

LINK

ISSUE FOR FEBRUARY 2022

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk:- Gill Mason - 07882 949110. E-mail - catonparishcouncil@gmail.com

PRECEPT - The Parish Precept is the amount of your council tax which is paid to the Parish Council. At present (21/22) for a house in Band D this is £31.65 a year. Last year the Parish Council made no increase in the Parish Precept, but this coming year (22/23) it has to increase by 3%. The largest item of expenditure is support for the Victoria Institute. Then there are the wages of the Parish Clerk, the maintenance of the Play Park, the War Memorial, the two village car parks, grass cutting and the upkeep of benches and bus shelters in the village. The Parish Council also pays for the village website and the Christmas tree. Insurance is a big item. If you would like to know more about the work of the Parish Council do contact the Parish Clerk or one of the councillors, who are all volunteers who live in the parish or close by.

HEDGES - Another reminder of the need to cut back hedges, trees and bushes to keep footpaths and roads. In extreme cases Lancashire Highways may do the work and then charge the landowner. Do tell the Parish Clerk of any trees, bushes or hedges obstructing pavements and roads. Please give her exact addresses - the name of the householder isn't needed.

WORK ON THE A683 AT BULL BECK - The accident black spot just east of the Bull Beck Car Park has been flagged to Lancashire Highways repeatedly. They do plan improvements including proper crash barriers on the bend (like the ones at Crook o' Lune) but are having some difficulties with the bridge in that area and some BT cabling. Highways hope to get the work done in the first half of 2022.

MILLENNIUM WAY - Lancashire County Council is responsible for maintenance on the Millennium Way. They plan to improve the lighting on the Millennium Way, including cleaning, repairs and new LED bulbs.

NEW COUNCILLORS NEEDED - At present we have just nine councillors; there is space for three new councillors. If you would like to find out more, please speak to one of the existing councillors or ask the Parish Clerk.

NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 8th February 7pm in the Victoria Institute

MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service for Keith Wigmore on Tuesday 22nd February at 1pm at St Paul's Church, Brookhouse. Refreshments served afterwards in the church hall.

Everyone welcome.

CATON GALA IS BACK! - 21st MAY 2022

Caton Gala is back With a few changes. We have a new location. Caton Gala 2022 will be held at Elm Grove. The field is located at the junction of the A683 with Low Road. June is a bit busy this year.

The date for Caton Gala 2022 is the 21st May 2022. The gates will open at 12:00 PM. The theme will be "The Circus". This provides plenty of scope for "fancy dress" (there will be prizes for the best).

The change of location means that we will not be holding a procession through the village. Instead, there will be a parade within the show ring. More details will be published in due course.

An essential element of the parade will be the Queen and Attendants. The entry forms will be with local schools by the 1st of February. These must be returned by no later than the 28th of February. The other essential element is the "drawing competition". The winning drawings will appear in the Gala Programme. Similarly, the entry forms will be with local schools by the 1st of February and must be returned by no later than the 28th of February. Entry forms are also available upon request from "catongala@catongala.co.uk".

We are seeking some additional helpers "on the day". If you can spare a hour or so please contact a committee member.

We would also love to welcome new members to the organizing committee, if you can assist in any way, please contact Wendy Strickland (07855 590004) who can, as can all committee members, also be contacted by e-mail at "catongala@catongala.co.uk" or via our Facebook page.

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on Wednesday the 2nd of February 2022 at the Station Hotel in Caton.

All are welcome.

VILLAGE CHURCHYARD

The churchyard at St Paul's is an area for the whole village, for villagers from all churches, and none.

The mowing and maintenance is covered by a rota of very willing volunteers and we very much appreciate their contribution to village life.

However we would welcome another couple of names to go onto the rota; all tools and protective equipment are provided. As with all jobs, the bigger the team the smaller the role for each individual.

Please contact phrawsthorn@hotmail.co.uk if you would like more information.

LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE

www.catonvillage.org.uk

 Linking Caton and Brookhouse
www.facebook.com/catonbrookhouse

Baptist Church Artlebeck Bridge

10.30 am:
*Morning Service and
Sunday School*
6.30 pm: *Evening Service*

Brookhouse Methodist Church Brookhouse Road

Services held fortnightly

10.45 am:
*Morning Service and Junior
Church*

Caton Methodist Brookhouse Road

10.30 am:
*Morning Service and Junior
Church*

Catholic Church Station Yard

*Holy Mass
Saturday Evening 6.00pm
Holydays of Obligation
Mass on eve of Holyday at
6.00pm*

St Paul's C of E Brookhouse

*Sunday Communion
Service 10.00am
All Age Worship, read and led
by children - 1st Sunday of
the month
Sunday Club in the Church
Hall, all term time
Sundays except 1st Sunday of
month
1st Wednesday of the month.
Holy Communion 10.00am*

Brookhouse Community Church
*held @ Victoria Institute
10.45 am
Morning Service & Junior
Church*

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

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SATURDAY SOCCER AND NETBALL

The local churches are continuing to run Saturday Soccer and Netball in 2022.
 The football will run weekly, starting 15 January and run through to 26 March except for 19 February (half term).
 Netball will be held fortnightly on 12 February, 26 February, 12 March and 26 March.
 Football is open to children aged 7 to 14 and netball 9 to 13. £2 per session. 10am to 11.45am at Caton Primary School Field/Sports Hall. Football / netball coaching and a short Bible message are included along with juice and biscuits.
 For further details please contact Tim Preece on 01524 771682.

CRAFTY TOTS

Crafty Tots is a fortnightly toddler 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 18 months +. Come and join is 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 dates for February are - 11th and 25th.

CATON ST PAUL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Although Christmas seems a long time ago, many of the activities in the build-up live fresh in the memory. Our KS1 children performed their nativity 'Honky Tonky Donkey' beautifully in front of their parents, even though they were barely able to practise - what a bunch of superstars.
 We drew our raffle live on Facebook with over 50 prizes to give out - thank you to everyone who helped us raise over £1100! The PTA have invested this money into a subscription for Athletics which will help the children with their Maths skills and also help with remote learning and homework.
 There was also an online panto for all the children to enjoy.
 Our Y6 girls footballers performed brilliantly at the Lancashire qualifier, winning 2 matches and showing great sportsmanship
 Our school council worked with cards for loneliness to ensure local people who live on their own receive a Christmas card this year. This was a lovely project and we are proud to be involved.
 The reindeer rush in school was well attended by parents and raised a substantial amount of money for St John's Hospice.
 KS2 children performed their carol concert beautifully in St Paul's Church - it really felt christmassy!
 We held a Christmas fair for children in the hall. They played many traditional games such as 'human fruit machine', 'snowball smash' and 'guess the name of the teddy'. A great time was had by all!
 Since Christmas, our Y5/6 boys have performed admirably at the County football qualifier, winning two matches and drawing another.
 We have welcomed 4 more children to our Pre-school and wish them and their families well as they start their journey with us at CSP. Our Wraparound care club continues to flourish and we now have some of our Pre-school children attending this as well - it is lovely to see the older children looking after them and welcoming them to school.
 We hope 2022 is a prosperous year for you and your families.

CATON PRIMARY SCHOOL

The new term got off to a great start with Class 2's learning exhibition which showed off all of their fantastic work from the autumn term. The sports hall was full of display boards, videos and workbooks showing everything from cave painting and ukulele lessons to science experiments and suspense writing.
 This term's big questions around which our pupils' learning is focused are: Class 1 - What makes a ruler powerful? Class 2 - What makes the Earth angry? Class 3 - Were the Rawlinson family heroes or villains? The children are already fully immersed and enthralled by their learning about castles, monarchs, natural disasters and the history of Lancaster, including the slave trade.
 We have many sporting activities taking place this term. Trevor Newsham from Heysham Golf Club is providing golf coaching sessions and we have a weekly after school yoga class, as well as 'fitness Friday'. We are looking forward to hosting the Lune Valley Key Stage 1 athletics tournament on 17th January.
 We are looking for volunteers to help out with a gardening club. If there are any keen gardeners out there who may be able to help, please get in touch.
 We are also looking for a lunchtime Welfare Assistant to work up to 5 hours per week. Please contact the school office for further information.
 Our large, detached sports hall is available to hire on a regular basis or for one-off events. It has a fully-equipped kitchen, pleasant meeting room and toilets. For further details, contact the school office (01524 770104).


BURNS NIGHT

Obviously we were very sorry to have to postpone this popular event. With so many people ill with Covid at the moment it is proving difficult to rearrange the event in the immediate future. We may have a summer event instead to make it truly safe and acceptable to as many people as possible.
 Watch this space!

GREGGARTH GARDENS

GreggARTH Gardens are open on Sunday February 13th for Snowdrop Day.. 11am-3pm. The price is £12.50 for an adult, which includes a cup of hot chocolate.

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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 as well as biographies and autobiographies.

COMPUTER USE COSTS

£1.50 per hour, 75p for ½ hour & minimum charge of 50p

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Black & white 10p for A4 20p for A3

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Sir Thomas Storey & Victoria Room Full rate £13.00 per hour, Discounted rate £9.00 per hour

Cottam Room Full rate £9.00 per hour, Discounted £6.00 per hour

Whole Building - this includes the Main Hall, Sir Thomas Storey Room, Victoria Room and Cottam Room, but excludes the kitchen. Full rate £52.00 per hour Discounted rate £38.00 per hour

Kitchen - Beverages only £5, Caterers £20, Full cooking £30, 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/>

TWINNING GROUP

With all of our fingers crossed we have accepted an invitation to visit our twinned village Socx this year.

Travelling by coach and crossing by ferry to Calais we will be spending 3 nights and 2 full days being home hosted by the friendliest group of people who can't wait to see us again - and make new friends.

There will be an opportunity for children to attend school in France on the Friday, what an experience for them!

The costs will only be the shared coach fare, but thanks to our fundraising all children will travel free.

Dates are Thursday 28th April, returning on Sunday 1st May. Please do contact me for more information.

Tricia Griffiths, tricia@marybankfarm.uk.

NEW YEAR - NEW INTEREST? TRUSTEES NEEDED TO JOIN LOCAL CHARITY

The Hermitage Field Community Meadow (registered Charity No.1190864) is a small local charity established in August 2020 with a mission to transform the 5.5 acre Hermitage Field at the Crook o' Lune, which is leased from Lancaster City Council, into a species rich wild flower hay meadow for the benefit of the public and bio-diversity.

The first year has seen a flurry activity to get the project underway, the account of which can be seen on our website www.hermitagefieldcommunitymeadow.com

We are seeking to appoint two new Trustees with the skills to help us drive the project forward.

It is interesting and rewarding, and sometimes challenging voluntary work. If you would like to find out more please contact the Chair of Trustees - Erica Sarney telephone 01524 812114

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CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We held our Christmas party on the 16th of December in the Victoria Institute. It was agreed by the committee to hold the party within the Covid 19 rules, taking regard to the age range of our members.

Our members were very disappointed on arrival to find the hall was not decorated not even a Christmas tree.

On enquiry we were told it was the trustee's decision. We would have brought more than our usual table decorations had we known in advance.

However; on the positive side Julia Parker provided us with a lovely homemade hot meal, with sufficient for the heartiest appetite. All finished off with a tempting choice of desserts, thoroughly enjoyed by all of us.

Our club's AGM was held on the 20th of January 2022. The results of the elections to the committee were too late for inclusion in this edition, and will be reported in the next publication.

There will be no meeting in February as usual, due to the half term holiday and grand parenting duties.

Our March 17th meeting at 2pm in the Victoria Institute is not to be missed. A talk entitled 'A long walk from Wigan Pier' by Ruth Gibbons. Tea, coffee and cake will be served. Admission at the door £4.

If you were unable to attend the AGM and would like to renew your annual membership for £5.00 and pick up your 2022 programme please call Benita on 771943 for further information.

LEISURE CLUB

Leisure Club Talks

FEBRUARY

- 7th Christine Workman Felt Hat Making in the Lune Valley
- 14th Speaker to be confirmed
- 21st Terry Owen Footballer, Fire-fighter
- 28th Emily Burr My Life at Booths

MARCH

- 7th Norma Williams Did You Know ?
- 14th David Middleton Do Superfoods Exist? From a Chemists perspective
- 21st Denise Nardone Bookbinding
- 28th Bernand & Jeanette Holiday Exploits

Due to unforeseen circumstances on some occasions the speaker may change at short notice

If you would like to turn up to hear any of the talks please just turn up on the day at the Victoria Institute Caton 1030-1230 where you would be most welcome or call the number below.

Cost is - Members £1.50 Non members £3.00 Annual membership £5.00

Chair Based Exercise continue throughout the year every Monday 09.00-10.00

Short Mat Bowls - Wednesday 10.00-12.00. Until 30th March, when the outdoor bowls re-starts.

If you would like further information on any of the above call David 01524 812342

Dru Yoga classes are held every Thursday 10.00-11.00. We currently have some vacancies.

For further information call Susan on 01524 771862

WI.

Thank you to those who gave us some unwanted items for the auction held last month. The few items which did not get sold will be given to charity.

At our next meeting, which will be on Thursday 3rd February, Alycia Gilda will run a Feel Good dance session to suit all ages and abilities, even those who need to sit in a chair! The meeting starts at 7.30pm in the Victoria Institute.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of WI is welcome to join us.

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FEBRUARY 12th – 5 Miles - to be decided.

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No dogs are allowed on rambles

A contribution towards fuel costs if sharing £2 per person for shorter distance or £3 for a greater distance.

JAZZ IN HORNBY

On February 19th we shall be hosting the “Harmony Hounds”.

This long established and popular band style themselves on the `Pasadena Roof Orchestra` who play the music and sing the songs that were heard in the dance halls and clubs in the 1920s to the original orchestrations: you will love it, as I did when I first heard them.

Usual venue: The Village Institute, Main Street (A683), Hornby, LA2 8JR. Doors & Bar open at 7.30, music from 8 p.m.

Tickets £15, available on the door or ring 01524 22227.

Looking forwards to seeing you; in the meantime stay safe.

HORNBY PENSIONERS

Christmas Party: Thank you so much to Anthea & Debbie at Hornby TeaRooms and to the Occasionals for helping make our party such a lovely event. Your contributions were very much appreciated by us all. Special thanks too to those members who pitched in to help with the clearing up afterwards.

Apologies: to anybody who did not get the message about the cancellation of the January Coffee Morning. We did our best to get the word round at such short notice.

A.G.M.: At the time of writing (mid January), we are still hoping to hold our A.G.M. at 2pm on 8th February. Should this have to change, notices will be placed in the Institute and in Wennings Stores window.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR MEMBERS:

Take care, stay safe.

LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE WITH LUNE VALLEY OCEAN WAVERS

The Centre, Halton - Mondays - 1930-2200

Our next beginner lessons commence on Monday 21 February with a free taster session. There will then be 12-16 sessions, charged at £4/session.

Square dancing is suitable for anyone over 14 - singles, couples, friends and families.

There is no fancy footwork - It is easy to learn - You can make new friends and have a laugh whilst exercising your body and mind.

Bring your own mug, mask and sanitizer.

Contact: oceanwavers2000@yahoo.com

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE OPEN GARDENS

We still plan to hold open gardens this year on the weekend of 25/26 June. To date we have eleven gardens on the list so we are nearly there. We could do with 3 or four more. Please do consider volunteering.

To repeat, your garden does not need to be in the show category - our visitors are happy to enjoy what you have to offer, big or small, immaculate or casual. And our experience is that the owners have as much fun as the visitors!

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB

Our next event is on Thursday 10th February in St Pauls Church Hall, Brookhouse at 7pm.

We will be entertained by Lachlan Rae of Gresgarth Hall Gardens who, he says with a twinkle, will basically be talking about himself! We are going to hear about his training in horticulture and the gardens he has worked in. It all sounds like an ideal evening out so do come along.

And don't forget - tea and biscuits are included with your entrance fee.

FIRST SATURDAY LITTER PICK

A group of residents get together on the first Saturday of every month to pick up litter and tidy the village. Meet outside the Victoria Institute at 10.00 a.m., weather permitting and in line with social distance guidance. Bags and litter pickers provided, and it is a good idea to bring your own gloves.

You decide how much time and whereabouts in the village needs some attention. Half an hour or an hour can – and does - make such a difference. If you have seen an area which would benefit from a tidy up, please contact Peter Collins at the Victoria Institute (771733) and he will let the litter pickers know.

Many thanks to those who turned out for the session on a chilly, wet day in January, to all those who pick up litter whilst out walking, and to those who keep tidy specific locations in the village such as the Fish Stones and areas around particular benches. It all helps to create and maintain an environment bringing pleasure for residents and visitors alike.

Next session: *Saturday 5th February.*

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BROOKHOUSE METHODIST CHURCH
Monthly services at 10:30am and 7pm - Minister Rev Emma Holroyd
Contact details: Emma.holroyd@methodist.org
Sunday 6th February 7:00pm Sunday 13th February 10:30am With coffee and biscuits
Both led by Rev Emma Holroyd Everyone Very Welcome
Crafts for children
Wednesday 16th February between 10am-12pm
Children (and adults) Craft morning
Various craft activities available including 'How to knit an Angel'
All children must be accompanied by an adult Everyone welcome
If you would like to book a place or would like more details contact 07966 924261
If you would like to hire the building please contact: circuit@northlancsmethodist.org.uk

BROOKHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Brookhouse Community Church meet in the Victoria Institute on a Sunday morning from 10.45am. Junior Church is available each week for the children. The service is followed by refreshments and a very warm welcome. (We are currently following all the current government guidelines for churches with regards to Covid measures and will continue to do so to keep our congregation safe.)
To get in touch with someone from the church please contact Jim Hutchinson at pottyeats@gmail.com.
Meet to Eat - at the Victoria Institute - will take place on Friday 4th February and Friday 18th February 2022 at 12.30pm- (first and third Fridays of every month) £5 per person for a 2 course lunch and drink. All are welcome. (March dates are 4th and 18th March)
Tiddlywinks Toddler Group - meets at St. Paul's Church Hall every Thursday from 10am -11.30am. £2.50 per family with refreshments provided.
Coffee & Cakes at the Victoria Institute - Come along and enjoy a coffee or tea and cakes/tray-bakes/biscuits from 10.00am - 11.30am on Wednesday 9th February 2022 and from then on, on the second Wednesday of every month. Meet old and new friends and enjoy a catch up. £1.50 per person. All are very welcome.

COFFEE MORNINGS AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH
The next Coffee Morning will be at the Parish Hall on the 2nd of February 2022 at 10.30.
As usual there will be a raffle, a quiz, as well as stalls displaying a range of produce at reasonable prices. 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.
The December Coffee Morning raised £125.87 for the Church Funds.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL
Thank you to all who contributed either by donating boxes, items, their time or in any other way. Locally (including both schools) we produced nearly 450 shoeboxes. Thank you to both Caton St Paul's school and Caton Community school for getting involved again.
As a collection centre we picked up approximately 1000 boxes from the surrounding area and received more boxes as a drop off location. In total we despatched around 2000 boxes which we are really proud of.
Thanks also to the Methodist Church for allowing us use of BMC building for that period. This year our boxes could be despatched to several countries due to the way they were processed but as soon as I hear where any of the boxes have gone I'll report back in The Link.
Thank you all once again. Sara

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CATON ST PAUL'S

February services at St Paul's

Weds 2nd @ 10am - Traditional Holy Communion followed by Coffee Morning in Church Hall

Sun 6th @ 10am - All-Age Service

Sun 13th @ 10am - Holy Communion with Sunday Club

Sun 20th @ 10am - Holy Communion with Forest Church

Sun 27th @ 10am - Holy Communion with Sunday Club

A weekly online service on Weds mornings at 9:30am is also being held, please contact Paul for login details.

Covid update

To comply with Government guidance, please bring a face covering to services at St Paul's. Any updates on our Covid precautions will be found on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsBrookhouse/>.

Monthly prayer meeting

Sat 19th February @ 10am in the church hall - all welcome to come and pray for our church and community, with refreshments afterwards.

Christmas wreaths in St Paul's churchyard

To maintain a tidy and attractive churchyard, families are kindly asked to remove Christmas wreaths from graves by the end February. It would also be appreciated if dead flowers could be removed from graves too. Any Christmas wreaths left in place will be removed ahead of the mowing season. Thank you.

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 a Sunday at 10.30am and 6.30pm. Sunday School during the morning service. We also have crèche facilities available during the morning service.

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 Fellowship

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 enjoy a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits afterwards. All ladies from the village and further a field are welcome to join us and transport can be arranged if you need a lift. The dates and speakers for February are -

9th - Les and Christine Kelsall. 23rd - Elsie Carter and Margaret Townley

We look forward to seeing you.

CATON METHODIST CHAPEL

Weekly Sunday Service:- 10:30am

Lune Valley Cluster Service:- Sunday 6th February 7:00pm

Sunday 13th February 10:30am

We will be at Brookhouse Methodist Church with Rev Emma Holroyd

Everyone welcome

Saturday Soup:- Saturday 11th February at 12:30pm. Enjoy a bowl of soup and homemade cakes with friends. £3.00 per person

Crafts @ Caton:- Thursday 24th February between 10-12am

Come along for a coffee and chat

We will be running a children's Craft Session at Brookhouse Methodist on Wednesday 16th February between 10-12pm All children must be accompanied by an adult

Everyone welcome If you would like more details contact 07966 924261

Bible Study via Zoom:- Wednesday 9th and 16th February at 7pm.

A zoom link will be available from Emma if you would like to attend virtually.

If you would like to contact our Minister Emma.holroyd@methodist.org



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THE ROTARY CLUB OF LUNESDALE

The threat of Covid restricted the club's usual Christmas programme. Normally Father Christmas in his sleigh would visit many of the villages in the Lune Valley. Owing to the spike in Coronavirus numbers it was decided to restrict the programme to a static visit to a)Country Harvest, b)Bentham Mart and c)Booths at Kirkby Lonsdale. Thank you to everybody who stopped to have a chat with us and make a donation. The 3 collections amounted to a total of almost £1,000. This money will be used to help local deserving causes/projects.

It was hoped that by 2022 it would be possible to hold face to face meetings once again. However the way things are at present that may not be advisable so we shall continue cautiously and carefully to observe both government and Rotary advice. We have also learned that Zoom has provided the opportunity, which we have taken advantage of, to engage with incredibly well qualified and interesting speakers from around the world.

30+ Rotarians and their guests held a Christmas Party in the Highwayman Inn, Burrow, on Thursday 9th December. Prior to commencement of the festivities, Rotary President John Clare made a surprise presentation, on behalf of Rotary GB&I, to Rotarian Stuart Slater of a certificate to celebrate his 50 years of service in Rotary. The assembled guests showed their appreciation in the normal fashion to Stuart's marvellous achievement.

Entertainment throughout the evening was provided by " Ian the Magician", a well known local table-top magician whose illusions and tricks kept everyone absolutely enthralled.

Once again, Aimie and her team at the Highwayman provided excellent fayre and service and a wonderful time was had by all.

Looking ahead, and the right conditions prevailing, we plan to hold a sale of goods. If you have any items in good condition which you are willing to donate then please get in touch.

Finally if you are interested in learning more about your local Rotary Club, which incidentally is part of a global organisation, please tel 015242 73166. You may be interested in getting involved in community affairs and helping where there is a need.

Please do give us a call. Keep well, keep safe.

B4RN HYPERFAST BROADBAND

Visit our website at b4rn.catonvillage.org.uk where you will find answers to your questions and can contact the project teams. If you're in an existing contract with another provider with less than 12 months to run, you'll be able to get B4RN for £5 a month until that contract runs out with B4RN's Connect+. Note that your Connect+ application MUST be approved before you go live as you can't apply retrospectively. Check for latest information on Facebook at facebook.com/b4rn4candb

If you're already live with B4RN and want help and advice, email itclub@b4rn.org.uk to join an online Zoom meeting run by volunteers. They meet on Fridays 2pm-4pm and can help answer your questions.

Are you thinking about moving your landline calls to a VoIP service? Remember, don't cancel your existing contract until you've signed up with a VoIP provider otherwise you will lose your existing phone number.

CATON UPDATE

The B4RN teams have been working hard during January to get the last large "block" of Caton completed at Low Mill. The other area left is Ball Lane where planning, and access discussions with Lancashire County Council, are ongoing.

Connections that were delayed over the Christmas period have all been made. A large proportion of the village is now benefitting from hyper fast, full fibre, Gigabit broadband, at an affordable cost.

Government vouchers are still available for anyone in the village who wants to take a B4RN connection. To apply visit the "GETB4RN" page on the B4RN website. Also, provision is there at the boundary of every property for anyone wanting to get onto the B4RN network at ANY time in the future.

BROOKHOUSE UPDATE

The pavement works in Brookhouse should all now be completed. On behalf of all the volunteers, we would like to thank all residents and businesses and appreciate that it has been disruptive to our village. However, we are creating a brand new network for our community which we all can benefit from now and in the future.

The next stage is to install core fibre throughout February with properties joining the network shortly after.

Please look out for leaflets through your door containing useful information. Also watch out for emails regarding arranging times to come and fit routers at your homes in February. If you need help to get your duct through the garden and house kit fitted please get in touch at b4rn4bn@gmail.com

Thank you for your patience, help and support.

Call in at our weekly drop in sessions at the Black Bull every Tuesday between 7pm and 8:20pm to get your questions answered.

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