

Coniston and Crake Valley News

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



January 2020

www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

The Coniston and Crake Valley Benefice

"To Grow, Witness and Love Like Jesus"



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Brian and Anne's rest day is Friday

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Pastoral Letter

2020 VISION

The pun was inevitable and will be used many times in the year to come, but as we begin a new year and a new decade there is more to “2020 Vision” than a mere pun.

If you are reading this pastoral letter online or in printed form then you may have noticed quite a few changes to the style, layout and content. Yes, there have been editorial changes and a “new look”, but there are more fundamental changes reflected in our magazine that stem from the Church’s 2020 Vision.

The magazine is now free in printed form and of course, available online, so there is no longer a subscription for some regular readers – though you can still donate if you wish to! This decision reflects our desire that everyone should have an opportunity to read the magazine if they wish to – no cost.

The magazine is primarily a community magazine with community news. Yes, the magazine is produced and edited by the Church and includes information and articles related to our Christian faith, but the magazine’s primary purpose is to communicate community news up and down the Crake Valley and beyond. This decision reflects our desire to reach out to and inform everyone who wants to remain in touch with their community – for everyone.

So, how do these desires and decisions, demonstrated in our new magazine, stem from our 2020 Vision? Because, all the churches in Coniston and the Crake Valley want to see a continuing Christian presence in the valley, as...

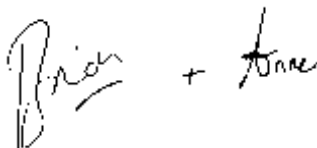
...we believe that the teachings of Jesus and living in the way that Jesus taught and lived are still important and meaningful in our communities.

...we believe that service and kindness should be available to all who wish to receive it – no cost.

...we believe that God’s love for each of us expressed in the Word of God should be communicated to all who wish to hear that message – for everyone.

We hope that you enjoy the new magazine and the new format and layout, but most of all we hope that you will come to see clearly, with 20:20 vision, that God’s love is for everyone, no cost – that is our 2020 Vision.

Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian + Anne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

From the Registers



Baptisms

24th November George Gunner Lavery at St. Andrews, Coniston

Weddings

21st December Peter Isaac Redhead and Nicola Wilson

at St. Andrews, Coniston



30th December Ryan David Bingham and Freya Josephine McCabe
at St. Luke's, Lowick

Funerals



8th November Derek Parkin at Barrow Crematorium

14th November Dora Elizabeth Shepherd at Holy Trinity, Colton

25th November Derek Newton at Blawith Church, interment of ashes

2nd December Dorothy Hallett at St. Mary the Virgin, Penny Bridge

New Website for the Benefice of Coniston and the Crake Valley

You know how the old saying goes - "You wait ages for a bus, and then two come along at the same time!" Well, the same is true of the Benefice of Coniston and the Crake Valley. Not only have we launched a new combined and formatted magazine, but on 1st January 2020 our new website goes live!



The Benefice website will contain news and information about events, plus special and regular services. There will also be news and links to important parts of our communities, including our schools, and farming and tourism communities.

So, don't just look at the new magazine, come visit our new website and add a bookmark for **www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk**

Church Services and Rotas for January 2020

5 th Epiphany			
St. Luke Torver	9.00am	Winter Breakfast	H Bowness, L Inman, V Towndrow
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Joanna Henson
Holy Trinity Colton	9.30am	Morning Worship	Pam Priestley
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev David Bickersteth
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion by Extension (BCP)	Peter Fox

12 th First Sunday of Epiphany			
St. Luke Torver	9.00am	Holy Communion by Extension (BCP)	Peter Fox
St. Luke Lowick	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bickersteth
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Worship For All	Pamela Hull/ Peter Fox

19 th Second Sunday of Epiphany			
St. Luke Torver	9.00am	Informal Worship with Healing	H Bowness, L Inman, V Towndrow
Tottlebank Baptist Church, Colton	10.30am	Service For Christian Unity	Rev Ian Swift
St. Andrew Coniston	4.00pm	All Age Worship	Christians Together in Coniston

26 th Third Sunday of Epiphany			
St. Luke Torver	7.00pm	Torver Junction	H Bowness, L Inman, V Towndrow
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Methodist Service	Rev Graham Ransom
Holy Trinity Colton	9.30am	Morning Worship	Donald Wroe
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Harry Welch
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion	Ven Vernon Ross

Churches in the Coniston and Crake Valleys

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

For Services this month see page 5

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. Our moderator is Rev. Andrew Dodd. For further information contact Chris and Margaret Hamps, hampsc@outlook.com

Coniston Methodist Church, Coniston LA21 8HH

The Sunday morning service is at 11.00am and a warm welcome awaits you. For further information contact Joyce Holland on 01229 41594.

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

Mass is held on Saturdays at 6.00pm.

For further information contact Father Matthew Jacob on 01229 779673.

Coniston Christian Fellowship LA21 8AL

You are welcome to join us for our meetings on Sundays at 10.30am in the Primary School.

Home group meets regularly every Tuesday evening during term time. For further information please contact Norman & Christine Beech on 015394 41780 or Kevin & Julie Gregory on 015394 41125. Please see our website for more details: www.conistonchristianfellowship.co.uk



February Magazine

Please can all items, news, advertising enquiries and "What's On" events for this Magazine be emailed to Juliet at admin@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk by January 15th. If you don't have access to a computer you can leave items at the

 Vicarage but please give me plenty of time to convert them to electronic format. Coniston items can still go to Jean Johnson if that's more convenient : enquiries@conistonholidays.co.uk or tel. 41319.



Calling all photographers!

If you have photos of local interest that would be suitable for the cover of a future Magazine, please email in as above, with a note of where and roughly when taken. This month's cover photo is of Oxen Park by Juliet Caldwell.

WHEN DARKNESS COMES

The clocks have gone back and we miss those light evenings as autumn turns to winter. I hear people discussing SAD syndrome, where our bodies try to cope but our mood drops and fluctuates as we physically miss the attributes of longer daylight hours. If you are also a 'glass half empty' person, as opposed to a 'glass half full' person, if you live alone or with health or relationship issues it can be doubly hard. Mental health is getting lots of publicity now with the Royals highlighting their own issues and this is making it more ok to talk about it and talking is good!

We can all get low at times but sometimes our circumstances compound things and it becomes difficult for us to see a way forward. With the help of family, friends and health professionals we try to take those steps out of the darkness. It can be a long journey back to full health for those suffering, but also for those who care for them. What more can we do?

St Andrew's had a banner outside all summer that said "TRY PRAYER". Medical research has shown that in trials, sick people who had no faith improved faster when they were prayed for, even when they had no awareness this was happening. That encourages me, especially when there are circumstances I can do nothing about such as in my family, with friends or global and environmental issues that distress me.

What is prayer? It is talking to God then listening and trusting. It can be done anytime, anywhere, spoken out or quiet thoughts... God hears us even when we can't think of the words to express our deep concerns and pain, and He cares passionately about every individual, faith or no faith.

A verse I find hugely encouraging when I feel I am fighting a losing battle is this:

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it" [John 1:5]

The tiniest candle in a dark room eliminates the darkness... try it!

Perhaps you would like to join with a number of us who are lighting a candle at 10pm each evening, wherever we are, as a gesture of prayer for those who are struggling with some form of 'darkness' at the moment. As we all join together, just like placing lots of candles together... the light intensifies and the darkness goes... give it a try, and be blessed by the power prayer releases for good in your life and circumstances.

V.J.T.

Rainfall , Garden House, Coniston, November 2019

Total - 221.2mm (8.7ins)

Wet days: 21, more than 1mm on 13 days

Wettest day 11th: 76.0mm (3.0 ins)

AROUND THE PARISHES

Colton

Oxen Park Cinema Club organises their own Mountain Film Festival.

Three days, three films providing a stunning background to three very different mountain stories.

Friday 17th January – *Final Ascent* – Legendary Hamish MacInnes (remember those ice axes?) recovers from an illness through checking out his achievements and watching some of his own multitude of documentaries.

Saturday 18th January – *Meru* – a team of three tackle a first ascent of 21,000' Meru Peak in the Indian Himalaya.

Sunday 19th January – *Free Solo* – a gripping first solo attempt on the 3,000' vertical wall of El Capitan in the Yosemite National Park.

Book in – all films start at 7.30pm – bring a drink over from The Manor and be prepared for some mind-blowing action.

Contact: Carol at crimcneill@gmail.com.

Backbarrow Ironworks Preservation

If you have driven along the old road through Backbarrow recently you will have noticed renewed building activity on the old ironworks site. Following the insolvency of the previous developers the live/work units were left uncompleted for a number of years but now new housing, including some 'affordable' homes are being built, and steps are being taken to conserve the remains of the blast furnace, designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The surviving structures of Backbarrow Ironworks have been described by Historic England as "the best illustration nationally of iron-smelting technology development from the early 18th century to the 20th century."

Of the eight local charcoal-fired blast furnaces built in the 18th century, only Backbarrow continued to produce pig iron into the mid 20th century, thanks to continual innovation and the proximity of the railway. The two in the Crake valley, at Nibthwaite and Penny Bridge, closed in 1755 and 1780 respectively.

The Backbarrow Ironworks Heritage Trust has been established as a charity to take over responsibility for the ironworks once development of the whole site is complete in 2020. Contact: Bbarrowiws.heritagetrust@gmail.com.

Coniston & Torver

Connecting Mums: Fridays 10am - 12noon, Coniston Sports & Social Centre

All Mums welcome with babies and children under 5 years. Play, support, advice, support for mums by mums. It's not easy being a Mum but you don't have to feel you are on your own.

Discussions and advice on sleep, weaning and other baby-related topics. The Health Visitor attends on the last Friday of the month for checks and weigh-ins. Just come along or for additional information please contact Shirley on **07841 978723**, or e-mail our office on: advice@ulverstonmind.org.uk

Coniston School Success



John Ruskin School was delighted in its recent Ofsted inspection that the inspectors identified the school vision: 'be respected, be resilient, be valued, be ready for your future and be you' as central to all the school does for its students on a daily basis. The school vision was evident in both students' behaviour and their interaction with one another and in the inclusive curriculum leaders have implemented.

The school was judged good in all areas under the new inspection framework, meaning that the Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development and Leadership and Management at John Ruskin School all provide students with a wealth of opportunities and experiences, both inside and outside the classroom.

Inspectors describe the school as 'a welcoming school where staff know every pupil,' the excellent behaviour of the students both in lessons and around the school site is regularly praised alongside the school's use of the outdoor environment to build students' character and resilience. The report states that the 'pupils work hard and enjoy their learning' and that John Ruskin School 'prepares them to be responsible young citizens.' The report identifies the fact that 'leaders are keen to foster pupils' appreciation of music, art and literature' and that the curriculum is 'aspirational for all.'

Christian Children's and Youth Groups in Coniston

Wednesday: Sparks! : Coniston Primary School 3:20-4:20pm

For Reception to Year 2 students at Coniston Primary we have the weekly Sparks! afterschool group. This is a lively group with games, songs, bible stories and fun activities. This term we're journeying through the stories of the Old Testament and seeing how God was with people then and is still the same today.

Thursday: NJOY : John Ruskin School 7-9pm

For those in Year 7 plus we have our NJOY youth group. Here we discuss issues that affect us in our day to day lives and how Christianity is still relevant today. We have weekly challenges, tuck shop and the craziest games around. We also have the occasional trip so keep your eyes peeled for those.

Friday: The Zone : John Ruskin School 5:30-7pm

For those in school years 3-6 we have The Zone. At The Zone we have weekly challenges, crazy games, awesome activities and plenty of points to be won. At The Zone we've been journeying through God's Story and looking at how God was with so many people in the Bible and how he is still with us here today.

These three groups are run by Charlie Day, the Christian Children's and Youth worker for Coniston and are staffed by Christians Together in Coniston volunteers. If you would like to find out more about the groups then do get in touch with Charlie by either emailing him: charlieccyw@gmail.com or calling: **07788187718**.

Coniston Institute and the Ruskin Museum - news and events

Invitation from The Ruskin Museum: We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and to celebrate the launch of the New Benefice Magazine invite all residents within the parishes of Coniston and Crake to visit **The Ruskin Museum, Coniston** free of charge through January and February 2020. The Museum is open Tuesday to Sunday 10.30am to 3pm. Closed Monday. Please bring either proof of address or a copy of this magazine. We very much look forward to welcoming friends from down the Valley.

Coniston Institute Community Lunch and Activities: A big thank you to everyone who attended and supported the programme through November and December 2019. We are very grateful to The Lakeland 100, Coniston Amenities Grant whose funding has launched the programme and given us the confidence to get it going. Our aim is to provide an opportunity for residents to enjoy a hearty 2 course meal in a relaxed and friendly environment, and to provide a range of social activities people will enjoy. We have already had a couple of afternoons looking and sharing memories with old photos of Coniston, but we are open to ideas for other activities.

January dates for lunches are Monday 6th and 20th, 12.30pm in the Reading Room. Lunches are free however you may donate to the cost if you wish. Everyone is welcome so please spread the word and encourage those who would benefit. We can help with transport if this is a problem to anyone, just let us know.

Can you help? There are many ways you could get involved including: helping in the kitchen, preparing food, serving, washing up etc.; transport/car sharing; donations of prepared food and produce and support with activities. Thank you to everyone who has helped so far including Jackie Hadwin, Pam and Josh Airey, Hayley Monkman and Tracy Hodgson who have given their time and cooking skills, Hutchinsons and the Co-op for donating produce, and John Dodd for his help with scanning and recording Coniston photos. Please get in touch with Helen on **07583 371275** if you can help in any way or email helenconistoninstitute@gmail.com. Thank you.

Much loved local band **HATCHET** will be making a welcome return to the Institute stage on **Saturday 1st February**. Hatchet first played on the Institute stage in 1971. To celebrate the first gig of their 6th decade we invite you to get your **70s Rock Gear** on, prizes for the best. Doors open 8pm. Pre-bought or reserved tickets £5.00, on the door £6.00. Tickets available from Hutchinsons or the Ruskin Museum. To reserve contact Helen (details above) or message on Facebook. All profits going to local charities chosen by volunteers. We will need helpers on the door and for cleaning up on the night and possibly Sunday morning. Let me know if you can help.

Please see the What's On listing at the back of the Magazine for details of all regular and special events at the Institute. For more information about any of these or if you are interested in booking a room at the Institute please contact Tracy Hodgson on **015394 41823**, email conistoninstituteuk@gmail.com.

Wandering and Wondering

Around the World

A thoughtful presentation of pictures from five continents

by Dare Holland

at Coniston Methodist Church

Wednesday 29 January 2020, 7.30pm

Admission free, donations welcome refreshments provided

Everybody will be most welcome

BURNS NIGHT at 7.30 pm

SATURDAY 25 JANUARY 2020

at the Coniston Institute

£20 per ticket

We'll serve traditional Scottish fare including haggis (traditional or vegetarian) with neaps and tatties plus a wee dram to wash it down.

You can come in a kilt if you like, but it is not compulsory. However please wear something tartan – it could be just a tie or a scarf.

We will be entertained by the Cornerstone Band, who will be playing ceilidh music and talking us through some traditional Scottish dances.

Because we need to know how many of you will be attending so that we do not run out of haggis, please book your tickets in advance from Twinning Association Members:

Anne Hall 07771 988518, Jackie Coe 07776 140607, Derek Adams 07973 179805, Magdalen Gee 07766 581622 or email Jackie jackie@coessential.co.uk

This event will be organised by Coniston and District International Twinning Association.

On **Friday 24th January** there will be **Pie and Peas** in the Reading Room at Coniston Institute at 7.30pm. Please book names with Sarah and Peter,

tel: 015394 49509 or 07766 657078

Coniston Coffee Morning and Soup Lunch

Coffee Mornings will continue as usual at St Andrews Church on **the first Wednesday of the month** except in **January**, when it will be held on **the 8th, the second Wednesday**, between **11.00am and 12.30pm**, with soup served from 11.30am.

Judy Jones will also be there with hearing aid batteries.

So do come along and join us – **all are most welcome**

We would like to thank everyone for their support with gifts of clothing and toiletries for Manna House. We will also be sending £200 from the Coffee Morning takings.

Egton cum Newland

Prayer Hour

A 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 **Weds 8th January, 10am-11am.**

Egton cum Newland PCC would like to thank everyone who helped with and attended the coffee morning in Greenodd on 7th December, over £600 was raised for St Mary the Virgin Church.



Rusland Valley Horticultural Society

POTATO DAY

Sunday 19th January

10am – 2pm

Greenodd Village Hall

120+ varieties of seed potatoes, onion sets,
fruit bushes & trees and much more

Admission £1, children free

home-made soup, cakes and drinks

for more information contact:

Jon Woddy: 015395 31928 jon@woddy.co.uk

Jen Steventon: 07528 905003 jensteve@hotmail.com



Old Time and Modern Sequence

Supper Dance

Friday 17th January

Greenodd Village Hall

Live Music with Brian Griffin

Bar, raffle, pie and pea supper - all proceeds to charity

Booking is essential, for details please phone Bob Malcolm on

01229 861488

Greenodd Village Hall

Coffee mornings/evenings, music shows and more

Find out what is going on in Greenodd Village Hall

www.greenoddvillagehall.co.uk

We are on Facebook... search for Greenodd & Penny Bridge Village Hall

Penny Bridge CE Primary School January 2020
Newsletter

Our late November hedgerow tree planting was a great success. The top infant's class, year 5 and the Eco group planted over 100 trees. In one year the school have planted 225 trees! We are very pleased and proud of this achievement. The Woodland Trust gave us the hedgerow trees, and Kath from South Cumbria Rivers Trust came along to help us. A big thank you to all involved.

We will complete planting the hedgerow in the early spring. More than 100 children have enjoyed all these various, rather muddy tree planting activities.

Just before Christmas we sent a gigantic box of crisp packets to Terracycle for conversion into garden furniture. Everyone is very good at this project and really enjoys taking part!

The autumn term flashed past and sporting activities continued unabated. Our athletics team (9-11 years) achieved 5th position out of 40 schools, the younger pupils were also successful in gymnastics, well done to all competitors.

The off-roading first team were the overall winners out of 12 other teams. Excellent scores were achieved by all the teams who took part in these exciting team work activities.

This term we are starting a new venture. We are beginning to organize raised beds to grow vegetables and other plants. Anybody who is 'green fingered' or just enjoys gardening and has a few hours to spare please come along and join in. Spare seeds and any surplus 'bee loving' plants from local gardens would be most welcome. All the children will be participating in this new venture.

We wish you all a happy and peaceful New Year.

The Eco Management Team.

Lowick with Blawith

Lowick Community Hall

We have had a year with no significant incidents. Hopefully my comments will not trigger anything unseen!

The main hall was redecorated last year and now the woodwork is in need of refreshing so that looks like a job for the winter. However generally the hall is in good shape considering the increased footfall this year. We have a wall projector now and a screen to match. The entrance hall rendering is in a bad way and will have to have serious work before too long, this will require a grant application as I think the work will be costly.

The small library has shown a big increase in DVDs this year, I suspect the rise of Netflix has prompted some people to pass on their redundant films. However some have been taken away to be viewed so that's good.

The lawns outside have been kept in good shape this year and perhaps we should investigate the encouragement of wild flowers and pollinators in the future?

The community continues to support us with grants from The Parish Council and The Village Hall Committee which enable us to provide free WiFi for our users. Grant from The Keswick to Barrow enable us to complete on going decoration and this year more serviceable seating outside facing the side lawn.

Our solar panels were washed this year and resulted in an increase of electricity sold to the grid. I think we will repeat this action every couple of years to maximise their generating potential.

As always I would like to thank our fantastic committee for their never ending support and of course our hall users who always speak highly of our accommodation.

Generally the hall is being used a lot more these days due to its low cost and the warmth provided by our heat pump, which is only turned off in the summer! The on line calendar allows potential users a quick way to check when the hall is free and makes booking for me and them so much easier. Why not log on to www.lowick.com and see for yourself.



Lowick Community Hall

LOOKING FOR A GREAT VENUE FOR YOUR
CLASSES, MEETINGS OR PARTIES?

LOWICK COMMUNITY HALL IS WARM, SPACIOUS, VERSATILE AND
COMFORTABLE *AND OFFERS EXCELLENT VALUE FOR MONEY*

*SINGLE BOOKINGS: £20.00 FOR UP TO FOUR HOURS

*SIX OR MORE BOOKINGS PER YEAR: £13.00 FOR UP TO FOUR HOURS

ACCESS TO FREE WiFi AND DATA PROJECTOR

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR FULL DAY EVENTS

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO CHECK AVAILABILITY GO TO WWW.LOWICK.ORG.UK
OR CONTACT ROB DOVE 01229 885647 OR LISA GRAVE 01229 861835

WATER YEAT VILLAGE HALL

Presents the annual

QUIZ

FRIDAY 17th JANUARY 2020

Cabaret-style seating - bring your own tipples

Have a crack at being the Champion

"CRAKE VALLEY EGGHEADS"

**COME AS A TEAM OR COME ANYWAY AND TEAM UP
TEAMS OF UP TO 4**

DOORS OPEN AT 7, STARTS AT 7.30

£3 per team member

ADMISSION INCLUDES NIBBLES AND PRIZES

Charity No 222932

SATNAV LA12 8DJ off the 5084 to Coniston

www.wyvh.btck.co.uk



TRANSPORT DIFFICULTIES? WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP



Cumbria County Council

Lowick, Blawith and Oxen Park Voluntary Social Car Scheme.

The Voluntary Car Scheme provides transport to members of the community of any age (under 16's must be accompanied by an adult, appropriate car / booster seats must be supplied) who cannot make their journey by public or private transport. The charge is £0.45 per mile travelled.

Typical journeys include hospital appointments and visiting, doctor's or dentist's appointments, shopping or transport to railway station.

The local contact number is 01229 885498

Voluntary Social Car Scheme - drivers and coordinator needed

Additional volunteer drivers are always needed. Expenses are paid at £0.45 per mile with "dead" mileage covered by CCC. If you think that you could fulfil this role and would like some more information please phone Marguerite on **01229 885498**.

We are also in need of a Coordinator for the Coniston area, Marguerite can give more information about what this entails.



Bus update from the 'Friends of the X112'

At this time of writing we are still waiting to hear from the Traffic Commissioner about our application for Section 22 permits which will enable us to move to the next stage of the continuing saga of keeping our buses running. However we are making plans for this year in the hope that we get the permits that we are seeking. The main aspect that we are working on is to put together our ideas as to what, in an ideal world, our timetable for the buses would be. At the moment for example the service between Barrow and Ulverston is far from ideal, three days a week, usually a taxi rather than a bus, and no direct link to Coniston.

Over the next month we would like to listen to people's ideas about what they would like to see for a timetable. This applies to the No.11, the X12 and the X70 (Ulverston Town) services.

If you have thoughts on this matter please tell us, we would like to hear from you. Contact can be made by ringing me (Roger) on 01229 835712 or by e-mailing me (roger@rdhwc.plus.com) or by talking to any of the committee on the bus.

We obviously cannot guarantee anything but we are trying to be ambitious for the future and improve the service.

Reports and News

Bouth WI

Our next meeting will be on January 8th, 7.15pm at Bouth Village Hall. This is an open meeting at which the speaker is Philip Caine, who is going to talk on the subject "Barrow to Baghdad". If you would like to attend the cost to non-members is £2.50.

Please contact our secretary Alison (for numbers) at lakesbiker@btinternet.com. We would love to welcome some non-members.

Egton cum Newland WI

Firstly Happy New Year to you all from the W.I.

We ended last year's meetings with our Christmas supper which is always an enjoyable event. It was also the first meeting of the newly elected committee. What is the saying, "out with the old and in with the new" ? Well guess what, it is the same old, same old - as we all got re-elected! At this meeting we were able to hand over a cheque for £2000 to St. Mary's Hospice. This was the amount that our members helped to raise over 2019, helped enormously by your support at the Sankey evening, our "free" Ploughman's, the supper dance and the place-name quiz sales.

We had a surprise new visitor at our November meeting and we hope she will continue with us. Although it was our AGM we made it a fun night by playing crazy whist after the business part which went down very well. Just as you thought you'd bagged a good prize the rules changed so you got the booby prize!

Our two bookclubs continue to promote good debates. We will be able to swap recommendations soon. We all enjoyed "The Cleaner of Chartres" by Sally Vickers but at going to press I can tell you I am sinking with Melvyn Bragg's "Maid of Buttermere". Rummikub continues to be popular and more are always welcome. Our new programme looks varied and interesting, subjects covered are a swill making demo, local history, archery, a theatre group and talks by local shop owners. If you would like more information please contact Gill on 01229 861954. We meet on the second Tuesday of every month (except August) at 7.30pm in Greenodd Village Hall. We will ensure that you are made welcome.

From the WI team.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

Lowick

The last Parish Council meeting was held on 21 November.

County Councillor Matt Brereton gave some feedback on highways issues raised at previous meetings. He confirmed that the SatNav sign is to be moved to the other side of the road to mitigate any confusion. He agreed that the flower box scheme at Lowick Bridge should go ahead – using ‘common sense’ in siting. Highways officers are looking at locations where there are flooding problems, including Woodgate. Councillor Mitchell highlighted the issue of white lining – or lack of it, following re-surfacing, and what has been done is a waste of time.

Councillor Ingham has completed the final draft of the questionnaire in relation to the Parish Plan and it was agreed that this should be printed and sent to all residents. A questionnaire for young people will also be devised. This will be an opportunity for members of Lowick parish to give their views on what they would like to see happen in the future – so please take part.

District Councillor Ian Wharton explained that Egton PC are going ahead with an attempt to get the now defunct Farmers Arms registered as a community asset. A planning group is needed to move things along to prevent the owners allowing it to deteriorate further.

The Lengthsman is still active in the parish and will be undertaking some work on the bus shelters as well as his usual tasks of clearing drains and cutting back overgrown areas.

SLDC have refused the application from Arqiva to erect a 10 metre mast at the junction of the A5092 and the A5084 to improve the network for smart metering. The reasons given are the adverse visual impact and the lack of convincing evidence that the site selection was fully exhaustive. The councillors felt that this was a just result, considering the concerns that were expressed. Arqiva may submit a further application, hopefully taking into consideration local opinions.

It is with regret that the Council learnt that Councillor Longmire plans to resign from the Council. He was Chairman for several years and guided the Council through a difficult period after the last election. A casual vacancy will be advertised and if any resident wishes to join the parish council, please let a councillor or the clerk know. Because it is less than six months before the next election is due, no election will be held but an interested person could be co-opted.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 16 January at 7.30pm in Lowick Community Hall. All are welcome.

Remember to use the website **lowickpc.wordpress.com** for information about your parish and your parish council.

Please note: Pete Jones, Reserve Manager for Lowick Common, is planning to attend the January meeting to talk about the plans for the Common. Please come to the meeting if you are interested in this topic.

Rusland Horizons Report

Looking forward to 2020

Our Big Christmas Bash, held in early December, was a great success with nearly 50 volunteers joining us. After walling, step repair, rhododendron bashing and forest activities for the youngsters, the days events came to a perfect close with a well-earned mulled wine and stew.

There will be many more activities and events to look forward to in 2020. Training courses and work parties, a new arts programme, plus butterfly and moth talks presented by nationally-known speakers. A new History Society will also be started and a number of walks around the Greenwood Trails with a focus on 'knowledge-share' organised.

Polytunnel target getting closer

The financial target that will allow the purchase of a polytunnel is getting ever closer. With the required total nearly within reach, the possibility of Rusland Horizons growing their own tree seeds for planting out should soon become a reality. Planting hay meadow species to help pollinating insects, like bees and hoverflies, will encourage everyone to do their bit for carbon capture!

Keep checking the Rusland Horizons website for the latest polytunnel updates and news of events and activities <http://www.ruslandhorizons.org>

National Trust Update South Lakes

Happy New Year! This year is a very special one for the National Trust – we are celebrating 125 years of looking after beautiful, natural and historic places for the nation. More on this throughout the year.

After the Christmas break we are now gearing up for re-opening Hill Top, the Beatrix Potter Gallery and Wray Castle on 15th February. In the February newsletter please look out for an invitation to join us for a preview event at Hill Top and the Beatrix Potter Gallery, to give you a glimpse of what's new for the 2020 season before we open to visitors.

Outdoors, the forestry team and woodland rangers continue their work to remove larch trees affected by *Phytophthora ramorum* at Tarn Hows. You may notice logs and stumps in the woods around the tarn. Tarn Hows is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and the mires are vital habitats for lots of rare wetland plant species so we cannot remove logs when the ground is so wet, without damaging the ground. We hope to remove most of the logs in early spring.

We have lots of job vacancies live at the moment working at our indoor and outdoor places, so please do check online at <https://www.nationaltrustjobs.org.uk/> to find out more and apply.

Thanks and best wishes for a prosperous start to the new year,
John Moffat, General Manager, South Lakes.

Brantwood News and Views

Having had a fabulous and frantic year celebrating Ruskin's Bicentenary, there are still plenty of reasons to come and visit Brantwood over the winter months. Not least a warm welcome from the Terrace Café; sample from our yummy winter menu with a piping hot chocolate in front of the fire.

Phil Entwistle's exhibition continues in the Studio until the 12th January with some spectacular landscapes, drawings and models of the local area. Our Blue Gallery exhibition 'Master of Topography: John Ruskin's Debt to Samuel Prout' is now open. Prout was a British watercolourist and one of the masters of watercolour architectural painting. This exhibition of works by Prout and Ruskin draws comparisons between the two and shows Prout's influence on Ruskin's style. This exhibition continues in the Blue Gallery until the 15th of March.

We are continuing to sort and collate Ruskin's mineral collection which came back to Brantwood in 2019. With over 2000 stunning specimens, it is difficult to choose which ones to display when our dedicated exhibition in the Linton Room opens in March. For all forthcoming exhibition and event details, please keep an eye on our website for updates.

Our current opening hours are Wednesday to Sunday 10.30 - 4pm. We'll be back open everyday 10.30 - 5pm from the 16th March 2020.

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Parish Prayer Diary

January 2020

1st January: On the threshold of a New Year, we recommit ourselves to God's Kingdom service, confident that He is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to its power that is at work within us. (*Ephesians 3v20*)

2nd January: Pray for troubled families experiencing great uncertainty due to financial or relational difficulties.

3rd January: Pray for The Bible Society, working to translate and distribute Bibles worldwide so people can read God's Word in their own language.

4th January: Pray for residents and staff at our local nursing and care homes, for a relaxed atmosphere where residents receive loving, respectful care.

5th January: Sunday, the first day of the week

In our worship today, pray we might have a greater awareness of God's love for us and then be able to share that love with others in our daily lives.

6th January: Pray for children returning to our local schools this week.

7th January: Pray for Open Doors, providing practical support and emergency relief to Christians worldwide who suffer for their faith in the Lord Jesus.

8th January: Pray for our local councillors as they serve our local communities.

9th January: Pray for the Benefice churches which are open each day; that those who come seeking God find He is faithful to His promise: 'you will....find me when you seek me with all your heart'. (*Jeremiah 29v13*)

10th January: Pray for those housebound because of age or infirmity and are dependent upon Social Services or other agencies to meet their daily needs.

11th January: Pray for the local Voluntary Social Car Scheme and the need for more drivers to offer their time for this important and valued local service.

12th January: Sunday, the first day of the week

As we come to worship today let us give thanks for Christian fellowship and pray God's word will speak to each of us through the power of the Holy Spirit.

13th January: Pray for the meetings of Colton Parish Council, and Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Council, taking place tonight.

14th January: Pray for the ministry of Rev Ian and Simea Meldrum at the Living Waters' Church, Olinda, Brazil, providing care to families living on the local rubbish heap.

15th January: Pray for our local parent and toddler groups, that they will be places of refreshment, encouragement and friendship.

16th January: Pray for the meeting of Lowick Parish Council tonight.

17th January: Pray for our local MPs that they may serve with integrity.

18th January: Pray for families needing to turn to local food banks to help them over a difficult financial time.

19th January: Sunday, the first day of the week

Give thanks for the freedom we have to worship each week remembering many Christians who do not have this privilege but still faithfully meet when they can.

20th January: Pray for Coniston Parish Council meeting this evening.

21st January: Pray for Christians in Parliament, an All-Party Parliamentary Group which exists to support MPs and staff in their work in the Houses of Parliament.

22nd January: Pray for children with special needs that they will get the help they need and also be able to socialise with other children.

23rd January: Pray for Christian Aid as it works to end poverty and injustice.

24th January: Pray for St Mary's Hospice in Ulverston, its staff and patients.

25th January: Pray for those who each week work quietly behind the scenes keeping our church buildings well maintained and ready for worship.

26th January: Sunday, the first day of the week

As we come to worship may we focus on Jesus, give to Him all our anxieties and problems and recommit ourselves to His service.

27th January: Pray for the work of The Gideons International, that many people come to know the Lord Jesus through reading Gideon-placed Bibles and New Testaments

28th January: Pray for the Christian Church in Syria, for Pastor Abdalla and the Christians who choose to stay to shine Christ's light in their troubled community.

29th January: Pray for all involved in education particularly that teachers will not become bogged down by bureaucracy.

30th January: Pray for the Open to God gathering tonight, that each attendee may come with expectant hearts to a time of reflection on God's word.

31st January: Pray for our armed forces serving overseas, for adequate equipment and resources and for wisdom for those in government and the MOD when making decisions.

Creators Space Hub

Space for Creativity in our lives, our churches & our communities

Creators Space Hub is a new venture for Cumbrian Christians who are interested in creativity, whether you are actively involved in creativity or just enjoy seeing other people's creativity. Through a variety of networking events and workshops, we seek to provide opportunities to meet together, share creativity, develop skills, collaborate on projects, support each other and explore what the Bible says about creativity.

Everyone is welcome: novices, beginners, experienced, amateurs, professionals or just curious. Whatever way you use your creativity, we'd love to meet you.

17th January, 6.30 - 9.30pm: Creative Arts Professionals networking meeting, 11 Marsh Side, Kirby-in-Furness

25th January, 9.30am - 4pm, Word Space, bring and share Words at Torver Schoolroom

Check our website for more information:

www.creatorsspaceblog.wordpress.com/hub

MONTHLY

Bouth WI	2 nd Weds	7.15pm	Bouth VH
Egton WI	2 nd Tues	7.30pm	Greenodd VH
Coniston WI	3 rd Tues	7.30pm	Coniston Institute
Spark Bridge & Lowick WI	4 th Tues	7.30pm	Member's home
Church Coffee Morning	1 st Weds	11am	St Andrew's
Prayer Hour	1 st Weds	10am	St Mary the Virgin
Greenodd Quilters	1 st Weds	10am	Greenodd VH
Coniston History Group	3 rd Mon	2.30pm	Coniston Institute
Coniston 1 st Responders	1 st Tues	7pm	Coniston Institute

WEEKLY

Line Dancing	Thursdays	7.30pm	Greenodd VH
Social Winter Walk	Mondays	10am	Fell Foot
Indoor Bowls	Mondays	7pm	Greenodd VH
Pilates	Tue, Wed, Thurs	See web-site	Greenodd VH
Yoga	Wednesdays	10.30am & 7.30pm	Water Yeat VH
Kettlecise	Mon & Fri	9am	Greenodd VH
Pilates	Mondays	6pm	Lowick CH
Tai Chi	Fridays	10am	Lowick CH
Lowick Young Farmers	Wednesdays	7pm	Lowick CH
Indoor Bowling	Friday	1pm	Coniston Institute
Craft Club	Wednesdays	7pm	Coniston Institute
Community Choir	Thursdays	7pm	Coniston Institute
Coniston Cameo Club	Tuesdays	1pm	Coniston Institute
Little Explorers	Wednesdays	9.30am	Fell Foot
Connecting Mums	Fridays	10am	Coniston S & S
Lowick Toddlers	Wednesdays	9.30am	Lowick CH
Sparks! (Reception-year 2)	Wednesdays	3.20pm	Coniston Primary
The Zone (year 3-6)	Fridays	5.30pm	John Ruskin School
NJOY (year 7 upwards)	Thursdays	7pm	John Ruskin School

WHAT'S ON GUIDE - JANUARY

- Wed 1st: Fell Foot **New Year's Day Dip** 10am - 12noon
- Thurs 2nd: **Torver Parish Council**, 7.30pm Torver Schoolroom
- Fri 3rd: **Bingo**, Spark Bridge Village Hall, 7pm
- Sun 5th: **Winter Breakfast** 9am, Torver Schoolroom
- Mon 6th: Fell Foot **Social Winter Walk** 10 - 11am (every Monday until end Feb)
- Mon 6th: **Community Lunch**, 12.30pm Coniston Institute
- Tue 7th: **ENMO Parish Council**, 7pm, Greenodd V H
- Tue 7th: **Film "The Guilty"** at the Carthouse Cinema, Oxen Park
- Wed 8th: **Prayer Hour** at Penny Bridge Church 10 - 11am
- Wed 8th: Fell Foot **Little Explorers** 9.30-10.30am (every Wednesday)
- Wed 8th: **Bouth WI Open Meeting**: speaker Philip Caine: "Barrow to Baghdad"
- Wed 8th: **Coffee Morning** 11.30am, St Andrews, Coniston
- Mon 13th: **Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Council**, 7pm, Water Yeat VHI
- Wed 15th: **Coffee and Chat** (Haverthwaite Surgery) 10.30-11.30am, Greenodd VH
- Thurs 16th: **Lowick Parish Council** 7.30pm: Lowick Common Manager. Lowick CH
- Fri 17th: **Creative Arts Professionals support**, 6.30pm 11 Marsh Side, Kirby
- Fri 17th to Sun 19th: **Mini Mountain Fest**, The Carthouse Cinema, Oxen Park
- Fri 17th: **Supper Dance**: Greenodd Village Hall
- Fri 17th: **Quiz** at Water Yeat Village Hall, 7pm
- Sun 19th: **RVHS Potato Day**, 10 - 2pm, Greenodd Village Hall
- Mon 20th: **Community Lunch**, 12.30pm Coniston Institute
- Mon 20th: **Coniston History Group** 2.30pm Coniston Institute: Ulverston Canal
- Mon 20th: **Coniston Parish Council**, 7pm Coniston Institute
- Fri 24th: **Pie & Peas Supper**, 7.30pm Coniston Institute, tel. 015394 49509
- Sat 25th: **Word Space workshop** 9.30am - 4pm, Torver Schoolroom
- Sat 25th: **Burns Night Supper**, Coniston Institute: see news item for details
- Weds 29th: **"Wandering and Wondering"** talk 7.30pm, Coniston Methodist Church

If you have an event that you'd like publicised here for February, please email admin@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk or tel. **07884 232281** by 15th January.

My apologies in advance if there are any omissions or errors this month, please do let me know for future.

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