



# *Bringing our community together* Kin Hill January newsletter 2026

## GREETINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR!

The days are short – the nights cold, the fires lit, and we've been enjoying our brewer Josh's porter as well as a rare bit of Cumbrian sun. Hope you all had a happy New Year, Solstice, Christmas and whatever else you might celebrate to hold you through these winter months.

## WHAT'S COMING UP

Want to come join the winter wandering? Here's what's coming up:

**Community Day**  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan  
10 am – 4 pm

Join us for a day filled with nature, friends and food – tree planting, seed collecting, wassailing, and pizza making! The perfect start to the year!

**COMMUNITY CEILIDH**  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Come and share your love for dancing – bring a partner, a friend or meet new people from your community! All funds raised go to the conservation of Ancient woodland.

**Spoon Club**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month

For the carvers, whittlers, wood lovers and crafters, spend the day around the fire in company making the things you love.

Please contact us, for more information.



BOOK HERE

# WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?



## Autumn Community day

Apple pressing, bed making, scrumptious choffing, pizza scoffing, all the fun on volunteer day!!

Choff definition: informal and niche word meaning to eat frenetically



## Harvest time !

Isn't Thomas a handsome lad? Sadly, he's taken. As is the world's (or at least Kin Hill's) largest cabbage, which is long since in our bellies. Perhaps next year we can offer you some.

# WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?

## Spoon Club's...



### 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday!!



Marking one year since we started the infamous Spoon Club, we celebrated with cake, music from Spoon Club the band (named after the institution!!), and... a raffle! Entries were made by Kin Hill residents + Bill + Callum, with only one rule enforced: all raffle participants had to wear the ceremonial Whale hat.



# WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?

## Celebrating the seasons



Can you spot the ceremonial cabbage in the photos above? It's shrunk a lot in size from its previous incarnation. >.<

Above are some photos of our Autumn equinox celebration hosted by Anna. We have been marking the points in the year as a way to keep in touch with the wheel of the year as it turns and returns. Since our last newsletter, we have celebrated the Autumn Equinox, Samhain, Winter Solstice and Bonfire Night (see right).

The photo below is from our winter solstice celebrations – a Despacho made by Lulu. A Despacho is a ceremonial prayer bundle rooted in Q'ero Andean tradition.



# WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?

## GSD Wins



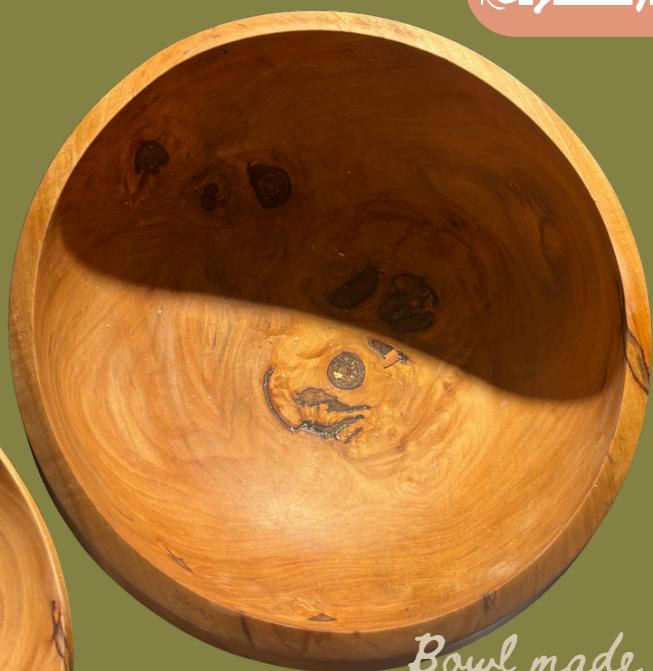
Every Tuesday, the residents of Kin Hill work on the land together, we call it GSD – Get!! Stuff!! Done!! Some wins this season have included Chloe finishing her herb spiral, never-ending track maintenance (potholes filled in in spring are already opening up in Autumn) and doubling up our swimming raft as a pond maintenance machine – thanks Byrd for the design and hitting two birds with one stone. (pun intended)

## Craft on the Hill

On the hill, we have many crafters; spoon carvers, basket weavers, photographers, singers, rag ruggers and more! Here's a spotlight on two dwellers – Anna and Lewis – enjoy!



*Bag made by Anna  
follow -  
[@yourparamore](https://www.instagram.com/@yourparamore)*



*Bowl made by Lewis  
follow -  
[@lbtroundthings](https://www.instagram.com/@lbtroundthings)*

*He put his first post on  
instagram for this newsletter!!*

# FRIENDS OF THE HILL SPOTLIGHT

## Sarah's Rag Rug's!



They say to use the influences around you. Naturally then the world that inhabits Sarah's rag rugs is filled with the forms of a digger, Cumbrian Loyalist cheese XL crisps, a friendly barn owl neighbour, the off-grid, topsy-turvy acid-dream house she and Will call home, and a romantic declaration of gratitude to those fluffy things we love so much on our feet, giving their last breath to be woven into her creations.

We hope you love her work as much as we do!

INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT HOW TO MAKE RAG RUGS? EMAIL SARAH ON:  
[info@cumberlandragrugs.co.uk](mailto:info@cumberlandragrugs.co.uk)



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