village Hall)

Please state all names & contact details.

Name

Address

Phone Number

Please return form to:

Beverley Sharp Haws Bank, The Green, Millom, Cumbria. LA18 5HQ

Tel 01229 770123 or 01229 771988

Can you please return slips by 20th March 2021 ready for April Draw