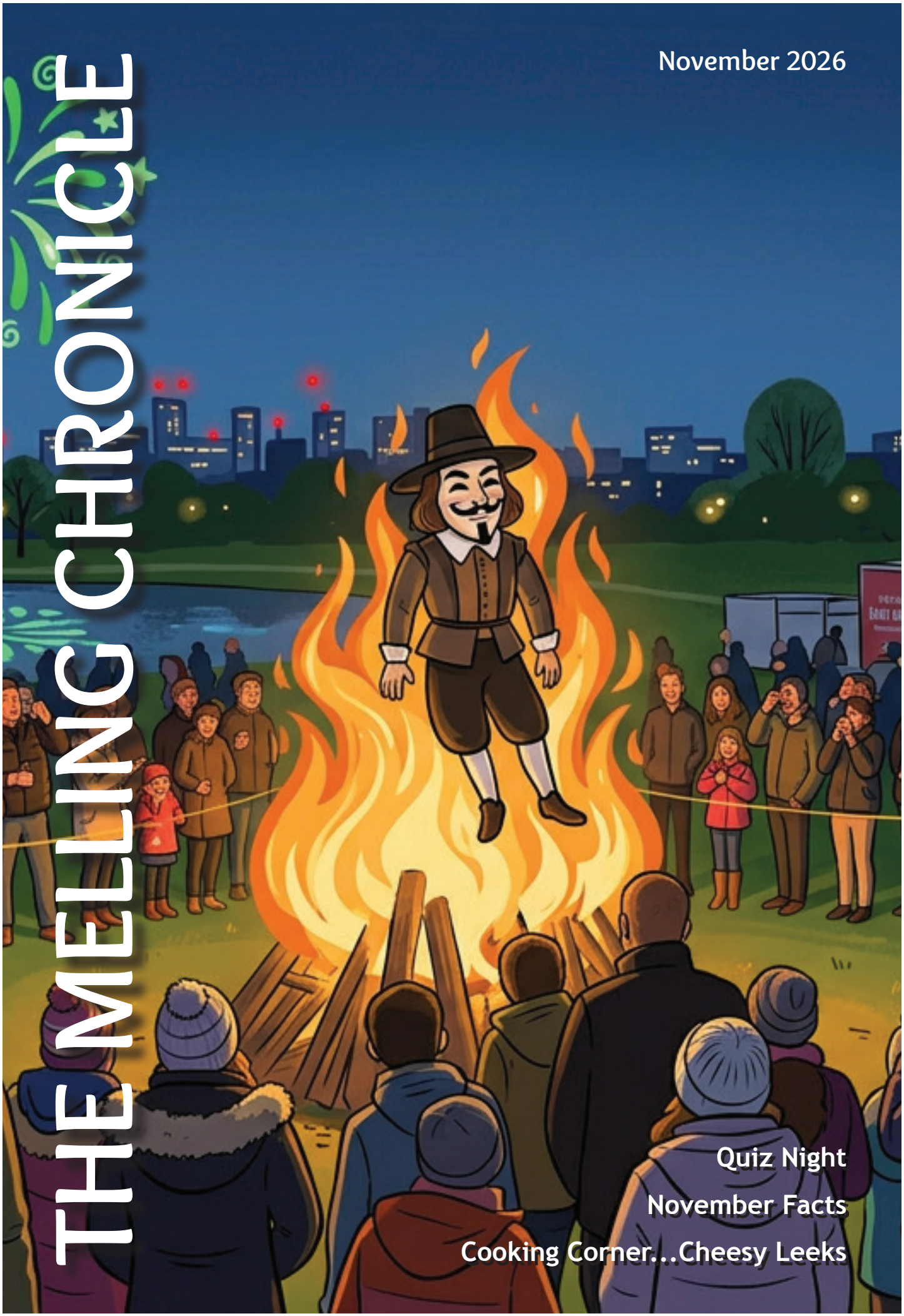
THE MELLING CHRONICLE

November 2026



Quiz Night

November Facts

Cooking Corner...Cheesy Leeks

The Melling Chronicle

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EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Anthea Wilkie, assisted by Sandra Towers

Delivery Team: Judith Jones, Howard Lewer, Warren Mockett, Robbie Murray, Becky Preston Sophie Ridsdale, Cath Taylor

Advertising and Invoices: Claire Helme (Parish Clerk)

Diary - November

Nov	**Hornby Pensioners Dominoes** - Hornby Institute	Page 18
2 Nov	**Lunesdale Probus Club** - Talk	Page 22
10 Nov	**Hornby Pensioners Potato Pie Lunch** - Hornby Institute	Page 18
13 Nov	**Quiz Night** - Melling Village Hall	7.30pm
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20 Nov	**Movie Night** - Melling Village Hall	7pm
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MELLING CHRONICLE

The Chronicle is available in PDF format at www.mellingwithwrayton.net

Please send items for the Melling Chronicle to the editor: mellingchronicle@yahoo.co.uk

Please supply text as a Word document or by email. Photographs are always welcome at a high resolution. If you have an interesting, relevant, high resolution image for the front or back cover, please send it in for consideration.

The Melling Chronicle is a forum open to everyone in the village. The views expressed in articles and letters are not necessarily the views of the Editor or the Parish Council, and they cannot accept responsibility for goods or services advertised in the magazine, although advertisements are accepted in good faith. The Editor reserves the right to edit or exclude items submitted for publication, and no liabilities are implied or accepted.

Deadline for any contribution is the 20th of the preceding month.

The Melling Chronicle is published monthly except for January and August.

ADVERTISING

Please contact: The Parish Clerk mellingwithwraytonpc@gmail.com

Charges for 10 editions/Full Page £90.00/Half page £55.00/Quarter page £40.00

Single entry: By negotiation

Please note that anyone submitting an article, notice, letter or advertisement for inclusion in the Melling Chronicle is responsible for the content (including factual accuracy) this rests solely with the originating individual or organisation.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council website and new email!

https://www.mellingwithwrayton-pc.gov.uk/

If you have any queries, please email the clerk

clerk@mellingwithwrayton-pc.gov.uk

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 8th December** in the Village Hall with the Parish Forum at **6pm** and the Parish Council meeting at **6.30pm**.



NEWS FROM ST. WILFRID'S CHURCH

Thank you to all who supported the meeting with Bishop Philip at the end of September. This was a very positive meeting, as so much has happened in the past year. A number of people indicated that they are willing to assist the Melling Church Heritage Group, as we move forward.

If you would like more information about the group please contact Sue or Debbie: sue@greenclose.org / deborah.stevenson10@gmail.com.

Debbie spoke movingly, at the meeting, about the importance of the church in Melling. Here is a transcript of what she said:

"I would like to give my perspective on the possible closure of St Wilfrid's as someone who does not worship there but as a member of the community.

Those of you who know me, know that I am passionate about history.

History is not about looking through dusty old books or poking about with old stones, it is about understanding continuity through time about the lives and values of people and through that gaining an appreciation of that, it can inform the present and the future.

St Wilfrid's church is at the centre of our village. I love listening to the bell ringers and the bells marking time and, in a sense, I feel that they are the beating heart of the village.

In it's 900 year history our church has seen many generations of villagers and over those generations people would have used the church as sanctuary from raiders, shelter from war and storm and equally, as a place to come together to celebrate new life and love.

If you dig a bit, it reveals stories about special people, like Ann Fenwick and if you look around at the plaques, memorials and windows, it tells the stories of the "well to do" families who lived here. But If you dig a bit deeper it reveals the hidden stories of the ordinary families and about what sort of community we were.

A small example, is that in the 1860s a little boy aged 6 years old died, we don't know what of. He came from a family camped out on Melling Moor. They were Itinerant workers, called at the time "navvies", who travelled round the county, and in Melling, they were involved in building the railway. They took their families with them and probably lived in fairly dreadful conditions. When this boy died, his parents clearly didn't have any money for a funeral. Despite the child and family being from elsewhere, the villagers clubbed together to pay for his funeral.

A little thing, perhaps, but for me this story tells us about the humanity, generosity and sense of responsibility of the community here. The ordinary people of our village did something collectively to make a difference.

It is testament to a sense of community that so many people turned out to the meeting with the bishop last month, but we need more people to help.

This church here in Melling is ours. It isn't someone else's problem to solve. It is our responsibility and always has been. The only way for St Wilfrid's is to be saved for future generations is through us.

I would like to imagine that in our great great grandchildren's time and beyond, that perhaps someone researching their family will come to our church and read our names on a plaque on the wall, telling how we were responsible for giving the church new life and leaving a legacy for future generations. I sincerely hope that we can do that and that together, we can make a difference." ➔

Thank you also to those who supported our Harvest Service, by donating, attending, flower arranging and providing refreshments. Food items were sent to The Olive Branch in Lancaster and £150 was donated towards the Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Appeal to aid workers in our sister Diocese in Sudan.

Save the date!! There will be a Christmas music event for the whole community on **Saturday 19th December**, from **4-5:30pm,** in **St. Wilfrid's Church**. This will involve various musical items and Carol singing. Mulled wine & mince pies will be served. Please support this event & bring along your friends and neighbours.

We would like the whole village to be involved at this special time of year.

St Wilfrid's Church Group

You can now donate to the upkeep of our beautiful ancient church by contributing to our online fundraiser.

Scan the QR code to get started!

Your kind donations keep the building running and the church an active place of worship.

We deeply appreciate all the funds we receive. **Thank you!**

EASYFUNDRAISING FOR THE VILLAGE HALL

Remember Melling Village Institute are now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online.

Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use ***easyfundraising*** to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

Scan the **QR code** or you can find our ***easyfundraising*** page at:
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/melling-village-institute/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1.
They also have an app. Thank you.

CAROLS for MELLING

SING-A-LONG / SIT-A-LONG

A Festive Celebration



HERITAGE COMMUNITY CONNECTION

ST WILFRID'S CHURCH -MELLING

4.00 - 5.30

SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2026

MULLED WINE / SOFT DRINKS / MINCE PIES

GIFT AID DONATION

MELLING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

Are you interested in joining the committee, and for all bookings?
Why not contact:
Mary: 07970705496
Sandra: 07713883632
for more info.

Melling Craft Day
Wednesday 25th November
See poster for further details please book by
Monday 23rd November



MELLING VILLAGE HALL PUB NIGHTS
Friday **6th November** - **No pub night.**
Friday **4th December** from 7.30pm.
No pub night in January

Why not come along, meet up with friends and have a great start to the weekend.

MOVIE NIGHT Making use of our audio-visual equipment:
REMARKABLY BRIGHT CREATURES - 20th November 2026
Tickets: £6.50, Doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.

Tova Sullivan is an elderly widow who works as a somewhat misanthropic night janitor at an aquarium in fictional Sowell Bay, Washington, despite having been encouraged to retire.

After the death of her son Erik years earlier, and more recently, her husband, Tova becomes more withdrawn from her everyday life, including her friend group she dubs the "Knitwits" who spend more time gossiping than knitting. At work, she shares her friends' gossip and develops a friendship of sorts with Marcellus, an elderly but wise octopus who longs to escape from the aquarium...





QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER, 7.30PM
with a Pies, Peas and Proper Puds Supper

Tickets: £13. Book with **Mary 07970705496**

Vegetarian and gf must be booked in advance

LOOKING AHEAD.....IN MELLING VILLAGE HALL

	**Quiz Night**	13th November 2026	Friday 7.30pm
	**Film Night**	20th November 2026	Friday 7.30pm
	**Craft Day**	25th November 2026	Wednesday 10am-4pm
	**Pub Night**	4th December 2026	Friday 7.30pm
	**Afternoon Tea & Film**	16th December 2026	Wednesday 2pm



FILM AND AFTERNOON TEA - WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER

Come along to our warm Village Hall and enjoy a break from the Christmas preparations with afternoon tea and a glass of Prosecco whilst watching the comedy film **'Spirited'**.



In this modern retelling of A Christmas Carol the Ghost of Christmas Present is nearing retirement...

Tickets £17.50, must be booked in advance by phoning **Mary** on **07970705496.**

Vegetarian, gluten free etc catered for but they must be specified when booking.

IMPORTANT—Access to the Village Hall

The lock on the front door has been changed.

If you book the village hall you will be asked to provide your mobile number. The code for the new keysafe will be sent to your phone, where you will find the front door key. The code will be directly linked to the time you book the hall and the key must be returned to the keysafe when you leave.

A fine of **£25** will be incurred if the key is **not returned after your visit.**

You will receive further information on booking.

For bookings please call

Sandra 07713883632 or Mary 07970705496.

NOVEMBER FACTS

NOVEMBER is the eleventh month of the year in the Gregorian calendar, sitting with 30 days and marking the deep transition into winter in the Northern Hemisphere and spring in the Southern Hemisphere.

NAME AND ORIGIN

Latin Roots: Its name comes from *novem*, the Latin word for nine, because it was the ninth month in the early Roman calendar before January and February were added.

KEY DATES AND OBSERVANCES

- **Bonfire Night/Guy Fawkes Night (5th November):** Celebrates the failed 1605 Gunpowder Plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament in London with bonfires and fireworks.
- **Remembrance Day/Veterans Day (November 11):** Commemorates the end of World War I, which officially concluded on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918.
- **Thanksgiving (Fourth Thursday of November):** A major North American holiday rooted in harvest celebrations.
- **Movember (All Month):** A global campaign where people grow mustaches to raise awareness for men's health issues.



ASTRONOMY AND NATURE

- **Zodiac Signs:** Spans Scorpio (until November 21) and Sagittarius (starting November 22).
- **Birthstone and Flower:** The birthstone is the Topaz, and the birth flower is the Chrysanthemum.
- **Moon Names:** The full moon in November is traditionally called the Beaver Moon.
- **Meteor Showers:** The Leonids meteor shower peaks during mid-November.

COOKING CORNER ... CHEESY LEEKS

INGREDIENTS:

- 600g leeks (about 3 medium) trimmed and cut into 2cm rounds
- 50g butter
- 50g plain flour
- 500ml milk
- 100g mature cheddar grated
- 1 tsp English mustard
- 50g stale bread (blitzed to crumbs)
- 2 tsp thyme leaves



METHOD

1. Heat the oven to 220C/200C fan/gas 7. Tip the leeks into a steamer basket and steam for 6-8 mins until bright green and just becoming tender.

2. Meanwhile, make a white sauce—heat the butter and flour together in a saucepan, stirring until you have a thick paste. Add the milk, a splash at a time, stirring continuously until all the milk has been added. Cook for 2-3 mins more until the sauce has thickened enough to coat the back of a spoon. Stir in most of the cheese, the mustard and season to taste.

3. Fold the steamed leeks into the cheese sauce, then tip everything into an ovenproof baking dish. Scatter over the breadcrumbs, thyme and remaining cheese, then bake for 20 mins until golden, crisp on top and bubbling at the edges. Leave to stand for 5 mins before serving.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

In July the members of **Tunstall WI** gathered to hear Aidan from **Lovingly Artisan** talk about the history of the company and demonstrated how they make their award-winning sourdough bread. Samples were handed round and three lucky members went home with loaves donated for the raffle by the company. July was also the month in which the **annual garden party** was held at the home of one of the members. The weather was favourable and everyone present enjoyed the buffet al fresco.

There was no meeting in August but a coffee morning and bring and buy at the president's home was well attended.

At the beginning of September, 18 members enjoyed a coach trip to **Lytham Hall** in Lytham St Annes. This beautiful Georgian house was formerly the home of the Clifton family. The group toured the house and gardens and enjoyed a lovely lunch. The speaker in September was **art historian Richard Catmore**. He gave a very interesting and lively talk on 6 relatively unknown northern artists.

In October Tunstall WI was delighted to welcome back **popular speaker Andy Lowe**. He gave a fascinating talk on the churches of the Lake District with particular attention to the various architectural styles. In October the WI celebrated its 82nd birthday with a meal at Avanti in Kirkby Lonsdale.

Looking forward to November, this is the month when we hold our **Annual Meeting** and in addition to hearing reports from the treasurer and secretary members will have the opportunity to elect the president for the forthcoming year. Also, **Briony Scott** will give a talk on the work of the **Morecombe Bay Food Bank**.

Tunstall WI meets at **7.30pm** on the **2nd Wednesday of the month** at **Tunstall village hall**. Visitors are always welcome.

Sheila Mitchell, President

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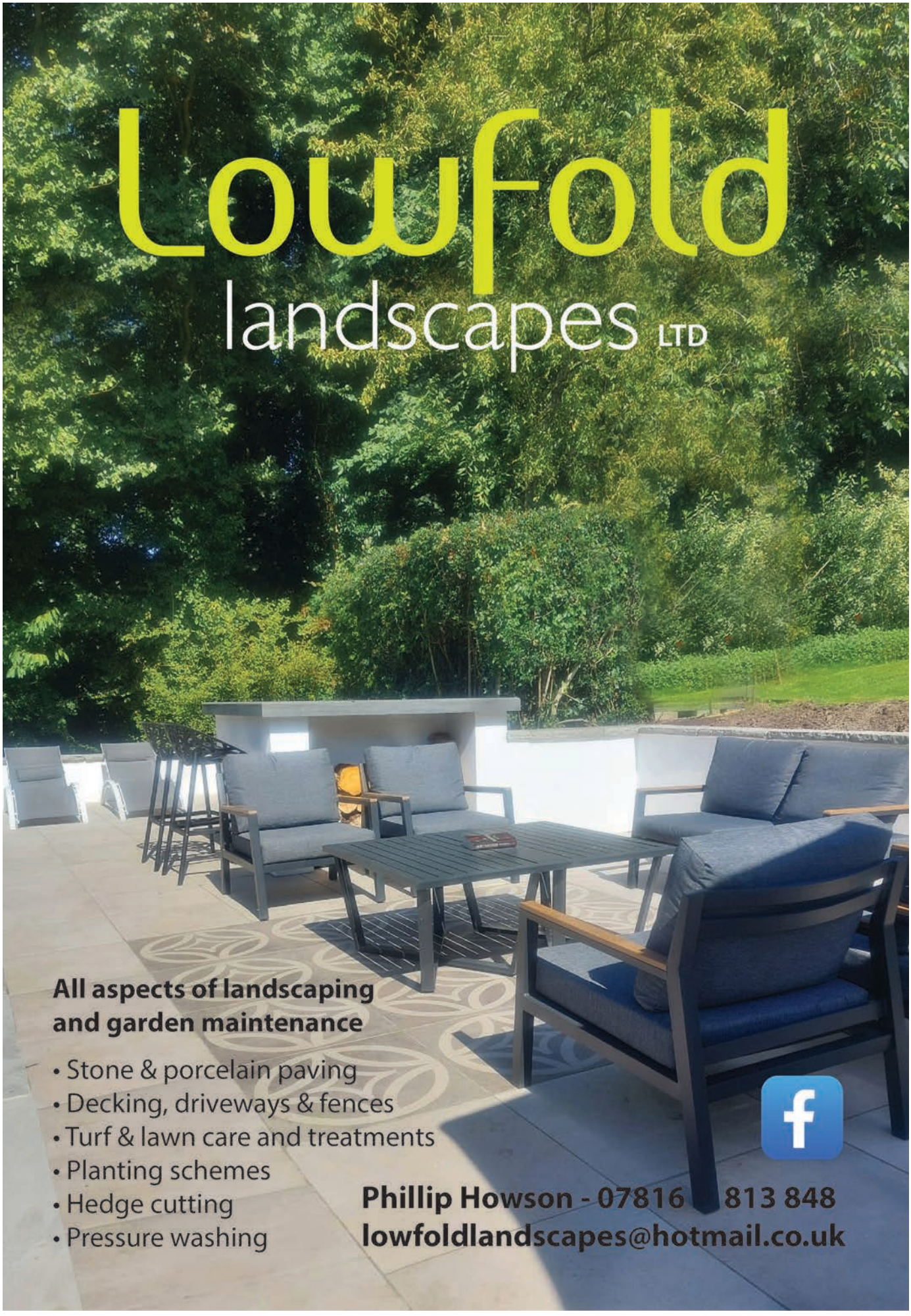
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This event will be repeated
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HORNBY PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION - NOVEMBER 2026



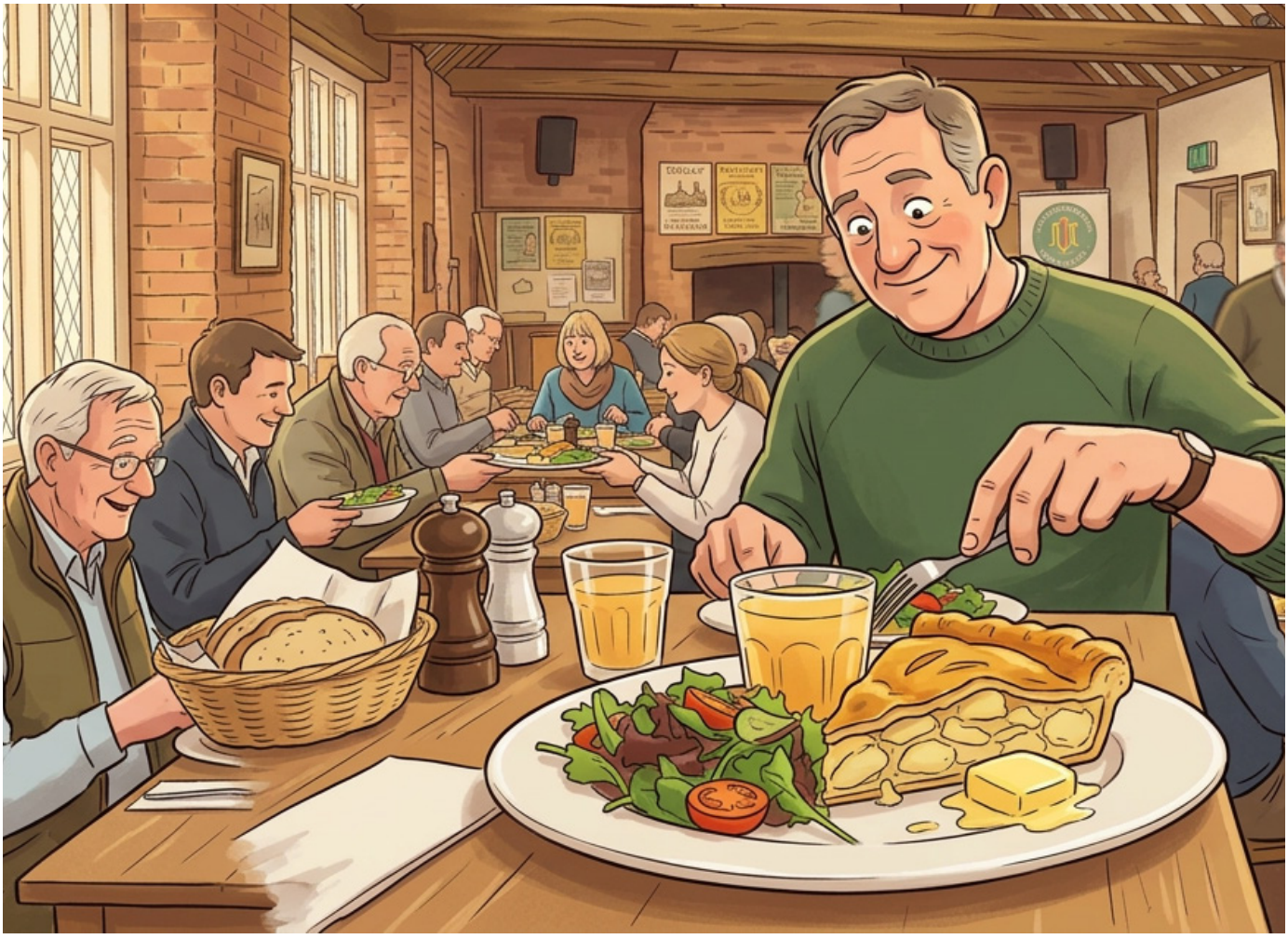
DOMINOES EVENINGS
The Dominoes Group meet on alternate Saturday evenings throughout the year. Meetings take place in Hornby Institute. For information regarding these events, please contact:
Eileen Barton on 07780461517

POTATO PIE LUNCH

TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER
This lunch is for **members only** and will be **free of charge**.

Members must register with Kath Helme if they wish to attend.

Kath is in the Institute on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am until noon. You can also contact her on the Institute telephone line on these days.
The line number is 015242 22227



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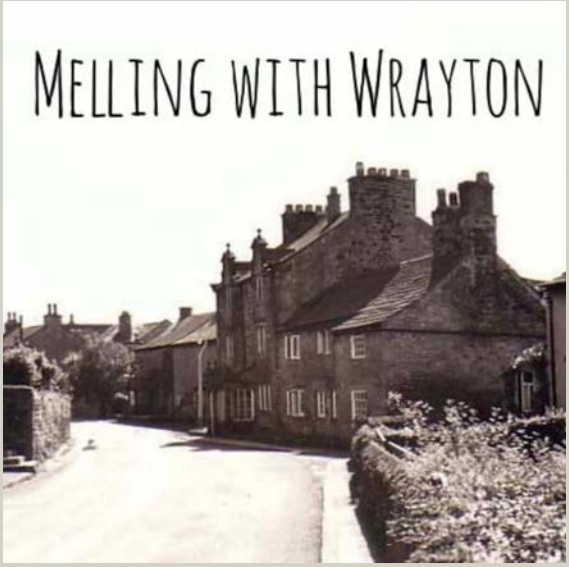
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MELLING WITH WRAYTON COMMUNITY GROUP



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The **Catholic church** of:

St Mary's (Hornby),

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The serving clergy are:

Rev Fr John Millar (Cathedral Dean) & Rev Fr Philip Wrigley.

If you need to contact the clergy, please email us at:

clergy@lancastercathedral.org.uk Website: **www.lancastercathedral.org.uk**

Parish Weekend Mass times for this area:

Saturday Vigil:	**Sunday:**
18:00 - St Mary's, Hornby	09:00 – St Thomas More, Lancaster
18:30 – Cathedral, Lancaster	10:30 – Cathedral, Lancaster
	18:30 – Cathedral, Lancaster



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HORNBY DISTRICT RAMBLERS 2026 PROGRAMME

Meet at Hornby Car Park to leave at 9.30am prompt – Or at parking area for start of the walk

DATES	DISTANCE	LEADER(S)
NOVEMBER 14th	WALK, AGM and lunch	COMMITTEE
DECEMBER -12th	4-6 miles	JENNY H (015242 21690)

CONSTITUTION OF THE CLUB

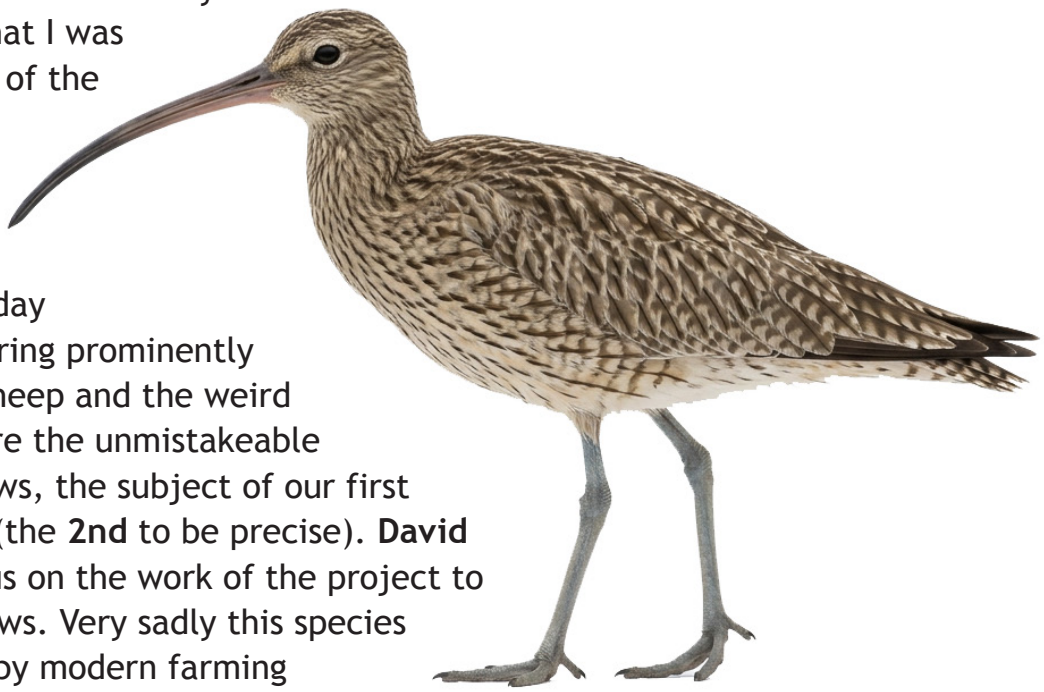
1. The club is Hornby District Ramblers
2. The club exists to provide guided rambles for the enjoyment of the members
3. A committee of a chairperson, secretary, and treasurer and four members will be elected at the AGM
4. The AGM will be held in November
5. The annual subscription will be fixed at the AGM
6. Third party insurance is provided
7. Members walk at their own risk
8. Visitors on rambles are welcome
9. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult
10. NO dogs are allowed on rambles
11. This constitution can only be amended at the AGM



A contribution for 2026 towards fuel costs, if sharing £3 per person for the shorter distance or £4 for a longer distance. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION £5-00.
Phone Jenny Herd for details of walks: **015242 21690** or contact the walk leader

LUNESDALE PROBUS CLUB

The common theme of this month's talks seems to be sound!



How timely then,as I sat down at my laptop to write this, that I was regaled by a recording of the wonderful sounds of the natural world of the Forest of Bowland being played on Radio 4's Today programme! And featuring prominently among the baaing of sheep and the weird drumming of snipe were the unmistakeable haunting calls of curlews, the subject of our first speaker in **November** (the **2nd** to be precise). **David Gardiner** will update us on the work of the project to protect breeding curlews. Very sadly this species is greatly endangered by modern farming practices and other threats to its habitat and, as the iconic sight and sound of our moorlands and coastlines in the NorthWest, needs all the help we can give.

There seem to be no limits to the ways dogs can help us humans! Search and rescue, mine detection, drug searches, crowd control, seeing eyes for the sight impaired... the list is endless!! On the **16th of November**, we are looking forward to welcoming **Martyn Brown** with friend and companion dog, to tell us about the role of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, a much less well known work that our canine friends do for us. Many of us are or will experience some loss of hearing as we go through life so we can appreciate how difficult life must be for the profoundly deaf and what benefits must flow from the support of mankind's best friend!

As ever, we welcome friends, family, guests and potential new members to our meetings: Mondays from 10am for coffee and biscuits, talks commencing at 10.30am in the Hornby Institute. See you there! Any questions to:

John Poole, Secretary (07713827032)

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