

LOWCA LOWDOWN

September 2016



You are losing this!
See Page 4

BUT

Gained this
See Page 10

The winning team on the back cover

Well done Lowca ARLFC

War Memorial Celebration Page 5

LOWCA PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mercia J Oliver, 6 Micklam Cottages, Lowca, CA28 6QR.
Mobile 07767141248 email mercijaneoliver@gmail.com

John Crawford, 2 Solway Road, Lowca, CA28 6QB
Home 01946 694343 mobile 07796905193

Tom Milligan, 1-2 Micklam Cottages, Lowca, CA28 6QR
Mobile 07956787089 email thomas.lowca@gmail.com

Hugh Thinnesen, Seabreeze, Lowca, CA28 6PZ
Mobile 07825155008 seabreezeht@btinternet.com

Ann Oliver, Glen lea Guest House, Stamford Hill, Lowca
CA28 6PS. Home 01946 693873, mobile 07596704881

Dee Butterworth, 35 Meadow View, Lowca, CA28 6QD
Home 01946 63665 email butterworthdee@gmail.com

Paul Todd, 24 Solway Road, Lowca, CA28 6QB
Home 01946 690531 email paultodd@btinternet.com

Parish Clerk, Mike Milner, 54 Wentworth Park, Stainburn,
Workington CA14 1XP,
Home 01900 66040. email lowcaparishclerk@gmail.com

Cumbria County Councillor and Copeland Borough Councillor

Gillian Troughton, email gillian.troughton@cumbria.gov.uk
Mobile 07718185077

Copeland Borough Councillors

John Bowman email john.bowman@copeland.gov.uk
Mobile 07762622911

Jackie Bowman, email jackie.bowman@copeland.gov.uk
Mobile 07730459905

BROWN BIN COLLECTION.

At the last parish council meeting the non-collection of Brown Garden Waste Bins was discussed. Please see below the message that has been placed on the Copeland Borough Council website.

We would like to apologise to anyone whose garden bin was not collected recently, and we're happy to say we are able to extend the collection season to help make up for this. Resource issues meant some brown bins will not be collected until the next scheduled collection. Black bins (household rubbish) and recycling are statutory services so these were prioritised.

We know missing a brown bin collection is inconvenient, especially at this time of year, so instead of ending brown bin collections at the end of October – as normal – we are continuing until Friday November 11. This means all our residents will receive one extra garden waste collection. Once again we apologise to residents for the missed collections.

From the message issued by Copeland you can see that they have a statutory requirement to empty the black bins and recycling. We understood from the Borough Council councillors at the last parish council meeting the problem was staff sickness. However, the brown bin collection service has been extended until Friday 11th November.

THE LOWCA VILLAGE BT PHONE BOX

Overall use of payphones has declined by over 90% in the last decade and the need to provide payphones for use in emergency situations is diminishing all the time, with at least 98% of the UK having either 3G or 4G mobile coverage.

This is important because as long as there is network coverage, it is now possible to call the emergency services, even if there is no credit or no coverage from your own mobile provider. By default, provided your mobile phone is charged the act of dialling 999 will connect you to the emergency services operator.

BT have obviously looked at the cost of maintaining public payphones in Copeland and identified those they feel are no longer economic and under the 90-day consultation process have advised that the pay phone box in Lowca is one of 33 in the local Copeland area for removal.

If you study the front cover picture you will note that there is no handset, that was replaced a few months ago and within a week again ripped off. The box in the last 12 months has been used to make 2 (two) calls. At the parish council meeting on Wednesday 21st September this removal proposal was discussed and in view of the wanton vandalism inflicted after the phone was repaired last time the parish council considered they had no alternative but to accept the phone box being decommissioned.

LOWCA WAR MEMORIAL UP DATE AND HISTORY

Finally, the long drawn out saga of fencing around the Lowca War Memorial site is coming to a conclusion. Over the past few months the apprentices at NuGen have, as part of a project created the fencing and posts, plus the gate that you will see appear in the next few weeks.

On completion of the fencing Cllr Hugh Thinnesen took delivery and arranged for the fence and posts to be taken for galvanising. That part of the project completed Cllr Tom Milligan offered his services to oversee the fencing installed. Over the time that the war memorial has been in its current location Derek Woods has given his services free to cut and maintain the grass around the monument and his contribution is greatly appreciated by the parish council and by the village community as a whole. Once the memorial is fenced, the last piece of the relocation jig-saw will be to create a pathway from the gateway to the front of and all around the monument for wheelchair access. That is a challenge for the future.

Recently 2 hard back note books have come into the possession of the parish council, which will be handed to the Whitehaven branch of the Cumbria Archive Services for safe keeping. From studying the paperwork, I do believe that the books were donated in the past by a Mr K Peel, but their importance and significance to the history of Lowca and its war memorial in particular means they should be properly stored and preserved for future generations.

What the books show is the creation of the Lowca Branch of the Carlisle Citizens League on the 20th March 1917. The committee comprised of A Millar(chairman), G Millar (treasurer) T Crellin (secretary), A Bird and R Crawford. Added to the committee were the following ladies, Miss's Burns, Capstick and Hill who were appointed as the collectors for the organisation and they would commence their duties the following Monday 26th March 1917.

The above information is courtesy of the small minute record book, but the second book is a detailed cash book showing all the income and the expenditure from March 26th 1917 to the closure of the organisation on 21st October 1920. One ought to point out that the Lowca Prisoner of War Fund, which was the original fund raising body, disbanded March 19th 1919 and transferred their surplus funds to the Lowca War Memorial Fund which was dissolved itself in October 1920.

Those collecting ladies regularly raised between 6/- and 10/- per week each, 30p and 50p in today's money for those who don't remember £.s.d. In 1917 a quarterly parcel of goodies for a prisoner was £7.3s and the Lowca village supplied 2 parcels per quarter costing £14.6s. In 1918 the parcels had increased to £7/6/3d so Lowca contributed £14/12/6d. That food parcel in today's money, £7/6/3d is £354.07p or equivalent to £3.93 per day. The 50p raised per week is equivalent to £24.25p at today's value.

Therefore, in March 1919 the Lowca Prisoner of War Fund transferred £40/9/0d to the Lowca War Memorial Fund and the collector ladies, now Miss's Capstick, Bird and Burns continued their weekly collections while the War Memorial Fund Committee set about obtaining quotes for the War Memorial stone. At their meeting on 3rd May 1919 they accepted a quotation to supply a grey unpolished granite stone, as per their design 79b, from Messrs Beattie & Co of Carlisle. The price quoted was £105, or equivalent to £3790.55p at current value. The only proviso was that Beattie's were prepared to have a rifle crossing the sword shown on the design.

The ladies carried on collecting and the newly formed War Memorial Committee organised a prize draw, getting 8000 tickets printed, with 1st prize of a safety razor and 2nd prize a Meccano set, donated by Messrs A Millar and G Millar respectively. The cash book shows the raffle raised £39/2/6d and there were 3 winners, ticket 4675 1st prize to J Tweedle, 2nd prize 5569, Ann Heskett 6 Nook Street Harrington and a 3rd prize which is not mentioned but there was a winner ticket 4941, S Wattleworth, 21 Highland View, Bransty.

Finally, on 25th April 1920 at 3pm a Sunday afternoon Mr G Crellin, Snr, performed the unveiling on behalf of the inhabitants of Lowca with the Lowca Band in attendance. Saturday 25th April 2020 will be the centenary of that ceremony and would it not be appropriate to arrange a special Lowca Community celebration of that event? Come forward with your history and your views, PLEASE.

FLY TIPPING ON LOWCA BANK

At the last parish council meeting one of the agenda items was fly tipping and its effects in Lowca. The council chairman Cllr Mercia Oliver is regularly inspecting the local area and is having to spend more time than ever chasing Copeland's Waste Management Services department requesting them to come and remove the spoils of fly tippers.



If you see any fly tipping, please report it by calling Copeland on 01946 598300 or email wasteofficers@copeland.gov.uk.

Please try and describe the location of the items as accurately as possible and tell them the nature of what has been dumped. They will then clean up the mess and investigate the culprits. Do not touch the waste: fly tipped waste can be dangerous – it may contain syringes, broken glass, asbestos, toxic chemicals or other hazardous substances. Inspect the waste: try to find out what the waste consists of and how much there is. Note its exact location and whether it is in or near water.

Do not disturb the site: there may be evidence that could help identify the culprits and lead to their prosecution.

but remember – don't put yourself at risk.

If you see someone fly tipping or would like to report an area where fly tipping has taken place, take note of the following: The date, time and location of the occurrence what the waste looks like and how much of it there is, plus a description of any vehicles involved, along with their vehicle's registration number.

Lowca householders are reminded that they have a duty of care to ensure that their waste is passed on to an authorised person (A registered waste carrier). Most residents will use Copeland's own waste service, but if you have something not covered by the usual scheme please remember it is your responsibility to only use a registered company otherwise you may be prosecuted if fly tipped items can be traced back to you.

The parish council are considering the installation of remotely operated CCTV cameras and signage to hopefully reduce the fly tipping problem. It is harmful to the environment, an eye-sore and could cause injury to residents' children or pets as they enjoy the delights that Lowca bank offers. If you see any fly tipping activity going on, or the results of it, please report it to Copeland and let's help to keep the Lowca locality litter free.

LOWCA RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM ARE CUP WINNERS

Lowca maybe going to lose its phone box, but their rugby league club have finally broken their 7 year wait to win a cup by recently defeating Egremont Rangers in a thrilling match to decide who would be the holders of the Taylor's Joinery & Plastics Cup.

The match was played on a neutral ground at Distington ARLFC and it turned out to be a real nail biting finish. With 5 minutes left the scores were tied at 20 points each. Then Lowca's Robbie Fisher scored the winning try, which Calum Skertt converted to make the final score 26 – 20 to Lowca. So congratulations to Lowca ARLFC for bringing some silverware back to the village. Also to Robbie Fisher an additional well done as he was presented with the Man of the Match award.

On the back cover of the Lowdown you will see a photograph of the winning team, but you will have to spot and name the various individuals yourself.

BUS SHELTER SAGA NEARS CONCLUSION

One of the reasons this Lowdown, although due September will be dropping through your letter boxes in early October is because the past fortnight has seen frantic action by all parties to get the bus shelter in East Road legally approved. When you see it installed in about 5 weeks' time look at its footprint on the concrete slab and there is sufficient correspondence to paper its floor.

The location was agreed in principle much earlier in the year, the Cumbria County Council Bus Operations team visited the site and approved its location. The recycling wheelie bins will still fit behind it and by the side of it for emptying. The problem was the ownership of the slab it is to be installed on. The concrete slab belongs to Copeland Borough Council and as no doubt some residents will remember there was in the dim and distant past a bus shelter on the site.

As summer turned to autumn and the new school term came and went, which was when it had been hoped to have the shelter erected by, the parish council, your borough councillors and your county councillor all put in urgent requests to Copeland's Legal Service Department to hasten the process. The department's manager Clinton Boyce responded admirably and with real legal haste, the appropriate licence to allow the parish council to install the bus shelter was finalised and came into force on 1st October.

With a fair wind, fingers crossed and a large dollop of good luck, by the time the Remembrance Day parade is held at the Lowca War Memorial this year, it should have its fence in place and the bus shelter could actually be in place.



Cup Winners Lowca ARLFC celebrate success