

LINK

APRIL 2024

LINK HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

Kid's Street Dance - see page 2

Sewing Bee Contestant Talk - see page 2

Socx Visit - see page 2

Every Song Singers - see page 8

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Laura McGowan, catonparishcouncil@gmail.com. To message ring the Victoria Institute on 01524 771733

Oak tree at the Fishstones A tall, strong oak sapling has now been planted at the Fish Stones. Ted Curwen grew it from an acorn from the old tree. Planting this replacement was done by Chris Lennon with help from Ray Elvis. Chris has also improved the planting area and repaired and repainted the railings. Jamie Cottle has given the previous sapling a home at Borwicks, where it can be seen from the public footpath near Forge Mill. Thank you to them all!

Fell View Play Park The new toddler play hut has been installed, complete with slide and wobbly bridge. Our thanks to Lancaster Environmental Fund and Halton Hydro for helping fund this brilliant new kit for our Play Park. The replacement seating is due to be installed soon.

Footpaths A resident has walked all the footpaths in our parish and identified a wide range of problems, including missing signposts and waymarkers, damaged stiles and blocked paths. A councillor has prepared a full list of the issues, and will begin the work of liaising with landowners and Lancashire Public Rights of Way. It may take a while to get these improvements done. Our thanks to everyone who has helped with this.

Barriers on A683 at Bull Beck Lancashire County Council plans to erect permanent barriers before the end of the summer! Be good to have this safety feature installed at last.

Greenway Enhancements Foundations and paving for benches and picnic tables are now in place along the Greenway from Crook of Lune to Holme Lane. Work is also ongoing to manage stretches of hedging to open up views of the river and valley beyond. Thanks again to Lancashire Environmental Fund and to Lancashire County Council for funding this improvement scheme. Many thanks also to Georgina Peacock who donated her professional time to create the design and help manage the project.

Local History Deposit Box The Local History Deposit Box is at the Victoria Institute is now "live". To help anyone who might look at any deposits in the future there is handy form in the deposit box you might like to use. This has optional space for you describe/explain whatever is contributed. Any queries can be sent to catonparishcouncil@gmail.com.

Public toilet at the Victoria Institute Apologies; the announcement of the new opening hours was premature as the Parish Council had not consulted all parties. If the extended opening happens, it will be after the Victoria Institute reopens after its rewiring.

White lines at the Hornby Road Car Park The Parish Council has accepted a price to repaint the white lines and repaint the yellow lines marking the disabled space.

Closure of Brookhouse Road at Artlebeck Bridge The dates for the road closure now look to be 27 May to 11 June, but the Parish Council has had no official notification from Lancashire Highways. As this will affect school buses during the exam season, there is pressure to get Cadent to defer the work until the school holidays. We are told the pedestrian bridge will remain open throughout. The Parish Clerk is speaking to Kirkby Lonsdale coaches to ensure they are aware of this road closure and to find out how they will continue to serve Brookhouse and Caton Green. Cadent has promised to send an inspector to work out how to keep other traffic moving.

Footpath to Grays Seat This is a concessionary path, rather than a public footpath. In Quernmore Parish, not ours. The landowner is unable to clear the fallen timber, but has said that local people are welcome to do so and to remove wood they can use. If you want to take advantage of this offer, please tell our Parish Clerk so she can inform Quernmore Parish Clerk who will liaise with the landowner.

Next Parish Council meeting Tuesday 9th April at 7pm in the Victoria Institute.

Residents are welcome to attend and may speak about issues of local concern in the Open Forum at the start of every meeting.

FIRST SATURDAY LITTER PICK

A group of residents get together on the first Saturday of every month to pick up litter and tidy the villages. The meeting place is outside the Victoria Institute at 10.00 am, weather permitting. If you have seen an area which would benefit from a tidy up, or have any queries, please contact Judy Powell on 771154. Rubbish bags, bag holders, and litter pickers are provided, and it is a good idea to bring your own gloves. Hi-viz vests (various sizes) also available on request. Next session: Saturday 6th April

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LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE

www.catonvillage.org.uk



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Artlebeck Bridge

10.30am: Morning Service and

Sunday School

6.30pm: Evening Service

Lune Valley Methodist Hub

Formerly Brookhouse

Methodist Church

Monthly services at

10.30am

Caton Methodist

Brookhouse Road

10.30am: Morning Service and

Junior Church

Catholic Church

Station Yard

Holy Mass Saturday at 6.00pm

Holydays of Obligation Mass on

eve of Holyday at 6.00pm

St Paul's C of E Brookhouse

Sunday Communion Service at

10.00am

All Age Worship, read and led by

children: 1st Sun of the month

Sunday Club in the Church

Hall, term time Sundays

except 1st Sunday of month

1st Wednesday of the month

Holy Communion at 10.00am

Brookhouse Community

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PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED

Once again residents are complaining about vehicles parked on pavements and causing an obstruction, especially to people using wheelchairs or pushing buggies. Advice from the RAC states "Parking on the pavement is not illegal outside of London." You can, however, still get a fine for doing so in some instances, which makes the law quite a grey area. Since 1974, Highway Code rule 244 has stated that drivers "MUST NOT park partially or wholly on the pavement in London and should not do so elsewhere unless signs permit it." The key things to note here are the words must not and should not. In London, you must not park on the pavement, the must indicating there is legislation behind this rule and you could receive a fine for breaking it. However, outside of the capital or "elsewhere", the Highway Code states drivers should not park on the pavement, meaning it is advisory and not, therefore, backed up by any legislation. Rule 242 is where it gets a little less clear, stating: "You MUST NOT leave your vehicle or trailer in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road." This is a must not, again, meaning if your car is reported or seen by a police officer and judged to be either in a dangerous position or causing an unnecessary obstruction of the road, you could receive a Fixed Penalty Notice. Residents concerned about parked cars causing an obstruction should take photos (including the number plate) and inform the police.

CATON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At our last meeting we were introduced to and inspired by the World of 3D Felting with fibre artist Lisa Moore. Her talk and demonstration led us through her journey from hobbyist to business woman and we were all in awe of her amazing creations. See our Facebook post for pictures. The Gin Club met and sampled (hic!) some new flavours. Our Craft Group is busy making hats for the homeless for our project this year. Our next meeting is on **Thursday 4th April at 7:30**. We are delighted that Angela Fletcher, a contestant on the Great British Sewing Bee 2022, will be joining us. Angela is an entertaining speaker and has many tales about the experience (and sewing tips) to share. Please feel free to join us. You do not have to be a member to come along and see what happens at the WI. The cost is £2 to non-members. There is so much on offer from the WI. If you would like to see what else we have coming up over the next year, please visit our Facebook page for the full programme. Also our brand new website is now live! <https://lancashire.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/caton/home>



TWINNING VISIT FROM SOCX 20TH-23RD APRIL

Our friends from Socx are coming 20-23 April and we are busy finalising plans for their visit. If you are interested in joining us for either of the evening events - a welcoming party with a surprise on Saturday 20th, a social evening with food, music and games on Sunday 21st or a tour of Lancaster Castle followed by lunch on Monday, please let me know. Come and find out about Twinning and maybe you would like to join us on our visit to France next year. tricia@marybankfarm.uk

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

As the weather hopefully improves, we are looking forward to our monthly outings. April 18th will see us at Bolton Market and Smithills Hall, prior to then we are meeting for coffee at the Station Hotel on April 4th at 11am. May takes us to Carlisle for the day with a visit to Dobbies garden centre on our way home. For more information about the Friendship club or to book please contact Ally Whitfield on 01524 770827 or 07738 912923

PAINTING GROUP

The painting group will meet on Thursday 11th & 25th April at Lune Valley Methodist Hub, from 1.30-3.30pm. Everyone is welcome no matter what level of skill you have. If you have any materials bring them along, If not let me know and I can bring extra to share. We ask for a donation of £2.50 to cover costs, Tea/Coffee provided. Ruth 01524 770605.

LIL BEATZ

'Lil Beatz' is street dance fun for 1 - 4yr olds. Miss Rosie offers a 3 week trial for £10 then £5 per week thereafter. Tuesdays 11.15 to 11.45am at Hornby Institute. Tuesdays 4:00pm Street Age 3-4 and 4:45pm Street Age 4-6 at the Victoria Institute. (During the rewire this will be at St Paul's Church Hall.) Contact: 07515118099 Lancaster@lilbeatz.co.uk

HORNBY VILLAGE INSTITUTE

Friday 12 April - Lancaster Wine Company is holding a wine tasting at 7.30pm.

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CLOSURE OF THE VI FOR THE REWIRE

The Institute will be closed from and including Friday 26 th April for approximately 7-8 weeks. Phone and email will be available throughout the closure.

FUNDRAISING FOR THE REWIRE

We are nearly there with raising the required funds, details are available on our website. Further donations are still very welcome towards the loss of room hire income, decoration and other costs.

THIS MONTHS HIGHLIGHTED GROUP

Caton Toddlers, meet at the Institute on Tuesday 10:00-11:30 am
For details contact Peter

CATON COMMUNITY LIBRARY & IT ROOM

Opening Days and Times Monday & Wednesday 10:00am to 12:00 noon & 1:00 to 3:00pm
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BUSINESSES, TRADES & SERVICES

The Victoria Institute has a display board for businesses, trades and services to promote themselves. Please leave your poster, business cards etc. with Peter at the Institute.

FREE TO ADVERTISE 'FOR SALE' BOARD

Sell items for free on the noticeboard in the Victoria Institute. Collect a form from Peter in the Library/IT Room to advertise your items.

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT FLOODING?

Floodsax are available for sale from the Victoria Institute. The cost is £30.00 for a pack of five. Please contact Peter for more information.

EMERGENCY CENTRE

The Victoria Institute is our village's Emergency Centre. If there are problems such as flooding, long periods without mains water, or power cuts, the Victoria Institute will be staffed and you'll be able to get practical help and information.

GET IN TOUCH

For all queries, including hiring the Victoria Institute please contact: - Peter Collins the Community Centre Manager at the Institute on 01524 771733 Office Hours; Monday & Wednesday 10:00am to 12:00 noon and 1:00 to 3:00pm Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am to 12:00 noon. You can email us on: admin@victoria-institute.org.uk Further information can be found at our website: www.victoria-institute.org.uk Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/victoria.institute.caton/>

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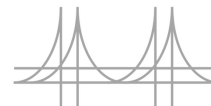
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FORD SERVICE

CATON SPORTS ASSOCIATION/CATON UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

Prize draw result... Congratulations to Andy Taylor for winning the February draw - £50. Gift of Sight Appeal – on the 14th of April, players, volunteers, and supporters are climbing Helvellyn to raise money for club works, but most importantly, to raise vital funds for the 'Gift of Sight' appeal. The appeal was established with the aim of funding world-class research into the prevention and treatment of blindness. Caton local, Abby, is a big supporter of the appeal as her young daughter, Amelia, was diagnosed with Albinism at 3 months old. Albinism affects the pigmentation of a person's eyes, resulting in reduced vision. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will go towards the research to create better treatments and thus preventing blindness. Further information at <https://gofund.me/c0db119e> or scan the QR code.



CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB

We had a well attended talk last month from the enthusiastic Jacqui Iddon. Jacqui enjoyed it too and remarked afterwards that the atmosphere in the hall was buzzing so thanks to all for attending and participating. And now so soon we are at the end of our year. That means it is AGM time. So do come along, members only, to hear about the past present and future of the club and have your say on April 11th at 7pm in St Pauls church hall as usual. There will be wine, nibbles and tea/coffee/biscuits as an inducement. It is a sociable event and we had a very good attendance last year - same again please! Subscriptions are due at the AGM for 24/25. Then on May 11th at 10am it is our annual plant sale and coffee morning. Help in operating the stalls is always gratefully received. More details next month.

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CATON ST PAUL'S COF E PRIMARY

Another busy month at Caton St Paul's has seen lots happening across the school and pre-school. We held our annual Mothers' day breakfast where we had 120 mums and grandmas enjoying bacon and sausage sandwiches with their children. This was a vibrant and lovely morning where we celebrated with our community.

As the weather has improved (or not!!) we have started our outdoor education experiences for all children with a Year 2 trip to Warton Crag. They braved wind and rain to climb, scramble and hike up and around the crag, enjoying marshmallows on the way down. Our Year 1 children had a similar experience in Silverdale and thoroughly challenged and enjoyed themselves. At the end of March, our youngest children will have an adventure experience along the banks of the River Lune, with our Y3 children canoeing on the canal at Borwick. All of these trips use our local area and allow the children to flourish and grow in a supportive environment.

World book day was lovely, with children coming into school in their pyjamas and comfortable clothes (this takes the pressure off parents needing to make/buy an outfit). We then had reading activities throughout the day, with a book sale for both children and adults at the end. It was lovely to see our Year 6 children reading with our Reception children! We have also invested heavily recently in reading training and resources to continue to give our children a flying start in early reading. We have been visited by a range of people recently to develop the cultural capital of our children: North West stages rally brought a £250,00 rally car for the children to sit in, Sportsreach led assembly about their experiences in Kenya and Malawi on a mission trip, Reverend Helen led worship about injustice and how to make a difference in this world and St Paul's Youth Group planned and led a non-uniform day to raise money for the Salvation Army.

Pre-school continues to be busy and they are benefitting from a lovely new partition between pre-school and Diamond class which has added light whilst ensuring both areas are calm learning environments.

Our PTA continue to be active, organising book sales, Christmas fair, Easter bingo, discos, movie nights, summer fair, family quizzes and lots more. They invest this money back into the school for the benefit of our children. The PTA will be at Caton Gala on 18 May if you would like to come and say hello and find out more about what they do.

We continue to offer sporting experiences for our children and have attended many events in the Lune Valley as well as further afield in Lancaster and Morecambe: football, athletics, swimming gala, korfbal, acro-gymnastics, dance and many more have meant opportunities for lots of our KS2 children.

THE EDWARD & ALICE COTTAM TRUSTS

The Trustees would like to invite local residents to make applications for grants from the trust funds held on the trusts of the Wills of the Edward Cottam and his sister Alice.

The Trustees are required to use the trust income for the benefit of: 'poor and deserving persons aged 50 years or over who have resided within the parish of Caton with Littledale in the County of Lancaster for at least five years and are still resident at the date of the application'. Applications are considered annually in order to distribute what income the Charities have accumulated and the Trustees welcome applications for funds from anyone who considers that they fulfil the above criteria (taken from the wording in the Wills of the late Edward and Alice Cottam) and also any organisations where the majority of its members fulfil the criteria. During the charities' last financial year (which ended 11th September 2023) the distributions to various individuals amounted to £12,831 and for organisations in Caton and Brookhouse amounted to £5,000.

This year, application forms will once again be available from the Brookhouse Post Office during the month of April and the postmaster has kindly agreed that completed forms can be left at the Post Office for us to collect. Alternatively, you can post them directly to Emma Edwards at BSG Solicitors LLP of 3 & 4 Aalborg Square, Lancaster LA1 1BJ telephone: 01524 386500. All applications will be welcomed and treated with strict confidentiality. It is hoped that the distributions of trust money will be made by the end of May/beginning of June.

SPORTSREACH SOCCER AND NETBALL SCHOOL

SportsReach, in conjunction with the local churches, will be hosting a soccer and netball school at Caton St Paul's School field/church hall from Wednesday 29 May to Saturday 1 June. From 10am to 4pm. Football is open to children aged 7 to 14 and netball to children aged 9 to 13. The cost is £55 per child, additional siblings £50. For further details or an application form please contact Amelia Preece on 01524 771682.

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ST PAUL'S

You are welcome to come to St Paul's for our Sunday services every week at 10am. The first Sunday of the month is All Age Worship, led by the children, and the following Sundays are Communion Services, with Sunday Club for the children (except during school holidays). All are welcome to join us for our services and for refreshments afterwards.

St Paul's Youth Group, SPY, meets at the Vicarage, 153 Brookhouse Road, from 4pm every two weeks.. Please contact Helen Scamman at vicar@stpaulscaton.org.uk for more information or look on the church website www.stpaulscaton.org.uk

We will be holding a **Confirmation Service** on Sunday, 12th May at 10am with Bishop Jill Duff, for any adult or young person, from yr6 and above. Do get in touch if you are interested in confirming your faith in Christ. If you would like to get in touch about confirmation, baptisms, weddings, funerals or anything else about life and faith, please get in touch with Rev Helen Scamman at vicar@stpaulscaton.org.uk or 01524770300

PATHS IN THE VILLAGE GRAVEYARD

We are aware that the paths in the village graveyard at St Paul's are slippery when wet. Is there anyone in the village who would be able to pressure wash them for us with their own washer? Very many thanks. Please contact phrawsthorn@hotmail.co.uk

LENT LUNCHES AT ST PAUL'S 2024

The Lent Lunches at St Paul's raised £338 for the Samaritans. Thanks go to all those who attended these events and thanks also to those who worked so hard to make them successful.

ST PAUL'S COFFEE MORNING

The next Coffee Morning will be at the Parish Hall on the 3rd of April 2024 at 10.30. The April Coffee Morning is in support of the NW Air Ambulance. The NW Air Ambulance is funded by voluntary contributions and will greatly appreciate the money we are able to raise to support this worthy cause. As usual there will be a raffle and a quiz. There will also be a cake stall as well as other stalls selling a range of produce. It will give people the opportunity to meet friends and neighbours for a chat. You are most welcome to join us for coffee, tea or cold drink and biscuits. The March Coffee morning raised £115.15 for Univida. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this event, the proceeds from which helps to support the street children of Brazil.

CATON BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Alan Wadsworth - Tel 01524 771371 Church Website - catonbaptist.org More details on our website and Facebook page. We continue to meet for worship on Sundays at 10.30am and 6.30pm. Sunday School during the morning service. We also have crèche facilities available during the morning service.

Youth Service on Sunday 14th April at 6:30 pm. The usual teas/coffees and hot chocolate served with our customary doughnuts. All welcome.

Please also remember if you would like to know more about becoming a Christian and finding new hope in Jesus, or if you have any concerns and worries and would like prayer or a chat you can contact Alan on the above number.

Ladies Meeting - We are a friendly group of ladies who meet once a fortnight on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm. Our speakers always bring a devotional message and we all enjoy a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits afterwards. All ladies from the village and further afield are welcome to join us and transport can be arranged if you require a lift. For any other enquiries or help with any matter phone Judith on 01524 770872. The dates for April are 3rd Maurice Longton and Margaret Wright who will share a gospel message in sing (a brother and sister team) 17th Angie Mills. We look forward to seeing you.

Crafty Tots is a fortnightly group held in Caton Baptist Church. Sessions will start at 9:30am until 10:30am and are open to Pre school children from the age of 18months +. Come and join us for crafts, stories and singing with a brew for the mums (and dads). For more information or to book your child's place please email - Catoncraftytots@gmail.com The cost will be £2.50 per session. The date for April is 19th.

LUNESDALE PROBUS CLUB - HORNBY INSTITUTE

There is only one meeting in April and this is on Monday 15th at 10:15 when we will have Steph Weber to talk on Animal Care in Lancaster (and district). contact - . 015242 22283



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Nails by Laura. 07809268478 or on Facebook

THE LUNE VALLEY METHODIST HUB, BROOKHOUSE

Sunday Service: Sunday 14th April 10:30am with Denis Yates, this will be an All Age Worship Service, followed by refreshments.

Holiday Crafts Wednesday 10th April 10-12pm come and enjoy craft activities with tea and toast.

Saturday Soup: Saturday 13th April 12:30pm. Join us for homemade soup and unlimited cakes £3.00 per person,

Book and Jigsaw Exchange: Saturday 20th 10am-12pm With Coffee and biscuits choose a book or jigsaw, any donations go to charity

Bible Study: Wednesday 7pm 10th and 24th April The 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month

Community Hub incorporating Caton and Friends for Ukraine: Meet on 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month 2-4pm with Coffee and Cake. (From May 1st Saturday only).

6th April – A meeting to discuss future events, please come along with your ideas.

20th April – Community Composting group are coming, look out for more details.

Room Hire: Whole site £175 per day (3 rooms); Main hall (12x10.5m) £18 per hour. Discount £13. Seating 125; Small room (6x4.5m) £10 per hour. Discount £8. Seating 20; Kitchen: Refreshments only £10 per hour; Full Use £15 per hour. £20 per session if using other rooms. Seating 20. Please note: Main hall does not include the Church. Available on request. Discounted rate = 5 or more bookings in a 6 month period or for continuous hire of 3 or more hours. If you would like to hire the building, please contact lunevalleymethodist@gmail.com or visit www.northlancsmethodist.org.uk

WHAT'S ON AT CATON METHODIST CHAPEL

Weekly Sunday Service 10:30am Except on 14th April when we will be at Brookhouse.

Saturday Soup Saturday 13th at the Lune Valley Methodist hub 12:30pm - £3.00 per person Enjoy soup and homemade cakes with friends.

Crafts @ Caton Meet up for a coffee and a chat on Thursday 25th April 10-12pm

BROOKHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

We're a church on the move! Sunday, 21st April will be our last service at the Institute (due to the rewire); then, we're packing our bags and heading off to Caton Primary School, Broadacre (to marvel how amazing schools look like these days - whatever happened to inkwells and leaking outdoor toilets?) Our 1st service is on Sunday, 28th April at 10.45. Junior Church and Creche at the ready...

Coffee & Cake: Our last get together, for the moment, will be Wednesday, 10th April, 10-11.30am so come and indulge while you can.

Meanwhile, our 'Tiddleywinks' **Toddler Group** starts again after the Easter break on Thursday, 18th April, 10-11.30 at Brookhouse Church Hall. Jim-the-helper will be up to his eyes in lambs (a painful condition) so, as Peg-Leg-Pete is now fully restored to health, he will be coming to the aid of those old dears, Elaine and Mary. Come and see if his coffee is as good as Jim-the-helper's. £2.50.

GROW CATON

The first veggie seeds have been sown, seedlings are appearing and those of us with a greenhouse are very appreciative to get things started indoors. Mine is filling up with parsley, lettuce, cabbage and kohlrabi, whilst the windowsills are full of tomatoes and cucumber. The seed swap box is in action at the Victoria Institute and seeds are coming and going daily. Do go and find something new to grow this year, or leave some of your favourites in the box. Whilst we are busy in our gardens, our group WhatsApp chat has been around garden shredders, manure for the garden, sharing rhubarb crowns and getting the last two trees planted on Becksides. Brigitte is steadily working her way round the garden shares and getting these ready for planting. If you have unused space in your garden then do consider sharing with your neighbours or ask our group for help to get started yourself. To find out more about Grow Caton, to offer anything food growing related, or be part of the group chat and support on WhatsApp, contact us via Peter Collins at the Victoria Institute, via Anne 771470, via Brigitte 770771 or email growcaton@outlook.com.

HORNBY PENSIONERS

Dominoes evenings 7 p.m. in the Institute. Saturday 13th and 27th.

Review Tuesday 9th April 2.30pm This will be a screened presentation of an event that took place in Hornby in 2006. It was a joyous event and celebrated the talents of many of our present and past Hornby residents.

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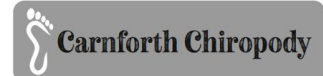
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GROW CATON

The food growing season is starting again. Our group has been working together planting the last two fruit trees for the community orchard, and learning to prune. Three walnut trees have found a home on local farms and primary school, do have a look out on your walks to see if you can spot them. Winter jobs done, we can now turn our minds to veggie growing and putting the first few seeds in pots. In anticipation of swapping seedlings, Anne has asked for little one-portion dessert or yoghurt pots to be dropped off at 75 Brookhouse Road (in the front porch please). We are hoping to have the shelves back up here too in time for any rhubarb surplus. The seed swap box is at the VI, ready for use with a small amount of seeds to get you started. As a follow on from the composting workshop last year, we will soon have a community composting point in Brookhouse. There will be a leaflet drop in the area this month with more information. To find out more about Grow Caton, to offer fruit for picking, or be part of the group chat and support on WhatsApp, contact us via Peter Collins at the Victoria Institute, via Anne 771470, via Brigitte 770771 or email growcaton@outlook.com

CATON LEISURE CLUB

Spice up your Monday mornings by joining us at the Victoria Institute. Come along at 10.30am to hear our interesting 'Talks' by amazing Speakers. During the interval we chat over tea, coffee and biscuits. You will probably meet old friends. As these 'Talks' are the last in the season there will be a charge of only £4 for non-members. £3 as usual for members.

Speakers for April are:

8th April Denise Handley – Everything you need to know about Lytham Hall

15th April Louise Buck – A Trip to China

NORMA WILLIAMS' CHAIR EXERCISES Norma is hoping to keep these exercises going throughout the summer but we could do with a few more participants. If you are not sure about it, why not come down just to watch. You will be surprised how simple it is, and you can be assured it will do you good. The exercises take place every Monday morning from 9 to 10am at the Victoria Institute.

BOWLING Our season of Indoor Bowling has now been completed. Bowling members are looking forward to continue their efforts during the summer months at Hornby Bowling Club. Details can be obtained from David at 01524 812342

DO YOU LOVE SINGING?

Then join Every Song Singers every Monday and enjoy singing without pressure. Everyone can sing and everyone is welcome to this relaxed and fun group. Many members have felt the benefit of the friendly greeting that they receive when joining the group who meet at the Institute every Monday afternoon. The group is well established now with new members always welcome. The group gives you the chance to sing songs from 1950's onwards (requests are encouraged) with the aim to reap the positive psychological and physical benefits from singing, which include calming yet energising effects, stress reduction, strengthening the immune system and a workout for the lungs.

'All are welcome,' said Caroline McCarthy who leads the group. 'We aim to have fun while singing some of our favourite songs from Frank Sinatra to the Beatles, Fleetwood Mac and Coldplay. Come along and try it out.' Every Song Singers meet every Monday at 1.00pm at the Victoria Institute in Caton. Contact Caroline on 07847 586039.

SWARM SEASON

The honey bee swarming season will start shortly (April to June). If you find a swarm, leave it alone and give us a call on 01524 811978. We shall collect it as quickly as possible, and re-house it.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

We are very concerned about the recent eggging and banging on windows that has been taking place in the village. If there is anything you can do to help stop it from happening, we would be so grateful. Please could parents talk to their children to help them see the impact of their actions from the perspective of their victims? It is very alarming and scary for anyone but especially if you live alone - victims' families might not live close by and can't be with them when it happens to reassure them. I suspect someone who does this may not understand or appreciate the impact of their actions. We wanted to make people aware if you weren't already and to ask for support in trying to stop it from happening. Please talk to your children and make them aware of the impact this sort of behaviour has.



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