

Coniston and Crake Valley News

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



September 2021 www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

The Coniston and Crake Valley Benefice

"To Grow, Witness and Love Like Jesus"



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Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

This Pastoral Letter has to be written a few weeks before you receive it so the moment will have passed for you, but the topic is still relevant even so.

Our Olympic Team GB has just returned from Tokyo to a rousing welcome from a very proud population. They did so well – especially as we are quite a little country compared with the bigger hitters. All this winning stuff has put me in mind of Paul's teaching in his letters to the churches around the Mediterranean all those long years ago.

When he likened our journey through our Christian life to a race and he used the analogy on more than one occasion. In Hebrews 12v1 he writes

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

Right! – sounds like we need to get into training and wear the right kind of gear and lighten our load. The first piece of baggage we need to throw off is the weight of sin we carry about – and most of us certainly score quite well on that front – if you are in doubt, read Ephesians 4 vv17-31, I think that we all recognise that we fall somewhat short on this score, the wonderful news is that Jesus settled that problem once and for all on the Cross.

So – what does the gear we must wear look like? In chapter 6 of the same letter, Paul suggests that it is like armour to protect us from doing all the things he warns about in chapter 4.

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armour so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armour of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Now we are set to run the race... However – races usually only have one winner, a fact acknowledged by Paul in 1 Corinthians 9 vv24-25

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize...

It is here that I have a bit of a fall-out with Paul.

While the Dodo doesn't get it quite right in Alice in wonderland, talking of the Caucus Race

The creatures "began running when they liked, and left off when they liked, so that it was not easy to know when the race was over." "But who has won?" the contestants asked when everyone stopped

moving. At last the Dodo said, “*Everybody* has won, and *all* must have prizes.”

Runners in Paul’s race do not have the option of retiring and still winning it is certainly so that runners can start their race at any time and that they will all get prizes at the end of the race if they persevere and do their best. But what if we weaken and are tired. Paul writes in Hebrews 12 vv12-13

So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.

(What a lovely way of telling us to get a grip!)

And how are we keep going? Paul has the answer and writes in Hebrews 12 vv2-4

We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith...

And what about the prize you ask? **The fulfilment of Jesus’s promise to us that we will one day be with him.**

In John 10 vv27–28 Jesus tells us that...

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me.

What a prize – join us in the race and win the prize!

Joanna Henson

From the Registers

Funerals



4th August	Norman Cooper at St. Luke’s, Torver	
6th August	John Hadwen at St. Luke’s, Lowick	
17th August	Ian Norman King at St. Andrew’s, Coniston	Interment of Ashes
23rd August	Jackie Casson at St. Andrew’s, Coniston	Interment of Ashes

Weddings



11th September	Georgina Walker and Andrew Warne at St. Andrew’s, Coniston
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Church Services for September 2021

5^{sh}	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity			
St. Luke Torver	9.00am	Bikers Breakfast	Rev Brian Streeter	
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bickersteth	

12th	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity			
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Brian Streeter	
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Morning Worship	Vivienne Plummer	

19th	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity			
St. Luke Torver	9.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter	
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Harry Welch	

26th	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity			
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Methodist Service	Rev Graham Ransom	
Holy Trinity Colton	9.30am	Holy Communion	Rev Joanna Henson	
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion	Christians Together in Coniston	

Churches in the Coniston and Crake Valley

St Andrew's Church, Coniston LA21 8EN

St Luke's Church, Torver LA21 8AZ

St Luke's Church, Lowick LA12 8EE

Holy Trinity Church, Colton LA12 8HF

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

Tottlebank Baptist Church, Colton LA12 8HY

Welcomes you to our Sunday services from 10.30 to 11.30am followed by refreshments, and midweek prayer meetings on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. 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 September we are meeting on Sunday mornings in person. For more information please contact Alex and Ruth Stewart on 015394 49539. See our website for more details www.conistonchristianfellowship.co.uk

Parish Prayer Diary

September 2021

1st: Join with Christians across the benefice at 10am for an hour of prayer at home, praying for family, our community, our nation and the needs of the world.

2nd: Pray for pupils returning to secondary school today, especially for children who are anxious about starting at a new school. Pray also for this evening's meeting of Torver Parish Council.

3rd: Pray for a generous response to Charity funding appeals to enable urgent aid to reach communities devastated by natural disasters.

4th: Pray for the small group of Christians in Afghanistan whose vulnerability has increased ten-fold; may they find strength, wisdom and supernatural peace in God's promises. Pray also for the charity Open Doors who help and support believers persecuted for their faith in Jesus.

5th: Sunday, the first day of the week

Pray our Heavenly Father, who searches and knows us, may help us to rely on Him in times of strength and to rest in Him in times of weakness.

6th: Pray for children returning to, or starting at, primary schools this week.

7th: Pray for this evening's meeting of ENMO Parish Council (Egton with Newlands, Mansriggs and Osmotherley).

8th: Pray for organisers, participants and visitors as the 2-day Westmoreland Show begins today.

9th: Pray for victims of violence and abuse.

10th: Pray for those preparing Christian worship, that Jesus will be honoured and proclaimed across our community, nation and the world.

11th: Pray for The Children's Society working with children who run away, are ill-treated or battling with mental health problems.

12th: Sunday, the first day of the week

May our Father God, whose only Son opened for us a new and living way into His presence, grant us pure hearts and steadfast wills to daily worship in spirit and in truth.

13th: Pray for the meeting of Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Council taking place this evening.

14th: Pray for young people starting, or preparing for, their chosen Apprenticeship; that they may settle quickly into the new routine of travel, working, learning and study.

15th: Pray for our local care homes, for managers and all staff working hard to create a safe and happy environment to the residents in their care.

16th: Pray for our local Counsellors participating in Lowick Parish Council's meeting this evening.

17th: Pray for Teaching Assistants as they make their contribution to the education and support of school children across our County.

18th: Pray for those waiting for hospital treatment or surgery and the frustration and anxiety waiting brings.

19th: Sunday, the first day of the week

May the Lord our God, defend His world-wide Church from all false teaching, that His faithful people, knowing His truth and proclaiming Jesus as Lord, may know and enjoy eternal life in Christ's Kingdom today and for ever.

20th: Pray for the members of Coniston Parish Council meeting this evening.

21st: Pray for students leaving home for the first time to commence a university course, and pray for their families as they help with logistics and early support.

22nd: Pray for the staff working within St Mary's Hospice delivering care through its in-patient unit and its community Hospice at Home service.

23rd: Giving thanks for your family, near and far, and for friends who are as dear.

24th: Pray for Christian song writers as they proclaim in word and music the wondrous story of the Father's love, the Saviour's grace and the Spirit's power.

25th: Pray for Bishop James, as he oversees the Church in Cumbria and, through his membership of the House of Bishops, undertakes National Church responsibilities.

26th: Sunday, the first day of the week

May the Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us, open our eyes to His wonders, that we serving Him with reverence may know His peace, always.

27th: Pray for the bereaved, especially those traumatised by the sudden loss of a loved one because of Covid-19.

28th: Pray for School Governors and Head Teachers at Penny Bridge Academy and John Ruskin School, for wisdom and inspiration in guiding our children in Kingdom ways.

29th: Pray for those working in prisons, probation and youth justice services.

30th: Pray with thankfulness for the harvest season and praise our heavenly Father who faithfully answers our prayer "give us today our daily bread".



October 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 **September 15th**, or phone **07505 048736**, 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 Cloudy Skies by Becca Myers. 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**

Prayer Hour, At Home

1st September, 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 1st September 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

Bouth Women's Institute

Levens Outing

W.I. had their first outing of the new season on 11th August to Levens Gardens in the afternoon, then on to the White Hart for a meal in the evening which included invited guests. It was so good catching up with friends, and it was a lovely evening and the food was excellent too.

New Members

Bouth W.I. are always open to new members to join our meetings and outings. The W.I. meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (except February) at 7.15pm in the Village Hall, Bouth. Contact details to enquire to join are Mrs. Barbara Osborne, Meadow View, Bouth, LA12 8JB. Tel. 01229 861451.



Coniston & Torver

Coniston Women's Institute Xmas Lunch

Would anyone over 70 years of age, living in Coniston and not yet on our list please contact Gill on 015394 41136 or Jean 015394 41617 if you would like an invite to the Xmas lunch in December. Thanks, *Gill Irwin*, Coniston WI.

Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston, July 2021

Total - 100.4mm (4.0ins)
Wet days - 9
More than 1mm on 8 days
Wettest day - 28th - 51.0mm (2.0ins)



Coniston Bowling Club

Domino Evenings

Just a general enquiry regarding interest in the resumption this year of the Friday domino evenings with refreshments in the Coniston Institute.

If you feel you could support such evenings could you, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can assess the level of interest. I can be contacted on either 01539441564 or 07854274086. Many thanks, *John Darragh* (Coniston Bowling Club)

Coniston Patient Participation Group

NHS Reorganisation

The Coniston Patient Participation thanks everyone who shared our concerns over the NHS Reorganisation. We invite you all to a meeting at the

CONISTON INSTITUTE Monday 7.00pm SEPTEMBER 27TH

The intension is for an informal meeting where what we know of the reorganisation is explained.

We also want to find any possible improvements or concerns in the NHS service in our area so that we can pass them on to those planning the changes.

Vaccines for COVID-19: do they work?

The short answer to this common question is 'yes, they do.'

The three vaccines currently available in the UK were approved through the standard registration process after being shown to be highly effective in reducing serious illness and deaths (their main purpose). In a study in care homes in the North West of England, there was a reduction in death in residents of over 80% and in hospitalisations of 68% after the first dose of either the Pfizer or the Oxford vaccine.

However, none of the vaccines completely prevent illness or death, nor do they completely stop transmission from an infected person to an uninfected person. This is why a small number of 'breakthrough' infections happen in vaccinated people; these 'breakthrough' infections are milder than infections in unprotected people.

The effectiveness of the vaccines against the now-common Delta variant is unclear at this point, with different studies showing different results. However, the vaccines are noticeably still effective; it is the level of protection which is unclear.

Do I need to be vaccinated?

Again, the answer is 'yes, you do'. COVID-19 can be a very unpleasant disease, particularly in older people and those with other health issues. Long COVID occurs in all age groups and drags on for months, limiting activity and ability to live normally. Even a less effective vaccine is worth having to reduce the chances of unpleasant outcomes from infection in yourself. Your vaccination also reduces the risk of those near to you catching the disease.

Real-world data shows vaccines prevent infection and symptomatic disease for at least six months post-vaccination.

What about pregnant women?

Up-to-date information is that no pregnant women who had both doses of a vaccine were admitted to hospital with COVID-19. Only three women were admitted after having their first dose. However, 98% of those admitted to hospital had not received any COVID-19 jab. The vaccine is safe and effective for pregnant women. Further work is underway to determine the best interval between doses for pregnant women.

Further information can be obtained from your General Practitioner if you have specific questions about your health and COVID-19, or from NHS111. The NHS has a good webpage on vaccinations at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/> and about symptoms, testing, vaccination and self-isolation at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

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

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



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REPORTS AND NEWS

Grizedale Arts

Updates from The Valley and The Farmer's Arms

The Farmer's Arms renovations continue at a good pace thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers who join us each Wednesday to graft through the grime, painting, scraping and cleaning. Between work shifts, our volunteer days also provide us with an opportunity to get your input on the future of the building ranging from what you'd like us to programme or what dishes you'd like on the bar menu. To join in, contact our Project Manager Emma Sumner (using the details below) and she will ensure there is enough of our home-made lunch and tea and biscuits for you.

It is thanks to all this hard work and dedication that we are able to share **the official Stable Bar reopening date - Saturday 11 September** – after which we will be open every Friday evening from 5pm and from 12noon till late each weekend, building up to 5 days a week as our staff team grows. Join us on the day for delicious bar snacks and drinks and lots of interactive workshops and activities for all the family to get involved with.

Also on the 11 September, we are pleased to be able to welcome you all to our first Lawson Park Open House & Garden in over 12 months! Explore our gardens and residence, browse the Library and collections or just sit in our panoramic window overlooking our wildflower meadow to enjoy the views of Coniston all while enjoying a delicious and generous helping of tea and home-made cake (or herbal or gluten free variations thereof). Our staff will be on hand to chat and answer questions throughout the day. Tickets cost £15 per person or £45 for a group car share of up to 5 people, including tea & cake. Places are limited to manage parking so do book early to avoid disappointment through our website events page: grizedale.org/events. Please visit our website for all the latest updates - www.lakedistrictfarmersarms.com

– or contact Project Manager, Emma Sumner (emma@grizedale.org | 015394 41050) who is always happy to hear from you.

Citizens Advice

My Universal Credit is going to be cut by £20 a week. I struggle to get by as it is and I'm really worried that I'll get into serious debt. I'm already behind on some of my bills.

What can I do to avoid things getting worse?



You're not alone in this - there is support available.

Firstly, depending on your situation, you might be able to ask to have your Universal Credit paid differently - these are called 'alternative payment arrangements'. This might be an option if you're in rent arrears, among other reasons. To apply for an alternative payment arrangement, call the Universal Credit helpline on: 0800 328 5644.

If you're behind on some of your bills, the first step is to make a list of how much you owe and add up how much you need to pay each month.

You now need to prioritise your debts. We have advice on our website to help you do this. Some bills can cause you more problems than others if you don't pay them. Rent or mortgage arrears, energy bills and council tax are your priority debts as there can be serious consequences if you don't pay them.

Be sure to get in touch with the organisations you owe money to. Not everyone feels confident to do this, but they might be able to help by letting you pay smaller amounts or taking a break from payments. Many organisations have put in place protections for people who've struggled to pay their bills during the pandemic.

The government-backed Breathing Space scheme could also give you extra time. If you're eligible, you could get 60 days where your creditors can't contact you, take action to make you pay, or add interest and charges to your debt. You'll need to get advice from a debt adviser first - they'll check all your debts to see if they're covered by the scheme.

Finally, it's always a good idea to have a budget - take a look at the budgeting tool on our website and make sure you're getting all the income you're entitled to.

Everyone's circumstances are different, particularly when it comes to managing personal finances. If you need more specific support or don't feel able to manage your situation alone, call us on 015394 46464.

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
- Help to Claim (Universal Support): 0800 144 8 444

It's Coming Home

Well, there's a phrase we heard many times earlier in the summer as Euros frenzy mounted; but in the end, it was



not to be. The phrase has come to my mind even more strongly, though, in relation to the Climate Crisis. We've seen horrific images of uncontrollable fires raging in Greece and devastating flooding ripping through Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands. People dying, people's homes and livelihoods swept away, all as a result of extreme weather events. There have been record temperature highs and enormous amounts of rain and as the Greek Prime Minister was quoted as saying, "The worst is still to come . . ."

All of this has come awfully close to home, to us, where we are and the equally awful truth is that this is where it all started, in the industrialised countries of the world. For years now, scientists have been warning us that the steady warming of the earth's climate would lead to such extreme weather events but even their predictions have begun to be realised much earlier than they had dared to tell us. They also told us that this warming was being caused by our human activity, not least the emission of "greenhouse gases" such as carbon dioxide and methane. But we chose to bury our heads in the sand, saying it could not be, it wouldn't be that bad, we've got time to deal with it. And though the effects have been felt in poorer parts of the world for quite some time now, that was faraway, not on our doorstep; we could ignore it, wonder at the pictures, maybe do a little to help when something particularly bad happened, like "the most damaging cyclone ever."

But now **It's Coming Home**. While the main sufferers, who had done least to cause the crisis, were so distant, the principal contributors to global warming could just shrug and hope the problem would go away. Now, we can ignore it no longer; neither the effects nor the causes which lie so deeply imbedded in the way we live our lives, based on the wasteful use and misuse of the earth's resources. While we have become distanced from the world's natural flows and rhythms and the finely balanced complexity of the way it works, we have lost sight of so many true values. Because we can put a cost to almost anything and decide that the measured benefits are greater, we don't look to the longer-term effects. There even seems to be a developing cult of "When we've used this world up, we'll simply move to another! So, lets use up even more resources having an afternoon off in space so we'll be able to colonise that in a few years' time!"

It's time to wake up! We're on a one-way street heading towards disaster, very fast. We need to start thinking about fundamental changes to the way we live and we need to do that now, because "**It's Coming Home**".

[to be continued]

Dare Holland

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH by Rev. David Gregg **SEPTEMBER 29TH : FEATS OF MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS**

One year, whilst at Romsey House, Cambridge, I got personally involved with the mums-and-toddlers Christmas play at St. Philip's Church. Claire Bigg, our Vice-principal's wife, asked me if I would play the Archangel Gabriel for them. Later on she showed me the script she had written, to check for any theological aberrations, as she put it. My reply was that, having cast *me* as the Archangel Gabriel, any other aberrations would pale into utter insignificance!

The idea of the Archangel Gabriel as the epitome of perfection is well-grounded in our culture, and, in fact the whole notion of Angels is prevalent, but perhaps on a

rather more muted level, compared to the part they play in the biblical story. There, they are spiritual beings (alongside God – the Holy Spirit – the Devil and Unclean spirits, and the human spirit.) who are central to the whole enterprise.

Basically, the word ‘Angel’ means “*Messenger*”, as in “Hark, the Herald Angels sing.” But, as well as bringing *News*, they bear *Instructions* (cf. Sending Elijah to Horeb – 1 Kings ch. 19), *Warnings* (as to Joseph, to flee to Egypt – Matthew ch. 2) and *Commandments* (e.g. Zechariah told to name John the Baptist – Luke ch. 1) But they are also eternal *Worshippers* of Almighty God in Heaven, and include the Cherubim and Seraphim; they are the *Warriors*, the “hosts” of the Lord God of Hosts, where their leader is the Archangel Michael, featured prominently in Daniel ch. 12 and Revelation ch. 12 as defeating Satan and his forces. His name means ‘Who is like God?’ and He is usually taken to represent the Lord Jesus Christ Himself; and they are *Protectors*, revealed as such to Elisha’s servant in Israel’s war against Syria (2 Kings ch. 6), referred to by Satan to tempt Jesus to throw Himself from the Temple wall (Matthew ch. 4,) and invoked as such by Jesus Himself in Gethsemane (Matthew ch. 26). They are also personal *Guardians and Deliverers*, as both Peter and John (Acts ch. 5) and later Peter himself (Acts ch. 12) experienced in prison.

Angels may also appear in human guise, as in Abraham’s encounter with the three men, concerning the promise of Isaac (Genesis ch. 18), or Jacob’s wrestling opponent at Penniel (Genesis ch. 32). Frequently there is reference to *The Angel of the LORD* or *An Angel of the LORD*, and other uses that are akin to our concept of someone’s *alter ego*.

So what do we *do* about all this? We may consciously affirm angels as our partners in worship (“Ye Holy Angels bright”). We may joyfully extend our hospitality to strangers, with the possibility that we are “entertaining angels unawares”, and we may find great encouragement and comfort in the knowledge that guardian angels are watching over us, protecting us, and occasionally, bringing the LORD’s messages to us.

A childhood prayer ends with:

“Four corners to my bed,
Four angels round my head.
One to watch, and one to pray,
And two to bear my soul away.”

Hallelujah. Amen.

District Councillors’ Update

Business Grants—Grants are still available for local businesses to help them get back on the feet. If you want to see if your business is eligible, then please follow the below link for the SLDC web page <https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/business-and-trade/business-support-grants-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Local Government Reform—After Consultation and considering submitted options, the Government has decided to split Cumbria into two Unitary Authorities diagonally, called Cumbria West and East., each with a Mayor. Broughton and Coniston ward is now in Cumbria East and incorporates, Barrow, South Lakeland and Eden District Councils, stretching from Barrow across to Alston. The role of the County Councillors and District Councillors will merge, with fewer Councillors. The time scale for this to

happen will be April 2023 and these changes will have be ratified by Parliament. Meanwhile, there will be a lot of work to define the roles of each area, who does what, what will be the priorities of the new Authority and how it will be administered. There will be elections in May 2022 to elect the new Council.

Constituency Reform—The Boundary Commission has undergone a boundary change Consultation, for the Parliamentary Constituencies in Cumbria, which ended on 2nd July. The proposal is to reduce the number of MPs in Cumbria from 6 to 5. It is proposed that Broughton and Coniston ward will come under Copeland constituency. So, it is possible that we will end up with an MP based in Whitehaven over an hour drive away.

Green Communities—There are a number of Green Community issues starting up and we would love to get everyone involved, of all ages and groups. Duddon and Coniston are starting a local Greening Campaign. There are already initiatives by Get Coniston Buzzing and Rusland Horizons and there is a new group in the South of the valley starting, called Green Spark. They are launching their first fun afternoon on September 18th from 2 to 4pm at Spark Bridge, by the Village Hall.

Visitor Management—The National Park, working with various agencies, like the Police, SLDC, CCC and National Trust have formed a Tactical Visitor Management Group and developed specific area visitor management plans. These have included extra Ranger and Police patrols, signage, litter pickers and welcome hosts in Car Parks. To cope with the extra demand caused by Covid and the National Staycation, we have helped to implement Pop up Campsites and Car Parks. Pop up Car Park examples are the at Monk Coniston and near Dodgson Wood, which has helped ease congestion on the East side of the Lake

There are still issues with a small minority of people behaving badly and we are encouraging people not to confront them, but unfortunately, we are still seeing a small minority exhibiting loutish behaviours and I have concern that people have approached some of these groups and as a result have been threatened. The advice is not to confront, but to call the Police. Call 101 or 101emails@cumbria.police.uk . Contact me on 077784 30926, if you have any queries/concerns or would like any more information.

Or ian.wharton@southlakeland.gov.uk,
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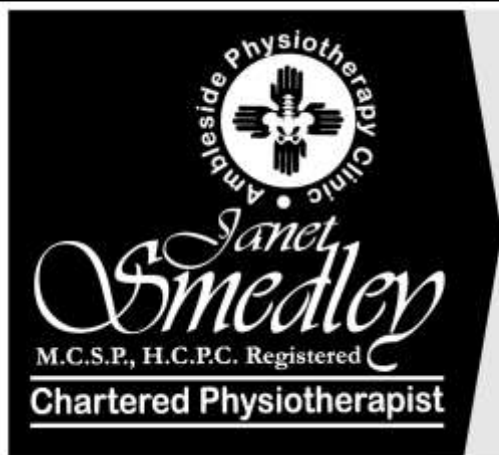
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