



DECEMBER/JANUARY 2010 /11

179<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

*There is no sponsor this month*

## SEASON'S GREETINGS!

### THE GREAT FOREST SELL OFF

How would you feel if you were no longer able to walk freely wherever you wanted to in the Forest? Or if your dog had to be on a lead at all times, or you could no longer ride your horse or your bike there?

#### IT COULD HAPPEN IN GRIZEDALE.

There is a proposal from DEFRA which means that ALL of the public forests in England could be sold into private (quite possibly overseas) ownership between 2011 and 2020. This includes such national treasures as Grizedale, Sherwood and the New Forest.

Environment Secretary Caroline Spelman has written an open letter to all MPs, which is published on the DEFRA website, dated Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ([www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk) - home page - news - "Forestry in England - a New Strategic Approach"). On a national scale we are horrified at the thought of selling off such an invaluable common asset - but on a local level the threat and impact is even worse.

We hardly need to point out the effect that a possible sell-off of Grizedale Forest would have on its workforce locally, and the knock-on effect on our local, already fragile, permanent community. Why would a private owner support costly wildlife rangers and education staff? No FC would mean no Regional office staff. Even felling may not be carried out to a regular plan but simply a contract-out job for times when timber prices are right - doing away with the need for permanent staff. There would be no benign body "up at the Forestry" to whom we all turn in times of needing a fallen tree removed from a path, or a gate fixed.

At present the Forestry Commission does a wonderful and largely unlauded job of balancing the demands of timber extraction, wildlife conservation and public access to all the forests in its stewardship. Over the country, most of FC operations are delivered in partnership with the private sector (eg tree planting, timber harvesting, café, mountain bike and other concessions), sustaining thousands of jobs countrywide.

If the public forests were in private ownership there would also be nothing to stop any future owner from opening up their forest to a vast amount of commercialisation, be it non-sustainable timber extraction, intensive tourist attractions and other developments. Or to leave it all totally unmanaged so that it becomes an impenetrable wilderness, even to wildlife.

If you are appalled by the prospect of this Government "selling the family silver", then there are a number of urgent actions you can take. By far the most valuable action is to write to your MP. You can of course copy letters to the Prime Minister but you can imagine the number of letters received by Number 10! What would be most influential is if MP's (particularly Conservative and Liberal Democrat) across the

country received large numbers of letters from their constituents saying that they opposed the sale of public forests in their constituency. The action list is as follows:

**MOST IMPORTANTLY:** write to your local MP - in our case Tim Farron, possibly copied to David Cameron.

Encourage your friends in other parts of the country who enjoy their local FC forests to write to their local MPs, especially Lib Dem and Conservative ones.

Sign the on-line petition at [38degrees.org.uk](http://38degrees.org.uk).

Write to the local and national newspapers and radio.

Remember, if the public forests are sold off, we will NEVER get them back again.

### HAVE SOME CHRISTMAS FUN! CHRISTMAS EVE IN SATTERTHWAITE

Carols round the Christmas Tree on the Green, at 6.30pm, followed by mince pies and coffee in the Parish Rooms. Wrap up warmly, bring torches, your best singing voice and plenty of loose change for the bucket collection in aid of the Children's Society.

#### EVENTS AT THE EAGLES HEAD

**THURSDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 8PM:** Carol Singing with the WI Choir and Craggattak (unplugged!) Mulled wine and mince pies. Collection for Langdale and Ambleside Mountain Rescue.

**BOXING DAY:** Quiz Evening

**NEW YEAR'S EVE:** This year's fancy dress theme is "Village People" so you can even come as yourself!! Come along and enjoy the fun, with live music from Craggattak. 9pm start.

**BURNS NIGHT, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011:** The traditional Burns Supper, featuring the address to the Haggis, Piper and a few wee drams, with a guest appearance by the Scottish Country Dancers of Satterthwaite. Look out for more details nearer the time.

#### A VERY FESTIVE FOREST

Sat 11<sup>th</sup> and Sun 12<sup>th</sup> December 10am - 4pm

Escape the crowds - buy quality gifts that aren't available on the high street - make your own gifts using wood from Grizedale trees - follow our seasonal trail - lantern walk and tree dressing - local, seasonal food - buy a tree - Only £2 per car! Activities across the whole of the Grizedale Centre. Contact the Centre on 860010 for more details

#### BOOST FOR LOCAL CHARITY

The very talented Mid-life Crisis played to a full house at the Eagle's Head on 13<sup>th</sup> November and their programme of '60s and '70s rock classics ensured plenty of audience participation. The bucket collection raised £110 for the Hawkshead and Satterthwaite First Responders.

### DREAMING OF SPRING?

Plan your entries now for the Spring Show on the 26th & 27th of March 2011 at Rusland Reading Rooms.

### LAKELAND ORIENTEERING CLUB

There are three events, each with two classes, between Christmas and New Year. One short technical/hard course (£3) and one easy family/junior/beginners course (£2)

December 26th (Boxing Day) at Rusland, December 28th at Blawith Common and 30th at Haverthwaite Lane Ends. Registration: 11.30am - 12.30pm. Check [www.lakeland-orienteeing.org.uk](http://www.lakeland-orienteeing.org.uk) or phone Carol (861507)

### COLTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

We have another vacancy for a Councillor, this time in East Ward, following the retirement of Councillor John Taylor from Finsthwaite. We are very grateful to John for his hard work during his 18 months in office, particularly in connection with green energy initiatives. If you are interested in joining the Council and helping to achieve some of our plans for green energy and other ideas for 'Colton 2020' please contact the Clerk. We are delighted to learn that Cumbria County Council has agreed to provide all 8 requested new grit bins, plus an additional 2 from funds allocated by the new High Furness Local Area Partnership of which we are a member. We hope to see these new bins in place at the locations we specified very soon, hopefully containing some grit!

We are not so delighted to learn that Bouthrey Bridge will not be repaired until next spring, since the Environment Agency 'window' for allowing building work has now closed for the winter. This bridge is reportedly the only one in Cumbria that has not been repaired, one year on from the damaging floods in 2009. The Council has written a letter of complaint to the CCC Chief Executive asking why repair work has not begun and requesting that a temporary footbridge be constructed, strong enough to carry farm stock. At its meeting in October, the Council approved its budget for 2011/2012. Savings made this year will enable us to fulfil our planned projects, including completing the Community Plan, without any increase in the precept next year.

### RUSLAND & DISTRICT W.I.

The Annual Meeting was held on 16th November in Rusland Reading Room. Reports were given and audited accounts presented and adopted. The Officers returned were- President, Jennifer Stoker; Secretary, Anne Lewis; Treasurer, Carol Driver, and all other jobs were allocated. Final arrangements were made for the Carol Evening to be held in Satterthwaite Church on Tuesday, 14th December followed by refreshments in the Parish Room. There will be a raffle and a collection and all proceeds will be donated to the Duddon & Furness Mountain Rescue Team.

The first meeting of the New Year will be held in Satterthwaite Parish Room on Tuesday, 18th January when the speaker will be Ron Mein, who will tell us about pack horse trails. We look forward to seeing you on both these occasions.

### RUSLAND VALLEY & FELS LOTTERY BID

As a result of the public meeting held at The Yan in August, a group was set up which has been developing the ideas that came forward at that meeting. Several projects are proposed. There will be a series of public meetings in January to discuss these projects and progress on the bid in general.

Please come along and help knock things into shape before the February deadline.

Jan 18th - Rusland Reading Room

Jan 19th - Satterthwaite Parish Room

Jan 20th - Haverthwaite Church Hall - all at 7.30pm.

Colin Barr (01229 861408)

### QUIZ NIGHT

Satterthwaite Parish Room, Saturday 15th January 7.30  
Supper and raffle. Tickets £5.  
All proceeds in aid of the Parish Room.

### OXEN PARK CINEMA CLUB

Two films will be shown on 15th January at Rusland Reading Rooms- *Kiki's Delivery Service* (4pm) and *Frozen River* (7.30pm)

If the weather looks inclement then check the website or phone one of the committee members to check if the show is still on. (Carol: 861507).

As well as our new Leven Valley School venue, we have been showing some extra films (mainly Toy Story 3) at some South Lakes Primary Schools and these have proved extremely popular with children and parents, attracting audiences of 60 - 80. If you know a school which would like a film show then contact Carol.

### CALLING ALL BUDDING DIRECTORS!

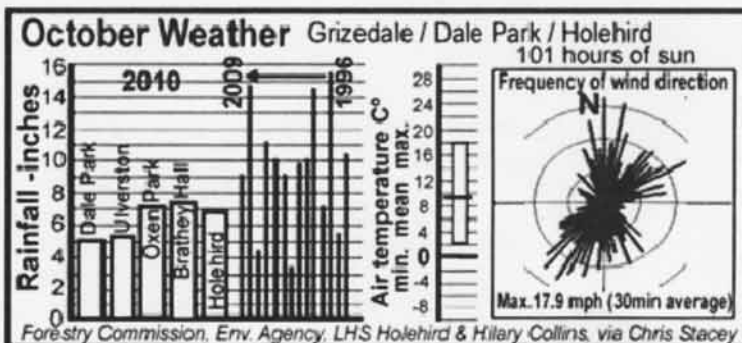
Keswick International Film Festival is looking for talented future Tarantino's or Spielberg's to enter their films into their 2011 Festival. If you are under 18 and living in Cumbria go to [www.keswickfilmfestival.org](http://www.keswickfilmfestival.org) to find out more about how to enter your short film.

The following prizes can be won: First Prize: £200, Second Prize: £100, Third Prize: £50.

All submissions must be received by 31st December

### TAKE THE BUS!

Cumbria County Council is launching the A2BNow concessionary bus fare scheme to provide discounted travel for young people between the ages of 5 and 18, living in South Lakeland. By introducing an upper 'cap' of £1 single and £1.80 return fare for young people, it will make it cheaper for them to access leisure activities by bus. The scheme will work via a 'smartcard' which can be applied for at a cost of £5. Application forms are available now from your local library, online at [www.cumbria.gov.uk/a2bnow](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/a2bnow) or by calling 01539 713180.







**DIARY DATES.**

Dec .	Sat & Sun	11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Festive Forest – Grizedale Centre – 10am to 4pm
	Mon	13 <sup>th</sup>	Satterthwaite PCC – The Yan, Grizedale – 7.30pm
	Tues	14 <sup>th</sup>	Rusland and District WI – Carol Evening – Satterthwaite Church – 7.30pm
	Thurs	16 <sup>th</sup>	Craggattak and the WI Sing Carols at the Eagles – 8pm
	Fri	24 <sup>th</sup>	Carols Round the Christmas Tree - Satterthwaite Village Green – 6.30pm
	Sun	26 <sup>th</sup>	Orienteering – Rusland - 11.30am Quiz Evening at the Eagles
	Tues	28 <sup>th</sup>	Orienteering – Blawith Common – 11.30am
	Thurs	30 <sup>th</sup>	Orienteering – Haverthwaite Lane Ends – 11.30am
	Fri	31 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Eve Party – Eagle's Head – 9pm
Jan.	Mon	10 <sup>th</sup>	Colton Parish Council – Water Yeat Village Hall – 7.30pm
	Sat	15 <sup>th</sup>	Oxen Park Cinema Club – Rusland Reading Rooms – 4.00pm – <i>Kiki's Delivery Service</i> 7.30pm – <i>Frozen River</i>
	Tues	18 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night – Satterthwaite Parish Room – 7.30pm Rusland and District WI– Satterthwaite Parish Room – 7.30pm Rusland Valley and Fells Lottery Bid – Public Meeting – Rusland Reading Rooms – 7.30pm
	Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	Rusland Valley and Fells Lottery Bid – Public Meeting – Satterthwaite Parish Room – 7.30pm

**THE SAMARITANS**

**PERSONAL**

Whatever you're going through, we'll go through it with you. Phone 01229 825656 or 08457 909090

- We all wish Bonzo Johnson, of Oxen Park a speedy recovery after his recent stay in hospital.
- Congratulations to Amy, Martin and the proud Hool and Postlethwaite grand-parents on the arrival of young Maisie.

Last date for items. 13<sup>th</sup> January. Send to: Liz Cringle Tel – 01229 860274, email; [liggerc@hotmail.com](mailto:liggerc@hotmail.com); Colin Barr – Oxen Park Tel: 01229 861408, email: [cjb@barrecol.co.uk](mailto:cjb@barrecol.co.uk); Elsie Wilkinson – Crosslands Tel: 01229 860253; Frances Townsend – Pepper House Tel: 01229 860206, [frances.townsend@virgin.net](mailto:frances.townsend@virgin.net); Sylvia Chadwick – Monks Cottage Tel: 015395 31685

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