

# SHAP TODAY

June/July 2025

Photography by Jean Scott Smith



This edition of **SHAP TODAY** has been sponsored by



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Shap Parish Council

# FELL VIEW

HAIR & BEAUTY

## SPONSORED WALK

On **Saturday 21st June 2025** the Fell View team are doing a sponsored walk around Haweswater, raising money for the following charities:

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**FRIDAY 11TH -**  
**SUNDAY 13TH JULY 2025**

## VILLAGE CONTACTS

<b>Church of England</b>	<b>The Rev. Stephen Tudway</b> , Morland Vicarage stephen@northwestmorland.church <b>Chris Smith</b> , Curate, Shap Vicarage chris@northwestmorland.church <b>Ruth Hutchings</b> , Growing Younger Minister ruth@northwestmorland.church <b>Elaine Allison</b> , Lay Minister <b>Elizabeth Grose</b> , Churchwarden <b>Derrick Newsome</b> , Churchwarden	01931 719210 07722 250916 07436 199924 01931 716771 01931 716119 01931 716795
<b>Roman Catholic</b>	<b>Father John Winstanley</b> , St. Catherine's Rectory, Drover's Lane, Penrith	01768 862273
<b>Methodist</b>	<b>The Rev. Stephen Radford</b>	01768 371202
<b>Shap C of E Primary School</b>	<b>Katie Chappell</b> (Headteacher)	716274
<b>Friends of Shap School (FoSS)</b>	<b>Rachael Newton</b> (Chairperson) friendsofshapschool@hotmail.com	
<b>Playgroup Leader</b>	<b>Glenis Furness</b> , The Courthouse	07519 701675
<b>Mothers Union</b>	<b>J. Wood</b> , Waters Farm	716273
<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>George Grace</b> parishcouncil@shapcumbria.co.uk	716743
<b>Brownies (Lowther)</b>	<b>Kath Pearce</b> , 3 Cooper's Place, Askham	712635
<b>Beaver Scouts</b> (Boys & Girls 6-8 yrs)	<b>Emma Pattinson</b>	07730 097509
<b>Cub Scouts</b>	<b>Mike Freeman</b> dc@edenscouts.org.uk	03333 393710
<b>Junior Youth Club</b>	<b>Kim Lightburn</b> <b>Vanessa Yerbes Ballesteros</b>	07743 285652 716359
<b>Bell Ringing</b>	<b>J. Labram</b> , Spout House, Keld	716311
<b>Wasdale Flats</b>	Office	716425
<b>Bowling Club</b>	<b>Jenny Smith</b> (Secretary)	716958
<b>Memorial Hall</b>	<b>Jean Jackson</b>	07483 233666
<b>Shap Local History Soc.</b>	<b>Jean Jackson</b>	716671
<b>Eden Adult Learning</b>	edenadultlearning@cumbria.gov.uk	07468 709606
<b>The Old Courthouse</b>	admin@theoldcourthouse.org	07555 021295
<b>Shap Swimming Pool</b>	info@shapswimmingpool.co.uk	07512 466172

Articles/information for future issues of the magazine can be left at  
**The Old Courthouse Reception** or emailed to [cdc@shap.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:cdc@shap.cumbria.sch.uk).  
Closing date for August/September 2025 - 15th July

## Shap Village Stores



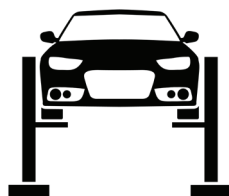
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# ABOVE EDEN

## ARTISTS STUDIO TRAIL

THROUGH SHAP AND KELD VILLAGES

### 26 / 27 JULY 2025

1. Deborah Windsor  
Painter



3. Ben Walker at  
Pikku Pottery



6. Tara Burns  
Photographer



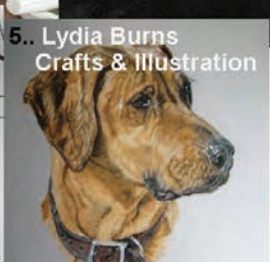
4. Suzanne Stuart Davies  
Painter



Keld 5, 6. 2. Shap  
Old Courthouse



5.. Lydia Burns  
Crafts & Illustration



**Visit our open studios between 10am & 5pm!**

Above Eden an exhibition of work by local artists  
at The Old Courthouse, Shap 5th July - 27th July  
*see inside for details and opening times*



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Please contact me either by:  
Facebook my page is  
CakealiciousShap

Or call Teresa on 0751 7673361

The North Westmorland Benefice is fortunate to have received a Curate (trainee vicar), the Revd Chris Smith. He will be based in Shap Vicarage. Chris sent us this short biography by way of introduction.

I grew up in London and studied Veterinary Medicine at the Royal Veterinary College. When the time came to look for jobs, I decided that for my first job I would like to work in a mixed practice, a bit like James Herriot. Those jobs are few and far between nowadays but I was offered a position at the vets in Broughton-in-Furness. I can still remember arriving for interview in the "ancient market town" and parking up in the square. It was about 9.15am and all was silent. I was pleasantly surprised at the silence seeing as I had grown up amongst the exhaust fumes and police sirens of London! That was almost eleven years ago and Cumbria certainly feels like my home now. Despite this I suspect I would still be classed as an "off-comer" and my southern accent definitely does not make me sound very Cumbrian!

I was baptised and confirmed whilst at university although I was no stranger to life in the Church growing up. I am really grateful to God for providing me with so many people to encourage me in my faith up until now. I was sad to leave the church in Broughton as this was the first Church I really got involved with and they were always so encouraging of me.

I started feeling the call to ordained ministry not long after graduating as a vet. I continued to work as a vet throughout my theological training and into curacy. For my curacy, I was initially placed in the Hawkshead Benefice. Once more I was surrounded by many caring Christians who again supported me in my faith.

During Curacy I got the nagging feeling that God was calling me to serve him within the Church full-time. This meant saying goodbye to my veterinary career and moving to another part of Cumbria. I don't know the North Westmorland area very well but when people heard I would be living in Shap they mentioned four things: how cold it is, the fish and chip shop, the open air-swimming pool and the geology. I will have to see what else there is that they failed to mention!

I had no clue that some day God would call me to be a leader within the Church and I also had no clue that eventually he would call for me to lay aside my veterinary career. What I have learned over the years though is that if God calls you to do something and you ignore it then he always gets you in the end!

I really do look forward to serving you and to learn more about God from you. I would say my area of interest lies within prayer and spirituality. I have always made it my priority to draw close to God in prayer so that I may be able to advise others on how to do this too. Furthermore, in a culture where our worth seems to be linked to how much we work and how busy we are, I try to challenge this. I think we as Christians must live differently to show that God's Kingdom works on a different set of values. Salvation has already been achieved for us despite what we do.

**I look forward to getting stuck-in and meeting everyone!**

**Revd Chris Smith**



### 2025 Claiming Dates

Sat 30th August

Village Show in the Memorial Hall

Sat 6th December

St Michael's Christmas Coffee Morning, Memorial Hall

Market Dates:

28th June, 26th July, 23rd August, 27th September, 25th October,

22nd November, 20th December



### Shap Farmers' and Makers' Market

**9am -1pm**

Food/Art/Craft/Plant stalls  
plus much more - indoors and outdoor  
**Shap Outdoor Festival exhibition -**  
organisation stands, activities

#### Saturday 28th June

**Cumbria Retired Police Dogs Benevolent Fund stand**

Music on the Terrace 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Morland Ukulele Group**

Tirril Art Group exhibition inside The Old Courthouse  
also meet some of the artists

#### Saturday 26th July

**Penrith Mountain Rescue stand**

Music on the Terrace 10.30am - 12.30pm

**'Skinny Lincoln'**

**'Above Eden' – exhibition by local artists**

### St Michael's Village Show

**Saturday 30th August 2025**

**at the Memorial Hall**

**Schedules will be available from mid-June**

from St Michael's Church, The Old Courthouse, Second  
Chance Charity Shop, Village Store/Post Office or on the Shap  
website, [www.shapcumbria.co.uk](http://www.shapcumbria.co.uk) - follow the What's On link  
or email: [wood\\_watersfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:wood_watersfarm@hotmail.com)

Entries to be brought in 8.30am-9.45am on show day

Entries 20p each (max of £5) - Children's entries FREE



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Dr Rachael Shreeve BSc PhD MFHT

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[Trigpointmassage@gmail.com](mailto:Trigpointmassage@gmail.com)

[trigpointmassage.weebly.com](http://trigpointmassage.weebly.com)



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**Big Breakfast**

**Saturday 7th June**  
**Shap School Hall**  
**10am - 1pm**  
 Everyone Welcome

Hamper Raffle  
 Tombola  
 Quiz  
 Craft Room  
 Big Toys & 10p Games  
 (Weather dependent)



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**Shap Local History Society**  
**Meeting at The Old Courthouse 7.30pm**  
**Monday 16th June**  
 Speaker: Dr. Andrew Wallis

*First hand account of the Roman excavation at Carlisle by a volunteer*

Note: this is an extra meeting not previously advertised.  
 There will be no meetings in July and August.

**Admission - Members £1.50, Visitors £3.50**


Note: Subscriptions are due for renewal (£10 individual/ £15 for couples).

**FIT4ALL – a partnership between**  
**Westmorland & Furness District Council and the NHS**

Activities designed to help you become more active in a friendly, sociable setting in your local community or from the comfort of your own home.  
 These are qualified instructor lead classes with a knowledge of a variety of medical conditions and the ability to link in with our NHS community care team.

**Shap Fit4all will run as normal Wednesdays 1.30pm**  
**until Wednesday 6th August when we break for summer**  
**returning in September, date to be confirmed**

**The Three Inch Fools present...**  
**The Most Perilous Comedie of Elizabeth I**



Keld Village, near Shap, CA10 3QF  
**24th June, 7pm** - picnics from 6pm  
 Tickets from [www.threeinchfools.com](http://www.threeinchfools.com)

Elizabethan theatre is flourishing. But will a brand-new Tudor musical romp, in which Good Queen Bess takes to the stage herself, be the making of this heroine or spell the beginning of her downfall?  
 The stage is set for regicidal rivalries, devious dramatics, and plotting playwrights. Beset by misunderstandings and a script that...let's just say... needs some work, this production promises to be largely historical, always hysterical.



**Shap Mother's Union**  
**TEDDY BEARS PICNIC in July date to be advised**  
 See posters and Shap Playgroup Facebook page  
 for details.



## CHURCH NEWS

### ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

#### June/July 2024

1st June	10.30am	Methodist Service
8th June	10.30am	Holy Communion
15th June	10.30am	Family Service
22nd June	10.30am	Holy Communion
29th June	11.00am	Benefice Service at St Peter's, Askham <i>No service at St Michael's</i>
6th July	10.30am	Methodist Service
13th July	10.30am	Family Service with Baptism
20th July	10.30am	Family Service
27th July	10.30am	Holy Communion

#### Wasdale Services 2pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month

For more details of services and events taking place in other North Westmorland Parishes, visit: <https://northwestmorland.church/>

### Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

To make enquiries about a **baptism** at any of the Anglican churches of the benefice, please contact the **Rev. Stephen Tudway** - tel. 01931 719210

[stephen@northwestmorland.church](mailto:stephen@northwestmorland.church)

If you would like to ask about a **wedding, funeral or a new or amended churchyard memorial**, please in the first instance contact the **Mission Community Administrator, Joyce Keetley**, on 07741 327318 or [applebymc@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:applebymc@carlisle-diocese.org.uk). Joyce will speak to you about arrangements and discuss your options with you.

### Village Service

At the time of going to print a date hadn't been confirmed for our Summer Village Service. We will advertise on posters and Facebook if arrangements are made.

### THANK YOU!

**Thank you from St Michael's PCC** to all who organized and supported the **Easter Coffee morning and Derrick's Chocolate Easter Egg draw** raising **£472.90** for church funds.

### Catholic Parish of St John Boste

St Catherine's Church Penrith - Sunday Mass 8.30am and 10.30am  
Our Lady of Appleby – Sunday Mass 4.00pm

For full information about all services and events see new parish website – updated weekly at [www.stjohnboste.org.uk](http://www.stjohnboste.org.uk)

### Reading for a Zero Carbon Shap

It was Rob Cowen's third book that made me search for more, *The Heeding*, his slim volume of poetry which came out in 2021. Sensitive yet also blunt and direct when necessary, the poems worked through the Corona Virus troubles, drawing in and exploring the torment of that period, the loneliness and aloneness that many of us experienced.

*Common Ground*, Cowen's second book published in 2015, is gloriously lyrical, an invocation of the nature that is on our own doorstep or at least close enough to walk to from our homes, wherever we happen to live. Relocating to a northern town after losing his job in a big city he describes intimately a few acres of scrub land bounded by a derelict railway, the river Nidd and a main road bordering a nineteen sixties bungalow estate.

A path meanders through it and soon Cowen is taking with him a note book and sketch book to record all he sees and hears. Roe deer, fox and hare become entwined with his daily visits and the miracle and tragedies of their lives enthrall him too and he gives them voices and histories which help us to understand these magnificent creatures in a rounded way. We are taken through a year, from the depths of an icy winter and the gradual warming into spring, the life cycle of a red admiral butterfly encourages us to look more closely at the nettles on which their life depends and how the invasive buddleia also has a part to play in rescuing what is left of our feral places.

We also learn a little of the history of this neglected area and hopes for its future as a refuge for nature and a haven shared with the local population as its future hangs in the balance as the need for further housing endangers such vital spaces.

Part fiction but mainly fact, this excellent book gives both hope and concern for our much battered and embattled land.

**The Reading for a Zero Carbon Shap Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Old Courthouse, Shap at 7pm. All welcome. For more details contact Peter on 07837816795 or Dave 07484 632210.**

**Our next two meetings are June 17th July 15th**

### Garden/Allotment News

About thirty years ago a friend lent me a book called 'The diary of a Farmer's Wife 1796 1797'.

Obviously not the original if indeed it ever really existed. But some of it could still be relevant today. There are entries for June 1796, one of which says:

'John ( the farmer) hav bin verrie cross at the brindel cow which did knock him over and spil milk on his small cloes'.

Later she writes : 'John and me and Sarah (their maid) been bussie (busy) at cuvvering the hay stackes...we at it all day between the milking and feeding of pigges and calves; so no tyme to cook at which John not verrie pleased'.

The next day she appeased her husband by making his 'favvorit pudden of appels'.

A few days later, still in June 1796, her husband took the sheep fleeces to sell but returned home 'verrie grumpie' because the wool only made 9 pence the bag. (This might be about £13 in today's money).

At the beginning of July that same year the weather was exceedingly wet but six days later, on July 12th the farmer decided as the day was hot that they would be cutting the wheat the next day.

Yet on July 15th they were complaining that there had been no rain to 'crissen the appels'. Things don't change in a few hundred years, we are still complaining about the weather, it is either too hot and dry or too wet and cold!!



### Gardening Group Talk

#### **'Spring Bulbs'**

**Pat Murphy from the Hardy Plant Society**

**19th June at the Old Courthouse 7pm**

**Entrance £2 (includes tea and biscuits)**

**Raffle**

**Everyone welcome.**



### **Victory in Europe - Victory in Japan**

When all the world was celebrating VE Day in Europe on 5th May 1945 there was still fierce fighting in the Far East. People with relatives or friends fighting in the Pacific, or prisoners of the Japanese could not celebrate VE Day. The War was not yet won. An army of soldiers and airmen had been stranded when the Japanese army had crossed over into Burma in 1942.

There was a Forgotten Army fighting in the jungles of Burma pushing the Japanese soldiers back down to Rangoon and Singapore. In 1942 the Japanese Army had crossed over into Burma forcing the British Army to retreat, and on 15th February General Perciel surrendered unconditionally to the Japanese. The British and American civilians were taken by surprise, and hundreds of men, women and children, as well as the Army and the Air Force were left stranded there for the next four years.

After VE Day the Allies moved soldiers, ships and planes from Europe over to the Pacific to finish the war against Japan. The war was not yet won. The Japanese were fanatical and fierce fighting soldiers, they did not believe in surrender and would fight to the very end. They treated their prisoners Cruelly with degradation, starvation and neglect. Prisoners were forced to work in hot humid tropical weather for long hours without medical help and proper food. Many men did not survive, they were treated like slaves working in mines and working on the building of the bridge over the river Kwai.

The war continued until August when the Allied leaders decided the Atomic Bomb would be the quickest way to end the war and save Allied lives. Japan was warned but the warning was not heeded and on 6th August 1945 the first Atomic Bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. A second atomic bomb was dropped on 9th August over Nagasaki. Few people in Japan understood what had happened but the Japanese government realised that it could not fight this new and terrible weapon and they surrendered. Ceasefire was on 15th August 1945.

The Bombing had effectively brought the war thankfully to an end. The Prisoners of War and the civilian men and women who were left stranded in 1942 were released and able to come home. They had survived four terrible years of starvation and neglect, they were emaciated and in bad health. It would be several weeks before the troopships brought the men home. Their homecoming was the final end of years of fighting.

VJ Day, Victory in Japan, was on 2nd September 1945 when General MacArthur accepted the Japanese surrender.

from Barbara Martindale



## Shap Swimming Pool

We're ready and excited to welcome regulars and new swimmers alike. The pool has new filters and a new shop hatch ready for the 2025 season.



A season ticket is a great value way to enjoy the pool, you'd only need to make 9 visits to make a season ticket for one worthwhile, while adding family and friends to your ticket makes it even quicker to make savings. Email the pool on [info@shapswimmingpool.co.uk](mailto:info@shapswimmingpool.co.uk) or call in when we're open to get an application form.

All sessions should be booked on [www.bookwhen.com/shapswimmingpool](http://www.bookwhen.com/shapswimmingpool)

Please email the pool with any enquiries for private hire.

We have been so fortunate to have a lovely team of volunteers helping us get the pool ready for this season. All of our volunteers enjoy a £15 discount on their season ticket and can cover the shop as little as once a week! If you'd like to join our merry band of helpers please email us.

## A BIG THANKYOU!

to all who supported  
the Shap Fell Model Transport Show in March  
together we raised: £1000 for CHUF, £1000 for Kidney Care UK  
and £252.18 for Shap Playgroup



**Thank you** to everyone who supported the  
Shap Playgroup Coffee Morning in March - we raised £245!



The VE Day Party held on 5th May, Bank Holiday Monday, was a great success. We had a good time, food was excellent & music was superb! We would like to thank Janet & her team for all their hard work and for putting on such a great event!  
from the VIP Quiz Team!

## The Old Courthouse – 10 years and counting - looking to the future!

In July 2015 the building and land behind were transferred from the County Council to Shap Community CIO. We are indebted to the dedication of all our volunteers who have helped us over those ten years.

The Trustees have been working with Rod Hughes, architect, to explore ways in which we can;

- ◆ further improve the energy efficiency and sustainability of The Old Courthouse
- ◆ develop the land at the rear in a sustainable way that will be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the community

From **mid-June** there will be a display in the library showing what we have achieved in those 10 years and outlining future plans for the building and suggestions for the development of the land with an opportunity for you to have your say, on line or at the public consultation event on 3rd July.

**Thursday 3rd July at The Old Courthouse**  
**come along to celebrate 10 years with us**  
**Presentation and design participation event by Rod Hughes, architect**  
**'What next for The Old Courthouse?'**  
**Light refreshments**

We want as many members of the community as possible to provide feedback as it helps to reinforce funding applications.

We will need extra help to make ideas become a reality – are you willing to be involved in helping us make improvements that will benefit the community?

**Please contact Janet Wood Email: [janet@theoldcourthouse.org](mailto:janet@theoldcourthouse.org)**

**The Old Courthouse, Shap**  
visit [www.theoldcourthouse.org](http://www.theoldcourthouse.org) for details of events  
**Summer Opening Times   Gallery and Library Access**  
**Sun/Tue/Thu/Fri 2-5pm   Mon 10-1   Sat 10-12**  
**Bank Holidays open as usual**



- ◆ Craft and Chatter- Thursday afternoon, drop in with your craft project.
- ◆ Cuppa and Company – Friday afternoons
- ◆ Writing Group – Saturdays, monthly 10am - noon  
email [victoria@theoldcourthouse.org](mailto:victoria@theoldcourthouse.org) for further information.
- ◆ Zero Carbon Shap, Reading Group, 7pm 17th June, 15th July

### **Exhibitions**

**31st May – 29th June Tirril Art Group Summer Exhibition -**  
work in a variety of media including pastel, watercolour, gouache, acrylic and oils.

**5th July – 3rd August 'Above Eden' exhibition by local artists**  
see back cover for details of the Open Studios 26th/27th July

## SHAP MEDICAL PRACTICE

Peggy Nut Croft, Shap, Penrith Cumbria CA10 3LW

Tel: 01931 716230 Fax 01931 716231

### Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Joining our Patient Participation Group (PPG) is a great way to have your voice heard and help improve the services at within the surgery. As a member, you can share feedback, suggest ideas, and work with staff to shape how care is delivered to better meet the needs of the community. It's a valuable opportunity to make a positive difference. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the Practice Manager, Wendy Hancock, at [wendy.hancock1@nhs.net](mailto:wendy.hancock1@nhs.net).

### Appointment System

To ensure timely access to care, we have a structured appointment system in place.

When you contact us, our reception team will ask for a brief reason for your appointment. Based on this, they will offer you the most appropriate appointment type and timescale. This may be a telephone or face-to-face appointment with a GP, a nurse, or our local First Contact Physio.

For GP appointments, you will be offered one of three categories: Red, Amber, or Green. Red appointments are for same-day emergencies, where it is clinically important that you are seen immediately. Please ring as early as possible if you need to be seen that day, to help our receptionists and doctors manage your care effectively. For pre-bookable Amber and Green appointments, you can ring at any time during the day. You may be offered an appointment within the next few days or a routine appointment up to two weeks ahead. Pre-booked appointments also give you more flexibility to request your preferred GP.

### Dispensary

You can collect your medication from the Shap Dispensary **4 working days** after submitting your prescription. We'll send you a text message to confirm when your medication is ready for pickup.

Dispensary hours are:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

### Change of Personal Details

Please inform the Practice if your address, telephone or email address has changed.

### Protected Learning Dates

Shap Surgery and Dispensary will be closed for training from 1pm on the following dates:

**Wednesday 11th June**

**Wednesday 17th September**

**FOSS BIG BREAKFAST** - Sat 7th June - see quarter page ad.

**MIDSUMMER EVE CEILIDH** - Fri 20th June at Shap School - see quarter page ad.

## SHAP COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

The trustees met in May and awarded the following grants;  
**Shap School- £750** towards the cost of the residential to reduce cost for families.

**Shap Bowling Club- £3,260** for extra paving to reduce the width of flowerbeds.

**Shap Church- £1,200** for annual cost of grass cutting in Upper Churchyard.

Total grants this Quarter- £5,210.

Would you have a some spare time to join our friendly team of volunteers at the charity shop? If you don't want to commit to regular hours why not volunteer for holiday cover instead. You might enjoy meeting the customers in the shop, or perhaps you would rather help with sorting and pricing goods instead. Why not call in and have a chat to our volunteers or speak to Derrick (716795) or Elaine (716771). It is an opportunity to meet new people and to use your talents for the benefit of our local community. We look forward to hearing from you.

Editor: *Congratulations to all the team at Shap Community Enterprise on achieving the £200,000 milestone in your distribution of grants - it's brilliant that the volunteers of this charity are able to support so many organizations and volunteers in the community. Well done to all volunteers!*



### Shap - New Fell Race, 26 July 2025 Start 1300

**New** for 2025, High Wether Howe Fell Race is a fun and friendly race of 14km approx. 485m of ascent over the local fells of Ralfland Common. Race registration and start and finish will be from Stepps Hall CA10 3QD. Please leave your car in the village there is no parking down at race HQ. Entry is on the day and is just £8 - please bring cash.

Refreshments available after the race (cash). Prizes for the first local man and woman.

We will be making a donation to Shap Community Enterprise Fund.

Race organiser: Stephen Pyke - "Spyke"

**For more information—Contact: [spyke1@btinternet.com](mailto:spyke1@btinternet.com)**

*Important information:*

(1) *Runners must be 18 years of age or over.*

(2) *Participants are responsible for ensuring they dress appropriately for the conditions on the day and the Race Director may introduce mandatory kit/clothing requirements*

(3) *We welcome participants who are new to fell-running. But be mindful, it is a challenging route. Participants should ensure they are capable of safely completing the course.*

(4) *This is a category B fell race, operated under Fell Runners Association (FRA) rules, and licensed by the FRA. FRA Rules for Runners apply <https://www.fellrunner.org.uk/>*





## Shap CE Endowed Primary School

It has been a truly memorable few weeks at Shap CE School, full of hands-on learning, real-world experiences and proud moments that we'll be talking about for a long time to come.



Blencathra and Helvellyn classes welcomed Jo Sheehan from Cumbria Connect, who delivered a fascinating session on deer management in the Shap Fells. Dressed in full stalker gear, Jo spoke to the children about the importance of population control and introduced them to a whole host of interesting props, including antlers, skulls, deer skins and even a night scope. The children were captivated and asked thoughtful questions throughout. To round off the session, the children were treated to a delicious venison tasting buffet prepared by Janet Davies from Moveable Feasts, a definite highlight for many. Huge thanks go to Nicola Estill for her support in helping to bring this unique learning experience to life.

Our Year 5 children also set off on an exciting residential to the Isle of Man, travelling aboard the brand-new *Manxman* ferry before heading to The Venture Centre near Maughold. During their stay, the children tried their hands at raft building, kayaking, paddleboarding, high ropes, and gorge walking, a wonderful mix of challenge and fun. Whether braving cold sea swims or navigating the high ropes course above a ravine, every child showed resilience, teamwork and great enthusiasm. Staff were incredibly proud of their positive attitude and sense of adventure.

Closer to home, Helvellyn class were visited by PCSO John Nicholson and local firefighters from Shap Fire Station, who led an important session on water safety. With the warmer months approaching, the children learned how to stay safe around lakes, rivers and the sea. The afternoon ended with a hands-on session using real fire engine equipment, including the ever-popular fire hose, a brilliant way to embed key safety messages.

We also marked VE Day with a range of activities across school. The highlight was a visit from Mrs Brown, who shared her first-hand memories of celebrating Victory in Europe as a 16-year-old in York. The children were fascinated to hear her stories and asked fantastic questions about wartime life. The day included baking competitions, traditional maypole dancing, wartime food tasting (including corned beef and 'Depression Cake'), and even a visit from an original 1943 Willys Jeep. It was a wonderful celebration of history, memory and community, and we were thrilled to welcome families into school for the occasion.

Finally, our first-ever STEM Week was a huge success. Children explored science, technology, engineering and maths through hands-on workshops, guest speakers and real-world investigations. Highlights included building wind turbines, coding Micro:Bits, investigating plant life in Peggy Nut Wood, and a brilliant school trip to Beamish Museum. Our thanks go to Emma Gerrard-King from RWE and Andrew Lee from Fibrus for their inspiring sessions, and to Mrs Capstick for planning such a rich week of learning.

To keep up with our latest news and events, don't forget to visit the newsletter tab on our website: [www.shap.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.shap.cumbria.sch.uk).

Katie Chappell – Headteacher

## SHAP C E PRIMARY SCHOOL **ADMISSION TO SHAP SCHOOL NURSERY**

**Jan 2026 (Spring Term)**

If your child was **born** between **1st Sept 2022 and 31st Dec 2022** they are eligible to receive up to **15hrs free nursery education from Jan 2026**

All children within the age range above, will be entitled to 15hrs per week however some children may be entitled to the full 30hr per week, depending on family circumstances. Parents should view [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) and may then be issued with an Eligibility code, which should be passed to the school office along with their NI numbers

**15hrs entitlement per week could be 5 mornings (8.45am – 11.45am)**  
**30hrs entitlement per week = (please ask at school)**

For children not eligible for the extra free sessions, we do offer places where a fee is chargeable for hours over their 15hr entitlement. Please ask within school.

**\* The closing date for applications is 26th September 2025**  
**Places allocated according to date of application**

Application form SA13 may be collected from the school or downloaded from the Westmorland & Furness Council website.

For further details please see Mrs Julie Hunter (School Office Manager)  
Shap CE Primary School, Main Street, Shap, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 3NL



## SHAP PLAYGROUP

**at The Old Courthouse (around the back)**

**Mon/Tue/Wed 9.45 - 11.15am**

**0-1 year £1.50 1-5yrs £3 per child**

**This includes a drink & snack Tea/Coffee £1**

**You are welcome any day.**

**Please try & come along to keep the Playgroup going**

If you need any information, please ring Glenis Furness on 07519 701675

Thank you to everyone who supported the

Shap Fell Model Show (£252.18 for Playgroup)

Shap Playgroup Coffee Morning in March - we raised £245!

**Playgroup AGM at The Old Courthouse**

**Thursday 12th June in the Playgroup Room 6.30-7.30pm**



## **SHAP YOUNG PEOPLE'S LOTTERY**

**Playgroup/Swimming Pool**

**28th March £60 Karen Teasdale £20 Lisa Millican**

**25th April £60 Muriel Lord £20 Edna Slack**

**You've got to be in it to win it!**