

Coniston and Crake Valley News



Coniston
& Crake
Churches

March 2023 www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

The Coniston and Crake Valley Benefice

"To Grow, Witness and Love Like Jesus"

Serving the parishes of Colton, Coniston and Torver, Egton cum Newland and Lowick with Blawith

Revd Brian Streeter	vicar@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk	01229 861668
The Vicarage, Penny Bridge. LA12 7RQ	<i>Brian works for Filling Station on Thursday</i> <i>Brian's rest day is Friday</i>	07505 048736

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To contact any of the Churchwardens, pastoral team, retired clergy or lay ministers please call or email the Administrator, Juliet.
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Churches in Coniston and the Crake Valley

St Andrew's Church, Coniston LA21 8EN

St Luke's Church, Torver LA21 8AZ

St Luke's Church, Lowick LA12 8EE

Holy Trinity Church, Colton LA12 8HF

Church of St Mary the Virgin, Penny Bridge LA12 7RQ

Tottlebank Baptist Church, Colton LA12 8HY

Welcomes you to our Sunday services from 10.30 to 11.30am followed by refreshments, and midweek prayer meetings on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. The church building is usually open daily 10am – 4pm for visitors and for private prayer. Our moderator is Rev. Andrew Dodd. For further information contact Chris and Margaret Hamps, hampsc@outlook.com

Coniston Methodist Church, Coniston LA21 8ER

The Sunday morning service is at 11.00am and a warm welcome awaits you. For further information contact Joyce Holland on **015394 41594**.

St Francis of Assisi Church of the Sacred Heart, Coniston LA21 8AW

Mass is held on Thursdays at 10.00am and Saturdays at 5.00pm. For further information contact Father Matthew Jacob on **01229 779673**.

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Pastoral Letter from Revd Brian Streeter

SACRIFICE

As we enter the month of March, so we also enter the new season of Spring. But this new season has also brought with it talk in the war in Ukraine of Spring offensives, of renewed attacks, and of greater conflict to come. And with this greater conflict also comes the greater awareness of ever greater sacrifices – of lives, of homes, and of a peaceful way of life.

For the Ukrainians the invasion by Russian forces on February 24th 2022 has meant in the last year a great deal of sacrifices. These sacrifices, the high cost in lives and of homes, have been made with the belief in freedom for their homeland and freedom for their way of life. This is the choice that Ukrainians have had to make each day of the war. Likewise, when a couple choose to have a child, they are also making a significant choice that will affect each day of their lives, especially in the early years. A couple has to choose each day to pour an enormous amount of love into their child's life, and this sacrifice is before considering the material cost or the time dedicated to focusing on the needs of that child. The role of a parent is one of continual sacrifice.

In this month of March we are also according to the Christian calendar in the time of Lent. This period is often associated with giving up something or sometimes with taking up a challenge or offer of service – both of these, giving up or taking up, require sacrifice; sacrifice is a necessary part of Christian discipline during Lent. But as many will also know, Lent is also the period of preparation before Easter when we think of the sacrifice that Jesus made for each one of us on the Cross; again sacrifice is a necessary part of Easter. The question that we should be asking ourselves is, that given the enormous pain and costs of these sacrifices – why do we make these sacrifices?

Well, for the Ukrainians the sacrifice means the difference between living their lives in freedom and their children living lives of freedom, or living under the whims of a brutal neighbouring country. It means the difference of having their own identity and customs, or having their identity, customs and even their history obliterated. For a couple the sacrifice of parenthood means a much-loved child who has the best opportunity to fulfil their potential, and hopefully form their own family and secure their own future happiness.

For Jesus the sacrifice of the Cross meant that we – you and I – would no longer have to bear the guilt of being less than perfect, of falling short of being truly human and truly good – not our own version of good. In turn, we – you and I – would no longer bear the punishment for our guilt – death, separation from God and each other. Like the Ukrainians, like every parent, this was a sacrifice that Jesus considered was worth making for us – you and me.

Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Church Services for March 2023

5th	Second Sunday of Lent		
St. Luke Torver	9.30am	Winter Breakfast	Linda Inman
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Morning Worship	Richard Wood
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Harry Welch
12th	Third Sunday of Lent		
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Morning Worship	Donald Wroe
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Morning Worship	Pamela Hull
19th	Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday		
St. Luke, Torver	9.00am	Morning Worship	Pamela Hull
Holy Trinity, Colton	10.00am	Morning Worship	Pam Priestley
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Brian Streeter & Coniston CE Primary School
26th	Fifth Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday		
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Methodist Service	Rev David Jackson
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Joanna Henson
St. Luke Torver	7.00pm	Torver Junction	Rev Brian Streeter

Mothering Sunday at Colton Church

Do join us to celebrate Mothering Sunday on **Sunday 19th March** at 10.00am in Colton church. This will be an 'all age' service with singing and story, craft for children, the giving of flowers, simple liturgy and a time of quiet and reflection when we remember and give thanks for mothers who have died.

Celebrate with coffee and cakes after the service. All ages are very welcome!

From the Registers

Baptism:

February 12th: Arthur Knipe Page at St Luke's, Lowick

Funeral:

February 17th: Elizabeth (Betty) Stebbens at St Mary's, Penny Bridge

Interment of Ashes:

February 18th: Alice Elizabeth Georgina Whittaker

May Woodworth at St Andrew's, Coniston

March 30th: Joyce Fell & Clifford Fell at St Andrew's, Coniston

Around the Parishes

Coniston and Torver

Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston, January 2022

Total: 472.7mm (18.6")

Wet days: 23; more than 1mm on 22.

Wettest day: 10th: 75mm (3.0")

Frost on the 2nd, 18th, 19th, 25th, 26th.

Snow on the 18th.

Coniston Community Lunch

Please note the change of date for this month's lunch to **Monday 14th March** at the same time, 12.30pm in the Institute Reading Room.

All ages are welcome to join us, so why not come along and enjoy a warm and hearty two course meal in the company of friends.

As usual the lunch is free, however any donations towards the cost will be gratefully received.

As space is limited please confirm your attendance by the Friday before the lunch and let us know if you have any dietary requirements or transport needs.

Also if you can offer any help on the day or donate something for the meal please get in touch with **Helen** on: **015394 41277** or email **e.glaister013@btinternet.com**



Winter Warmth - Coniston Institute

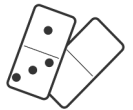
It is worth noting that the Institute library is open all day Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It is warm and there can be no shame in entering. There are some chairs and there could be more.

Lunch and Dominoes

in the Institute Reading Room, 1st March, 12.30pm

Come and join us for soup/roll and tea/coffee, followed by dominoes, all for £5.00.

Contact **Jean** on **015394 41617** for more details and bookings.



World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. This year the service is prepared by the women of Taiwan, with the theme "I have heard about your faith"



The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries.

We will be taking part in this in Coniston, with a service at **St Andrew's** on **Friday March 3rd at 2pm**, followed by refreshments.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us, including men!



CONISTON
INSTITUTE
PRESENTS

HOLLY & THE REIVERS

'brilliant musical storytellers the Reivers - a
class act from start to finish' - Nancy Kerr

Coniston Institute
Saturday 18th March
Tickets £12 online from
conistoninstitute.uk
Box office 07789591619
Doors 7:00pm, Cabaret Style BYOB.

Coniston Medical Practice information

As you might have heard there are currently Europe-wide availability issues regarding certain medications. This affects high street chemists and dispensaries at doctor's surgeries. Our dispensers work extremely hard to obtain medications required or source suitable alternatives after discussing individual requirements with the doctors. So please, ideally give us a few days' notice when you require your repeat prescriptions. Your help is much appreciated.

We just wanted to let everybody know that the Parish Council supported food pantry, operating in the back of St Andrew's Church as a central location in the village, is now up and running. Opening times of the church are between 9am and 5pm. Anybody who has excess food they can't use (dried food, tins, packets, fresh if packaged with use by date (not frozen items at the moment)), can bring them and can also take home other items that might come in handy. It can work as a food exchange place or you can just bring or take items.

PPG Coniston Medical Practice

41st Annual Coniston 14 Race.

The 41st Coniston 14 race will take place on **Saturday 25th March**. A road closure to protect the safety of the runners will operate between Coniston and High Ground in both directions from 10.50 until 11.20. There will also be a closure on Lake Road to coincide with the return of the majority of runners between 12.15 and 14.00.



Our Race attracts many types of runners; those wanting to keep fit, to train for marathons, to raise money for their chosen charities, to compete against friends or improve their personal best times. So far we have about 1000 runners booked onto the race. The energetic BLAST Furness band will again give the runners a rousing welcome back to the finish at John Ruskin School and our local MP, Tim Farron, who has completed the race on several occasions, will give out the prizes.

We are always pleased to have extra marshals to help. Please contact the race director, **Janette Braithwaite**: janettemaude@hotmail.com if you wish to volunteer.

Each year the Coniston 14 Committee makes donations to support the work of about 30 local organisations, charities and clubs. Those interested in applying for funds should send letters to Geoff Cooper, Moorlands, Coniston LA21 8HB by the closing date of 15th April, 2023. A presentation evening will be held in June.

Coniston Bowling Club

Coniston Bowling Club is looking to encourage new people to take up bowling this year regardless of their age or bowling experience. If you are interested please contact **John Darragh**.

Tel: **015394 41564** or **07854 274086**

Coniston Honest Shop - opposite the Fire Station

Please join us for a drink on 11th March between 10.00am and 3.00pm to celebrate the newly refurbished Honest Shop.

This is an amazing space where local creative people share their passion and sell their crafts.

We would love you to come along and be inspired to join the existing group of sellers with your own creations. We are always looking for new talent.

The variety of goods ranges from baked/frozen food to jewellery and knitting. The space is yours to develop and give your income a boost or, as one small group have done, raise funds for charity.; in this case £1,000 was raised for Coniston Mountain Rescue from April to November 2022 being creative with 'Pom-Poms'. If it's legal and locally made we can probably sell it.

Easier than selling online, with no emails, postage and packaging and the possibility the recipient doesn't like the product. All for 25% commission which itself goes to the Institute charity! All you do is put your crafts in the shop with your unique code on and collect your cash monthly from the Museum.

The shop is open daily from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

For more information contact **Dave** or **Jean** on **015394 41319**.

Easter holiday club - save the date!

On the mornings of Tuesday 4th & Wednesday 5th April, Christians Together in Coniston will be running a club for primary-age children, including games, stories, activities and of course, lots of fun! More information will follow, but for now, save the date - and if you'd like to receive more information direct to you, do drop Chris Clark a line via the details below.

Listening to views in Coniston

In the next few weeks, Chris Clark, Coniston's Children, Youth and Community Worker, will start to walk around every house in Coniston and surrounding area, to ask how people are feeling about village life and whether they think there is anything the community needs. He will be accompanied by one or two village locals and will be carrying identification! His picture is also below. He very much looks forward to meeting you and to hearing what you have to say.



Chris can be contacted at:
conistoncommunityworker@gmail.com or
07594 775046



Coniston Sports and Social Centre

Thank you to all who attended our 80's disco with DJ Smiler last month it was a great night, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves whilst dancing to the classics. We hope to see you all and some new faces at our next events (further details will be available on our Facebook page and on posters around Coniston)

March Events – get the dates in your diaries

17th March (Friday) - St Patrick's Day Celebrations – Holborn Hillbillies Band playing from 8pm til late.

18th March (Saturday) – FA CUP Quarter-finals will be shown on our screens

Plus Sky and BT Sports fixtures shown on our screens during opening hours (currently Friday: open from 4pm, Saturday : from 12pm and Sunday from 1pm)

Regular Groups.

Youth Club Drop in Mondays 6pm - 9pm for Years 7 upwards (under 18's)

Coniston Parent and Toddler/Baby Group meet every Wednesday (term time only) 9.30am - 11.30am: £1.50 includes drinks and snack, Health Visitor also attends once a month.

Young at Heart Exercise Group (senior exercise class) Every Thursday 11am - 1pm, includes lunch, £5.

If you'd like to book our facilities or have any other enquiries please do get in touch.

Tel: **015394 41812**, email: **Conistonsports@gmail.com**

Thank you, **Becca Myers**, Club Secretary

Coniston Grass Courts Tennis Club

The grass tennis courts in Coniston have been in existence since the 1900's for the enjoyment of villagers and visitors. Funds to keep these courts viable have been raised by membership fees, kind donations from local charities and fundraising by the club. The courts are now in excellent condition after major refurbishments took place recently.

Membership fees are £20 per year for single membership, £35 for family membership (2 adults 2 children) and £8 per hour per court for non-members and visitors. Membership entitles you to play anytime as you are issued with your own key. Club nights are Wednesdays and Fridays 4 - 6pm. We believe this is excellent value for families, friends and those who enjoy tennis.

If you or anyone you know would like to join this small friendly club then please get in touch with **Nina Cameron** on **015394 41552** or email **cameronfamily@hotmail.com** We look forward to welcoming new members (all abilities are most welcome) as the new season will start (weather permitting) in April.



Egton cum Newland

Greenodd and Penny Bridge Village Hall

Annual General Meeting
To be held 18th April at 7.30pm
In Greenodd Village Hall.

All welcome to attend,
new members are NEEDED to keep the hall running
and will be made welcome.

Coffee Morning - Saturday 1st April - Greenodd Village Hall

Come and join us on April Fools' Day between 10am and noon for a fantastic morning with friends. Lots of lovely stalls, raffle, cakes, tombola, bric-a-brac and nearly new; also Albert with his selection of wooden items. Good company, warmth and lots of things to buy. Entrance £2 to include refreshments.

Jean and friends

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



Children in Distress (5p collection and other donations!)

Could I please express my thanks to everyone who contributed to the annual collection which this year has totalled £320. Once again, through your generosity we are able to provide sponsorship for twelve months for two children at St Margaret's Hospice in Bucharest, through the charity Children in Distress.



We continue to support Robert and are now also supporting Marius, who is six years old and arrived at St Margaret's last September.

Alexandru who we previously sponsored has left the care of St Margaret's and has moved into the care of the local authority.

Once again, many thanks for your donations.

Caroline Lambert

Penny Bridge CE Academy

Let your light shine!

A Review from the School Council

These are the highlights from the last month, in addition to all the other lessons and activities that happen in our busy school!

The Ospreys (9-11 year olds) had an amazing three day residential at the Water Park Adventure Centre, Coniston. They took part in a range of activities such as canoeing, high-ropes, kayaking, gill scrambling and fell walking. The purpose of the trip was not only to take part in a range of outdoor activities, but also to have a greater appreciation of our fantastic locality.

The Kingfishers (7-9 year olds) are starting to practice for their Easter production of Treasure Island and have enjoyed making Roman shields as part of their history topic.

The Starlings (5-7 year olds) are busy practising a cowboy dance for a dance show at Ulverston Victoria High School and a gymnastic routine for a local competition against other schools.

The Robins (4-5 year olds) are enjoying their topic on fairy tales and have been loving baking and eating gingerbread men, yum!



ENMO Parish Council

The next ENMO (Egton with Newland, Mansriggs & Osmotherley) Parish Council meeting is on Tuesday **7th March 2023** at 7pm, Greenodd Village Hall. All members of the public are welcome.



Crake Valley Friendship Club

The Crake Valley Friendship Club is having one of their coach trips on the **15th March**. This time the destination is a visit to Boundary Mill, Colne. There are a few spare seats:

for enquiries, please contact **Anne** on **01229 861278** or **Cath** on **01229 587608**

Lowick & Blawith

Lowick Parish Council

Our January meeting was held on Thursday 19th, it was lovely to see members of the Community Hall committee turning out on such a chilly night.

We discussed the opportunity for the Hall to tap into some funds available via the 'Storm Arwen' grant provided by Electricity North West. To aid community resilience and make the Hall a plausible 'hub' in any emergency they are going to apply for storage batteries for the existing solar panels alongside an external socket so that a generator could be 'hooked-up'. The batteries would aim to provide power in the Hall for 48 hours, allowing the public to come and charge phones and other devices - we realise that communication is key in these times, and maybe have a hot drink, among other things.

After 48 hours hopefully a generator would be provided giving us longer use of the Hall for the community.

The PC are looking to create a Community Emergency Plan, for eventualities like Storm Arwen and prolonged power outages. If anyone has any thoughts about what should be included and any ideas of how we might be resilient in these times please do contact the Clerk or speak with any of your Councillors.

If we did use the Hall as a hub, what provision do you think would be useful? Join us at the next meeting to discuss this further.

Other topics discussed involved the flooding on the A5092, particularly near Woodgate. The PC are going to raise this matter with County Council as well as asking our Lengthsman if he has any contacts or advice on what we can do.

Unfortunately Lengthsmen are not allowed to tackle any jobs on A roads however please remember to contact our Clerk should you have any jobs that need attention.

Full minutes from all our meetings can be found on our website along with lots of useful information about our Parish and beyond **www.lowick.org.uk**

Contact the PC via our Clerk: **lowickpc@outlook.com**

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 16th March, 7:30pm in Lowick Community Hall - ALL WELCOME!

Joanna Edmondson
Chairman

Lowick Show Bingo Night

It was a 'Full House' at our Bingo event on the 4th February.

What an amazing turn out, we were overwhelmed with the support, people came from far and wide!

Thanks go to...

Sipping Fox, The Lake District Drinks Company Wendy Keegan
Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway P.D Hutchinson Mole Valley Farmers

And many other individuals for their generous donations towards our prizes.

Thanks also go to our fantastic committee, with whom events like this just wouldn't be possible.

And lastly, thanks go to all that attended. Your generosity raised over £1,500 for the Show, truly amazing.

Lowick Show Home Produce Committee

Colton

Colton Parish Council News

Our last parish council meeting included a presentation given by Sharma Jencitis from United Utilities who provided an update on Windermere, the current environmental context including climate change challenges and the investments being made in improving water quality. As many will know the Love Windermere project was launched in July 2022. This is the biggest ever co-operation of sectors to tackle challenges in the lake. The partnership is developing a science-based plan to set out a road map for environmental protection that could be replicated across the UK. The possibility for Coniston Water to become a designated bathing water site was also discussed which would provide additional safeguards. The parish council will continue to support all initiatives to improve water quality including reviewing planning applications in terms of suitable water treatment solutions.

The number and severity of highway related repair issues was also discussed. The council intends to request a meeting with highways to discuss a more joined up and effective approach.

The Colton Parish Link, which we know is a valuable communication method for the parish, is to be updated to allow for easier creation and circulation of local information. We do not expect any disruption whilst undertaking this changeover so please continue to supply information as before on local events or news.

The next parish council meeting will take place on **Monday 20th March 2023** at 7pm at Oxen Park Reading Room.

Reports

Hawkshead Show

Hawkshead Agricultural Society is intending to put on a show this year on Tuesday 22nd August at Hawkshead Hall Farm. The Society is looking for helpers both before and during the event. For further information, please contact the Chairman **Andrew Wilson** on **015394 36166**.

Bell ringing at Hawkshead for the Coronation

On Coronation Day next May, bells in churches all over the country – over 5000 of them – will be rung in celebration. Hawkshead's bellringers are hoping to join in. But to do so we need more bellringers. We are looking for people in the local area who might be interested.

It's enjoyable, mildly energetic and doesn't require much strength, or musical ability - just the ability to raise one's arms above one's head regularly. [Some in Hawkshead remember Mary Whalley who could not have weighed more than 7 stone. She rang our bells well into her eighties].

Our practices are on Wednesdays 5:45 - 7:15 pm. Come along and see what we do. No commitment.

If you are interested please get in touch with **John Gunner** (015394 36209 or email: johngunner999@gmail.com)

Women's Institutes

Coniston WI

On the **21st March** we are hosting an open meeting with 'Topsy Filly' at 7.30pm in the Reading Room at Coniston Institute.



Egton WI

Our February speaker had a very hard job following our jovial talk from Chris Bibby (coaches) and the subject matter couldn't have been more different. Sinead is manager at "Growing Well" based at Sizergh Farm and she gave us a very good insight into what "Growing Well" is all about. They are a charity whose aim is to help adults with mental health issues and the growing of vegetables from digging the soil to planting the seeds and to finally picking the vegetables is very therapeutic. There are volunteers on hand to help if necessary. They are in the process of setting up another centre based at Tebay Services and so we wish them well.

The year is getting under way in busy mode again. We have a taster session of indoor bowls at the end of the month in Greenodd Village Hall, starting with pie and peas - as you do - so we will see how that goes, new skills lie undiscovered as yet! Following that on **Monday 8th May** we are holding a Coronation Tea Party, tickets priced as for the Jubilee tea are at £10 and are starting to sell fast. Do get in touch if you would like one or more tickets on **07519 144799** or see any WI member and they will send you in the right direction. We are also in the process of putting together a small recipe book following all the catering which committee have enjoyed doing over recent years, along with recipes from other members so I will keep you posted on that.

We are collecting used stamps for the RNIB so feel free to send any our way and we will ensure that they get them, a great way to recycle.

In March we have Andy Lowe coming to enlighten the us about "Discovering Lakeland Villages" so we are looking forward to that. Do join us if you can and we will ensure that you are given a warm welcome. For more information please contact Gill on the above number.

Gill

Bouth WI

We enjoyed a visit to Oxen Park Cinema and supper at the Manor House this month. The Bouth Village Hall refurbishments should be complete in late April.

Brantwood News and Views



Well, after two months of contractors replacing our drains, we are (hopefully!) due to re-open on Monday 13th March. We have been keeping ourselves busy refurbishing and painting the Terrace Café, our shop, the Studio and accommodation. Do come and see us in our new Spring glory.

Our 2023 programme of exhibitions continues in the Blue Gallery with a final opportunity to view 'Behind the Eyes: The Science of Sight' on display until 16th April. In the Severn Studio, our very own Kate Kirkwood will be exhibiting photographs as seen in her beautiful book 'Cowspines'. Twelve years in the making, Cowspines is a body of landscape photography like no other. Kate's project is an obsession born out of a love of the Lake District and the elements, and an appreciation of the titular subject matter that forms the basis of each image. The land, the weather, the animals... Kate intimately captures the essence of the subject matter through her careful arrangement of these three intertwined elements. On display until 23rd April.

Following his sell out concert with Jess Dandy, Martin Roscoe returns on Saturday 25th March for a second performance in the Drawing Room (which unfortunately had to be postponed from December due to dire weather). Concerts begin at 7.00pm. Tickets £19.00 (includes a glass of wine in the interval).

For full details of all our exhibitions and events, please visit our website www.brantwood.org.uk. Box office: enquiries@brantwood.org.uk or call **015394 41396**.

Coniston Mothers' Union

Coniston Mothers' Union members began their first meeting of 2023 with the re-dedication service of their membership during a short form of worship taken from the Mother's Union web site. Prayers included ones for the theme for the year, 'Transformation Now', the Branch and for those who had died since the last meeting. Following reports and notices the group planned the programme for the year, keeping in mind the theme, 'Transformation Now'. Meetings are to include a game, sport, craft session and an outing to visit other denominations, plus meals out.

2023 Coniston Mother's Union

Theme: "Transformation Now" 2pm start

25th March Lady Day, 2pm St James Barrow

30th March at 3 Little Moss Close Easter Crafts

27th April Names, Places in the Bible beginning with B

16th May Sharing Day, Houghton, Bishop Rob, Bishop of Penrith

19th May Friday Outing to Rookhow Meeting House

22nd June Outing to Morecambe with afternoon tea.

9th August Mary Sumner Day

28th September, 3 Little Moss Close, Transformation Now reflections

2nd October Quiet Afternoon, Cartmel

26th October, 1 Church Beck, Transformation Now and the Future

30th November Meal Out

4th December Deanery Carol service, Ulverston

Broughton and Coniston District Councillors' Final Update

This will be the last update from Broughton and Coniston ward and the District Councillors, as on April 1st, Cumbria as an operational unit will cease to exist. Instead, it will become two Unitary Authorities, Cumberland, and Westmorland and Furness. The latter will encompass Barrow, South Lakeland and Eden District Councils.



Broughton and Coniston will be split into two wards, High Furness, which will be represented by Matt Brereton and Coniston and Hawkshead, which will be represented by Suzanne Pender. The Crake Valley will come under Coniston and Hawkshead. In the south, Greenodd and the former ENMO parish will be represented by Ben Cooper, as part of the Furness Peninsula ward.

Someone recently said to me "We live in interesting times." In the four years since my election, we have experienced: leaving Europe, a pandemic, a major storm, three Prime Ministers, two Monarchs and the dissolution of our County.

I realise what a great Community and indeed, Communities we have here. We also have some of the greatest scenery in the country. It is truly a great place to live. Though, with global warming, the benefits and disadvantages of tourism, the onslaught of second homes and the current cost of living crisis, we need, more than ever to fight for our local communities. It is about getting affordable housing, good salaries and careers, protecting local services, like buses, shops, healthcare and post offices. These items are not luxuries but necessities if our communities are to survive. This is not the role of the Councillor, it is the responsibility of every adult resident to make sure that we, collectively not only survive, but thrive. So, see what you can do to contribute. Get involved in local activities and groups, litter pick, attend the local events, help fundraising and see what is happening at the Parish Council meetings.

Great Community, like marriage, does not just happen, it needs to be worked at but also needs tender loving care.

I also speak on behalf of Tracy and Heather, when I state that it has been a privilege and honour to serve the ward for the past few years. It has been interesting and varied, from supporting lockdown and making communities safe, to help with emergency shelters and dealing with the madness post lockdown, to improving water quality, to ensuring the future of historic buildings. I hope we have fulfilled your expectations.

Although we will still be around, this is the official Goodbye from Councillors **Ian, Tracy and Heather**.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I would just like to thank our final SLDC Councillors - and their predecessors - for their support of this Magazine. We have had lots of interesting and informative reports but, even more importantly, significant financial support from the Councillors' locality budgets, for which I'm extremely grateful. Thank you.

Green Sparks – we need your views

Green Sparks has been given the opportunity to link up with two upcoming projects led by Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS - <https://cafs.org.uk/>). Before pressing ahead, we need to work out if there would be enough local interest, so please let us know if you think you might like to get involved.

Solar Made Easy Ulverston – due to start this summer, Solar Made Easy aims to provide residents with links to reliable suppliers and tradespeople who install solar panels, and so make it quicker and easier to get the work done. Cafs is offering to expand the catchment area to include people within the Green Sparks community if there is interest. For background see <https://cafs.org.uk/solar-made-easy/>

Retrofit assessment – CAfS is drawing up a pilot project to help residents benefit from retrofit assessments, in a similar way to the Solar Made Easy approach, but with a focus on other technologies. The Crake Valley, Rusland Valley and surrounding areas are of interest because many of us here rely on electricity, oil or wood to heat our homes and many of the buildings are 'non-standard'. It's early days, so quite how the project will evolve is not clear, but it's a chance to learn more about retrofit and what's involved. For background see - <https://cafs.org.uk/for-your-home/home-audits-for-energy-efficiency/>

Email us by Friday 17th March 2023 to express an interest: greensparks.sparkbridge@gmail.com

CAfS is one of the organisations who will be at this year's **Ulverston Eco Fair – 10.30am-4.30pm Thursday 16th March at the Coro** so you can find out more by talking to their team at the event. There will also be a wide range of local projects exhibiting, so it will be a great opportunity to learn more, make connections and get involved.

1st Leven Valley (St Anne's) Scout Group.

Sadly, due to lack of Adult Leadership this Group will close at the end of the summer term. Scouting will now be focused in Ulverston and Cartmel.



Marguerite Calvert GSL

1st Leven Valley(St Anne's) Scouts

Rookhow News - Funding for mental health groups

Rookhow has supported over 20 groups and 300 people to stay at Rookhow including refugee groups, family support organisations from Barrow, support for those who are long term unemployed, those recovering from drug and alcohol addictions and escaping domestic abuse. Round 5 of the Retreat Away Fund has been launched with a deadline of 15th March. Please contact Sue if you know of a group who would benefit from a subsidised stay at Rookhow or if you would like to donate to the fund.



Contact: **Sue Nicholls**, Rookhow Development Manager Tel **07377 971783**

Email: contactrookhow@gmail.com



Bus Update from the Friends of the X112

Blueworks are now running a flexible service in addition to their normal timetabled service. It operates within a six mile radius of Ulverston. It must be booked the day before it is needed by ringing **01539531995** or **07875558118** or by e-mail to **phil@blueworksph.com**. The service is open to individuals or

groups and could well be a way forward for areas that have no prospect of regular services.

The launch of the new Furness and Westmorland Unitary Authority in April is going to herald a new era for the area. At the moment we are uncertain as to what the policies towards public bus services are going to be. What we can say is that initial consultation with the Authority has been encouraging and we are hopeful of a very supportive regime where all parties can work together to provide a sustainable public transport system.

Our charity desperately needs more people to join us. Our **AGM** will be held on **9th March**, 11.45am at the Old Farmhouse, Ulverston. Please contact Roger Harris on **01229 835712** if you would like to get involved.

Our next **Lunch** is on **2nd March**, 11.30am for 12noon at Rampside Village Hall, £12 for two courses, please pre-book on **01229 869637**.

Thank you

Friends of the X112

Cumbria Young Farmers Southern District AGM



Members and their guests from all over the south of the county attended the Cumbria Young Farmers 41st Annual Meeting of the Southern District at Kendal Cricket Club on Saturday 21st January.

President, Mr Neil Sowerby, welcomed all those present and went on to commend Pennine YFC for their successful Field Day and their winning the Cock of the North trophy. In his attendance at competitions, Neil had had the opportunity to see that the traditional crafts of walling and hedging were still very much alive in the District with very healthy numbers in attendance.

Neil brought his speech to a close by stating that you didn't need a title, good job or to be rich to be a successful young farmer. Teamwork, trust, respect, commitment and enjoyment were what it was all about.

The District had raised a grand total of £30,766 for charity with Crook YFC raising a staggering £18,432 for their chosen charities to show support for one of their members who fought his own battle with illness during the past year. This was an exceptional achievement by Crook YFC and the District as a whole, for which the young farmers should be rightly proud.

Whilst recognising the successes of the District, Emily Armer, Southern District Chair asked those gathered to take a moment to remember those who were no longer with us. Tom Allan was a much loved and active member of Sedbergh YFC and members from across the District and County have shown support to Tom's family, friends and fellow club members during some very hard times.

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH by Rev. David Gregg
MARCH 25TH: THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

Station announcements at Waterloo:

“British Rail apologizes for the late arrival of this train, due to the late departure of the previous one!”

“British Rail apologizes for the late arrival of this train, due to delays in getting here!”

“The train now arriving on platforms 6,7,8,9,10 and 11 is coming in sideways!”

Admittedly the last one was from the Goon Show, but I *did* actually hear the other two (and plenty more like them!) on my daily commute into “Town” – as the folk in Twickenham insisted on calling it. We didn’t *live* in London, you understand! (The first of the above had left us waiting outside the station for about ten minutes, because a guard had overslept or something, and the previous train had been unable to vacate our platform).

Arguably the most important Announcement in history is celebrated on March 25th (Nine months before Christmas Day!) designated as “The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary”, In it the Archangel Gabriel announces the birth of the Son of God – the Saviour of the World. (Luke ch. 1 vv 26-38).

Following on from my thought for Ash Wednesday (about discipline, orders and obedience) it is fitting that this comes in the middle of Lent. Mary’s response is the prime (human) example of exactly that. It comprises three main elements: *Humble Submission* to Almighty God (she describes herself as His ‘female slave’), *consent* to do His will, and ultimately *Carrying it out*.

There is a further dimension to this. On March 19th we have the feast-day of Joseph of Nazareth. Those like him, who are most nearly affected by the LORD’s call to someone, are required to *assent* to it and to *support* the person concerned.

This pattern is repeated time and again throughout the Bible story. Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Samuel, David, Elijah, Ezra, John the Baptist, Jesus’ first disciples and Saul of Tarsus all received the LORD’s call, humbly submitted to Him, consented to do His will, and subsequently carried it out. And they too were assented to and supported by an assortment of others.

The LORD’s call may come in various ways. For Mary it came directly through the Archangel, others received it by a vision or a dream or a written word or a human agency, but *always* by the Spirit of God. There is a sense in which *all* true Christian disciples are called to personal faith and to their life’s vocation in this way. I myself was called to Ordained Ministry through a sermon by an ancient saint on Trinity Sunday 1962, and wonderfully supported in my response by my dear wife and by my father and mother and others. (My sister Valerie couldn’t resist a more sceptical note, saying, “We know what you are after, one day’s work a week and get your funeral done trade!”)

As we contemplate the great Announcement of the coming birth of Jesus, Son of God, let us remain open to receiving the Call of God for ourselves and others, and respond with humble submission, consent and ultimate obedience, or to assent and support as appropriate.

Parish Prayer Diary March 2023

1st: Pray for the Benefice staff and pastoral team meeting this afternoon.

2nd: Pray for university students experiencing mental health difficulties because of

academic, financial or social pressures.

3rd: On this World Day of Prayer join Christians around the world reflecting on Ephesians 1:15-19 *"I have heard about your faith....."*.

4th: Pray for those struggling with an eating disorder.

5th: **Sunday, the first day of the week:** By the discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following the way of Jesus come to share His glory.

6th: Pray for our local Counsellors and Parish Council administrators.

7th: Pray for the Fairtrade Foundation working to secure a better deal for small scale farmers and workers in developing countries affected by climate change.

8th: On International Women's Day, pray for women and girls facing inequality in family life, schools and the workplace, praying they will achieve parity with those who are more advantaged.

9th: Pray unpaid carers will get access to the support, advice and resources they need to live a fulfilling life alongside caring for a vulnerable or frail person.

10th: Pray for communities devastated by recent natural disasters.

11th: Pray for Christians in North Korea following Jesus amid extreme persecution.

12th: **Sunday, the first day of the week:** May our loving, eternal God, grant us insight to discern His perfect will for us, that we give up what harms us and seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

13th: Pray for the leaders of the Commonwealth working towards shared goals of prosperity, democracy and peace.

14th: Pray for churches preparing to run *The Restoration Station* holiday club during the school Easter holidays.

15th: Pray for young carers feeling overwhelmed because of everything they do in their caring role on top of schoolwork and exam revision.

16th: Pray for Shadow Authority Westmorland and Furness Council as it prepares to start operating on 1st April 2023.

17th: Pray for the various *Red Nose Day* events raising donations to support vulnerable people and communities at home and abroad.

18th: Pray for those wearied by insomnia because of anxiety or illness.

19th: **Sunday, the first day of the week:** As we give thanks for our mothers who nurtured us, we pray our Father God, whose love is strong and tender, will watch over us and hold us all the days of our lives

20th: Pray for Scripture Union Faith Guides helping young people without church backgrounds to discover Jesus.

21st: Pray for Bishop James and Bishop Rob and the senior clergy and staff working for the Diocese across Cumbria.

22nd: Pray for the Coniston Mountain Rescue Team.

23rd: Giving thanks for the clean water that sustains our life, pray for the billions of people without access to safe water.

24th: Pray for our local farming community, especially at lambing time.

25th: Pray for the Coniston 14 Road Race: organisers, marshals and participants.

26th: **Sunday, the first day of the week:** Jesus taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters in Christ we do also for Him. Pray for the will to be the servant of others, as He was the servant of all and gave up His life for us, but is

alive and reigns, now and forever.

27th: Pray for the personal welfare, both physical and spiritual, of our spiritual leaders.

28th: Pray for Christians in the entertainment industry and professional sport.

29th: Pray for the Church Mission Society supporting individuals and churches in sharing the Good News of Jesus at home and abroad.

30th: Pray for those who administer the law, that they may uphold justice and truth.

31st: Pray for pupils and staff as schools close for the Easter break

Prayer Hour

Monthly opportunity to meet for just one hour in Penny Bridge church, to pray for items posted on the prayer board, for the churches in our Benefice, for our communities, and for the wider world.

Next Prayer Hour will be **Wednesday 1st March, 10am - 11am**

Readings for March 2023

5th	Romans 4.1 - 5, 13 - 17	John 3.1 - 17
12th	Romans 5.1 - 11	John 4.5 - 42
19th	Exodus 2.1 - 10	Luke 2.33 - 35
26th	Romans 8.6 - 11	John 11.1 - 45

From the Editor

This edition was so full that the editor's note has lost its usual place at the front!

My apologies to the contributors whose submissions had to be slightly edited this month for reasons of space.

It would be great to hear what you've got planned for the Coronation in May - do send your items in for the April Magazine

by March 15th.

Juliet Caldwell, Editor 07884 232281
editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk



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11th March: Puffin Head £80
11 - 5pm

12th March: Highland Cow Cushion £60
1 - 5pm

26th March: ditto

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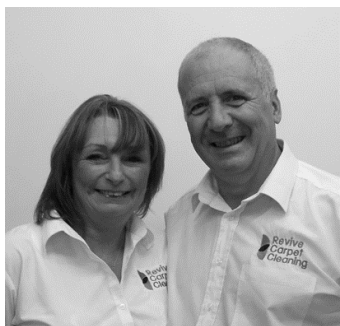
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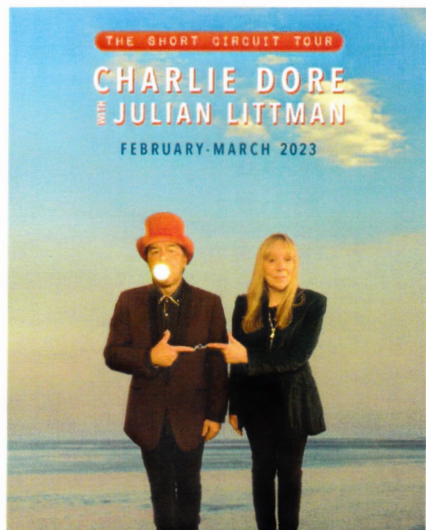
What's On Guide - regular events

Mondays	Knitting and Stitching, 7pm	Greenodd Village Hall
Mondays	Short Mat Indoor Bowling, 7 - 9pm, no experience needed	Greenodd Village Hall
Mondays	Youth Club, year 7 to age 18, 6 - 9pm	Coniston S & S Centre
2 nd & 4 th Friday	Tottle-Art: Art Group 10.30am - 12.30	Tottlebank Baptist Church
Tuesday	Coffee and Chat, 9.45 - 10.45am	Greenodd Village Hall
Wednesday	Parent and Toddler Group 9.30 - 11.30am	Coniston S & S Centre
Wednesday	Community Lunch, 1pm sharp	Farmers Arms, Lowick
Thursdays	"Young at Heart" exercise and lunch, 11am	Coniston S&S Centre
Thursdays	Volunteer Day 9.30 - 3.30pm	Brantwood Gardens
2 nd Tuesday	Egton WI, 7.30pm, new or prospective members welcome	Greenodd Village Hall
3 rd Tuesday	Coniston WI, 7.30pm, new or prospective members welcome	Coniston Institute
1 st Wednesday	Quaker Meetings, 7.30pm	Rookhow
1 st & 3 rd Friday	Quaker Meetings, 12.30pm	Rookhow
2 nd Wednesday	Bouth WI, 7.30pm, new or prospective members welcome	White Hart Inn (temporary)
1 st Wednesday	Prayer Hour - 10 - 11am	St Mary's, Penny Bridge
Fridays	Indoor Bowling, 2 - 4pm	Coniston Institute

What's On Guide - March

1 st	Lunch and Dominoes, 12.30pm	Coniston Institute
2 nd	Friends of X112 Bus lunch, 11.30am, see page 17	Rampside Village Hall
3 rd	Coniston and Crake Catchment Open Evening, 6 - 8pm	Water Yeat Village Hall
3 rd	World Day of Prayer, 2pm	St Andrew's, Coniston
7 th	ENMO Parish Council meeting, 7pm	Greenodd Village Hall
7 th	Film: Flee 7.30pm	Oxen Park Cinema Club
9 th	Friends of X112 Bus AGM: 11.45am see page 17	The Old Farmhouse, Ulverston
10 th	Concert - Charlie Dore & Julian Littman, 8pm	Water Yeat Village Hall
11 th	Honest Shop Opening celebration, 10am - 3pm	Coniston Honest Shop
14 th	Coniston Community Lunch, 12.30pm	Coniston Institute
15 th	Crake Valley Friendship Club trip from Greenodd - see page 11	Boundary Mill, Colne
16 th	Lowick Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm	Lowick Community Hall
17 th	St Patrick's Day celebration see page 9	Coniston S&S
18 th	Film: The Courier 7.30pm	Oxen Park Cinema Club
18 th	Concert: Holly & The Reivers, 7pm	Coniston Institute
20 th	Colton Parish Council meeting, 7pm	Oxen Park Reading Room
23 rd	Talk - Andy Lowe "A Career in Ruins", 7pm	Water Yeat Village Hall
25 th	Coniston 14 Road Race - see item on page 7	Coniston
25 th	Concert - Martin Roscoe	Brantwood
1 st	Church Coffee Morning, 10am	Greenodd Village Hall

WATER YEAT VILLAGE HALL



Charlie Dore's songs have been recorded by the good and the great. Her live shows reveal that she keeps the best songs for herself.

Her 2023 UK tour also features long-time collaborator, the multi instrumental singer/writer/actor Julian Littman (Steeleye Span)

**FRIDAY 10TH
MARCH at 8pm**

£15 or from

www.wegotickets.com/wateryeatvillagehall

Café/table seating.

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Andy Lowe is back at the Hall for his
illustrated talk

"A Career in Ruins"

Thursday, 23rd March £3.50 including
tea/coffee on arrival £3.50 entry

7.00pm for a 7.30pm start