

# Friends of the Ullswater Way

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## PRESS RELEASE

### Understanding Ullswater Evening Talks 2019: Launch on 4<sup>th</sup> April

The Friends of the Ullswater Way (FOUW) has decided to launch an annual programme of evening talks entitled 'Understanding Ullswater'. They will take place on the first Thursday of each month, as well as two additional talks during Ullswater Walking Festival in September. The talks will be rotated between the Village Halls in Glenridding, Watermillock and Pooley Bridge.

The talks are designed to whet the appetite of both locals and visitors alike, giving a special insight into the extraordinary cultural and natural heritage of the valley.

The first talk to kick off the programme will be given by June Hill, the Chair of the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group who will speak about 'Traditional buildings in Cumbria'. She will be followed with talks later in the year on a diverse range of topics, including: local writers and poets; red squirrel ecology; photography; Lord Birkett – the saviour of Ullswater; and the challenges of managing Ullswater's uplands.

Tim Clarke, the Chair of the Friends of the Ullswater Way (FOUW), said: "We hope this first edition of Understanding Ullswater talks will bring to life aspects of the landscape and culture of Ullswater that will excite and enthuse all those who live within or visit the Ullswater Valley. There should be something for everyone."

**Full Talks Programme is attached.**

**Further information on the talks available from Tim Clarke, [timclarke01@gmail.com](mailto:timclarke01@gmail.com).**

Friends of the Ullswater Way Website [www.ullswaterway.co.uk](http://www.ullswaterway.co.uk)

Twitter: @Ullswater\_Way

#### **Background:**

FOUW was founded on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016. It originally arose as a Working Group of the 5 Parishes that surround Ullswater. A month ago FOUW submitted an application to the Charity Commissioners to register as a charity. Its objectives are:

- Promoting appreciation and understanding of the Culture, History and Heritage of the Ullswater Valley, for the benefit of local residents, tourists and both public and private organisations that have a role in the management of the Ullswater area.
- Awareness-raising and advocacy on issues relating to the health, security and safety of those using the Ullswater Way.
- Awareness-raising and advocacy on the need for smooth interconnectivity between all public and private transport facilities providing access to the Way; including trains, buses, cars, cycles and steamers
- Partnering and seeking close co-operation with local organisations that have a direct or indirect responsibility for the maintenance and functioning of the Way, notably the Parish Councils of the Ullswater Valley, The National Park Authority, the National Trust, the Ullswater Association, Eden District Council, Cumbria County Council, the Highways Authority, the Eden River Trust, local farmers, landowners and all other relevant organisations.

FOUW's first project has been the creation of the Ullswater Way Heritage Trail – a series of 10 installations along the Ullswater Way that highlight aspects of the cultural heritage of the valley. Over £20,000 was raised from a range of different funders to finance the installations, all made by local artists and craftspeople.