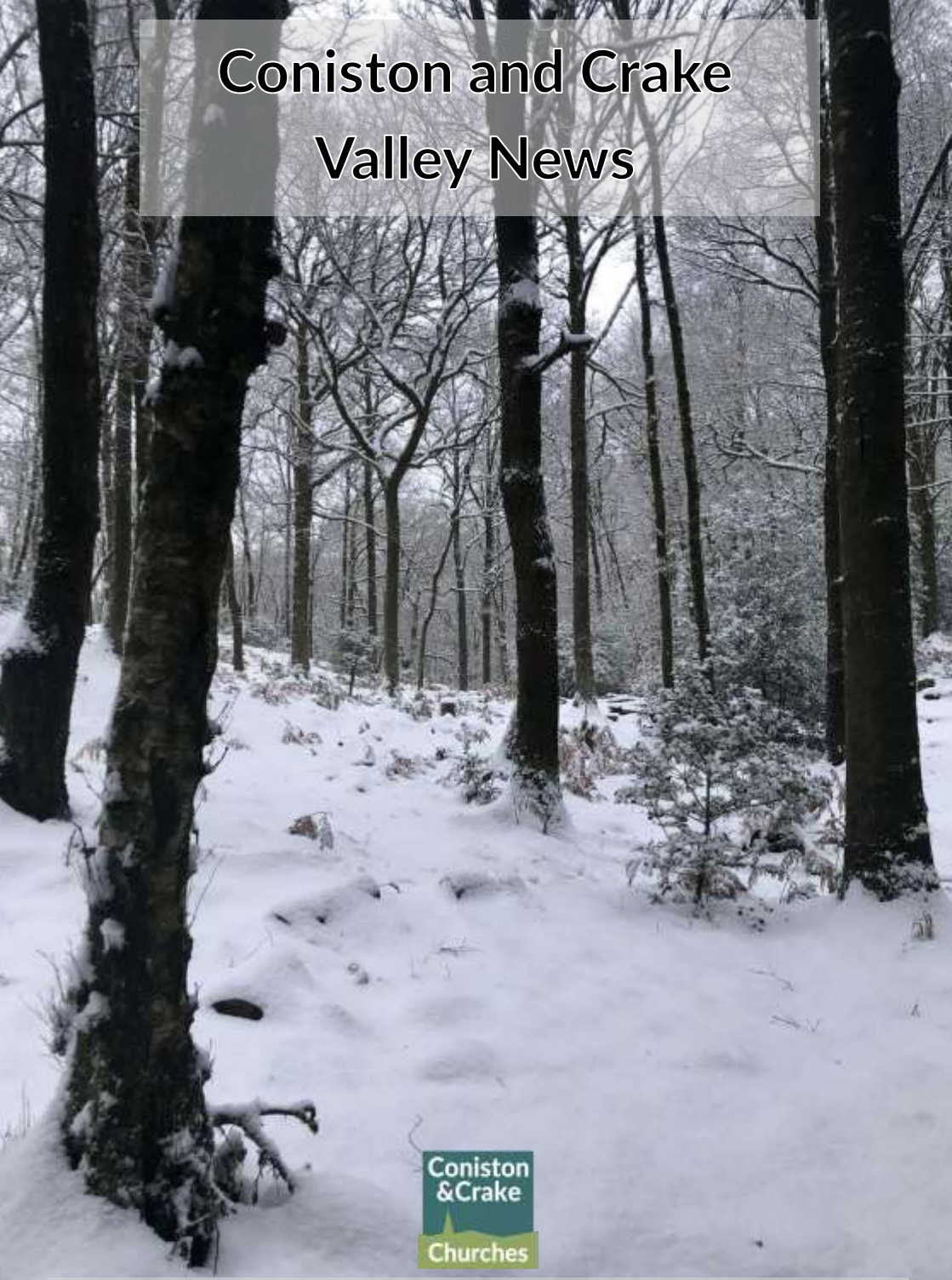
Coniston and Crake Valley News



Coniston & Crake Churches

January 2026 www.conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

JOHN RUSKIN SCHOOL'S

Winter Blues Buster



SATURDAY 31st JANUARY

7p.m. John Ruskin School, Coniston.

FABULOUS HOUSE PRIZES: x2 £100 cash prizes-courtesy of CGP Books; Windermere Lake Cruises, family ticket; The Inn Collection and High Spirits Leisure Group both for £50 (covering a range of hotels); The Lakeside Hotel-Tea for Two; LANGDALE Leisure passes and Zeffirelli-cinema and meal deal. 8 generous house prizes in total!



There are MANY more line prizes also donated by local businesses and friends of the school.

The evening rounds off with a plentiful raffle full of hidden gems making this an evening packed with PRIZES and FUN!

Tea and coffee available but this is also a BYO event



PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CASH ONLY EVENT.



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 *Brian works for Filling Station on Thursday* *Brian's rest day is Friday*	01229 861668 07505 048736
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER		
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Churches in Coniston and the Crake Valley

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

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 10am and Saturdays at 5.00pm.
For further information contact Father Matthew Jacob on **01229 779673**.

Cover: Deep Snow Rookhow

Church Services for January 2026

4th	**Epiphany**		
St. Luke, Torver	9.30am	**Winter Breakfast**	Hazel Bowness, Linda Inman, Val Towndrow
St. Luke, Lowick	9.30am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Brian Streeter
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	**Morning Worship**	Karen Edmondson
11th	**First Sunday of Epiphany**		
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	**Morning Worship**	Pam Priestley
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Mary Penny Bridge	11.00am	**Healing Service**	Rev Harry Welch
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	**Holy Communion (Covenant Service)**	Rev Grace Cauldwell
18th	**Second Sunday of Epiphany**		
Tottlebank Baptist Church	10.30am	**Service of Christian Unity**	Rev Brian Streeter
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	**United Service (Service of Christian Unity) Christians Together in Coniston**	
25th	**Third Sunday of Epiphany**		
St. Luke, Lowick	9.30am	**Methodist Service**	Rev David Newlove
Holy Trinity Colton	10.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Brian Streeter
St. Andrew Coniston	11.00am	**Holy Communion**	Rev Harry Welch
St Luke, Torver	7.00pm	**Torver Junction**	Rev Brian Streeter
Coniston Methodist	11.00am	**Morning Worship**	Rev David Newlove

Tottlebank Baptist Church

Tottlebank Baptist Church - Saturday Special - Saturday 31st January 2026 - 10.15 am to 12.30 pm. Chris Hamps will be leading and the topic is "Joseph from Zero to Hero". All are welcome

On Sunday 18th January 2026 10.30 - 11.30 am Tottlebank will be hosting the Joint service for the week of prayer for Christian Unity with other churches from the Crake and Coniston area.

Tottlebank Chapel has been beautifully decorated for Christmas. Do pop in and visit if you are passing before the decorations are taken down on 6th January 2026. The church is open 10.00 am - 4.00 pm.

Pastoral Letter - Joanna Henson

Woodside, Colton
January 2026

Dear Friends

It's a New Year and now we are faced with negotiating what some consider to be The Worst Day of the Year this month. Apparently all Mondays are depressing anyway but this particular Monday, January 19th, is the worst for some reason.

I must admit that January has little joy to offer – the evenings might be brightening up but the mornings are slower to follow suit. The weather is unpredictable, dreary and the temperatures remain damply cold. Why so world weary?

We've only just celebrated Christmas – when we were so full of good cheer and joy. We were celebrating. Remember? Not so long ago we were singing about angels bringing the good news of the birth of Jesus – the Light of the World – to the shepherds and to us. Was that all just a meaningless habit, an excuse to party? Is Jesus the light to lighten the darkness of your world?

Life can seem very rudderless at the moment – not a good state to be in in choppy seas, but the one abiding stability in life is the certain presence of Christ beside us. Hold on to that. Pray that you will attend to Him as he walks with you through the challenges and triumphs of 2026.

Jesus says

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." – Matthew 11:28-3

Get 2026 off to a good start! Walk in Jesus' light – boldly and with confidence.

Blessings

Your sister in Christ

Joanna



SONGS OF PRAISE

Is there a hymn or worship song that when you hear the tune it just makes you want to sing it? If so, then we want to know!

On **Sunday 22nd February 2026**, 3.00pm at Holy Trinity Colton, we will be holding a **Songs of Praise**. So bring your best singing voice and invite those you know who also enjoy a good sing. We are not looking for perfection, just enjoyment.

Please do send me your favourite hymn or worship song, or your suggestions. These can be emailed to vicar@conistonandcrake.churches.co.uk or sent to the **Vicarage, Penny Bridge, LA12 7RQ**.

Brian Streeter

Around the Parishes: Lowick

Lowick Parish Council

Our meeting on **Thursday 20th November** was very well attended. Paul Forshaw from United Utility's was invited to present the proposal to replace the water main from The Red Lion Junction at Lowick Bridge to the crossroads at Woodgate. He began by apologising for all the disruption and road closures caused by the need to repair the numerous bursts and leaks over the past three years or more. The monitoring system at the Red Lion indicated the need to replace the pipe immediately. Due to the high pressure (16 bar) required they would need to use a cast iron pipe which have proved to have an extremely long life expectancy.

The work is scheduled to start on **5th January 2026** with the proposed completion date of **27th March 2026** and will be subcontracted to two teams from Morsons Engineering Group and cost over £1,000,000. 1.8 kilometres of pipe will be replaced in three phases to help reduce disruption and keep Saint Luke's Church, Community Hall and parishioners properties accessible at all times. Road closures will be inevitable but access for emergency services and pedestrians will be maintained. The disruption to water supplies will be notified and kept to a minimum. A representative from United Utility's will be made available to liaise with parishioners whilst the work is ongoing.

After several years expressing parishioners concerns regarding the dangerous road junction at the Red Lion your councillors were invited to an on site meeting on **13th October** with the W&F Traffic Management Team. We presented your proposed improvements and discussed how to implement them whilst watching the traffic behaving as your concerns had predicted. W&F contacted us before our last meeting agreeing with and suggesting improvements to your proposals. We have accepted their findings but asked them to extend the Double white lines to the Hunda T junction and change the wording on a proposed sign to read "hidden Junction" rather than vehicles turning. Your proposal document and W&F's response is available on our website.

Suzanne Pender wasn't present at the meeting but has reported that we will be electing a Mayor in 2027 and also suggested that we consider merging our Parish with another.

Archie Workman has retired from his position as Lowick Lengthsman we will miss his services and wish him a well deserved and happy retirement. The repairs required to the Bus Shelter at the Red Lion Junction has been put out to tender. We only had one quote returned so it was resolved to wait till the New Year before looking for other quotes.

After the resignation of John Townsend we advertised for his replacement. Your council have been most fortunate that Laura Scrogham has offered her services and we were very pleased to co-opt her onto your Council. Since then Carly Dacre has tendered her resignation so we are looking for another Councillor to replace her. If you are interested please contact Christine our Clerk on lowickpc@outlook.com.

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 15th January 2026** at 7:30pm everyone is welcome, please come along to Lowick Community Centre for an interesting meeting the Agenda will be on our website a few days prior to the Meeting.

Lowick YFC

In the lead-up to Christmas, Lowick YFC members have been actively participating in a variety of winter competitions, showcasing their talent:

- **Junior Member of the Year** – Congratulations to Zara Clough, who achieved 2nd place at the District Round and will now progress to the County Finals.
- **Junior Public Speaking** – Rory delivered an engaging speech on Sheep Dressing, Zara chaired an opposing teams speech, Will provided a thoughtful Vote of Thanks to both speakers and the audience. The team placed 2nd, meaning they're through to the next round!
- **Brainstrust** – Zara, Isabel, Emily and Anya represented the club at the District Finals held at Lane Farm on **Monday, 8th December**. Competing against five other clubs, they debated a range of thought-provoking topics including; 'Does the panel believe that high earning celebrities and sports persons should be made to donate to a charity each month?', 'Does the panel believe that secondary schools should randomly drug test pupils?', and 'Does the panel believe that cyclists should be banned from using A roads, unless there is a cycle lane?'

As always, our members continue to push themselves beyond their comfort zones, embracing new challenges and broadening their horizons.

Beyond competitions, members have also been enthusiastic about recent club meetings, which included:

- **Cumberland and Westmorland Wrestling Practice** – A big thank you to Michael Dennison for demonstrating this traditional sport, which remains a staple of the Annual Field Day agenda.
- **Beef Stock Judging** – Kindly hosted by the Edmondson family at Hawkswell Farm. Providing members with valuable skills.
- **Christmas Quiz Night**, where club representatives made quiz rounds for members to take part in.

Wishing all our members, families, and supporters health and happiness this Christmas and throughout the New Year. Thank you for your continued support – here's to an exciting year ahead!



Egton cum Newland

Rusland Valley Horticultural Society Ltd

POTATO DAY



Sunday 25th January 2026

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)

&

HOMEMADE SOUP AND CAKES!

Admission £1 (children free)

See Brighter Blooms website for lists of produce available:

You can also pre order to collect on the day.

www.brighterblooms.co.uk

www.growvegandfruit.co.uk

Saturday 6th December Church Coffee Morning Thank You!

Thanks must be given to all stall holders, coffee makers, those on the raffle and taking entrance money, workers in the kitchen and those organising the furniture. We couldn't do it without you. It was a very wet morning, but all of you who braved the weather made it a successful, happy event. With your generous support and lovely donations we raised the amazing amount of £680 pounds.

A very grateful Thank You to you all.

Jean and the team.

Colton

Colton Parish Council News January 2026

Happy New Year and best wishes for 2026 from Colton Parish Council!

A big thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to the Colton Foodbank Appeal. It was greatly appreciated. If you missed our foodbank collection, you can drop off items at most of the local supermarkets, or make an online donation here https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12650#!/DonationDetails

Recent storms and wet weather have caused many residents to worry about flooding.

- For advice on steps you can take to protect your property see https://www.gov.uk/prepare-for-flooding/protect-your-property
- You can check for flood alerts here https://www.gov.uk/check-flooding
- For tips on cleaning up after a flood see https://thefloodhub.co.uk/
- To report flooding on the road to Westmorland & Furness Council see https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/streets-roads-and-pavements/road-maintenance-closures-and-improvements/report-street-or-road-damage

Priority Services Register If you have a disability or long-term health condition, or your household includes young children or older people, have a look into signing up for the Priority Services Register, also called the Extra Care Register, to help ensure you get the support you need if there's a power cut. See https://www.enwl.co.uk/power-cuts/extra-care/ or contact your supplier.

Assets of Community Value Colton Parish Council has been working with local residents to have some of our wonderful ancient woodlands declared Assets of Community Value (ACV). Recently Glass Knott Wood was added to the ACV register. Designation as an ACV recognises the importance of buildings or land to local communities. Places can be nominated by groups of the public or a parish council. To find out more and see a list of current ACVs in Westmorland & Furness see https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/your-environment/your-community/assets-community-value-and-community-right-bid

New Councillor welcomed We're delighted to welcome John Atkinson to Colton Parish Council. Many of you will know John, who is a local farmer. He brings extensive local knowledge and experience of living and working in our community. John joins Abigail and Gail as Councillors for the West of the Parish; a full complement! And, Archie and Kevin, who are Councillors for the central ward. There is one vacancy here. To find out who's who see https://coltonparishcouncil.org.uk/your-council/councillors/. Sadly, we still do not have anyone from the East side, which includes Thwaite Head, Finsthwaite, and Lakeside. We'd love to hear from

anyone who lives or works in the area who might be interested in joining us, contact clerk@coltonparishcouncil.org.uk

Our next meetings are:

- **7pm Monday 19th January** at Rusland Reading Room
- **7pm Mon 23rd February** at Bouth Village Hall.

All welcome!

To find out more see https://coltonparishcouncil.org.uk/your-council/meetings/ or follow us on Facebook; search for Colton Parish Council, South Lakes.

Coniston & Torver

Rainfall, Garden House, Coniston - November 2025

Total - 620.2mm (24.4 ins)

Wet days - 24

More than 1mm on 23 days

Wettest day - 3rd - 85.5mm (3.4ins)

Frost on the 16th, 17th,18th,19th, 20th, 24th and 25th.

Torver Parish Council - The next meeting of TPC has had to be rearranged to ensure it will be quorate. Now, TPC will meet on **Thursday 22nd January** at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom.

BURNS NIGHT CEILIDH at 7.00 pm

SATURDAY 17 JANUARY 2026

at the Coniston Institute

£28 per person (including meal provided by Steam Restaurant, Coniston)





Our live band will play ceilidh music and talk 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. Catering courtesy of Steam Restaurant, Coniston!

You can come in a kilt if you like, but it is not compulsory. However please try to wear something tartan – it could be just a tie or a scarf.

Because we need to know how many of you will be attending 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**. Your place will be confirmed on receipt of payment. **We have *45 places* so book early to avoid disappointment!**

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



Coniston Parish Plan – Your input please?

The first Coniston Parish plan was completed in 2004. Revised in 2011.

The purpose of the Parish Plan is to inform a village plan for the coming years based on the priorities and requests from the Parishioners to input to an Action Plan for the Parish Council and other organisations.

As we look to review the Coniston Parish Plan and as the Lake District National Park (LDNP) review the Local Plan the Parish Council are looking for your feedback on the priorities for Coniston Parish going forward. What matters to you, to your family and to the Coniston Community.

We're pleased to confirm that following the issues caused by Storm Arwen in a presentation to November's Parish Council SP Electricity North West presented major investment plans for a large programme of works to both the 11KV and 33KV supply that will increase the security of the electricity supply to Coniston. There will be inevitable road closures but a dedicated website and communications plans are being worked on by SP ENWL to minimise disruption.

Unfortunately, not everything is within our gift. But as a Parish Council we do use your feedback to try an influence the Highways Dept. (pot holes, drains and yellow lines etc.), Westmorland and Furness Council (street lamps etc.) and United Utilities (drains, water quality etc.) and the GP surgery remains a priority for the village.

But, what matters, most to you and yours. Please, help us by completing the survey so we know what matters most over the coming years.

Please follow the link to fill in our survey, thank you. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZYWQLM5

X7112 Bus Walks: **Wednesday January 21st** (3rd Wednesday) 09.30 departure from the Coniston Central Bus Shelter for an easy paced 3-4 hour walk supporting the Crake Valley and Furness Peninsula bus service ("Use It or Lose It"). Return by mid afternoon. All welcome. (Feel free to come just for the ride and an outing to Barrow, Ulverston or Broughton in Furness). Just turn up at 09.25.

Contact: roberthenrymccrackeb@outlook.com (**07514 480 875**)

Coniston Co-operative Society… a look back 150 years in history!

We're privileged to have one of the oldest independent Co-op here in Coniston, the origins of which go back 150 years.

The origins of which go back to the Sawrey Co-op (founded in **1875**).

Wish the Co-op a Happy 150th Birthday?



Well, that could be a bit of a stretch. To be accurate Coniston Co-Operative was founded in **1898**. But that is still pretty impressive!

In **1844** a group of 10 weavers in Rochdale, Lancashire set up an early Co-operative Food Store. They had been suffering reduced wages and extortionate food prices, due to the effects of the mechanisation and the industrial revolution.

So, they pooled what little money they had to buy basic foods and sell it to their members, who had to take a share in the co-op for a small amount of money, in return they would receive a cash dividend on any profits made by the co-operative.

Their founding principles were to provide the community with good quality food at reasonable prices and share their profits with their customers.

They became known as the ***Rochdale Pioneers.***

In **1875** a group of like-minded people in Sawrey, Cumbria saw the success and agreed with the principles of the pioneers. So, they decided to set up their own co-operative society, in Sawrey and initially it was successful.



Later in **1888** they opened a purpose-built store in Coniston, Cumbria which also became a great success.

So much so, that when the Sawrey store had to be closed, The Coniston became the Coniston Co-operative Society store (**founded in 1898**); as it is known today.

The Coniston Co-op continues to operate from the same location in the heart of Coniston against the backdrop of The Old Man of Coniston and continues to provide members, locals and visitors with a selection of fresh, chilled, frozen and convenience foods as well as a selection of wines and spirits.

The Coniston Co-op is one of the few remaining well-known and truly independent single-shop co-op societies alongside Langdale Co-op, Chapel Stile (Founded 1884 Allendale Co-operative Society, Hexham (Established 1874), Shepley Co-operative Society, Yorkshire (Founded in 1900) and the oldest independent co-op in the UK, Grosmont Co-operative Society, Yorkshire (founded in 1867).

The co-operative movement proudly continues to empower and grow the UK's co-operative economy, create a fairer society, and promote shared wealth through member ownership.

Please continue to support and shop at your local Co-op.

Coniston Co-operative Society, 3 Yewdale Road, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8DU

Grants from the Rawdon-Smith Trust

The Rawdon-Smith Trust is a charity that owns the bed of Coniston Water and uses the fees collected from moorings and jetties for the benefit of local communities around the lake.

Recently, trustees have met with the heads of the outdoor centres based on Coniston Water to extend opportunities for local young people to take part in water activities.

The Trust's website: rstcharity.uk provides more information on its work and it has an application form for grants. The Trust regularly supports voluntary bodies and charities and recent grants have been made to John Ruskin School for an initiative to support Girls' PE, Sport and physical activity, to Lowick Parent and Toddlers Group and to Coniston First Responders.

Trustees meet four times each year to consider requests. Applications for grants must be made online through the website and be submitted at least 7 days prior to a meeting. The Trust's next meeting is on **19th February 2026**.

CONISTON FESTIVE FAYRE and CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Christmas Lights Committee would like to thank everyone for their support in making the FESTIVE FAYRE last month a success. There was activity throughout the day and a great response to the artisan market in the Coniston Institute, as well

as plenty of festive fun at the Christmas Quiz (at The Sun) and live music (at The Crown Inn). Thank you to everyone for their support and especially the sponsors.

Gold Sponsors (Christmas Trees and Fayre): The Bluebird Café, Dexters Den, Hills Garage and Ruskin Museum.

Further Sponsor: Anne Myers, Coniston Fudge, Coniston Ground Care and Usher Joinery.

Plus, a thank you to those volunteers that helped with the planning, the party, the lantern parade. And to Santa!

Sorry, if we have anyone off the list.

We hope to build on this year's success in 2026 (**Date to be confirmed**).

There is now a dedicated Facebook Page. Please Follow for updates: https://www.facebook.com/people/Coniston-Festive-Fayre-and-Christmas-Lights/61584275875358

...or search: ***Coniston Festive Fayre and Christmas Lights***

The website https://christmasinconsiton.co.uk/. will continue to be updated (with options to Donate/Support the Lights).

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Lunch and Dominoes

We will continue on **Wednesdays 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 £5.00

The next one will be the first **Wednesday – 7 January, 4 February, 4 March**.

To book a place, ring Jean on **41617**, by the Monday before.

Everyone welcome.

Happy New Year from the Coniston Community Lunch team

Our first lunch of 2026 will be **Monday 19th January** at 12.30pm in the Institute reading room. As usual we will be serving a hearty two course lunch plus tea or coffee.

If you haven't already done so, please let us know you are coming by phoning or texting Helen on **07583 371275** or email e.glaister013@btinternet.com. Also please let us know if you have any dietary requirements or need help with transport.

We are always grateful for additional help so please get in touch if you can offer help either on the day or providing food.

We look forward to seeing you, ***Helen***

Reports

Patients Participation Group - 19th November report.

Haverthwaite Surgery Patients Participation Group convened to work through a number of listed items but also to thank retiring Chair Pat Procter for her service and support for over a decade. We also welcomed new members to the group.

The PPG were introduced to the new Practice Manager Laura Wright and extended their support to her and the Surgery in whatever manner would help this small but exceptional GP practice.

We are also pleased to welcome Dr. Abbas to the GP Practice who has very recently

joined the clinical team.

Whilst operating a PPG remains a CQC requirement the PPG is re-asking how we, the community, can best help. Generally, the PPG seeks to become a more visible conduit for patient information and specific questions or issues. Consequently, we discussed how the PPG can quickly move to a regular update on the Haverthwaite Surgery website and Facebook together with an email address for non-clinical Surgery matters.

All patients that use the NHS app for repeat prescriptions can now further benefit from an email to inform them that their prescription is ready to collect. Patients are reminded that using the NHS app saves this Surgery a considerable amount of time and we continue to encourage its use.

New Build - update - Some patients may already understand how challenging matching NHS criteria is for a smaller practice. One such challenge is in the plans surrounding a new build, whereby costs escalate to meet newer mandatory NHS policy specifically for new builds. Consequently, an alternative approach, based on some extensive modifications to the existing building, are now being considered – discussions are ongoing.

Visit www.haverthwaitesurgery.co.uk for more information.

Mothers' Union Report

In December, Coniston Mother's Union members finished the year 2025 by attending two events. They enjoyed the Deanery Advent Carol service at Flookburgh which was lead by the Rev. Mark Houston. The theme being peace and quiet during Advent. Archdeaconry members and the Diocesan President Ann Wodeman took part and the anthem, 'In The Giving We Receive' was sung by the MU choir. Refreshments and plenty of chatter closed the afternoon.

Their second outing began with a warm welcome and lunch at The Bay Horse Hotel, Ulverston before joining Dalton Members for their Christmas celebrations. A stocking Christmas tree was the vocal point for readings and carols which were picked out of the stockings in turn by all members present. After a delicious tea, a leisurely tour of the spectacular Christmas tree festival in the church closed an enjoyable afternoon and year.

2026 will see 120 years since the Coniston branch was formed so members are in for a busy year ahead!

For more information contact Kay **015394 41559**.

Oxen Park Cinema Club

Oxen Park Cinema Club Upcoming Films:

Tuesday 6th January - ALL YOUR FACES 7.30pm. 2hours

Saturday 17th January - A REAL PAIN. 7.30pm. 99mins

Tuesday 3rd February - THE BALLAD OF WALLIS ISLAND. a Supper Special 6.30pm - book early

early bookings get first choice of seats.

Presentations at The Carthouse Cinema in aid of O.P Reading Rooms:

Friday January 16th 7.30pm £5 on the door. Raffle.

Karen Hanks tells us about *Furness Riding for the Disabled* based at Seaview on Walney.

Illustrated with adapted kit Karen will show us how it all works and how it gives pupils physical strength & balance as well as confidence and emotional bonding with their pony.

Egton WI

Happy New Year from all the lasses at Egton WI.

Christmas is already behind us but we saw out 2025 with a lovely December meeting. We had a minimal amount of business to start the evening and soon we were all enjoying a scrumptious buffet supper together provided by the committee members. Some of us suitably over indulged but then after a very tasty main course we couldn't resist the yummy looking and tasty desserts that were on offer! There was a fun Christmas quiz for everyone to try and our evening was rounded off with an entertaining performance from local magician Chris Taylor who kept us on our toes by involving his audience as well as thoroughly confusing and amusing us with his tricks.

A good end to 2025 and now we are raring to go in 2026. We have a great new program for the year ahead starting on **Tuesday 13th January** with a talk on "Belly Dancing"! Okay I admit that we may have more bellies at this time of year but I'm hoping we can keep them well hidden though we may well learn how to slim them down a bit.

Ladies do feel free to come and join us . Greenodd village hall 7.30pm.

For further information call **07519144799**.

BRANTWOOD NEWS AND VIEWS

Welcome to 2026! We start the New Year with two wonderful new exhibitions. From **10th January** we have *'East Side Story – Portrait of a Lakes Road in Winter'*. These evocative photographs by local photographer *Ken Royall* depict the East of Lake road in Coniston including some of the characters that live and work there. It is a celebration of the uniqueness of the East Side and enables a deep appreciation of the stillness and solitude of winter in the Lake District. On display until **12th April**.

Our Blue Gallery exhibition explores John Ruskin's favourite colour, Blue. Ruskin deeply loved the colour blue, seeing it as divine, a source of joy, and essential in nature, especially the sky and water. It influenced his art and writings with its intense hues like gentian blue, contrasting with industrial greys and celebrating blue as a spiritual and aesthetic delight. He studied its variations, used it in his watercolours, and viewed blue as a pure, natural element.

On **Sunday 18th January** at 2pm, we welcome back pianist *Paul Turner* to perform in our Drawing Room for the second in our *2025-2026 Concert Series*. Tickets are £20 and can be purchased through our website.

Brantwood re-opens on **Wednesday 7th January 2026**.

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**.

The Farmer's Arms Lowick Green / Grizedale Arts

THE FARMER'S ARMS

Our Local Teens Are On Fire (Culinarily Speaking!)

Our brilliant local teens have been cooking up a storm at their youth-run Cafeteen. From pottery to festive decorations to doughnuts (not all served on the same plate, mercifully), their creative energy abounds.

Please keep supporting them: they're open every Saturday from 11–4, serving coffees, cakes, and—because they're obviously cooler than the rest of us—a curated selection of vinyl.

Thank You to Our Flood Helpers

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped us clean up after the recent flood. We had water throughout the ground floor of the building, but thanks to the swift work of our staff and volunteers we were able to get up and running again far sooner than expected. We are deeply grateful.

Community Bar Nights

A special thanks to Andrew and Mallory, who are coordinating a new community group behind the bar on Saturday evenings for our community-run bar nights. We've had a brilliant response from neighbours and locals pulling pints. If you'd like to get involved, please do get in touch! Otherwise, please keep on supporting us by popping in for a pint!

Parties, Talks, Workshops—We Host It All

As always, our space is available for events, conferences, workshops, quizzes- any event you would like to organise we can almost certainly accommodate. Get in touch if you'd like to use our space, from special dining experiences to more informal events - we can tailor to your needs and party size!

What's On: New Year's Eve at The Farmer's Arms 31st December to 1am

Whether you're a local, a wanderer, or simply someone in need of good food, strong drink, and stronger company, The Farmer's Arms is the hottest ticket this New Year's Eve. Come and join the merry chaos that only a good old country pub can deliver! Tickets are available via our website for a seasonal buffet plus live music from Little Arrow String Band.

January Closure

As usual, we will be closed through most of January, **reopening on the 24th with a Burns Night and the 37 club**

We reopen for **Burns Night: celebrating the Scottish farmer-poet who put the radical in the rural.**

Join us (a day early) on **24th Jan** for:

- Haggis, Cullen skink, Cloutie dumpling and Cranachan with a wee nip to boot
- Address to the haggis, readings and speeches designed to entertain—and interrogate
- Music and caller led dancing with the Celtic Fiddles

All for a modest £27

The Feast of St Valentine's

14th February from 7pm, £32 per person, no requirement to be a couple!

A return to the original purpose of the feast, the celebration of the return of birdsong (or so some say). A special early spring 4 course dinner, the best of seasonal local produce, from shellfish to venison, (vegetarian and other diets catered for) a glass of fizzy wine and a groaning pudding trolley (literally, courtesy of the wonky floors) discrete musical accompaniment from DJ Son of the Birds featuring passerines and non passerines

Farmer's Arms Gardening School 2026

Our much-loved Gardening School returns for 2026. Led by Karen Guthrie (Head Gardener at Lawson Park), monthly Saturday sessions guide you through seasonal gardening in a real working garden. Learn to grow food and flowers, design wildlife-friendly spaces, and build confidence with practical, hands-on skills. Small groups, expert teaching, and plenty of time for questions. Enrolment now open.

Soup Talks Return in the New Year - £10 with soup and focaccia

5th February - Edward Carefoot talks about his work as a furniture maker. After a five-year apprenticeship in antique restoration, Edward set out to test whether the medieval tradition of travelling and trading one's craft for food and lodging could still be done today. Over two years he journeyed from Scotland to the Isles of Scilly, working for farmers and royalty alike—fixing gates, restoring shipwrecked furniture, and everything in between. He has now returned to Cumbria, where he designs and makes bespoke furniture in his workshop.

12th Feb - Japan and Ways of Living. A discussion and illustrated talk with Motoko Fujita (GA's director for Japanese projects) and 3 professors from Tokyo University on a research trip looking at Grizedale Arts and the Crake valley from the perspective of wellness and a creative life

26th February - Book Launch: Patricia Townsend. Artist Patricia Townsend will discuss the creation of her new book *Bridging Time 1944–2024: Letters to My Father*. Patricia works with photography, moving image, installation, and poetry. She has held three solo exhibitions in the Blue Gallery at Brantwood, and her moving-image work *Inner Worlds 1* is currently on display at Abbot Hall Gallery in Kendal.

Live Music and Pizza Fridays

Also return in the new year with Freyja Evelyn, Alcove Band, Chris Fellows and more! Check our social media for weekly updates

Grizedale arts AGM 20th January 4pm

An overview of the year 2024 - April 2025

Rookhow



Winter Social for locals in the Rusland Valley Thursday 15th January 6pm

'Let the light in'

A seasonal celebration of welcoming the light back after the dark Winter nights for local people. Bring and share supper. Donations to Rookhow's Retreat Away Fund welcome. Bring a decorated jam jar lantern. Anyone willing to offer some background music or 'take a turn', please get in touch.

For more info contact Sue Nicholls, Rookhow Tel **07377 971783**. Email-contactrookhow@gmail.com or talk to Elaine Fleming.

Cello concert

'MIGRATION' with Maja Bugge, professional cellist and Ben McCabe, drums

Thursday 26th February 2026. 7pm refreshments. 7.30pm Music. Donations on the door- pay as you feel

The MOOT duo will perform compositions and improvisations from their album 'Together' as well as new tunes featuring the sound of declining seabirds alongside melodies, grooves, repetition and stillness. Website link: www.majabugge.com

To book a seat email: contactrookhow@gmail.com./ Tel **07377 971783**

Storytelling for Restoration and Connection weekend

13th-15th March. A creative development weekend for adults involved or interested in peace and reconciliation, restorative practice and community building with Hannah Moore, storyteller supported by Sue Nicholls. Explore storytelling as a powerful ingredient for peace and reconciliation work and for bringing people together.

Suggested donation £150 or pay what you feel. Local people could stay at home overnight and join in the days if they would prefer. https://rookhow.org.uk/events

Quaker Meetings in the Rusland Valley

Every 1st Wednesday 7.30-8pm

Every 1st and 3rd Friday 12.30-1pm

Non Quakers and local people are welcome, even if you have not been to a Quaker Meeting before. Join with others in a gathered silence. Rookhow, LA12 8LA

Open Days & Quiet Garden Movement

Rookhow continues to be open to the public on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month 10am-4pm all year round. Come and be shown round the 300 year old Meeting House, take time to wander in the woodland and chat with our friendly volunteers over tea and homemade cakes. All are welcome. No charge. Donations welcome.

A reminder that on Open Days, Quakers' Wood is available as a 'Quiet space'. Rookhow is now a member of the Quiet Gardens movement. Just let us know when you arrive that you are here for Quiet Garden time and you'll be free to wander undisturbed!

Parish Prayer Diary January 2026

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

2nd: Pray for people rebuilding lives and communities after devastating natural disasters.

3rd: Pray for all affected by war and for agencies bringing humanitarian aid. Pray also for mediators genuinely striving for just conflict resolution.

4th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

May our Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: draw us by his light to discern the glory of his presence in Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

5th: Pray for our National Health Service.

6th: Pray for pupils and students returning to schools, colleges and universities; and for the challenges faced by all educational teaching and non-teaching staff.

7th: Pray for those who lost jobs or businesses in 2025; for all under pressure in their work. Pray for new hope in 2026 and easing of financial and social pressures on families.

8th: Pray for our local Councillors.

9th: Pray for Christians in Parliament striving to be salt and light in the nation and putting the Christian faith in the public domain.

10th: Pray for those housebound because of age or infirmity and are dependent upon Social Services or other agencies to meet their daily needs.

11th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

At the Jordan, our heavenly Father, revealed Jesus as his Son: may we recognise Jesus as our Lord and know ourselves to be God's beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

12th: Pray for those who have come to a living faith in the Lord Jesus, and for the gospel message to be presented in the power of the Spirit.

13th: Pray for PPC members as Parish Councils meet during the month to prayerfully seek the Lord's leading for their local church and the Crake valley.

14th: Pray for the Open Doors World Watch List parliamentary launch today as MPs hear testimonies of persecution and recommendations on how to respond.

15th: Pray for young people feeling intense peer pressure through social media.

16th: Pray for the Bishop of Carlisle, Rt Rev Rob Saner-Haigh, as he discerns the Lord's leading for his ministry to the people of Cumbria.

17th: Pray for those awaiting hospital appointments, results or treatment.

18th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

May our God of glory, nourish us with His Word, the bread of life: and may He fill us with His Holy Spirit that through us the light of His glory may shine in all the world.

19th: Pray for the inter-denominational Christian Church across our nation working to bring Kingdom of God values into their local communities.

20th: Pray for the physical and mental wellbeing of journalists and investigators exposing injustice and exploitation.

21st: Pray for our local Parent & Toddler groups.

22nd: Pray for our local farming community.

23rd: Pray for The Bible Society translating Bibles worldwide so people can read God's Word for themselves in their own language.

24th: Pray for the local Voluntary Social Car Scheme and the drivers who offer their time for this valued service.

25th: **Sunday, the first day of the week**

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

26th: Pray for the strengthening of worldwide cooperation to eliminate leprosy, a disease that may be treated and prevented by medication. Pray against the social discrimination of individuals affected by the disease.

27th: On Holocaust Memorial Day we grieve that genocide, antisemitism, racism and hatred is still rife across the world and pray for grace to speak up for truth and justice.

28th: Pray for Refuge, the country's largest provider of specialist services empowering women, and their children, to live without violence, abuse and fear.

29th: Pray for children, and adults, with special needs, and their families.

30th: Pray for those who live and work in the communities of Coniston and Torver

31st: Pray for those working within HM Prison Services as officers and in healthcare, managerial support and administrative roles.

Please send all articles and events for the February Magazine by January 15th to editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

From the Registers

Nothing from the Registers.

Readings for January 2026

4th	*Ephesians 3.1-12*	*Matthew 2.1-12*
11th	*Acts 10.34-43*	*Matthew 3.13-17*
18th	*Ephesians 4.1-13*	*John 12.31-36*
25th	*1 Corinthians 1.10-18*	*Matthew 4.12-23*

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Regular events

Monday	Knitting and Stitching, 7pm	Greenodd Village Hall
Monday	Short Mat Indoor Bowling, 1 - 3pm, no experience needed	Greenodd Village Hall
2nd & 4th 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	Yoga 7 - 8pm 07471 421 153 to book	Coniston S & S Centre
Wednesday	Lowick Parent & Toddler Group 9.30 - 11.30am (term time only) £1.50	Lowick Community Hall
Wednesday	Walking Football, 6.30 - 8pm	Coniston S & S Centre
Thursday	Community Lunch, 1pm sharp, £7	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
Friday	Junior Cricket	Coniston Cricket Club
2nd Tuesday	Egton WI, 7.30pm	Greenodd Village Hall
2nd Tuesday	Ulverston Repair Café 6.30-8.30pm	Croftlands Community Centre
3rd Tuesday	Coniston WI, 7.30pm,	Coniston Institute
1st Wednesday	Prayer Hour - 10 - 11am	St Mary's, Penny Bridge
3rd Wednesday	Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm	Bouth Village Hall

What's On Guide - January

6th	Film - ALL YOUR FACES - see page 14	Oxen Park Cinema Club
7th	Lunch and Dominoes - see page 13	Coniston Institute
13th	Egton WI talk on Belly Dancing - see page 15	Greenodd Village Hall
15th	Winter Social 'Let the light in' - see page 17	Rookhow
16th	Karen Hanks, Furness Riding for the Disabled - see pages 14-15	Carthouse Cinema
17th	BURNS NIGHT CEILIDH - see page 10	Coniston Institute
17th	Film - A REAL PAIN - see page 14	Oxen Park Cinema Club
18th	Paul Turner - see page 15	Brantwood
19th	Coniston Community Lunch - see page 13	Coniston Institute
21st	X7112 Bus Walks - see page 11	Coniston Central Bus Shelter
22nd	'Titanic – A seaman's perspective' - see page 32	Water Yeat Village Hall
24th	Burns Night - see page 16	The Farmer's Arms
25th	POTATO DAY - see page 8	Greenodd Village Hall
30th	Kim Richey - see page 32	Water Yeat Village Hall
31st	Winter Blues Buster - see page 2	John Ruskin School
31st	The Foghorn Stringband - see page 31	Coniston Institute

Please send all articles and events for the February Magazine by January 15th to editor@conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

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Titanic – A seaman's perspective



Although over 500 books have been written about the Titanic in the English language alone, there is still much controversy as to what happened on the fateful night. Julian has been at sea all his life, is a professional ship-handler and has commanded large vessels with steam engines... join him to take a look at the World's most famous shipwreck. Through a professional seaman's eyes, we will illuminate the significant, eliminate the nonsense, and focus on the factors that could have made a difference.

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