

Coniston and Crake Valley News



March 2024 www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

Easter Services

24th March

Mothering Sunday

10.00am

Family-Friendly Service

Holy Trinity, Colton

28th March

Maundy Thursday

6.00pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper
with washing of the feet

Sacred Heart, Coniston

29th March

Good Friday

10.00am

Stations of the Cross

Sacred Heart, Coniston

11.00am

Walk of Witness

High Street, Greenodd

2.00pm

Devotions at the Cross

St. Andrew's, Coniston

2.00pm

Devotions at the Cross

St. Luke's, Lowick

30th March

Holy Saturday

6.00pm

Easter Vigil

Sacred Heart, Coniston

31st March

Easter Sunday

7.30am

Easter Sunrise Service

Bluebird Café, Coniston

9.30am

Easter Service

St. Luke's, Lowick

10.00am

Easter Service

Holy Trinity, Colton

11.00am

Easter Service

Coniston Methodist Church

11.00am

Easter Service

St. Andrew's, Coniston

11.00am

Easter Service

St. Mary's, Penny Bridge

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,		07505 048736
Penny Bridge.	<i>Brian works for Filling Station on Thursday</i>	
LA12 7RQ	<i>Brian's rest day is Friday</i>	

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Juliet Caldwell	safeguarding@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk	07884 232281
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To contact any of the Churchwardens, pastoral team, retired clergy or lay ministers please call or email the Administrator, Juliet.

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**.

Church Services for March 2024

3rd	Third Sunday of Lent		
St. Luke Torver	9.30am	Winter Breakfast	Linda Inman/Hazel Bowness/Val Towndrow
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Morning Worship	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
10th	Fourth Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday		
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Morning Worship	Pam Priestley
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Joanna Henson
17th	Fifth Sunday of Lent, Passion Sunday		
St. Luke Torver	9.30am	Morning Worship	Linda Inman/Hazel Bowness/Val Towndrow
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Harry Welch
24th	Palm Sunday		
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Methodist Service	Rev Hayley Edmondson
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Morning Worship	Pamela Hull
29th	Good Friday		
Greenodd	11.00am	Walk of Witness	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Luke Lowick	2.00pm	Devotions at the Cross	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	2.00pm	Devotions at the Cross	Rev David Bickersteth
31st	Easter Sunday		
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Joanna Henson
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bickersteth
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter

From the Registers

St Andrew, Coniston, 6th March: Maureen Croasdell, Interment of Ashes

Cover photo: Brantwood hellebore

Pastoral Letter from Harry Welch

Dear friends,

“What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” Pilate asked. They all answered him, “Crucify Him!” “Why? What crime has He committed?” asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify Him!”

Matthew 27: vs 22,23

Easter is early this year, with Easter Sunday falling on 31st March. The above is an extract from St. Matthew’s record of the trial of Jesus Christ. Pontius Pilate was addressing the crowds. Jesus Christ had been arrested, tried by religious leaders and sent to Pilate for the death sentence. Pilate placed the Lord’s fate into the hands of the people. They in turn made clear their decision: twice they called for Jesus to be crucified, and so it came to pass.

The above passage was a stepping-stone along my journey to faith which began following the birth of our son in 1978 when taking him to the local church to be ‘christened’ introduced us to a friendly congregation. We began attending worship as a family on a regular basis and as time passed, became more involved in church life including one-off events requiring volunteers in various capacities. One such event was the Good Friday Walk of Witness, when all the local denominations (Church of England, Roman Catholic, Methodists, Baptist and United Reformed), walked from their respective churches to meet at the local recreation park to re-enact the last hours of the Lord’s life, including His trial. It was the turn of our church to provide the actors for the drama. I went along to the meeting called to allocate roles. Parts were named and volunteers put up their hands and one would be chosen. As there were plenty of volunteers, my mind drifted to the possibility of being a stage hand or the like and I switched off from the proceedings. After a while I realised most of the roles had been taken. The Vicar then asked if anyone did not have a role to play. I put my hand up - and that is how I ended up playing Jesus. The smiles on the faces of the folks around me revealed those who had been before at such gatherings knew it is best to volunteer early otherwise you are likely to end up in the role of Jesus!

Good Friday came, and folk began to process to the park from the respective churches. A crude stage had been erected in the centre of the park and a crowd of approximately 500 gathered in a semi-circle in front of the stage. The play began. All went well until it came to the time when the above scenario was enacted. Up to this point in the proceedings I had felt comfortable playing the part, for the Lord had actually said little throughout His trial. I was not so comfortable when Pontius Pilate asked the crowd the question, *“What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?”* Suddenly the crowd yelled very aggressively, *“Crucify him”* and took a step towards the stage. Pontius Pilate asked the question again, and again the crowd yelled, *“Crucify Him!”* moving closer towards the stage. The crowd’s aggression took me by surprise, I had not expected such drama and it shook me.

It is easy to come to the Easter season and take for granted what happened. Familiarity breeds content if not contempt. If the Lord was condemned just by religious leaders, it would be easy to file the event away under another example of religious aggression. Or, to focus on Pontius Pilate and the occupying forces he served and put the Lord’s death down to the brutality of a foreign occupation force.

However, it is not possible to point the finger solely at the religious leaders or the Roman occupiers, for the Lord's fate was also decided by people like you and me.

Among the crowd would be those who had seen, and even experienced, the Lord's healing power, His power to save and His words of comfort. In the Gospels we read of religious leaders, Roman soldiers and the general public seeking out the Lord, some satisfied with just touching the hem of His robe, others seeking a face-to-face consultation, and the Lord meeting their needs, be they of body, mind or spirit.

In our day and age, the Christian church has a different set of religious leaders proclaiming their allegiance to Jesus Christ, for Him not against Him. In our country there are no occupying forces to impose their will, and pass sentence and take lives. But we do have the general public, you and I, and each time we hear or read the Christian scriptures we are drawn to make a decision, a judgement. The question put to the public crowd by Pilate was, "*What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?*" What would your response be? Indifference? Compassion? Delay? Protest?

Whatever your response, it cannot thwart what was to follow that first Good Friday; Jesus tortured and crucified. Nor can our response alter what happened three days later, the Resurrection of the Lord ; from that day the world changed: no longer need anyone fear God or death.

On that first Easter Day Jesus said to those who came looking for him at the tomb, "Go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" The plan set in motion before creation being fulfilled, the offer of eternal life and knowing God as Father, in the heart as well as in the head guaranteed.

The Christian does not tire of hearing this account and gives thanks to God for His love and power to heal and save. Perhaps this is the first time you have heard of these things? Or your memory of them brought to the fore again. What will you do with this moment? What will you do with Jesus Christ? Only you can answer this question, your response is unique and private between you and God. Don't let the moment pass. Commit to Him now and let Him lead from here into eternity, and all will be well.

Happy Easter to you all.



Around the Parishes : Colton

Colton Parish Council News

Thank you to everyone who contacted us with their recent experiences of coping during the snowstorm before Christmas and the recent high winds. We used your contributions to help us highlight our concerns about the number of power outages affecting our local communities, in particular, Bouth and Colton, when we, along with other local Parish Councils, met with Electricity North West (ENWL) on 12th February.

The meeting was convened by ENWL following a letter we wrote to their Chief Executive asking for explanations for the lack of resilience in the network and voicing our concerns about the impact on residents, particularly older people, young families, and people with long term health conditions.

Lots of issues were raised including: improving the resilience of the local network and communications infrastructure; the importance of local resilience hubs; how vulnerable members of the community can be more effectively supported in extreme weather events; and, the mechanisms for claiming and paying compensation. The plan is for a follow up meeting in the autumn to share progress and to look forward to the forthcoming winter. We'll keep you updated.

The system used for identifying people who might need extra support during power cuts is the Priority Services Register. If you or someone you know has a long-term health condition, a disability, mobility issues, a baby or toddler to look after, or is elderly, then you or they may wish to sign up. It is free to register. You can either contact your own supplier or go to the ENWL website. <https://www.enwl.co.uk/power-cuts/extra-care/our-extra-care-register/>

Lambing season is fast approaching, and local farmers have asked us to help them to keep their animals safe by ensuring all dog walkers keep their pets on a lead when walking where there are sheep or lambs. Or better still, find alternative routes and avoid fields where there is livestock. Other residents have voiced concerns about increasing litter and dog poo. To help communities tackle these issues, The National Farmers Union has published free-to-download posters suitable for village notice boards that community groups can use. See <https://www.nfuonline.com/updates-and-information/free-countryside-code-resources/>

You are welcome to join us for our next meeting: 7pm Monday 25th March at Finsthwaite and Lakeside Village Hall. See our website for details <https://coltonparishcouncil.org.uk/>

Lowick Parish Council News

We had several items of business to consider at our January meeting.

It is our highest priority to publish that 2024 is Lowick Parish Council's Election year. The elections are scheduled for Thursday 2nd May and all seats are open for election. It is time to get involved as there are no elected Councillors on your committee. We know there are many Parishioners who want to bring new ideas and help improve our small community for everyone. We have taken a few knocks recently that need to be reversed. Your committee were impressed with the numbers of parishioners attending our meetings. If you are interested please contact our Clerk Christine on: lowickkpc@outlook.com or telephone **01229 889319** she can help with your application. If you are wavering please visit our website: <https://lowick.org.uk> and watch THE JACKIE WEAVER IS BACK promotional clip on the home page, it's worth a watch anyway.

Your Council only meets six times a year and has a much greater influence than an individual over W&F Council to prioritise issues and get things done. The positions are as demanding as you want to make them whilst working within our community is very rewarding. As you can see below we have many interesting projects to consider.

Last year The Lowick Green Management Committee introduced a 20's Plenty speed restriction past the homes facing The Green. In September W&F Council adopted a 20mph speed restriction policy and invited Town and Parish Councils to apply for areas where they know of a demonstrable level of support. Carly has been canvassing parishioners and we will be applying for two areas. They are: The roads bordering Lowick Green including the A5092 and the A5084, and the road from Lowick Church to The Red Lion.

Concerns have been raised regarding means of urgent communication during power outages. Your council would like to identify vulnerable households and produce a list of contactable persons to co-ordinate better communication to provide help.

After the heavy snow and severe ice in December W&F realised they hadn't replenished their grit piles and asked councils to identify areas where grit is required. The piles they have provided are damaging the verges and salt is now flowing into water courses. We will be asking W&F council to provide Salt Boxes to prevent this.

And finally Friends of the X112 are appealing for new faces to join them as their numbers are dwindling, they need people who can help them raise funds and improve awareness of the bus services/have experience in public transport/expertise in marketing. More helpers would be much appreciated.

Graham Sanderson

Egton cum Newland

The **Crake Valley Friendship Club** is having the first coach trip of 2024 on **20th March**, leaving Greenodd at 9am, we are visiting Country Harvest, Settle and Watershed Mill.

For enquiries please contact **Anne** on **01229 861278**.

Coffee Morning, Saturday 2nd March

There will be a coffee morning in Greenodd Village Hall on Saturday 2nd March, 10am to 12noon.

A good selection of stalls, cakes, raffle, nearly new, Albert with his wood and bric a brac; also a change for us: a chocolate tombola. Donations for this would be very much appreciated. Do join us and meet up with friends old and new in the comfort of the hall, always a friendly occasion.

Admission £2 to include a hot drink and cake or biscuit. You will be most welcome.

Jean and the team.



Saturday 9th March, 7pm

Nostalgia

at Greenodd Village Hall

Bring back the memories with songs performed by soloists, duets and groups
- songs you will know and love!

Pie & peas (with ticket), bar

For enquiries contact **Tom: 01229 861638**

UVHS Swing Band at Greenodd Village Hall - Friday 1st March at 7.30pm.

Entry £8/£5, bring your own refreshments.

NOTICE: **Greenodd and Pennybridge Village Hall Annual General Meeting** To be held on 9th 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 "Now is the time to air your thoughts"

Coniston & Torver

Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston - January 2024

Total - 369.9mm(14.6ins)

Wet days - 17

More than 1mm on 14 days

Wettest day - 23rd - 50.8mm (2.0ins)

Frost on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 13th & 14th

40mm (1.6ins) snow on the 15th

Coniston and District Twinning Association's Quiz at the beautifully refurbished Ship Inn, Bowmanstead has been put back by two weeks (to avoid a clash with CSSC) to **Wednesday 20th March** 7pm, supper available until 8pm £2 per person. Come as part of, or join on the night, a team of up to 6.

Coniston Village Community Lunch

Our next lunch will be **Monday 18th March at 12.30pm** in the Institute Reading Room.

We will be serving a hearty two course lunch plus tea or coffee and treats from the sharing table. All ages are welcome.

No payment is expected, however a suggested donation of £5 towards our costs would be very welcome.

Places are limited so please confirm attendance by phoning or texting **Helen** on **07583 371275** or email **e.glaister013@btinternet.com**, by the Friday before. Also please let us know if you have any dietary requirements or need help with transport.

We are always grateful for additional help so please get in touch if you can offer any help either in the kitchen on the day or donating some food - perhaps a pudding or something for our sharing table.

Sadly this will be our last lunch until October so we hope you can all make it. Best wishes from ***The Community Lunch Team***

42nd Annual Coniston 14 Race.

The 42nd Coniston 14 race will take place on Saturday 23rd 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.

The lively 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 on the day. 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 12th April, 2024. A presentation evening will be held in June.

Geoff Cooper for Coniston 14 Committee



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 Palestine, with the theme of "I beg you, bear with one another in love", despite difficulties and differences.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries.

We will be taking part in this in Coniston, with a service at **The Sacred Heart Church on Friday March 1st at 2 pm**, followed by refreshments.

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

Reports

Mothers' Union



1st March	World Day of Prayer
25th March	Lady Day and Low Furness closing service at Aldingham
28th March	Famous Women

Mothers' Union members met for the first time in 2024 on January 25th. They began with a shortened version of the Mothers' Union membership service concentrating on Unity, with it being the week of Christmas Unity and world peace.

The rest of the meeting was spent planning their programme for the year beginning with looking at Women in the Bible and famous women, how their lives have been transformed. The rest of the year includes Deanery events, outing to Barton Grange, visits and an open meeting with speaker. The year will end with a Christmas meal, and Deanery carol service.

The next meeting will be held at 3 Little Moss on 29th February at 2pm and will include discussions about Mary, Rebecca and Martha.

All are welcome, for more information contact **Kay: 015394 41559**

Egton WI

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Our last meeting fell on Shrove Tuesday, so full of pancakes we got off to a good start by welcoming another guest who we hope will join us again in the future. During the business part of the meeting we discussed the proposal by our parish council to reduce speeding in our village, the proposed new development at Roanhead and more importantly we chose which charity we wanted to support this year. Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team won our overall vote so any monies raised will go to them, a worthy cause indeed.

Our talk followed which was entitled "Dragon Boats - Paddlers for Life". The presentation was led by Patricia who was accompanied by her husband and another team member Anne. The talk and accompanying slide show gave us a real insight into what they are all about. Basically they have three boats which they adorn with the dragon heads (and the customs that go with them) and they paddle on Sundays throughout the summer months, wind strength permitting, on Windermere. The 70+ members themselves have or had cancer of some kind and the idea is to create team spirit and build up the body strength to help them with their recovery. They certainly shone with their enthusiasm despite the fact that only that day one of their group had sadly passed. They also have 30+ supporters, Patricia's husband being one, who help with the organisation and fill in the gaps as and when necessary. During the winter months they get together to keep the club going. An inspirational group of people if ever there was one.

Our evening concluded with the usual chat over a hot drink and biscuit. Do join us next month when Gail Armstrong will be telling us all about Bats!

In the meantime our two book clubs continue to thrive, Rummikub sessions are underway again and a walk/lunch is in the pipeline.

For further information call **Gill** on **07519144799**.

Oxen Park Cinema Club

Only a few opportunities left this season to see a great film in the comfort of our beautiful Carthouse Cinema.

Tuesday 5th March - Lunana - a yak in the classroom - already full so there will be a second showing.

Saturday 9th March - Outdoor and Adventure Film night! NB starts earlier at 7pm to allow for an interval (time to collect another drink from The Manor) This exciting event features a hand-picked selection of short films from this year's London Mountain Film Festival - details are up on the website - don't miss out!

Saturday 16th March - The Banshees of Inisherin - award winning comedy drama

Tuesday 2nd April - Return to Dust - love blossoms amid the grinding poverty of rural China.

Saturday 20th April - CODA - winner of 3 Academy Awards.

Look out for possible second showings on the Sunday following the showing.

Don't forget that you can hire the cinema for private showings at £125 which includes the necessary licence - or only £20 if it's your own film.

www.oxenparkcinemaclub.org.uk

Spring is almost here and that means HIGH SEASON! We will be open every day from Monday 18th March, 10.30-5.00pm. We start the season with a wonderful selection of exhibitions and events, the gardens will be bursting forth and a new menu at the Terrace Café. Something for everyone!

In the Blue Gallery there is still a last chance to catch 'A Strange, Bright, Gifted Boy' about Ruskin's secretary Laurence Hilliard. On show until 10th March. Also in the Severn Studio we have 'The Bay and Beyond' by Phil Entwistle which continues until 17th March. There will be an opportunity to meet Phil between 11-3pm on Sunday 10th March. Our next exhibition in the Blue Gallery is an exhibition of plein air paintings in water-based media by Frances Hatch ARWS entitled 'Of Truth and Water'. The works in the show speak of specific encounters and accumulations of experience in the steep Brantwood gardens, lakeside, Coppermines Valley and White Lady Falls between 2019 and 2023. On display from 15th March until 14th July. Coming up in the Severn Studio we have 'Reflections on Water' by Cumbria Printmakers. This promises to be an amazing exhibition of prints with individual takes on water – of which we have plenty! On display from 23rd March until 19th May.

On 12th March we have a talk by Julian Reed: 'A Life of Ferns'. Julian, a self-confessed 'fernaholic' will discuss his life within the fern world, competing at RHS Flower Shows, the importance of the fern collection at Brantwood and the current 'fern project'. Julian will be happy to answer any questions and ID any fern fronds or pictures. Time: 7pm – 9pm. £10 including a glass of wine. Bookable on-line.

In our final 2023-2024 Concert series, Pianist Martin Roscoe will be performing pieces from Schubert, Debussy, Liszt and Beethoven, in Brantwood's Drawing Room on Saturday 16th March. Performance begins at 7pm, doors open 6.30pm. Tickets £25 (includes an interval drink). Pre-concert supper will be served in the Terrace Cafe from 5.30pm at £16.50 per person, booking essential (theterrace@brantwood.org.uk or tel: 015394 49025). More details on our website.

Also on 16th March we have Brantwood Dark Skies and Pie Night – a guided walk with Martin Rivett. Join professional Mountain Leader, astronomer, and storyteller Martin as he leads a night walk through the Brantwood Estate and up to the high point of Crag Head, a recognised Dark Skies environment, to discover the night sky over Coniston Water. The evening will begin with a homemade Pie supper served in the Coach House Loft and an introductory talk followed by the guided walk. 6pm – 9pm. £29pp. Bookable on-line.

Finally, over Easter we will be running our very popular nature-based family activities in the Loft.

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.

The Farmers Arms, Lowick



2nd March- Make Your Own Noodle Bowl and Chopsticks 10am-4pm £60
6th March - Soup Talk: Book Launch 'Human Being' by Graham Lee £5 soup £5 talk
10th March- Special Mothers' Day Sunday Lunch and high tea
13th March- Soup Talk: Andrea Brunsendorf on Lowther Castle £5 soup £5 talk
14th March- Poetry Workshop with Ise Pedlar 9.30am-12.30pm £35
14th March- Celtic Fiddles in the Stable Bar 7.30-10pm
16th March- Make a Stool in a Day Workshop 10am-4pm £60
17th March- Gelli Plate printing with Jess Levine 11am-1pm £35
21st March- Live music Barnaby Kenny 7.30-10pm
23rd March- Make a Belt in a Day Workshop 10am-4pm £75
27th March- Poetry Open Mic and Readings £5 entry £5 soup
30th March- Rush Hat Making Workshop with Owen Jones 10am-4pm
30th March- Easter Extravaganza, special menus, spring lambs, activities including batik egg dyeing for all the family
31st March- Easter Sunday Lunch
New evening and day classes beginning in the second week in April- all are £180 for 6 sessions:
Monday 15th: Introduction to Printmaking with Flora deBechi 6-8pm
Tuesday 16th: Introduction to Furniture Making and Basic Woodwork with Tom Philipson 6-8pm
Wednesday 17th: Pottery with Francis Lloyd Jones 6-8pm
Thursday 18th: Pottery with Francis Lloyd Jones 6-8pm
Friday 19th: Beginners' Pottery with Tom Philipson 10am-12noon

Earth Photo exhibition opens in Grizedale Forest



Forestry England

Forestry England's outdoor exhibition showing images from Earth Photo shortlisted works is now open at Grizedale Forest until 21st April. Created in 2018 by Forestry England, the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) and Parker Harris, Earth Photo is a world-leading programme engaging with still and moving image makers to showcase the issues affecting the climate and life on our planet.

The Grizedale Forest exhibition will display a selection of the 50 final shortlisted entries by 55 photographers and filmmakers, allowing visitors to view the stunning images in a beautiful forest setting. They include a dramatic image by award winner Filippo Ferraro of olive trees ablaze in southern Italy, their sculptural silhouettes lit up by flames, showing the vulnerability of the olive groves and the livelihoods they support.

Beautiful images by photographer Clare Hewitt, who won the Climate of Change award category, also feature in the exhibition. Clare's exquisite images of a germinating acorn and the connected fungal networks beneath the surface of woodlands highlight the interconnectedness of trees and the richness of woodland habitats.

More information on the Grizedale Forest exhibition is available on the Forestry England website.

Rookhow



GOOD FRIDAY QUAKER MEETING 11am

Historically, Quakers and others have gathered from across the area for a big Quaker Meeting for Worship at Rookhow every Good Friday at 11am. Last year there were nearly 100 people! All are welcome. It will be followed by homemade hot cross buns, an Annual Review of Rookhow and presentation about the Journey of Hope programme.

OPEN DAYS throughout the Spring

Rookhow continues to be open to the public on the 1st and 3rd Fridays 10am-4pm. Come over for a look around, have a cuppa and homemade cake and hear about Rookhow's history and current work. Short Quaker Meeting 12.30-1pm. Also on the 1st Wednesday of every month 7.30-8pm. Just turn up or let us know in advance if you're coming in a larger group. All welcome.

Website: rookhow.org.uk LA12 8LA Contact **Sue Nicholls**, Development Manager Tel **07377 971783** Email: contactrookhow@gmail.com

Green Sparks News

On **Thursday 7th March the Ulverston Eco Fair** is back at the Coro 10.30 – 4.30. Free entry. Go along to meet like-minded people, find out about local projects promoting sustainability and working to make a difference. Get involved!

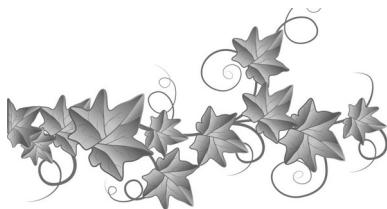
Fed up with plastic wrappers, over packaged toiletries, food and other household items? Want to do something about it? Everyday Plastic and Greenpeace are running **the Big Plastic Count between 11th and 17th March**. The aim is to gather information that can be shared with Government, supermarkets and big companies about the amount of single use plastic in our homes, schools and businesses. There are lots of resources to help you get involved. See <https://thebigplasticcount.com/>

Working out what we can do as individuals to address the challenges of climate change when so much is down to Governments and corporations, can seem daunting. **Take the Jump** is an online community that aims to encourage us all to adopt six practical 'shifts' in day to day living that make a real difference.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. End Clutter | 4. Dress Retro |
| 2. Travel Fresh | 5. Holiday locally |
| 3. Eat Green | 6. Change the system |

The idea is that every shift you make puts a little extra pressure on those with the power to change policies and practices. For inspiration and information see <https://takethejump.org/>

To contact Green Sparks please email greensparks.sparkbridge@gmail.com



Rusland Horizons

Members' Workshop: Monday 11th March

Everyone, not just members, are invited to attend this important workshop to discuss the future of Rusland Horizons.



A number of the current Trustees will be standing down from the Board this summer and without new Trustees and volunteers to help support, manage and implement projects and work party events, the future of the Trust and the great work it does in the Rusland Valley is once again in doubt.

We hope you can join us, everyone is welcome, at Outback Hall, Backbarrow, to discuss and collectively agree a way forward for the Trust. The evening starts at 6pm and we expect to finish by 9pm.

Please get in touch if you would like further information, or would like to confirm your attendance.

Email: hello@ruslandhorizonstrust.org

Hedge Maintenance Work Party: Saturday 23rd March

Join us for a morning of hedge maintenance near Rusland Church - Thwaite Moss track to Force Mill.

The event will include a number of hedge conservation activities relating to the repair of an existing Rusland Horizons created hedge, such as removal of dead wood and infilling gaps with new plants and saplings.



Westmorland
& Furness
Council

Excerpt from report by Suzanne Pender, Westmorland & Furness councillor for Coniston & Hawkshead Ward

I want to see the new Authority put local communities at the heart of all we do, have a "can do" attitude and to deliver measurable outcomes. Funding is limited, so we can't do everything at once, but we can plan to make incremental improvements.

How to get in touch: Phone: **07501 806298**

Email: **Suzanne.Pender@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk**

Visit me at my monthly surgeries, come along, I will buy you a coffee and try to signpost or help; usually the last Friday of the month (not March), slots available at Coniston, Torver, Hawkshead, Lowick, Oxen Park – please get in touch via email or phone.

Editor: unfortunately there is not room to reproduce Suzanne's annual report in full, please get in touch with me or Suzanne to read the whole report.

Friends of the X112 Bus

The Friends of the X112 Bus have a coffee morning at St Mary's Parish Hall opposite the Kiosk in Ulverston on **Thursday 21st March** 10am to 11.45am.

Our coffee mornings are every 3rd Thursday of the month.

Our next lunch at Rampside Village Hall is on Thursday 14th of March, 11.30am - two courses and coffee/tea for £10 per person.

Details from **Sue**, on **01229 869637**.

Tools for Africa

Is it time for a shed clear out?

Windermere Tools for Self Reliance would appreciate donations of chisels, planes, hammers, vices, saws, spanners, wrenches, files, drills, screwdrivers, power tools and sewing machines etc.

Our local group provides reconditioned tools for community projects in Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Your unwanted tools can enable families to support themselves and provide education for their children.

If you can help please contact **John Mullen** on **015394 45456**

More information about Tools for Self Reliance can be found at **www.tfsr.org**



YFC SOUTHERN DISTRICT AGM

Members and their guests from all over the south of the county attended the Cumbria Young Farmers 42nd Annual Meeting of the Southern District at Kendal Rugby Club on Friday 26th January 2024.

President, Mr Phil Slater, began the meeting by reminiscing about late Cumbria YFC Honorary Life Vice President, Mrs Olive Clarke OBE. JP. DL. FRAGS and the impact that she had had on the organisation, asking those gathered to stand for a minute's silence.

The Field Day had been brilliantly organised and hosted by Crook YFC, who Phil said had even managed to organise the weather! Kent Estuary YFC were congratulated on their win and it was commented that a great day had been had by all the clubs.

Phil had enjoyed attending the Northern Area Field Day in June where Cumbria YFC had triumphed taking first place. Phil said that although there was the old rivalry between the Northern and Southern Districts, it was great to see how they came together to represent Cumbria YFC when it really mattered.

Our local clubs were recognised in the awards presented on the night, with the following trophies awarded:

Most Improved Club: Allan Wilson Cup
Broughton YFC

Top Club: Procter Memorial Trophy
Broughton YFC

Young Farmer of the Year: N.F.U. Cup

Leah Clough, *Lowick YFC* (pictured)

Special Contribution to SD YFC: Maureen Boyren
President's Trophy

Furness YFC Juniors





"Your Parish Council Needs YOU"

This May there will be parish council elections across most of the South Lakes.

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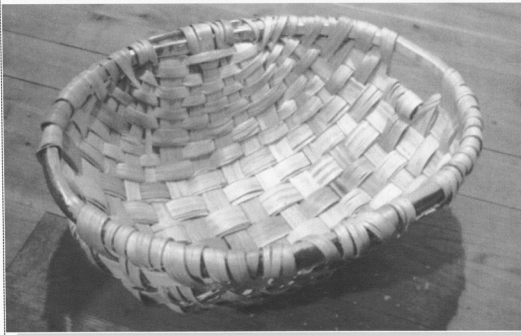
If you would like to find out more, then contact the parish clerk for the parish within which you live, or which you would like to serve.

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Torver:	clerk.torverpc@hotmail.com	01539 441 764
Blawith & Subberthwaite:	blawithandsubberthwaitepc@outlook.com	01229 889319
Colton:	clerk@coltonparishcouncil.org.uk	

Alternatively, contact Laura Hanaghan, Elections Officer at Westmorland and Furness Council

Email: elections@southlakeland.gov.uk

Telephone: 01539 733333



Oak swill basket making

A talk and demonstration by Owen Jones about this unique Cumbrian basket made from the coppiced woods of the Furness Fells.

Thursday 21st March, Water Yeat Village Hall

Open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start, £5 entry,
includes tea/coffee on arrival

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A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH by Rev. David Gregg

MARCH 31ST : EASTER DAY

Preaching at my father's funeral, I felt obliged to include one of his inevitable Black Country "Enoch and Eli" stories. It concerned a time when the pair were crossing a churchyard late on a Saturday night, after an evening of solid boozing. They were well "in their cups", and they fell into a newly dug grave and passed out in a deep drunken stupor. The next morning the rising sun shone down into the grave and caused Enoch to stir, and he hauled himself up to the top of the pit. He looked around and dropped back in amazement. Then he shook his old pal eagerly. "Ayloi, Ayloi," he shouted. "Wek up! Wek up! It's the resurrection morn an' we'm the fust up!"

As a "born again" Christian believer, my father will have died full of certain hope and expectation of his part in the Resurrection, and, indeed, the motif of death and new life is a main feature of the pattern of all creation, which silently witnesses to God's truth that "the Heavens are telling the glory of God and the earth displays His handiwork."

I once took the funeral of a very prominent Dahlia grower. I said what a stupid thing it would be, if we carefully nurtured our dahlia tubers, putting them on show on the mantelpiece until the time came to plant them and *then* buried them in the

ground, with weeping and lamenting, saying that that's the last we'll see of them! And how stupid if we do this with the mortal remains of those we have loved in this life! But, just as the dahlia grower co-operates with Almighty God in producing his majestic Giant Decoratives and his exquisite little Pompoms, and puts his trust in the Creator that the blooms *will* eventually come, so we too must respond to what God has done for us, through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, and put our trust in Him for Eternal Life.

There are *many countless* examples of this creation ordinance of "death" and "new life". The chick emerging from our (Easter) eggs; the tadpoles becoming frogs; the Beech tree appearing from the myriad of beech nuts; the evolving of planets, and stars, and constellations from seemingly inert origins; roe into fish; chrysalises into butterflies etc., etc.

Something that I have shared before, but I hope is worth repeating. The Resurrection has to be the focus for all that lies at the heart of Christian faith – the rising of the Sun of Righteousness, the vindication of the One Who gave Himself up to death as "seed falling into the ground", the bursting forth from the bonds of the earth of the One Who is the focus of *our* hope of eternal life and joy. The beauty of the fresh-sprung daffodils and lilies, the glorious *emptiness* of the Cross and the Tomb are our symbols of this overwhelming surge of faith and hope. We cannot *have* absolute *proof* of the testimony of the first witnesses of the risen Lord Jesus – but who needs it? Another 'quote' that I have on my desk reads:

"It is *not* so much that the New Testament proves the truth of the Resurrection, but rather that the Resurrection proves the truth of the New Testament!"

If we give ourselves, heart and mind, by faith, to the glorious consequences of His resurrection – the joy and peace and assurance and love and freedom that His Holy Spirit gives, then we *know* the truth. "Now is Christ risen from the dead, to become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep", and "we shall be raised with Him" to the final, great, eternal, unending springtime of our lives. Hallelujah.

Parish Prayer Diary March

1st: On this World Day of Prayer join Christians around the world reflecting on Ephesians 4:1-3 "*I beg you...bear with one another in love*".

2nd: Pray for those struggling with an eating disorder.

3rd: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

May our loving Father, 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.

4th: Pray for King Charles and the Royal Family.

5th: Pray for university students experiencing mental health difficulties because of academic, financial or social pressures.

6th: Pray for Benefice staff and pastoral team meeting this afternoon.

7th: Pray for the gathering in Greenodd Village Hall to watch The Chosen, and for the discussion and fellowship that follows.

8th: On International Women's Day, pray for women and girls facing inequality in family life, school and workplace.

9th: Pray for areas of on-going armed conflict: the peacemakers trying to bring resolution and agencies delivering aid.

10th: **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 our days.

11th: Pray for leaders of the Commonwealth working towards the shared goal of wellbeing of all peoples, especially its small and vulnerable member states.

12th: Pray for local Counsellors and Parish Council administrators.

13th: Pray for the tiny minority of Christians in Somalia following Jesus in secret because of extremist violence towards Christians – especially any who convert from Islam; pray for protection, spiritual comfort and continued strength.

14th: Pray for organisations striving to bring clean water to the billions of people without access to safe water.

15th: Pray for the various Red Nose Day events raising donations to support vulnerable people and communities at home and abroad.

16th: Pray parents and God-parents will be faithful to the promises they make when bringing children for baptism.

17th: 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.

18th: Pray for all who administer the Law, that they may uphold justice and truth.

19th: Pray for diplomats and others negotiating reconciliation and peace wherever hostility exists.

20th: Pray for Christians working in the entertainment industry or professional sport.

21st: Pray for the Diocesan retreat centre Rydal Hall and its ministry towards day visitors and retreat guests.

22nd: Pray for our local farming community, especially during lambing time.

23rd: Pray for the Coniston 14 Road Race: organisers, marshals and participants.

24th: Sunday, the first day of the week

Pray our true and humble King, may grant us the faith to truly know and love Him, that we may be found beside Him on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory.

25th: Pray for ourselves at the beginning of Holy Week, that we might have a fresh awareness of all Jesus endured on our behalf, because He loves us.

26th: Pray for those wearied by anxiety or illness.

27th: Pray for pupils and staff as schools close for the Easter break.

28th: Reflect on the last Passover meal Jesus shared with his disciples, commemorated at each Holy Communion service.

29th: On this Good Friday morning remember our Lord's walk through the streets of Jerusalem to Golgotha. This afternoon, remember His final hour on the cross and meditate on his final words, "It is finished!" (*John 19:30*)

30th: Pray for situations that seem so hopeless, offering them to God for Him to work His restoration miracle.

31st: Sunday, Easter Day HALLELUJAH – CHRIST IS RISEN!

Celebrate with Christians all around the world, rejoicing and proclaiming together "He is risen indeed!"

Readings for March 2024

3rd	Exodus 20.1 - 17	John 2.13 - 22
10th	1 Samuel 1.20 - 28	John 19.25b - 27
17th	Jeremiah 31.31 - 34	John 12.20 - 33
24th	Mark 11.1 - 11	Mark 15.1 - 39
31st	Acts 10.34 - 43	Mark 16.1 - 8

Please send items for the April magazine to editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk by 15th March. Thank you, Juliet

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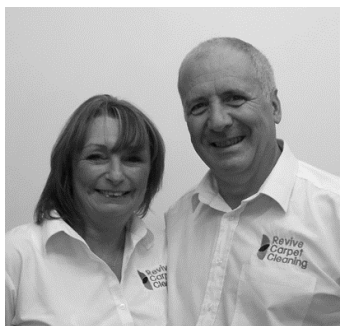
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Monday	Short Mat Indoor Bowling, 7 - 9pm, no experience needed	Greenodd Village Hall
2 nd & 4 th Friday	Tottle-Art: Art Group 10.30am - 12.30	Tottlebank Baptist Church
Tuesday	Coffee and Chat, 9.45 - 10.45am	Greenodd Village Hall
Tuesday	Coniston CAMEO 2 - 4pm	Coniston Institute
Tuesday	Youth Club age 11 & over 7 - 9pm	Coniston S & S Centre
Wednesday	Parent and Toddler Group 9.30 - 11.30am (term time only)	Coniston S & S Centre
Wednesday	Beginners Pilates, 4.30pm	Greenodd Village Hall
Wednesday	Lowick Parent & Toddler Group 9.30 - 11.30am (term time only) £1.50	Lowick Community Hall
Wednesday	Community Lunch, 1pm sharp, £7.50	Farmers Arms, Lowick
Thursday	"Young at Heart" exercise and lunch, 11am £5 (term time only) or just come for lunch at 12 noon.	Coniston S&S Centre
Thursday	Volunteer Day 9.30 - 3.30pm	Brantwood Gardens
Thursday	Netball Skills 6.30 - 7.30pm	Coniston S & S Centre
Friday	Indoor Bowling, 2 - 4pm	Coniston Institute
2 nd Tuesday	Egton WI, 7.30pm	Greenodd Village Hall
2 nd Tuesday	Ulverston Repair Café 6.30-8.30pm	Croftlands Community Centre
3 rd Tuesday	Coniston WI, 7.30pm,	Coniston Institute
1 st Wednesday	Dominoes and Lunch, 12.30pm	Coniston Institute
1 st Wednesday	Charity Quiz, 8pm, £3 per person	Coniston S & S Centre
2 nd Wednesday	Bouth WI, 7.30pm	Bouth Village Hall
1 st Wednesday	Prayer Hour - 10 - 11am	St Mary's, Penny Bridge
3 rd Wednesday	Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm	Bouth Village Hall

What's On Guide - March

1 st	World Day of Prayer 2pm	Sacred Heart, Coniston
1 st	UVHS Swing Band 7.30pm	Greenodd Village Hall
2 nd	Coffee Morning, 10am	Greenodd Village Hall
5 th	Film: Lunana	Carthouse Cinema
9 th	Outdoor & Adventure Film Night 7pm	Carthouse Cinema
9 th	Live music: Nostalgia, 7pm	Greenodd Village Hall
12 th	Talk: A Life of Ferns, 7pm	Brantwood
13 th	Talk: Lowther Castle	Farmers Arms, Lowick
16 th	Film: The Banshees of Inisherin	Carthouse Cinema
16 th	Live music - Christian Garrick Quartet, 8pm	Coniston Institute
16 th	Concert: Martin Roscoe, pianist, 7pm	Brantwood
16 th	Dark Skies & Pie Night see page 12	Brantwood
18 th	Community Lunch, 12.30pm	Coniston Institute
20 th	Crake Valley Friendship Club outing	Greenodd VH bus stop
20 th	Quiz, Coniston Twinning Association, 7pm	Ship Inn, Bowmanstead
21 st	X112 Coffee Morning see page 15	St Mary's, Ulverston
21 st	Talk: Oak Swill Basket Making, 7pm	Water Yeat Village Hall
21 st	Live Music: Barnaby Kenny	Farmers Arms, Lowick
23 rd	Coniston 14 Road Race, see p10	Coniston
24 th	Autumn String Quartet, 7pm	Water Yeat Village Hall
25 th	Colton Parish Council 7pm	Finsthwaite Village Hall
27 th	Poetry Open Mic night	Farmers Arms, Lowick
30 th	Easter Extravaganza, see p13	Farmers Arms, Lowick

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Their passion is to explore and perform significant and outstanding works written for the genre. Locally based, they love performing in smaller venues in the Cumbria region, presenting classical music making 'at close quarters'

Schubert Quartetsatz

Shostakovich Quartet No.8 Op.110

'3 Lake District Pieces' by Armstrong Gibbs

Dvorak Quartet Op.96 'American'

Sunday 24th March 7pm £15

in advance - no booking fee - from

www.wegotickets.com/wateryeatvillagehall

Café/table seating.

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

www.e-voice.org.uk/wyv