

# LINK

## ISSUE FOR MAY 2023

### THE LINK NEEDS A NEW EDITOR

If anyone would be interested in taking on the role please either give me a call on 01524 771551 or e-mail me and we can have a chat about what the job entails. Sadly if no one comes forward then the final publication of the Caton and Brookhouse Link will be the July 2023 edition  
Anne Jackson.

### PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk:- Gill Mason - 07882 949110. E-mail - [catonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:catonparishcouncil@gmail.com)

**COUNCILLORS** - There will be no elections for the Parish Council this May, as fewer than 12 people were nominated. Current councillors Boland, Carter, Gibbons, Heywood, Powell, Walmsley and Wright are continuing as councillors. Ray Elvis and Chris Kynch are not standing this time. We thank them for their long service to our community and will miss their practical skills, knowledge and experience.

**PARISH COUNCIL AT CATON GALA** - Councillors will be at Caton Gala; do come and let us know about local issues which concern you, and we will try to help.

**PLAY PARK** - Pennine Playgrounds have visited and will quote for doing essential repairs. They will also provide details of their annual maintenance programme, which would help keep the play park in better condition. We hope the prices will be available for councillors to consider at the May Parish Council meeting.

**OAK TREE AT THE FISHSTONES** - The trunk has now been removed. It has been taken to the woods at Caton Primary School to gradually return to nature. Work is under way to remove the metal support and prepare the ground for a sturdy sapling grown from an acorn from the old tree.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** - Tuesday May 9th, 7pm in the Victoria Institute.

### HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY MEETING

Every year the Parish Council organises an Annual Parish Meeting; this year we will focus on highways and road safety. Lancashire County Council is responsible for highways and have been asked to send a representative. And we have invited the Police to come too. This will be an opportunity to discuss problems such as the state of the roads, speed limits, pedestrian crossings and road safety in general.

After that there will be a formal session with an annual report from the Parish Council and a financial summary.

The meeting is on Wednesday 24th May at 7pm in the Victoria Institute. All residents are invited to come along and contribute.

### LOCAL ELECTIONS

On May 4th there are elections for Lancaster City Council. We are in Lower Lune Ward and candidates are: Joan Jackson (Conservative); Peter Jackson (Lib-Dem); Andrew Kay (Labour); Mandy King (Labour); Matthew Maxwell-Scott (Conservative); Rosie Mills (Green); Joyce Pritchard (Lib-Dem); Mike Wright (Green).

### REFERENDUM ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

This takes place on May 4th at the same time and place as the local elections. An information leaflet about the Neighbourhood Plan was circulated with the April Link; if you would like to see the full document, there is a copy at the Victoria Institute. Full documentation on the village website too.

### CATON GALA 2023

The clock is ticking, only three weeks until Caton Gala 2023. It will take place on the 20th May 2023 at Elm Grove Field, Caton. The theme will be "Kings and Queens". Full details are published on our website and Facebook page.

If you would like to have a stall at the Gala, please e mail the Gala inbox to request an application form.

If anyone would wish to kindly donate a prize for the tombola, these can be left either at the Caton branch of Bay Vets or at Station Garage. We are always grateful for assistance "on the day". If you wish to assist please contact a committee member or e mail [catongala@catongala.co.uk](mailto:catongala@catongala.co.uk).

### CORONATION PICNIC AND ROYAL BAKING COMPETITION, SUNDAY 7TH MAY

St Paul's Church is inviting you to a coronation picnic on Sunday 7th May, from 11.30 am in the field next to the Church Hall. Please come, bring a picnic, and there will be competitions with prizes for the children. ALL ARE WELCOME, BRING A RUG, AND A PICNIC. (We will be inside the hall if wet!)

We will also be holding a ROYAL BAKING COMPETITION in the church hall on Sunday, 7th May. The categories be as follows: cakes, small bakes, and biscuits... The age categories will be under 11, 11 - 18, and over 18s. The judging will be at 12.30 pm at which point prizes and certificates will be awarded. Please label your entries with your ingredients and make sure they have a royal theme of some kind..

### PAINTING GROUP

The Painting group will meet on Thursday 4th & 18th May at Lune Valley Methodist Hub from 1.30 - 3.30pm. Everyone is welcome no matter what level of skill you have. We ask for a donation of £2 to cover costs. Tea/coffee provided. For more information contact Ruth 01524 770605.

Thank you to the anonymous, kind person who left some bags of art materials outside the church for the painting group.

## LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE

[www.catonvillage.org.uk](http://www.catonvillage.org.uk)

 Linking Caton and Brookhouse  
[www.facebook.com/catonbrookhouse](http://www.facebook.com/catonbrookhouse)

### Baptist Church Artlebeck Bridge

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

### Lune Valley Methodist Hub

#### Formerly Brookhouse

#### Methodist Church

*Monthly services at 10.30a.m.  
and 7p.m.*

*See BMC news for this  
month's dates*

### 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:

**Anne Jackson, Postern Gate Cottage, Quernmore. Tel. 771551. E-mail: [catonlink2021@gmail.com](mailto:catonlink2021@gmail.com)**

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**CATON & BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB**  
 We have been granted funding from the National Lottery to support the club for the next twelve months with £8455. This is great news for the club, enabling members to benefit from a programme of trips and activities. Thanks to #NationalLottery players for making our project possible. We're making a difference to the lives of Caton & Brookhouse Friendship club members thanks to #NationalLottery.

Despite the damp day we had an enjoyable visit to Ripon and Helmsley on March 16th. A scenic run with time for shopping, lunch and tea and cake. April 20th sees us at Boundary Mill and Skipton and on May 4th there will be a buffet lunch at the Station Hotel at 12 noon. Our May outing on the 18th will be to Llandudno and on June 15th we will be visiting the Halifax Piece Museum and Hebden Bridge.  
 For further information contact Ally Whitfield 01524 770827 / 07738912923

**LUNESDALE LAWN TENNIS CLUB**  
 Open Days - Sunday 14th May and 4th June 2023 from 2pm, At Ball Lane, Caton, LA2 9QN  
 We are looking for new members - Adults, Juniors and families are welcome. We offer two all weather courts which are open all year round with flood lights and 3 grass courts which are open from April to September. We enter Ladies, Mens and mixed teams into Leagues, we have social tennis evenings and have a coach for lessons if required.

It is a friendly Club that is very welcoming. We are also introducing Pickle Ball into the Membership, so something for everyone. So, please come along to our Open Day and Play some tennis or Pickle Ball with other Members and see for yourself.  
 We do hope you will be able to join us and we look forward to meeting you. Membership Forms, map and directions on our website clubsparc.lta.org.uk/LunesdaleLawnTennisClub

**LUNE VALLEY SWIFT GROUP**  
 Its May at last, the month that sees our Swifts return after a 6000-mile flight from southern Africa. Keep an eye out for their high-speed aerobatics where insects are plentiful, such as along the river. We'll soon also see them flying low around buildings, staking their claims for nest sites once again.

As many of their nest sites have been lost, installing nest boxes is one of the best ways you can help our Swifts, and there are a few golden rules for doing so: boxes should be on east or north facing walls (or elsewhere if in shade all day) to avoid chicks dying from overheating; and they need to be a minimum of 4-metres above the ground with a clear flyway in front - no obstacles such trees or buildings close by.  
 We meet at 19.30 every second Weds of the month in the Station pub, and over the summer we will continue to survey breeding Swifts and provide advice to home-owners on how to protect existing nest sites or install boxes. Please get in touch if you would like to join our friendly group of volunteers. lunevalleyswifts@gmail.com

**CATON ST PAUL'S PRE-SCHOOL**  
 Our Pre-school continues to grow and we welcomed parents for a stay-and-play to experience what life is like for our 3-year-olds in school and to have a look through the wonderful learning journeys our staff put together for each child. These are photographs, assessments, comments about each child's weekly experience, that parents can keep forever when their child leaves. We have two regular members of staff in Pre-school who lovingly nurture the children as they begin their school journey. The children also spend time integrating with our older children; they attend worship, play outside on the adventure playground and eat their lunch in the hall. They were even able to dance the night away at our school disco. Our extensive grounds mean there is always access for outdoor learning. Pre-school children can access our wraparound care club from 7:45 - 8:45am and 3:15 - 5:30pm.  
 We have spaces for September and are now taking bookings for children who are 3 (or 4) ready for the new term. Please contact bursar@stpauls.lancs.sch.uk for more information and we would be happy to show you round.



**LITTLE STARS TOTS GROUP**  
 Little Stars Tots Group meets at St Peter's, Quernmore on Wednesday mornings in term time, at any time from 8.45 - 11.00.

**CRAFTY TOTS**  
 Crafty Tots is a fortnightly toddler group held in Caton Baptist Church. Sessions start at 9-30am until 10-30am and are open to pre school children from the age of 18 months +. 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 is £2-50 per session. The dates for May are 12th and 26th.

**YOUTH CLUB**  
 Brookhouse Community Church are running a youth club on a Thursday evening from 6pm to 7pm at Caton St Paul's Church Hall. It runs weekly in term time and is open to primary aged children between Years 2 and 6. Come along to enjoy the fun and games.  
 For further details please message Rebekah Preece on 07468 410485 or email brookhousecommunitychurch@gmail.com

**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 31 May to Saturday 3 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 £50 per child, additional siblings £45.  
 For further details or an application form please contact Rebekah Preece on 01524 771682.

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Sort code: 08-92-99, Account no: 65997365 Ref: Donation.

Donations can also be made at the VI during the Library opening hours or by contacting the Community Centre Manager  
**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 as well as biographies and autobiographies.

**Books for Sale** - 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

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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](mailto:admin@victoria-institute.org.uk) Further information can be found at our website: [www.victoria-institute.org.uk](http://www.victoria-institute.org.uk) Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/victoria.institute.caton/>

**FIRST SATURDAY LITTER PICK**

A very big "Thank You" to the B4RN Community Fund which has been very generous in supporting our informal group by providing new litter grabbers and bag holders. This will make monthly litter picking so much easier for our group of volunteers!

A group of residents get together on the first Saturday of every month to pick up litter and tidy the villages. The meeting place is outside the Victoria Institute at 10.00 am, weather permitting. 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 borrowed one of our litter pickers and are not able to use it either on these Saturdays or in between, please do get in touch so we can arrange to collect it from you. Bags, bag holders, and litter pickers are provided, and it is a good idea to bring your own gloves - hi-viz vests in a range of sizes also available for use on the day.

If you have seen an area which would benefit from a tidy up, please contact Judy Powell on 771154 for all queries and requests about litter picking in the villages. Next session: **Saturday 6 th May**

**VISIT TO SOCX**

We had a wonderful 4 day trip to Socx at the beginning of April, after 5 years since our last trip it was great to receive such a warm welcome – one of our members said that it was like a family with a branch in Socx. I know that lasting friendships were made between people in this village – as well as in Socx. There were many new families who joined us and there were tears on both sides as we left to return home.

Our thanks go to all those who contributed through coming to Burns Night and also to the Duchy of Lancaster for a generous grant which meant that all children travelled for free. Next year it is their turn to come to visit us here – do get involved, either by hosting or helping in other ways.

We will have a stand at the Gala so please come and make yourselves known to us!

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**CATON ST PAUL'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The highlight of our month has been a Mother's day breakfast in school where we welcomed around 115 mums and grandmas for bacon sandwiches and a coffee. It was lovely to see the school hall so full and vibrant as we continue to welcome our community into school to share in special occasions. We also enjoyed celebrating Easter at St Paul's church with all classes taking part in a wonderful service. Revered Helen led the service and we have also welcomed her into school to lead worship, as well as Brookhouse Community Church and Caton Baptist Church. We also unveiled the Big frieze which could be seen in Church over easter and is now on display in our school - each class worked creatively to produce a lovely section of the Big Frieze and learn more about the Bible.

Our choir sang beautifully at the Lancaster singing festival in the Town Hall. It was lovely to see so many children from so many schools singing their hearts out for a full audience. Our choir is made up of our KS2 children and they have sung all around the local area this year.

Amethyst class have completed the Facing the Past slave trade tour of Lancaster. it's really important we understand our past to be able to improve our future and these children found out lots of fascinating information about Lancaster's slaving past.

Our PTA continue to be incredibly busy raising money to help with the education of our children. The school disco was attended by 140 children who spent the evening dancing, laughing and having a great time, as did the staff! The Easter bingo saw over 100 children dabbing furiously to win chocolate eggs and hampers. Thank you to all parents who have supported these events. Our next event is a Coronation picnic that is open to members of the community - this will be on Friday 5 May. Check our website for more details.

As always, we continue to be committed to giving children a wide variety of sporting opportunities, whatever their ability. Our Y5/6 athletes finished 4th in the whole of Lancaster and Morecambe, a great achievement given that we were the smallest school competing. We finished 3rd at the Carnforth tag rugby tournament and our Y3/4 and Y5/6 footballers played really well at the Lune Valley Cluster comp. We also attended competitive events for Y3,4,5,6 korfbal where we took 3 teams to play. In school, we have held inter-house tournaments in dodgeball, cross country and korfbal where all children get the chance to compete.

We held our own 'We are a Reader' day where children could come to school in pyjamas, with their teddy and favourite book. This enabled children to get involved without the stress of making costumes or the expense of buying them. Children split into groups of all age groups to carry out exciting activities about a range of books.

Outdoor ed continues to give additional opportunities to our children. Y3 have been canoeing on Borwick canal, Y6 have been abseiling and climbing (amazing) and YR, Y1 and Y2 have been on adventure scrambling walks in Halton, Silverdale and Warton. We continue to invest heavily in this area and are grateful to Phil Longbottom from BigAdventure for his continued excellence when delivering these sessions. They challenge our children to move out of their comfort zone, something we believe is important for life.

**CATON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We had a very productive and enjoyable second half to the spring term with lots of great learning, enrichment and community involvement.

Our young scientists' curiosity was captured with some very exciting science learning. For science week, our Key Stage 2 children created some excellent seismometers and designed and made parachutes for eggs, applying their understanding of gravity and air resistance to ensure it was a safe flight. Reception Class had a very exciting end to their topic about animals with a trip to Blackpool Zoo. They also entertained us with their wonderful class assembly based on the novel 'Dear Zoo'.

Years 5 and 6 had the opportunity to demonstrate all that they had learnt in their clothes topic in French with an amazing French fashion show. They were also thrilled to receive letters from their pen pals in the primary school in Socx, telling them all about their daily routine in their French school. This link is invaluable, giving the children a real purpose to their language learning and causing great excitement each time they make contact.

We were lucky to have many visitors into school in the lead up to Easter, including Reverend Alan Wadsworth, Debbie Green and Reverend Helen Scamman. Their assemblies, explaining the significance of Easter to Christians, set the scene perfectly for the lovely crosses that the children made to decorate the Baptist Church railings on the last day of term.

Our annual 'Caton's Got Talent' competition didn't disappoint. There were some real superstars entertaining us with dancing, gymnastics, music, comedy, poetry and singing. Well done to all the children who took part and especially to our five year old winner, Adie, who entertained us with his street dancing, and our runners up, Bithiah, Lucie and Isla who performed ably on the piano and violin.

Throughout the spring term, we continued to offer a wide range of enrichment clubs including: multisports, football and dodgeball coaching; art club; table tennis; Lego club; singing club; and the school band.

The PTA dinosaur egg hunt was great fun and very well attended. We're still wondering who was inside those three mischievous dinosaurs!! The PTA is now collecting items for its Bags 2 School fundraising event which will take place on 24th April. If you fancy a clear out, and would like to help us raise some money for school, why not bag up any of the following items and deliver to school any time from 20th April. Alternatively, we would be very happy to collect items by arrangement with the school office. Items to donate include: clothing; paired shoes; handbags; hats; socks; scarves and ties; jewellery; lingerie; belts; soft toys; curtains; towels, bedding. Thank you in advance!

Infinity Pre School operates from our school site. They offer outstanding provision for children from age 2, with access to a wonderful outdoor area, a forest and a large sports hall. For further information, call Claire on 07746 857904.

Our large, detached sports hall continues to be available for hire. It has a fully-equipped kitchen, stage, and pleasant meeting room. For further details, contact the school office (01524 770104).

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MAY 20th - 6-8 miles - Richard

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A contribution FOR 2023:- Towards fuel costs if sharing £3 per person for the shorter distance £4 for a longer distance. NO dogs are allowed on rambles. Phone Jenny Herd for details of walks 015242 - 21690

### HORNBY PENSIONERS

**Dominoes Evenings** - will be held on alternate Saturdays on the ground floor of The Institute, beginning at 7 p.m. Those evenings being on May13th and 27th. No previous experience of the game is needed and everyone is welcome.

**Hornby Pensioners Coffee Morning** - This will be held on Saturday 13th May. There will be a raffle table and a produce table, for which donations will be most welcome. We hope to see as many members, plus friends and neighbours as possible. It is an opportunity to chat and catch up on local news and put the world to rights, (if only the world would listen!)

**Hornby Pensioners Talk** - Our talk this month will take place on Tuesday May 16th at 2.30 p.m. Please note that this date is the third Tuesday in the month and not on our usual second Tuesday. Jane Tarleton, a Hornby resident and member of our group, will be giving a description of the period of her life spent in Africa. We hope that as many people as possible will come along, both members and guests. This should be an enjoyable event, offering you good company, in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

### LUNESDALE PROBUS CLUB

Due to various Bank holidays our May speaker programme will consist of just one session.-

This will be on the 15th of May when Peter Wiltshire will be speaking on the history of Lancaster Markets. Originally scheduled pre Covid this perspective of local history is eagerly anticipated..

Advance notice- Hornby Probus club visit the Spitfire Collection at Squires Gate airfield Blackpool on Thursday 15th June. During June we will have 2 sessions as normal along with this interesting 'away day' when we tour Hangar 42 workshop collection of the Spitfire ground display team. There are several Spitfire replicas and a Hawker Hurricane MKI along with a unique collection of wartime RAF Airfield vehicles and equipment. There are also exhibits recording local history including salvaged items from a P51 Mustang and a Junkers JU88 Bomber.

Coaching and admission included. Guests are very welcome to join us on this trip. For itinerary, price and further details on this or other Lunesdale Probus Club matters please contact -

Roger Carter. Lunesdale Probus Club. Email hornby.carts@ic24.net or Tel 015242 22283

### HEALTH AND WELLBEING EVENT IN HORNBY

Healthwatch Lancashire and Hornby Village Institute are hosting a health and wellbeing event on Wednesday 10th May in Hornby Village Institute, 10am-3pm. There will be lots of information and advice around health and social care from organisations including community health professionals, voluntary organisations, and services for children and young people. Drop in for a friendly chat and get to know your local community services.

Healthwatch Lancashire is your champion around health and social care services. Come and have a chat with us, we would love to hear about your experiences and how you feel local services could be improved. If you can't make it to this event, you can ring them on 01524 239100.

### PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING, ST PAULS CHURCH HALL, 13TH MAY

After a break because of COVID the Gardening Club will be trying to start its annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning event again this year in its \*\*\*new home\*\*\* of St Pauls Church Hall, Brookhouse on 13 May 2023 10am till 12 noon. This is a homely venue with parking.

As this is a restart venture we will not be having any craft stalls - just our usual selection of bedding and other plants from a reputable local nursery at a modest mark up and also donated plants. If you do have any plants you wish to donate please bring them along by 9.30 am and have them labelled so we know what they are!

There will be a raffle and you will be able to renew your Gardening Club membership which you will need to do if you want to come on our evening trip to Mill Croft Garden in June and our day trip to Harlow Carr in August.

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.

### CATON WI

Following last month's meeting, at which members were given a demonstration of Macrame by Louise Stevens, we plan to run a workshop. If you are interested, please let one of our members know so that we can keep you informed of the date.

At our next meeting on Thursday 4th May we shall be discussing the resolution which will be put to the Annual meeting of the National Federation later in the month. The Women's Institute is democratic and member-led, and the resolutions process is unique in putting members at the heart of decisions about campaign activity. Every issue that we campaign on stems directly from a resolution put forward by members and adopted at the Annual Meeting. WI members have a unique opportunity to turn a concern into a national campaign every year, backed by the whole of the WI. This year the resolution concerns "Clean rivers for people and wildlife" The NFWI urges its members, the wider public, local authorities and Government to make, support and promote applications for official designated bathing sites on appropriate stretches of rivers in their area. This will be as instrumental to the cleaning up of rivers as it has been for water quality improvement at coastal beaches. Since the River Lune is such a benefit to this area it is hardly surprising that this resolution is supported by our WI.

At the meeting we will also be looking ahead to the Lancashire Federation's County Show and learning how to make Iris folded cards which members may wish to enter in the Show. Guests are welcome to come along. For the cards you will need to bring Christmas wrapping paper, Sellotape and scissors. The meeting starts at 7.30pm in the Victoria Institute.

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**Zumba** - Thursday - 11.15am to 12.15pm - £5  
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**BROOKHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

We meet in the Victoria Institute every Sunday Morning at 10.45am. There is always a very warm welcome for anyone who joins us. Junior Church is available each week for the children. The service is always followed by refreshments and a chat.

*Meet to Eat:-* Friday 5th & 19th May. 12-30 at V.I.  
*Coffee & Cakes:-* Wednesday 10th May. 10-00 / 11-30 am at V.I.  
*Friday Friends:-* Friday 26th May. 11-30 / 1-30pm at V.I.

**ST PAUL'S CHURCH COFFEE MORNING**

The next Coffee Morning will be in the St Paul's Church Parish Hall on the 3rd of May 2023 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 £126.54 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.

**VOLUNTEERING IN THE VILLAGE CHURCHYARD**

Please! 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 all very much appreciate their contribution to village life. Thank you!

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. We are particularly looking for someone to do some regular strimming – could that be you?

Please contact [phrawsthorn@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phrawsthorn@hotmail.co.uk) if you would like more information.

**RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH**

There have been several developments recently at St Paul's Church that not everyone in the village may be aware of.

Further work on upgrading the Church Hall has taken place recently. The interior of the walls and the of the roof have been insulated and cladded. This has made the Hall a much warmer building and reduced energy usage. In November last year the Hall was redecorated throughout and new blinds were installed. These improvements make the Hall much brighter and attractive.

Thanks go to the Cottam Trust and the National Lottery for funding the insulation, cladding and redecoration. February saw the arrival of new seating and the installation of a new hot water boiler. The new seating was funded by the Co-op's Local Causes initiative. Thanks go both to the Co-op and to all who supported the Local Cause initiative. Other work planned for the near future includes the installation of B4RN into the Church Hall.

**LENT LUNCHEAS AT ST PAUL'S 2023**

The Lent Lunches at St Paul's raised £288.20 for the Samaritans. Thanks go to all those who attended these events and thanks also to those who worked so hard to make them successful.

**THE BELLS! THE BELLS!**

The bells at St Paul's are a carillon which can be rung by one person from the floor of the church tower. Would you like to learn how to ring them? It is manageable for all ages from about 10 and we have a very experienced ringer at church who would love to pass on his experience and knowledge. We love to hear them before services on a Sunday morning and at other special occasions. If you are interested please contact me on [tricia@marybankfarm.uk](mailto:tricia@marybankfarm.uk) and I will pass on your information. Many thanks.

**MOBILE DEFIBRILLATOR**

The mobile village Defibrillator travelled to Socx (not needed!) and will be at the Gala (hopefully also not needed). Don't forget that you can borrow it for any events - just contact me [tricia@marybankfarm.uk](mailto:tricia@marybankfarm.uk) for more information.

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### CATON ST PAUL'S

Wednesday 3rd - 10am communion with Rev Peter Calvert - just before the Coffee Morning.

Sunday 7th - 10am All Age Worship, led by our young people

Sunday 14th, 21st and 28th - Communion at 10am

Sunday Club on the 14th and 21st - meet in church at 10am.

Please do contact Helen on [vicar@stpaulscaton.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stpaulscaton.org.uk) for any further information.

### CATON METHODIST CHAPEL

**Weekly Sunday Service:** 10:30am We will worship at Caton apart from Sunday 14th May, when we will be at Brookhouse. Everyone very Welcome

**Chapel Anniversary** - Saturday 6th May 7pm. A Songs of Praise' with Rev Andrew and Ruth Champley. Supper at the close.

Followed by Sunday Morning Service. Taken by Susan Wilson

**Saturday Soup** - There will be no Saturday soup this month due to our Chapel Anniversary

**Crafts @ Caton** - Thursday 25th May between 10-12pm. Bring your craft items and have a chat over coffee

**Bible Study Live and via Zoom** - Fortnightly 7pm is held at The Lune Valley Methodist Hub with Rev Emma

Wednesday 10th and 24th May (2nd and 4th Wednesday) And also by zoom

If you would like to contact Rev Emma Holroyd [emma.holroyd@methodist.org.uk](mailto:emma.holroyd@methodist.org.uk)

### LUNE VALLEY METHODIST HUB - Brookhouse

**Sunday Service 14th May** - Rev Emma Holroyd 10:30am - Sunday Service finishing with refreshments

**Free Tea and Toast** - Wednesdays new time of 9.00am - 11.00am

**Children's/Easy Crafts** - Wednesday 31st May 10am - 12pm Come along and enjoy lots of craft activities for all ages with Tea and Toast.

**Book and Jigsaw Exchange** - Saturday 13th 10am-12pm With Coffee and biscuits choose a book or jigsaw, any donations will go to Intensive care unit at RLI.

**Bible Study Live and via Zoom** - Wednesday 10th and 24th May 7-8pm with Rev Emma and also via zoom

**'Caton and Friends for Ukraine'** continue to meet every fortnight on Saturday afternoons between 2-4pm, For coffee, Cake, English lessons and childrens activities, if you would like to help do pop along and have a chat.

Everyone is very welcome to any of the above events

If you would like to hire the building, please contact [circuit@northlancsmethodist.org.uk](mailto:circuit@northlancsmethodist.org.uk) or visit [www.northlancsmethodist.org.uk](http://www.northlancsmethodist.org.uk) for prices

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### CATON BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Alan Wandsworth - Tel 01524 771371

Church Website - [catonbaptist.org](http://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 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 and biscuits afterwards. All ladies from the village and further afield are welcome to join us and transport can be arranged if you need a lift. The dates for May are -

3rd Kim Lee and Capernwray Students, 17th Joy Bell, 31st Christine Wightman

We look forward to seeing you.

**THE GALA** - Look out for Caton Baptist Church at Caton Gala this year. We will have home made cakes etc for sale and serving cups of tea and coffee all in aid of St Johns Hospice. It will be good to see you there.

### UKRAINE SUPPORT WEEKEND

A really big thank you from Caton Baptist Church to everyone who contributed to the recent Ukraine support weekend, we were amazed at how many boxes of sorted goods we were able to send out, these goods were transferred to a warehouse in Preston and now even as you read this they will of been circulated to those who need them most in the Ukraine.

On behalf of these people and us - a massive thank you. <https://internationalaidtrust.org.uk/>

We have also organised another weekend for the collection of goods at the Baptist Church - 23rd and 24th September. So please consider if you have any clothes or other goods that could be sent directly to help the needy people of the Ukraine.

### GRESGARTH GARDEN OPEN

Gresgarth Gardens are open on Sunday 14th May 11am-5pm. £12 per person but Historic Houses members go free.

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**Water** - Water leaks, loss of water supply contact United Utilities on 0800 330033

**Blocked sewers and water pipe bursts** - contact United Utilities on their 24/7 helplines 0345 672 3723 or 0345 672 2999. Blocked roads due to flooding - ring Lancashire County Council on 0300 123 6786.

**Water pollution** in the River Lune or Artlebeck should be reported to the Environment Agency 24-hour hotline 0800 80 70 60. Take photos and if you can, collect any dead fish or other aquatic life.

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No bookings are required but we are happy to take reservations for up to 6 people after 2pm for a selection of sandwiches and cakes. Come July we will have been open for 2 years already! Have you tried us yet?

You can follow us and message us on Instagram @theoldpostofficecafe or Facebook The Old Post Office Cafe

Hope to see you soon, Clair and Pablo

**COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

You may have read in recent issues of The Link that the local B4RN volunteer group are providing funding for a Community Orchard scheme in our village. This will provide fruit and nuts for anyone in the village to harvest.

Representatives from the local B4RN volunteer group, Caton and Brookhouse Gardening Club, GrowCaton and Lachlan Rae Garden Management have been working with both the Parish and Lancashire County Council to agree how to go about bringing the idea to life and maintaining the trees in the future.

Three areas of land have been agreed which will fall into 2 phases.

Phase 1 - Fruit and Nut tree planting on Becksides and the grass area between Roman Crescent and Becksides. Becksides - Hazelnut and Walnut trees (dwarf variety) replacing trees removed due to Ash Dieback disease. Roman Way - Plum, Pear, Quince, Damson and Greengage trees

In both areas the varieties chosen will be easy to maintain and kept to a manageable height allowing the fruit to be harvested easily and without the use of ladders.

The grass in this area will continue to be mowed with a pathway mowed through the middle to allow access to the footpaths on either side. Fruit trees need annual pruning, and this will be undertaken by volunteers who have been coached in what is required for each tree.

Phase 2 - Fruit bushes on the spare land between the back gardens of houses on Fell View, Lesley Avenue and Copy Lane. This area will require preparation and planting will take place later in the year. We hope to be able to pick raspberries, blackcurrants, and other varieties next year and may also include some herbs and vegetables. When planting starts there will be very little disruption and noise so we hope that as "neighbours" of these areas you will not be adversely affected. Indeed, we very much hope you might choose to join in and help with the project.

**CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB**

Many thanks to the many members who came to the AGM last night. It is very gratifying for the committee to be supported in this way. We will continue to do our best to provide a nice programme and convivial events for you all to enjoy in 2023/24.

We start with our plant sale on Saturday 13 May in the Church Hall. See the separate Link entry. Being a new venture up there we are not sure how well it will go so please do consider popping in even just for a quick cuppa and perhaps buy a tray of bedding for couple of pounds.

Then on 20th May we will be at the Gala so please do visit our tent, say hello and have a rest. And of course enjoy the Gala which the Gala committee spend so much time organising.

On Thursday evening June 8th leaving Caton at 6pm by car we have arranged a special visit for the Gardening Club to Mill Croft, an NGS garden in Wennington. Mill Croft is a rural garden extending to about 3¼ acres with a summer flowering meadow, stream, trees, shrubs, herbaceous planting, vegetable plot and stumpery. It is a wonderful place. Parking is limited. Therefore as parking limits numbers this is a members only event. I was taking names at the AGM but it was so hectic do please ring me on 770919 to confirm being on the list or to put your name down if you intend to renew your membership and if you want a lift- I have 18 names already. So many volunteered their cars at the AGM that that's it - we have enough cars. Thank you. The cost will be a specially arranged £6 per person, most of which will go to the NGS charity and the rest towards the sumptuous tea and cake provided by our hosts Karl and Linda.

**GROW CATON**

The composting workshop last month was well attended and has inspired a number of people to composting more of their kitchen and garden waste. It was interesting to consider sharing a compost bin with neighbours for those who do not produce enough themselves. There is also scope to 'go big' and set up a community composting site. Support for this is available, it just takes volunteers to run it, could this be you? Notes from the talk will be made available in due course and if you have questions just ask us.

Spring is very slow this year, but our greenhouses and window sills are filling up with seedlings. We are looking for small pots (yoghurt/desert/etc pots) to use for sharing spare seedlings. If you can help, then please do drop some off at the produce shelves at 75 Brookhouse road. This is also where you will be able to pick up spare plants. May is a great month for starting off beans and we'll make sure there are bean seeds to collect from the seed swap box. If you are planning a bean wigwam, we may be able to supply canes too.

If anyone has surplus rhubarb, or other fruit as time goes on, then do feel free to leave some at the produce shelves. It will be great to share fresh produce again!

You can get in touch with us via Peter Collins at the Victoria Institute, via Brigitte 770771 or email growcaton@outlook.com, via Anne 771470.

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