

# Coniston and Crake Valley News

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



**January 2021** [www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk](http://www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk)

# The Coniston and Crake Valley Benefice

*"To Grow, Witness and Love Like Jesus"*



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# Pastoral Letter

## THE GATE OF THE YEAR

*And I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year  
'Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown.'*

*And he replied,*

*'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God,  
And it shall be to you better than light  
And safer than a known way'*

New Year Greetings,

In his 1939 Christmas broadcast King George VI read the above words in conclusion to his speech to the Nation – a poem which Princess Elizabeth had brought to his attention. In December 1939 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reich of Germany ruled with an iron fist and Britain had entered the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War in order to overcome the evil of the Nazi regime. The future looked gloomy, dark and grim. There was an uncertain future ahead. Whilst in those dark days of War the enemy was visible for the Allies knew whom they were fighting – freedom from the evil of a brutal regime – we too worldwide in the past year have been fighting an enemy – an enemy which has enfolded all of humanity.

Those words spoken by King George in the dark days of World War 2 days are I think, as applicable to us in 2021 as all of humanity faces the invisible enemy of COVID-19.

December 8 2020:

As I write this letter we have Hope at the end of the tunnel with the first COVID-19 injections being administered today, a Red Letter day – named VDAY by the media – and so we go forward into the New Year 'within the hand of God' giving thanks for the army of scientists who have devoted their lives striving for a COVID-19 vaccine for the benefit of all humanity.

*'We may not be able to do great things: but we can all do small things  
– with great love'*

But before we dismiss 2020 as the most dreadful of years – which we can't deny has been a tough one for most people – perhaps we should reflect on the above words spoken by Mother Teresa of Calcutta and recall all those little acts of kindness which people have offered throughout their community – a telephone call to someone who is house-bound might not sound a 'great act' but to the person who might not have spoken to anyone for days it is a lifeline of love.

The list of kindly small acts of love to neighbours, to those who have no one to speak to – or to have someone to listen to them is endless. I have been humbled by the deeds of kindness and love – deeds done mostly out of the limelight and I pray that as we go forward into 2021 such love of humanity will continue.

Possibly in the years ahead when we look back at 2020, though we won't be able to dismiss the tragedy and cruelty of COVID-19, we will remember all these 'small' acts of love and kindness towards each other and give grateful thanks.

I end this letter with a reflection from another Teresa – this time St Teresa of Avila, a Spanish Nun (*Circa 1510*)

Her words, as with *THE GATE OF THE YEAR* words, are ones with which we are humbled as we are asked to love and serve all of humankind in the *HOPE of the Baby of Bethlehem* whose Nativity we recently celebrated.

*'Christ has no body on earth but ours. No hands, No feet but ours.*

*Ours are the eyes with which Christ looks out with compassion to the world.*

*Ours are His feet with which we must go about doing good.'*

*Vivienne Plummer*

## **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

**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 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 6.00pm.

For further information contact Father Matthew Jacob on 01229 779673.

**Coniston Christian Fellowship** LA21 8AL

During the month of January we are meeting on Sunday mornings. For more information, including the venue, please contact Alex and Ruth Stewart on 015394 49539. See our website for more details [www.conistonchristianfellowship.co.uk](http://www.conistonchristianfellowship.co.uk)

## **CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19 UPDATE**



The Bishop of Carlisle, the Rt. Revd. James Newcome, has previously written to all clergy to advise that the suspension of public worship has been lifted in the Diocese of Carlisle.

**Please refer to the benefice website for the latest information on the provision of worship and the associated risk assessments, and note that face masks must be worn**

# Church Services for January 2021

| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Epiphany     |         |                        |                    |
|------------------------------|---------|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>St. Luke</b> Lowick       | 9.30am  | <b>Morning Worship</b> | Richard Wood       |
| <b>Holy Trinity</b> Colton   | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>    | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Torver       | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>    | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Andrew</b> Coniston   | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>    | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Mary</b> Penny Bridge | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>    | Rev Brian Streeter |

| 10 <sup>th</sup> First Sunday of Epiphany |         |                       |                    |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>St. Luke</b> Torver                    | 9.00am  | <b>Holy Communion</b> | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Lowick                    | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Pamela Hull        |
| <b>Holy Trinity</b> Colton                | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Pamela Hull        |
| <b>St. Mary</b> Penny Bridge              | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Pamela Hull        |
| <b>St. Andrew</b> Coniston                | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Pamela Hull        |

| 17 <sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Epiphany |         |                       |                    |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Holy Trinity</b> Colton                 | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Torver                     | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Lowick                     | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Andrew</b> Coniston                 | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter |
| <b>St. Mary</b> Penny Bridge               | 11.00am | <b>Holy Communion</b> | Rev Harry Welch    |

| 24 <sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Epiphany |         |                                    |             |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Holy Trinity</b> Colton                 | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>                | Pamela Hull |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Torver                     | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>                | Pamela Hull |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Lowick                     | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>                | Pamela Hull |
| <b>St. Mary</b> Penny Bridge               | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>                | Pamela Hull |
| <b>St. Andrew</b> Coniston                 | 11.00pm | <b>Holy Communion by Extension</b> | Peter Fox   |

| 31 <sup>st</sup> Presentation of Christ in the Temple |         |                       |                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Holy Trinity</b> Colton                            | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter    |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Torver                                | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter    |
| <b>St. Luke</b> Lowick                                | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter    |
| <b>St. Andrew</b> Coniston                            | 10.30am | <b>Zoom Service</b>   | Rev Brian Streeter    |
| <b>St. Mary</b> Penny Bridge                          | 11.00am | <b>Holy Communion</b> | Rev David Bickersteth |



## GETTING YOUR COPY OF THE MAGAZINE

We are currently unable to distribute the Coniston and Crake Valley News magazines door-to-door. Nevertheless, we are allowed to distribute to pick-up points. These are: Greenodd village shop; Oxen Park newspaper box; Lowick Green telephone box; Blawith newspaper box; Coniston garage; Coniston dairy; Hutchinson's, Coniston; Co-op, Coniston; the churches and various other outlets.

## Parish Prayer Diary

### January 2021

**1st January:** As we begin a New Year, we commit ourselves to God, praying He will guide us through this year and strengthen us for Kingdom service.

**2nd January:** Pray for families experiencing great anxiety and uncertainty because of financial or relational difficulties.

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

Give thanks to God, who in the birth of Jesus has revealed the fullness of His love. Pray He will help us to dwell in His light and share His love each day.

**4th January:** Pray for pupils and students returning to schools, colleges and universities and for the challenges faced by all educational teaching and non-teaching staff.

**5th January:** Pray for Egton with Newlands, Mansriggs and Osmotherley (ENMO) Parish Council meeting this evening.

**6th January:** At 10am join with Christians across the benefice for an hour of prayer at home, praying for family, our community, our nation and the needs of the world.

**7th January:** Pray for residents and staff at our local nursing and care homes, as they prepare for and participate in the vaccination programme.

**8th January:** Pray for those who feel their drinking has reached a point where it is worrying them. Pray they will reach out to the many sources of help and support available.

**9th January:** Pray for doctors and nurses working in hospital, general practice and community settings.

**10th 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.

**11th January:** Pray for the meetings of Colton Parish Council, and Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Council, taking place tonight.

**12th January:** Pray for Refuge, the charity committed to the needs of adults and children experiencing domestic abuse, helping them rebuild their lives.

**13th January:** Pray for the Open Doors *World Watch List* launch today; a unique opportunity for MPs, and the public, to hear from persecuted Christians abroad who are serving their communities through their churches.

**14th January:** Pray for ministry of Ian and Simea Meldrum at the Living Waters' Church, Olinda, Brazil, providing counselling and care to families living in a shanty town next to the old local rubbish heap.

**15th January:** Pray for The Bible Society, working to translate and distribute Bibles worldwide so people can read God's Word in their own language.

**16th January:** Pray for business who export or import goods and services as they conduct post-Brexit trade with Europe and Non-EU countries.

**17th 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.

**18th January:** Pray for Coniston Parish Council meeting this evening.

**19th January:** Pray for journalists at home and abroad bringing to light stories of human injustice and exploitation, sometimes at great personal cost.

**20th January:** Pray for Joe Biden as he is sworn in as President of the United States at today's Inauguration ceremony. Pray his presidency will be a time of healing in America.

**21st January:** Pray for the meeting of Lowick Parish Council tonight.

**22nd January:** Pray for families needing to turn to local food banks to help them over a difficult financial time.

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

**24th 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.

**25th January:** Pray for those who keep our church buildings well maintained and for those to prepare for Sunday worship.

**26th January:** Pray for Bishop Emma as she contributes to the Working Group and the Design Group plans for the Lambeth Conference next year.

**27th January:** Pray for all suffering mental health issues as a result of the lockdowns.

**28th January:** Pray for St Mary's Hospice in Ulverston, its staff and patients.

**29th January:** Pray for the local Voluntary Social Car Scheme and the drivers who offer their time for this valued local service.

**30th January:** Pray for those housebound because of age or infirmity and are dependent upon Social Services or other agencies to meet their daily needs.

**31st January: Sunday, the first day of the week**

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: shine in our hearts and help us to so live out our days that we may be signs of Your wonders in the world.

## Soultime Christian Meditation



Anxiety, Sleep Help & Bible

*"Soultime is a beautiful, quiet and accessible way of drawing close to God in Jesus day by day. I warmly recommend it to you."* **Archbishop Justin Welby**



## Prayer Hour, At Home

6th January, 10am – 11am

Although for the time being we cannot physically meet together in a church building, our prayer fellowship can still pray, each at the same hour, in the safety of our own homes on the first Wednesday of each month. If you can join in at 10am on 6th January please use this format to guide your prayers as we pray together.

Settle into this hour of prayer by reflecting on the opening three verses of Psalm 5

*In the morning, Lord, You hear my voice;  
In the morning I lay my requests before You  
And wait expectantly*

And as we begin our time together, we say the prayer Jesus taught us:

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name  
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven  
Give us today day our daily bread  
Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever.  
Amen.*

During this quiet hour...

hold before the Lord, the matters that weigh heavy on your heart, situations you have seen in the media, items or issues from the prayer diary which especially speak to you;

pray for your family, your neighbours, your community contacts;

the Christian fellowship in the Benefice of Coniston and Crake Valley;

the Church across its national and international denominations;

pray for our Country and the Nations of the world.

Take time also to be still, to listen to the gentle whisper of God.

Finally, we close our prayer hour with the words of The Grace:

*May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and  
the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all, evermore. Amen.*



# AROUND THE PARISHES

## Colton

### Volunteer Treasurer Wanted

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Holy Trinity, Colton are looking for a volunteer to act as an Honorary Treasurer for the PCC and church in Colton. The role mainly entails the reconciling of bank accounts, the issuing of cheques and other payments, and the managing of some investments—the handling and banking of monies is carried out separately to the treasurer role.

If you would be interested in helping out the PCC and church in this way, or have further questions about this role then please do contact the PCC Secretary, email: [colton.secretary@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk](mailto:colton.secretary@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk) or you can contact the vicar at [vicar@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk](mailto:vicar@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Leven Valley (St Anne's) Scout Group

Beaver Scouts Age 6-8

Cub Scouts Age 8 - 10½

We usually meet in Haverthwaite. Although the Cubs are “Zooming” presently we are planning for a return to normal meetings.

We need leaders in both sections. Plus there is not presently a Scout Section (aged 10½ - 14) There are young people who would like one as they are too old for Cubs.

Have you considered new interests and activities post Covid-19? For Yourself? For your Family? Scouting contributes to the education of young people and is the world's largest educational youth movement.

Training is mandatory but much can be accomplished on line.

More Information? Have a look at [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk) and phone **01229 885498** to chat to the Group Scout Leader, Marguerite Calvert.



## Coniston & Torver

### Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston, November 2020

Total - 327.8mm (12.9ins)

Wet days - 24, More than 1mm on 22 days

Wettest day - 1st - 52.0mm (2.1ins)

Frost on the 6th



### Torver Schoolroom – 100 Club

Following St Luke's Carol Service on Saturday 12th December, we would normally draw the 100 Club numbers at the community supper in the Schoolroom... we had the numbers drawn at the Wilsons where some of us ate a wonderful Christmas dinner! Here are the results of the 2020 Christmas Draw:



£100 - Helen and John Lace. £50 - Dave Johnston. £30 - Molly Higgins. £20 - Eunice Jopson. £20 - Jackie Hadwin. £15 John Brooks. £15 - Tom Steriyakis. £15 - Stuart

Cowburn. £10 - Robert McCracken. £10 - Michael Sealy. £10 - Mia Hadwin. £10 - Val Kay.

Thanks to everyone who supports the Schoolroom in this way. There are numbers available if anyone would like to join or give as a Christmas gift!

Best Wishes for 2021, The Schoolroom Committee.

## Lowick with Blawith



### Lowick Community Hall

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

LOWICK COMMUNITY HALL IS WARM, SPACIOUS, VERSATILE AND  
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FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO CHECK AVAILABILITY GO TO [WWW.LOWICK.ORG.UK](http://WWW.LOWICK.ORG.UK)  
OR CONTACT ROB DOVE 01229 885647 OR LISA GRAVE 01229 861834

## Egton Cum Newland

### Greenodd Village Hall

Coffee mornings/evenings, music shows and more

Find out what is going on in Greenodd Village Hall

**[www.greenoddvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.greenoddvillagehall.co.uk)**

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

## Mearness Point—Campaign for Public Right of Way

As you may already be aware Holker Estate removed the Permissive Path to Mearness Point over the Greenodd Sands, which has been in use for over 70 years by the public. The removal was on the grounds of preserving the salt marsh habitat, but this particular section has never been used by nesting birds due to it being a

flood area during high tides and provision for preservation continues to exist east of Mearness Point in the Roundsea Wood nature reserve.

Natural England helped establish the Permissive Path which has now been closed by Holker Estate, without notice. The Greenodd Sands are an important local amenity used by hundreds of families from the locality for recreation and provide the only footpath views of the Leven Estuary in the area.

A petition was setup and this has brought the matter to the attention of the local and county councillors. It has now been recommended that concerned local residents and others who regularly use the sands for recreational purposes and exercise, submit an application to request that the path be made a Public Right of Way, available from [www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk/news\\_and\\_publicity/142/campaign](http://www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk/news_and_publicity/142/campaign)

## REPORTS AND NEWS

### Young Farmers Club Report

#### **Cumbria YFC Inter Brainstrust Competition**

Cumbria YFC showed just why they are the best of the very best by being the first young farmers in the country to hold the District Finals of the Inter Brainstrust Competition via zoom. The Brainstrust competition was a complex competition to run virtually, but everyone gave it their all and pulled it off with great aplomb! Northern District judges Nicola Wilkinson and Laura

Graham commented "We were really pleased that the competition could still go ahead due to the current situation. The Zoom Competition went really well and it didn't detract from the quality of debate and we were very impressed by the standard of all competitors".

The young farmers discussed a large range of topics, including:

- 1) Does the panel agree that all workers who were not furloughed should receive an extra week's holiday this year?
- 2) Does the panel agree that people living in rural areas should pay reduced insurance and vehicle tax to compensate for the lack of available public transport?
- 3) Does the panel believe it was right for Councils to ban Remembrance Sunday parades and the switching on of town Christmas lights due to Covid-19?

Paul Barrow and James Airey who judges the Southern District competition remarked "The competition worked exceptionally well and all competitors competed to the best of their abilities. Full credit should be given to all, we're living in difficult and strange times at the moment but young farmers have truly shown their spirit and proved that competitions like Brainstrust can still go ahead. It has been an enjoyable evening for us both and a pleasure to judge such a high standard of competition"

Southern District Teams:

Eden Valley: Jack Sowerby (Chair), Will Rogerson, Joe Jackson, Hector Meanwell

Grayrigg: Martha Galbraith (Chair), Matthew King, James Dodgson, Bradley Wills

Lowick: Leah Clough (Chair), Ben Cooper, Will Longmire, Luke Hodgson

Kent Estuary: Becca Denney (Chair), Rosie Parsons, Chris Calder, Ben Handley

The results were as follows: Southern District: 1st - Grayrigg; 2nd - Lowick; 3rd - Eden Valley. All 6 teams will now compete at the County Final on Monday 8th February.



# Coniston Coronavirus Support

# 015394 41812

Call us at Coniston Sports and Social Centre between 10am and 3pm daily to chat to our volunteers or leave a message on the answerphone outside of these hours. We can organise practical help with collecting shopping and prescriptions, walking dogs, posting letters and other things as well as being available for just a chat.

We also have a Facebook group where those online can seek support and advice, search for "Coniston Coronavirus Support"

Charlie Day is also answering on the phone every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 12:30 - 2:00 for those wanting spiritual support and chat.

# CRAKE VALLEY HELP

We are a group of Crake Valley residents here to help during the corona virus outbreak.

If you are self isolated or house bound without support.

We can help with : shopping,  
urgent supplies,  
post,  
dog walking  
a friendly phone call

**CALL 01229 357951**  
select option 5 for Crake Valley

This is not a medical Help Line

To Volunteer please join Crake Valley Help Facebook Group  
or phone 01229 357951 option 5 and leave a message.

## Helping Local GP Surgeries

Grayrigg YFC members teamed up with their local GP surgeries in Kendal over the weekend to help prepare for the Covid-19 vaccination clinics which are due to start shortly. The young farmers spent their Saturday moving office furniture and reconfiguring rooms so that the clinics can operate safely. Great to see our Young Farmers helping out in their local community with something so important! Well done to Grayrigg Chair, Secretary and Treasurer Michael Todd, Robbie Hutchinson and Emily Armer, members Matthew King, Martha Galbraith, Bradley Wills and club President Jayne Knowles.



## Christmas Competitions

Cumbria's young farmers have been very busy over the last month showing their creative side and making good use of seasonal glitter and tinsel to make entries for their Virtual Christmas Competition.

The idea behind the festive competition was for the young farmers to have a bit of fun and reconnect with each other either at meetings in person or virtually. There were 9 classes for in age members and 2 additional classes for those too young to be a current member!

The junior classes commenced with Class 1a. 4 Decorated Biscuits which was judged by Mrs Eileen Mason who was delighted at the creativity and bright colours of the biscuits. 1st place went to Jess Wilson from Skelton YFC, 2nd to Drigg YFC's Sam Pratt and third place went to Zara Clough of Lowick YFC.

Ms Nicola Wilkinson had a tough time judging the second junior Class 1b. Christmas Tree Decoration, with all the decorations being of a very high standard. Sarah Bland from Grayrigg YFC created a beautiful cross stitch decoration which took a very well deserved 1st place. A reindeer with a red nose won 2nd place for Skelton YFC's Charlotte Elliott and 3rd place went to Alice Walmsley from Kent Estuary with another reindeer bauble, this time made out of cork.



Angus Ellwood

The final junior class was 1c. Christmas Wrapping Paper. The designs in this class were many and varied and did not disappoint! Judge and Cumbria YFC County President Mrs Judith Emmott placed Kent Estuary's Alice Walmsley 1st with her striking paper based on blue sky and snowflakes. Clark Ellwood from Lowick YFC was placed 2nd with his multi coloured argyle inspired paper and 3rd place was awarded to a paper depicting a repeat snowman designed by Skelton YFC's Lucy Wilson.

For class 2a of the intermediate classes the young farmers were asked to design a Christmas card. This was one of the most popular competitions and it was great to see such a variety of designs and ideas coming through. Judge Mr Chris Hogg loved

the full-on gaze and level of detail of the cow on Skelton YFC's Tyra Mason's card and awarded it 1st place. Another cow inspired card took 2nd place, with Joanne Harrison from Skelton YFC showing great skill as a cartoonist to create a merry cow with a Christmas message. Kent Estuary's Alice Walmsley put her creative side to good use once again and took 3rd place with her depiction of a snow-covered cottage made using coloured paper.

The young farmers were tasked with designing and making a Christmas cracker for class 2b. Judge Mrs Claire Todd who owns Todds of Kendal said that some of the artwork on the crackers would not be out of place in her shop. 1st place was awarded to Martha Galbraith of Grayrigg YFC for her carefully crafted cracker depicting 4 painted festive scenes. 2nd place went to Raughton Head's Mark Musgrave for his snowman cracker and 3rd place went to Charlie Barker from Eden Valley who created a jumbo cracker featuring a tractor.



Hannah Sowerby

For the final intermediate class competitors were asked to write an acrostic poem to the word "Christmas". Judge Mr Stephen Rowlinson thoroughly enjoyed reading the poems. Two of the entries referenced covid and others focused on a more traditional Christmas of religion, family and it being a magical time of year. All of the entries were very impressive with 1st and 2nd place going to Lowick YFC members, Hayley Simpson and Carrie Tyson respectively. Mark Musgrave from Raughton Head YFC was placed 3rd.



Alice Longmire

Mrs Gillian Potts had her work cut out judging the 1st Senior class of decorated Christmas cakes. The standard and creativity of the entries was exceptional.

Gillian awarded 1st place to a very classic Christmas cake featuring a tree, free hand - writing and skilled piping around the base. This masterpiece was made by Martha Galbraith from Grayrigg YFC. Hannah Storton from the same club took 2nd place with her royal iced snow scene featuring modelled figures of a snowman and dog. A butter cream Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer secured Emma Walmsley from Kent Estuary YFC third place.

For class 3b, table centre pieces were created using foliage and decorations. Judge Miss Sophie Brooksbank was thrilled to see great floral artistry in evidence. She awarded a very well -deserved 1st place to Lucy Peile from Skelton YFC, who used a candelabra to give her display height and drama. Alice Longmore from Lowick YFC used eucalyptus and candles to create a centre piece that the judge felt "screamed" Christmas! Lowick YFC triumphed again with Emily Doyle also taking 3rd place with her use of veronica and classy colours.



Anya Clough

The 3rd and final senior competition, class 3c required competitors to creatively wrap a shoe box. The symmetry of a box did not stop the creative minds of the young farmers and judge Mrs Nicola Steadman was delighted at the entries.

1st place was awarded to Louise Butterworth from Eden Valley YFC who used simple wrapping paper and foliage to create a festive and natural offering. Lauren

Strand from Skelton YFC took 2nd place with her beautifully festive present and Mel Gorst from Crook YFC was placed 3rd with her shoe box wrapped in festive argyle knitting.

The final 2 competitions were designed for those Cumbria YFC followers who are too young to be a young farmer yet! Class 4a. Make a playdough Father Christmas or Snowman for those aged up to 6 years resulted in some fantastic entries that judge Mrs Leanne Wilson was very impressed with.

1st place went to Ronnie Wignall aged 6 from Kent Estuary whose “before and after” snowman captivated the judge with lovely detail and careful use of colours. 5 year old Charlotte Davidson from Raughton Head YFC created another lovable snowman complete with a hat with holly and berries and stick arms. 3rd place was awarded to Olly Fisher from Pennine YFC for his friendly faced snowman.

Class 4b. Make a Christmas picture for those aged 7 – 9 years was judge by Mrs Helen Sibbald who was delighted to judge the very creative entries.

Awarded 1st place for his picture featuring santa racing across a midnight sky was Percy Wignall aged 9 from Kent Estuary YFC. Jimmy Sommerville also 9 from Eden Valley took 2nd place with his eye catching use of different media to create a fun and festive picture and 3rd place was awarded to Kent Estuary’s Rita Wignall aged 7 for her Elf on the Shelf.

After the scores from all the classes had been totted up, the results were as follows: Lowick 1110; Kent Estuary 890; Skelton 770; Grayrigg 720; Eden Valley 610; Raughton Head 520; Pennine 280; Crook 170; Drigg 140; Longtown 120

The young farmers would like to give a very big thank you to all the judges who took part in the competition; Eileen Mason, Nicola Wilkinson, Judith Emmott, Chris Hogg, Claire Todd, Stephen Rowlinson, Gillian Potts, Sophie Brooksbank, Nicola Steadman, Leanne Wilson and Helen Sibbald and to the competition Scorer, Matthew Burbury.

It has been a roller coaster year for the young farmers in so many ways, but they have kept busy and kept going. As the year draws to a close and they look towards 2021 with renewed hope the young farmers would like to wish all their members and supporters a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

## **Conserving Coniston & Crake**

Tree planting season is now underway and we’re looking at putting in around 300 native trees at 5 locations. Depending on what restrictions there are in place we hope to have some volunteers involved so keep a look out for details via Crake events and our Facebook page.



For the past couple of years we held our annual review at a local venue, scoffing pie and peas or a hearty lasagne and sharing the progress of the project with volunteers and supporters. This year, as with most things its gone online as a short video. If you would like to watch it you can find a link from our Facebook page and the website or <https://vimeo.com/491226323>.

If you have any questions then please do get in touch. *Kath*

Kath Smith, Communities & Engagement Officer, Conserving Coniston & Crake  
Email: [kath@scrt.co.uk](mailto:kath@scrt.co.uk) Tel:07825873109 Tel:01539 530047 [www.ccc.scrt.co.uk](http://www.ccc.scrt.co.uk)



# **Rusland Horizons Report**

## **New chairman for 2021**

The end of this year sees the end of an era, that of Colin Barr as chairman of Rusland Horizons. Colin has been chairman of Rusland Horizons Trust since it was first formed. Prior to that, he was also chairman of Rusland Horizons, the community-led, Lottery-funded Landscape Partnership, for its four years of existence and the preceding build-up of five years. It is an under-statement to say his contribution and involvement on the board will be greatly missed. He will, however, continue to volunteer for a number of activities.

We are delighted, and thankful, to be able to announce, that Marion Brown will take on the role of chairman. Marion, a fellow director and resident of Bouth, has been actively involved with Rusland Horizons for many years. Passionate about all aspects of the natural world, and a strong believer in local communities being at the heart of why the Rusland Valley and Fells are so special, we are confident Rusland Horizons Trust will be in safe hands!

## **What are we looking forward to in 2021?**

Subject to future Covid-19 related regulations and guidelines, we are very much looking forward to being more active in 2021 and welcoming volunteers back to our organised events and work parties. Plans are already in the pipeline for drystone walling projects and rapid woodlands assessments. We are also hoping to organise more guided walks around our Greenwood Trail routes and making these, and other events, regular features in the calendar.

Please be assured, we will do what we can to continue with our activities, as and when circumstances allow, whilst ensuring the safety of everyone as our primary consideration.

Please get in touch to let us know which events you might be interested in and we can send you more details. You can also keep up to date on our website and Facebook page.

## **Citizens Advice**

*I'm considering shopping online, because there seem to be a lot of bargains, but I'm a bit concerned about buying goods without seeing them first. What happens if something goes wrong, or if I change my mind after seeing something in reality? I don't have money to lose right now.*

You're not alone being cautious about shopping online. Over the last year Citizens Advice Consumer Service has dealt with just under 123,000 cases in relation to online shopping.

Most of the time, when you buy something online you automatically get a 14-day 'cooling-off period' which starts the day after you receive your order. There doesn't need to be anything wrong with the item for you to get a refund. Many online sellers may offer more time, so make sure you check the terms and conditions before purchasing.



There are some exceptions, like buying something perishable or personalised. There are also exceptions if the product is sealed, like face masks or CDs.

If you do decide to return your item, you need to tell the seller you don't want the item within 14 days of receiving it. Once you've told the seller, you've got 14 days to send it back. The seller has to pay you the refund within 14 days from when they receive the item.

You may have to pay the cost of posting something back to the seller but you don't have to return the item in its original packaging as long as you've wrapped it safely. If you don't wrap it safely and the item gets damaged, the seller can reduce your refund.

It's a good idea to get a certificate of posting from Royal Mail when you post the item. You can use this to prove to the seller that you posted the item.

If you buy something online and the product is faulty (i.e. it's broken, unusable or doesn't match what was advertised), you have 30 days to ask for a refund from when you receive it. However, you can choose to accept a replacement or repair. After 30 days (and before six months) the seller must offer you a repair within a reasonable timeframe. If this isn't possible, they must offer you a replacement or a refund. Ask the seller for the easiest way to send the item back. You shouldn't have to pay.

If you order something and it doesn't arrive, it's the seller's responsibility to make sure the item is delivered to you. If the seller used a courier, they should chase the courier to find out what's happened to your order - it's not your responsibility.

Check the delivery address you gave the seller. Then contact them and ask where your order is. If the seller claims they've delivered it or don't know where it is, you can ask for a redelivery. You might also be able to get a refund in some circumstances.

Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice on any aspect of debt, consumer problems, benefits, housing, employment or any other problems. South Lakes Citizens Advice is still delivering a service - Telephone and Digital Advice. How to access:

- Call 015394 46464 - this is being staffed from 9:30 - 12 noon
- Adviceline: 03444 111 444
- Email advice via our submission page on our website [www.southlakescab.org.uk](http://www.southlakescab.org.uk)
- Help to Claim (Universal Support): 0800 144 8 444

## **Grizedale Arts**

### **The Farmer's Arms Project Hits First Fundraising Milestone**

Following the launch of our fundraising campaign in November to secure The Farmer's Arms at Lowick Green for the community, after just 21 days, we had 34 loan stock investors pledge over £300,000 in investment and 24 donors make contributions and become Founding Benefactors. An overwhelming and rousing response, coupled with confirmation of support from the Architectural Heritage Fund and our own charity reserves, enabled us to proceed with purchase. In November, Head of Terms were issued and solicitors informed and we now expect to take possession in early 2021.

We are now in the process of developing a programme for the project's redevelopment phase which will include many opportunities for learning/participation with workshops and volunteer days when everyone is welcome to come along and

contribute and shape the project's development. We aim to reopen The Farmer's Arms in stages throughout 2021 starting initially with the pub, followed by the BnB and later open access community facilities including woodwork and pottery workshops, the shop and various business and enterprise development support. We'll also redevelop the gardens and outdoor spaces which will host activities and grow produce for use in the inn. Evolving organically and in response to the community, The Farmer's Arms will be a place to learn from each other, to develop solutions to shared concerns and for everyone to grow and fulfil new ambitions.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported us to cross this first hurdle. We are incredibly determined to make The Farmer's Arms a community hub that supports everyone in the Crake Valley to thrive and succeed and invite anyone who wants to know more or to get involved to contact us through the project's website (address above) or get in touch with Valley Project Manager, **Emma Sumner** (emma@grizedale.org | 015394 41050). **www.lakedistrictfarmersarms.com**

## **Furness Year Book 1908**

The Furness Year Book was a directory book which included adverts for local businesses as well as articles and the "Annals of Our Times" which is an eclectic list of what happened, including the weather, on each day in the previous year. Here are some events from January 1907.

**1<sup>st</sup> January:** Weather wet, thawing, much of snow gone – Thanks largely to King Edward, we can say at the opening of the New Year the Empire is at peace with all the world, and the nations with each other; Great Britain never stood higher in the world's estimation than she does to-day – Ulverston Prize Horse Show and Sale – Mrs. Ayre's annual Tea to old women Workhouse inmates.

**4<sup>th</sup> January:** Weather fine bright frosty day, sleet in evening – Ulverston Military Ball – Ulverston Congregational Tea Party – Our Trade Return for 1906 shows that for the first time it has reached £1,000,000,000.

**7<sup>th</sup> January:** Weather wet – Death of Mr. J. Barrow-Storey, "the Grand Old Man of Greenodd" aged 88 – Mr. Myles Kennedy J.P. elected a Director of the Lancaster Banking Co. Ltd.

**10<sup>th</sup> January:** Weather mild, fine morning, wet afternoon – Ten thousand persons visited the Ruskin Museum, Coniston in 1905 – Earthquake in Norway.

**18<sup>th</sup> January:** Weather fine, colder, hoar frost – Epidemic of influenza and colds, taking off many old residents – Hunt Ball at Ulverston – Ulverston Cooperative employees' Social – St. Jude's Parochial Tea Party – Reduction of the Bank rate from 6 to 5 per cent – Slight Earthquake shocks at Oban, Scotland.

**26<sup>th</sup> January:** Weather keen frost, skating, snow in evening, roads and tarns covered – It is estimated that 15,000,000 golf balls are used up every year on British Golf Links – At the Labour conference Mr. Keir Hardie's motion for Women's Suffrage was defeated, and he threatened to resign his leadership of the Labour Party.

**1<sup>st</sup> February:** Weather fine and frosty – The Royal Commission on Tuberculosis say that the complaint can be conveyed in milk to human beings.

# PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

## Coniston Parish Council

Coniston Parish Council last met, using Zoom, at 7pm on Monday, 16th November 2020.

The Parish Council would like to acknowledge the many years of service to their community of Ken Batty and Jeff Carroll who have resigned their positions as Parish Councillors. Following a statutory notice period in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 Chas Sargeant and James Buller have been co-opted onto the council, who will join the existing councillors of Tracy Coward (Chair), Heather Troughton (Deputy Chair), Anne Hall, Aidy Thompson, Joshua Airey and Michael Dearnley (clerk).

### Planning Matters

The Council noted the grant of planning permission for 7/2020/5505 Hills Garage, to replace a single container with 2 containers, timber boarded screen fence and screen planting; and also noted the Notification of Intent received for 7/2020/5609 Replacement Bridge located approximately 200m north of Coniston Hall Farmstead.

The Council noted the progress made in relation to the redevelopment of the toilet block by Church Beck Bridge; and, approved (1) the establishment of a new waste bin at Pier Cottage Corner on the B5285 and (2) the conversion of streetlight 213 (Footway on the A593 by Cat Bank) from sodium to LED.11.

The next Meeting of Coniston Parish Council is scheduled for Monday, 21st December at 7.00pm. This is to be held using Zoom, online meeting tool, should you wish to attend please contact the clerk on [parish@coniston.info](mailto:parish@coniston.info)

### Coniston Amenities Fund

A Meeting of the Coniston Amenities Fund was held on Monday, 14th December 2020 at 7pm using Zoom, video conferencing software. The meeting warmly thanked the Lakeland 100 for their donation of £5,000 toward local organisations as they had done in previous years. This was especially welcomed as this year has seriously disrupted the opportunity for fundraising events.

The following grants were awarded: Coniston CofE Primary School Coniston and its School Home Association (jointly) £1000 to purchase outdoor equipment for the Foundation Stage and new laptops to support the curriculum; to Coniston Bowling Club £200 to support routine maintenance of the bowling greens and the purchase of new mower ; to Coniston Christmas Lights £500 to help fund the installation of Christmas lights; to South Lakeland Christian Trust £200 to support the work being undertaken to support Coniston Primary pupils; to The Coniston Institute £400 to fund ten weekly/fortnightly lunches for local residents, designed to include those who are disadvantaged, or who may have hidden barriers which make attendance difficult; and, to Local Guiding £450 to support the expenditure of the Group across all three sections: Rainbows, Brownies, and Guides.

There will be a further opportunity to apply for Lakeland 100 Grants in the New Year, please check the Parish Council Website or follow us on Facebook.

An online 'presentation' evening will be held in the New Year at which award recipients can say how grants were spent and the impact that has had on the local community.

The Coniston Amenities Fund has been registered with HMRC to enable it to reclaim Gift Aid from donations made by British taxpayers. Arrangements have been made for the accounts of the Coniston Amenities Fund to be annually audited alongside the accounts of the Coniston Parish Council. The Coniston Amenities Fund's Annual Return for 2019/20 has been submitted to the Charities Commission.

Coniston Parish Council last year initiated their 'Community Star' awards which acknowledge those people and organisations in the parish who have made a significant contribution to the community. The 2020 awards have been presented to Judith Myers for her over 40yr commitment to the local Guides and Brownies and the annual shoe box gift appeal that this year has provided over 900 gifts to disadvantaged children in Romania; and to Coniston Sports and Social Club for being at the centre of the villages community response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Torver Parish Council**

Minutes and Actions of Torver Parish Council meeting held virtually via Zoom at 7.30pm Thursday 5th November 2020.

Councillor Vacancy—As the vacancy occurs within six months before the day on which the councillor whose office is vacant would regularly have retired, an election shall not be held under Section 89(1) of the above Act, and the vacancy will be filled at the next ordinary election of councillors on Thursday, 6 May 2021. The vacancy may be filled by co-option for the period until that election. RESOLVED: To Co-opt a new councillor.

Tree Planting: CCC Community Grant—The form. ISSUE OF CONSENT TO DISTRICT/PARISH COUNCILS – TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING WITHIN THE HIGHWAYS needs to be completed. John Barr had given permission to plant on his verge near the goods yard. RESOLVED: To complete the form before next meeting.

Broadband for Rural North (b4rn)—Information received detailing a not for profit company who work on establishing faster/reliable broadband in outlying areas was discussed. RESOLVED: Chairman Chris Bradley will publicise the scheme via Nobbut to assess the interest in the Parish and is willing to be the coordinator for introductions to b4rn.

Opening up the old railway route Foxfield to Coniston line—To discuss and comment on the LDNPA recommendation modifications included in LDNPA local plan consultation.

Schedule of main modifications 100.60 3.21.10[3.21.12]. There is the only one identified disused rail track beds in the Lake District which could provide alternative sustainable transport choices are which is the Penrith to Keswick line and Foxfield to Coniston line.

The matter was discussed. A member of public commented that Torver local plan stated that it would be desirable to extend the route of the Torver trail in the future if possible.

### **Planning Matters**

7/2020/5623, Wilson Arms, Torver, Coniston, LA21 8BB

Addition of one K2 family glamping pod for holiday accommodation. DECISION: Support

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JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> TO 25<sup>TH</sup> : THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Three short stories to begin with – spot the connection!

The first concerned the visit of Pope John Paul II to Scotland, when a Kirk minister doing his rounds in the Gorbels, came across a youth writing on a wall, “Down with the Pope”. Full of ecumenical spirit, the Kirk minister said, “Wharra you doin’ that for?” Seeing his distinctive garb, the miscreant said, “Well – there isn’a room to put ‘Doon with the Moderator o’ the General Assembly o’ the Church o’ Scotland!’”

The next is the classic story of the Kirk (= Church of Scotland) minister walking along the high road and spotting the Wee Free minister ahead of him. He quickened his pace and caught him up. “We might as well walk together,” he said, “since we’re both about the Lord’s business.” “Aye, so we arrrr,” said the other. “You in your way and I in *His*!”

And thirdly is the tale of the old Belfast Presbyterian who had been in the Victoria Hospital there, and was told that he was terminally ill. Wishing to die in his own bed, he discharged himself and went home. Feeling a little better on the Sabbath, he struggled into his best suit and staggered off to church. But, much to the amazement of his friends and neighbours, he changed his habit of a lifetime and went into the Catholic Church instead of his own. After service they met him coming out, and one said worriedly, “What did yer do dat for, Moike? Yer’s allus bin a good Prod till now!” “Well,” said Mike, “dey tell me oi haven’t got much longer for dis world, so Oi figured it wuz better dat one of *dem* should die dan one of *us*!”

The quest for Christian unity has some odd characteristics. Some participants (“*Ecumaniacs*”!) treat it as the be-all and end-all of their discipleship. Others approach it from the “we-are-right-and-you-are-wrong” angle, and believe the only way forward is for everyone else to join them and *their* tradition. We call this, (*not* Ecumenism, but) “You-come-in-ism”! My main reflection on all this is twofold:

Firstly, the prayer of the Lord Jesus is very clear, “(I pray) for those who believe in me through their (= the apostles’) word *that they may all be one* .... so that the world may believe ....” (John 17:20,21). But this *oneness* is not a matter of intellectual agreement but of practical, local evidence. “See how these Christians love one another”, was the attractive testimony to the early church. The chief sin is *not* “heresy”, (which can be corrected) but “schism” – the rending/tearing apart of “the Body”.

Secondly, as always, the real key to all this is *love*. With outsiders or unbelievers we are to “*contend for the faith* which was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3), but we are to have a different approach to fellow-believers, and “*speak the truth in love*” (Ephesians 4:15) to all those who truly confess that “Jesus is Lord” (Romans 10:9 etc.). This is the *true* “oikoumene” – the world-wide “household of faith” – to which we all belong, and from which “ecumenism” gets its name!

## *From the Registers*



### **Funerals**

11th December Ray Durrant at St Andrew's, Coniston

16th December Brian Rigg at Holy Trinity, Colton  
Burial only

17th December Gerald Buchanan at Holy Trinity, Colton

22nd December Margaret Stephenson at Holy Trinity, Colton

## **Questions? Worries? Chat? Virtual Coffee With the Vicar**



The Vicar invites you to join him and others around the virtual table for a coffee and a chat.

Every Monday\* where possible, from 2.00-3.00 pm the Vicar will be hosting an afternoon session on Zoom to answer questions, discuss concerns or just have a chat. If you would like to join him and possibly others dropping in, then all you need to run Zoom and join the meeting.

Meeting ID is **648-733-8111** and then enter the password is **883299**

\*Please check the website Calendar to ensure that the Coffee with the Vicar session is being held that week.



### **February Magazine**

Please can all items, news, advertising enquiries and "What's On" events for this Magazine be emailed to the editor at **editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk** by **January 15th**, or phone **07884 232281**, or to Jean Johnson if that's more convenient : **enquiries@conistonholidays.co.uk** or tel. **015394 41319**. If you don't have access to a computer you can leave items at the Vicarage but please give plenty of time to convert them to electronic format.



### **Calling all photographers!**

If you have photos of local interest, perhaps not landscapes, that would be suitable for the cover of a future Magazine please email in as above. This month's cover photo is Shepherdess and Sheep by Val Towndrow. We also have a gallery of contributed seasonal photos of our beautiful area on the website:

**www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk.**

Please continue to send your images of life and work in the parishes to **editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk**



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