

FEBRUARY

at the
The Royal Oak
HOTEL

Borrowdale, Keswick

THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE

We all know what amazing work this team of volunteers provides with their wide range of skills and willingness to go out in hostile conditions to help others. I came across a humorous poem by the legendary Pam Ayres, but on a more serious note, some people ignore warning signs and wear inappropriate clothing or have no provisions with them on the mountains and fells and end up having to be rescued. Enjoy:

Call out the Mountain Rescue!

I came up for a lark,
But the night is getting chilly,
And the fells are getting dark,
My shoe's lost its stiletto heel,
My frock is feeling thin,

Call the Mountain Rescue and let's get taken in.

Call out the Mountain Rescue!

To search the hills and vales,
Swathed in ropes and cables,
Like a team of Chippendales,
Release the search and rescue dogs!
They'll find me by my smell,
I ate a Kendal Mint Cake,
And I'm wearing my Chanel.

Call the Mountain Rescue!

I am stranded on a crag,
My hairstyle's badly damaged,
And I snapped my shoulder bag,
I'm utterly exhausted,
Cannot move another inch,
So hail the helicopter!
I am ready for the winch.



THE BOWDER STONE

This 2,000-ton stone, towering 30 feet high and stretching 50 feet across, appears to rest in a delicate balance. As the glacier that once nearly filled Borrowdale retreated, this local rock toppled into its current position. While the precise age of the rock fall remains uncertain, experts estimate it occurred around eighteen thousand years ago.

The founders of the National Trust envisioned preserving places of beauty and historic significance as memorials to those who had passed away. Following this vision, Grange Fell was purchased, including the Bowder Stone and a memorial to King Edward VII was placed on the fell.

Today, the Bowder Stone is a well-known destination for rock climbers, as is the nearby Bowder Stone Crag. Bouldering, or climbing without ropes, is popular here, with climbers sometimes using mattresses to cushion falls while attempting the overhang.

To visit, travel from the National Trust car park (Satnav CA12 5XA) on the Keswick to Borrowdale Road near Grange, it's a short level walk to the stone or simply just walk from the hotel. The 78 Borrowdale bus from Keswick also stops near the path's entrance. A ladder allows you to climb to the top of the Bowder Stone.



'MAD AS A MARCH' HARE DEAL



Stay with us, dine with us and enjoy our "Mad As A March Hare Deal"

Indulge in delicious dining and experience unforgettable hospitality.

Get toasty by the log fire, indulge in a three-course gourmet meal and after a dreamy night's sleep in one of our characterful rooms enjoy a hearty Cumbrian breakfast.

But that's not all! We have complimentary treats on offer, including a welcome drink, G&T, or a pint of Local Ale, freshly baked scones every afternoon, and unlimited all-day tea and coffee. How good is that?

All this for just £158 per couple per night in February and March (March weekends £168 per night) in a standard double room when booked directly with the hotel.

Don't miss out on our "Hare Raising Deal"



GUIDED WALKS FROM THE ROYAL OAK

To make sure you make the most out of your time on the fells, consider booking a guided walk with Muddy Boots. They offer guided walks tailored to you, whether you want a challenging hike into the high hills or a gentle introduction to the area. All of their guided walks are led by Muddy Boots' co-founder, Matt, a qualified Mountain Leader.

Matt will plan the route to fit in with your requirements for distance, difficulty and location and with your interests (and can even set off right from the door of the hotel!). A guided walk can give you a really good introduction to the history geology of the Lake District, as well as take in some of the most beautiful scenery the Lake District has to offer!

Costs vary depending on specific details but guide prices are £120 for a half-day walk (up to 3 hours), or £150 for a longer walk up to 6 hours. Have a look at the Muddy Boots Walking Holidays website for full details about their guided walks and to get in touch to plan a great day out in the Lakes!

www.muddybootswalkingholidays.com/private-guided-walks

Muddy
Boots
WALKING
HOLIDAYS

HALF TERM AT THE ROYAL OAK

There are lots of reasons to visit the Royal Oak this February half term, not only are our breakfast and evening dinner breaks heavily discounted, many of the popular attractions are also still open. Travel and food are a way of bringing families together. Go to Visit Keswick for ideas and opening times. www.keswick.org

Whinlatter Forest is England's only true mountain forest and boasts dynamic views and unique landscapes and is the home to the new GO APE attraction, families can enjoy high ropes treetop adventures and there are also advanced activities for those looking for something a little trickier with challenging obstacles, high platforms and longer zip wires.

There are Still spaces left, so don't forget to book online before you travel. www.goape.co.uk

Honister Mine is another great day out for the adventurous or not so adventurous depending on which routes you choose to take, take your pick from the Via Ferrata, Climb the Mine or just enjoy an informative Mine Tour. Honister has a variety of action-packed adventures that will give you a day to remember but don't forget to book online. www.honister.com

Spend a day at the Lake District Wildlife Park and see over 100 species of wild and domestic animals in 24 acres of parkland set amongst breathtaking scenery. Find birds of prey and a rare breed farm animal collection, play areas and a café, making it a fun day out for all the family.

