

LINK

MAY 2024

LINK HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

Caton Gala - see page 2

Soccer and Netball school - see page 4

Clothes Swap - see page 4

Plant Sale- see page 6

LINK DELIVERIES

Many thanks to Janet Atkinson who, in recent times, has delivered the Link to residents in Claughton. Janet is now relocating; we wish her well. We are grateful to another Caton resident (from our reserve list of volunteer deliverers) who will ensure that deliveries to Claughton will continue.

If you wish to be added to our reserve list of volunteer deliverers, please contact Marilyn or Alan Davis (contact details at the bottom of this page). We would be very pleased to hear from you.

For the next two months it will not be possible to leave copies of the Link at the Victoria Institute owing to the rewiring work going on there. The Co-op have kindly agreed to make copies available during this time.

SHARING THE LINK TO FACEBOOK

I have been posting and scheduling all the articles from The Link onto the Facebook page Linking Caton and Brookhouse for the last 9 years. This ensures that the village sees the articles along with any links or images - and is reminded of them a week before they take place. This takes me about 1.5 - 2 hours a month and requires a tablet or laptop. If you would like to take over this role I would be extremely grateful. Please contact me - tricia@marybankfarm.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Laura McGowan. Phone: 07394 060777. Email: clerk@catonparishcouncil.gov.uk

New Parish Council email and website There are new regulations coming in on parish council emails and websites, so we are changing to comply with them. Email: The old gmail account will be monitored, but please try to use the new gov.uk email, clerk@catonparishcouncil.gov.uk. You can use that to contact all councillors as well as the Clerk. Website: Our new website is now live. <https://www.catonparishcouncil.gov.uk/> Please bookmark the new website. Our previous website will stop functioning shortly. On the new website, you'll find Parish Council news and documents, the picture gallery and a host of useful links. There is a revised directory of local businesses and organisations. Many businesses and organisations listed in the previous directory have been carried over to the new website, but please check that you have been included. To be added, or to have changes made, please contact Jenny Walmsley on jenny.walmsley1@btinternet.com. The Events listing has been discontinued.

Fell View Play Park Three new bench and table sets have been installed. They are made out of recycled plastic, so should last well. Expertly installed by Chris Lennon. Our thanks go to the local volunteer group of B4RN who helped fund the purchase, to the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund for their donation towards the Play Park, to Caton Gala for their donation and to the Lancashire Environmental Fund for its grant towards this whole project.

Closure of Brookhouse Road at Artlebeck Bridge The Parish Council still has no firm information from Cadent or from Lancashire Highways on when this will happen, or the alternative travel arrangements. Cadent are aware that residents are very unhappy about the state of Becksides after they used it for their compound, and we expect it to be landscaped after the bridge work is finished.

Grass cutting This season, Lancaster City Council are to cut grass verges 7 times between April and October, and will cut Fell View Play Park and Playing Field 14 times in that period. We hope that this will make Fell View more attractive and usable throughout the summer.

Footpaths We are aware that some useful shortcuts - ginnels or snickets - are difficult to access if you are using a mobility scooter or pushing a pram or buggy. We are asking Lancashire County Council to look at how access can be improved.

Carpark on Hornby Road At last the white lines have been repainted!

Annual Parish Meeting This is a meeting where the Parish Council reports on its work over the previous year and presents its accounts. It's also an opportunity for residents to raise any issues of local concern. This year it will be held on Tuesday 14th May at 6.30pm at the Lune Valley Methodist Hub in Brookhouse. The Parish Council will also have a stand at Caton Gala, and you are invited to come and chat to councillors there.

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

Lisa Sargent-Small Tel. 07907673265 E-mail: catonlink2021@gmail.com

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LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE

www.catonparishcouncil.gov.uk



Linking Caton and Brookhouse
www.facebook.com/catonbrookhouse

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

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 Church,

Caton, Brookhouse and

Littledale

Sunday Communion Service at

10am, All Age Worship, read and

led by children: 1st Sun of the

month, Sunday Club in the

Church Hall, term time during

Sunday service (except 1st

Sunday of month)

Brookhouse Community

Church

held at Caton Primary School,

Broadacre, 10.45am: Morning

Service & Junior Church



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CATON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
 Have you thought about joining the WI? We are an all-age women-only group who meet monthly for educational talks, fun and friendship. Why not pop by our stand at the Gala to meet some of our members and find out more about what we do? Information about our events can also be found on our Facebook page and website <https://lancashire.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/caton/home>. Last month we welcomed Angela Fletcher who talked about her experience on the Sewing Bee and brought her pieces for us to look at and admire! Lots of visitors attended and we hope to see you all again at this month's talk: Real Life in Japan with Wendy Jones-Nakanishi. Her presentation will focus on ordinary family life in a Japanese society, particularly from a woman's viewpoint. **Thursday May 2nd at 7:30.** This meeting (and June's meeting) will be held at **Caton St Paul's Church Hall** due to the rewiring at the Institute. Visitors are welcome; come and see what we are all about and make some new friends.

CATON GALA
 The countdown to Gala Day continues! The committee have been working very hard to make sure it's a great day with plenty to entertain the whole family. We are also delighted and very grateful to have Bluebird Care as our main sponsor for 2024. This year's Gala is on **May 18th 2024 at Elm Grove Field** and we can't wait to see you all on the day. This year's theme is "Olympic sports, past and present".
 At our most recent meeting, the committee had the very difficult task of judging the picture competition and entries for the Queen and her attendants. The committee would like to thank everyone who entered and congratulations to our winners:
 age 4-5 - Charlotte Caldecotte (Caton St. Paul's Primary)
 age 6-7 - Finley Mellor (Caton Primary)
 age 8-9 - Izzy Neville (Caton St. Paul's Primary)
 age 10-11 - Harris Rae (Caton Primary)
 Overall winner - Izzy Neville. Her design will appear on the front cover of this year's programme.
 Gala Queen - Perdita Richmond (Caton St. Paul's Primary)
 Attendants - Olive Eccleston (Caton St. Paul's Primary) and Izzy Neville (Caton St. Paul's Primary)
 Page boys - Noah Bird (Caton Primary) and William Chaffe (Caton St. Paul's Primary).
 If anyone has anything they wish to donate as a prize for our Tombola, donations can be left at either Station Garage or the Caton branch of Bay Vets. Our next two meetings will be Wednesday the 1st May and Monday 13th May at 8pm at the Station Hotel. As always, all are welcome.
 We also welcome any offers for help on the day itself and in setting up and dismantling the field. If you think you could help us out, please get in touch. We can be contacted via our facebook page and by email to catongala@catongala.co.uk

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB
 The March visit to Boundary Mill proved very popular and many bargains were to be had. On our way home, coffee and cakes at The Coniston Hotel was a great way to end the day. The May visits are to Carlisle followed by Dobbies Garden Centre on the way home. In June we will be visiting Ilkley and Hebdon Bridge. For more information about the friendship club or to book please contact Ally Whitfield on 01524 770827 / 07738 912923

PAINTING GROUP
 The painting group will meet on Thursday 9th & 23rd May 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 RESIDENT IS NEW HIGH SHERIFF OF LANCASHIRE
 Helen Bingley OBE, who lives in Caton, is to be the new High Sheriff of Lancashire. She has long experience in the charity and voluntary sector in our area and in Pakistan, and plans to use her year in office to highlight the work done. Helen has said: "In 2020 more than 4,000 charities in Lancashire were registered with the Charity Commission and there are many more voluntary groups, social enterprises and faith groups that are not registered. Our society is dependent on these groups for so many things and they provide much needed support in many forms to so many people, often without recognition, constantly seeking financial support to provide services. A priority in my year will be to visit as many voluntary groups as possible to raise their profile and shine a light on what they do."

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VICTORIA INSTITUTE

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VI CLOSED FOR THE REWIRE

The Institute closed on Friday 26th April for approximately 7-8 weeks. During this time the building will have a complete rewire and the installation of a new fire alarm system. 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 and decoration.

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTED GROUP

Caton WI, meet at 7:30 at the Institute on the first Thursday of the month. (During the rewire we will meet at St Paul's Church Hall.)
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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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

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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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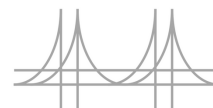
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FORD SERVICE

CATON PRIMARY SCHOOL

The fairer weather towards the end of the spring term meant that we were able to take our learning outdoors more often. Reception Class enjoyed phonics treasure hunts and other classes benefited from lots of maths learning around the school grounds. Years 1 and 2 were very busy working outdoors on their science topic of plants and at the end of term, they held a wonderful learning exhibition for parents. They shared findings on what a healthy plant needs, the life-cycle of a plant, seed dispersal and observations over time for the daffodils which have bloomed in our forest. For their RE topic on what unites the Christian community, Years 1 and 2 visited Caton Baptist Church where Rev Alan was able to answer their many questions about the Church. Alan also came into school before the school holidays to lead an Easter assembly. He left crosses for the children to decorate, which they did with great enjoyment. On the final day, we walked to the Baptist church to tie the crosses to the railings. We hope that they were enjoyed by the community on their travels along Brookhouse Road.

Our school choir took part in the Lancaster and Morecambe schools music festival at the Ashton Hall on 19th March. It was certainly worth the months of rehearsals! They had a wonderful time, sang with enthusiasm and represented our school brilliantly.

Our gymnastics team took part in the Lune Valley schools gymnastics competition in the last week of term. Well done to Evie and Thea who came back with bronze medals!

The summer term got off to a very exciting start for Years 3 and 4 who attended an outdoor activity residential at Borwick Hall. They had two action-packed days filled with character-building activities. From raft building and climbing to canoeing and scrambling, every child pushed their own limits and did so with a huge smile on their face. They represented the school wonderfully and demonstrated the power of teamwork. Well done, Year 3 and 4!

We are looking for volunteers to run a lunchtime or after-school gardening club. If anyone is able to help, please get in touch with the school office.

Places for Reception in September have now been allocated and we are delighted to be welcoming fifteen new pupils into our school family. Coming into a Reception-only class of just 15, the children have the best possible chance of getting off to a flying start. We look forward to getting to know them all well before they start through their induction visits in the summer term.

Our sports hall and field are available for hire. The hall has a fully-equipped kitchen, stage, pleasant meeting room and toilets. For further details, contact the school office (01524 770104).

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 10.00am, 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 4th May.

CATON SPORTS ASSOCIATION/CATON FOOTBALL CLUB

Prize draw result... congratulations to Declan for winning the March draw: Declan Lightfoot - £50. Gift of Sight Appeal - unfortunately, our planned walk of Helvellyn had to be postponed due to the weather. We are looking to arrange a new date soon. Please donate where you can to the appeal by scanning here with your mobile phone. <https://gofund.me/cOdb119e> We'd like to say a massive thank you to local charity '3R Charity Shop' in Carnforth who kindly donated £1000 to the club! This helped towards repairing, and updating our electrics in the club house, which was essential! Thank you very much. Unfortunately, after over 100 years, the North Lancashire and District Football League has decided to cease at the end of the current season. Many of you will no doubt have great memories of watching, and playing, in the North Lancs over the years. As a result, we have applied for our Colts team to join the First team in the West Lancashire Football League.

ST PAUL'S C OF E CHURCH, CATON, BROOKHOUSE AND LITTLEDALE

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. This month we will be holding a Confirmation Service on Sunday, 12th May at 10am with Bishop Jill Duff. We also have our APCM (Annual General Meeting) on 26th May after our service. **St Paul's Youth Group, SPY**, meets at the Vicarage, 153 Brookhouse Road, from 4pm every two weeks, on 9th and 23rd May. Contact Rev Helen Scamman 01524770300 vicar@stpaulscaton.org.uk or website www.stpaulscaton.org.uk.



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CATON ST PAUL'S C OF E PRIMARY

The lead up to Easter in a Church school is always special and this year was no different as we welcomed our school community to watch our Easter service at St Paul's Church on Maundy Thursday. Each class performed their own version of a part of the Easter service, ranging from songs, acting, speeches, quizzes and much more. We were also thrilled to hear our choir sing so beautifully and fill the Church with their wonderful voices.

Our active PTA organised an eggciting Easter bingo eggstravanganza for the children to enjoy. We had about 150 children in the hall, ranging from ages 4-11, playing to win Easter eggs and the star prize hamper. The evening was great fun and it was lovely to see our Y6 children sitting with our youngest children and helping them with their numbers. Thank you to Julie and the PTA who helped with adult supervision on the night and organised all the drinks, snacks and prizes!

Our Y2 children attended the Lancaster singing festival and were privileged to be asked to sit on the stage as part of this. They sang beautifully and it was a lovely evening to be involved with. Our school loves singing and this was another chance for our children to perform in a historic venue.

We wrapped up our indoor athletics season by competing in the final round of fixtures in both the Y3/4 and Y5/6 tournaments. Our Y3/4 team performed with skill and determination to finish joint 3rd out of 14 schools. Our Y5/6 children worked extremely hard to win the last event with a record points score for our school; this meant we finished 3rd overall out of 28 schools. This is a phenomenal achievement for a school of our size as we regularly compete against the larger schools in Lancaster and Morecambe. Our commitment to providing sporting opportunities to all our children continued in March with children competing in a range of sports including swimming, korfbal, hockey and football – some even on the same night.

Our Y5 children were given the chance to ensure they are safe on their cycles as they completed their bikeability training. This involved practising on the playground, as well as riding and performing manoeuvres on the road. Look out for our children as they safely navigate their way around the village on their bikes, with their helmets on!

As part of our drive to be greener and healthier, we also took part in the Big walk and wheel, an initiative which encourages children and adults to walk, bike or scoot to school. Over the two weeks, 60% of our journeys to school were walking, cycling or scooting, putting us 41st in the North West!

Finally, bookings are now open for a September start in our Pre-school. Please contact barsar@stpauls.lancs.sch.uk for more information.

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.

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE COMMUNITY HUB

Since 2022, Caton and Brookhouse Community Hub has featured events on Saturday afternoons, hosted at Lune Valley Methodist Hub. Originally for Ukrainian refugees, these events quickly opened up to the whole Caton & Brookhouse community, with a focus on sustainability. Like any residents, our Ukrainian friends continue to meet and get support there. Going forward, the small, local group who've been organising these events, would like to know: 1. Will you (and maybe your family) join future activities at Lune Valley Methodist Hub (Brookhouse) on Saturday afternoons? 2. What activities would attract you (and your family)? 3. Would you commit to helping plan and organise these activities? If so, please provide contact details. Please reply to hubideas@outlook.com. There is also a box in the Victoria Institute for replies on paper. Thank you!

Next events: **4th May 2-4pm. Clothes Swap.** Come and swap your clean, good-condition clothes. **1st June 2-4pm. Plant and Seed Swap.** Bring along any excess fruit/beg or flower plants or seeds to swap. Please clearly label plants and seeds. These are both free events at the Methodist Hub.

HORNBY CRAFT FAIR AND CASTLE GARDENS

Hornby Castle Gardens are open on the 18th and 19th May from 10am until 3pm. There is a charge. Also in Hornby Village Institute on both days there is a craft fair (no admission) from 10am until 3.30pm and refreshments are being served.

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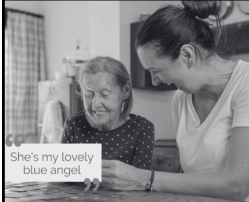
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ST PAUL'S COFFEE MORNING

The next Coffee Morning will be in the St Paul's Church Parish Hall on the 1st of May 2024 at 10.30. The May Coffee Morning is to support the work of St Paul's Church. The Church is involved with a range of activities, including working with the uniformed organisations, youth groups as well as toddler and children's groups. There are also a number of pastoral events which take place throughout the year. At the Coffee Morning there will be the usual raffle and quiz. There will also be a number of stalls, including a cake stall. The Coffee Morning gives people the opportunity to meet friends and neighbours for a chat. You are most welcome to join us for a drink and biscuits. The April Coffee morning raised £119.25 for the NW Air Ambulance. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this event, the proceeds from which will go to help this important voluntary organisation.

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. 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 May are 1st - Kim Lee, Capernwray, 15th - Sara Jackson, 29th - Laura Wadsworth. 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 dates for May are 3rd and 17th.

Look out for Caton Baptist Church at Caton Gala on May 18th, we are having a cake stall and serving tea/coffees etc Please come and support us, Hoping for a sunny day. All proceeds for Cancer Care.

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB

Many thanks to the many members who came to the AGM in April. We hope you found it a convivial evening and enjoyed learning about our programme for next year. We start our new year with the plant sale on Saturday 11 May in the Church Hall. See the separate Link entry. Please do consider popping in even just for a quick cuppa and perhaps buy a tray of bedding for a couple of pounds. Then on 18th May we will be at the Gala so please do visit our tent, say hello and have a rest. This year we are pleased to be joined by Grow Caton who will be sharing our pitch. And of course do enjoy the Gala which the Gala committee spend so much time organising. On Thursday evening June 13th for our annual evening trip we will not be travelling out of the village! We are honoured that a lovely local garden has offered to host our visit this year. This will be strictly members only so do make sure you have paid your membership and joined before the event. Let Graham know on 770919 if you want to come. More details next month.

PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING, ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL, 11 MAY 2024

As it was a success last year in its new home the Gardening Club will be holding its annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning event again this year in St Pauls Church Hall, Brookhouse on Saturday 11 May 2024 from 10am till 12 noon. This is a homely venue with parking. On sale will be our usual selection of bedding and other plants from a reputable local nursery at a modest markup and also donated plants. If you do have any plants you wish to donate we will be very grateful. Please bring them along by 9.30am and have them labelled so we know what they are! Any donations of small boxes for customers to take away their plants in would also be appreciated. There will be a raffle, tea/coffee and exemplary biscuits. You will be able to renew your Gardening Club membership which you will need to do if you want to come on our evening visit in June which is strictly members only. Entrance is £1 with children free and for this you will get your refreshments, a chance to buy plants, a convivial morning and you will be supporting your old Gardening Club which was founded in 1882. This is our main fundraising event of the year.



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THE LUNE VALLEY METHODIST HUB, BROOKHOUSE

Sunday Service Sunday 12th May 10:30am with Rev Andrew Champley, this will be an All-Age Worship Service – Sunday School Songs and memories, followed by refreshments.

Saturday Soup There will be no Saturday Soup this month

Book and Jigsaw Exchange Saturday 18th May 10am-12pm With Coffee and biscuits choose a book or jigsaw, any donations go to charity.

Bible Study Wednesday 7pm 8th and 22nd May The 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month

Community Hub incorporating Caton and Friends for Ukraine Meet on 1st Saturday of each month 2-4pm with Coffee and Cake. 4th May – Clothes Swap.

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 12th May when we will be at Brookhouse

Chapel Anniversary Saturday 4th May 7pm with the Dawson Family. Stephen, Matt and Kara Dawson. With Supper at the close. Sunday 5th May 10:30am Rev Ken Clapham

Saturday Soup There will be no Saturday Soup this month due to our Chapel Anniversary.

Crafts @ Caton Meet up for a coffee and a chat on Thursday 30th May 10-12pm

GROW CATON

Spring is really happening and plants are growing, despite the cold season. It is encouraging to see onions and broad beans do their thing outside and tomatoes ready and waiting in a warmer spot for their turn to join them out there. The seed swap box has been well stocked this year and I hope you found some interesting new things to grow in there. There is still plenty in the box for May sowings, so go and help yourself (at the library entrance to the Institute). The produce shelves are back at 75 Brookhouse road, which we will first be using for seedling/plant swapping, so have a look, drop some off, pick some up. Please do label anything you drop off. The community orchard is doing well and most trees have had their first blossoms. Time will tell if there have been any pollinators around to give us some fruit later on. I hope you managed to go to the information events on community composting in Brookhouse. If you missed it then do get in touch and we will tell you more about where and how this is happening. You can talk to us at Caton Gala this year, you will find some of us helping out on the Gardening Club stall. Or you can use the regular means and contact us via Peter Collins at the Victoria Institute, via Anne 771470, via Brigitte 770771 or email growcaton@outlook.com.

HORNBY PENSIONERS

Dominoes evenings. These evenings will begin at 7pm in the Institute and Eileen will continue to organise these events. Dates during May are on Saturdays 11th. and 25th. No previous experience of the game is needed, and everyone is welcome.

Coffee Morning. Saturday 11th May 10am until noon This is always an enjoyable and well supported event. There is usually a produce stall and contributions are also most welcome for the raffle.

A review was mistakenly scheduled for our April meeting, but the correct event, a talk by Janet Dearden, a local resident, was well supported and was most enlightening. A donation was given in support of Janet's chosen Charity. Janet has written a book on her life experiences in Khartoum, a city in Sudan. This is still available and all proceeds go towards helping support the people of that region. **The review on the 14th May 2.30pm** 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.

BROOKHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

We are meeting at Caton Primary same time for the duration of the rewire at the intitute. Church on the move!

Got an event coming up? It's free to get it in the Link. Simply email the editor by the 15th of the month and it will appear in the next month's edition.

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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.

LUNE VALLEY SWIMMING POOL.

Important notice - AGM 2 May 2024 - Future Prospects. It's been another eventful year for the LVCS Lune Valley Swimming Pool in Hornby and we sincerely thank our supporters, users and friends of this valuable community asset for their understanding and substantial support. The whole pool team has worked hard to keep the pool operating successfully in these very difficult times. The Trustees have undertaken a variety of studies and funding submissions and are now able to announce some really good news! We need to bring members and users up to date with these very exciting improvement plans for the future so that we can move forward. It is important that our current financial situation is reviewed and new business plans be approved at our next AGM along with voting on a new Trustee who has kindly offered to join the team. This will take place on Thursday 23rd May 7pm in the Hornby Village institute. We invite you to come along and hear our proposals. Agenda details for this important meeting and draft 2023 LVCS accounts are on the pool website www.lunevalleypool.com

CATON YOUTH CLUB TRUST

As many people will know as a result of the sale of the old youth Club centre on copy lane a number of years ago, the trust now invests the proceeds every year and uses the interest earned so that each year we can help in Youth projects around the community. Sadly in the last couple of years return on investment has been extremely poor, which has resulted in no money being available to help our young ones. In the last few months' interest earned has grown a little enabling us this year to make some payments towards young people's dreams that they might not be able to do without extra help. The forms will again be available in June to help young people whether individuals or groups with leisure time activities. This is on offer to young ones living in the Caton with Littledale parish and those interested should ask for details and obtain an application form from: Stephen Talbot-01524 812274. talbotshome@gmail.com Or Andy Smith 41 Fell view Caton. andrew@catonsmiths.plus.com The applications forms will be available from the 1st June 2024 Closing date for applications is 30 th June and decisions will be made early in July 2024.

HORNBY JAZZ

Many thanks to everyone who came to see Groove Crusade, and also thanks to those who sent their apologies. The six musicians with their tight arrangements and funky rhythms really did give us Something Else; and one of our most loyal yet critical supporters pronounced it "One of the best". Our next happening will be on Friday 17th May when we will be hosts to the Wyre Levee Stompers, a real trad' band with full front row of trumpet, trombone and clarinet backed by a four-piece rhythm section. A very happy sound led by our friend Pete Lindup on trumpet who has been here leading DecoDelight. 7.30 for 8pm. Tickets £18, on the door or online at Hornby village trust.

GREGARTH GARDEN OPEN THIS MONTH

Sunday 12 May, 11am-5pm. Entrance £12, members of Historic Houses Association free.

GREENWAY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

The hard landscaping work is now complete with new benches, tables, and paving installed in 20 sites along the Greenway which also included Woodies picnic area and the Life for Life meadow at the Crook of Lune. To improve views along the route, 'windows' have been cut into hedges in places, with more to follow this season if birds haven't started nesting. Residents had asked for more and better seating along the Greenway, and we are grateful for generous funding from Lancashire Environmental Fund and Lancashire County Council for helping us to make this happen. There will be further soft landscaping work in the Autumn to plant a variety of shrubs, and a linear orchard.

ELECTION MAY 2ND

Thursday May 2nd sees the election for Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire. The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account. They ensure community needs are met as effectively as possible by the police. There are three candidates to choose between and more information about them can be found at choosemyppcc.org.uk. Remember, if you are voting in person, you will need photo ID.



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