



Friends of the Ullswater Way

PRESS RELEASE

23rd January 2021

‘Understanding Ullswater’ Evening talk on 4th February 2021

FOUW is happy to announce that Jeff Cowton, Curator and Head of Learning at the Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere, will kick off the FOUW Understanding Ullswater Evening Talk Programme for 2021. It will take place on Thursday 4th February at 19.30 and will be given by ZOOM because of COVID restrictions. A draft programme for all the Talks is attached.

Jeff will talk on: **Wordsworth and Ullswater**

Jeff Cowton is Curator and Head of Learning at Wordsworth Grasmere, where he has led the reinterpretation of Dove Cottage and museum as part of the major NLHF project ‘Reimagining Wordsworth’. It is hoped that Wordsworth Grasmere will open fully in the Spring. The collection is focused on William and Dorothy Wordsworth, wider British Romanticism and the discovery of the Lake District by writers and artists from 1750 onwards.

In his talk Jeff, will highlight some of the many manuscripts, books and manuscripts which relate to Ullswater, taking the opportunity to show, for example, Dorothy’s journal in which she describes seeing the daffodils by the lake shore in 1802. In doing so, he hopes to stimulate a group visit to Wordsworth Grasmere later in the year, and individual visits to see items from the collection for further research and enjoyment. He welcomes comments and questions on the highlighted items as the talk progresses – it will be a discussion more than a talk!

Jeff started work at Dove Cottage as a trainee in 1981, becoming Curator in 1994. He was awarded an MBE in 2010 for his services to museums.

The poster for the event is attached.

Tim Clarke, the Chair of the Friends of the Ullswater Way which is hosting the event said: “We are enormously grateful to Jeff for agreeing to speak on this theme. The talk will illustrate Wordsworth’s close connection and love for Ullswater.”

Background: The Friends of the Ullswater Way was created in April 2016 and has been primarily focused since its inception on the creation of the Ullswater Way Heritage Trail (<http://www.ullswaterway.co.uk/heritage-trail.html>). It was granted Charitable status in 2019.

Further information is available from Tim Clarke, timclarke01@gmail.com



Understanding Ullswater Evening Talk

Wordsworth and Ullswater

by Jeff Cowton

Curator and Head of Education
Wordsworth Trust

**7.30 pm Thursday 4th February 2021
by ZOOM**



J.M.W. Turner Image of Ullswater c 1835

All welcome to join

Please email timclarke01@gmail.com to register for the talk.
We will then send you a ZOOM invitation.



Friends of the Ullswater Way (FOUW)

'Understanding Ullswater' Evening Talks 2021

Date	Time	Location	Theme	Speaker
February 4th	19.30	ZOOM	Wordsworth and Ullswater	Jeff Cowton Curator, Head of Learning, Wordsworth Trust
March 4th	19.30	ZOOM	The challenges of managing commonland in Ullswater	Dr Julia Aglionby Professor of Practice at University of Cumbria , Executive Director of the Foundation for <i>Common Land</i> .
April 8th	19.30	ZOOM	The Geology of Ullswater	John Rogers President Cumbria Geological Society
May 6th	19.30	ZOOM	The Lake was saved - the story of Lord Birkett and the Ullswater Preservation Society	Miles MacInnes Chair, Ullswater Preservation Society, Former Chair FOUW
June 10th	19.30	tbc	The English Lake District World Heritage Site and the National Trust	Jamie Lund Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Advisor, National Trust
July 1 st	18.00	tbc	Archaeology in the Ullswater Valley	Eleanor Kingston Archaeologist for the LDNPA
Aug 4th	14.00	Lowther Gardens	Guided tour of Lowther Castle Gardens	Martin Ogle Head Gardener Lowther Castle
Sept 2nd	19.30	tbc	All the fun of the follies: Lyulph's Tower and its context	Emeritus Prof Jane Taylor Durham University
Oct 7th	19.30	tbc	The Cumbrian Night Sky	Stuart Atkinson

Nov 4th	19.30	tbc	From Romans to Normans: the Lakeland Landscape	Geoff Cowell Senior Volunteer LDNPA
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All the talks will be FREE, but you are requested to make a voluntary contribution towards costs.

The choice of location will be made later depending upon the COVID regulations in force at the time