

Lyvennet Link

**The Newsletter for Maulds Meaburn,
Crosby Ravensworth,
Kings Meaburn and
Reagill**

Number 262

December 2025



LYVENNET LINK

Next Issue - 1st January 2025

Copy deadline 26th December 2025

Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all readers and contributors.

A special thanks to Sarah, Darren and Kitty for their help in distributing the Link throughout the year.

edited by Nick Thomas e-mail: nickthomas@macace.net

Articles and contributions etc., would be appreciated preferably by e-mail nickthomas@macace.net. Please send items as either text in the body of the email or as a word document. (apple-mac files acceptable)

Please do not send Microsoft publisher documents as I am unable to open them.

Welcome to the December edition of the Link

Parish Council Minutes/Agendas

Minutes of, and agendas for, Parish Council meetings are available at:

www.crosbyravensworthparish.org.uk

Planning applications are available to view on the Yorkshire Dales planning portal here:

<https://planning.agileapplications.co.uk/yorkshiredales>

and on Westmorland and Furness Council's portal here:

<https://eforms.eden.gov.uk/fastweb/search.asp>

Please find below a link to the agenda for the next Crosby Ravensworth Parish Council meetings to be held at 7pm on the 3rd of November 2025 at Maulds Meaburn Village Institute.

<https://crosbyravensworthparish.org.uk/agendas/>

Or directly to the PDF's here:

<https://crosbyravensworthparish.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/03-November-25-Ordinary-Meeting-Agenda.pdf>

<https://crosbyravensworthparish.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/03-November-25-MMRGT-Meeting-Agenda.pdf>

Services and events at your Parish Church this Advent and Christmas tide

[for more information about other services in the Benefice please see northwestmorland.church]

Sunday December 7th 11.00am Holy Communion with Rev Stephen Tudway

Sunday December 14th 11.00am Holy Communion with Bishop James Bell

Sunday December 21st no morning service BUT.....

Carols on the Solstice' at 3pm - festive fun, families, dogs all welcome especially if sparkle and tinsel are involved .

Compared by Stephen Tudway and elves.

Jim Walker on the piano

Christmas Day December 25th 10.30am Holy Communion with Rev Stephen Tudway, Jim Walker on the organ

Sunday December 28th no service at CR but many other services in surrounding Benefice churches. See website.

And in addition.....

Thursday December 18th

Community/School carol service with readings, refreshments and candles 6pm, led by Stephen Tudway: all welcome

Christmas trees in church windows: if you'd like to book a sill on which to place your tree in memory of family and loved ones, please ring Jill Winder on 01931 715496 . If lights, please use battery- powered ones.

WIN A WELL FED CHRISTMAS CAKE

It's coming up to that time of the year!

This year's Christmas cakes (yes there are going to be two) have been baked and continue to be fed a tablespoon of brandy every week ready for going to a new home, after the School's Christmas play on **17th December, (which is when the raffle will be drawn).**

Many of you have supported this fundraiser over the years and so will be familiar with how to enter, but for those of you who are not, please read on.

Boxes, marked 'Win a Christmas cake' and some brown envelopes are now in the shelters at Crosby Ravensworth/Maulds Meaburn.

To be in with a chance of winning, all you need to do is write your name and phone number on a brown envelope, place £1 inside, seal the envelope

and then pop it in to the box. If you want to have more than one go then just write out that number of envelopes.

The envelopes need to be in the boxes by 5pm on Sunday 14th December. However envelopes will be available to buy at the coffee morning at MMVI on Wednesday 3rd December, at the school's Christmas Fayre on Friday 5th December and before the play on 17th December.

The monies raised will go to the Friends of Crosby Ravensworth School to fund extra curricular activities for the school children, which they so enjoy and which enhance their learning experience.

Even if you are not a fan of Christmas cake, why not write out an envelope for a friend or neighbour as a kind gesture.

GOOD LUCK everyone and thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS CAKE

(ALL PROCEEDS TO CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL)



1. Write your name and phone number on a brown envelope.
2. Put £1 in to the envelope and seal it
3. Pop it in to the box (before 5pm 14th December)

If you want to have more than 1 go, just fill in however many envelopes you would like to buy.

Thank you....and Good Luck.

The winning ticket will be drawn on 17th December after the school's Christmas play. **This year there are two cakes and so two lucky winners!**



WHAT'S ON SOON – COME & JOIN US!

Wed 3 December **Coffee morning** 10.30am to noon

Tuesday 9th December. **AGM.** Postponed to the New Year

Thurs 11 December **Carols round the brazier** 6pm prompt, with mulled wine and nibbles

Wed 7 January. **Coffee morning** 10.30am to noon, with free 'Using NHS Apps' session by Penrith adult learning, 9.30 to 11.00.

Fri 16 January. **Gather Inn** from 6.30pm

Fri 30 January. **Race night!** Join us for a fast-paced evening at the races and choose your favourites.

Wed 4 February. **Coffee morning** 10.30am to noon

Thurs 14 February. **Not the Valentines Quiz!** For anyone and everyone, times tbc.

Sat 28 February. **The Sunderland Sea Shanty Band.** Bar and finger food.

Wed 4th March. **Coffee morning** 10.30am to noon

Fri 13th March. **A Celebration of Simon and Garfunkel** Music and stories of the legendary duo.

MMVI info: mmvi.org

Hiring enquiries: mmvi.booking@gmail.com Saturday 6th December, 2.00-4.00pm

Like Wine?

If you like wine you are welcome.
To
The Local Wine Group



We meet here.

Meetings are usually the 2nd Wednesday or Thursday of alternate months, each person or couple bring a bottle of wine usually on a theme, make sure the wine labels are covered up, and a plate of appropriate nibbles. We then try to guess the wine and where it's from and what we would like to eat with it. **Than we reveal the bottle to see how wrong/right we were.** Occasionally we have a presentation from someone who does know about wine too.

For more information please contact

Philippa philippa.cordingly@curee.co.uk

The next Meeting will be
Wednesday 3rd Dec

CA10 3HN

MMVI

Christmas Gather Inn

**Thursday 11th December
6pm (prompt) start on the Terrace**

♪ Carols around the Brazier

♪ Brass Players

♪ Mince Pies

♪ Mulled Wine

Jingle Bells

JOY TO THE W

All Welcome!



**Saturday 6th December,
2.00-4.00pm**

Christmas Wreath-Making Workshop

Crosby Ravensworth Village Hall
A relaxed and sociable afternoon of making a
beautiful festive wreath under the skilful
supervision of John Thexton & David Ryland of
Hazel Cottage, Armathwaite. Materials and
refreshments included.

£25.00

To book, ring 07584 251352 or
email lynn-barnes@outlook.com. Limited places.

MMVI YARN CLUB

Embroidery, Knitting, Tapestry, Crocheting or anything you fancy doing or just pop in for a natter & a coffee



**Join us at MMVI
on the fourth Tuesday of the month
from 10.30-12.00**

**Bring along a new project,
something you've been meaning to finish,
learn new skills get inspiration**

**Enjoy a coffee and a chat with friends old
and new £3.00 a session**

Contact Jo Backhouse croftends.jb@gmail.com 07973165917

NEWS FROM CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C OF E SCHOOL

As you might expect, our news this month is all to do with the run up to Christmas. The children are very busy.

Firstly they have been filling lots of shoeboxes to be sent over to war torn Ukraine. Twenty boxes packed full of goodies are on their way to spread some Christmas cheer amongst the children there.

On 2nd December, the Herons are visiting the Church in the Barn to participate in a nativity walk through, showcasing the real story of Christmas through live animals and actors and getting answers to those questions such as ‘why do we have a Christmas tree’ and ‘why do we use tinsel’.

Then there is the preparation for our **Christmas Fayre** which is to be held at school on **Friday 6th December** between **5 and 7pm**. The children have been coming up with ideas for crafts and games for the evening and there will be side stalls, refreshments and hot food available together with the grand raffle. On that Friday, in exchange for a raffle prize the children can come in non uniform. Please do come along to our Fayre....a chance for some Christmas shopping??????

Years 1-6 are very excited about their trip to Blackpool on 10th December to see live, at the Winter Gardens Opera House, the musical ‘Elf’. Based on the smash hit film, the festive magic will be brought to life with Santa’s flying sleigh, an interactive snowball fight and a giant candy cane journey from the North Pole. The younger ones are not being left out as they have their own Christmas fun day planned for them.

On 15th December the children in years 1-6 will be carol singing at Tebay Services.

The children have also been rehearsing and learning the songs for this year's Nativity play '**It's a Miracle**'. It is going to be brilliant and we do hope that as well as parents/relatives, that members of the wider community will also join us. It is on **Wednesday 17th December** starting at **6pm** in Crosby Ravensworth Village Hall. Talking of the Christmas play, that is the night when the winning envelopes will be drawn to see who has won the two home baked Christmas cakes. Please see the separate article '**WIN A WELL FED CHRISTMAS CAKE**' for details as to how to enter. This has been a fundraiser for school for many years now, starting when Sarah's daughter, Katie was a pupil here. Katie is now in her final year at secondary school, but Sarah continues to donate a home baked Xmas cake which over the years has raised many hundreds of pounds to help fund extra curricular activities. Each year's winner has thoroughly enjoyed the cake and this year Sarah tells us that there will be two cakes and so 2 winners. So please buy an envelope for £1. Envelopes are in the local shelters and will be on sale at the Christmas Fayre and before the play too.

Then it's our **Community Christmas Lunch** on **18th at midday**. Places will be limited and so to book a place please contact school (number below). Freda always cooks a fabulous Christmas dinner. The School's carol service will be later at 6pm in church.

The children break up on 19th for their well deserved Christmas break.

Our next 'Pop in and Play' is on **Monday 8th December**. All children currently not in school or pre-school, from birth up to 5 years are welcome to join us from 9.30am until 10.30am for fun and games. Please phone on [01931 715265](tel:01931715265) to let us know if you'd like to come. Parents must accompany children. Please do pass on the message to anyone who you think might also like to know. This session gives you the opportunity to visit our fantastic school and meet the staff and pupils, whilst taking advantage of our terrific early years provision and your little ones can enjoy fun filled activities. If you are unable to come to this one, don't worry there is another session on **Monday 2nd February 2026**.

Until 2026, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

THE BUTCHERS ARMS COMMUNITY PUB INFORMATION

Lunch Club the 1st Thursday every Month. 12- 3pm.
Two course discounted Lunch / activity / entertainment.
Contact the pub If you would like to come along.
01931-715500

Aupa Street food van is coming to the pub on Tuesday the 9th December 5pm – 8pm, it was pretty much a sell out last time...



🎄 CHRISTMAS OPENING 2025 🎄

	<u>BAR</u>	<u>KITCHEN</u>
Monday 15th December	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tuesday 16th	5pm - 11pm	CLOSED
Wednesday 17th	5pm - 11pm	5pm - 8pm
Thursday 18th	5pm - 11pm	5pm - 8pm
Friday 19th	12pm - 12am	12pm - 2pm / 5pm - 8.30pm
Saturday 20th	12pm - 12am	12pm - 2pm / 5pm - 8.30pm
Sunday 21st	12pm - 10pm	12pm - 7.00pm
Monday 22nd	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tuesday 23rd	5pm - 11pm	CLOSED
Christmas Eve	12pm - 12am	12pm - 8.30pm
Christmas Day	11am - 1pm	CLOSED
Boxing Day	3pm - 11pm	CLOSED
Saturday 27th	12pm - 12am	12pm - 2pm / 5pm - 8.30pm
Sunday 28th	12pm - 10pm	12pm - 7.00pm
Monday 29th	12pm - 12am	12pm - 2pm / 5pm - 8.30pm
Tuesday 30th	5pm - 11pm	5pm - 8pm
New Years Eve	12pm - 1am	12pm - 8.30pm
New Years Day	3pm - 10pm	CLOSED

Bar re-opens 13th Jan - 5pm Kitchen re-opens 16th Jan - 5pm

🎅 Merry Christmas and a Happy new year from us all at The Butchers 🎅

Storm Desmond – 10 years on

Whilst in the scheme of things my weather records are only a very short glimpse into our local weather, since they began we have had some rather notable events – and December is the 10th anniversary of the worst one of all.

But before ‘Storm Desmond’, December also provided the second most notable event in my records and this year is the 15th anniversary of a quite remarkably cold month.

The cold of December 2010 came at the end of what was an exceptionally cold year (the only time that I have said that this century!), but this particular cold spell actually began towards the end of November.

December that year had 23 air frosts and snow lay on the ground for 22 days with a final mean minimum temperature for the month of -5.61°C with a mean maximum of 1.64°C (mean of -1.98°C.)

From the 16th to a brief one hour spell on the 25th, the temperature remained below freezing for a total of 214 Hrs and 45 minutes and unsurprisingly some houses even had their mains water supply freeze.

8 out of 10 of my lowest maximum temperatures and also 8 out of 10 lowest minimums are credited to December 2010.

The 8th saw the zenith of the cold – after an overnight frost of -14.6°C (5.7°F) with a ground frost of -18.3°C (-0.9°F) the day would only see a maximum temperature of -4.3°C, all of which are still records for this site.

The following list of overnight minimum temperatures gives an indication of the cold:

6th -10.1°C -- 7th -12.9°C -- 8th -14.6°C and which was later followed by
18th -11.4°C -- 19th -12.6°C -- 20th -11.4°C -- 21st -12.1°C

Now I would rather have a repeat of December 2010, than a repeat of December 2015!

Prior to this rainfall event, we had had November 2009, which was then considered extreme, but December 2015 was a month that went beyond grim.

The month was record breaking for all the wrong reasons, but for the record they are: the wettest of any month, the wettest 24hr (341.4 mm at Honister) and 48hr periods (405.0 mm at Thirlmere), beating the records set in November 2009 and which had been considered to be virtually impregnable.

During the month multiple frontal systems occasionally became static or slow moving over the north of England, resulting in high daily rainfall totals, eight days during the month recording in excess of an inch (25.4 mm) of rain.

December’s rainfall totalled 571.9 mm here in Maulds Meaburn and at that time my spare rain gauge was sited at Crosby Ravensworth School and this recorded 676.0 mm.

Obviously this made it the wettest of any month on record, a record that still stands today.

Locally those totals for the month were typically in the range of 325-360% of average.

But that was the month as whole, what about 'Desmond'?

Appropriately the month had started unsettled, with rain on the 3rd totalling 30.8 mm, it became very heavy during the afternoon and evening with a warm front becoming semi-static over the UK.

This heavy rain, coupled with the wet November created the ground conditions that would perpetuate what was about to happen- the term "falling onto already saturated ground" becoming somewhat well used.

Desmond occurred during the 4- 6th and was the fourth named storm of the season.

Previous to Desmond the wettest day in my records was when 68.0 mm fell on 10th January 2009 (my records started in June 2007, so I missed the floods of 7th January 2005, the last time that Maulds Meaburn flooded.)

The rain arrived during the evening of the 4th and from 2030 hrs that night to 0215 hrs on the 6th there was not a single 5 minute period that did not record at least 0.2 mm of rain, virtually 30 hrs of non-stop heavy rain and with a little bit more either side of those 30 hrs.

The rainfall totals were (these are the 24hr periods of 09-0900 hrs):

Maulds Meaburn: 4th = 63.8 mm -- 5th = 122.4 mm

The 5th is quite easily the wettest day in my records and the 4th is also the third wettest day. Along with the 30.8 mm on the 3rd this is still the only time that this site has recorded in excess of 1" of rain on three consecutive days.



The 48 hrs rainfall for the 4-6th at Crosby Ravensworth School was 229.6 mm (which again for just the 0.7 miles difference to Maulds Meaburn is some margin).

And of course the rain wasn't the only story of the day as we also encountered gale force winds.

The year's highest gust of wind, 69 Mph actually introduced Desmond to us in the early evening on the 4th and then it wasn't until the morning of the 6th when the winds started to abate.

In that time the 5th, on top of the rain, had a mean wind speed of 32.0 mph (a new record), that is 'near gale' force winds for the entire day.

Gales (a 10 minute mean wind speed of 39 mph) were recorded twice, at 0200 hrs on the 5th and then, surprisingly, not again until 0640 hrs on the 6th.

In that time, apart from the 69 mph gust on the 4th, the 5th was never far away from its next 50 mph gust, with the highest being 62 mph and the 6th saw a highest gust of 61 mph during its gale in the morning.

So, it left the village with several house flooded, effectively cut-off during the Saturday and one footbridge destroyed during an unforgettable 36 hours.

But one footnote to this is the rapid decrease in the daily rainfall totals as we move north of Maulds Meaburn.

Both Kirkby Thore and Nunwick Hall recorded 44.2 mm on the 5th and it was only 49.0 mm at Newton Rigg.

In the 6 miles between Maulds Meaburn and Kirkby Thore the rainfall rate dropped off at 13.0 mm per mile, quite extraordinary.

Additionally it was also the warmest December on record, a mean temperature of 7.39°C being 4.26°C above the December average.

Here at Maulds Meaburn 20 days attained at least 10°C!

And it was also the windiest; a mean wind speed of 12.9 mph for the month beat the previous high of 12.0 mph.

An additional footnote: on the Saturday morning I managed to get out of the village and get to Carlisle, starting work at 0700 Hrs, I didn't get home or more properly, I couldn't get back? I did try.

About mid-night I got to bed, (not) sleeping on a train in Carlisle railway station along with many stranded passengers!

Darren Rogers

FELLRUNNER EXCURSIONS 2025

For the people living in the North Westmorland Group of Parishes and surrounding areas, The Fellrunner Village Bus Company have again kindly offered to provide a 16 seater bus for community use this year. A list of the proposed trips is given below and if you would like to make a booking please contact Mike Roulson on 01931 714457 to enquire if seats are available. Please note that for some visits there will be an entrance charge payable as well as the bus fare.

December 6th.....Gretna Gateway and Houghton Hall retail outlets. A visit to popular places to top up your Christmas shopping.

Adult Learning

Getting started with NHS Apps

Do more with the NHS App!

- ⌚ Order repeat prescriptions
- 📅 Book appointments
- 🕒 View your records
- And much more...



FREE WORKSHOP

Wednesday 7th January 2026

**9:30 am – 11:30 am
1 session**

Maulds Meaburn Village Institute CA10 3HN

Led by our fully qualified digital tutor

This course will cover the following topics:

- NHS App core functionality
- Benefits of using the NHS App
- Troubleshooting with hints and tips
- Supporting individuals to develop their personal knowledge of the NHS App

RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW!

To book a place, please speak to one of the Penrith Adult Learning Team on
07468709606/01768 812103 or email
penrithadultlearning@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk



Working for Cumberland Council and Westmorland & Furness Council

SUBSTITUTION

by William Wood

This was to be her great opportunity. As the wife of Bill Orange Miranda would be accompanying her husband on a state visit to Britain. An ex-model she had useful contacts who, sworn to secrecy, were happy to help her. For she planned during the visit to evade security and to seek political asylum.

The secrecy proved not to be absolute. British intelligence who for once lived up to their name got wind of the rumours. They did not intend to thwart the First Lady's own escape plan but neither did they wish to undermine the state visit. Important contracts were at stake. The essential thing was that neither government should know about the plot that was being hatched. However unpredictable relationships were between the governments their two intelligence services held one another in high esteem and worked together on the following project: in the few months available to them they recruited and coached a Miranda lookalike to play the role of Bill Orange's real wife. A Second Lady.

Miranda and her associates had no idea this was going on until after the couple's arrival in the UK. When it was quite clear to the powers that be that Miranda really was about to disappear they managed to talk to her privately and to inform her of their subplot. They impressed upon her that they could not allow her to cause a diplomatic

incident. In return for her cooperation her asylum application would receive serious consideration. The crucial test when the time came to make the wife swap was how to handle the President. Clearly it was not possible to fool him as to the identity of his wife. However it transpired that Bill Orange was tiring of the sometimes critical Miranda. He had even thought of asking advice from his best friend Vladimir Putin on how to rid himself of her. However the prospect of a new bit of pussy to grab overrode all other considerations. He was content to go along with the pretence that the Second Lady was really the first one provided Miranda would not reappear for she had of course absconded well before the new wife was introduced.

The state visit was a success and the substitute wife did not have to put up with President for long. On her return to the USA she was smuggled straight back to the UK. To cover up her abrupt absence the news channels reported that Miranda Orange, wife of the President, had been admitted to hospital with a serious illness. The opportunist health secretary blamed a Covid booster jab but this was denied and a week later her death from natural causes was announced.

Back in the UK Miranda and her erstwhile substitute went under cover together for several months and became firm friends. Under assumed names they were working on a book that however unbelievable was sure to become a best seller.

William

GREAT NORTH AIR AMBULANCE BUS SHELTER COLLECTIONS HAVE STOPPED.....BUT.....



We are no longer running the 'Bus stop' collections from your village on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, so please don't leave any donations there.

The GREAT news is we have now employed a driver that lives very close to you. This means we can collect your donations for us ANYTIME you wish. You no longer have to wait until the Bus Stop run!

Just contact us to make your collection appointment.

Complete an online form -

<https://www.greatnorthairambulance.co.uk/support-us/fundraising/recycle/clothing-collections/>

Or call us on 01325 308139 to arrange a collection. We love to accept any clean clothing, coats, belts, shoes (in pairs) and handbags.

Unfortunately we're UNABLE to collect any household textiles such as towels, bedding, curtains and table cloths and books/bric a brac

as these cost the charity to be taken away which isn't great for our funds.

We employ all of our drivers and own all of our vans so you know that ALL of your donation come to us direct. We receive no Government grants, we totally depend on your donations to keep saving lives in your area.

We haven't put bags out door to door for a year now in order to save plastic waste.

All of our donations are by pre-arranged collection only.

Thank you for your donations in advance!