



Millom War Memorial Centenary Commemoration 24 May 2025

On 24 May 2025, the town of Millom marked the 100th anniversary of its War Memorial, first unveiled on the same date in 1925. The special Remembrance Day Centenary ceremony, hosted by Millom Town Council, commemorated a century since the memorial was dedicated to honour the 213 local servicemen who lost their lives in the First World War.

The event drew dignitaries from across the region, including Mayor Cllr Thurlow and Cllr McDougall, who joined veterans, families, and members of the public in paying tribute. The ceremony took place at the memorial site on Station Road, where wreaths were laid and moments of reflection observed in memory of all those who have served and sacrificed over the past century.

First unveiled by Major-General Sir Louis Vaughan in 1925 and sculpted by Alec Miller, the Grade II listed memorial has stood as a central symbol of remembrance in Millom. The centenary service reaffirmed the community's ongoing respect and gratitude for those commemorated.

Spring Clean with the Mayor and Volunteers



Mayor Ann Thurlow and Deputy Mayor Bruce Solari recently rolled up their sleeves alongside WAF Councillor Dave Taylor and a dedicated team of local volunteers to help spruce up some of our town's most cherished spaces. The group spent the day clearing weeds from around the Castle Garden and carefully creating new wildflower patches to support local biodiversity.

Their efforts didn't stop there – the cobblestones at Market Place also got some much-needed attention, with volunteers meticulously de-weeding between the stones to help keep the area tidy and welcoming for residents and visitors alike.

A big thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy to this community effort. Your hard work is helping keep our town looking its best!

Springtime Planting and Bee-Friendly Boosts in Dalton

Mayor Ann Thurlow and Deputy Mayor Bruce Solari were recently out and about in Dalton, armed with trowels, towels, and trays of fresh plants to brighten up our public spaces. Together, they planted English Lavender and Nasturtium seeds in several key spots – including the Bee Garden, the mining carts, and the picnic area on Rusland Drive.

As part of our ongoing effort to support local biodiversity, a brand new Air Bee & Bee has also been installed in the Bee Garden to offer a safe haven for pollinators. This cozy bee hotel will help attract solitary bees and other vital insects that keep our ecosystem thriving.

If you live near any of our planters, we'd be incredibly grateful if you could give the plants a little water now and then – every drop helps them thrive!

Thank you to all who continue to support our town's green spaces and wildlife initiatives



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A Real Buzz at the Green Fair!

There was a real buzz at the Green Fair at Dalton Community Church, which was kindly opened by the Mayor of Dalton, Councillor Ann Thurlow. The event featured a fantastic variety of stalls that sparked plenty of interest from visitors of all ages. Delicious homemade cakes – thoughtfully made with LOAF (Local, Organic, Animal-friendly, Fairtrade) principles in mind – added a sweet touch to the day and encouraged great conversation around the tables.

All proceeds from the fair will be donated to environmental charities. A big thank you to everyone who took part, volunteered, or supported this wonderful community event!



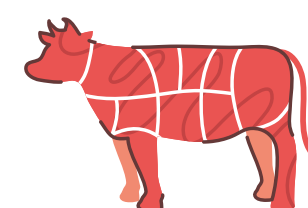
Deputy Mayor Opens New Roast Mutton Cumbrian Farm Shop

Deputy Mayor Councillor Bruce Solari was delighted to officially ‘cut the ribbon’ at the grand opening of the new Roast Mutton Cumbrian Farm Shop on Wednesday evening. Known for its award-winning meats, Roast Mutton prides itself on offering 100% locally sourced and ethically reared produce from small farms located within 10 miles of the shop. Alongside their renowned meat selection, the shop also stocks a fantastic variety of other locally sourced goods – making it a must-visit for anyone who values fresh, sustainable, and regional products.

You’ll find the new shop at Killerwick Grange, Askam Road, Dalton, LA15 8JU.

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10am–6pm. Closed Sunday and Monday.

Support local – and taste the difference!



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Honouring a Feathered War Hero: Tommy the Pigeon

Thanks to Cando FM, twelve new display boards have been installed along The Hags footpath, celebrating local WW2 hero Tommy the Pigeon—one of only 32 pigeons to receive the Dickin Medal, the animal equivalent of the Victoria Cross.

Tommy flew 400 miles from Nazi-occupied Netherlands to Dalton-in-Furness in 1942, carrying a coded Resistance message that helped the RAF destroy a German arms factory. Despite being shot through the wing, he completed the mission and survived.

Each board features a QR code linking to the full story. A fitting tribute to a remarkable creature whose bravery helped change the course of war.



Adopt a Planter 2025 – Growing Together for a Greener Town

In a bid to brighten the town and support biodiversity, Dalton Town Council launched the “Adopt a Planter 2025” initiative, offering nine planters across the town for adoption by local community groups and schools.

Each participating group was given a contribution towards the cost of planting and asked to fill their planter with pollinator-friendly plants, supporting bees, butterflies, and other vital species. Groups also took on the responsibility of watering and maintaining their planters throughout spring and summer, with WAF (Winter Action Force) stepping in to care for them over the winter months starting in October.

The initiative has been a resounding success—visibly improving public spaces, encouraging environmental awareness, and inspiring pride and ownership within the community. Plans are already in place to run the scheme again in 2026, giving even more groups the chance to get involved.

This vibrant, hands-on project not only adds colour and character to the town but also helps educate and engage young people and residents in sustainable, wildlife-friendly practices.



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Dalton Road Signs Shine Again Thanks to Local Councillor and Scout Group

Dalton Town Council is proud to share the efforts of a recent local initiative that has left our town looking noticeably cleaner and more welcoming. In June, Dalton South Councillor for Westmorland and Furness, Tony Callister teamed up with the Duddon 1st Scout Group to carry out a much-needed clean-up of road signs throughout Dalton.

This hands-on community project focused on restoring visibility and pride by removing layers of dirt, moss, and debris that had built up over time. Armed with brushes, buckets, and an admirable sense of civic duty, the group worked their way around key locations in Dalton, transforming grimy, unreadable signs into gleaming fixtures once again fit for purpose. Photos taken before and after the clean-up clearly show the difference made. In some areas, signs that were almost completely obscured are now clearly visible—improving both road safety and the appearance of the town.

Dalton Town Council extends heartfelt thanks to Councillor Callister and all the young people and leaders from the Duddon 1st Scout Group who gave up their time for this effort. Not only does this help maintain our public infrastructure, but it also sets a powerful example of active citizenship.

Dalton Town Council will continue supporting such community-driven projects, and we encourage residents to take pride in our shared spaces. If you have an idea or would like to get involved in future initiatives, please get in touch.



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Exciting Changes Underway at Goose Green

Work is well underway at Goose Green, transforming the once plain green patch into a vibrant, welcoming space for everyone to enjoy. As you can see from the latest pictures, the results are already looking fantastic—and there's much more to come! The redevelopment is being carried out by RD Landscapes of Dalton, and we're looking forward to sharing more updates with you in our next newsletter. Watch this space!



Willow Sheep Arrive at the Pinfold

A charming new addition has appeared in the Pinfold—beautiful willow sheep have been installed, adding a touch of creativity and character to this historic space. These handcrafted figures are already drawing smiles from passers-by and serve as a wonderful reminder of our rural heritage. Be sure to stop by and take a look!



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Civic Sunday Celebrated with Dignity and Pride



A spirit of unity and community pride filled the air on Sunday 6th July, as Mayor Cllr Fred Chatfield welcomed distinguished guests to his Civic Sunday celebrations. The event, marked by ceremony and camaraderie, brought together key figures from across the region for a day of civic pride.

Cllr Chatfield extended a warm welcome to the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, the High Sheriff, fellow Mayors, Councillors, and a host of family, friends, and invited guests, all gathered to mark the special occasion. Representing Dalton with Newton Town Council, Dalton Mayor Cllr Ann Thurlow attended the event, accompanied by Cllr Bailey Parrington. Their presence reflected the strong ties and mutual respect between neighbouring communities. The day was a meaningful reminder of the vital role civic leaders play in fostering cooperation and goodwill across local councils and beyond.

Tudor Square de-weeding team



The Town Council would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful group of volunteers who came forward to help clear the weeds from Tudor Square. Your hard work and community spirit have made a real difference, and it's inspiring to see people coming together to care for the place we all call home. Keeping our town looking its best takes teamwork, and we encourage more residents to get involved—together, we can all help make our town shine.

