

Lake District

**COVER-UPS &
SECRETS**

YOU NEED TO KNOW



Boot's Beckside Boggle

EYEFIGHT

**Lake District
COVER-UPS &
SECRETS
YOU NEED TO KNOW**

The village of Boot in Eskdale is perfectly positioned as a starting point for many walks and is certainly very pretty but it has a dark side... and the true tale of the "Beckside Boggle". Almost all locals know of the tale, and some are related to those involved. As the saying goes: "the names have been changed here to protect the innocent".

One stormy evening, young farmer's wife Alice was left on her own by her husband as he went about business in Whitehaven. She opened the door to a strange old woman dressed in heavy shawls and a cloak.

The stranger was made welcome and fed... then dozed off in a chair as Alice went about making tallow candles. The cloak slipped, revealing the old woman to be a hideously deformed man carrying a large knife.

In her panic, Alice grabbed the boiling pan of tallow fat and poured it over his face, burning him terribly and chocking him to death. When her husband returned, they buried the body, telling no-one of its true location.

The Beckside Boggle has haunted this part of Eskdale ever since and is by all accounts, not a pretty sight.

The current proprietor of the Boot village post office has first hand experience of the Beckside Boggle and will share his chilling experience with you upon request.

The exact location of Alice and her husband's farm is Miterdale Head Farm, a short walk away. The farm is now a ruin – nobody would buy the property upon the death of Alice and her husband.

Who can blame them?





Mary Bragg Of Muncaster

EYEFIGHT

**Lake District
COVER-UPS &
SECRETS
YOU NEED TO KNOW**



If it's ghosts you're looking for, the place to go is Muncaster Castle - officially the most haunted place in Britain.

One of their ghosts is said to be Mary Bragg, a local girl who was in love with a footman at the castle.

In 1805, she was lured there under false pretences by the housekeeper, who was in love with the same footman. She falsely claimed that the footman was "dangerously ill" and Mary should rush to his bedside without delay.

The housekeeper hired a hitman to pretend to be a coachman and sent him to fetch Mary... He shot her in the face at Chase Corner a few hundred yards away, then buried the horribly mutilated body at Hirst Plantation, nearby.

As if that wasn't enough, when suspicions were aroused, he dug Mary up from her shallow grave and dumped the body in the river Esk where it was discovered a few weeks later.

The inquest into Mary's death was told it was eels that had caused the terrible damage to her face and so could not be certain that the true cause of death was in fact the hitman's gun-shot wound.

For a while, it appeared as if the hitman had got away with murder but he was eventually hanged for being a highwayman. The poor footman is said to have gone mad with grief, and as for the housekeeper... the real architect of the murder?

Nobody knows.



Margaret Hogg

EYEFIGHT

**Lake District
COVER-UPS &
SECRETS**
YOU NEED TO KNOW

Wastwater has its own tragic "Lady Of The Lake".

In a tale of betrayal, divorce and intrigue, airline pilot Peter Hogg strangled his 19-years younger, and unfaithful wife Margaret in October 1976.

He drove all the way up from Surrey and dumped her body in Wastwater wrapped in carpet and tied to a lump of concrete.

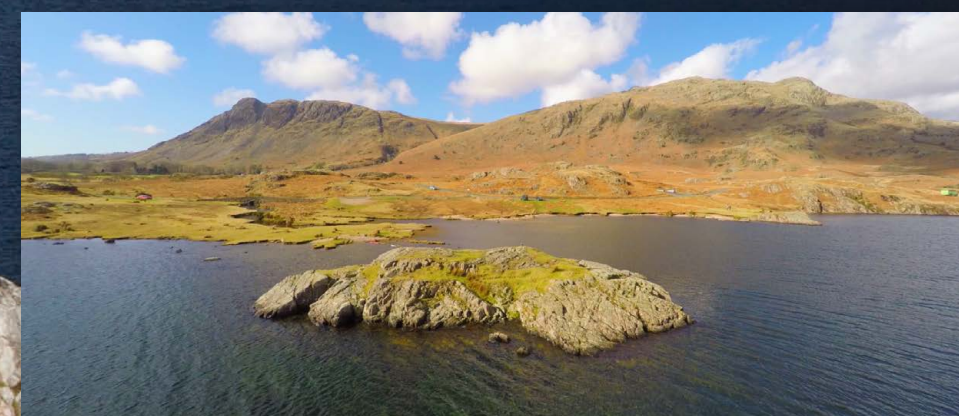
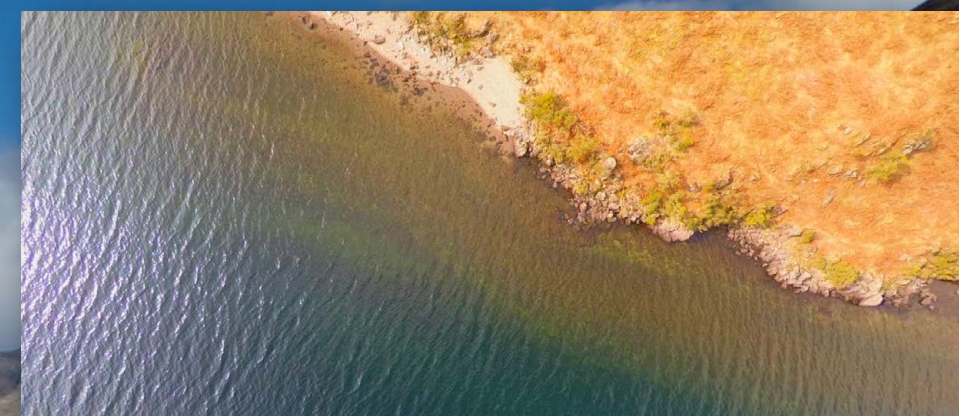
In 1984, police were hunting for the body of French student Veronique Mireille Marre but accidentally found Margaret's body, still wrapped in carpet and gruesomely preserved by the deep lake's lack of oxygen. She and her husband were identified from the wedding ring the corpse still wore.

Veronique Marre's body was eventually found nearby on the scree, likely the victim of a hiking fall.

Peter Hogg was convicted of manslaughter, not murder - the jury took into account Margaret's blatant, persistent flaunting of her extramarital affair.

The defending QC at the Old Bailey trial stated "The law recognises that within every human being lies the fires of emotion and you can provoke a human being just so far."

Surprisingly, this was not Peter Hogg's first brush with fame. He made headlines in 1974 by bringing stranded holiday-makers back from Canada, following the collapse of the Court Line airline.





Coniston UFO Sightings

EYEFLIGHT

Lake District
**COVER-UPS &
SECRETS**
YOU NEED TO KNOW



In February 1954, schoolboy Stephen Darbishire photographed a UFO hovering over Coniston village. The photos became known worldwide in the midst of growing UFO fever. This was the first such sighting in the U.K.

The original photos were stolen shortly after they were taken.

Although Stephen later admitted it was a hoax, some close friends and family believe he only did so under intense pressure from the authorities. At the time, Stephen was even interviewed by Prince Philip's personal secretary.

At a time of near-hysteria about UFOs in the United States following "Roswell", and the growing paranoia at the start of the "cold war", authorities were less than subtle in their efforts to squash any rumour or scare-mongering.

Stephen still lives in the Lake District and is now a successful artist, known amongst other things, for his firm reluctance to discuss the 1954 incident.

It is now unlikely that the real truth be known.



Lost Villages Of Mardale

EYEFLIGHT

Lake District
**COVER-UPS &
SECRETS**
YOU NEED TO KNOW

“The Kings Of Mardale” was the nickname of the Holme family who fled to this region following a failed conspiracy against King John in 1202. They made their home in the village of Mardale Green where they stayed for the next 700 years, the last member of the family, Mary, died in 1915.

But don't try and find the village on a map. It's right in the centre of the lake – 29 meters under water.

In 1929, when the Manchester Corporation flooded the Mardale valley and extended Haweswater to make another reservoir for Manchester, two entire villages, Mardale Green and Measand were lost beneath the waves.

Stones from Mardale Green church were even used to build the dam which was not a popular move. Bodies were exhumed from the churchyard and re-buried nearby at Shap.

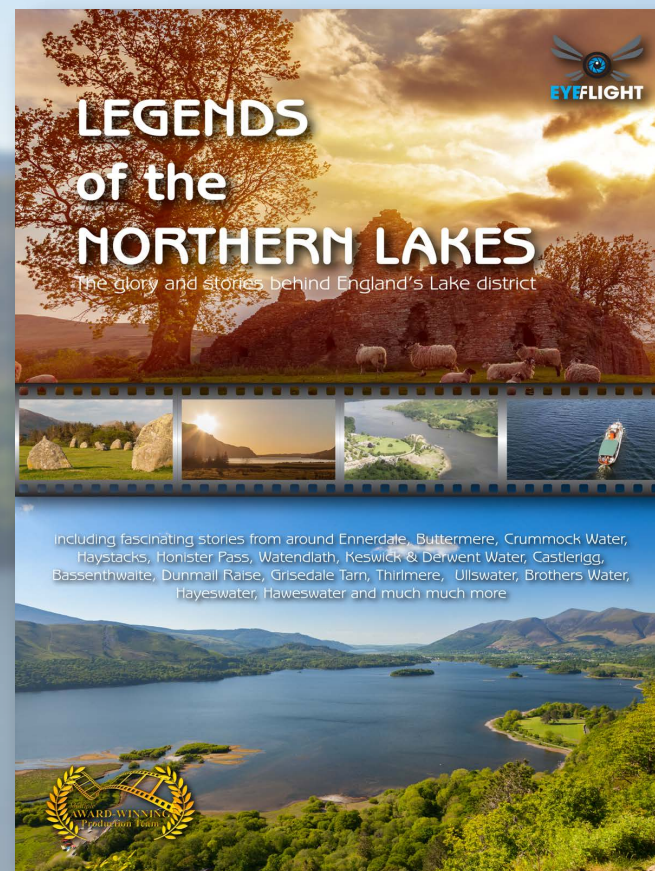
The water level was raised by around 29 meters, adding 2km to the length of the lake but even so, in particularly dry summers when the water level is low, Mardale Green can still be seen, poking it's head above the surface.

Mardale was considered to be one of the most picturesque valleys in Westmoreland and many thought it should be left alone.

Alfred Wainwright had this to say about it:

“If we can accept as absolutely necessary the conversion of Haweswater to a reservoir, then it must be conceded that Manchester have done the job as unobtrusively as possible. Mardale is still a noble valley. But man works with such clumsy hands! Gone for ever are the quiet wooded bays and shingly shores that nature had fashioned so sweetly in the Haweswater of old; how aggressively ugly is the tidemark of the new Haweswater!”

If you enjoyed reading our collection of Cover-ups & Secrets, you'll love our films containing these and many many more true stories, with never-before-possible footage



click on
images!



Available now on DVD & BluRay at
www.eyeflightfilms.co.uk



Grab your copy now.
Click **HERE** or
on the image above

Discover why over 15 million
visitors every year are hooked.