

LOWCA

LOWDOWN

Summer 2018



How long the silent silhouette will remain at the Lowca Memorial is not known, but he was in a Whitehaven and vandalised. The British Legion at Bransty repaired him and chose Lowca as a safe haven. The many killed in the Great War will never return and we must never forget them. The grass in the memorial garden may look dead, but unlike the soldier it will spring back to life with the rain when it returns.

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Lowca Parish Council. Our Facebook page

Website. www.lowcapc.org.uk

Update on parish council projects

War memorial. The front page has a photo of the silent silhouette and the parish council are working with other interested parties to ensure that the centenary of the end of World War One is celebrated in a special manner. The next two pages of this Lowdown tell you about the advances made in the history of the named soldiers on the war memorial.

Coastal pathway. The pathway up from the road from Parton to the top of Lowca Brow has been restored and a large block put at its entrance to stop quad bikes etc from using the track and undoing all the recent good work.

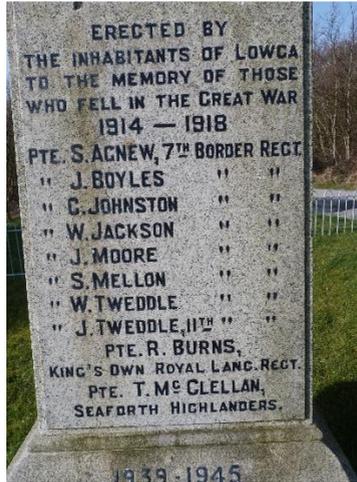


Fly tipping. The rubble pictured above was left down by the Lowca Parton footbridge, the bike in the beck was just below the bridge. Why do people do it, surely easier to go to the tip? It does not get cleared up by a rubbish fairy for free, Copeland have to pay for the man and his van, so rate payers foot the bill. If you see fly tipping please report it to Copeland with a vehicle registration number if possible.

Lowca Beck footbridge. The footbridge between Lowca and Parton down by the beach has recently been repaired. The decision was taken that to stop the chequer plates, placed above the original open mesh deck, continually coming free from their nut and bolt fixings was to weld the plates firmly to the structure. That has been done and time will tell if the fix will cope with water surges when they occur. The original open mesh had no water surge problems, but animals had difficulty walking over it.

Lowca war memorial names.

In the Easter edition of the Lowdown we had the picture of the war memorial displaying the names and asked if anyone could shed any light on the soldiers remembered.



We received an email from a lady, Pauline Cavanagh, who now lives in Hampshire but whose grandparents and father lived in Lowca, she was nee Iley. This is some of her email content...

The village had a profound effect on my life during my formative years in the 1950s and 1960s where my father and grandparents were resident since 1912. The security, comfort and stability I enjoyed throughout my young life have given me a sense of belonging and an example of generosity, equality and friendship that will stay with me forever.

I have always had an interest in WW1 history and some years ago, when the Lowca War memorial was moved, I recalled as a child reading out the names as we waited for Sunday School in the Methodist Church. The names meant nothing then but I decided, as an adult, to look into the names as I did my other war research.

As a result, I have quite a lot of information about each of the names from WW1, including census, newspaper clippings

and war records, where they exist. In 2012, I visited the graves or memorials of each of the WW1 casualties in France and Belgium and left a small cross from the Lowca people. I have photos from each one.

We have kept in contact and hope before the centenary service to mark the end of the Great War to be able too provide much greater detail on the names and locations in documentary form.

However much closer to home we are greatly indebted to Cllr Jackie Bowman who has done her own research and passed on the following details for your information.

Pte Samuel Agnew, 23771, 7th Border Regt died 23/4/17 age 25

Pte Joseph Boyles, 14818, 7th Border Regt died 5/9/15 age 22

Pte Charles Johnson, 1280, 7th Border Regt died 4/8/16 age ?

Pte William Jackson, 14830, 7th Border Regt died 27/3/16 age 21

Pte John James Moore, 39526, 7th Border Regt 21/9/18 age 19

Pte Stanley Mellon, 14839, 7th Border Regt died 2/5/16 age 29

Pte William Tweddle, 12732, 7th Border Regt died 23/4/17 age 31

Pte James Tweddle, 15532, 11th Border Regt died 1/7/16 age 25

Pte R Burns, 18166, 8th Kings Own Royal Lancs Regt 16/8/16 ?

Pte T McClellan, 5/8326, Seaforth Highlanders died 10/5/16 age ?

Hopefully from the information supplied by Jackie and then comparing that detail with Pauline's researches and her visits to the war graves overseas, we can compile a much more detailed picture of those named on the Lowca war memorial. We have not forgotten those from the Second World War named on the memorial. Jackie has already provided background on most of those, therefore that task continues.

Can any Lowca resident provide more details, if so please contact Mike Milner the parish clerk.

Rhoda Doran thanks you for your support

Through the Lowca Lowdown Rhoda Doran wishes to thank all those folks who bought raffle tickets to help her grandson Joe Moore fund raise towards him attending a Camp International Project organised by St Benedict's School for 2019, where Joe is a sixth form student.

The camps chosen to go to are based in neighbouring countries of Costa Rica and Nicaragua being packed with everything that is great about Central America; dense green forests, sparkling turquoise seas, sandy beaches and breath-taking volcanic landscapes. During their 4 week life enhancing school expedition, activities will include a ferry trip to Ometepe Island, in Lake Nicaragua, with its twin volcanic peaks, monkeys, great beaches and ancient petroglyphs before undertaking a PADI dive course, but don't forget there are community projects that Joe will have to get involved with, not all play.

Diving in warm Pacific waters and taking on the challenge of mastering the fundamentals of scuba diving. Learning about the equipment and different diving techniques in a confined environment before undertaking a series of open water dives surrounded by marine life whilst completing his PADI Open Water Dive Course. Keeping his eyes peeled for turtles, dolphins and fish of all shapes and colours. Certainly, character building.

Never had trips like that when I was at school. On a warm day we might have a class outside in the school garden in the sun, but no one bothered about the effects of sun in those days. Anyway, those of you who bought raffle tickets contributed £200 towards the trip next year.

Local raffle prize winners were,

Vera Wood - £10 Cross Cafe Voucher

Audrey Kennedy - £20 Dixon's voucher

Mrs Mac Wildgoose's granddaughter – a bottle of Prosecco

A big thank you from Rhoda Doran to all who contributed.

Community Connections

At the June parish council meeting Diane Taylor from AgeUK was invited to attend and give a 20-minute presentation about how AgeUK and other agencies were trying to reach out and establish who were the potentially isolated older people in local communities.

A task not made easy by individuals who wished to maintain their independence and whose pride stops them from seeking assistance. Not one of the councillors' present could think of any individual currently living in Lowca who would be classed as lonely or isolated. As chairman Mercia Oliver pointed out to Diane, Lowca is a very close community and tends to look after its own.

The local PCSO Hollie Denis was also at the meeting and when asked if she had any potential individuals on her beat she responded none that she could think of but took contact details for possible future reference. All councillors agreed that to help spread the facility's availability the back page of the next Lowdown should carry the message being promoted by Age UK to enable it to reach every property in Lowca.

If any Lowca resident feels they might know someone who could benefit from having regular contact with others, then please see the back page and make the first steps towards what may brighten someone's life who is missing social interaction.

In a brief question and answer session the council discovered that if the major problem was finding isolated folk, the next biggest problem was actually finding and providing transport to get people out of their homes.

Even if Lowca has no isolated individuals, if you have some spare time why not become a volunteer in this project. It is an opportunity for individuals to meet new people and make new friends. Phone Age UK, email them or visit their website, all details on the back page.

Community Connections

Age UK West Cumbria
Community Connections
Project provides support for
lonely isolated older people
by:



- Assessing their needs for social interaction
- Introducing them to local social activities or matching them with a volunteer to support them to do so
- Matching them with a befriending volunteer to visit or telephone them on a regular basis
- Introducing them to volunteering opportunities
- Raising awareness of social isolation through publicity campaigns and events
- Working with local communities to identify and reach individuals
- Supporting volunteers in existing community groups

To make referrals or for more information contact
our Helpline **08443 843 843** or email
info@ageukwestcumbria.org.uk