Coniston and Crake Valley News

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



Coniston &Crake Churches

May 2021 www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

The Coniston and Crake Valley Benefice

"To Grow, Witness and Love Like Jesus"

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JOINT CONISTON CHURCHES CHILDREN'S & YOUTH WORKER

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Pastoral Letter

PENTECOST

Christianity is an experiential faith – that is, it is not doctrine driven, but driven by encounter. The three most important events for the first disciples took place within fifty days, beginning with Easter, when the band of Jesus' followers encountered Him in extraordinary resurrection experiences.

This month we move on to the next two phases in the development of Christian faith, Ascension and Pentecost. While the story of Jesus' birth, life and death are matters of historical faith, and celebrated as such, it is only Pentecost that brings the reality of the risen Jesus to every Christian. Or at least it should! Ascension is the next major event in the story of Jesus – but the festival always happens mid-week – Thursday the 13th this month, so it is rarely celebrated, which is a shame as it marks the completion of Jesus' time with His followers and His return to Heaven.

But without Pentecost, we would not have a story to celebrate. The early Apostles expected followers of Jesus to have been filled with the Spirit of Jesus, so His reality and work would continue among them, building His Church in the world. Evidence of the Holy Spirit was looked for – but what were the Apostles expecting to see? The answer is POWER – power to witness, power to celebrate, power to heal, power to pray, evidenced in joy, hope and love. Gifts and grace, in the lives of the believers, causing the Church to grow from 120 followers to thousands within days of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). The promise He made at Ascension – that His disciples would be clothed with the Holy Spirit, is still the promise for today. Where prayer may be likened to a wire to God, the Holy Spirit is the energy that flows through the wire. A church without the experience of the Holy Spirit is a lifeless corpse. It may look like a beautiful person, but the spark has gone. The Holy Spirit makes us Easter people – people who live in the daily experience of the risen Christ.

How do we experience this 'Holy Spirit'? Well, it is the Spirit of God that filled the young Mary at her conception of the Christ. It is the Spirit that filled Jesus at the river Jordan, and the Spirit that fell on the first disciples on the Jewish feast of Pentecost and fills the disciples of Jesus today. 'Repent – turn to Jesus – be baptised and you too will receive the Holy Spirit', said Peter on that first Christian outpouring.

Jesus taught us how to pray, and in Luke chapter 11, he links prayer with the Holy Spirit. 'Ask the Father for the Holy Spirit', he told his followers. It is an ongoing asking, we need the reality of the Holy Spirit every day and every day we should turn to Jesus in prayer, seeking His presence, seeking for today, His infilling in our lives. We would not expect to run our car without energy that comes from fuel. Why should we expect to run our lives and the Church without God's Spirit? Read the Acts of the Apostles to see how much the early Church was dependent upon the Spirit.

Living in the post pandemic world we have lost so much in the way of fellowship, the physical contact with people. Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Comforter, the One who draws alongside. We can know Him INSIDE, we can know the reality of the living God in our lives. This is Pentecost, what are we afraid of? 'Ask' said Jesus, and 'you shall receive'. We are not alone, God is with us, make Him a reality in your life, He, Jesus, stands knocking – (Revelation 3:20). Open the door, invite Him in!

Revd. David Bickersteth

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.

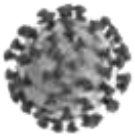
St Francis of Assisi Church of the Sacred Heart, Coniston LA21 8AW

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 May we are meeting on Sunday mornings via Zoom. For more information please contact Alex and Ruth Stewart on 015394 49539. See our website for more details www.conistonchristianfellowship.co.uk

CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19 UPDATE



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

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

Questions? Worries? Chat? Virtual Coffee With the Vicar



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

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

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

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

Church Services for May 2021

2nd **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

St. Luke Lowick	9.30am	**Holy Communion (BCP)**	Rev David Bickersteth
Holy Trinity Colton	10.30am	**Zoom Service**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Luke Torver	10.30am	**Zoom Service**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	10.30am	**Zoom Service**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	10.30am	**Zoom Service**	Rev Brian Streeter

9th **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	**Holy Communion (BCP)**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Joanna Henson

16th **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

St. Luke Torver	9.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev David Bickersteth
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Brian Streeter

23rd **Pentecost**

Holy Trinity Colton	9.30am	**Morning Worship**	Donald Wroe
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Harry Welch

30th **Trinity Sunday**

Holy Trinity Colton	9.30am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	**Holy Communion**	Christians Together in Coniston / Rev Joanna Henson

June 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 **May 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 Boat Ride on Coniston Water by Michele Parks. 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**

Parish Prayer Diary
May 2021

1st: Pray for Her Majesty the Queen and her family mourning Prince Philip.

2nd: **Sunday, the first day of the week**
Pray we grow daily closer to our Lord and allow Him to develop in us the fruit of the Spirit for our own wellbeing and for the benefit of the world He so loves.

3rd: Pray for Archbishop Justin Welby as he seeks to faithfully serve Christ in the Church, in parliament and in public life.

4th: Pray for the ENMO Parish Council meeting tonight.

5th: At 10am join Christians across the benefice for an hour of prayer at home. Pray also for the Benefice Staff Team meeting this afternoon.

6th: Pray for the local Parish Council elections and the Police and Crime Commissioner election taking place today.

7th: Pray for the small number of Christians among the millions of people living in Afghanistan. Having discovered the greatest love in the world, may they know God's comfort and joy and have opportunities to meet other Christian believers despite the great opposition.

8th: Pray for all connected with St Mary's Hospice: for staff who provide care and support, and for patients and their families.

9th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**
Encouraged by all Jesus has done for us in the past, and His promise to be with us always, pray we may daily trust and not let our hearts be troubled.

10th: Pray a generous response to Christian Aid Week that will enable the charity to help vulnerable communities withstand unpredictable and extreme weather caused by the climate crisis.

11th: Pray for those living the life challenges of brain injury, and for their families. Pray also for the health professionals supporting their rehabilitation.

12th: Pray for those living in strained atmospheres, especially children.

13th: This Ascension Day, joyfully ponder the great, wondrous, mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

14th: Pray for all who work in our local shops and business.

15th: Pray for Head teachers, teaching staff, and all school support staff, as together they care for the emotional wellbeing of the children in their charge.

16th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**
As we reflect on our personal liberation from our old way of life, may we renew our dedication to daily follow Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

17th: Pray for the ministry of Rydal Hall as staff prepare to welcome visitors and seek to share the love of Jesus with all who come to stay.

18th: Pray for those exploring becoming foster carers, and for children in need of a loving, safe and stable home.

19th: Pray for the Benefice Council Meeting this evening.

20th: Pray for the staff and management of St Mary's Hospice as they focus on delivering hospice services across our communities.

21st: Pray for those who have developed dementia, and for their carers.

22nd: Pray for the wedding of Abigail Hopkins & Thomas Johnson taking place at St Andrew's Coniston this afternoon.

23rd: **Pentecost Sunday, the first day of the week**
As the Church was born that day the Holy Spirit fell upon the first disciples, pray that God the Holy Spirit will bring new life to us, our church, our community, our Nation.

24th: Give thanks that Jesus did not leave us comfortless but sent his Holy Spirit to strengthen us for service with inner peace and joy and assurance.

25th: Pray for those working in the funeral sector.

26th: Pray for journalists and broadcasters that they will report factually, responsibly and sensitively.

27th: Pray for those serving in our Armed Forces at home and abroad.

28th: Pray for front-line NHS nurses and doctors, paramedics, midwives and social care workers.

29th: Give thanks for the faithful saints down the ages who proclaimed Jesus died and rose, and may we faithfully proclaim Jesus is Lord in our generation.

30th: **Trinity Sunday, the first day of the week**
Pray our faithful and unchanging Lord will help us grow in knowledge of His truth and draw us deeper into His love that we may truly worship our Holy God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

31st: Pray for relief agencies providing aid to refugees in war-torn areas.



Soultime Christian Meditation

Anxiety, Sleep Help & Bible

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

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

Prayer Hour, At Home

5th May, 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 5th May 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

Coniston & Torver

Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston, March 2021

Total - 327.5mm (12.9ins)
Wet days - 15
More than 1mm - 14 days
Wettest day - 28th - 79mm (3.1ins)
Frost on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Coniston CE Primary School

World Earth Day

To celebrate world earth day the HSA will be helping the children organize a school recycling program. Starting with a clothing bank!

There is a slight delay in the arrival of the clothing bank but hopefully the wait won't be too long! As part of a whole school homework the children are being invited to create a poster to advertise the bank in the village.



All clothing donated will help raise money for the school, with the clothing being distributed to charities in the UK and abroad. With any unusable materials being recycled into pet bedding!

We will pick our favorite poster from each class to win an amazon voucher! With the overall winner having their poster displayed on the bank itself!

Thank You



Pat and I were overwhelmed by the presentation during the service on Easter Sunday and by the gift of a cheque, cards and flowers so thank you everyone. We have decided to purchase a good quality lap top that can be Blue toothed so that we can easily keep in touch with everyone.

We moved churches to Coniston and Torver in the middle of 2003 and were amazed at the welcome and friendliness we received from the congregation. We spent a few months settling in before I continued in my role as a Reader.

Pat has always been supportive of me and I would have found it very difficult without her support. As Pat says from time to time apart from a lack of patience I find it very difficult to say "no" to anything.

We have worked with Mark East, Tim Harmer and latterly with Brian and been through 2 Interregnums It has been a privilege working with them. During the Interregnums the Churchwardens were amazing and it has been a pleasure to work with them. It has been a privilege to take services, preach and take funerals.

It has not been an easy decision to move away but we felt that we needed to be nearer our daughter and her family and start to take life a bit easier!!! We are planning to move on the 26th April but this is in the hands of the Solicitor. We are

moving to a small village called Ashley which is on the Staffordshire/Shropshire border – 4 miles from Market Drayton.
Our address will be 4 St. John's Way, Ashley, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 4LB. We will miss Coniston & Torver and all our friends but look forward to seeing more of our family and making new friends. Once again, our sincere thanks for everything. With our love and prayers.

Peter and Pat Fox

X112 Bus update from the 'Friends of the X112'

As with most activities the bus services operated by Blueworks Taxis have suffered a great deal during the past year or so. The X12 part which runs between Ulverston and Coniston via the Crake Valley and the Ulverston Town Service, the X70, have run all the time with reduced services, the No.11, Barrow to Ulverston via the Coast Road hardly at all. Detail of the X12 buses that do run are given below.

Although most of the activities associated with the 'Friends of the X112' have ceased there has been a lot of work going on 'behind the scenes' and in recent weeks much progress has been made to improve bus services in the area and provide a more substantial timetable. We are hoping that by the middle of next month we will be able to specify clearly what progress has been made and a timescale for the introduction of the new timetable. The provisional date of June 21st has been pencilled in.

We would like to re-iterate our thanks to everyone who have continued to support the Standing Order scheme that we operate to help raise funds. Your financial support is invaluable and has help us greatly to make the progress that we have.

Below is a list of buses that do run between Coniston and Ulverston under the present circumstances;

1. Bus leaves Ulverston at 08.45 and arrives in Coniston at 09.22
2. Bus leaves Coniston at 09.30 and arrives in Ulverston at 10.10

Nos.1 and 2 buses run every weekday

3. Bus leaves Ulverston at 12.20 and arrives in Coniston at 12.50
4. Bus leaves Coniston at 13.45 and arrives in Ulverston at 14.19

Nos. 3 and 4 buses run Tues and Thurs. only

5. Bus leaves Ulverston at 14.50 and arrives in Coniston at 15.30

No. 5 bus runs every weekday. During school holidays there is a return to Ulverston at 15.45

Girlguiding

The Girlguiding Christmas Shoebox Appeal is in need of wool to knit scarves, mitts, glove puppets etc. Why not add some cheap but useful items to your weekly shopping list?. Toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, soap or any small toys.
Any of the above can be collected or left at Oaklands Guest House, Yewdale Road Coniston. Tel 07896618474
Girlguiding in Hawkshead are meeting again. If you have a daughter aged 5 or over and she would like to come to Rainbows, Brownies or Guides please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk to register and I will be in touch.

We are also looking for some new volunteers throughout the area, we enjoy lots of fun and friendship when volunteering, much needed after lockdown. There are a wide range of different roles, from helping with weekly meetings, occasional help, PR or outdoor activities. Register on the website or telephone Judith on 07896618474 for more information.

Judith Myers

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

Lowick with Blawith

Lowick Community Hall

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

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

*SINGLE BOOKINGS: £20.00 FOR UP TO FOUR HOURS

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

ACCESS TO FREE WiFi AND DATA PROJECTOR

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR FULL DAY EVENTS

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO CHECK AVAILABILITY GO TO WWW.LOWICK.ORG.UK

OR CONTACT ROB DOVE 01229 885647 OR LISA GRAVE 01229 861834

REPORTS AND NEWS

Conserving Coniston & Crake

One of the activities by the Conserving Coniston & Crake project was the production of a short film about the River Crake by local artist Dan Fox of Sound Intervention. Dan has created a beautiful film, tracing the course of the river from Coniston Water to Greenodd. It features time -lapse photography, video, and motion time-lapse. The soundtrack is made up of a natural sounds using parabolic and stereo microphones, hydrophones, contact mics and a battery powered recorder. An outdoor trail camera installed on the riverbank at Lowick Bridge (Thanks John & Anne) captured one still image every 10 minutes from dawn until dusk every day for a year, starting back in January 2019. Over 40,000 images were stitched together to create a time-lapse film of the year. It shows the passing seasons, the rise and fall of the river, changing leaf coverage, light moving across trees as the sun passes from easy to west, the movement of birds and the odd canoeist.

We had hoped to show this at a special exhibition but obviously Covid restrictions put paid to this so you can now view it online—https://vimeo.com/534100123

For anyone who has a holiday let we can give you copies of the walks' booklet About the Becks and In Search of the Salmon art trail guide for your guests, so please do get in touch if you'd like some and I can drop them off for you.

Kath Smith, Communities & Engagement Officer, Conserving Coniston & Crake
Email: kath@scrt.co.uk Tel:07825873109 Tel:01539 530047 www.ccc.scrt.co.uk

Citizens Advice

My energy bill really shot up last month. I don't feel like I've been using any more heating or electricity than usual, so I'm worried I'm being overcharged. I've tried to contact my energy supplier for support, but no one ever seems to answer the phone or respond to my emails. I've waited on hold for nearly an hour several times before giving up. What should I do?

It's normal for your energy bills to change depending on the time of year and how much gas and electricity you're using. But if your bills seem strangely high, then it's important to investigate why.

Firstly, check your meter is working properly and your usage has definitely not gone up, even accidentally. Also check what heaters you have and whether you're using them correctly. Night storage radiators and immersion heaters in particular can cause very high bills if used incorrectly.

There are a few things worth looking into. It could be that your bill is an estimate, in which case you need to give your supplier a new meter reading. If it's not an estimate, check your last meter reading to see if it matches the one on your bill. If you still don't have an answer, your supplier might have raised their prices. In any case, you're doing the right thing to contact them.

Customer service varies between suppliers and unfortunately we hear of many bad experiences similar to yours. We also know the problem has worsened during the

pandemic. If you're struggling to get through to them, you could make a formal complaint. We offer advice on how to do this and things to consider first.

We publish a comparison table every three months which rates suppliers' customer service, based on things like telephone wait time, email response time and the accuracy of their bills. Have a look for yours to see how they fare against others. If they're low on the list, consider switching to a different one.

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

Grizedale Arts

Grizedale Arts Take Possession of The Farmer's Arms

In early April, Grizedale Arts completed on the purchase of The Farmer's Arms at Lowick Green. Having lain empty for nearly two years, we now invite you all to work with us to return this much-loved historic inn back to the heart of the community as a welcoming pub and community hub. We have already begun work and hope to have the Stable Bar ready to re-open by summer, with rooms available by autumn. Volunteers are invited to join in:

Thursday April 29 (10am – 6pm)

Saturday & Sunday May 15 & 16 (10am – 6pm)

The Farmer's Fete will be the first public event at the site (outside only). On Saturday and Sunday May 29 & 30 (10am-6pm) the organisers welcome stalls by local producers selling food and drink, wood-fired pizza, fresh produce, bric-a-brac, antiques, crafts and more. Please get in touch if you'd like to have a stall or find out more.

All above plans will be subject to alterations due to the Covid-19 regulations prevailing at the time, but to find out more, or book, please email Emma Sumner (Project Manager) at emma@grizedale.org | 015394 41050.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

Coniston Parish Council

Chairman's Report

This report covers two years due to the unprecedented times that we have been through. I don't think that any of us would have thought a year ago that our lives would still be so significantly affected by this pandemic.

This last year has brought out the best in our community, but we have also had to endure some unacceptable behaviour. I can't imagine a place more beautiful to be locked down in, or where most of the community pull together so strongly in a crisis. Very quickly the Parish Council was involved in coordinating the local response to the COVID-19 pandemic but it was the community that ran with this task and made it a

success. This included delivering food to those who were vulnerable or shielding, phone call support, virtual church services, lifts to hospital or vaccine appointments even the Easter Bunny made and appearance to ensure our younger residents felt included and supported - the acts of kindness and people involved are too many to thanks personally. However, we also had to endure the negatives where some people who did not respect our environment by littering, fly camping and illegal parking but once again our community pulled together to litter pick and clean up the place we live in and love.

We also, recognise that our businesses have been hit hard as we rely so much on our tourist industry and even with central government support this has been an incredibly tough year for many – let's hope that the months ahead are more prosperous, especially for those newer startups that we need to make our village vibrant.

The have been a number of changes within the council, Ken Batty and Jeff Carroll have stood down after many years of service to the Parish Council and we thanks them for their commitment. Worthy of special note is that Cllr Anne Hall is standing down after 34 years on the Parish Council, we all send her thanks and recognition of her service and we are sure that she will still be playing a vital role in the community.

And finally thanks to our new Parish Clerk, Michael Dearnley, who took over from Janette Carroll (very big boots to fill, as she did a fantastic job as clerk for many years). I personally want to acknowledge how well he has done by supporting the Parish Council during the pandemic; things have been changing so quickly through remote working and Zoom meetings, social distancing and COVID secure measures, he has ensured that we have been kept up-to-date with developments and been able to deliver our on continued responsibilities.

Who knows what the next year will bring? But I'm sure that together, Coniston will face it head on and come out the other side, stronger and united.

Kind regards and good health to all.

Tracy Coward

Chair - Coniston Parish Council

Summary of Year 2019-21

In a two year period the life of the village has been dominated by the covid-19 pandemic and the village's response to it. This response was positive and supportive, with neighbours looking after the needs of neighbours. There was a long-period when this was particularly trying, but Coniston as a community came through with nothing to be ashamed of and much to be proud of. Throughout this time the Parish Council worked to represent the needs of the residents and, when they were allowed to return, to ensure that visitors returned to Coniston to be met with a welcome and a supportive safe environment. These are some of the issues discussed at Parish Council meetings. If you would like to see further detail you can find these on www.coniston.info

Local events have always played a prominent role in local life, during 2019 and up to March 2020 the Parish Council worked closely with the Rat Race, Coniston 14, Keswick to Barrow Walk, Chill Swim, Lakeland Trails the Lakeland 100 and the Epic Event Swim. Large-scale organised events were early casualties of the pandemic and few have been able to go ahead. It is hoped that in 2021 these will be held with some modifications and in anticipation of returning to a 'normal' pattern next year.

The Parish Council has championed the amendment of the Coniston by-laws to enable events such as Records Week to continue into the future. These by-laws have now been changed and we are looking forward to seeing Speed Week back on the Water in 2022 after a gap of nearly three years.

Planters. The Parish Council purchased a number of large planters in May 2019. Having been planted and cared for by Graham Hill and Anne Butterworth these have a considerable visual impact on the village by adding vibrant colour.

Street Lamps. Just as any responsible householder would do, the Parish Council looked at the cost of electricity for street lighting. The majority of street lamps had already been converted to LED, the Parish Council converted the remaining lights partially using a Climate Reduction Aware from South Lakeland District Council, which generated a substantial refund of over £1,400 as well as ongoing savings. The result was the improvement of street lighting in a more environmentally sustainable manner.

Litter. The village has always taken part in litter picks and other community clean up campaigns. During the pandemic when litter reached unforeseen levels, locals stepped up and picked up litter along paths, along the shoreline, in fields and in and around car parks. This year the need for litter picking will no doubt remain high and the Parish Council has worked to equip volunteers with litter pickers and bags for easy collection by South Lakeland District Council. The Parish Council has also funded the installation of a new litter bin on the path from the village at the Pier Cottage turning.

Get Coniston Buzzing. Following a successful bid for funding from the Lakes Foundation, the Parish Council was able to support the creation of Get Coniston Buzzing, a group focussed on supporting the diversification of the natural environment. The group's initial project was to create a wildflower area on the Campbell Memorial Green. This area was created by planting bulbs, wildflower seed and wildflower turf and will be coming into bloom during the Summer of 2021.

Housing Associations. The Parish Council has worked to encourage Castle and Coast Housing Association to proceed with the Church Room Field development, and with Home Housing in an attempt to establish a more robust and responsive system for repair and maintenance. Regular updates are received from the Coniston and Torver Land Trust.

Playground. The playground on Lake Road is an important area for local families as well as for the children of visitors to the area. The Parish Council takes care of the area by paying for grounds maintenance, monthly and more in-depth annual safety inspections, and to follow up on any remedial work that might arise from wear-and-tear. Unfortunately, the playground had to close during the pandemic and when it re-opened it was subject to a more stringent risk assessment which included the provision of hand sanitisers at both gates and monthly equipment checks.

Toilets. The toilets by Church Beck Bridge are used by both local residents and visitors to the area. In normal years they generate sufficient donations to pay for most of the cost of operating them, however, the pandemic caused a significant drop in donations which, when coupled with the increased operational costs of keeping public toilets open in a pandemic, created a funding shortfall. Luckily South Lakeland District Council were able to offset this with a small business support grant. The toilets are in need of refurbishment, the Parish Council was able to secured grants totalling £20,000 from the Rawdon Smith Trust and the Coniston 14 to fund this.

Castle Design Services has been commissioned to create more environmentally friendly, easy to clean and attractive toilets. This contract will be put out to tender with the intention that the work is undertaken in the Autumn 2021.

Benches There are 28 benches around the village, many of which have been donated by families or groups over many years. The Parish Council has a programme of repair, refurbishment and, where necessary, replacement. The bench on Lake Road, dedicated to the memory Sally Rowe, was damaged beyond repair in March 2020, and is being replaced by a bench made by Sam Clarke.

Highways. The impact of highways issues on the residents and visitors to the parish are significant. The Parish Council has worked with officers of the County Council in relation to the following:

- Road closures and the need for more timely and more accurate notification of closures.
- Speeding in the roads leading to the village needs to be better managed, especially in the area around Haws Bank and Bowmanstead and between Yewdale Bridge and High Waterhead.
- Road markings need to be uncovered from years of encroachment by the verge, and then reinstated. There is a list of additional road signage and markings required for the better management of traffic throughout the parish. The need for effective road markings was highlighted during the pandemic and is an ongoing issue.
- 'Green Lanes', especially the road through Tilberthwaite to Little Langdale, are a contentious issue where a number of legitimate road users are seeking to find a way to secure responsible access. The Parish Council is involved in the Tilberthwaite Partnership being led by the Lake District National Park in an attempt to work through these issues.
- During the pandemic, when the National Trust was unable to undertake the routine maintenance of paths and hedges, the Parish Council stepped up to ensure that paths remained passable.
- The County Council's Flood Mitigation Officer has worked closely with councillors to identify causes and solutions to flooding problems throughout the parish, including areas near Dow Crag House, Gateside House, Little Moss, Hawkshead Hill, and Days Bank.
- Similarly the County Council's Bridge Team have been working in the village with the repair of the bridge on Lake Road, and the large scale repair of Yewdale Bridge.

Lengthsman. During the past two years Coniston has benefited from the services rendered by Mr Workman. His work has included unblocking gullies, cleaning and repainting signs, renovating benches, repainting railings. Much of his work goes unnoticed whilst he's doing it, but makes a massive contribution to the quality of life in and around the village.

Covid-19. The pandemic required the Parish Council to stop face-to-face public meetings from 23rd March onward. Due to the early adoption of the use of Zoom, the online meeting tool, the Parish Council were able to meet weekly until public meetings on Zoom resumed on the 22nd June. Throughout this period the Parish Council met to identify problems, liaise with other agencies to help craft solutions and supporting local efforts to work together to meet people's needs.

Risk Assessments for the Bridge Toilets and the Lake Road Playground were enhanced to incorporate the need to prevent transmission of the virus. As part of this four hand sanitisers were installed and maintained.

The Parish Council represented local concern regarding a wide range of anti-social behaviour, including excessive littering, fly camping, irresponsible and dangerous parking, speeding, and the misuse of the Ruskin Avenue Car Park from early Spring into the Autumn.

The Parish Council has recognised people's selflessness and willingness to work for their community and in the past two years has awarded Christmas Community Star Awards to Graham Hill, Judith Myers, Lesley McCartney and Ollie Stolborg. A number of individuals and groups were also thanked for their work during the pandemic, and the Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to all local resident for the way they have worked together as a community during a most trying time.

Summary of Accounts April 2019 to March 2021

Receipts	**2020/21+**	**2019/20**
SLDC Precept	£21,000.00	£20,500.00
Bridge Toilets Collecting Boxes	£1,185.38	£2,410.57
VAT Refund	£4,111.35	£754.95
Bank interest	£12.28	£42.03
Coniston Christmas Lights		£2,809.05
Grants secured from external bodies for specific projects	£28,176.43	£200.00
Other	£757.19	£3,345.81
TOTAL	**£55,242.63**	**£30,062.41**
Expenditure		
Clerk's Salary, NI, Tax	£4,930.61	£4,742.29
Bridge Toilets (Cleaning, materials, maintenance, water, electricity)	£6,616.66	£5,338.60
Streetlight (maintenance, improvement and operational costs)	£4,106.33	£2,182.15
Maintenance (Playground, ground maintenance, bus shelters)	£1,202.00	£4,755.85
Fees and Subscriptions (CALC, Information Commissioner, Playground)	£561.97	£318.52
Training	£60.00	£160.00
ICT	£972.70	£0.00
Insurance	£1,011.64	£933.63
Local Grants	£2,789.84	£1,810.95
Get Coniston Buzzing	£587.50	£0.00
Lengthsman	£1,079.74	£1,005.18
Christmas Lights	£900.00	£1,909.05
Administration	£2,619.46	£1,304.00
TOTAL	**£27,438.45**	**£24,460.22**

Bank balance at start of year	£13,438.08	£10,077.56
Income for Year	£55,242.63	£30,062.41
Expenditure for Year	£27,438.45	£24,460.22
VAT Claim outstanding	£0.00	£2,241.67
Closing balance for Year	£41,242.26	£13,438.08
Allocated funding (toilet block refurbishment, streetlighting, GetConiston Buzzing)	£28,176.43	£0.00
Parish Council balance	**£13,065.83**	**£13,438.08**

The precept for 2019-2020 remained static at £20,500.00, however, this increased in 2020/2021 to £21,000.

Planning Applications 2019 - 2021

The Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) Planning Department seeks the Parish Council's views on planning applications which have to be submitted within certain time limits. The Parish Councils views can be to either Support (S), No Objection (NO), or Objection (O). Reasons can be stated for these views. When the LDNPA make a planning decision they will take many factors into account including the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council's views, and LDNPA policies. The LDNPA either delegate the decision for the planning application to a Team Leader in the Planning Department or the Development Control Committee will decide. LDNPA decisions might be Approve (A), Refuse (R), Withdrawn (W).

For more details about any decision please consult the LDNPA planning website. The Parish Council has expressed a view on the following planning applications:

Planning Application Number and Address	Description	Parish Council's View	LDNPA Decision
7/2019/5209 2 Holly How Close, Coniston,	Revisions to development previously approved	S	A
7/2019/5205 5 Holly How Close, Coniston,	Revisions to development previously approved	S	A
7/2019/5224 3 Holly How Close, Coniston,	Revisions to development previously approved	S	A
7/2019/5322 Thwaite Farm Cottage, Coniston	Demolish and replace existing two storey gable extension and single story rear extension.	NO	A
7/2019/5193 Haws Bank Cottage, Haws Bank, Coniston	Renovation and alterations to cottage	NO	A
7/2019/5270 Village Hall and Museum, 13-15 Yewdale Road, Coniston	Resurface access, landscape, new disabled car parking, instal-lation of metal archway and re-site community bread oven	S	A

7/2019/5354 Red Dell Beck, Coppermines Valley, Coniston	Construction of a wooden foot-bridge acrossRed Dell Beck	S	A
7/2019/5289 1 Holly How Close, Yewdale Road, Coniston	Revisions to development previ-ously approved	NO	A
7/2019/5463 Land to West ofA593, Coniston	Residential development of 16 affordablehouses	O	W
7/2019/5528 Coniston Park Coppice Caravan Site, Coniston	Variation of permission to install camping pods	NO	A
7/2018/5784 30, Bank Terrace, Coniston	Single and two storey rear ex-tensions	NO	A
7/2018/5767 Gatesgarth,Coniston	Demolition of existing building and replacement with contem-porary four bedroomhome not in accordance with condition to previous planning permission.	NO	A
7/2018/5811 Fell Side, LittleArrow, Coniston	Variation of condition on plan-ning application7/2017/5772	NO	A
7/2019/5674 2 and 6 The Forge, Coniston,	Shepherds huts	NO	W
7/2019/5695 Hanson Ground,Coniston,	Replacement veranda	O	A
7/2019/5745 Monk Coniston Hall, Coniston	Remedial work to south elevation window lintels and associated making-good works.	S	A
7/2019/5719 1 Sunbeam Cottage Coniston	Double storey side extension to provide ground floor store and first floor en-suite.	NO	W
7/2019/5448 Black Bull Hotel, Coniston	Conversion of letting bedrooms into one self-catering cottage	NO	A
7/2019/5531 Waterhead Hotel, Coniston, LA21 8AJ	Replacement of hotel signage	NO	A
7/2019/56 11 Coniston Park Coppice Caravan Site, Coniston,	Installation of two camping pods as temporary structures.		A
7/2019/562 1 Bonsor UpperMill, Coppermines Valley, Coniston	Improvement works to the sur-face water drainage system and the foul drainage at the Bonsor Upper Mill site.	NO	A
7/2019/5643 Coniston Od Hall Farm, Coniston	Installation of secondary glazing and stoveflues, chimney and roof timber repairs	NO	A

7/2020/5036 1 SunbeamCottage, Coniston	Double storey side extension to provide ground floor storage and a first floor extension.	NO	A
7/2020/5030 2 Park Gates Cottages, Coniston.	Additional chimney	NO	A
7/2020/5125 Bowmanstead Studio, Coniston	Approval of details reserved by condition on listed building consent ref 7/2018/5034	NO	R
7/2020/5114 Brackendene, Lake Road, Coniston	Demolish single storey rear conservatory, garage and stores and build single storey rearlounge, garage, utility and stores	NO	A
7/2020/5264 The Wyn, Coniston	Internal and external alterations to provideancillary accommodation	O	A
7/2020/5286 4 Holly How Close, Coniston,	Erection of dwelling-house	S	A
7/2020/5314 BowmansteadStudio, Coniston,	Replacement of windows and with doubleglazed windows and doors	NO	R
7/2020/5444 10, Beck Yeat, Coniston	Demolish rear conservatory and build singlestorey front and rear extensions	NO	A
7/2020/5392 Coppermines Cottage, Coniston	Replacing septic tank with a water treatment plant and an outlet pipe	S	A
7/2020/5190 Fairfield Cottage, Tilberthwaite Avenue, Coniston	Domestic extension	S	A
7/2020/5334 The Blue Bird Cafe, Coniston, LA21 8AN	Replace canvas parasols with fixed glass canopy over existing terrace seating area	NO	A
7/2020/5505 Hills Garage,Coniston	Replace single container with two containers,with timber screen fence and planting.	NO	A
7/2020/5495 Land off Yewdale Road, Coniston	Amendment to windows condition 13 on planning permission 7/2019/5177	NO	A
7/2020/5821 Park Coppice, Coniston	The installation of two motor van waste pointsand a dog/bike wash.	S	A
7/2020/5868 Holly How Youth Hostel, Coniston	Removal of existing static caravan and replacement with lavatory/ shower buildings	S	A
7/2021/5056 Black Beck Cottage, Coniston	Kitchen and bedroom extensions to rear	NO	A
7/2020/5790 Brooklands, Little Langdale,	Single Storey Garden Outbuilding	NO	A

7/2020/5868 Holly How Youth Hostel, Coniston	Removal of existing static caravan and replacement with lavatory/ shower buildings	S	A
7/2021/5056 Black Beck Cottage, Coniston	Kitchen and bedroom extensions to rear	NO	A
7/2020/5790 Brooklands, Little Langdale,	Single Storey Garden Outbuilding	NO	A
7/2021/5092 6 Holly How Close, Coniston,	Erection of Dwelling	NO	A
7/2021/5077 Bowman-stead Studio, Coniston	Replace existing south facing win-dows anddoors	NO	A
7/2021/5152 Storage area at Dixon Ground Farm, Coniston	Use of yard for general storage and retentionof storage structures	NO	U

Coniston Parish Councillors April 2019 – March 2021

Tracy Coward	Chair Councillor since June 2015 (appointment uncontested
Jeff Carroll	Vice Chair to November 2020 Councillor May 2016 to November 2020 (appointment uncontested)
Heather Troughton	Vice Chair from December 2020 Councillor since February 2015 (appointment uncontested)
Anne Hall	Councillor since June 1987 (appointment uncontested)
Ken Batty	Councillor May 2012 to November 2020 (appointment uncontested)
Adrian Thompson	Councillor since October 2017 (co-opted)
Joshua Airey	Councillor since August 2020 (co-opted)
James Buller	Councillor since December 2020 (co-opted)
Chas Sargeant	Councillor since December 2020 (co-opted)

Contact Details

All Parish Councillors can be contacted via the Clerk: Michael Dearnley, Bluebird Lodge, Coniston, LA21 8AJ Tel: 015394 41442, E-mail: parish@coniston.info, Website www.coniston.info

If you would like to receive the agendas, minutes etc of meetings or have any ideas or suggestions for the Parish Council please contact the Clerk.

Please remember that all Parish Council meetings are public meetings and you are welcome to come along. The dates of future meetings will be posted on both our website and on one of the Parish Council's noticeboards.

Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2021

In my shed I have two stainless steel buckets, each holding 13 litres. Filled with water and including their own weight, that comes to 30kgs or 66lbs. How far would you want to carry that? And how far would 26lrs of water go? Well, my water bills show

that the two of us in my home use an average of 263 lrs every day – 10 times my two buckets! So, if I had to carry all of that for a few miles, I don't know how long I would last. But all our water comes through a pipe, available at the turn of a tap. Think, then, of Rose, living in the east of Kenya who has to carry all her family's supply of water home from a great distance, every day. Changes in weather patterns have meant drought in her area, denying any nearby, reliable source of water. Rose is 60 years old, very close to the life expectancy for a woman in Kenya. Every evening she is totally exhausted and next day she has to go out and do it all over again!

Florence is somewhat luckier. A few years ago, Christian Aid helped her community install a sand dam to store rainfall so she can fetch what she needs much easier. She and other women have even started a vegetable garden which can be watered from the same source. Her family have tomatoes, onions, papayas and chillies on her farm. Her children can eat healthy, nutritious vegetables. Florence can even sell vegetables and with the proceeds she now keeps bees, another source of income.

What a contrast between her life and Rose's! And all because people like you gave some money to build an earth dam.

Florence says THANKS; Rose says PLEASE

Our area has a wonderful record of giving over many years; can we do the same again this year to put a smile on Rose's face to match that on Florence's?

We cannot do a house-to-house collection this year but there are two ways you can make a donation. We shall be delivering envelopes in some areas and they can be returned in week commencing 10 May to the address shown on them, or you can go to one of the links below and donate by the e-envelope. Either way you can add Gift Aid if you pay tax, making your gift worth 25% more at no extra cost to you.

There are two links, one if you're in Coniston, the other for the Crake Valley:

for Crake Valley the link is:
https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/dhconiston-cagroup?channel=status

and for Coniston:
https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/dare-holland?channel=status

Sorry they're so long and Thank You for your donations.

Dare Holland

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH by Rev. David Gregg

MAY 13TH : ASCENSION DAY

Probably the most exotic ministry I have ever had was to be the Chaplain to the Cotswold Deer Roasters Association! The sole duty was to give a five-minute address around midnight, introducing the carols at their annual Christmas Ball. One year I dwelt on the theme of the "new-born" King, which I introduced with an apposite story.

It concerns the Lion who was prowling around one morning and came upon a monkey. He trapped it by the tail, and said fiercely, "Who's the King of the Jungle?" "You are, Mister Lion, you are," came the desired reply. The Lion cuffed the monkey and released it. "Don't you forget it," he said. Next he came upon a hyena and seized it by the throat. "Who's the King of the Jungle?" he demanded. "You are, Mister Lion, you are," squealed the terrified victim. The Lion released it with a smack to the rump. "Don't you forget it," he growled. Presently he came upon a

large bull elephant about to drink in a waterhole. “Who’s the King of the Jungle?” he demanded. The Elephant immediately grabbed the Lion round the middle with his trunk, swung him vigorously against a couple of trees, and tossed him into the water. The Lion crawled out, bruised and bedraggled, and came warily back to the giant pachyderm. “Look,” he said defiantly. “There’s no need to lose your temper, just because you don’t know the answer.”!

The use of the imagery of ‘King’ in the story is instructive. We can only know the truth about God by revelation. He has revealed Himself in three main ways. In Creation (“The Heavens are telling the glory of God and the firmament displays His handiwork”); through the Scriptures (“All Scripture is inspired by God”!!) and, definitively, through the Lord Jesus Christ, His only-begotten Son. (“He who has seen Me has seen the Father”.) The chief vehicle of Scriptural revelation is through Story, (Proverb and Parable) drawing on the imagery of the common-place of the Created order and human life and experience.

The image of “King” is all pervasive in the Bible story. King David, whose name means “Beloved”, is archetypal, and his ‘house’, culminating in Jesus, is the model for “the LORD’s Anointed”. The Psalms are full of it. The ‘King of the Jews’ is the pre-occupation of both the Magi and Herod and Pontius Pilate. The “Kingdom of God” is at the heart of Jesus Own teaching, and He speaks clearly of His Kingdom” which is not of this world”!

The story of Ascension Day is only peripherally concerned with “what became of the body”? The central matter, which marks the transition between the Gospels and the Acts (i.e. between Jesus on Earth and the Christ in Heaven) is ENTHRONEMENT – from “Son of Man” to “King of Kings and Lord of Lords” restored to His full glory as reigning Monarch, Intercessor (beside the Father), Judge, and supplier of the Holy Spirit, to those who are called, as His disciples, and commissioned to be His witnesses to the ends of the Earth. His “real absence”, substituted meanwhile by the gift of “another comforter”, will culminate at the end of the age with His return in glory to judge the living and the dead.

Let us, like the apostle John, whose vision of the Risen and Enthroned Christ fills his Book of Revelation, worship and adore and serve and joyfully and faithfully await our KING.

From the Registers



Funerals

9th April	Annie Doreen Walker at Holy Trinity, Colton Burial only
19th April	Winnifred Haddow at St Mary’s, Penny Bridge
23rd April	Moira Denise Brownlee at St. Andrew’s, Coniston



Weddings

22nd May	Abigail Hopkins and Thomas Johnson at St. Andrew’s, Coniston
30th May	Bethany Gundry and Luke Smith at St Mary’s, Penny Bridge

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