

A close-up photograph of holly branches with vibrant green, glossy leaves and clusters of bright red berries. The branches are set against a clear, solid blue sky. The text 'Coniston and Crake Valley News' is overlaid in white at the top.

Coniston and Crake Valley News

December 2024 www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

Rusland Valley Horticultural Society Ltd

POTATO DAY



Sunday 19th January 2025

Greenodd Village Hall

10am - 2pm

Sale of 120+ varieties of seed potatoes, fruit bushes & trees,
seeds, onions, flower bulbs and tubers and more!

(supplied by Brighter Blooms Nursery, Preston)

& **Home made soup and cakes!**

Admission £1 (children free)

See Brighter Blooms website for lists of produce available:

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

Juliet Caldwell	safeguarding@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk	07884 232281
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MAGAZINE EDITOR

Juliet Caldwell	editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk	07884 232281
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ADMINISTRATORS

Marion Swift	2admin@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk	01539 521337
Juliet Caldwell	admin@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk	07884 232281

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

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. 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 10.30am and Saturdays at 5.00pm. For further information contact Father Matthew Jacob on **01229 779673**.

Church Services for December 2024

1st	First Sunday of Advent		
St. Luke Torver	9.30am	Winter Breakfast	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bickersteth
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	Morning Worship	John Hogarth
8th	Second Sunday of Advent		
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	Morning Worship	Pamela Hull
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Harry Welch
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	Morning Worship	Lesley Thompson
13th	Friday		
St. Luke Lowick	6.00pm	Carols & Candlelight	Rev Brian Streeter
15th	Third Sunday of Advent		
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Grace Cauldwell
St. Luke Torver	5.00pm	Carol Service	Rev Brian Streeter
22nd	Fourth Sunday of Advent		
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	Carol Service	Rev Brian Streeter
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	Morning Worship	Paulette Bissell
Holy Trinity Colton	3.00pm	Carol Service	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	6.00pm	Carol Service	Rev Brian Streeter
24th	Christmas Eve		
Lowick Comm. Hall	3.00pm	Children's Service	Pam Priestley
St. Andrew Coniston	4.00pm	Christingle	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00pm	Holy Communion	Rev David Bickersteth
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00pm	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
25th	Christmas Day		
St. Andrew Coniston	10.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Luke Lowick	10.30am	Methodist Service	Rev Grace Cauldwell
29th	First Sunday of Christmas		
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	Joint Service	Rev David Edmondson
Greenodd Village Hall	11.00am	Holy Communion	Rev Harry Welch

Lowick Young Farmers would like to invite you to their



Carol Service

on Monday 23rd December, 6.30pm at St. Luke's, Lowick, followed by refreshments in Lowick Community Hall.

All are most welcome and donations made will go to the Coniston and Crake Valley Churches.

St. Luke, Lowick with Blawith

Carols and Candlelight

Friday 13th December at 6.00pm

Come one, come all



Our Christmas Services at Tottlebank Baptist Church

Carols by Candlelight Sunday 15th December, 4 - 5 pm

Followed by Mulled wine (or tea) and mince pies - all welcome

Christmas Day

Wednesday 25th December, 10 - 10.30am

A short, informal service of Christmas readings and carols

Followed by festive refreshments at the Hamps's house - next door



COME AND ENJOY

CHRISTMAS CAROLS at ST. LUKE'S TORVER



followed by a 'JACOB'S JOIN' supper in the Schoolroom.

Sunday 15th December - 5pm - all welcome

A fun challenge to get us into the '*reason for the season*', is to '*dare to wear*' a head-dress or full outfit of a character in the Christmas story. There will be prizes!

Contributions to the 'Jacob's Join' can be left in the Schoolroom from 4pm and prior to the service. BYO drinks. Tea and coffee will also be available.

The 100 Club Christmas draw will take place during the evening.

For those who can't be with us, St. Luke's and St. Andrew's PCC wish you a very happy Christmas and peaceful new year.

Pastoral Letter - Rev^d David Bickersteth

'The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light'

There is no doubting our troubled times – a horrifying conflict in the Bible Lands of Gaza, Lebanon and Israel, the uncertainty of the conflict in the Ukraine under the Trump administration and the rise of nationalism in parts of Europe. How will the new American leadership take part or obstruct the need for climate change? We have seen the devastating Hurricanes in the US and the floods in Spain, making the end of 2024 seem as gloomy as our short misty days.

Yet it has ever been so. I've recently done some reading on the reign of kings in England from the Saxon period to the settlement with Scotland. They were brutal times marked by many 'civil wars' as families battled out for control of the crown and nation – and indeed control of France.

The question must be asked, why a nation – any nation – with faith in God, can behave so abysmally? A question asked not long ago, when we had to come to terms with the rise of Hitler in Christian Germany. We must acknowledge the power of persuasion and the fickleness of the voter.

Jesus was born into a troubled nation, controlled by a ruthless empire under the guise of a quisling puppet ruler, who massacred infants to protect his dynasty. The infant Jesus would one day be tried and condemned by the ruling powers and declare *'My kingdom is not of this world'* (John 18:36). Yet Jesus taught about the values of God's Kingdom – a kingdom of love, truth and justice. He echoes and fulfils the expectation of Jewish prophecy. So why do we see such evil in the world? The Apostle Paul, another victim of the tyranny of the powers – wrote that our battle is against the rulers of darkness – against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:12).

The child of Bethlehem came to confront the darkness – apparent defeat on the cross became the victory over such powers. Sin and death have been given a terminal wound, but the disease of evil still battles to the last – like Hitler from his bunker, defeated yet belligerent to the last, costing huge losses to Germany and the Allies.

Whatever we feel about world leaders – we are told to pray for them, and to pray for peace (1 Timothy 2:1-4). We are to recognise that we battle against spiritual powers in the high (heavenly) places. The story of a baby's birth finishes not in the resurrection but in the promise of a New Heaven and Earth where war, death, pain, shall be no more. (Revelation chapter 21).

'in him was life, and that light was the light of mankind. The light shines in the darkness and darkness has not overcome it' - John 1:4, the Christmas Gospel.

Spoof emails appearing to be from us

There has been a spate recently of emails to various people in the community appearing to come from one of our “conistonandcrakechurches” email addresses. If you are not familiar with these type of scams, it can be a little alarming but unfortunately because our email addresses are available, and need to be so, on our website this may continue to happen.

If you get an unexpected email from the Vicar or one of the other email addresses listed at the front of the magazine, do take a minute to consider whether it's likely to be genuine. Telltale signs of a spoof email can be your name in the subject line or requests to deal with something urgently. If you hover your mouse or finger over the sender's address you will see a completely different email address come up that is nothing to do with us. As long as you do not reply, never click on any link in the text and delete the email there will be no consequences.

If you are in any doubt whether an email from one of us might be genuine, please do call me or the Vicarage.

I have personally had a few scam *text messages* recently along similar lines - these purport to be from a courier such as EVRI regarding a parcel they are trying to deliver to me and wanting me to follow links to a website to enter my address details. Just another thing to watch out for!

Juliet, Editor & Administrator

Around the Parishes : Colton

The much loved bench in Colton near the Old Vicarage has been restored and the area around it tidied. With grateful thanks to John King and Archie Workman.

Colton Parish Council News

Colton Parish Council has a new contact number for talking to your local Councillors when you can't use email. You can text or call us on **07761 485956**. Please note, to help ensure we can be contacted if the power is down, we are not using a smart phone, so please don't use WhatsApp or similar to get in touch. If no one is available, please leave a message with your name and reason for calling. We will get back to you.

For general enquiries, requests for Archie's (our Lengthsman) help, or to raise an agenda item, please email if you can **clerk@coltonparishcouncil.org.uk**

Are you winter ready? As part of our preparations, we have been surveying grit bins and piles in the parish and liaising with Westmorland & Furness Highway's team to ensure they are topped up if needed.

If you notice an empty grit bin or a location which needs a grit pile you can report it to the Council using this link <https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/streets-roads-and-pavements/road-maintenance-closures-and-improvements/winter-road-maintenance-and-gritting/salting-grit-heaps-and-salt-bins> or phone **0300 373 3300** 9am to 5pm Monday to Thursday or 9am to 4.30pm Friday.

Support if we have power cuts over the winter If you are over State Pension Age, or have very young children, or have any kind of long-term health condition, you can sign for the Utility Companies' Priority Services Register. This will mean that your

household is listed as in need to additional help if the power is off for prolonged periods. If you use a stair lift, or you are on oxygen, or you need to keep medication in the fridge, this can be essential. To sign up, contact your own supplier or go to <https://www.enwl.co.uk/power-cuts/extra-care/>

We urgently need new Councillors for the east side of our parish. Currently we have no one from this area. If you live or work in or around Finsthwaite, Lakeside, Thwaites Head or Crossland, we'd love to hear from you. Please share this information with anyone you know who might be interested.

Our next meeting is at **7pm Monday 16th December at Oxen Park Reading Room.** All welcome!

We wish all our friends and neighbours a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Egton cum Newland

By popular demand

Jack James

Is making a welcome return to Greenodd on the
7th December with his Christmas show

Doors open at 7pm, pie & peas at 7.30, show starts at 8pm

Tickets £12 to include pie & peas

Tel 01229 861638 or 07949 587710

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our coffee morning on **December 7th** from 10 am to 12 noon in Greenodd Village Hall. We are raising money for our church at Penny Bridge which is needing roof work and work on the avenue of trees. There will be a good assortment of stalls full of lovely items to buy, delicious cakes, a chocolate tombola; items for these will be very welcome, bric a brac and an amazing raffle, Albert with his wood and other items and a nearly new stall. Do join us to meet up with old friends and make new ones in the warmth of the village hall. We will be pleased to see you.

Jean and the team.

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



The date of the next **Egton with Newland, Mansriggs and Osmotherley Parish Council** meeting is Tuesday 7th January, 7pm at Greenodd Village Hall.

ENMO Heritage Project Update

After a huge amount of effort by all the people involved, we are finally underway with the production of the website. In total over eighty people have supported the project, which includes thirty-four people carrying out research and interviews; four photographers supporting the articles with visual images; and many people supplying information and practical help. The areas covered are Arrad Foot, Broughton Beck, Greenodd, Mansriggs, Newland, Penny Bridge, Plumpton, Rosside and Spark Bridge.

Coniston & Torver

Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston - October 2024

Total - 290.1mm (11.4ins)

Wet days - 23

More than 1mm on 18 days

Wettest day - 27th - 75.5mm (3.0ins)

Frost on the 13th and 14th.

Thanks

Coniston Mountain Rescue Team would like to thank everyone involved, the villagers and St. Andrew's Church, for the proceeds of the collection following the Evensong Service on Saturday, 19th October.

Just over £185 was raised which was very generous, unexpected and very much appreciated. The choir was beautiful too, so a really lovely evening.



Just For Ewe Coniston

Christmas special

Wednesday 4th December

1pm until 6.30pm

10% Off Everything including sale items

Lots of Bargains to be found - a gift for everyone.

Wrendale, Alex Clark, Blade and Rose, Harris Tweed, Envy,

Shire Classics, Bree Merryn Art, Pachamama, DCUK,

Hats, Scarves, Children's Clothing, Toys, Games, Jigsaws, Books & More

Coniston Co-op

Who are we? Well, we are a Community Co-operative committed to the members and the wider community.

1. A Community Co-op is owned and controlled by its members.
2. It is an independent business and exists for the benefit of members, customers and workers.
3. It supports the community it works with.
4. There are no shareholders to pay and members are paid an annual dividend.

This year we will pay a dividend of 4p in the pound - 4%

The more you shop with us the more dividend you get. If profits allow, the dividend will increase so it would be assessed every year.

Why not be a member of the Committee and help us make the decisions?

Evening or daytime meetings can be arranged should you need either.

Contact: Chairman - **Ken Ennion**, 1, Boon Crag Cottages, Coniston, LA21 8AQ

Tel. Home: **015394 41851**

email: **klinion@live.co.uk**

CONISTON CO-OP CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

SUNDAY 24 TH DECEMBER	9.00AM - 5.00PM
MONDAY 25 TH DECEMBER	CLOSED
TUESDAY 26 TH DECEMBER	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY 27 TH TO SATURDAY 30 TH	9.00AM - 7.00PM
SUNDAY 31 ST DECEMBER	9.00AM - 5.00PM
MONDAY 1 ST JANUARY 2025	CLOSED

THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF WISH ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Thanks

Judy Jones would like to thank everyone who arranged and attended her surprise 90th birthday party. Judy tells me that her neighbour did a great job of getting her to the Institute that day on the pretext of some errand; the curtains were drawn and all was silent until she walked in, at which fifty or sixty people burst into a rendition of "Happy Birthday" - Judy apologises to those present for swearing in surprise!

Lunch and Dominoes

Wednesday 4th December at 12.30pm in Coniston Institute Reading Room.

Do come along and join us for soup/roll and a pud, tea/coffee, followed by dominoes. All for £5. To book a place, ring **Jean** on **015394 41617**, by the Monday before.

Everyone welcome.

Coniston Community Lunch Christmas Special

Monday 16th December at 12.30pm in the Institute Reading Room.

Come and enjoy some yummy Christmas fare in the good company of friends.

Everyone is welcome, however numbers are limited so please get your name down as soon as possible. Phone or text **Helen** on **07583 371275** or email **e.glaister013@btinternet.com**. Also please let us know if you have any dietary requirements and/or require help with transport.

It's lovely to see so many attending the lunches and we are very grateful to you all for your donations. We are also thankful for all the lovely people who volunteer their help in different ways. Without all these donations and help we would struggle to continue. Thank you

We must also do a big THANK YOU shout out to all the children from Coniston Primary School who provide such excellent service with a smile. Well done to all.

Finally, from us all in the Community Lunch Team we wish you a Very Happy Christmas and all good wishes for the New Year.

COFFEE and MINCE PIES with MUSIC

Coniston Methodist Church will hold our annual Christmas Coffee Morning on Friday 13th December, starting at 10.00am. As has become our custom we shall be joined by pupils from the Primary School to provide tuneful entertainment.

Donations will go the Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

Do come and join us.

BURNS NIGHT CEILIDH at 7.30 pm

SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY 2025

at the Coniston Institute

£25 per person (including meal)

Our live band will play ceilidh music and take us through some traditional ceilidh dances. You can join in the dancing or just enjoy the live music. This event will take place a week before the actual Burns Night, dictated by the availability of the Cornerstone Band who have entertained us so well on previous occasions. We'll serve traditional Scottish fare including haggis (traditional or vegetarian) with neaps and tatties plus a wee dram to wash it down.

Please book your place as soon as possible from **Derek Adams** by email **no1@dsadams.co.uk** or phone **07973 179805** or phone **Anne Hall** on **07771 988518**. There are just 45 tickets available. Your place will be confirmed on receipt of payment.

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

Reports

Mothers' Union



Members of Coniston Mothers' Union held an open meeting in the reading room on October 31st. Two speakers from Springfields centre in Kendal who support both men and women suffering with Domestic Abuse gave a very thought-provoking and enlightening talk which began with group question sheets. Following a video showing examples of different types of abuse and how their work helped clients we were given the history and work of Springfields. Several questions were answered with more being asked over tea.

Their next meeting is a Christmas lunch on November 28th followed by the Mothers' Union Deanery Carol Service at St Mary's Dalton on December 2nd.

All welcome at our meetings and outings: contact **Kay: 015394 41559**.

Egton WI



Thank you once again, dear supporters, for coming along to our Autumn Fundraiser. By about 1pm the hall was full to capacity and we had only just made enough of the four choices of soup to satisfy everyone which was great.

Our WI would like to thank all the local businesses who kindly supported us with raffle prizes namely Aldi, Booths, our butcher Peter Hutchinson, Grange hairdressers - Scissor Sisters and M&S and not forgetting our own local bakery Bakehouse Born and Bread who kindly donated the lovely sourdough bread which we served with the soups.

I am delighted to tell you that, thanks to your generosity, we made just over £750 profit which will go to Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team to help with the cost of their new base build. It was lovely to see our villagers support us as well as other local WI members and we had several D&FMRT team members come along too.

Not long after catering for that event our sterling committee set to again and we served picnic boxes, teas and coffees to 118 WI ladies who chose our venue to take part in our WI county quiz. Another very packed hall but an excellent evening.

We have just had our AGM which was made more enjoyable with the Bingo that followed! I'm delighted that our existing committee has agreed to serve another year AND that a new member has joined our team too.

We will soon be getting ready organising the food and entertainment for our Christmas meeting in December. Where has this year gone? So let me take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and we hope to see you all either at our meetings or events next year.

Gill

The evenings may be drawing in but there is still plenty to do and see at Brantwood.

Thursday 5th December - Christmas Wreathmaking

Brighten up your home with a touch of Brantwood's flora! Join Brantwood's very own talented florista, Janet, for a special festive workshop! Enjoy morning refreshments and a delightful seasonal lunch as you craft your own beautiful wreath. Christmas jumpers are highly recommended! Spaces are limited for this exclusive experience, so book now. The workshop will take place in the Terrace Cafe at 10am. Tickets: £75.00

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December 10am-4.30pm - Winter Craft Market

Join us at The Terrace Cafe and Coach-house Loft for a cozy winter market featuring a variety of local artisans and unique handmade items perfect for the festive season. With a selection of crafted goods from Cumbria and the North West, you'll find inspiring gifts and home décor to get you in the seasonal spirit. The Terrace Coffee House will be open, serving seasonal treats to warm you up while you browse.

Sunday 15th December 2pm – Concert by Pianist Anthony Hewitt

We are thrilled to invite you back during 2024/25 for a series of piano recitals in the wonderful setting of Brantwood's period Drawing Room. Five concerts in all will take place between December and April, showcasing talented pianists and a wide variety of repertoire. Seating is limited for forty, and this of course is the charm of Brantwood. Tickets £20 (includes interval drink). Booking essential.

We will be moving to our Winter Hours from 18th November when we will be open from Wednesday to Sunday 10.30am-4.00pm. Please note: The House, Gardens and Terrace will be closed from Monday 23rd December and will re-open again on Wednesday 8th January 2025.

Our new Blue Gallery exhibition is Emissaries of the Land, an exhibition of works by Kurt Schwitters (1887 – 1948) and Derek Hyatt (1931 – 2015), curated by Michael Richardson and first exhibited at Art Space Gallery, London in 2023. The 'conversation' between these two artists takes an unexpected twist, as it now comes to the former home of John Ruskin, who joins the meeting. On show from 13th November until 2nd March 2025.

In the Severn Studio we have "View from a Boat; A Kayaker's Journey on Coniston Water Throughout the Seasons" by Yorkshire-based artist, Penny Hunt. This exhibition of paintings and sketches affords a view of the waters of the lake itself, the stillness and mist rising early in the morning, the choppy waters on windy days and the changing light on the banks throughout the year. On display from 28th September until 28th February 2025.

For full details of all our exhibitions, events and bookings, please visit our website **www.brantwood.org.uk**. Contact

enquiries@brantwood.org.uk or call **015394 41396**.

Oxen Park Cinema Club

Our December films:

3rd - Anatomy Of A Fall 7.30pm

14th - The Holdovers 7.30pm

28th - Toy Story - the original, 4.30pm

7th January - The Zone Of Interest

Book in at **www.oxenparkcinemaclub.org.uk** Most of our films are becoming fully booked and some even on a second showing so if you think you'd like to come to a film you want to see then book in early.

Carol

ROOKHOW NEWS



GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Over £7,000 has been recently allocated to the following groups for a subsidised stay at Rookhow: Good Things Collective, Morecambe; Drop Zone Youth Projects, Barrow; Transpirational Wellbeing; Silloth Scouts; Women's Community Matters, Barrow; Wise Up Workshops, Morecambe; Autus Cumbria and Worldies Official.

Many thanks to the individuals and local Quaker Meetings who continue to support this fund. We also add at least 5% of Rookhow's bookings income to the scheme. The next round will be in April 2025. **<https://rookhow.org.uk/charitable-work>**

QUAKER MEETINGS AT ROOKHOW

All are welcome to join us for Quaker Meetings for Worship at Rookhow:

1st Wednesdays 7.30 - 8pm, 1st & 3rd Fridays 12.30 - 1pm

OPEN DAYS

1st & 3rd Fridays 10am - 4pm throughout Winter. One of our friendly guides will be happy to show you around the site and tell you about Rookhow's history. Free admission with tea / coffee and homemade cakes.

For more details, email: **Sue Nicholls**, Rookhow Development Manager.

Email: **contactrookhow@gmail.com** Tel. **07377 971783**

Website: **rookhow.org.uk**

Green Sparks News

Happy Eco-Friendly Christmas! There are lots of organisations offering ideas about making your Christmas and other holiday celebrations greener and more environmentally sustainable. For tips you can share with all the family see <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-have-eco-christmas>

There's also lots of websites selling 'green' or 'ethical' Christmas gifts, so make sure you're **'greenwashing' aware** before you buy. See <https://www.wwf.org.uk/learn/guide-to-greenwashing>

Even though the weather is already turning colder, and the darker days are upon us, it's not too late to think about **improving your home's energy efficiency**. For quick fix tips and advice about ways of making your home warmer, more comfortable and energy efficient, including how to apply for grants and practical support, see: <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/> or <https://cafs.org.uk/for-your-home/>

Westmorland & Furness Council is consulting on how to run local waste services to help reduce waste, increase recycling and improve services. Have your say here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WFWastesurvey> or speak to your WFC local Councillor. We know that landfill and burning waste is a big problem locally and nationally; plastic recycling, including dealing with soft plastics is especially challenging. So, if you have opinions about what needs to change or innovative ideas that could make a difference, add your views. The consultation closes on 20th December 2024.

Repair Cafes are volunteer lead projects that actively help to tackle waste by fixing household items. **The next Ulverston Repair Café is open between 6.30pm and 8.30pm on Tuesday 10th December** at Croftlands Community Centre, Central Drive, Ulverston.

To **join the Green Sparks email mailing list** or to tell us about events, resources and local news focussing on tackling climate change and supporting nature recovery email greensparks.sparkbridge@gmail.com

King's Award for Voluntary Service Presentation

Young farmers past and present gathered at The Gavel, Penrith Auction Mart to celebrate the presentation of their King's Award for Voluntary Service on Saturday 19th October.



The King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) aims to recognise outstanding work by local volunteer groups to benefit their communities and the Cumbria Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (Cumbria YFC) were honoured and delighted to be included in the first cohort of 262 voluntary organisations to receive the award for the outstanding work of their volunteers. The Award is the equivalent of the MBE and is the highest accolade that a voluntary group can receive in the UK.

An auction of a cake (pictured below) made and decorated by Charlotte Wilson and Rachel Lyall complete with the KAVS and Cumbria YFC logos raised £100 to add to the danceathon fundraiser for Jigsaw Cumbria's Children's Hospice and Cumbria YFC which had taken place in the preceding 24 hours.



Cumbria YFC County President John Garnett said "Our volunteers are the people who mentor and support our young farmers, helping them to develop and grow into confident and resilient adults who will go on to play a major part in the future of Cumbria. To receive the King's Award for Voluntary Service in recognition of their commitment and hard work means so much to us. We are incredibly grateful for all that our volunteers do for Cumbria YFC and its members."

THE CHOSEN, SEASON 2 – SCREENINGS



The Chosen is a series based upon the life & ministry of Jesus Christ filmed over a number of seasons. The series is an interesting take on Jesus, the disciples, and the biblical stories and generates good discussion.

We will be showing one episode from season 2 per month on the second Thursday of the month, starting on Thursday 12th December.

The screenings will be held in the small hall of the Greenodd Village Hall, beginning at 2.00pm – there is no cost to attend, and all are welcome.

Brian Streeter

ADVENT STUDY

There will be an Advent Study Course at the bottom of the valley this year, which will be a weekly discussion based at Penny Bridge vicarage. The dates will be Friday 29th November, Friday 6th December, Friday 13th December all at 10.00am and finally Friday 20th December at 1.00pm.

The Advent Study Course will be based upon the 24-7 Prayer course, Journey to Christmas. Please do request a booklet and think about coming along – all are welcome.



Brian Streeter

Parish Prayer Diary December 2024

1st: Sunday, the first day of the week

As we begin a new Church year, we recommit ourselves to turn from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet Jesus, our Lord, our King, our Saviour, when He comes or calls.

2nd: Pray for the freedom of those captive by contemporary forms of slavery.

3rd: Pray for those who live with a visible, and invisible, disability.

4th: Uphold in prayer tonight's Open Doors webinar for children of the persecuted church that they have better lives today and be the future of the global Church.

5th: Pray for adults and children caught in the grip of violence and conflict, praying also for the relief teams striving to bring emergency aid to distressing situations.

6th: Pray for Christian initiatives such as Food Banks, Pantries and other social action projects that help families and individuals living in poverty.

7th: Pray Christian marriage continues to be celebrated and faithfully upheld and pray also for couples solemnising their marriage in church today.

8th: Sunday, the first day of the week

Pray by the Spirit's grace, our hearts and minds may be purified to run the race that is set before us, so that when Jesus comes as Judge and Saviour, we are ready to

receive Him, who is our Lord and our God.

9th: Pray for those who stand for truth and integrity against the corruption which undermines social and economic development in all societies.

10th: Pray for those who live and work in the communities of Coniston and Torver.

11th: Pray for all who work to help and support destitute people.

12th: Pray anyone who feels despair may find fresh confidence in Jesus and hope for His kingdom to come.

13th: Pray for the emergency services personnel who are first on the scene when incidents or accidents, often tragic, occur.

14th: Pray for our local farming community.

15th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

In this time of Advent preparation, pray that God grants us grace to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly in the light and presence of Jesus.

16th: Pray for the NHS especially the challenges of staff shortages and increasing demands for its services.

17th: Pray for The Children's Society, as it works to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and poor mental health.

18th: Pray for chaplains who minister in hospitals and other care settings.

19th: Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces far from home this Christmas.

20th: Pray for staff and pupils as school close for Christmas break.

21st: In the busyness of final preparations, may we, and all who seek a better way, take time to reflect on God's greatest Gift to us: Jesus, our living hope.

22nd: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

Pray for carol services across the nation: that familiar words will refresh and inspire as they proclaim the awesome wonder that the Word was made flesh and lived amongst us.

23rd: Pray for the bereaved experiencing deep sadness and depression because of the loss of someone they love.

24th: At the yearly remembrance of the birth of Jesus, may we joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, that we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge.

25th: **Christmas Day:** We celebrate the day of our Saviour's birth: Jesus, to You be glory given! Word of the Father, in flesh appears – O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

26th: Pray for new parents as they adjust to life with their first born. Pray for mothers who are experiencing post-natal depression.

27th: Pray for agencies working to promote animal welfare at home and abroad.

28th: Pray for the work of The Samaritans, their counsellors and callers.

29th: **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 for His light to shine in the world around us.

30th: Pray for UN Secretary-General António Guterres and his team as they attempt to bring resolution to the vast array of global issues and problems

31st: As 2024 draws to a close, reflect with thankfulness on the Lord's past provision. Assured of His faithfulness for today and tomorrow, commit to Him your present concerns.

Tottlebank Baptist Church warmly invites you to our Saturday Specials led by Richard Henry

The first is on **Saturday 28th November:**

10:15am Refreshments and Fellowship

11:00am Praise and Worship followed by Bible Teaching : A Theological Précis - Genesis 1:1.

Finish at 12.30 pm

The second is on **Saturday 25th January** and the topic "Do we have to talk about sin? Genesis 3.



Advent Knitalongs

Each week during the run up to Christmas gather with a friendly group for a mystery Knit Along, with themed reflections to chat about.

Email to get access to the pattern and reflections, and a zoom link, and then gather warm and cosy with others online or face to face as we explore the mystery of Christmas together.

Knitting is **TOTALLY** optional! You're so welcome to be part of the group whether you knit or not!

Starting 5th December for 3 weeks

Thursdays 2:45-3:45 Face to Face at Ambleside Parish Centre

Thursdays 7:30pm on Zoom.



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From the Editor:

Please send items for the January magazine by the slightly earlier date of **14th December** (due to the printers' Christmas holidays) to **editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk** or phone **07884 232281**.

From the Registers

Holy Trinity, Colton, 8th November, Funeral of Doreen Elleray

Thorncliffe Crematorium, 13th November, Funeral of Donald Wilkinson

St. Andrew, Coniston, 23rd December, Interment of Ashes of Keith Brown

St Luke, Lowick, 17th November, Baptism of Ralph James Nathan Graveson

St. Andrew, Coniston, 7th December, Wedding of Chloe May Alty and
Tyler James Williamson

Readings for December 2024

1 st :	1Thessalonians 3.9 - 13	Luke 21.25 - 36
8 th :	Philippians 1.3 - 11	Luke 3.1 - 6
15 th :	Philippians 4.4 - 7	Luke 3.7 - 18
24 th :	Isaiah 52.7 - 10	John 1.1 - 14
25 th :	Titus 2.11 - 14	Luke 2.1 - 20
29 th :	Colossians 3.12 - 17	Luke 2.41 - 52

Carol Services: Isaiah 9.2, 6-7, Luke 1.26-35, 38, Luke 2.1-7, Luke 2.8-16, Matthew 2.1-11, John 1.1-14

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

What's On Guide - December

2 nd	Mothers' Union Deanery Service	St Mary's, Dalton
3 rd	Film: Anatomy of a Fall, 7.30pm	Carthouse Cinema
4 th	Lunch & Dominoes, 12.30pm	Coniston Institute
5 th	Wreathmaking, see page 13	Brantwood
6 th	Advent Study, 10am see page 16	Penny Bridge Vicarage
7 th	Church Coffee Morning, 10am see page 8	Greenodd Village Hall
7 th	Jack Jones Christmas show, 7pm see page 8	Greenodd Village Hall
7 th	Live Music - sold out -see opposite	Coniston Institute
7 th & 8 th	Winter Craft Market	Brantwood
12 th	The Chosen screening, 2pm see page 16	Greenodd Village Hall
13 th	Christmas Coffee Morning, 10am	Coniston Methodist Church
13 th	Advent Study, 10am see page 16	Penny Bridge Vicarage
13 th	Carols and Candlelight, 6pm see page 5	St Luke's, Lowick
14 th	Live Music - Little Arrow String Band, 7.30pm	Water Yeat Village Hall
14 th	Film - The Holdovers, 7.30pm	Carthouse Cinema
15 th	Concert - pianist Anthony Hewitt, 2pm	Brantwood
15 th	Carols and refreshments, 4pm see page 5	Tottlebank Baptist Church
15 th	Carols and supper, 5pm see page 5	St Luke's, Torver
16 th	Coniston Community Lunch, 12.30pm see p11	Coniston Institute
16 th	Colton Parish Council meeting 7pm	Oxen Park Reading Room
20 th	Advent Study, 10am see page 16	Penny Bridge Vicarage
23 rd	Young Farmers Carol Service & refreshments	St Luke's, Lowick
28 th	Film: Toy Story, 4.30pm	Carthouse Cinema



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