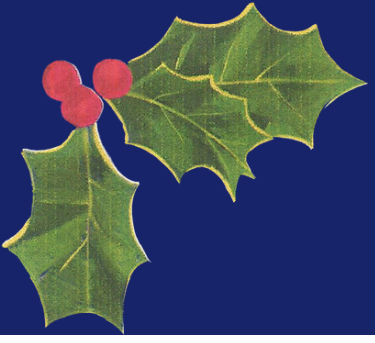


## Newsletter



December -  
January 2025



The festive season officially began in Dalton on Sunday, December 1st, with the much-anticipated Christmas light switch-on event. The streets were filled with excitement as residents and visitors gathered to witness the town's transformation into a sparkling winter wonderland.

Organized by Barrow BID, supported by Dalton Town Council, Furness Building Society, and BAE, the event featured a variety of activities designed to bring holiday cheer to all ages. The main attraction, of course, was the spectacular moment when the Christmas lights illuminated the streets, marking the start of the holiday season in Dalton.

The festivities began in the afternoon, with free events throughout the town, including activities for making decorations. Children's laughter filled the air as Santa Claus walked around the town, delighting families and spreading festive cheer. The town band played festive tunes, joined by local performers, adding to the vibrant atmosphere. Additionally, a thrilling bike stunt show captivated the crowd, making the day even more memorable. The countdown to the switch-on was led by the Mayor of Dalton Councillor Neil McDougall, who delivered a heartfelt speech about the importance of community spirit during the holiday season. As the clock struck the designated time, cheers erupted as the Mayor flipped the switch, bathing the town in twinkling lights and festive decorations. The centerpiece of the display was the majestic Christmas tree at Tudor Square, illuminated with festive lights that brought seasonal cheer to all.

Attendees soaked up the festive atmosphere, braving the chilly evening with smiles and good cheer. Local businesses also extended their hours to accommodate the influx of visitors, creating a bustling and joyful atmosphere throughout the town.

The Dalton-in-Furness light switch-on has become a cherished tradition, bringing the community together to celebrate the joy of the season. This year's event was particularly special, with record-breaking attendance and a strong sense of unity and holiday cheer. As the evening came to an end, residents left with smiles and a shared anticipation for the Christmas season ahead. Dalton-in-Furness has once again shown how small-town charm and community spirit can make the holidays truly magical. The Town Council would like express their gratitude to Barrow Bid for making this years festivities extra special.



"Barrow BID would like to thank Dalton residents, businesses and all involved with Dalton Light Switch On for an amazing event!

From singing crackers to alpacas with antlers, the light switch on certainly had it all. The craft workshops that lined Market Street and filled the Drill Hall were extremely well attended, with local residents creating festive mementos of the day.

We'd like to thank all involved with the procession down Market Street to turn on the lights at Tudor Square, with Santa and Dalton Town Brass Band providing the festive cheer along the way.

Happy New Year from all of us at Barrow BID!"



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# Boxing Day Feast

On Boxing Day, Deputy Mayor Ann Thurlow demonstrated the true spirit of the season by volunteering at Furness Homeless in Barrow. With sleeves rolled up and a warm smile on her face, she joined the dedicated team of volunteers to prepare and serve hot meals to those in need. The shelter, which provides vital support to vulnerable individuals and families throughout the year, was a hub of activity as residents gathered for a festive meal. Ann Thurlow worked tirelessly alongside the staff, chopping, cooking, and serving hearty plates of food, ensuring everyone who came through the doors was met with a nourishing meal and a sense of community.

Speaking about her experience, the Deputy Mayor said, "It's heartwarming to see the incredible work being done here at Furness Homeless. It's so important to come together as a community to support those who may be struggling, especially during the holidays." The Boxing Day event not only provided sustenance but also brought smiles and hope to many. The Deputy Mayor's hands-on approach highlighted the importance of compassion and community support, leaving a lasting impact on both the recipients and her fellow volunteers



## Getting spring ready.



Narcissi Thalia



Galanthus Nivalis



Crocus Sieberi Tricolour

Councillors and council staff joined forces in November to plant an array of spring bulbs in preparation for a vibrant spring. The planting took place across several key locations, including the Rusland Drive planters, both mining carts on Market Street, and the Bee Garden.

The bulbs planted were Narcissi Thalia (Daffodil), Galanthus Nivalis (commonly known as snowdrops), and Crocus Sieberi Tricolour. These choices were carefully selected not only for their beauty but also for their bee-friendly properties, aligning perfectly with the council's commitment to supporting local biodiversity and pollinators.

These flowers are not just a visual treat; they play an important role in supporting our local ecosystem.

Residents are encouraged to keep an eye on these locations as the bulbs grow and bloom in the coming months, bringing a splash of colour to the town. The council hopes the display will inspire more community efforts to create pollinator-friendly spaces. English Lavender will be added to the planters in the coming months.

This initiative reflects Dalton's ongoing ethos of promoting sustainability and enhancing the natural beauty of the area. Every flower planted is a step toward a greener, more vibrant community.

The council extends its thanks to everyone involved in the project and looks forward to seeing the results of their efforts brightening up the town in the months ahead.

# **FANTASTIC COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN DALTON AS THE 178 BOLLARDS RECEIVE THEIR CHRISTMAS JUMPERS.**

After starting this project 4 years ago the very talented ladies mainly residents of Dalton and the many volunteers over the years we have had to help fit them. We now believe we have finally covered every bollard along Market Street 178 in total, We would like to thank you for your dedication and the time that you have taken to complete this project. We know how much these covers are enjoyed by the many that pass through Dalton to gaze at our Christmas decorations and lights including personal light shows from individual houses like the Tantabank Christmas experience that many visitors bringing their families.

## **INTERESTING FACTS**

The bollards extend over 0.51 miles from Skelgate gateway to Tudor Sq car park and Ulverston road, 178 bollards = 2x100 gram balls (dk type) each ball has 200 - 300m wool = 356 balls or 71200m to 106800m of wool that's equal to 44.24 to 66.36 miles knitted!!!

An amazing accomplishment from a handful of ladies who attend the Friday Morning 10am CAMEO up at St Mary's Church, Dalton-in-Furness. A place to Come And Meet Every One.

You must admit the goal to make Dalton the Christmas capital of Furness is on its way to becoming Fact.

Cllr Dave Taylor.



Dalton Town Council would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the incredible volunteers from our local groups and organisation's. Your unwavering support and dedication this year have made a profound difference in the lives of our town's residents. From lending a helping hand to bringing smiles and hope, your efforts have truly strengthened our community. We couldn't do it without people like you, and we are deeply grateful for all that you do! Thank you.



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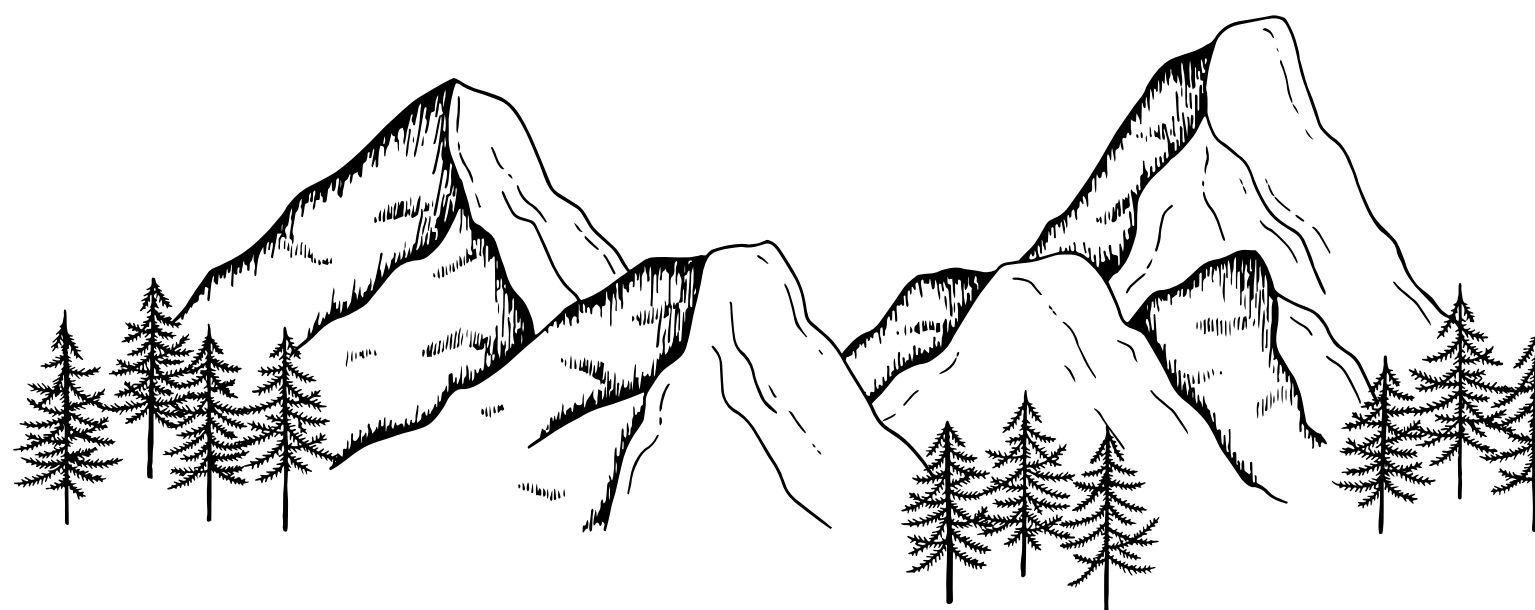
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# Tree Festival

Dalton-in-Furness embraced the festive spirit once again as St. Mary's Church hosted its annual Christmas Tree Festival in December. This much-loved event showcases over 40 beautifully decorated trees, each representing a different design and cause, and draws visitors from across the region to celebrate the season and support local charities.

Among the many creative displays this year was the contribution from the town council. The tree, themed "Purple Rain," stood out with vibrant decorations inspired by the iconic song, while also carrying a meaningful purpose. The council raised funds for Coniston Mountain Rescue, a vital volunteer organization that provides life-saving assistance to those in need across the Lake District. Coniston Mountain Rescue operates 24/7, 365 days a year, responding to emergencies ranging from injured hikers to lost climbers. The team's expertise and dedication ensure the safety of countless residents and visitors exploring the challenging terrains of the Lake District. Funding is crucial to support their operations, including maintaining equipment and providing training for their volunteers. The Christmas Tree Festival is open every weekend in December, offering a magical experience for all ages. Visitors can admire the stunning displays, enjoy festive refreshments, and learn about the inspiring causes supported by the event.

The town council thanks everyone who visited their "Purple Rain" tree and contributed to the fundraiser for Coniston Mountain Rescue. This year's tree raised £84.12



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# SLEEP-AT The STADIUM



On Saturday, 30th November, Dalton Deputy Mayor Councillor Ann Thurlow participated in the Forty Winks 4 Furness sponsored sleepout at Barrow AFC stadium. Alongside approximately 30 other participants, she spent the night outdoors to raise funds for the Furness Homeless Support Group. Reflecting on the event, Cllr Thurlow described the experience as profoundly humbling. "It really puts into perspective how fortunate many of us are," she said. "I'm incredibly proud to have joined this amazing group of people for such a vital cause."

Thanks to the generous support of family, friends, and the community, she successfully raised £421. "I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who donated and supported me," she added. The event raised awareness and funds for the Furness Homeless Support Group, which provides essential services to help individuals transition to permanent accommodation. Councillor Thurlow is hopeful the funds will make a meaningful difference to those in need.



Dalton Town Mayor, Cllr Neil McDougall, has once again rolled up his sleeves to support St. Mary's Hospice in their annual Christmas tree collection. This much-loved initiative helps residents recycle their trees responsibly while raising vital funds for hospice care.

Cllr McDougall, a dedicated volunteer for the event, spoke of his commitment: "It's a privilege to support St. Mary's Hospice, which does incredible work for our community. This event not only helps the environment but also makes a real difference to the lives of so many."

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# Carols at the Coro

The festive spirit was alive and well in Ulverston on Saturday, December 14th, as Deputy Mayor Cllr Ann Thurlow graced the annual 'Carols at the Coro' event with her presence. Held at the iconic Coronation Hall, this cherished community gathering brought together residents and visitors for an evening of music, celebration, and holiday cheer.

Organized by Ulverston Town Council, the event aimed to raise funds for the Mayor of Ulverston's charities. The Coronation Hall, affectionately known as the Coro, was transformed into a winter wonderland, adorned with twinkling lights and festive decorations that set the stage for an enchanting evening. The program featured a medley of traditional carols, seasonal classics, and modern holiday tunes performed by the talented Ulverston Town Band and local choirs. Highlights included renditions of "Silent Night" and "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," which had the audience joining in with gusto. Cllr Thurlow, a strong supporter of local events that foster community spirit, expressed her delight at being invited. "It's wonderful to see so many people coming together to celebrate the season in such a joyous and harmonious way," she said.

The evening also included a warm welcome from event organizers, who thanked the community for their continued support and acknowledged the contributions of volunteers who made the event possible. Attendees enjoyed mince pies and mulled wine during the intermission, adding to the convivial atmosphere.

'Carols at the Coro' has long been a staple of Ulverston's holiday calendar, drawing families and individuals from across the region. This year's event was no exception, with the hall filled to capacity as the audience came together to celebrate the true spirit of Christmas.

The success of 'Carols at the Coro' marks yet another memorable moment for Ulverston, a town known for its vibrant community events. As the holiday season continues, the event has set a high bar for celebrations to come, reminding everyone of the joy that comes from gathering together in song and goodwill.



Ulverston Deputy Mayor Cllr Shirley-Ann Wilson, Dalton Deputy Mayor Cllr Ann Thurlow, Barrow Mayor Cllr Judith McEwan and the Mayor's Consort, Cllr Bill McEwan

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# *Dalton with Newton Town Council*

## *2025 Council Meetings*

- Monday 6th January 7pm
- Monday 3rd March 7pm
- Tuesday 6th May 7pm (Annual Town Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Council)
- Monday 12th May 7pm
- Monday 7th July 7pm
- Monday 1st September 7pm
- Monday 3rd November 7pm

Members of the public are very welcome to attend the meetings and there is a public participation session if you would like to raise issues. If you require an immediate resolution please submit details of the subject to the Clerk 7 clear days prior to the meeting to allow Councillors to look into your query. Meetings are held in the Town Hall and access is at the rear of the building.

