

WE WELCOME
CONTRIBUTIONS!

THE Cononley NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024

DECEMBER



CONONLEY BEER FEST 2024 RAISES £2,600!



October's Beer Festival was as lively and hoppy as always. Cononley's devoted drinkers stepped up to sample our fantastic selection of cask and keg beers, ciders and wines with their usual enthusiasm. Drinkers were fuelled up on delicious treats

from **Steve's Curry Corner** (Thank you, Chef)! On the Saturday afternoon, local talent **Slightly Strange Fruit** played a blinding set. Thank you to Rachel, Ian, Richard and Blair. The team were thrilled to raise funds for the Institute and for children in the village (e.g. Brownies). Massive thanks to our generous sponsors and to everyone who worked so hard behind the scenes to make it happen. Cheers! The Beer Festival Team 🍺

CHRISTMAS WITH THE CONONLEY SINGERS

Rehearsals for our busy Christmas programme are in full swing! Our customary concert at the Institute is on **Friday 13th December** at 7.30pm, Tickets £5 (under 16s



Free) and on **Saturday 14th**, we once again share the platform with Haworth Brass Band at Christ Church Skipton, again at 7.30pm, Tickets £10 (under 16s Free). Tickets are available from the Village Store, The New Inn, call 07795 616532 or www.ticketsource.co.uk/cononley-singers. On **Sunday 15th December, 5pm** we will be joining the Christmas Carol Service at St John's Cononley before our final "fling" at The New Inn on **Wednesday 18th December**.



HIRING THE NEW IMPROVED VILLAGE INSTITUTE



The Institute is a perfect venue for fundraising events, historically hosting race and casino nights, murder mysteries, pop-up restaurants, cheese & wine evenings, discos etc. The committee can help to run an event, or the Institute can be hired with or without the audio-visual system for a party or family-film night. To book or to make an enquiry, please contact our caretaker, Kim Hardy on **01535 630371** or gillboucher@talktalk.net

FANTASTIC FUNDRAISING AT CONONLEY SCHOOL

We have had a great start to our school year, and it has been lovely to see lots of new faces on the playground and at our recent events. Lots of effort went into the Halloween Bake Sale which raised over £200, and our Halloween Disco was a spooooky success! The children looked fantastic in their scary costumes, and it was well attended, raising £550 for essential school funds. Thank you to everyone who helped to organise these events and to all those who joined in the fun! We are looking forward to our Christmas Film Night and to planning our 2025 events which will include a Valentines Bake Sale on Friday 14th February, Easter Bingo & Raffle on Friday 28th March, and Summer Fair on Friday 4th July. The Friends of Cononley School (FOCS) send their very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

We are thrilled to announce that the second defibrillator has been installed on the mill building. Huge thanks to the Confest Committee who

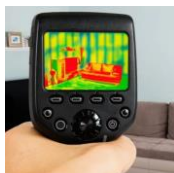


donated proceeds from this year's festival to fund the purchase of the defib, and to Laura Rowe, our local defib guardian, who has kindly offered to check that the device is rescue ready.

- Big thanks to everyone who took part in October's litter pick; the next one will be in the New Year.
- Improvements to the allotment path at the Meadow Lane site will start in December - access will be retained whilst the work is completed.
- Early next year we will be conducting a village survey to request feedback from residents about the things that matter to them most.
- Following recent incidents of HGVs getting stuck and damaging property, we ask residents to send photos showing the registration number and company name to cononleypc@gmail.com so that we can advise accordingly. Finally, we continue to liaise regularly with North Yorkshire Council about streetlights repairs and highways issues.

THERMAL CAMERA LOAN SCHEME

With winter upon us, residents can once again borrow the thermal camera to locate draughty spots in the home. The camera was used 26 times last year to find draughty windows, cold spots and missing insulation patches. Simple improvements, such as sealing gaps in floorboards and windows, draught excluders, insulating lofts and cellars can make your house warmer and save money on heating bills. Some residents undertook bigger jobs such as installing solar panels, new windows, underfloor insulation and heat pumps. The camera is free to borrow – to book or for more info, go to www.cononleyinstitute.co.uk/thermal-imaging or e-mail cononleycamera@gmail.com



NEWS FROM THE NEW INN

Our kitchen is now open! We serve freshly made home-cooked food **every Wednesday, 5.30pm-7.30pm**. Check our Facebook



page for the menu. Use our socials, call, or pop in to book.

Sunday 1st December – join us from 5pm for Santa & the Big Switch On at 6pm! We will be serving festive light bites, mulled wine and hot chocolate.

Monday 9th Dec 7pm - Temple Spa Pop-Up Shop

Sunday 8th Dec 1-5pm - book now for our Festive Sunday Roast.

Tuesday 10th Dec - last quiz of the year with a Christmas theme!

Tuesday 17th Dec 1-5pm – book for our 'Over 60s Festive Lunch'

Wednesday 18th December – join The Cononley Singers for carols around the tree, mulled wine, hot choc and light bites.

Friday 20th December 5-7pm – the pizza oven is back in action for a pre-Christmas warm-up, along with festive light bites.

Wednesday 25th December – the bar will be open 12-2pm.



The Post Office service continues Mondays 12-2pm. The last one before Christmas is **Mon 23rd December**.

GREETINGS FROM CONONLEY VILLAGE STORE 🌲



A massive thank you to everyone for the warm and wonderful support you have shown us during our first 12 months at the shop! It's been fantastic getting to know so many

of you, as well as meeting visitors from all corners of the country and as far away as America and Australia! It has certainly been a testing first year but also a very rewarding one! We have loved getting involved in village events, such as the Scarecrow Festival, Confest and Halloween. With Christmas round the corner, don't forget to order your Christmas tree to avoid disappointment. The trees are of the highest quality and remain so after the celebrations are over. To ease the stress of Christmas shopping, you can place your Drake & Macefield order through us, along with other goodies including our popular Christmas wreaths. We will be opening all day on the last two Saturdays before Christmas - **14th & 21st December**. Finally, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Paul (Ronnie), Karla & family.

PANTO TIME! FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY 2025

Come along to this year's panto, performed by BadApple Theatre on **3rd January**. The matinee performance starts at 1pm, doors open at 12.30pm. Refreshments will be on sale. Buy your tickets at: www.ruralarts.org/whats-on/performances/sleeping-beauty-and-the-beast-at-cononley-village-institute



Adults £8, children £5 (cheaper for adults than last year!)

WHAT'S ON AT THE RAILWAY

Our Charity Curry Night went well, raising vital funds for the Sports Club. If you're holding a charity event and need a venue, please get in touch, we'll be happy to help.

On **Saturday 21st**

December, 7pm Blair will be singing acoustic classics. From 7pm on

New Year's Eve, we'll have a DJ playing music and possibly a spot of karaoke! As always, food is served Thursday-Sunday plus Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and New Years

Eve. To book a table, ring **01535 957200** or email

railwaycononley@gmail.com.



FRIENDS OF CONONLEY STATION



Suddenly it's cooler, however the tubs and garden are surviving, even the daffs are showing signs of life. Thank you to Hayley who has cleaned the bicycle lockers of leaves, so all spick and span and

we have planted 200 tulip bulbs. Any village notices for the station? Please hand in at the shop. **Marten 07813393381**

CONONLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

President's Evening back in September was great fun and saw some good moves on the dance floor with our guest guitarist and singer, Sean Saye. Grassington Hand Bell ringers entertained us in October - I challenge anyone to say we don't have something for everyone! In November we had our AGM, with Julie Cawood and Elaine Shoesmith continuing in their roles as President and Secretary/Treasurer for another year. Thanks were given to the Committee members, everyone who helps to make our WI run so efficiently, and to Ian Gill who generously gives his time to audit our accounts.



Recognition was given to Elizabeth Calvert who was presented with a Certificate and flowers to celebrate her 40 years membership of Cononley WI. Membership continues to grow with 42 members and a good range in ages, so why not come along and say hello? We meet at 7.30pm at the Institute on the first Thursday of the

month. We have some amazing speakers lined up for the coming year and there truly is something for everyone. December's meeting will be our Christmas Party at the New Inn 6.30pm start, and our January meeting (to be held on the SECOND Thursday for January only) will be our ever-popular Auction Night where we raise funds for local charities. We are very much looking forward to welcoming "Quirky Man Wanted" and a Comedian who is also a chaplain in the Armed Forces early in 2025. **Julie Cawood – President tel. 07802 807815**

GREAT FIRST TERM AT STEPPING STONES NURSERY

Our topics this term have included 'It's Good to be Me!' where we enjoyed a visit from the library and took part in Space Week which led us nicely onto our next topic, 'To Infinity and Beyond!'



We are learning about the changing seasons during our village walks and at the allotment (where we are starting to plan what we would like to grow next year) and about road and railway safety (we even saw a steam train last week!). We have enjoyed watching the

diggers and cranes at the building site. Excitement is starting to build for the end of term and Christmas, and rumour has it there may be a visit from Santa at our end of term party! If you would like to book a visit to have a look round our nursery, please phone **07916995561** or email **519507@nyey.co.uk**. We also offer Before & After School Care for pupils at Cononley Primary School.

LIFETIME VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION FOR JOAN!

Cononley's very own Joan Nicholson was a finalist in North Yorkshire's 2024 Community Awards. Joan attended the ceremony in October to recognise her many years of tireless volunteering, including as a passionate North Yorkshire Rotter, inspiring us all about soil and composting, a key member of Cleaner, Greener Cononley, sharing the joy of music through the annual Music Mayhem and previous roles as a school governor, Institute Committee member, the list goes on...but living proof that volunteering is good for your health! Joan points out that there are so many amazing volunteers in Cononley giving up their time and energy for the community - and says that they all deserve an award! Joan plans to use the £250 prize money to promote wormeries which are a fun and easy way to compost, producing 'worm tea' for plants! More info to follow, but if you are interested, please contact **Joan** on **07718 874 600**.



CONONLEY CINEMA CLUB

In January we will be showing "One Life" Cert 12, starring Anthony Hopkins and Helena Bonham Carter. This tells the story of Nicholas Winton who saved 669 Jewish children in WWII and 50 years later found himself celebrated on TV. In February we will be in Sicily for the world-famous Italian film "Cinema Paradiso" Cert 12, a joyous salute to cinema and love. On **Sunday 2nd March 6-9 pm**, we are again hosting **The London Mountain Film Festival** including a light supper/bar, showing short films about adventure, daring, endurance and fun! Tickets will go on sale in the New Year.



CALL OUT FOR SPEED WATCH VOLUNTEERS



The aim of community speed watch is to raise awareness of the speed limit for road users travelling through our village. Over the last eight years the group has successfully reduced the monitored number of vehicles travelling in excess of

the acceptable speed by half - a fantastic result! To keep up this good work, we need more volunteers. If you can occasionally spare one hour a week, please contact Atholl on **atholrobertson06@sky.com** or **07743921717**. We're a friendly bunch - it's a great way to meet other residents who are keen to do something positive to keep our roads safe, and we're sometimes treated to a cuppa by a kindly resident!

CONONLEY SPORTS CLUB

The football 1st team are doing well and have progressed to the latter rounds of the County Cup.

The refurb continues and we are hoping to install new patio doors and replace existing tables and chairs as well as some outdoor furniture too. The car park has been extended to ensure we have enough space on match days. A big thanks to all who helped volunteer time and materials. It is much appreciated and if anyone would like to help at the Club, please email richard_calvert@hotmail.com.

CONONLEY WILDLIFE GROUP

Autumn is well and truly here with trees in spectacular seasonal colour.

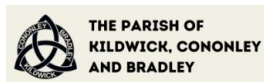
At this time of year, bird feeding is encouraged for our native species - use an assortment of different bird feeds, such as sunflower hearts, mixed seed, suet balls and peanuts. We can look forward to seeing wintering ducks and geese on the floodwater. The Pinfold has had its autumn tidy, and the bird feeders are in constant use. As requested by Rev Mike Green, we have been planting spring bulbs in St John's Church grounds. Next year we will do some fundraising to buy and plant lots of bulbs next autumn. We would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved.

Ruth 07775 737722 & Maeve 07956 000172.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

At St John's Cononley



Saturday 7th December 10-11:30am - Advent-themed children's JAM activity session to include picnic refreshments.

Sunday 15th December, 5pm - Carol Service featuring The Cononley Singers.

Christmas Eve, 2pm & 4pm - Crib & Christingle Services. Fun for the whole family as we retell the story of the first Christmas and light our Christingles!

At St Andrew's Kildwick

Saturday 21st Dec, 7pm - Blue Christmas Service to remember those who aren't with us this Christmas.

Sun 22nd Dec 7pm, 9 Lessons & Carols with the Leodis Consort.

Christmas Eve at 9.30pm Midnight Mass (Bethlehem Time).

At St Mary's Bradley

Christmas Day 9.30am - Christmas Day Communion Service.

Tea and Toasted - first Tuesday of each month, 10.30am-12noon; everyone is welcome, just drop by for a chat.

Café Church - an informal worship gathering to discuss and pray for local, national and global issues that really matter to us. A light breakfast and coffee/tea are available. These services take place on the third Sunday of the month, and all are welcome. Visit <https://kcb.church> for more info or follow us on Facebook (@KCBChurches or @CononleyVillageBD20).

JOIN THE MAYHEM ON SATURDAY 8TH FEBRUARY!



The evening session will start at 7pm and is open to anyone who wants to come and strut their musical stuff in front of a super-friendly audience. The afternoon session is 2.30pm-5pm, open to children, adult beginners, shy performers and anyone else - with an even more friendly audience! All instruments, voices and genres welcome. Contact **Joan 07718 874 600** to let her know you're playing so a rough programme can be drafted but feel free to turn up on the night on spec as well - it is a Mayhem, after all!

DEAD EYE POND

Thanks to the efforts of volunteers, Dead Eye is now ready for the winter floods. Fences have been checked and cleared, branches along Throup's Track trimmed, tree guards removed, and repair work undertaken to signage. Apart from its attraction as a focal point for wildlife, Dead Eye provides outstanding opportunities for artists and photographers to capture winter sunsets over Fiddler Hill, stunning ice formations and misty, frost-crusting fields as well as distant views of the village. Thanks are extended to all who have visited Dead Eye this year. The level of care shown to the site and its wildlife has been outstanding. Your continued support in reporting any concerns, however minor, continues to be much appreciated. Contact can be made with either the Parish Council or Mike, Dan and Andy at friendsofdeadeye@gmail.com



UPDATE FROM CLLR ANDY BROWN

Highways issues continue to be a challenge, but after a lot of pressure from myself and the PC, Crosshills Road was finally resurfaced even if parts of it were dug up a week later! The next job is to get the appalling state of Main Street sorted. Disappointingly, this is not on the schedule for this or next year's financial year, so I have been asking a lot of questions and trying to get it included in the plans for the following year. There is little point in doing basic repairs whilst building traffic is moving through the village, but I am told a schedule of regular repair work will be underway whilst we wait for the needed resurfacing. The other issue is flooding risk from blocked drains. Please report blockages here:

www.northyorks.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/roads-and-pavements/road-drains-gully-cleaning-and-report-flooding
andy.brown1951@outlook.com or 07886858038.

