

LINK

LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE

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DECEMBER 2023

LINK HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

Christmas Tree Switch On - see page 1 Christmas Tree Festival- see page 2
Live Nativity - see page 5 Experience a Ukranian Christmas - see page 7
Schools' Christmas Raffle and Nativity - see page 4

PARISH COUNCIL

Contact the Parish Clerk Gill Mason on 07882 949110 or email catonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Parish Clerk Our Parish Clerk Gill Mason has resigned for personal reasons. She has kindly agreed to stay on until the end of December. We are grateful to her for her work on behalf of the Parish Council and local residents. We will need to recruit a new Parish Clerk and would like to hear from local people who might be interested in this part-time post. For more information, please contact Jenny Walmsley on jenny.walmsley1@btinternet.com or 771299.

Greenway Thanks to Arbor Ace for clearing the fallen tree on the Greenway recently.

Footpaths Lancashire County Council has received prices for reinstating the ginnel between Broadacre and Fell View and is now awaiting authorisation to spend the money. Their Public Rights of Way team are well aware of the problems with the footpath alongside the Artlebeck between Hornby Road and Brookhouse Road (FP14), but no solution seems in prospect.

Road safety The average speed cameras on the A683 are believed to be in operation now. Despite further accidents, Lancashire Highways have still not signed off on changes to the A683 east of Bull Beck Car Park.

Next Parish Council meeting Tuesday 12 December 7pm in the Victoria Institute. Our budget for 24/25 will be under discussion. This will affect the parish precept, the amount residents pay towards the work of the Parish Council. Residents are welcome to attend.

Fell View Play Park The trustees of the Halton Lune Trust (which benefits from the Halton Lune Hydro) have very generously agreed to support our Play Park. They are giving us £1500 towards the replacement play hut. We are very grateful for this assistance from the other side of the river. We hope to hear before the end of December whether we have been successful in our bid to the Lancashire Environmental Fund. If all goes well, work on replacing the play hut and benches will take place in early 2024. We also expect to do work on the retaining sleepers, and top up the Cushionfall. The repairs to the Zipwire have been authorised and should happen soon; the work will be funded by the Parish Council and so paid for out of the parish precept.

Christmas Tree The Christmas tree at the War Memorial is provided by the Parish Council. The lights will be switched on at 5pm on Friday 1st December, with a short ceremony of carols and a prayer starting at 4.45pm. Afterwards there will be hot drinks and snacks in the Victoria Institute.

Remembrance Sunday Thanks to Caton Methodist Church for hosting the service, and to Brookhouse Community Church for providing refreshments after the ceremony. £352.69 was raised through the collection. This has been split between the Royal British Legion and Combat Stress.

Green Bins A reminder to subscribers that the last collection is week beginning 4th December, recommencing week beginning 12 February

Mobile Library Lancashire Libraries mobile van calls here every three weeks. Stopping places are Station Hotel Caton on Thursday afternoon (2-3.30pm), Lune Valley Methodist Hub in Brookhouse on Friday morning (9.30-10). No service 30th November or 1 December because of holidays. After that 21st and 22nd December, 11th and 12th January and 1st and 2nd February.

Sustrans Greenway Improvement Works The Sustrans project to undertake improvement works to the greenway between Caton and Bull Beck will likely be in full swing by the time this edition of The Link goes to print. Sustrans has produced an online page for the project where you can find out more about what's happening as well as more detailed information about the partial closure of the greenway to allow the construction. Please access this here: <https://arcg.is/1a8eXS0> . Paper copies of these documents are available in the Victoria Institute, Cottam Room.

**Baptist Church
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 and 7.00pm

**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 Sunday 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
Church**
held at the Victoria Institute

10.45am: Morning Service &
Junior Church

It's free to put your event in the Link. Email the editor by the 15th of the month to be included. Also email the editor for advert enquiries.

Copy & Communications Copy by 15th of the month to the Editor:

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CATON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

December 4th sees our Christmas party where we will celebrate with shared food and be entertained by Barton Road Community Choir. If you have been thinking about coming along and meeting some new friends, it will be a nice relaxed sociable evening and we'd love to meet you. We meet at the Victoria Institute, 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month. If you're feeling nervous, you can always contact us beforehand for a chat through our Facebook page or email address catonwiinfo@gmail.com. Post-covid it can feel hard to get back in the swing of going out but the Women's Institute is a welcoming group where everyone is included, accommodated and celebrated and the Caton branch is especially so!

BURNS NIGHT FRIDAY 19th JANUARY

This popular village event will take place at 7pm until midnight at the Victoria Institute. A classic haggis supper, with vegan and gluten free options available followed by traditional Burns Night speeches and, most importantly, a lively evening of dancing accompanied and Called by Caton Folk Band. A tot of whisky to toast the haggis is included in the £25 ticket price, all other drinks are Bring Your Own. There will be a raffle and a Whisky Roll competition. Places are limited so please contact tricia@marybankfarm.uk to book your tickets. All profits help when hosting our French guests when they visit here next April and towards paying for the children's travel on our next visit to France.

SOCX VISIT TO CATON & BROOKHOUSE 2024

Next year our friends from Socx will be visiting us for the first time since 2019. The date has been set as Saturday 20th to Tuesday 23rd April. If you would like to be involved with the events that we will be planning to host and entertain them, please let me know – and any offers of home hosting would be very welcome. You do not need a big house, just a big welcome! tricia@marybankfarm.uk

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL. ST PETER'S CHURCH. QUERNMORE.

Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd December. Open from 10am until 5pm on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday from 11am (After morning Service) until 5pm. Children from Caton Primary School will be singing carols on Friday afternoon. Come and visit our beautiful country Church lit up by Christmas Trees decorated by our generous sponsors. Refreshments throughout opening times.

CATON GALA

Merry Christmas Everyone. We are pleased to announce that Caton Gala 2024 will take place on the 18th May 2024 at Elm Grove Field, Caton. The theme is, as yet, undecided. We would welcome some suggestions. The subject needs to accommodate both fancy dress opportunities and the drawing competition. Further details will be announced as events and attractions are confirmed. There will be a committee meeting at 7:30 PM on Monday the 4th of December 2023 at the Station Hotel, Caton. All are welcome to attend.

PAINTING GROUP

Our last session for this year will be on Thursday 14th December, 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

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

December brings our last visit of the year, on the 7th we are off to Keswick and then on to Grange for afternoon tea. The final treat of the year is the annual Xmas lunch at the Station Hotel on the 21st at noon. If you haven't already done so, could you contact Ally with your menu choices. Our AGM is on January 18th at the Station Hotel 11am. All welcome. For further details of the Friendship Club please contact Ally Whitfield on 01524 770827 / 07738912923.

SATURDAY SOCCER AND NETBALL

The local churches are continuing to run Saturday Soccer and Netball at Caton Primary School Field/Sports Hall on Saturday mornings, 10.00am to 11.45am. Soccer is open to children aged 7 to 14 and will run weekly from Saturday 6 January until 23 March 2024 but not on 10 and 17 Feb (half term). The netball dates are 6 Jan, 20 Jan, 3 Feb, 24 Feb, 9 March and 23 March. £2 per person, per session. Sessions will include coaching, games, juice and biscuits and a short Bible message. For further details please contact Amelia Preece on 01524 77168.



Call Matt on
07769339253

Clubercise - Monday - 7.30pm to 8.30pm - £5
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Zumba - Thursday - 11.15am to 12.15pm - £5
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Both classes are held at the Victoria Institute and require pre booking. Call Rose 07876520799
zumbawithrosepetal@gmail.com

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REWIRE UPDATE We are nearly there with raising the required funds, details are available on our website, further donations are still very welcome. The work is planned to take place April 2024.

THIS MONTHS HIGHLIGHTED GROUPS

Baby and Toddler

Caton Toddlers Tuesday 10:00-11:00
Happy Mama Fitness Friday 9:30-12:00
For information please contact Peter

CATON COMMUNITY LIBRARY & IT ROOM

Opening Days and Times Monday & Wednesday 10:00am to 12:00 noon & 1:00 to 3:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am to 12:00 noon

The IT 'Drop In' facility, offers 4 computers, all with Internet access and Microsoft Office software.

The Library currently has a range of general fiction, crime & thriller, romance & saga, fiction & non-fiction, extended all ages children's as well as biographies and autobiographies. Thank you to everyone who uses the library, as we rely upon donations, please drop off your books. Duplicate and books that we just don't have space for are available to buy for a small donation.

COMPUTER USE COSTS £1.50 per hour, 75p for ½ hour & minimum charge of 50p. Cost per copy: - Scanning 10p PRINTING CHARGES Black & white 15p for A4 25p for A3; Colour 30p for A4 55p for A3

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Kitchen – Beverages only £6, Caterers £22, Full cooking £33, charged per session

Special rates are available for extended functions, please see the Schedule of Charges on our website.

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/>

ST PAUL'S CHURCH BROOKHOUSE COFFEE MORNING

The next Coffee Morning will be at the Parish Hall on the 6th of December at 10.30. The December Coffee Morning is in support of the Church Funds. As usual there will be a raffle, a quiz and several stalls displaying a range of produce. There will be a seasonal theme to the December Coffee Morning with Carols and mince pies. It will give people the opportunity to meet friends and neighbours for a chat. You are most welcome to join us for a coffee, tea or cold drink as well as biscuits and mince pies. In November we raised £74.20 for the Mother's Union Caravan. Thanks to everyone who attended the Coffee Morning and supported this praiseworthy cause.

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CATON ST PAUL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

Our ethos group are up and running: nine wonderful Y6 who drive the Christian ethos throughout school. They have already decided to collect bottle tops, design worship areas in school, lead RE for our youngest children and lead worship for children and parents. They also want to inspire children to make Christmas cards for lonely people in the village and the local area: if you know anyone who would like a Christmas card delivered this year, please email head@stpauls.lancs.sch.uk to let us know. You may have seen our Y6 children around the village cycling (safely!). They completed their bikeability training Level 2 and are now qualified to cycle on the road – look out for them out and about. Our Y4 children have been busy with outdoor education: scrambling up a dry river bed, rock climbing, crawling under a waterfall and wading through an underground river. They had a great time. Check out our facebook page for pictures.

We are still showing prospective parents around our school and Pre-school. If you have a child who will be 4 by the end of August 2024, then ring 01524 770241 to make an appointment to view our school. There is a lovely video on our school website for you to watch and get a flavour of what life is like at www.catonstpauls.com. We also have space in Pre-school for 3 year olds: give us a ring to have a look at what we can offer.

Our sports team have been active with a football tournament in school, a KS1 athletics tournament, a KS2 athletics competition, a Y3/4 dodgeball comp and a tag rugby competition for our Y5/6 children. We have also welcomed Heysham Atoms into school to coach rugby and Morecambe Football Club to coach football. All of our children are given an opportunity to represent school at sport and find the sport that they feel is for them.

We are excited about Christmas and look forward to singing at the pastoral service at St Paul's, as well as at the coffee morning. KS2 children will be going to watch the pantomime and KS1 will visit the cinema. Reception children will have a Christmas party with Superball Paul. **Look out for our Christmas raffle: this will be drawn live on our school facebook page at 4:00pm on Friday 15 December – it would be lovely to see you there.**

We are still looking for a cleaner who can do a couple of hours each night – let us know what days work for you if you are interested. If anyone can offer an hour at lunchtime to join our welfare staff, please contact school.

CATON PRIMARY SCHOOL

To mark the occasion of Remembrance, our Key Stage 2 children visited the war memorial in Caton to show their respects. They took part in a short memorial service, led by Reverend Helen Scamman, recited 'In Flanders Fields' and laid a wreath on behalf of the school. Reception children produced some beautiful poppy artwork for Hillcroft Nursing Home. Some of our older pupils attended the Pupil Parliament at Lancaster University where they learnt about protected characteristics and in particular, disability. They learnt about Paralympic sports, took part in wheelchair basketball and learnt to communicate in Makaton. We continued to focus on diversity in national anti-bullying week when the whole school got involved in this year's 'Make a Noise' theme. The Pupil Council carried out a questionnaire, every child performed a random act of kindness and we had many interesting and important discussions, including how being a silent bystander can mean complicity. At the end of their history topic, Year 5 and 6 presented a brilliant assembly all about the Vikings. They told the audience why the Vikings came to Britain, why they have such a bad reputation and they performed a very humorous 'Viking's Got Talent' sketch, where the many skills of the Vikings were showcased.

Our Charity Club visited Animal Care in Lancaster to present a cheque for £135 raised through their film night and teddy-dressing competition. The PTA Bonfire Bingo night was a great success, raising £430. Thank you to everyone who supported the event and to our wonderful PTA for organising it. Our next social event is the Christmas Fair on Thursday, 7th December from 5-7pm. Please come and join in with the fun. There will be games, stalls, refreshments and a very special visitor! Reception and Key Stage 1 children will be taking part in their production of 'A Christmas Party' on **20th December at 1:30pm and 6pm**. They would love to perform to full audiences so please support them. Tickets are available from the school office.

Thank you to everyone who attended our open event. Our prefects spoke beautifully about their lived experience of Caton Primary and the school band and choir entertained audiences throughout the evening. The closing date for applications for Reception in September 2024 is 15th January. It's not too late to have a private tour of the school - come and see what we can offer if you're still undecided! If you're as passionate as we are about wider opportunities such as the Performing Arts, the outdoors, sport and visiting new places (we even go to France!), we could well be the place for your child. Our children also achieve high standards academically, with a large proportion passing the entrance examinations each year for the Lancaster grammar schools.

We are delighted to welcome Mr Tom Day to our staff team. Tom is working as a Teaching Assistant across the school and running our After School Club. We are seeking another temporary Teaching Assistant from January to cover a maternity leave. Further information is on our website.

Wishing all our friends, families and village community a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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YOU ARE WARMLY WELCOME TO THE SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH THIS CHRISTMAS

Tuesday 5th December 11am Pastoral Service followed by Refreshments in the Church Hall
Wednesday 6th December 10am Quiet Communion Service
Sunday 17th December 6.30pm Caton and Brookhouse Village Carol Service
Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December 10am Sunday Communion Service
4pm Crib Service (come in a nativity costume or we can lend you one)
10pm Christmas 'midnight' communion
Christmas Day Monday 25th December 10m Family Friendly Communion Service
New Year's Eve, Sunday 31st December 10am Sunday Communion Service

CHRISTMAS PASTORAL SERVICE FOR THE VILLAGE at ST PAUL'S CHURCH, BROOKHOUSE

Everyone is welcome to St Paul's Church for the Christmas Pastoral Service. This will take place on the 5th of December 2023 at 11.00 m at St Paul's Church. There will be a short service, lasting approximately half an hour. Afterwards we hope you will stay for a chat and refreshments. The refreshments will be available in the Church Hall. We hope you will join us for this short time of reflection and fellowship.

CATON BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Alan Wandsworth - 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.

Sunday 10th December at 6:30pm Youth Service - the usual doughnuts and hot chocolate, tea or coffee. All very 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. On 13th December Bentham Praise Choir will give a Christmas Programme followed by Christmas cake and mince pies. We look forward to seeing you.

No **Crafty Tots** in December. Back on 13th January.

CHRISTMAS AT CATON BAPTIST CHURCH

LIVE NATIVITY - Saturday 9th December. Come and explore the Christmas story as you are led through the busy market place of Bethlehem during the time of the census. Experience what it would have been like in Bethlehem 2000 years ago. The sights, the sounds, the smells and prepare to meet some surprising visitors! Live animals, food, carols and a Christmas message. We will have showings at 2.15pm, 3.00, 3.45, 4.30 and 5.15. Please arrive only 5 mins before each showing. No need to book! Open to all ages. Entry is free.

The children will be taking part in the service on Sunday 17th at 10:30am when they will be retelling the first Christmas story. Come along and support our young ones. Tea, coffee and mince pies.

Caton Baptist Church will be out Carol Singing around the village on Friday 22nd December. If you would like to join us please do! Meet at the chapel at 6:30pm. Collecting for St John's Hospice.

Family Christmas Eve Carol Service at 6:00pm Tea, coffee and mince pies. Please come and join us.

Christmas Day Family Service from 10-10:45am. Wishing everyone a Happy Blessed Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

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THE LUNE VALLEY METHODIST HUB, BROOKHOUSE

Sunday Service 3rd December 10:30am – Sunday Service finishing with refreshments

Saturday Soup – Christmas Special Saturday 9th December 12:30pm Join us for homemade soup and cakes £3.00 per person

Book and Jigsaw Exchange Saturday 16th December 10am-12pm With Coffee and biscuits choose a book or jigsaw, any donations go to charity.

Bible Study 7pm Wednesday's 13th December.

Room Hire Main hall (12x10.5m) £18 per hour. Discount £13. £175 per day (3 rooms). Small room (6x4.5m) £10 per hour. Discount £8. Kitchen: Refreshments £10 per hour; Full use £15 per hour. £20 per session if using other rooms. If you would like to hire the building please contact lunevalleymethodist@gmail.com or visit www.northlancsmethodist.org.uk

If you would like to contact Rev Emma Holroyd Emma.holroyd@methodist.org.uk

WHAT'S ON AT CATON METHODIST CHAPEL

Weekly Sunday Service 10:30am. We will worship at Caton apart from 3rd December when we will be at Brookhouse. Everyone is very welcome.

Saturday Soup Saturday 9th at the Lune Valley Methodist Hub. 12:30pm £3.00 per person. Christmas special. Enjoy soup and homemade cakes with friends.

Carol Service Sunday 24th December 10:30am. With coffee and mince pies.

Christmas day service 10am Everyone very welcome

Crafts @ Caton There will be no Crafts in December but do look out for the little knitted and crochet bells which will be ringing in the villages in December.

BROOKHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Brookhouse Community Church meets in the Victoria Institute every Sunday morning from 10.45am. Junior Church is available each week for the children. For more details see our website and Facebook page. To get in touch please contact Jim Hutchinson at pottyeats@gmail.com.

Coffee & Cakes - Wed 13th December 10.00 to 11.30am at the Victoria Institute - £1.50 per person.

Meet to Eat - there will be no Meet to Eat until January 2024.

TiddlyWinks Now then toddlers, while the parents are busy stirring the christmas puds and kissing under the mistletoe make sure that they make a note of our last Toddler Group of the year: THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER, as usual 10.00 to 11.30am at Brookhouse Church Hall £2.50 per family. So December dates: Thursday 7th and 14th December. All to return on Thursday 4th January 2024. So, until then, festive greetings from Santa's little helpers, Elaine, Jim and Mary.

Sun 17th December - **Nativity & Carols & Cakes** -10.45am - All welcome

25th December - **Christmas Day Service** - 10.30am. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS DINNER - MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER 2023 - 1.30PM AT THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE

Brookhouse Community Church invite any Senior Citizens who live alone or couples who will be spending Christmas Day on their own to a Christmas Meal at the Victoria Institute at 1.30pm. The cost will be £10.00 per person which will include a 3 course meal followed by coffee and tea. (If you have any specific dietary needs, please let us know when booking). Booking and payments are to be made by Monday 11th December. Please speak to Peter Collins on 01524 771733 to do so. Transport can be provided if necessary. Please note that there will be limited places.

CHRISTMAS MASS IN THE LUNE VALLEY

Wishing all the peace and blessings of Christmas. You are invited to share in our Christmas Masses.

4th Sunday of Advent: Sat 23rd December Vigil Mass at 6pm at St Mary's Hornby (not at Caton).

Sunday 24th December Mass at 9am at St Joseph's Kirkby Lonsdale.

The Nativity of Jesus: Sunday 24th December Mass at 6pm at Our Lady Immaculate Caton.

Mon 25th December Mass at 9am at St Joseph's Kirkby Lonsdale and at 11am at St Mary's Hornby.

HORNBY LUNESDALE PROBUS CLUB

Mon Dec 4th - Lionel Wilson: How much Water is there on Mars and should we care? Probus Christmas lunch - Mon Dec 18th, The Royal Oak, Hornby. Contact Roger Carter 015242 22283

HORNBY DISTRICT RAMBLERS

DECEMBER 9th – 4-6 miles. Phone Jenny Herd for details of walks 015242 21690.

HORNBY PENSIONERS

Dominoes Evenings 7pm Dec 9th and 23rd. Hornby Pensioners Christmas Party Lunch - Tues 12th Dec Hornby Institute 12.30 pm. £12.50 per person and members only



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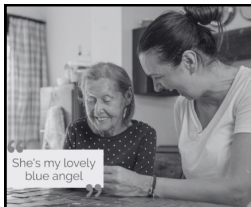
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GROW CATON

By the time of printing we will have planted the fruit trees in the community orchard plot and maybe also the nut trees at Beckside. At the heart of Grow Caton is a desire to grow community here in Caton and Brookhouse and the orchard has an important place in this. Not only bringing together the volunteers who have come forward for the digging and planting, but also those who have met and prepared to make this happen during the past year: Phil from the B4RN volunteers, Rebecca from the Gardening Club, Judy from the Parish Council and Lachlan Rae Garden Management. We have been truly blessed to receive the expert help from Lachlan's business with the selection and purchase of the trees. Going forward, there will be training for the maintenance and pruning of the trees, as well as community involvement in caring for the orchard and harvests. To get involved with this, or any of the other activities, contact via Peter Collins at the Victoria Institute, via Brigitte 770771 or email growcaton@outlook.com, via Anne 771470.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Part Time Cleaner wanted for Victoria Institute - hours to be agreed. Job Description available from Peter at the Institute. Apply in writing or telephone 01524 771733

Lady in Hornby with MS requires Personal Assistant to join team of four. Mainly personal care. Approx 20 hrs per week negotiable. £15-£18 per hour. Alternate weekends plus a few weekdays. Other times may be possible. Tel 015242 21785 for informal chat and more info.

CATON SPORTS ASSOCIATION/CATON UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

We have recently made some changes within the club, and we are looking to re-establish our links within the local community by publishing information such as fixtures/results for both football teams, along with any upcoming events, in the Link. We recently held an informal discussion with some of our neighbours at the Station Hotel to focus on how we can help within the community with fresh ideas discussed, which is fantastic! We hope to share these in the coming months. If you have any ideas, suggestions, information on local groups who could benefit from using the field and facilities, or would like to become a volunteer, we'd love to hear from you! You can contact us via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Or, via email info@catonsports.co.uk We hold our meetings on the first Monday of each month at The Station Hotel 7:30pm.

Upcoming Fixtures:

First Team (West Lancs League)

2/12 – Freckleton (H) 2pm KO
16/12 – Dalton United (A) 2pm KO

Colts Team (North Lancs League)

9/12 – Walney Island (A) 2pm KO
23/12 – TBC
December fixtures TBC -

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. Meet at the Victoria Institute at 10am, weather permitting. We tend to concentrate on areas such as the car parks and Greenway where we know that discarded litter is ever a problem – bottles, cans, sandwich wrappers, coffee cups – to the extent that a recent volunteer announced the experience had been “quite an eye opener”! 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. Finally, the only piece of “litter” we did want to see was by the Station Hotel – a £5 note since donated to the Victoria Institute electrics project. Next session: **Saturday 2nd December.**

BROOKHOUSE AND CATON COMMUNITY HUB

Meets on the first and third Saturday of the month at Lune Valley Methodist Church from 2-4pm. All events are free but donations of cake/biscuits are appreciated.
2nd Dec - Come and learn how to make Christmas Wreaths and other decorations.
16th Dec - Ukrainian cooking masterclass. Learn about a traditional Ukrainian Christmas and get to sample some traditional Ukrainian food.
6th Jan - Clothes Swap and Christmas gift amnesty.
20th Jan - Cooking on a budget demonstration with recipes and tasters.

V.I.P. FUNDRAISER

We're putting on Afternoon Teas at the Victoria Institute on Saturday, 27th January, '24.
Details to follow in the January 'Link.'

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PREPARE FOR HEAVY RAIN OR FLOODING

If you live close to the River Lune or the becks in the parish, there is advice available online on protecting your home or business at The Flood Hub. For most of us however, surface water run-off is more likely to cause problems. Protect your property by checking your drains, ensuring the grids at the top are clear and that water can get away easily. And do the same for any street drains nearby. At this time of year the surfaces are often blocked by leaves and mud. Clear them using a brush and garden tools. Then look through the grid and if you can see the drain is blocked, inform Lancashire Highways. Best done using the Love Clean Streets app, or online. Phone number is 0300 123 6780. Be prepared to give the nearest postcode or street name and house number to help the operator identify the drain concerned. The Environment Agency Floodline is on 0345 988 1188, to report flooding from rivers and becks. United Utilities is on 0345 6723 723 for flooding from burst water mains or sewers.

GRITTING THE ROADS

Lancashire Highways treats the A683 through the Lune Valley as a top priority road for gritting. They treat Brookhouse Road and Caton Green Road as high priority. Grit bins are provided in some spots - contact Highways if you know of one that needs to be refilled or replaced. 0300 127 6780.

LVCS HORNBY SWIMMING POOL

To celebrate the 5th Anniversary of being open as a community run swimming pool, local MPs, City, County and Parish Councillors were invited to Hornby swimming pool in October to mark the amazing support we have had from the Lune Valley communities and to discuss our plans and hopes for the future. We were also able to announce receipt of grants towards increasing costs of energy and consumables. Christmas and New Year: The pool will be open all over the Christmas holidays as usual with the exception of the 24th, 25th and 26th of December and the 1st of January. There will be extra family sessions, lane swims etc. Please check our website for full details. The pool team thank you all for your support and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - Keep Swimming! We so look forward to seeing you. www.lunevalleypool.com - Facebook - Lune valley swimming pool. Poolmanager@lunevalleypool.com - Direct line - 01524 805666.

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB

What a nice evening was had by all when we watched together the film of HM's Highgrove garden. Lots of thoughts by Prince Charles as he was then and how he loves his garden as well he might. Thanks to all for showing up on a dark November evening, especially our new members. Our next meeting is on 14th December at 7pm in St Pauls church hall and it is our members only festive season social evening, subsidised by the club. There will be wine and festive treats as well as the usual refreshments. A cornucopia of entertainment will be on offer with one of Philip's amazing practical quizzes, our own gardeners' question time, and other quizzes if time permits. Normal entrance fee of £1 applies and there will be no raffle. If anyone has a game (gentle!) they would like to figure during the evening then do let us know. Please do visit our Christmas tree exhibit at Quernmore Church over the weekend of 1/2/3 December. The tree will be packed with a brilliant set of garden creatures made by our members. The church will be filled with other trees made by other organisations and will be a sight to behold. And refreshments will be on sale! And talking of food, our festive season meal, £16.50 per head, is scheduled for 12.30 for 1pm in St Pauls Church hall on Saturday 13th January. Last orders for catering purposes at our next meeting on 14th December please. Or you can ring Rebecca on 07806521974 and place your order directly with her. A very happy Christmas to you all.

CATON LEISURE CLUB

Come and join us for our weekly Monday morning talks. You will be entertained, educated and welcomed. Tea/Coffee, biscuits and Friendship included for our annual membership fee of £5 with the first talk free (£3 each meeting thereafter) or £4 for non members. Unfortunately you may have missed our Christmas Party but join up in January and enjoy interesting talks and a subsidised day trip next year. We have a rest during December but we will be back in January with more interesting speakers. Norma's Chair Exercises: A lady recovering from a hip operation astounded her surgeon with the progress she had made by attending the class. Just think what it could do for you! Come and loosen up your limbs especially during winter days 9-10am each Monday at the Institute. Join for £5 on the first visit and have the session free, then £2 for further visits. Indoor Mat Bowls Have Fun! They take place, again at the Institute, each Wednesday from 10am-12pm. Join for £5 and have the first session free, then £3 for further visits.



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