

Coniston and Crake Valley News



April 2023 www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

The Coniston and Crake Valley Benefice

"To Grow, Witness and Love Like Jesus"

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

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

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To contact any of the Churchwardens, pastoral team, retired clergy or lay ministers please call or email the Administrator, Juliet.

Churches in Coniston and the Crake Valley

St Andrew's Church, Coniston LA21 8EN

St Luke's Church, Torver LA21 8AZ

St Luke's Church, Lowick LA12 8EE

Holy Trinity Church, Colton LA12 8HF

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

Tottlebank Baptist Church, Colton LA12 8HY

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

Coniston Methodist Church, Coniston LA21 8ER

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

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

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

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Pastoral Letter from Revd David Bickersteth

Dear Readers,

Is it true? Is it true that a Galilean builder who taught, healed and died at just thirty three years old, is truly God as well as man? Many are happy to acknowledge Jesus as an incredible teacher, millions accept him as prophet, but only Christians believe he IS God who died a miserable death and was experienced alive, yet different, during the five weeks following death by Roman crucifixion.

If not true, then it's the greatest con in human history. But look at the facts, examine the evidence. The earliest written account of his death and resurrection is found in Paul's letter to the Church in Corinth in Greece. (1 Cor chapter 15). Paul, one time destroyer of the followers of Jesus, having met him in a vision, wrote up the first account less than twenty years after it happened. He tells his readers about those who witnessed the risen Jesus – and on one occasion five hundred people saw him! Paul tells us most of the witnesses are still alive – check it out with them, is his challenge.

The other important point is that all but the Apostle John, died as martyrs for their witness to the resurrection. You don't die for a lie.

Today many believe in some sort of life after death – but only Jesus has truly returned as the New Man, the new Adam. He is real, yet Heavenly – solid yet able to pass through locked doors. Above all else Christians believe he has offered us salvation – forgiveness as well as life to come. His Gospel writers were very clear that we have to make up our minds about Jesus. He said he is the Way, the Truth and only through him, the gate, can we find eternal life.

Such exclusive claims are very counter cultural in Western liberal thinking, so it really is important to make up your mind. CS Lewis said, Jesus was either mad, bad, or God. Chuck Colson, President Nixon's hatchet man, was sentenced for obstruction of justice. He spent seven months in prison, and there become an enthusiastic Christian. It was this choice between mad, bad, or God, he said, that convinced him to become a Christian.

Good Friday and Easter Sunday are the number one celebration for the followers of Jesus. Could it be a time for you to make up your mind about him. If true – as I believe, then there is no greater truth.

Wishing you a Happy Easter.

David

From the Editor

Welcome to the April edition. I have managed to find quite a few Coronation events going on in the villages but if I haven't included yours please do let me know for the May edition.

Please send your items in for the May Magazine
by April 15th.

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



Church Services for April 2023

2nd	Palm Sunday		
St. Luke Torver	9.00am	Bikers' Breakfast	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Harry Welch
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter

7th	Good Friday		
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Walk of Witness	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	2.00pm	Devotions at the Cross	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	2.00pm	Devotions at the Cross	Pam Priestley

9th	Easter Sunday		
Coniston lake shore	7.30am	Easter Sunrise Service	Christians Together in Coniston
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Holy Communion	Rev Joanna Henson
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bickersteth
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Harry Welch
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter

16th	Second Sunday of Easter		
St. Luke, Torver	9.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Healing Service	Rev Brian Streeter

23rd	Third Sunday of Easter		
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Methodist Service	Rev Jo Rand
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Morning Worship	Pamela Hull
St. Luke Torver	7.00pm	Torver Junction	Rev Brian Streeter

30th	Fourth Sunday of Easter		
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Morning Worship	Pamela Hull
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter

From the Registers

Funeral:

March 16th: Howard Stanley Sadler at St Andrew's, Coniston
 March 28th: Doris Allonby at Holy Trinity, Colton

Wedding:

April 29th: Susan Ward & Ryan Alan Williams at St Andrew's, Coniston

Around the Parishes

Colton

Save the Date for Colton Church Fete!

Colton Church will be holding their annual fete on **Saturday July 15th**.

There will be the usual stalls, raffles and of course afternoon tea.

Colton Parish Council

At our last meeting, the annual parish council open meeting was discussed, and it was agreed that a different format would be considered to increase public participation. The meeting will be held in May so look out for further announcements on our plans for something a little less formal than past years.

We are delighted to announce that the Green Sparks Initiative will be incorporated into Colton Parish Council as a Working Group. This fits well with the declaration of a climate emergency by the council and also offers a sustainable home for this important work to communicate and promote green energy and green initiatives. The working group is not restricted to members of the council, and we would actively welcome participants from the community.

Our first Speed Indication Device (SID) was sited in Spark Bridge on the road up towards Tottlebank crossroads. Whilst the median speed was not unreasonable it is rather shocking to see that the fastest speed recorded was 55mph in the 30mph zone.

An application has been submitted to have The White Hart Inn in Bouth listed as an asset of community value.

As noted above, our next meeting is the Annual Parish Council and Open Meeting with date, time and venue to be confirmed. Please check the Colton Parish Website and your noticeboards for updates.

Egton cum Newland

Greenodd and Penny Bridge Village Hall

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

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

Parish Council of Egton, with Newland, Mansriggs & Osmotherley

Next meeting is on Tuesday, 9th May at 7pm in Greenodd Village Hall.



Let your light shine!

Here is the monthly review from Penny Bridge CE Academy. We are also looking forward to Coronation events in school leading up to the bank holiday weekend with a disco on the Friday night.

The Ospreys (9–11 year olds) enjoyed a fun filled afternoon playing dodgeball with their peers from Leven Valley School. Following on from their earlier visit to Gleaston Castle Farm, they participated in a Rural Workshop organised by Westmorland County Agricultural Society.

The Kingfishers' (7-9 year olds) production of Treasure Island is in full flow and they are showing off their artistic flair making props and scenery. They have also enjoyed learning about coastlines in Geography this term and Early Civilisations in History.

The Starlings (5-7 year olds) have started to learn about plants and trees in Science this term. They have also been learning about the Easter Story in RE and exploring different symbols related to Easter.

The Robins (4-5 year olds) have been exploring different types of materials and their properties in Science. They have also been learning about 'people who help us' in our everyday lives in PSHE.



Head Mr. Carrick (as Mr Bump!) with the pupils on World Book Day

Coffee Morning - Saturday 1st April - Greenodd Village Hall

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



Entrance £2 to include refreshments.

Jean and friends



You are invited to join in celebrating
The Coronation of King Charles
On Saturday 6th May 2023

A Regal Afternoon Tea
With A Quiz and Children's Activities
From 3pm until 5pm

At Water Yeat Village Hall. LA12 8PJ

For details about food and drink contributions etc.

Contact: Sue 01229885238 Mobile 07973961041

or Mary 01229885082 Mobile 07788610911

Offers of help on the day most welcome

Come and Join the Party

To help with planning and attendees/numbers

PLEASE R.S.V.P the ladies By Monday
23rd April 2023

Do follow "Blawith and Subberthwaite Parish Council" on Facebook and residents please message to be added to the parish WhatsApp group.
Mary Giles

Coniston and Torver

Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston, February 2023

Total: 146.9mm (5.8")

Wet days: 21; more than 1mm on 15.

Wettest day: 16th: 27mm (1.1")

Frost on the 14th

Easter Holiday Club in Coniston



What's happening?: 'It's an Easter Bug's Life' children's holiday club at the Coniston Institute, run by Christians Together in Coniston. With games, stories, adventures, refreshments and lots of brilliant fun!

Who for?: For children ages 5 to 11 - younger children are welcome if an adult is staying with them, and parents/guardians are welcome to stay for refreshments and to see what's going on!

When?: Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th April, from 10am - 12 noon.

Cost?: No charge. A voluntary donation of £2.50 per child is welcome.

More info and Bookings?: Contact **Chris Clark**, Coniston Children's, Youth and Community Worker, via email: **conistoncommunityworker@gmail.com** or phone/text: **07594 775046**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Coniston Sports and Social Centre

April Events

Good Friday 7th April – Children's Easter Crafts and Paste Egg decorating
1 – 3pm

Easter Saturday 8th April – LIVE MUSIC from Jeremy Jay - playing from 8pm

Easter Sunday 9th April - Come and Roll your Paste Eggs 2pm

Easter Monday 10th April – Bar open from 1pm - 8pm

Sunday 23rd April St George's Family Fun Day – 1pm onwards.



Coronation Events - see page 10

QUIZ NIGHT IS BACK

On the first Wednesday of each month

Starting on May 3rd

Reassemble your teams and head down for 7pm,

Quiz starting at 8pm - £2pp

If any local charities would like to host one of the monthly quizzes as a fundraiser then please let the Centre Manager or a committee member know.

For regular events see page 30





Photo Exhibition

April 1st - June 11th

Opening: Saturday April 1st
with Artist Talk at 13:00 hrs

Earthly Smopu!M

LOEK VAN VLIET

The Ruskin Museum

Coniston, LA21 8DU

Opening hours: 10:00 - 16:30

www.ruskinmuseum.com

The European landscape throughout the ages including Hodge Close Quarry and other landscapes from Cumbria

Coniston Coronation Celebrations



The weekend of celebrations to mark the coronation of King Charles III will take place between Saturday, 6th May and Monday, 8th May.

The village will be decorated, both by bunting from the Parish Council and the Women's Institute, but also by residents and businesses who are being asked to decorate their front windows from the May Day Weekend for a fortnight until the 14th May. There will be prizes for winning windows in a number of categories.

Although many people will choose to watch the coronation on their own televisions the ceremony will be screened at the Sports and Social Club on **Saturday, 6th May**.

On the **Sunday, 7th May** there will be an ecumenical church service at St Andrew's led by Revd Brian Streeter.

From 1pm that day there will be an opportunity for children, families and people of all ages to come together and enjoy the **Picnic on the Pitch** at Coniston Sports and Social Club, with live music.

There will be a **Children's Fancy Dress Competition**, the winners will sit in the carriage leading the **Flag Parade** at 4pm through the village.

Activities at the club include a **mini music festival** with children's crafts and entertainment whilst everyone can bring along their own **picnic**.

One of the main themes the King has asked communities to embrace is the promotion of people going out of their way to volunteer, or otherwise contribute to the life of the parish.

There will be an **exhibition** of a range of groups without whom the village would not be the colourful, entertaining and yet caring and safe community it is. This will be either at the Memorial Green or by the Coniston Institute depending on the weather between 11am and 1pm on **Monday, 8th May**.

To help us celebrate volunteers can you **nominate a volunteer** who doesn't always get the credit they deserve? There will be prizes for:

junior volunteer, adult volunteer, volunteer group.

Nominations can be made anonymously by 6th May either via Facebook (look for the Coniston Coronation Celebrations page), or email to the Parish Clerk (**parish@coniston.info**) or in writing to Parish Clerk, Bluebird Lodge, Coniston, LA21 8AJ.

On the afternoon of **Monday, 8th May** the Coniston Women's Institute are organising a **Tea Dance** with music from the Bald Mountain String Band who are revisiting the Coniston Institute for the first time since they played at the Platinum Jubilee. There will be a small charge to cover essentials, so watch out for more information coming out nearer to the event.

As with the Platinum Jubilee the organisers recognise that not everyone who wants to attend is able to do so, in which case they will again be producing afternoon tea hampers. Please contact Judith Myers, telephone 07896 618474 for more information.

Need more information?

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact **Michael Dearnley**, Parish Clerk, on **015394 41442**, or via email at **parish@coniston.info**

Reports



Mothers' Union

Members of Coniston Mothers' Union met on the 23rd of February beginning with worship based on the year's theme, plus prayers for peace in the world and Mothering Sunday.

Following a few business matters a card game was played, based on this year's theme, 'Transformation Now', taken from the MU web site. Each member took a card then a discussion followed on how the object on the cards could help develop the group and local community in the future.

Their next event is a Deanery service on March 25th celebrating Lady Day at St. James' Church, Barrow and the next local meeting will be held on March 30th and includes Easter crafts. The April meeting is 27th April and the theme "Names, Places in the Bible beginning with B"

All are welcome, please contact **Kay Shepherd, 015394 41559** for more information, times etc.

Women's Institutes



Egton WI

At the end of last month Egton WI members enjoyed a trial indoor bowling session in Greenodd Village Hall under the guidance of our good friend Tom Watson. We began the evening with a sociable get together enjoying pie and peas. The not so serious bowling then began and we tried our best! Some were more competitive than others but we were all somewhat erratic until we'd had a few turns. Suffice to say that it was generally agreed that we will have a repeat performance in the not too distant future.

We are all looking forward to hosting our Coronation Tea Party in Greenodd Village Hall on **Monday 8th May** at 2pm. There are still tickets available at the time of writing this so if you would like to buy one or more and enjoy a plentiful tea for only £10 a head please contact Gill on **07519 144799** or ask any Egton WI member and they will point you in the right direction.



New members are always welcome so if you would like more information please call on the above number.

Gill

Brantwood News and Views



Brantwood is now open and back in full swing – open every day 10.30am - 5pm.

Our 2023 programme of exhibitions continues in the Blue Gallery from 20th April with Tracery – Venice and the Lakes Interlaced by Deirdre Kelly. This exhibition that emulates Ruskin's dedication to observation and his love of Venice and the Lakes. She has engaged in an intimate virtual dialogue with the lacemakers of Venice's past, via privileged access to its historical lace collections. Her works manipulate cartography, and draw on the '*imparraticci*', or paper models used by lace makers from Burano for centuries, tracing antique Venetian lace designs into maps of the Lake District. The exhibition 'Tracery' is also a desire to embrace and participate in the rich creativity of the female hand, always attuned to the delicate rhythms of nature. Like the lacemakers of the Lakes and those of Burano, Kelly has found ways to tell interwoven stories of lakes and lace and evoke journeys, by marrying new techniques to traditional crafts. On display until 11th July.

In the Severn Studio, 'Cowspines' by our very own Kate Kirkwood continues until 23rd April. Twelve years in the making, this exhibition is a body of landscape photography like no other. Kate's project is an obsession born out of a love of the Lake District and the elements, and an appreciation of the titular subject matter that forms the basis of each image. This is followed by 'Observation' – a collection of Green Door artists look at the world around us. This exhibition channels Ruskin with studies, sketches and works based on and inspired by the natural world, geology, architecture and our environment. On display from 29th April until 11th June.

To celebrate Earth Day on 22nd April, Brantwood will be hosting "The Comic Challenge" as part of The Wild Escape. This is a creative activity to contribute a story to depict the escape of the animal back to its natural habitat. The pictures and stories children create will be brought together in a collective work of art that imagines a better future for the wildlife on our doorstep, launched online and in museums on Earth Day 2023. Further information can be found on our website.

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

Conserving Coniston and Crake



On the evening of 3rd March, volunteers met at Water Yeat Village Hall, a well attended open-house event to see and discuss the activities planned for this year: Buffer Strip surveys of life adjacent to water courses, Beck Health monitoring of physical parameters and potential pollution, Riverfly monitoring of insect larvae living in becks and fish surveys to establish species and numbers of fish living in our becks. Coffee, tea and nibbles were much appreciated. If you were unable join us on the 3rd but would like to register your interest or would like more information, please contact admin@scrt.co.uk.

Shortly we will follow up with invitations to volunteers (old and new) to join the planned activities. Finally we changed the name of the group to Conserving Coniston & Crake, and we remain a partner to South Cumbria Rivers Trust.

Michael, Ian, Jens, Kath and Jayne

Lowick Young Farmers



It's been a busy start to 2023 for Lowick Young Farmers, with a range of interesting meetings and continued competitions success.

A few of our members joined the National YFC ski trip to Val D'Isere in January, meeting many other Young Farmers from across the country, practicing their skills, and with a lot of fun had by everyone. Lowick YFC started the year at the Southern District's AGM where the club picked up the Barter Shield for Public Speaking and the Rose Bowl for overall success in the winter competitions. Success also followed at the District's Indoor Sports competition hosted at UVHS later that month, with our Juniors taking 1st and 3rd in the Dodgeball and the Senior team also coming out top in the Netball.

We had an interesting tour of Barrow Fire Station, hosted our annual Domino Drive (raising £275 for charity) and also had a half-term trip down to Morecambe Bowling, all by the end of February! That month also marked the wedding of our Club Treasurer, Alice Longmire, to former Lowick Chairman, Thomas Woodburn, at St Luke's Church in Lowick. It was a fantastic day, well supported by a cast of Young Farmers past and present, including the traditional guard of honour, and truly enjoyed by all. We wish them all the best for their future together.

Success continued at pace in the County rounds of this year's competitions, with a 2nd & 4th place in the Junior Public Speaking competition, 2nd in Senior Member of the Year, 3rd in Junior Reading, 1st with Intermediates' Call My Bluff, 1st & 3rd in Senior Situations Vacant, 2nd in the Open Brainstrust competition, and a 3rd in the Junior Member of the Year. They're all individually fantastic achievements, but overall make Lowick the most successful club across the County in winter speaking competitions this year!! A big well done to everyone who has helped out along the way, and to our members for continuing to be the best!

As well as helping out at Lowick Church to clear leftover branches following recent storms with a good turnout of a dozen members and family (pictured), our highlight of the year so far has been our Charity StockJudging Evening. We were amazed by the turnout, filling Ulverston Auction Mart with over 200 people taking part. Competitors were split into different age groups with classes to be judged including Dairy heifers, Suffolks tups, Beef stores, Hampshire Downs, Sheepdogs and a novelty class of shepherds' crooks. A big thank



you must go to all our sponsors, judges & stock providers for the event. Another thank you to everyone who helped make the night happen whether that be helping organising the event, making sure it ran smoothly on the night, or selling plenty of raffle tickets. A HUGE thank you to everyone who supported us by coming along and joining in! Together, we raised £3102.70 for St Mary's Hospice which is a great local cause. Now, it's headlong into another year's Field Day preparations. Come on Lowick!



What's on in April at the Farmer's

8th April / 10am - 4pm / £5 per hour - Drop In Making Days with Tom Philipson and Francis Lloyd-Jones

13th April / 7.30pm / FREE - The Stable Bar Presents: Celtic Fiddles

19th April-31st May / 6-8pm / £160 - Wednesday Evening Course: Pottery with Francis Lloyd-Jones

20th April-1st June / 6-8pm / £160 - Thursday Evening Course: Pottery with Francis Lloyd-Jones

20th April / 7.30pm / FREE / The Stable Bar Presents: John Woodward

22nd - 23rd April / 10am-4pm / £120 - Learn Traditional Dry Stone Walling with Peter Drake

22nd April / 10am - 4pm / £5 per hour - Drop In Making Days with Tom Philipson and Francis Lloyd-Jones

Ted Sands Family History

Over the last couple of years I have been corresponding with Ted Sands from Connecticut who has been researching his ancestors. The culmination of his efforts is a book entitled "**James Sands of Block Island, a speculative account of his ancestry**". In 1661 James Sands was one of the sixteen original buyers of Block Island which is part of the state of Rhode Island. Ted, the author, is a descendant of James and sought to find out more of James' origin and family connections in England.

The US Sands' family legend had James either as the grandson of Edwin Sandys, Archbishop of York or that he was descended from the Sands of Staffordshire and was born in Reading, Berkshire. By the time Ted contacted me he had concluded that in fact the Sandes family had originated in Esthwaite and indeed the "Reading" of James' birth was more likely Reddings/Ridding, Lowick. At a distance, Ted has carried out extensive research and asked me many searching questions about the geography and possible history of Lowick and Penny Bridge, with lots of names and place-names going way back to the 15th century!

In autumn 2022 Ted and his wife Peggy came to stay at Hawkshead to visit some of the locations we'd discussed by email and he met and chatted to some locals during his explorations.

He recently sent me a copy of his book which is a very detailed account of his theories and how he arrived at them. If anyone would like to borrow the book you'd be most welcome.

Juliet, Editor

I ordered a watch online with personalised engraving for my partner's upcoming birthday. The company has since gone out of business. I keep phoning and emailing them but can't get through to anyone. I can't afford to buy another gift until I get my money back. Please can you help?

If the company has gone into administration, it may still be able to fulfil outstanding orders, but if it is already in liquidation, you'll need to try to get your money back. If you're unsure about what state the company is in, the Citizens Advice website has information on how to find out.

Is there a shop or office you can visit, to get an update on your order, or request a refund? If that isn't possible, the next steps depend on whether it's a limited company (it will have ltd or plc after its title) or if it's a sole trader (someone who runs their own business) or partnership.

If it's a limited company, you'll need to get details of the administrator or receiver - the person dealing with settling the trader's debts. The names of those administrators will usually be on the website of the company that's gone bust. You should register your claim as a creditor on the GOV.UK website. Fill out the form with details of what you're owed and send it to the administrator.

Unfortunately, there's only a small chance you'll receive any money back because you'll be last in a long list of creditors who need to be paid.

If you paid by debit or credit card, you could also try getting your money back with a Section 75 claim or a chargeback claim to your card provider or bank. Full details about both these types of claims can be found on the Citizens Advice website.

If the seller was a sole trader or partnership and not a limited company, pursuing a Section 75 or chargeback claim is your best option.

Every case is different when traders go under, but you can call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline to find out exactly what your rights are: 0808 223 1133 and visit <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/somethings-gone-wrong-with-a-purchase/if-a-company-stops-trading-or-goes-out-of-business/>

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, your local charity, is here for you. How to access:

Call 015394 46464 - this is being staffed from 9:30 – 2pm

• ***Adviceline: 0808 2787 984***

email advice via our submission page on our website www.southlakescab.org.uk

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

Good Friday Quaker Meeting 11am - 12noon

Rookhow's large annual gathering. All are welcome, especially local people in the valley. Followed by Tim's homemade hot cross buns. This will be followed at 2-4pm with the presentation of Rookhow's Annual Report and accounts for 2022 and a Strategic Gathering to discuss future developments, including the planning for Rookhow's tricentenary celebrations in June 2025.



Open Days

Open Days on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month 10am-4pm. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes. Our volunteer guides will be happy to show you around and you can wander into the woods too. If you'd like to come with a group, please let Sue know in advance so we have enough cakes!

Quaker Meetings at Rookhow Meeting House

On the first Wednesday of every month 7.30 - 8pm and 1st and 3rd Fridays 12.30-1pm. All welcome.

Day bookings

Rookhow Meeting House can be booked for meetings & day events (Monday-Thursday) and as a base for use of the woodland.

Summer Holidays: 3 & 4 night bookings

Please spread the word to your friends and family from away who might want to come and stay in the Rusland Valley. They can hire the whole site- Bunkbarn, Meeting House, yurt, camping and woodland and have the place to themselves! These bookings help us to run the charity and also support the mental health groups who come to stay. We put at least 5% of bookings income into the Retreat Away Fund. Check the website: <https://rookhow.org.uk>

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

Email: contactrookhow@gmail.com

Oxen Park Cinema Club

Upcoming films in April - all films start at 7.30pm, booking needed - online at www.oxenparkcinemaclub.org.uk or by email crilmcneill@gmail.com



4th: Compartment No.6: Finnish/Russian film with subtitles.

15th: C'mon C'mon: our last film of the season - so if you have kept meaning to come and haven't then why not go online and book NOW at www.oxenparkcinemaclub.org.uk

The Long Silence

The following story is very appropriate as we approach Easter Sunday and consider why that Sunday is so significant to Christians and why it has shaped so much of Western civilization—it also happens to be one of my favourites!

Some think that the LORD God is a harsh judge who is just waiting to find fault in us, but Jesus said, *"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him"*. Jesus' sentence and death was for our acquittal.

Rev. Brian Streeter

At the end of time, billions of people were seated on a great plain before God's throne. Most shrank back from the brilliant light before them. But some groups near the front talked heatedly, not cringing with shame – but bristling with belligerence.

"Can God judge us? How can He know about suffering?", snapped a young brunette. She ripped open a sleeve to reveal a tattooed number from a Nazi concentration camp. "We endured terror... beatings... torture... death!"

In another group a Negro boy lowered his collar. "What about this?" he demanded, showing an ugly rope burn. "Lynched, for no crime but being black!"

In another crowd there was a pregnant schoolgirl with sullen eyes. "Why should I suffer?" she murmured. "It wasn't my fault".

Far out across the plain were hundreds of such groups. Each had a complaint against God for the evil and suffering He had permitted in His world.

How lucky God was to live in Heaven, where all was sweetness and light. Where there was no weeping or fear, no hunger or hatred. What did God know of all that man had been forced to endure in this world? For God leads a pretty sheltered life, they said.

So each of these groups sent forth their leader, chosen because he or she had suffered the most. A Jew, a negro, a person from Hiroshima, a horribly deformed arthritic, a thalidomide child. In the centre of the vast plain, they consulted with each other. At last they were ready to present their case. It was rather clever.

Before God could be qualified to be their judge, He must endure what they had endured. Their decision was that God should be sentenced to live on earth as a man.

Let him be born a Jew. Let the legitimacy of his birth be doubted. Give him a work so difficult that even his own family will think him out of his mind.

Let him be betrayed by his closest friends. Let him face false charges, let him be tried by a prejudiced jury and convicted by a cowardly judge. Let him be tortured.

At the last, let him see what it means to be terribly alone. Then let him die so there can be no doubt he died. Let there be a great host of witnesses to verify it.

As each leader announced his portion of the sentence, loud murmurs of approval went up from the throng of people assembled. When the last had finished pronouncing sentence, there was a long silence. No one uttered a word. No one moved.

For suddenly, all knew that God had already served His sentence.

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH by Rev. David Gregg
APRIL 7TH: GOOD FRIDAY

I was once invited to take an Easter Holiday Chaplaincy at Wengen in the Bernese Oberland. Pastor Zotta, the minister of the Swiss Reformed Church there, asked me if I would preach at their Good Friday Communion Service. I remembered what their founder, John Calvin, had written, in his commentary on the Gospels, about the cry that Jesus gave on the cross, “Eloi, Eloi – lema sabachthani.” He points out that this cry is at the very *heart* of Christ’s suffering for our sakes, and is so important that we are given it in His *actual* words. So I decided to base my sermon on this. Pastor Zotta was translating it into German as I spoke. He was such a *good* interpreter that he regularly did this officially at the annual meeting of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. But he was a bit *too* good. When I said, “We are not just given this cry in our own English language, ‘My God, My God, why have You forsaken me?’ ” he translated the whole thing into *German*. “Nor are we given it in German, ‘Mein Gott, Mein Gott, warum hast du mich verlassen?’ ” I said. He duly rendered all of *that* in German. “Nor are we given it only in New Testament Greek, ‘O theos mou, ‘O theos mou, eis ti egkatelipes me?’ ” He promptly turned all *that* into German. Despairingly I went on, “But we are given Jesus’ original Aramaic words, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’ ” The good pastor dutifully translated the whole of *that* into German as well! Talk about losing something in the translation!!

I was also invited to administer the wine at the Good Friday service. I was given a *huge* chalice containing, it seemed, about a *litre* of wine! There were only about twenty-five people present. “They’ll never get anywhere *near* sipping that much,” I thought. Even when the first old farmer took a deep slurp, I was still unconvinced. I went to retrieve the cup from him when, to my astonishment, he took a second substantial draught – and then a *third*. He handed the cup back to me, and I proceeded to the next communicant, who likewise helped himself to three sizeable swigs and so on, all along the line. I couldn’t resist asking Pastor Zotta in the vestry afterwards what *that* was all about. With a twinkle in his eye, he answered simply, “In the Name of the Father AND of the Son AND of the Holy Spirit!”

Charles Wesley wrote the hymn, ‘And can it be’ to celebrate his conversion. At the heart of it are the words: “Amazing love, how can it be

That Thou, my God, should’st die for me?”

And it is this enormous mystery that is at the heart of our Good Friday commemoration. And at the heart of that mystery is the cry of dereliction from the Cross, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?” But, were it not for Jesus’s self-giving sacrifice on the cross, *our* eternal destiny, for *our* sins, would be eternal separation from God. “In the Name (singular!) of the Father, AND of the Son, AND of the Holy Spirit” confronts us with the over-arching mystery of the Holy Trinity. That NAME is best rendered as LORD. We know the meaning of it, but not the form (because it is too sacred for human lips to utter). It means “I am Who/What I am” – and points us to the One who is willing to pay the price of love, by Himself redeeming us through the Blood of the Cross. The apostle Paul asserts that “as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the Lord’s *death* until He comes”. (1 Corinthians ch. 11 v 26) (Given that the Jewish day begins at 6 o’clock in the evening, the communion on Maundy Thursday therefore constitutes the Eucharist for Good Friday!). As we receive the sacramental elements of His body and His blood (= the bread and the wine), week by week, at His command, let us ponder and pray, in

the words of a Lenten Collect:

Almighty God, Whose most dear Son
went not up to joy but first He suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before He was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the Cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD. Amen.

Parish Prayer Diary April 2023

1st: Pray for increased social awareness of the needs of autistic children and adults, especially those who find the world a noisy and confusing place.

2nd: Sunday, the first day of the week: Reflecting on the King of kings humble entry into Jerusalem, may we walk the Way of the cross, which is the path of glory.

3rd: At the beginning of Holy Week, pray for a fresh awareness of all Jesus endured on our behalf because He loves us.

4th: Pray for this week's *Easter Holiday Club* for primary-age children.

5th: Pray for Coniston & Crake Valley Benefice staff team meeting this afternoon.

6th: Reflect on the last Passover meal Jesus shared with his disciples, which will be commemorated at today's Holy Communion services.

7th: Pray for morning Good Friday *Walks of Witness* recalling Jesus' walk through Jerusalem to Golgotha; and for gatherings this afternoon to meditate on his final hour and his final words from the cross, "It is finished!" (*John 19:30*)

8th: Pray for situations that seem so hopeless, offering them to God for Him to work His resurrection miracle.

9th: Easter Day HALLELUJAH – CHRIST IS RISEN! Celebrate with Christians all around the world, rejoicing and proclaiming together "He is risen indeed!"

10th: Pray for those undertaking theology studies and ordination training as part of preparation for ministry within the national Christian fellowship.

11th: Pray for Christians in other denominations across the Crake Valley who share in the mission of Jesus.

12th: Pray for Christian families and individuals who adopt or foster children.

13th: Pray for Open Doors supporting the tiny minority of Christians in Somalia who follow Jesus in secret because of the violence from extremists towards them.

14th: Pray for those who freely give of themselves for the benefit of others.

15th: Pray for our local businesses.

16th: Sunday, the first day of the week: Pray the risen Jesus opens the door of our hearts that we may seek the good of others and walk joyfully the road of sacrifice and peace, to His praise and glory.

17th: Pray for pupils and staff returning to school for start of Summer Term.

18th: Pray for our local farmers and their families.

19th: Pray for Parent and Toddler groups across the benefice.

20th: Pray for the Westmorland & Furness Council AGM taking place this afternoon.

21st: Pray for *Mercy Ships*, a faith-based international charity that deploys hospital ships delivering vital free healthcare to people in desperate need.

22nd: Pray for those living with the challenge of disease that impacts daily life.

23rd: **Sunday, the first day of the week:** Pray our risen Lord, who filled His first disciples with boldness and fresh hope, may strengthen us to proclaim His risen life and filled us with peace that passes all earthly understanding.

24th: Pray for those carrying the responsibility of caring for our church buildings.

25th: Pray for the World Health Organisation working to provide high quality immunisation programmes protecting people from preventable disease.

26th: Pray for those who work to conserve the unique freshwater habitats and wildlife of our local area.

27th: Pray for The Mothers Union locally, across the UK and abroad.

28th: Pray for the Young Farmers groups as they learn and develop life skills.

29th: Pray for Robert and Marius, the children at St Margaret's Hospice in Bucharest, who are sponsored by collections made across the Crake Valley.

30th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

Rejoice that Jesus our Saviour is the resurrection and the life and through our faith and trust in Him we are safe in His care, today, tomorrow, for always.

Prayer Hour

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

Next Prayer Hour will be **Wednesday 5th April, 10am - 11am**

Readings for April 2023

2nd	Matthew 21.1 - 11	Matthew 27.11 - 54
7th	TBA	
9th	Acts 10.34 - 43	Matthew 28.1 - 10
16th	Acts 2.14a 22 - 32	John 20.19 - 31
23rd	Acts 2.14a 36 - 41	Luke 24.13 - 35
30th	Acts 2.42 - 47	John 10.1 - 10

April Excerpts from the Furness Year Book, 1908

1st: Easter Monday - Opening of a Bowling Green at Flookburgh by Lady Evelyn Cavendish.

6th: Death of Mr Thomas Beecham, manufacturer of Beechams Pills, who is reported to have spent £100,000 a year in advertising.

7th: Wet and wild, cold, Lake hills covered with snow, 27 days' snow since Christmas.

8th: Our national exports are close upon one hundred and two millions; imports over one hundred and seventy millions, both records.

12th: The latest typewriting record from dictation is 84 words a minute - at Liverpool, Dawson made a record billiard break of 7,184.

18th: a start with old-age pensions promised next year.

19th: Primrose day, few signs of it, primroses scarce - The King and Queen at Naples.

20th: English Football Cup: Sheffield Wednesday beat Everton by two goals to one, a moderate game, 84,000 people present at the Crystal Palace.

23rd: The March output of Johannesburg diamond mines a record, 159,303 carats, value £239,610.

24th: Meeting to form a Naturalists' Field Club in Ulverston.

27th: The volcano of Stromboli in eruption.

29th: An industrial Peace Agreement ratified in the Engineering Trades - Opening of a Poor-Law Conference at Malvern.



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What's On Guide - regular events

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

What's On Guide - April

1 st	Church Coffee Morning, 10am	Greenodd Village Hall
4 th	Film: Compartment No.6, 7.30pm	Oxen Park Cinema Club
4 th & 5 th	Easter Holiday Club - see page 8	Coniston Institute
7 th	Good Friday Quaker Meeting	Rookhow
7 th	Childrens' Easter Crafts, 1 - 3pm	Coniston Sports & Social Club
8 th	Music - Jeremy Jay 8pm	Coniston Sports & Social Club
8 th	Drop in Making Day 10am - 4pm	Farmers Arms, Lowick
9 th	Paste Egg Rolling 2pm	Coniston Sports & Social Club
13 th	Music Celtic Fiddles 7.30pm	Farmers Arms, Lowick
15 th	Concert - Suthering, 8pm, see over	Water Yeat Village Hall
15 th	Film: C'mon C'mon, 7.30pm	Oxen Park Cinema Club
18 th	Greenodd & Penny Bridge Hall AGM, 7.30pm, new members needed	Greenodd Village Hall
19 th	Evening pottery course, 7 weeks. See page 14	Farmers Arms, Lowick
20 th	Evening pottery course, 7 weeks. See page 14	Farmers Arms, Lowick
22 nd	Drop in Making Day 10am - 4pm	Farmers Arms, Lowick
22 nd	Earth Day activities, see page 12	Brantwood
23 rd	St George's Family Fun Day, 1pm	Coniston Sports & Social Club
27 th	Mothers' Union meeting, see page 11	Coniston

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