

Lamplugh & District Sports Committee (L&DSC) Annual Summary of 2023

The Sports Committee organised a Sports Day and children's Christmas party during 2023.

Sports Day for 2023 was held on Sunday 25th June. The weather forecast for the day was not favourable, but despite this there was a fantastic turnout and 67 children registered for the events, including 6 visitors. The number of participants meant there were good group sizes across the pre-school, 5-7 yrs and 8-11yrs groups and this year also saw 2 competitors in both the boys and girls 12-15 yr categories. This was the largest event we have held for several years and made managing the event a challenge for the organisers.

This year also saw the re-opening of The Countryman public house (formerly the Lamplugh Tip). The sports field is adjacent to the pub and in previous years they allowed use of their facilities and everyone typically went over to the pub for food and refreshment at the end of the sports day. The Countryman were approached prior to the 2023 event and they agreed to support us and arranged for a barbeque and a bouncy castle for after the sports day, as well as a band to play in the outside area in the evening. This was a fantastic offer and, as such, the afternoon tea that the Sports Committee typically provide was reduced to refreshments and cakes.

Following a hotly contested Heros and Legends Fancy Dress competition the sporting events began. Sadly at that moment, so did the rain. This was the first rain we had seen for several weeks and remained persistent throughout the events. However, although a few children did drop away, the vast majority of children (and parents) stayed positive throughout the afternoon and did not let the rain dampen their competitive spirits. Due the persistence of the rain the events were concluded a little earlier than planned, with a slight shortening of the full events programme. The children retreated to the refreshments tent and within 5 minutes the rain had stopped and afternoon brightened significantly, thankfully allowing the awards ceremony to be conducted in the open-air.

The wind and rain sadly also impacted the planned events at The Countryman. The bouncy castle and band were cancelled, but the BBQ went ahead and a good contingent of the event participants retired to the warmth of the pub to enjoy some refreshments.

Special thanks go to Lamplugh Parish Council, and Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council for their continued support to the committee in holding this event. Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council Vice Chair Seve Parker kindly supported the award of trophies to the winners on the day and in presenting medals to the runners-up in each of the age-groups and all those who participated in the cross-country. The L&DSC very much appreciates the continued financial support from the Lamplugh and the Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Councils, with the grants awarded contributing towards the cost of the Sports Day, medals, insurance, trophy engraving and supporting equipment required to put on the event.

On Saturday, 2nd December, 40 children were welcomed to the L&DSC Christmas Party. The re-build of the Lamplugh Village Hall was completed earlier in the year, allowing the Christmas Party to return to the venue for this year's event. The new hall provided a great space for children and parents to enjoy the event. The children took part in traditional party games, lots of dancing and a special visit from Father Christmas. The L&DSC provided a

party tea and small gift for each child attending. Everyone had a fun time and we received some very positive comments from parents of children who attended.

The number of committee members increased to eight for 2023: James Ridehalgh (Chair) Mike Messenger (Treasurer) , Guy Murray (Secretary), Catherine Douglas, Margaret Whitfield Bott, James Thompson and Duncan Naven.

In order that the L&DSC can continue to organise events for local families we always welcome new volunteers to get involved, most urgently to help organise this year's Sports Day on Saturday 4th June. The L&DSC wishes to thank all the local community for their continued support for the events that we organise.