

THE PRATTLE



Issue No.116

Halton-with-Aughton

December 2020/January 2021



Wishing all our readers and advertisers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Here's hoping 2021 is a better year!

All the Prattle Team

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE PRATTLE

WHAT'S ON INFO, ARTICLES & LETTERS TO THE EDITORS, **JAN & DAVE**,
by email to: haltonprattle@btinternet.com

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DEADLINES for Feb/Mar 2021

Copy: Wed 13th Jan 2021
Adverts: Wed 13th Jan 2021
Delivery: Fri 5th Feb 2021

Advertising Rates:

Box Ad: £10
Double Box Ad: £20
Classified Ad: £1 - 20 words



All adverts are published in good faith.
The Editorial team can offer no guarantees as to the quality of services advertised.



THE CHURCHES OF HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON

ST. WILFRID'S, HALTON

RECTOR Rev'd Susan Seed

The Vicarage, 2 Summerfield Drive,
Slyne-with-Hest, Lancaster LA2 6AQ

Tel: 01524 822128

e: revsusan.seed@btinternet.com

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Minister - currently vacant

All services start at 10:00 am

unless otherwise stated.

Bookings Barbara Wilkinson 811862

All service times are provisional.

Please check the church websites:

St Wilfrid's –

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11641/

St Saviour's –

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11636/

Services can also be found on the Church

Facebook pages

Services in December



6	10:00 am	Family Communion
8	9:00 am	Morning prayer
13	8:00 am	Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Family Worship
15	9:00 am	Morning prayer
20	10:00 am	Family Communion
22	9:00 am	Morning prayer
25	10:00 am	Christmas Day family Communion
27	10:00 am	Family Communion

Services in January

3	10:00 am	Family Communion
5	9:00 am	Morning prayer
10	8:00 am	Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Family Worship
12	9:00 am	Morning prayer
17	10:00 am	Family Communion
19	9:00 am	Morning prayer
24	10:00 am	Family Communion
22	9:00 am	Morning prayer
31	10:00 am	Family Communion

Services

There are currently no services at Halton United Reformed Church, but please watch out for updates on our website and the notice board outside church.

For the time being Sunday morning services are available online via Zoom.

See the main URC news for details:
<http://www.nlancsurc.org.uk/halton/>

ST SAVIOUR'S AUGHTON

Services in December

13	11:30 am	Holy Communion
25	10:00 am	Christmas Day Family Communion
27	11:30 am	Morning Prayer

Services in January

10	11:30 am	Holy Communion
24	11:30 am	Morning prayer
31	7:00 pm	Evening Prayer

From The Registers - Funerals

11th November – William Fisher

Live streamed services onto Facebook:

Sunday 10 am – Morning Service – 2nd and 4th Sundays St Wilfrid's, 1st and 3rd Sundays St Luke's Slyne. Cafe Church – 3rd Sunday, 6:30 pm on Zoom.

Monday – 7:30 pm – Evening Prayer – St Luke's

Tuesday – 9am – Morning Prayer – St Wilfrid's

Wednesday – 9am – Morning Prayer – St Luke's

Wednesday – 7:30 pm – Compline – St Luke's

Friday – 7:30 pm – Compline – St Luke's

The services will be shared onto all the Benefice Facebook pages and the Sunday service is also available on YouTube – search: 'St Lukes Church Slyne with Hest.

ST. JOSEPH'S R.C. CHURCH

Saturday Vigil at 6:30 pm, Sunday Mass throughout the year at 10:00am.

Sunday Mass is streamed on our Facebook page - visit <https://stjosephs.lancaster.co.uk/> for more information.

Clergy: Fr Philip Conner,

Deacon Stephen Pendlebury,

St. Joseph's Church

Slyne Road,

Lancaster, LA1 2HU

Tel: 01524 32493

VALLEY CHURCH LANCASTER

Valley is one church across many locations and we have the privilege of extending the vision of creating a home to empower a new generation, with an Extension Service in Lancaster.

Due to current restrictions on gatherings, Valley Church has moved online! Join us every Sunday at 10:30am, 4:30pm & 6:45pm. For information go to www.valleychurch.eu/Lancaster or follow us on twitter, instagram @valley_lanc and Facebook at Valley Church Lancaster.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Unfortunately the problems with the floor are not yet resolved, and so we do not have a date for reopening. There will be no services or events at the church for the time being. This includes Sunday Morning services, as well as coffee mornings, Here 4 You, MySpace, and Soup and a Song.

We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause our congregation and other church users.

Please check the web site, or the notice board outside church, for updates.

<http://www.nlancsurc.org.uk/halton/>

We look forward to welcoming you back soon.

ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP AND SUPPORT

Even though our building is closed, our church continues to be here in Halton when it is needed. If you require prayer, or ministerial support, please do get in touch with the Church secretary, Barbara Wilkinson. Sunday morning worship will continue on Zoom. For information on the Zoom services, or for a printed weekly service sheet, please contact Barbara Wilkinson on 811862 or barbarastandenjones@hotmail.com.

ST WILFRID'S HALTON AND ST SAVIOUR, AUGHTON CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Due to the pandemic many of our usual Christmas services and events will be happening in a different way. Keep a

look out on the Church Websites and Facebook pages for details of our Virtual Christingle and Carol Service. Depending on Covid-19 restrictions at the time, we also hope to have St Wilfrid's Church open on Christmas Eve afternoon so that children can come and see the crib.

VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are unable to hold Messy Church or Children's Church at the moment. However, children can join in with the exciting Benefice 'Virtual Sunday School'. To find this on YouTube, search 'St Luke's Church Slyne with Hest'.

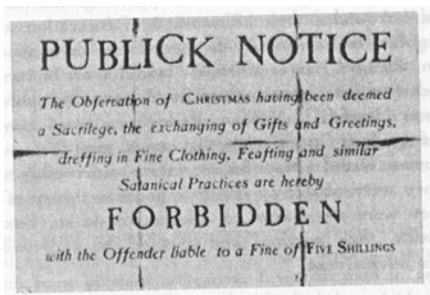
THE CHURCH IS HERE FOR YOU!

Every week the Churches pray for different streets in Halton and for the village of Aughton. Wherever you live, please get in contact with Rev'd Susan if you have any pray requests for specific people, places or situations. (Details are kept confidential). Contact Rev'd Susan at revsusan.seed@btinternet.com.



REVERENT REFLECTIONS

CHRISTMAS CANCELLED?



Recent postings on Facebook have compared Boris Johnson to Oliver Cromwell saying that they have both effectively abolished Christmas. Before Cromwell came to power, Christmas was one of the most important dates in the calendar, both as a religious festival and as an important holiday period. During the twelve days of Christmas, churches and other buildings were decorated and church services were widely attended. Gifts were exchanged at New Year, and Christmas boxes were distributed to servants, tradesmen and the poor. Food was consumed in large amounts, and the rich and poor alike indulged in dancing, singing, games and plays. Then in 1644 it was all stopped because Christmas was banned!

Christmas then, as now, was a time of both long-cherished rituals and excessive social behaviour. From the mid 1500s, objections to supposedly frivolous additions to the religious calendar, like Christmas, were voiced by Puritan leaders. They saw Christmas as a waste-

 <p>Private Clinic in Carnforth</p> <p>Cell No: 07725300290 Work No: 01524 730179</p> <p>carol@carnforthchiropodist.co.uk</p> <p>www.carnforthchiropodist.co.uk</p>	<p>Carol M Sedgwick BSc (Hons), HCPC, SCP</p> <p>CARNFORTH Chiropody / Podiatry Treatments</p> <p>Member of the Health & Care Profession Council</p>  <p><i>'Your wellbeing always comes first'</i></p>
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ful festival that threatened Christian beliefs and encouraged immoral activities, to the 'great dishonour of God'. The discontent felt within the Puritan community towards festivals led to the enactment of forceful legislation. In January 1645, Parliament produced a new Directory for Public Worship that made clear that festival days, including Christmas, were not to be celebrated but spent in respectful contemplation.

At the time of writing this, we are experiencing a second lockdown and we have little idea of what restrictions will still be in place by Christmas. One thing is certain, Christmas will be very different this year. However, despite everything, Christmas is NOT cancelled! We can still celebrate the birth of the Christ child, God Incarnate, and hear again the message of love, joy and peace that the birth of Jesus brings to us all. Jesus was God incarnate, in that He was God in the flesh and came to live among us. This means that Jesus knew what it means to suffer and experienced all the emotions

that we do and understands the struggles that we are all going through at this difficult and challenging time.

I have been amazed at the imagination and flexibility that people have shown to find new ways of doing things since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. I am sure that this will also be so for finding innovative and memorable ways of celebrating Christmas this year. Yes, there will be sadness if we can't have large gatherings of family and friends. This year we will probably have to celebrate in more personal and intimate ways, but this doesn't mean that we can't still have fun! It may also be that as we celebrate in new ways we may also think more about what Christmas is really about.

Revd Susan Seed
Rector of St Wilfrid's
Halton with St Saviour
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VILLAGE NEWS

HALTON LIBRARY

Post lockdown Halton Library expects to reopen with the same hours:

Tuesday 1-7pm

Wednesday 9-1pm

Friday 1-5pm

Saturday 9-1pm

You may have to wait to enter the library at certain times as we need to control the number of people inside in order to keep everybody at a safe distance. If you are uncertain about visiting us, we can arrange to have books and library items delivered to you with the help of our library volunteer.

We also offer a service where we will select books according to your preferences, and pack them up ready for yourself to quickly collect or you can nominate someone.

Visit: www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries or ring 0300 123 6703



NEWS FROM HALTON GARDENING GROUP

Firstly, a very big thank you to all who came to our Outdoor Plant Sale on September 19th and visited our plant stalls. We would also like to thank those who gave us generous donations as well as extra plants and produce to sell. Finally, a special thank you to Maureen Richardson and the Centre staff who helped and advised us with our last minute decision to hold Garden Gate Plant Sales in addition to our gazebo stall on the football field.

Our members enjoyed meeting gardeners of all ages with very varying gardening experience and we hope that the plants purchased have settled into their new locations. We were extremely fortunate with the weather and as our visitors walked round

the village, some remarked that the sunny afternoon held for them happy memories of the last Garden Safari when members' gardens were open for all to enjoy. After such an enjoyable afternoon we are pleased to report that £685.72 was received for HGG funds.

Some of this money will be used towards the upkeep of HGG garden areas but the main proportion has been set aside to start a fund for major improvements in the Memorial Garden. For several years this pleasant but challenging public space has been loyally tended by one of our members but is now in need of renovation. With the agreement of the Parish Council, the Memorial Garden has become our main focus for this year and next, and a new subgroup has been formed to make plans for this exciting new project for our village. At the moment planning is in the very early stages but we will publish updates as this develops.

Many of you often stop and talk to us as we work on our gardens around the village. We have been encouraged by your positive comments and we particularly appreciated the letter of thanks from Marion in an earlier Prattle edition. Our planting areas all have the approval of the Parish Council and are tended by a small band of HGG gardeners who seek to improve our village green spaces, thereby sharing the pleasures and benefits of gardens and gardening with the wider community. Over the last few years we have adopted several new areas and evidence of HGG activities can now be seen throughout the village. At the lower end of Halton we take care of the Burial Ground, the Memorial Garden and the bus stop planter. Another three



areas are to be found at the other end of the village: the top bus stop planter, the Village Stores planter and the double sided stone planter at the Low Road Halton sign. The central ginnel, linking the High Road to the Low Road, contains a further two little gardens: the raised wooden bed at the top of the ginnel and the two sides of the Lythe Fell entrance half way down the ginnel path. At the Centre we have a further four areas: the recently constructed Terrace Garden to the left of the main entrance, two grey planters in front of the main building, two wooden raised beds in the children's area and the Wildflower Bank facing the football field.

Most of the gardens and planters have been funded through HGG plant sales, along with generous grants from Halton Lune Trust and Carnforth Rotary. In addition, we have received seeds from Grow Wild, the national outreach initiative of the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, to help re-establish the Wildflower Bank. The wooden raised beds at the Centre were constructed by Centre staff who also help with the annual trim on the Wildflower Bank, and the double stone planter on the Low Road was built for us by Wrenman Homes. This year we purchased our spring bulbs from a wholesaler and a subgroup was formed to choose a selection that would complement all our areas. As well as economising on expense and time, this had the added benefit of an enjoyable meeting in a member's garden in beautiful late summer sunshine.

Over the winter months HGG members will be busy completing the bulb planting, discussing ideas for the Memorial Garden and making plans for a Spring Sale in 2021, hopefully in late May. Details of this event will be published as soon as possible and

we look forward to another afternoon of sharing plants and garden ideas with fellow enthusiasts.

HGG meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. and have taken place at the Centre and by Zoom. In most years meetings have stopped in December and January but, with a major new project to discuss and in the absence of our normal Christmas social gathering, we will be meeting throughout the year. New members are always welcome and contact can be made by telephone: 811068 (Monica Williams, Chair), 07523 182617 (Anne Snowden, Secretary) or email haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com

HALTON LUNE HYDRO – Community Project



The year has continued to be eventful. We published our July report on storms Ciara and Dennis in February and no turbine running during the long summer dry spell, with rocky outcrop sunbathing and swimming, as well as walkers taking advantage of the numerous countryside footpaths.

Autumn has introduced the usual blocking of turbine inlet screens by leaves, compensated by amazing riverside views, and whilst revenue is down compared to a very smooth 2019, we had no real complaints – until heavy prolonged rain brought a tidal wave of water from the various catchments overnight early November and more boulders into the hydro inlet. This will require a second drain down of the year with outside working and Covid precautions, so definitely a complaint against the law of probability.

As mentioned in July, it is the expertise, enthusiasm and good sense of humour of the Hydro team that keep it all ticking over, with results of producing "green" electricity.

Details of the date and location for unveiling each window are included on the map on page 8. A bingo card is also included, in case you'd like to visit the windows in a different order, or tick them off with children as you go. A limited number of printed A4 maps are also available at The Village Butchers, Village Store and Newsagents. I will post a clue about the theme of the window for that day on the Halton Village Advent Calendar Facebook group and also on the village community Facebook page. Images of the windows will also be shared there, for those unable to physically view them.

I really hope that you enjoy our Living Advent Calendar event and that it brings a little extra festive cheer to the village, after such a difficult year. Take care, stay safe and Merry Christmas!

Sam Pritchard



HALTON LUNE TRUST NOTICE OF AGM AND INVITATIONS FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE TRUST

Halton Lune Trust AGM will be held on Monday 15th February 2021 at 6pm on Zoom. It will include a report and accounts for the year to end 31st December 2020, and a presentation on the grants which have been awarded over the past five years. All are welcome to attend – contact the Trust's secretary, Debbie Storr, for the Zoom link (email secretaryhaltonlunetrust@gmail.com). Applications by community groups to the Trust, which will be assessed according to the criteria laid out below and on our website www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk, are welcome, and should be received by the Secretary by the end January 2021, using

a form which can be downloaded from the website. For an informal discussion about an application prior to submitting it, you can contact Fiona Frank, Trustee, on 07778 737681.

PETE LAMBSON RETIRES FROM HALTON LUNE TRUST

We're sad to say that one of our founder trustees, Pete Lambson, has been forced by ill-health to resign as chair of the Trustees of Halton Lune Trust.

Pete has been involved with Halton Lune Trust since its establishment in 2010, and

HALTON FLOOD ACTION GROUP

Due to the increasing number of flood events that are occurring throughout the village, and the lack of coordinated support from external agencies, we have decided to set up a community-run flood action group. Our aims are to

- Support those individuals vulnerable to flooding within our community
- Provide a point of information and reference for those at risk from flooding
- Coordinate local flood responses for at risk areas within the village
- Work with relevant agencies to minimise the impact of and prevent future flooding.

If you would like to get involved in the group, either with strategic planning, coordinating local flood responses, or receiving support during flooding please email us at haltonfloodactiongroup@gmail.com or call Kathryn on 812695. Alternatively join our Facebook group for discussions and updates.

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has been Chair of Trustees since 2015. Trustee to help to manage the Trust's business. With experience in the aircraft industry and as Director of Technology, Morecambe High School and Teacher of Technology, Lancaster Royal Grammar School, he played a major role in the setting up of the Trust alongside the original trustees John Urry, Professor of Sociology at Lancaster University, Chris Baxter, an engineer specialising in energy, and Ronald Hepwood, farmer and Parish Councillor.

As past president of Carnforth Rotary, as well as heading up Halton Village Emergency Planning group, and playing a major role in completing the Village Disaster Plan, Pete's commitment to community and village life shines through everything he does.

He is passionate about the role of the Trust in supporting community development, and is very sad to be stepping down. The current trustees wish him well and are committed to take forward Pete's long term vision for the Trust as a source of funding for village ventures for many years to come.

HALTON LUNE TRUST SEEKS NEW TRUSTEE

With the resignation of Pete Lambson, Halton Lune Trust is now seeking a new

Trustee to help to manage the Trust's business. Halton Lune Trust is a charitable organisation registered with the Charity Commissioners, charity number 1160975. It was set up to distribute the profits of Halton Lune Hydro for public benefit within and around the Parish of Halton with Aughton. The Trust specifically seeks applications which involve individuals and voluntary groups within the community in the following ways (these are not exhaustive criteria):

- Improving and enhancing recreational opportunities and sporting activities
- Supporting energy associated measures delivering energy efficiency and carbon reducing technologies
- Promotion of conservation and enhancement of the natural environment for the benefit of the community
- Promotion of conservation, protection and improvement of land, buildings, other structures and artefacts of particular historic, architectural, archaeological or cultural significance.

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Ensuring that the Trust functions within the legal and regulatory framework and in line with the Trust Deed

- Maintaining sound financial management of the Trust's resources, ensuring expenditure is in line with the Trust's objectives, and investment activities meet accepted standards and policies
- Regularly attending and actively contributing in Trust meetings
- Acting in the best interests of the Trust at all times
- Maintaining confidentiality about any sensitive or confidential information received in the course of duties as a trustee.

Trustees serve a three year term in the first instance, and are expected to attend four meetings in a year, which are usually held in the evenings. Meetings are currently being held online but were held in different locations within the village prior to March 2020.

Trustees should be 18 years or older and shall normally reside within the Parish of Halton with Aughton.

Applications, stating your interest in the role of Trustee, your experience in any of the areas of interest served by the Trust and/or in general charitable/trust work, and your connection to Halton village, to be sent by email to Debbie Storr, Trust secretary, by email at secretaryhaltonlunetrust@gmail.com to arrive by Tuesday 29th December. Interviews will be held (online) on the evening of Monday 11th January.

The current trustees are Carol Slinger (Treasurer), Debbie Storr (Secretary), Fiona Frank and Jonathan Sewell.

Further information on the work of the Trust can be found on the website at www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk



SANTA'S SLEIGH 2020

We have considered numerous options for the Rotary Santa this year and sadly, shall not be able to do street to street visits or have static locations, due to the Covid restrictions.

On-line interactive is however a possibility and we are progressing down this route, along with a Facebook donate button, as well as asking supermarkets and other organisations to put our collection buckets at check-outs, two weeks before Christmas.

These donations, as usual, going back into the local area for worthy causes, including Cancer charities and Air Ambulance.

Just point your phone or tablet camera at one of these QR codes, for quick Facebook or Web access.



Facebook



Website

A RECENT ADVENTURE ON THE LOW ROAD, HALTON

On Sunday 30th August, a neighbour and I decided to treat ourselves to an outing along Low Road, Halton, in the direction of Crook of Lune. The weather was pleasant and we were looking forward to our trip. My neighbour is a recently arrived and enthusiastic resident who has been particularly impressed with, and enjoyed walking along the pavement footpaths running out of the village – until Sunday when she accompanied me with the scooter.



This scooter has no suspension to cushion the passenger from bumps and is designed for rolling along smooth pavements and roads. Low Road has a series of dropped kerbs which follow no particular pattern so our journey involved using our look-out skills to try to work out if and how to continue along the pavement – this necessitated zig-zagging from the pavement on one side to the pavement on the other and crossing the road (as well as avoiding the traffic) several times. Sometimes there were no dropped kerbs. Eek!!

All this caused much bumping up and down, off and on to pavements. Not enjoyable and rather strenuous (especially on the wrists and arms). Not to mention the pavement hazards of bollards, garden hedges and other foliage sprouting out, using up space thus causing much veering about and ducking to avoid briars and bushes in the face.

Anyway, we made our way out of the village until, with no warning, we reached a part of the footpath which was so narrow that the scooter was trapped! No way forward, no space to turn, no dropped kerb – only reverse, uphill!! Well, at least it wasn't raining.

We'd been hoping for a pleasant outing, not a learning curve :(What a disappointment. **Do you suppose the 'dropped kerb' elves might read this?**

Name supplied

ST WILFRID'S SCHOOL



The new term is now well underway and we are all working hard to help the children catch up and continue with their learning at this difficult time.

In the autumn, we usually have a Community Open Evening – inviting people to have a look around school and see the children's work on display. Because this is not possible this year, we have created a virtual tour of St Wilfrid's which can be found on our website. We also use our Twitter account to celebrate what's going on in school. Please take a look!

Because of the incredible generosity of our school families, we are pleased to be able to support the Boxes of Hope charity once again this year, by sending around 60 shoe box Christmas gifts to



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children in Romania. Closer to home, the children had a non-uniform day and collected small change, in support of BBC Children in Need.

Due to the restrictions we are planning something very different this year for Christmas, with a recorded performance of our Nativity for parents and families to enjoy. In the midst of all the challenges everyone is facing, it is good to focus on the hope brought by celebrating the birth of Jesus.

At the time of writing preparations are now near completion for the installation of B4RN and we are grateful to all the volunteers who have worked so hard to make this happen. We are all looking forward to the benefits this will bring to St Wilfrid's and are excited to become a B4RN hub, supporting nearby houses to access the service.

We still have a **vacancy** for a Welfare Assistant to help look after the children at lunchtime. If you are interested and would like further details, please contact the school office on 01524 811230 or email bursar@st-wilfrids.lancs.sch.uk
With best wishes,

Claire Weymouth, Headteacher
St Wilfrid's Church of England Primary School
www.stwilfrids-halton.co.uk
@ stwilfshalton

HALTON SCOUT NEWS

What a roller-coaster we have had since March. We still haven't been able to re-start scouting fully. The situation with face-to-face meetings has been changing regularly with the Covid-19 situation, making it extremely difficult trying to organise any in-person meetings.

We are currently fully locked down, and it is unlikely that there will be any face to face scouting taking place now before the new year, although some of the sections have been trying to do some form of scouting digitally.

We have had some financial help during this difficult period, and have recently received some funding from the CO-OP as one of their chosen local charities for the year, and also from Carnforth Rotary. This means that even though we aren't receiving any money from subs we are relatively financially secure at the moment, unlike many groups around the country.

We will have had our very first online AGM via Zoom by the time this article is published, here's hoping we don't have any technical issues...

Hopefully we will be back meeting sometime early in New year, but at the moment it's impossible to know when that will be.

John Elliott
GSL and Scout leader



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The Victoria Institute, Caton

TORRISHOLME CRICKET CLUB UPDATE

www.torrisholmecc.co.uk

With the season now over the club is concentrating on maintenance and development for next year. We have purchased a new outfield mower which will make the job of cutting the ground much quicker and more efficient, with a better quality of cut. We also plan to buy a new electronic score box with the help of a grant from the Palace Shield and a loan from the ECB.

No courses are currently planned due to Covid restrictions and we are unlikely to have access to indoor nets in the spring but will open our outdoor nets as soon as the weather permits. Those nets were in use in October when the ECB used them to complete outstanding Level 3 Coaching Assessments under the watchful eye of former Lancashire Captain and England U21 coach, John Abrahams. We hope to train another umpire (remotely) over the winter and, if coaching courses become available, we have two young players keen to attend.

Looking forward to next summer we plan to run an extra Sunday team and captains for all five senior teams have been identified ahead of the AGM. We will run a similar number of junior teams and extra coaches or volunteers are always welcome as the number of teams seems to grow every year. With enough support and access to facilities we may well be in double figures next summer. Under 9s to Under 19s, girls,

plus four weekend and a mid week team puts a lot of pressure on the ground and the facilities and we are, as always, indebted to Groundsman Eddy, the coaches and the bar and buildings team led by Doug and Wayne.

With a vaccine on the horizon and experience gained last year we strongly believe that we will play a full season next year, maybe with some limited restrictions, so if you or your child are interested in being involved at the club as a player, volunteer, coach or sponsor please contact Mark Drinkall, Junior Chair on 07738252449 or by email drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk in the first instance.

Mark Drinkall, November 12th 2020.



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NEWS FROM THE HEARTS OF HALTON W.I.

A BIG THANK YOU to the president, Jane Mealor, and the other committee members for doing a fabulous job of keeping in touch with members and helping the group to stay connected during these challenging times. Every member recently received a Bonfire Night themed goody bag containing home made sticky gingerbread (absolutely delicious ... and shared with many husbands and partners); some tempting home-made biscuits; treacle toffee and a tea-bag ... to help it all slip down very nicely thank you! (Not sure our hips are thanking them, but very much appreciated nonetheless. There is also a monthly 'lucky dip' where names are drawn out of a hat to be the lucky recipient of some goodies.

There are regular emails, Facebook posts and, of course, our lively, entertaining and informative WhatsApp group.

In September we held our first virtual Zoom meeting where members learnt a few top tips on 'Cracking Composition'

to enhance their taking of photographs. There is a monthly photo competition and some wonderful pics have been shared on the WhatsApp group.

The local federation is also running a programme of Zoom talks which members are able to access.

Of course, we will be missing out on our end of year celebrations and parties, but there are plans afoot to have a seasonal Zoom meeting where members can share favourite poems, readings, stories, songs and carols. Some members have signed up to participate in Halton's Living Advent Calendar event – looking forward to that.

In the meantime, we send you every best wish and hope that you are all keeping safe and well. Let's hope the New Year brings fresh hope and good news re moving forward.



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THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Halton Community Association Charity No. 115206

**www.haltoncentre.org / Information 811316 / Hall/Room hire 811444/
info@haltoncentre.org**

NEWS & INFO – See more details/info on our website

Hall or Room Hire: ring Carol 01524 811444 Bookings@haltoncentre.org **All other info:** Events tickets – TicketSource or Coffee Shop or ring office 01524 811316 or email info@haltoncentre.org.

The Centre wishes all our users, visitors, staff, volunteers and supporters a happy and healthy Christmas and hope that you can all spend it with your families and loved ones. The news of a vaccine, although tentative, is a huge boost to morale and offers us a light at the end of the tunnel.

While the Centre was closed during the lockdown, it emphasised the need for a toilet with outside access for both visitors and our regular outside bookings. When the Centre is closed from the early evening, the play areas can remain very

busy, especially during the light summer evenings, but there are no public toilet facilities available in the area. The Centre will be looking into this and, if feasible, will work towards making this our next fund-raising project, once Covid 19 is under control.

BUILDING WORK & GRANTS

The 'Changing Spaces' room and new toilet facilities within the old toilet & changing room block is now complete apart from finishing off decoration and snagging. During this latest lockdown, which hopefully will be lifted when you receive this, everything will have been finalised. Official opening will have to wait until we get the Covid all clear. This facility will be a great asset, to support all disabilities, and help with Covid 19 recoveries. Although we were fortunate to receive some grant funding for the

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CARE GROUP

Care is at the heart of everything we do

project, in order to complete it we had to use our emergency reserves. The Covid 19 restrictions have significantly reduced our income as distancing regulations made it impossible for many of our regular user groups to continue.

The hire of the building and café are our only income apart from fundraising events, donations or grants. Please consider supporting your Community Centre by donating something, however small, to help us to continue to provide the facilities for you, while we are unable to trade normally or have any fundraising events ourselves, until this pandemic is over.

We can't wait to be able to invite you all to a celebration for our very prestigious Queen's award for volunteering and to show off our state of the art changing spaces. Unfortunately, we can't plan anything at the moment but it WILL happen eventually.

GENERAL & COVID PRECAUTIONS

Everyone MUST wear a mask and sani-

tise their hands before entering the building. The Centre is working as two separate areas, downstairs and upstairs, with no contamination between the two.

Access to the hall is via the front ramp, not the steps, providing a one way system by exiting through a different door. The downstairs toilets are **ONLY** available to the group who are hiring the hall and no one else. The lift is out of use & the stairs to be used by staff only. There will be a time space for cleaning between one group leaving and another entering.

The upstairs toilet is the **ONLY** one available for public use and is only available during the hours when the Coffee Shop is open. There is a one way system in place for both the Coffee Shop and the toilet.

All groups have been provided with the Covid 19 safety rules and regulations of the premises. The Centre staff will ensure wherever possible that all people who enter the premises comply. Every

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REDUCTION DAYS FOR SENIORS - GENTS - CHILDREN

effort has been made by our staff to safeguard those who use our facilities. Those who attend the outside spaces should comply with social distancing rules while visiting our premises.

NEW SESSIONS, SESSION NEWS & CHANGES

Preschool & Kids Club are now in the Hall, Monday to Friday 7:30-6pm.

Pilates, Taekwondo, Outdoor Circuits, Reeder Dance, SQ Dance were closed during the November lockdown but will restart again as soon as possible.

Our small group Café sessions, by appointment - The Luncheon Club Café, Knitter Natter Café, Garden Group Café, Memory Café, Lock Down Baby Café, Winter Games Café - has proved very successful in helping our more vulnerable villagers to venture from their lockdown isolation to a safe environment following Covid guidelines.

Anyone interested in any of these 'Café groups' should contact the group leaders or the Centre for more information. The MUGA resurfacing was completed

in September and has now become even more popular and extremely busy. There are no more regular slots available, only one-off weekend spaces. All other times are for general public use.

All MUGA & outdoor bookings were cancelled during the November lockdown and will be notified of restart dates when closure is lifted.

If a session is not mentioned – see What's On page.

FORTHCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS @ THE CENTRE ring 811316 for more info.
Outside Garden & Plant Sale Sat 22 May 2021 – Ann 811684

COFFEE SHOP HOURS

info-www.haltoncentre.org/about/cafe

Monday to Friday 2-5pm – Weekends 10-5pm – UPPER ENTRANCE ONLY

The Coffee Shop is open as a take-away with a one way system in place. The hand sanitizer must be used and a mask worn before entering the building. Entry will be by Upper Foyer entrance only. The only toilet available to the public will be the upper disability toilet off the Foy-

er. Access is by the upper entrance only, whether to the Café or the toilet.

The one way system gives exit from the building through M2.

There are tables/benches provided outside to enjoy your purchases.

Volunteer help is needed to cover 2pm – 5pm. Come along and meet new people and get involved in village life.

Contact Naomi 811316 on coffeeshop@haltoncentre.org and she'll be delighted to tell you all about it.

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Visit the Centre @ Halton's website

<https://www.haltoncentre.org>

General Information: Office 811316 or

Email – info@haltoncentre.org

Centre Manager: Maureen Richardson: 811316. Email, or pop in one afternoon.

Hall or Room Hire: Carol Holman email bookings@haltoncentre.org or 811444

Facebook page: The Centre's active Facebook page announces events & activities. Keep up to date & 'like' the page.

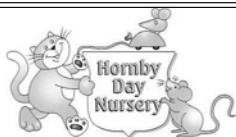
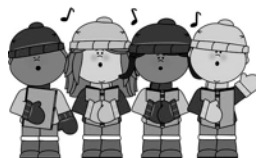
<https://www.facebook.com/HaltonCentre>

Any queries to Publicity & Marketing Officer, Janet Theobald, or to receive regular Centre information newsletter, sign up at the bottom of our home page www.haltoncentre.org

The '**What's On**' pages in the **Prattle** list all regular clubs, groups, classes and contacts held at the Centre, or pick up individual information fliers from the Foyers at the Centre.

All the above was correct on 11 November. Covid 19 regulations may have changed when you read this.

Carol Holman –
Bookings



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WHAT'S ON IN HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON?

All events are at The Centre @ Halton unless specified otherwise
AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL: BOOKINGS 07980 573805 or tim.4230@gmail.com
THE CENTRE @ HALTON: HALL/ROOM HIRE 811444 or info@haltoncentre.org

The situation may have changed so check with the organiser for the latest information!

WEEKLY EVENTS

Weekdays Mon - Fri:

Kids Club: 7:30-9am, 3:15-5:45pm, Donna 07855 326670

Pre-school: 9:30-2:45pm daily, Louise 811811

Mondays:

Outdoor Circuits: 6-7pm 811316

Lune Valley Voices: 6:45-8:45pm Sian Phillips 07803 955658 will resume asap

Meditation Group: 7-8:30pm 811013 for location

American Square Dancing: 7:30-10pm

Brian 811444 will resume asap

5-a-side: 8-9pm Andrew 074434 26458

Tuesdays:

Lockdown Baby Café: 1011 10-11am By appointment only 811316

Knit 'n' Natter, Crafts & Chatter Café: 2-4:30pm free Lyn 811694 M1

Beavers: 5:30-6:30 07960 942082 Scout Hut

Taekwondo: 6:15-7:15pm Mick 07985125530

Cub Scouts: 6:45-8pm term time Scout Hut HQ 811778

Reeder Dance: 7:30-9:30pm Latin American 07778 919689 to book a place

Quiz Night: The Greyhound 812054

Wednesdays:

Walking Football: 10-11:30am on Field £3. John 01524 418753

Winter Games Café: 2pm; to book a place Anne 811052

Pilates: 6:15-7:15 07799068191

Scouts: 6:45-8:30pm 811360 Scout Hut

Walking Netball: 7-8pm on MUGA, when inside 7:30-8:30. £4 811316

Thursdays:

Circuits: 9.20-9:50am Kate Hill

07793970435 Aughton Village Hall

Pilates: 10-10:45am Kate Hill 07793970435 Aughton Village Hall

Samba Espirito (Drumming): 6:30-9:30pm Karen 07711 262288

Carpet Bowls: 7:30pm Aughton Hall, Tim 07980 573805. Closed during Covid restrictions

Evenings Sun - Thur

Meditative Evening Prayer: 7:30pm term time 888588 Lunesdale Community 78 Beech Rd

Saturdays:

Live Entertainment: 8:30 onwards, The Greyhound 812054

Sundays:

Valley Church: 10am Chrissie 07428 165505

FOOTBALL

Halton Jnr Football Club

Damian 07850 913051

Saturday 9:30-11:30; 3-6 yr olds

Sunday 10-2; 7-14 yr olds

(times depending on fixtures)

Contact secretary@haltonjuniorsfc.com

FORTNIGHTLY EVENTS

Tuesdays: Lunesdale Camera Club: URC
7:30pm 720601

Fridays: Memory Café: 11am–12:30pm;
by appointment Rita 07979715041
55's Luncheon Club Café: 10am–12:30pm;
by appointment 811316

MONTHLY EVENTS

MONDAYS:

2nd Mon: Halton Reading Group: 9:30–
10:30am 07894 247710

TUESDAYS:

1st Tues: B4RN Progress Meeting: 7:30pm
3rd Tues: Gardening Group: 9:30–
10:30am M1 (exc Aug) Chair Monica Wil-
liams. 811068. Email:
monsyd1947@gmail.com

WEDNESDAYS:

1st Wed: HCA meeting: 7:30pm 811316

2nd Wed: Parish Council Meeting: 7:15pm
(except August) The Centre 07810 356929

3rd Wed: WI: School 6:45pm Jane 812702.
closed until 2021

Last Wed: Halton with Aughton Heritage
Group, 7:30 @ URC. Email Haltonwith
aughtonheritagegroup@gmail.com

THURSDAYS:

4th Thurs: Lune Valley Social Activities
Group Dominoes night: URC Hall, 7pm.
George 07772 014496

FRIDAYS:

1st Fri: Hospice Friends Coffee Morning:
9:30–11:30 The Courtyard Café at St John's
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ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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BROADBAND FOR THE RURAL NORTH, B4RN

B4RN IS HERE, AND IT'S LIVE

The first properties in Halton have gone live, with a B4RN connection provided from the new cabinet at The Centre. Already a prime beneficiary is St Wilfrid's school which now has free gigabit fibre-optic broadband connection provided by B4RN. Not only is the service free, but it is also more than ten times faster than the school previously had.

B4RN is installing an independent fibre optic network in the village. This is entirely separate from the old copper-based OpenReach network that all other broadband services are currently delivered on. The bandwidth differences are, effectively, the difference between photons and electrons. Copper uses electrons for data transmission, while fibre uses photons. Light is faster than electrical pulses, so fibre can transmit more bits of data per second. At the time of writing, we have connected *around sixty properties in the village*.

CORE ROUTE UPDATE

The installation of the core fibre and Toby boxes by the B4RN civil's team is now well underway. All of Forgewood estate and areas around Lythe Fell and Clougha Avenues are now complete. Work is now progressing along High Road and on to the Bay Gateway bridge; essential work to make a second resilient link to the B4RN network, a must for providing a robust network for the village.

As the team progresses along this route, they will install Toby Boxes outside prop-

erties on High Rd in the North West of the Village. On their return from the bridge, the team will proceed to St Wilfrid's Park, Meadowfield, New Street, Rectory Paddock, Victoria Place.

FROM THE TOBY BOX TO THE PROPERTY

B4RN drop a connection in the pavement on the boundary of your property, in a Toby Box. It is your job to get the line from the Toby Box and into your house. Not as tricky as you think. Street reps and residents are already doing this on Clougha, Forgewood, and Lythfell. The Street Rep team has developed ways and means of finding the path of least resistance to make the job as simple as possible.

STEPS, MATERIALS, & EQUIPMENT

There are three stages to getting the fibre from the Toby Box and into your property:

1. **7mm ducting:** has to be installed from the Toby Box to the part of the house the fibre-optic enters (preferably, but not essentially, underground. Some connections have run along walls and fences).
2. **House Kit:** This takes the external ducting from the exterior to the interior of the property, and into a small termination point (akin to your phone socket).
3. **Router:** The kit that connects you to the network.

Once stages 1-2 are complete, we are ready to blow the fibre optic cable to your property. Step 3 is only required to connect to the live service.

WHO DOES THE WORK?

Getting the connection from the Toby Box is done in one of 4 ways:

1. **DIY:** - you do this yourself
2. **Street group:** - you and your neighbours all help each other (essentially still DIY).
3. **Private contractor/handyman:** - at your cost.
4. **Village volunteer group:** - This is not available to the majority of the village, just because of the size of the workforce. The volunteer group will assist those incapable of options 1-3 in the first instance. We don't predict we will have much free capacity beyond that. However, people will be available to advise and bounce any questions off should you need to. You will not be alone!

All network specific materials are provided for by B4RN and paid from the village build pot. (7mm ducting, connectors & house kits)

DIG GRANT FROM B4RN

For options 1 – 4 above, B4RN has a £150 dig grant that can be claimed retro-

spectively by the householder, after you connect to the live service. Payment is for providing the labour to make the final part of the connection. It is payment for your time, or to reimburse you for any cost in hiring someone to do the work for you (option 3).

You can claim the £150 dig grant if you complete the work independently of the village volunteer team (options 1 or 2). Should the village team be used to meet any of the work, the £150 will go to the village pot and will be used to fund a community project. Some households who have completed the work independently have chosen to donate their £150 to the village community project fund regardless. However, this is at the discretion of each individual. It is worth noting that the grant is not an immediate payment, and can take a month or so to come through from B4RN.

STREET REPS

Street Reps are an essential role in the process, and if you don't have one (or more) in your area, you will need to find one. The Street Reps job is to pass on the information between residents and B4RN and get as many people as possible ready at the same time.

Once you have connected the 7mm ducting, and house kit from your property to the Toby Box, you are ready for the fibre. The fibre is blown, by B4RN, down the ducting on a cushion of air. For efficiency, the blowing team needs to attend as many properties as possible on the same visit. Therefore, it is streets that have



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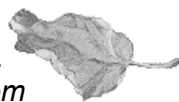


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several properties ready that will be provided with fibre first.

In the village, we have set up a mentoring program for new Street Reps. Street Reps from other areas of the village will come and help you get going in your street, and pass on the information they have gathered from doing the job in their 'patch'. So, if you are interested in becoming a Street Rep for your area, please let us know. You are essential.
(b4rn@haltoncentre.org)

TIMESCALES

By the end of next summer, every house in the village will have a Toby box in the pavement adjacent to their property, most areas a lot sooner than that. We hope to be able to publish a more detailed schedule very soon.

COSTS

The cost of this service is £30/month with a £150 connection fee. However, if you are registered as a business, or if you hold the required number of shares in B4RN, the connection fee is waived. A majority of B4RN customers choose to terminate their landline service, saving on line rental, and transfer their landline phone onto a VOIP service. Packages vary from £0 upwards.

If you have not yet registered your interest, please go to <https://b4rn.org.uk/getb4rn> or google 'Get B4RN', enter your postcode and fill in the form.

<https://b4rn.haltoncentre.org>



THE PRATTLE QUIZ No 41

1. Which resort town on the Isle of Wight plays host to the Royal Yacht Squadron?
2. The hit movie 'Monuments Men' focuses on a group of art experts who try to recover looted antiquities towards the end of World War 2; the altarpiece from which Belgian cathedral is one of their key targets?
3. The hit 1980's TV series Dallas spawned an offshoot series set in LA; what was it called?
4. By what name is New Zealand born singer and songwriter Ella Marija Lani Yelich-O'Connor better known?
5. Which two young footballers were dropped from the England squad prior to the game against Denmark in September because they 'broke Covid protocols'?
6. Who became the first new winner of a men's Grand Slam title for 6 years at the 2020 US Tennis Open?
7. In the 2021 Formula One season the team currently known as Racing Point will adopt which name, for many year associated with performance cars?
8. What type of facility would you probably want to avoid visiting at Kirkham, Wymott near Leyland, Haverigg and Preston?
9. The material used to make jeans is thought to have originated in which French city leading to the name we know them by?
10. What was the surname of Matt LeBlanc's character in Friends?
11. The UK's largest insurer changed its name to Aviva in 2009, but by what name was it previously known?

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- 12.** John George Haigh was given which macabre nickname due to the way he disposed of his victims?
- 13.** Penny Lancaster is the current wife of which veteran rock star?
- 14.** Which star of The Avengers, stage, screen and latterly Game of Thrones died in September?
- 15.** On which date each year do we remember 'The Few' on Battle of Britain Day?
- 16.** If you were dealing with your tax affairs you might come across the abbreviation HMRC, but what does it stand for?
- 17.** O'Hare is the main international airport for which US city?
- 18.** Which species of shark is generally considered to be the most dangerous to man as it is responsible for more attacks than any other and can travel many miles upstream in rivers?
- 19.** Withies are slim, flexible branches often used in basket making, but from which tree are they obtained?
- 20.** Launched in 2007 what model number was allocated to Airbus' huge double-decker airliner?

Thanks to our Quizmaster, Mark Drinkall - answers on page 36

LUNE VALLEY COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

NEWS ON COMMUNITY HOMES FOR HALTON



dem. Nevertheless, there is some progress to report.

This month the CLT, Lancaster City Council (LCC) and South Lakes Housing (SLH) have agreed an **allocations policy** for the affordable community homes. This policy will make it possible for residents of Halton-with Aughton Parish or people with a family link to Halton or people who work in the area to have **first priority on the homes**, followed by people living in the neighbouring parishes, before it is opened to the Lancaster general housing register. We also hope to be able to be a bit more flexible than usual in matching homes to families, so that where homes are available, households who wish to 'grow' their families could be allocated the size of house that would allow this to happen. In this way, a more stable community can develop as residents enjoy the benefits of long-term affordable housing.

If you would like to register your interest in one of the homes on the Mill Lane site, please let us know. If it is a rented home you want, make sure you are accepted onto the **Lancaster City Council housing register**, if you are not already on it.

Progress on the www.lancaster.gov.uk/council scheme to build 20 affordable homes on Mill Lane has undoubtedly been slowed down by the coronavirus pandemic.

The CLT is currently in the process of contacting the 15 households who have registered an interest, to keep them informed of developments. A **drop-in** will be organised by the CLT, after planning permission and project funding are certain, to engage with those who have registered an interest in living in the new development, to obtain ideas on topics such as landscaping and final finishes to the homes, and residents' engagement in management of the site. Information will be prepared on how to live in a passivhaus - a highly insulated, energy efficient home that runs on significantly less energy than a standard home.

The outcome of the **planning permission application** has been unavoidably delayed and is now expected in early De-

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cember. South Lakes Housing is awaiting a decision on the **grant request to Homes England**, which would make up the financing to build the homes. This decision is now expected in the New Year. As long as permissions and financing are confirmed, the start of the build phase is expected to be April 2021, with a finish date 14 months later in June 2022.

In February 2020, the CLT was awarded £10,000 from Electricity North West's 'Empowering Our Communities' fund to research the possibility of our Mill Lane development and senior co-housing next door being **all-electric homes supplied with 100% renewable energy**. The **feasibility study** has now been completed and concluded that it would be possible to extend the private wire supplying renewable energy to Lancaster Cohousing to the two new developments on Mill Lane. This is great news for future residents who can thus pay a lower tariff for their electricity. This factor, combined with the highly efficient homes, will result in much lower than average energy bills. It

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will also help the hydro's finances, with potentially higher revenues going into the Halton Lune Hydro Community Fund for the village.

If you have any questions or would like to join Lune Valley CLT, please contact us at: info@lunevalleyclt.org. Background information and the minutes of our regular meetings can be found on the Lune Valley Community Land Trust website.

www.lunevalleyclt.org

BREAST SCREENING SAVES LIVES – DON'T MISS YOUR APPOINTMENT

Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer in the UK, with one in seven women being diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. The risk of developing breast cancer increases with age, which is why all women between the ages of 50 and 70 are invited for screening every three years.

Bay Health and Care Partners would like to urge everyone who is invited for breast screening to please attend their appointment and to reassure everyone that it is safe to do so. Dr Karen Oliver, Lancaster GP and GP Cancer Lead at Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissioning Group said: "I would like to remind women of the importance of attending your breast screening appointment, now that the service is up and running again, as a service has been developed to comply with COVID-19 regulations. GPs have been seeing patients with worrying symptoms and referring them on the cancer pathway throughout lockdown and will continue to do so. If you are experiencing symptoms, such as a new breast lump or breast pain please contact your GP Surgery."

To ensure your safety, all clinicians will be using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which includes plastic aprons, face masks and plastic gloves. Rooms and machines are cleaned down between each patient and waiting rooms have been restructured to make sure a two-metre distance can be kept at all times.

Breast screening aims to find breast cancers early. In the meantime, if you are worried about breast cancer symptoms such as a lump or an area of thickened tissue in the breast, or you notice that your breasts look or feel different, do not wait to be offered a screening appointment, talk to your GP straight away. Dr Oliver added: "The earlier breast cancer is diagnosed, the better the chance of successful treatment, so it's important to check your breasts regularly and contact your GP if you notice any changes."

To read more about signs and symptoms of breast cancer, go to: <https://www.macmillan.org.uk/cancer-information-and-support/breast-cancer/signs-and-symptoms-of-breast-cancer>

If you need advice on how to check your breasts, watch this video by Breast Cancer UK

<https://www.breastcanceruk.org.uk/checkyourbreasts/>

Read more about the importance of breast screening here: <https://letstalkcancer.uk/news/breast-screening-saves-lives-dont-miss-your-appointment>



Happy Christmas!!



Thank you to everyone for continuing to support our business throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone at Black's wishes you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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CATON CLUBS NEWS

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We are looking forward to next year in the hope that our programme can go ahead, especially with our coach trips. As agreed we are rolling over this year's programme to 2021.

The committee have agreed to accept a quote from Bibby's and all being well we will be off on our first trip out to Boundary Mill on the 15th of April 2021 at 9:30am from Brookhouse, then on to pick up at the Victoria Institute.

Our AGM programmed for the 21st of January 2021 at 2pm will be held in the main hall at the Victoria Institute. We will be able to give more information nearer the time.

Sadly, the November 19th 2020 Hot pot and race afternoon and the Christmas party on the 10th of December 2020 are definitely cancelled.

Everyone on the committee hopes for the best but we must plan for the worst,

to ensure the safety of our members. Stay safe and keep well.

For further information please call our secretary, Benita, on 01524 771943.

CATON THEATRE INTEREST GROUP

We have been contacted by the Blackpool Grand Theatre regarding postponing our booking for the pantomime 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs', from the 2nd of January 2021 to the 1st of January 2022. The seats are at the front of the dress circle – the same as our last visit.

The Octagon Theatre in Bolton have moved our booking for a performance of 'One man, two governors' from September this year to the 26th June 2021.

So with a bit of luck and a fair wind we will be back to our live theatre again very soon.

To book or for further information call Jean on 01524 770980 or Benita on 01524 771943.



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Non-members welcome. Why not pop in and have a look?

HAPPENINGS AT HALTON MILL

www.haltonmill.org.uk

HALTON MILL CHRISTMAS PRESENT AND STOCKING APPEAL

For the past few years Halton Mill has done a Christmas collection of food and toiletries for the Morecambe Food Bank, organised by one of our tenants, Mandy Blackwell, who runs her recruitment business from the Mill.

This year Mandy has partnered with a fantastic charity in Morecambe called 'West End Impact' (Reg. Charity Number: 1153736), who work with families and adults to support them in many ways. This includes providing free food, delivering food parcels, offering advice, support with mental health and so much more. On 20 December, West End Impact are planning a huge Christmas takeaway meal for 90 people. As well as the meal, each person will receive a Christmas goodie bag with presents and goodies for themselves and they can also take

presents home for their children. Any leftover presents will be given to the local school who will distribute them to families they know are really struggling to buy gifts.

WHAT DONATIONS ARE WE ASKING FOR?

We are appealing for:

- wrapped (brand new only) presents, labelled as suitable for either nursery, primary or secondary children and also saying if it is gender specific
- stocking fillers of toiletries (soap, toothbrush, hand creams, bubble bath, things that smell nice) ideally for a man as more men usually attend the meal but women's toiletries are also welcome
- chocolate bars to go into the Christmas goodie bag

Please remember all children's presents should be new (costing between £5 and £10) and wrapped.

Please drop your offerings at the Mill between 9am and 6pm on Friday 4 December, Friday 11 December or Wednesday 16 December. There will be a large plastic container clearly labelled by the Mill entrance (under the stone steps). Please pop your presents into there and we will store them. If you can't drop off those dates, please ring Mandy on 079675839890 to make other arrangements.

Mandy has promised that we will provide 90 presents, toiletries and chocolate bars. Please help us to deliver on

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our promise and give those in need a bit more cheer this Christmas. We'd be very grateful. We also want to say thank you to Mandy for her enthusiasm and commitment. If you are looking for work or have a job you want filling, you can contact Mandy on 079675839890. You can hear Mandy talking about the jobs she has on offer on BBC Radio Lancashire at 11:30 on a Friday morning. Our other news is that the River Room had to close again in November because of the lockdown, so yoga, Pilates etc went back online. Hopefully, by the time you read this, in-person classes will be starting up again – check on the River Room website www.theriverroom.org.uk. When we can start booking out rooms again is uncertain. Look at our website www.haltonmill.org.uk for the latest updates.


Sadly, our annual Festive Crafts Fayre will not be happening because of Covid. Do keep supporting your local artists and makers – it's been a tough period for many of them.

Thank you again for any support you can give to our Xmas appeal. We wish you all a happy festive season – here's hoping we can get together with family and celebrate together.

Alison, Amber and Chris



PRATTLE QUIZ ANSWERS

- 
1. Cowes
 2. Ghent
 3. Knots Landing
 4. Lorde
 5. Mason Greenwood and Phil Foden
 6. Dominic Thiem
 7. Aston Martin
 8. Prisons
 9. Nimes, the material being Denim ('of Nimes' in English)
 10. Tribbiani
 11. Norwich Union
 12. The Acid Bath Murderer
 13. Rod Stewart
 14. Diana Rigg
 15. 15th September
 16. Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
 17. Chicago
 18. Bull Shark
 19. Willow
 20. 380

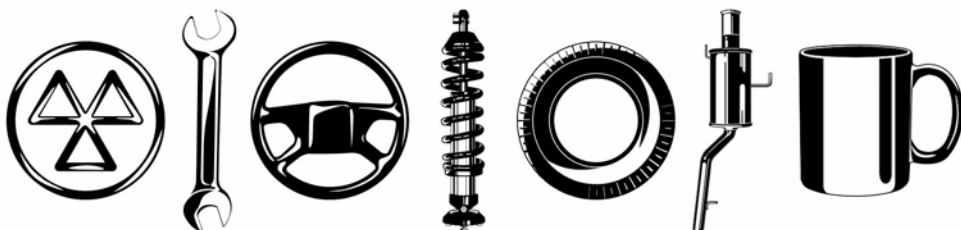
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YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

LIST OF COUNCILLORS AS AT JAN 2020

CHAIR: Cllr. Carol Slinger, Tel: 01524 811027; carol.slinger@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr. Brian Jefferson, Tel: 01524 811837; piperswood@btinternet.com

Cllr. Chris Coates, Tel: 07426 701155; chris@utopia-britannica.org.uk

Cllr. Anne Lamb, Tel: 01524 811052; annelamb27@hotmail.com

Cllr. Naomi Turner, Tel: 07738 586107; naomismith1210@hotmail.com

Parish Clerk & Financial Officer: Luke Mills, Tel 07980 000682;
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council meetings are held at the Centre on the second Wednesday
of each month (excluding August) at 7:15pm - all welcome!

www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk



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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

The Parish Council is currently comprised of five councillors, but there should be eight, so **3 positions are vacant**.

Over the last 10 years, the council has helped to:

- Refurbish and enhance the Centre, the play areas and skate park.
- Provide an emergency response capability for the village.

The Parish Council is responsible for the following areas:

- Provision and maintenance of the recreational and play areas at The Centre, St Wilfrid's Park and Schoolhouse Lane.
- Maintaining the public open spaces around The Centre, Quarry Road, the "Plantation" (the wild triangle between the roundabout, High Rd & Low Rd), Castle Hill, War Memorial and Memorial Gardens.
- Provision, management and maintenance of the burial ground, allotments, bus shelters and bins
- Representing the views and interests of parishioners and acting as a medium for consultation and communication with both the City and County Councils. For instance, the previous Parish Plans have been organised by the council.
- Providing comments on planning applications as a formal consultee in the planning process.

Do you have a desire to improve or enhance something on this list? If so, your energy would be welcome. It is not politi-

cal, and all the councillors are volunteers, so you can decide what responsibilities and level of involvement you take on.

It is a great way to get more involved with parish activities, help maintain and improve the local facilities and influence the development of the parish. This will be particularly important in years ahead if Lancaster City Council is merged into a larger Unitary council (see below).

The Parish Council normally meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 19:15 at the Centre, but this has been happening online for the last few months. The agenda, minutes and other information can be found on the website (<http://www.haltonwithaughtonpc.gov.uk>).

Feel free to contact the Clerk or one of the councillors if you may be interested in helping or have any questions.



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RECREATIONAL AREA IMPROVEMENTS

The Parish Council would like to advise residents that plans are being considered to improve the recreation areas both at the Centre and at St Wilfrid's Park (Area 5) and would welcome comments and ideas.

Area 1. The Football field requires some drainage works, surface improvements and a ball net/fence to the Low Road side.

Area 2. The northern boundary of the pitch requires weed and shrub clearance, some re-contouring, landscaping and planting to include a refuge area for players and coaches and a re-defined boundary with the woodland slope.

Area 3. The fringes of the Princes Trust path needs both weed clearance, a retaining wall, and a new path extension to join the pitch at a gentler slope to the

refuge area mentioned in Area 2 plus sympathetic planting

Area 4. Marked with diagonal lines, this area is the remaining slope of trees, which if owned by the Parish (currently in private ownership) could lead to a restoration of the woodland above the football pitch. The boundary between the two is indistinct and restoring the boundary, clearly visible and obvious just 20 years ago, would enhance the area considerably while improving the habitat of the wood increasing biodiversity and attraction.

Area 5. New play equipment will be installed in St Wilfrid's Park replacing some of the old and worn out existing items.

DISTRICT CONSULTATIONS

There are two major public consultations occurring at the District and Coun-

ty levels which residents may wish to comment on.

- **Bay Authority proposal.** Lancaster City Council, South Lakeland District Council and Barrow Borough Council have agreed on a proposal to create a new unitary authority around Morecambe Bay. You can comment on the proposal before 9th December in the following ways:

- o Online survey: [https:// www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JYMB9DH](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JYMB9DH)
- o Email: thebay@lancaster.gov.uk
- o Letter: The Bay proposal, Lancaster City Council, Lancaster Town Hall, Dalton Square, Lancaster LA1 1PJ

- **Transforming Lancaster Travel.** Lancashire County Council and Lancaster City Council are working together to provide the delivery of major transport improvements in the District of Lancaster. The overall aim is to enable Lancaster to grow and also to promote sustainable travel options to access the city centre. Details can be found here: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/transforming-lancaster-travel/>. You can comment on the proposals before 8th December.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk,
m: 07980 000 682



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BUS SERVICES IN BRIEF

Timetables are available in the library or check www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables

TO LANCASTER

Mon-Sat: No 49 from High Road: 0722, 0752, 0807, 0922 then 1/2 hourly until 1522, 1737, 1837, 1937, 2052 (490)

No 80/81 from Low Road: 0716, 0801, 0941, 1001, 1056, 1236, 1336, 1436, 1536 (SO), 1637, 1812

Sun and BH: No 81 from Low Road; 0955 then hourly until 1855

TO KELLETS, CARNFORTH AND WARTON

No 49 from High Road; Mon-Sat; 0947, then hourly until 1447, 1547 (NSch), 1632, 1732

TO INGLETON VIA BENTHAM

No 80 from Low Road; Mon-Sat; 0742, 1014, 1214, 1414, 1739

TO KIRKBY LONSDALE

No 81 from Low Road; Mon-Sat; 0857, 1114, 1314 (Ing), 1539 (Ing), 1629 (NSch, Ing on Sat), 1841. **Sun and BH;** 0927 then hourly until 1827

FROM LANCASTER TO HALTON

No 49 Mon-Sat; Stand 13; 0700, 0750, 0905, 0930, then 1/2 hourly until 1500, 1530 [SO], 1615 then hourly to 1915

No 80/81 Mon-Sat; 0730, 0845, 1000 then hourly to 1400, 1525, 1615 [Nsch], 1725, 1830

LAST BUSES BACK TO HALTON FROM

Lancaster 1915 (1815 on Sun/BH)

Carnforth 1713, then 2028 (490) (no direct service Sun/BH)

Kirkby Lonsdale 1716 (1815 on Sun/BH)

Ingleton 1701 (no service Sunday)



There are more buses to Kirkby Lonsdale from Denny Beck, including a Mon-Sat 1815 return, Stagecoach tickets not valid.

SO - Saturdays Only

NSch - Not school days

BH - Bank Holidays

Ing - Continues to Ingleton after Kirkby Lonsdale

490 - Service 490, Stagecoach tickets not valid

DIAL A BUS Book on: 01524 425902; email: itslancastermorecambe@lancashire.gov.uk

~ protect yourself and others from Covid-19 – mask up on public transport ~

OTHER SERVICES

OTHER SERVICES:



LIBRARY: Tues, 1-7pm; Wed, 9-1pm; Fri, 1-5pm; Sat, 9-1pm. Tel 0300 123 6703 and 0300 123 6704 for automated renewal service. **Currently closed due to Covid regulations.**

SURGERY: Halton Medical Centre, 110 High Rd 811226. Mon to Fri 8:00am-12:30pm and 1:30–5:30pm. **Pre-booked appointments only.**

POLICE: Community police 101, Police station 01524 463333

POST OFFICE: (In the Pharmacy) Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30–12:30 & 1:00–4:00

PHARMACY: Mon – Fri 9:00-5:30; tel 812149, closed Saturdays & Sundays

USEFUL LINKS

Community run Car Club: www.lancar.org.uk

Halton Juniors FC: www.haltonjuniorsfc.com

Halton Lune Hydro: www.haltonlunehydro.org

Halton Mill: www.haltonmill.org.uk

Halton Social Club: email haltonsocialclub@gmail.com

Halton United Reformed Church: www.nlancsurc.org.uk then click on 'Halton'

Lancaster CoHousing: www.lancastercohousing.org.uk

Parish Council: www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

St Wilfrid's Church: www.achurchnearyou.com/halton-st-wilfrid-church

St Wilfrid's Church of England Primary School: www.st-wilfrids.lancs.sch.uk

The Centre@Halton: www.haltoncentre.org/

The Prattle: email haltonprattle@btinternet.com



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