



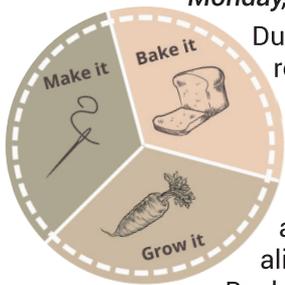
the Cononley Newsletter

Your Village - Your News!

Welcome to your new-look Newsletter! For anyone who missed the Parish Council's social media post, the Creative team at local company Acorn Stairlifts based in Steeton will be looking after the design and editing of your newsletter. If you have any contributions for future issues please send to cononleynews@gmail.com

Save the Date!

Make, Bake & Grow | Bank Holiday Monday, 31st August



Dust off your rolling pins and sharpen those pruning shears! Cononley Village is once again coming alive on Summer Bank Holiday for a celebration of local talent.

- **GARDENERS: Get planting**
- **BAKERS: Get whisking**
- **CRAFTERS: Get making**

If you can Make it, Bake it, or Grow it, we want you to Show it! From prize-winning pumpkins and show-stopping sponges to stunning crafts there is a category for everyone.

Dead Eye Pond:

Throup's Track to Dead Eye

Throup's Track, named after a benevolent local farming family who gifted the track and pond to the village, is often described as 'Cononley in miniature'. Marigolds flower in adjacent meadows, reed buntings nest in the hedgerows and deer often visit for food and shelter.

From the comfort of the viewing platform one can appreciate the surrounding farmland and reflect on the village's development with the mill, river, railway and canal at its heart.

Cononley Wildlife Group



The weather has been wet and cold but Spring is just around the corner. Only a few days ago I heard a Curlew calling near Stockshott Lane and soon there will be the calls of Oystercatchers and Curlews all around the village. The crocus that we planted in the churchyard will soon be in bloom and there is to be a concert in church (featuring the ATN choir that raised the money for the bulbs) on 28th March to give everyone an opportunity to see them. Look out for the posters and please support it if you can. The birds can now be heard singing and will soon be starting to nest. If you are feeding the birds in your garden, don't forget to clean your feeders every two weeks to prevent spread of disease. When the weather improves, there will be work to do at the Pinfold and if you can offer any help please contact:

Ruth Parker - 07775 737722

Maeve Dracup - 07956 000172

We would love to hear from you!

Cononley Art Group

As we have had some new artists join the group, we have had a Spring clean in our media cupboard and we're very grateful to receive £250 from our council as a grant towards this, as art media is very expensive.

We had our New Year's lunch on Monday 6th January at Skipton Hotel and had a lovely social two hours.

Our workshops continue to be very well attended and we are working hard towards our art show on May bank holiday. Please put this in your diary; 24th, 25th and 26th May. Posters will be up around the village nearer the time.

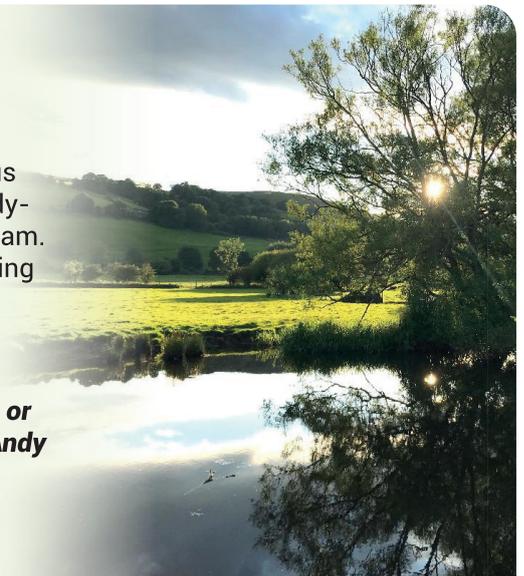
New Cononley artists are always welcome to visit or paint, come and see us on a Monday at CVI - Ruby



It is a magical place to fully appreciate the beauty of where we live. If you are interested in Dead Eye's past or future, or simply enjoy giving back to the community, join us at the platform for the late spring tidy-up on Sunday 10th May, 10am to 11am. For those with limited mobility, parking can be arranged along Swires Lane (Cononley Woodside) thanks to Mike and Anneke Swindon.

To register interest, request parking or a lift, please e-mail Mike, Dan and Andy at friendsofdeadeye@gmail.com

You will be made most welcome.



We welcome your contributions! Contact cononleynews@gmail.com

Parish Council News - Parking, Poo and 'Plalking'!

'Plalking' - combining litter picking whilst walking (and talking!)

was what this enthusiastic bunch of residents did one rare dry morning in February. A huge thank you to everyone who took part, including our smiley little litter pickers! The next community clean-up will be in Spring but all efforts to keep our village clean are much appreciated.



Which brings us to the next topic – dog poo.

The Parish Council continues to receive numerous messages of concern about the amount of dog poo on village pavements and footpaths. Dog faeces can contain harmful bacteria which poses serious health risks to children.

Dog walkers, please bag and bin your dog's poo. Dog walkers are also reminded not to exercise their dog in the Playing Field and to keep it on a lead along the path between Crosshills Road and Main Street.



Pavement Parking: One dark evening last month an incident of pavement parking caused two elderly residents to walk in the road on their way to Film Club, one of whom was using a walking frame. The pavement was obstructed by a large vehicle, making it impossible for them to squeeze through. Pavements are there for pedestrians. Drivers, please think of others before you park, particularly those with walking aids, buggies and wheelchairs

Allotment News! We have created a small community plot on the Meadow Croft site. The plot near the water pump has four fruit trees and we hope to plant some soft fruit bushes and install a seating area if there is sufficient space. The PC now issues a water butt

with all newly allocated plots to encourage rainwater harvesting to help maintain a water supply during the drier months.

Thank you! A big thanks to Chris and Helen at Green and Heritage Roofing Ltd for sponsoring last



year's village newsletter. Green and Heritage specialise in solar and heritage roofing

and have assisted several Cononley residents with solar installations.

Annual Parish Meeting



Finally, we look forward to welcoming you to our Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 10th March 7.45pm at the Institute. This is your opportunity to hear what the Parish Council has been doing over the last 12 months, hear from community groups and ask questions

WI News

Our newsletter contribution normally mentions everything your local WI have been up to and what's to come - and yes, some of us have been on a cruise, we've partied at Christmas, raised over £600 for local charities, been to the theatre, and learnt about the Yorkshire Air Ambulance - amongst lots of other things, since the last Newsletter.

It's often said "we're not just Jam and Jerusalem" and that's absolutely true - in fact we're far from it! Did you know that it was the power of the WI that lobbied for Equal Pay for Women, for Women to be in the Police Force, Women to be allowed

to do Jury Service, to ban smoking in Public Spaces, and we were a founding member of the Fairtrade Organisation. In 1990, we teamed up with Greenpeace UK and WWF and succeeded in getting the UK Government to back a 50 year moratorium on mining in Antarctica which was enshrined in the 1991 Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty.

We lobbied the Government to set up breast cancer screening clinics, we sent evidence to prove that children in hospital benefit from being visited by parents as often as they can (hard to imagine otherwise now isn't it?)

Remember "Clunk Click Every Trip"? Yes - that was the WI too! We have great fun, form wonderful friendships but my goodness, we are a force to be reckoned with.... Fancy joining us and help change the world (and your local community) for the better?

We've some amazing speakers lined up and some serious issues to debate - we'd love to have you join us! We meet at the CVI on the first Thursday of every month 7:30pm.

Julie Cawood
President
07802 807815



The Cononley Newsletter is published by Cononley Parish Council (CPC), though views expressed in the newsletter may not reflect those of the CPC. This is your newsletter and we welcome your input! Please send contributions to: cononleynews@gmail.com

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15th Musical Mayhem

Saturday March 28th in the CVI



A fun event where anyone can sing or play in front of a friendly audience from beginners to seasoned performers. A celebration of Cononley talent and the joy of communal music. The early session, 5.30 to 7pm, is for children, beginners or the ultra nervous; evening session starts at 7.30.

The bar opens at 7pm, proceeds of which go towards continuing improvement of the CVI. Entry is free.

If you'd like to sing or play please contact Joan on 07718 874600

Cleaner Greener Cononley

Spring is coming and thoughts turn to gardening. 17 years ago when I arrived in my new-build house the garden was just a lawn and a few shrubs. It now has a pond, high hedges, trees, shrubs, fruit and vegetable beds and flower borders full of pollinator plants. Prioritising soil health and using my own compost has enabled wildlife like frogs, hedgehogs, birds and insects to thrive - but not slugs and aphids which get eaten by everything else.

If anyone wants to have a chat about the simple things that encourage wildlife into a garden, please contact **Joan on 07718 874600**.

And stay tuned for more meetings!



A future date for your diaries will be the 17th of March, when, following on from the previously successful flower demonstration by Gina from Blush florists, she will be showing us how we can make lovely, affordable Easter decorations for our homes or to give as gifts.

Tickets are £15 to include a glass of fizz (or non-alcoholic equivalent) tea/coffee, homemade cake and a raffle ticket. The demo will take place at St. John's Church from 2:00 till 4:00 in the afternoon.

Please contact me for tickets at: flowers@kcb.church

All the details for the normal pattern of services as well as special events and how to get in touch with Reverend Mike can be found on the church notice board, the parish website (kcb parish) or our Facebook page. We also have a dedicated WhatsApp channel now!

Foothpaths Group

We're all looking forward to being able to enjoy bright spring days. The area around Cononley has a brilliant network of footpaths and bridleways for walks. Our local volunteers work on small repairs, keeping paths clear and waymarking so that everyone can enjoy the routes. We're having a spring working day on Saturday 11th April and would love people to get involved. No skills needed, just gloves and enthusiasm.

For details, call or message Chris on 07917 650023

(We won't be cutting hedgerows that day as it'll be nesting season, we'll be concentrating on other repairs).



St. John's News

Hello everyone, spring is around the corner and we are looking forward to seeing the results of Cononley's Wildlife Group bulb planting marathon coming to fruition in the Church grounds. I'm sure after the dreary start to the year weather wise it will provide a welcome burst of colour - do feel free to wander up and enjoy.

First of all a huge thank you to all the families who attended our annual Christingle services. As usual they were sell out occasions and it is heartwarming to hear from you that they have now become a part of your family Christmas traditions. Our ever popular JAM (Jesus and Me) sessions will be continuing throughout the year; again, it is so lovely to see everyone and your support is truly valued.

The dates are as follows:

- 3rd April
- 6th June
- 19th August
- 17th October

As usual Tea and Toast continues on the first Tuesday of the month, from 10:30 until 12:00. Look out for the posts on the BD20 Facebook, all are welcome and a big thank you to the W.I. ladies who help us out with the catering.

Finally, and I know this is a big ask as so many of you already volunteer to help other organisations in the village, but we are desperately in need of folk who could help us out with cleaning/maintaining the church building and clearing leaves from the path. We are an aging congregation and there are only 4 or 5 of us to do all the jobs. If you were able to spare us an hour or so a couple of times a year we would appreciate it so much. It doesn't matter if you aren't a churchgoer but I know many of you see the church as an integral part of Cononley village and we want to keep it looking as best as we can for times of need.

If you feel you could help please get in touch with me at: flowers@kcb.church

Cononley Cinema Club

Following a great reception and our largest audience for the year for our February film "I Swear" we have two equally good films coming up.

On Sunday March 15 we will be showing "The Ballad of Wallis Island" Cert12. A quirky British tale of a winner of the Lottery, his admiration for a folk duo who long ago split up, and a small island. In a gentle, funny and heartwarming way this film explores past and future relationships and seeks resolutions.

Then on Sunday April 26 we are showing "the Choral" Cert 12. It is 1916 and World War One has disrupted Ramsden Choral society's annual concert so their new conductor has to improvise while everybody faces up to the impacts of the war. With much of it filmed in Saltaire this is a real Yorkshire film!

All performances start at 7.00pm (doors open 6.30pm) with a bar and ice creams in the interval! Tickets are sold in The Cononley Village Store, on the door or by emailing cononleycinemaclub@gmail.com



Friends of Cononley Station



Friends of Cononley Station

A huge thank you to Hayley and Kevin who have created a wild flower area - with permission from Northern Railways - for you to enjoy. To the left is an impression of how it should look later in the year. The area will contain native wild flower species, and illustrations of the featured varieties are engraved on the edges of the flower bed.

This area can be viewed from the station car park or a careful walk towards the end of platform 1. Remember the trains!

We will find out on Thursday 19th March, in Derby, if we have been successful in the station awards. We hope that we will be the winners but 20 stations are competing in our section!

We trust that you continue to enjoy the garden areas - **Marten**

ConFest 2026

ConFest, Cononley's annual outdoor music festival, returns for the sixth time in July with two big pieces of news.

First, it is now the 'ConFest Weekender', as we have added Friday evening to the event! So this year it will run over two days - *the evening of Friday 17th July and all day Saturday 18th July*. Doors open 5pm on Friday and 11am on Saturday.

Second, we have lowered the ticket price to £10 a ticket, with £5 a ticket for children 5-12 and children under 5 free AND this ticket covers both days.

The decision to reduce prices has not been easy - an event like this is very expensive to put on and we only just break even each year. But we have always wanted to make it an event that the village could be proud of and support, so we're hoping that those who have not been before will give it a go.

There will be at least 17 musical acts over the two days, with two stages on Saturday. In addition to the music, Saturday will offer the usual fully-licensed bar plus a number of food stalls and craft/merchandise stalls, whilst there will be a more limited bar on the Friday evening.

And of course you can bring your own food and drink on both days. We must mention that we could not hold the event without the tremendous support and sponsorship we get from local businesses, or without the countless locals who volunteer their time and expertise both beforehand and on the day - thank you all! So we'll see you in mid July - come along, have fun and **#bringasmile**

For more information, check us out on Facebook where you'll find the ticketing information, or the posters which will be appearing round the village closer to the event.

Thanks to all our contributors, sponsors & volunteers - look out for the next edition in June!

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