



# THE PRATTLE



Issue No.118

Halton-with-Aughton

April / May 2021

To All Our Readers & Advertisers....



All The Prattle Team

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WHAT'S ON INFO, ARTICLES & LETTERS TO THE EDITORS, **JAN & DAVE**,  
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# 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](mailto: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

Please check the church websites for up to date information:

St Wilfrid's: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11641/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11641/)

St Saviour's: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11636/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11636/)

### Services in April

2 2:00 pm Good Friday - An hour at the Cross.

4 10:00 am Easter Sunday - Family Communion

11 8:00 am Holy Communion

10:00 am Family Worship

13 9:00 am Morning prayer

18 10:00 am Family Communion

6:00 pm Cafe Church (Zoom)

20 9:00 am Morning prayer

25 10:00 am Family Communion

27 9:00 am Morning prayer

### Services in May

2 10:00 am Family Communion

4 9:00 am Morning prayer

9 8:00 am Holy Communion

10:00 am Family Worship

11 9:00 am Morning prayer

16 10:00 am Family Communion

18 9:00 am Morning prayer

23 10:00 am Family Communion

25 9:00 am Morning prayer

30 10:00 am Family Communion

### Services

Sunday morning services continue online via zoom.

10:30am each Sunday.

10:00am Good Friday (2nd April).

The church building is currently closed. See our web site and the notice board outside church for updates on our opening.

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

See the main URC news for details on how to join our online services.

## ST SAVIOUR'S AUGHTON

### Services in April

4 11:30 am Easter Sunday Holy Communion

25 11:30 am Morning Prayer

### Services in May

9 11:30 am Holy Communion

23 11:30 am Morning Prayer

30 7:00 pm Evening Prayer

### From St Wilfrid's Registers

#### Funerals

3 February - Margaret Cottam

Services are live streamed onto Facebook as follows:

**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

**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. Email [revsusan.seed@btinternet.com](mailto:revsusan.seed@btinternet.com) for the link.

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday** – 7:30 pm: Evening Prayer, St Luke's

**Tuesday** – 9am: Morning Prayer, St Wilfrid's

**Wednesday** – 9am: Morning Prayer, 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](http://www.valleychurch.eu/Lancaster) or follow us on twitter, instagram @valley\_lanc and Facebook at Valley Church Lancaster.

## **UNITED REFORMED CHURCH WORSHIP AND SUPPORT**

Our building is closed for physical services or events for the time being, but our church continues to be here in Halton when it is needed. If you require prayer, or ministerial support, please get in touch with the Church secretary, Barbara Wilkinson.

Sunday morning worship continues 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](mailto:barbarastandenjones@hotmail.com).

Our scheduled Zoom services are:

- Every Sunday morning (including Easter Sunday) 10:30am jointly with URCS at Bolton-le-Sands and Slyne-with-Hest.
- Good Friday, 2nd April, 10:00am.
- Monday 5th April, Agape zoom service with St Wilfrid's Church Halton.

Keep an eye on our web site, and the noticeboard outside church, for future updates.

We look forward to welcoming you back soon. <http://nlanccsurc.org.uk/halton>

## **EASTER BUNTING**

Watch out for our Easter celebration bunting on the railings outside Halton



URC on the High Road. It will be made by the children of Junior Church and friends. We wish you all a blessed and peaceful Easter.

## ST WILFRID'S HALTON:

### GOOD FRIDAY, 10–11:30 AM, CHILDREN'S HOLY WEEK & EASTER TRAIL.



Come along to St Wilfrid's Church on Good Friday, April 2nd. There will a Holy Week and Easter trail

through the Church with children's activities. Please book in by emailing Sandra Dawson at [s.dawson135@btinternet.com](mailto:s.dawson135@btinternet.com)

### HOLY WEEK EVENTS AND SERVICES

*This year some of the events will be on Zoom. Please email [revsusan.seed@btinternet.com](mailto:revsusan.seed@btinternet.com) for the link.*

Monday 29th March, 7:30pm - Agape



## Holy Week

meal on Zoom

Tuesday 30th March, 7:30pm - Music and reflections for Holy Week on Zoom

Wednesday 31st March, 7:30pm - Stations of the Cross on Zoom

Maundy Thursday, 7pm - Holy Communion and stripping of the Altar at St Luke's, Slyne with Hest

Good Friday, 10:30–11am Children's Holy week and Easter trail; 2:00pm- An hour at the Cross at St Wilfrid's Church

### BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS

If you would like to make a booking for a baptism or wedding, please contact Revd Susan on 01524 822128 or [revsusan.seed@btinternet.com](mailto:revsusan.seed@btinternet.com).

### 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 Revd Susan if you have any prayer requests for specific people, places or situations. (Details are kept confidential). Contact Revd Susan at [revsusan.seed@btinternet.com](mailto:revsusan.seed@btinternet.com).

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## MINISTER'S THOUGHT

### THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING THE GLORY OF GOD

One of my favourite psalms is Psalm 19. This psalm begins with the wonderful words, "The heavens are telling the glory of God". These words immediately make me think of the famous piece of music which has this title and is part of Joseph Haydn's Creation. It is considered to be one of his masterpieces, and is one of my favourite pieces of music to sing. The words are based on verses one to three of Psalm 19:

*The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
the wonder of his work displays  
the firmament.*

*To-day that is coming, speaks it the day,  
the night that is gone, to following night.*

*The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
the wonder of his work displays  
the firmament.*

*In all the lands resounds the word,  
never unperceived, ever understood.*

*The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
the wonder of his work displays  
the firmament.*

Haydn took an interest in astronomy and the discoveries of Sir Isaac Newton. These verses recall the story of creation and describe the heavens and the sky as proofs of God's creative work.

Over the last few weeks, thirty of us from across the churches in our villages, have been following a Lent course called 'Caring for Creation'. It is a discussion based course and is all about the environment

and climate change – and how our faith in God can make a difference. Through the weeks we have been focusing on God's wonderful creation of planet earth and considered the place of humankind in it, and why it is under threat. There are many disturbing facts and figures about climate change, but we have also recognised some of the measures we can take to change our lifestyle in order to undo some of the terrible damage we have done and are doing to our planet. Many of us on the course are already making changes to our lifestyles which will reduce our carbon footprint, but we have decided that we can all do more to live our lives more thoughtfully – as well as recycling, and re-using we can try to eat less red meat, use our cars less, use environmentally friendly cleaning products, and choose Fairtrade and locally produced food. We have also considered

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Greta Thunberg, the Swedish teenager schoolgirl behind the global wave of youth climate change protests, has often expressed great anger when she has addressed government officials to try and get them to make changes. Perhaps it is time for all of us to not only make personal lifestyle changes to reduce our carbon footprint, but also to show our anger about the practices which are destroying God's beautiful creation by lobbying our MPs and those in influential positions.

In early 2020, the Church of England's General Synod set new targets for all parts of the church to reduce carbon emissions and be carbon neutral by 2030. I am pleased that the Diocese of Blackburn has now recognised that responding to climate change is an essential part of our responsibility to safeguard God's creation and have incorporated 'Being witnesses to creation' into their 'Vision 2026' strategy. After Easter an Eco Church working group is going to be set up to look at what steps we can take as churches and as individuals to take action against climate change. We are all very fortunate to live in a very beautiful part of the world, but if we are going to continue to witness the handiwork of God through creation and observe 'The heavens telling the glory of God', then we all need to take action to ensure that we look after our world.

**Revd Susan Seed**



measures to cut down on the amount of energy we use in our homes, churches and places of work by improving insulation and using energy suppliers who use renewable energy sources.

However, we have found that many of the issues are very complicated and that many of the issues are moral, spiritual and ethical ones which require major changes in everyone's behaviour. We have also recognised that drastic action needs to be taken on a national and international scale. Later this year in November, the UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow. The climate talks will bring together heads of state, climate experts and campaigners to agree coordinated action to tackle climate change. We now need to be considering how we can join forces with civil society, companies and people on the frontline of climate change to inspire action ahead of COP26.

# Black's

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## Thank you for your support

We would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we have made a number of adjustments to the way we work following lockdown. In order to keep staff and customers safe and healthy we have introduced measure such as only accepting contactless card payments, restricting entry into the shop and the introduction of a pager system that lets you know when your food is ready for collection.

We know none of this is ideal, and your continued custom despite these obstacles is very much appreciated. Thank you!

**159 High Road Halton, LA2 6PY**

**01524 812225**

# VILLAGE NEWS

## BROADBAND FOR THE RURAL NORTH (B4RN)

The B4RN installation work has progressed at a fantastic pace. Dom and his crew expect to finish the whole village in May, two months ahead of schedule. Meanwhile, a small group of volunteers have coordinated connections from the pavement into individual houses, helping and advising homeowners in each section. Well over 100 households now benefit from a broadband service second to none in the country.

The B4RN project has brought further benefits to Halton. The Community Centre, St Wilfrid's School and St. Wilfrid's Church are now enjoying free service. The United Reformed Church will be connected soon as well.

B4RN is a not for profit organisation whose objective is to provide the fastest broadband infrastructure available in the world today to support local rural and semi-rural communities. The same

service level from a 'for-profit' commercial provider would be far more expensive, if available at all in such areas.

B4RN have chosen to share a portion of the DCMS government grant with the village. Because of this, £150 has been paid back from B4RN to the community for every connection that has gone live. Where volunteers have done the work on a homeowner's behalf, the money will be paid to a village fund to further benefit the resident of Halton. Householders who have completed the work themselves are entitled to the grant as a thank you from B4RN. However, some householders have generously donated it to the village anyway. Thank you to all who have done so.

Unfortunately, the government scheme will close to new registrations at the end of March 2021. Those already registered, who have validated their voucher, will still have the opportunity to claim the grant for the next 12 months from validation of the DCMS email.



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FORD SERVICE

Please make sure your property is registered if you think there is a possibility that you may take B4RN in the next 12 months.

Register [here](https://b4rn.org.uk/postcode-checker/)  
<https://b4rn.org.uk/postcode-checker/>

## RJ Thompson

### BEING IN THE WI AT HALTON IS GOOD FOR YOUR SOUL

Second Lockdown has been a lonely time for a lot of us, but we ladies of the Hearts of Halton WI are keeping in touch through our very active WhatsApp group. We share our news, photos of our walks, our crafts, our homes and gardens and, of course, our culinary triumphs. We share things to make us laugh and things to make us think.

The reason our WhatsApp group brings me so much joy is because it contains the essence of our WI group. A sisterhood of women, all ages and backgrounds, that

come together (albeit virtually for the time being) to enjoy a shared interest in the joy of life and the beauty of the world around us. A beauty that has recently been captured perfectly for our monthly photo competition. February's topic was the River Lune, and I am informed by our resident judge, Steph, that the standard of photos was very high. In the end one stood out and first prize was awarded to Debbie Baxter. March's topic is 'What does spring mean to you' and I'm sure we can all agree that the signs of spring arriving around the village are a very welcome sight indeed.

Following our fun Christmas Zoom meeting we have had two more highly enjoyable meetings on Zoom. Many of us enjoyed a sing along on Zoom with Ruth Gibbons of Caton WI in January and thanks to Stuart Hosking-Durn from Morecambe Bay Hospital Trust for providing us with a very interesting talk about local planning for COVID.

Some of us have now had our first COVID Vaccinations and we are all looking forward to a time we can safely meet together again. I'm sure the WhatsApp group we have created during lockdown will continue to be well used long after social distancing measures have been lifted. I personally found keeping in touch with my fellow Hearts of Halton members not only useful for baking tips, but also a great source of pleasure through lockdown. As one of the younger members of our group I would recommend the WI here at Halton to

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ladies of any age. It's been 12 months since our last face to face meeting, but under normal circumstances we have an evening meeting once a month. Meetings are fun and informal, they usually involve a talk or learning a new craft and there's always time enough at the end for tea and cake. There really is nothing not to love about being a part of Heart of Halton WI.

**Amanda McGartland**



## **CROOK O'LUNE BEAUTY SPOT GETS NEW LEASE OF LIFE AS A WILDFLOWER MEADOW**

A beauty spot at the Crook O'Lune near Lancaster, known locally as Hermitage Field, is getting a new lease of life as a wildflower meadow.

A formal 12 year licence agreement has been finalised between Lancaster City Council, as owner of the site, and charitable residents' group, Hermitage Field Community Meadow. The agreement will allow the group to manage a five acre plot of land in the field on the council's behalf as a wildflower meadow.

Hermitage Field already contributes to the area being a popular place to visit, with car park and picnic facilities nearby, as well as stunning views across the Lune Valley. The remaining two acres at the centre of the field are already being managed under a separate licence by charity 'Life for a Life', as a memorial forest.

The Hermitage Field Community Meadow charity was recently set up by a group of local residents and has already acquired funding to help them create and manage the meadow. Work has begun on preparing the land before new planting can take place later in the year. The aim of the project is to develop an attractive and enhanced landscape at

the popular site which will complement the new memorial forest.

The paths running through the site and parallel with the road will be retained and maintained to enable visitors to the Crook O’Lune to enjoy access to the field. Councillor Kevin Frea, Cabinet member for climate action and member of Crook O’Lune Advisory Committee, said: “The creation and development of a wildflower meadow at Hermitage Field by local people that are passionate about the conservation of this special place, has provided the council with another perfect opportunity to breathe new life into this treasured beauty spot. As well as looking incredibly attractive and complementing the natural beauty of the memorial forest on the same site, the new arrangement will also have massive ecological benefits. Introducing pollinating plants and enticing pollinating bees, insects and other wildlife to the site will increase biodiversity, as well as provide a local seed bank for other potential meadows. The arrangement also supports the aims of the council’s new grassland management strategy which will

see changes to the way grass is cut in local parks and public spaces, again to help increase biodiversity and meet the council’s climate change commitments.” The initiative was spearheaded by local resident and trustee of the charity, Erica Sarney, who initially set up a group called the Community Pollinator Patches and went on to form the charity with a number of like-minded friends. Erica said: “We’re very much looking forward to getting this exciting project off the ground and creating a stunning meadow teeming with wildflowers and wildlife for everyone to enjoy. Local people love this area so much and which is also part of a popular ramble overlooking the Lune Valley towards Ingleborough. We really hope everyone enjoys the meadow and may be inspired to come and join us, when restrictions allow, to help us bring it to life.

For more information and how you can get involved, visit our website at [www.hermitagefieldcommunitymeadow.com](http://www.hermitagefieldcommunitymeadow.com)”



The charity has secured funding from Plantlife, The Areti Charitable Trust, Halton Lune Hydro Trust, Forest of Bowland AONB and Life for a Life Memorial Forests. Part of the site has already been sown with seed from Lancashire's Coronation Meadow at Bell Sykes Farm, Forest of Bowland AONB, as well as Gait Barrows Reserve in Silverdale.

The project will be growing wildflowers with volunteers in polytunnels at the council's White Lund Depot in Morecambe.

## **HALTON LIBRARY**

Following the publication of the 'Roadmap out of lockdown' we are working on plans to re-open libraries for browsing and returning to regular opening times. The earliest this will take place is Monday 12 April. Until then Halton Library is currently open and offering the following reduced service:-

You can pre order or collect a bag of 6 books on the following time:

Tuesday 2:00-4:00

Wednesday 10:00-12:00

Friday 2:00-4:00

Saturday 10:00-12:00

You can also request books on the website: [www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries)  
Lockdown rules should ease after 12th April – after that date please check the website for updated information.

## **HALTON SCOUTS**

Wow, it's been a really topsy-turvy year or so, we haven't seemed to know whether we were coming or going with being able to run scouts. We have how-

ever recently been informed that, barring infection rates increasing again, that we should be able to start meeting indoors again (with limited capacity) from the 12th April. We have lots of risk assessments to complete before then, and we will be restricted to what we can and cannot do to maintain a COVID safe environment (no camping for one thing), but we hope to be able to restart fairly soon after this date. With the speed with which the situation can change though, particularly since the children have just restarted school at the time of writing, nothing is cast in stone, but hopefully vaccinations will help to keep things under control and everyone will be back enjoying scouting again very soon.

**John Elliott**

## **FEELING LONELY OR ISOLATED? CALL THE SILVER LINE**

The Silver Line is a helpline for older people and operates the only free, confidential helpline for older people in the UK. Their lines are open 24hrs a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year. They also offer telephone friendship where they match volunteers with older people, based on their interests.

**Their number is 0800 4 70 80 90.**

## **Halton Village Neighbourhood Watch**

## **EASTER TRAIL**

This Easter holiday, Halton will be transformed into an Easter trail. From 27.03 to 11.04, the trail map will guide you to 39



locations across the village, where at least one egg will be displayed in a window or garden for your children to enjoy. Some locations may have a more eggstravagant display!

At the end of the trail, there is a painted pebble for each child participant and a limited number of Usbourne book activity packs, kindly donated by Debbie Ann. Due to the huge demand for pebbles and packs, these have had to be requested in advance via the Halton Facebook community groups and should not be taken unless you have pre-ordered one. A colour copy of the trail map is also available within both groups.

We really hope that your little ones enjoy the trail; please share your experience with us on Facebook!

**Sam Pritchard**

## HALTON COMMUNITY HYDRO

This seems to be a good opportunity to review 2020, with all of the weather changes and a certain virus. It was a “swings and no steady roundabouts” year with two storms named Ciara and Dennis causing flooding in February and an eight week drought from mid April.

The hydro team is, however, getting better at draining down and removing stone. Following the prolonged heavy rain in early November, they installed the steel plates at the inlet, drained down and had the excavator on site and stone removed in less than two days. A matter now of what to do with a pile of rather high quality stone that we could pay to have taken off site and crushed to use on roads. It all comes from the river banking upstream that’s seriously eroded to the point of losing the footpath, caused by exception-

ally high river flows impinging on that area of banking, after the bend in the river. My only request at the moment is that people don't throw the stones back in, as it does not take many to restrict the hydro outlet.

We also have the new flood defence barrier and gate between building and wall to prevent the high water flow from washing the stone into the river during the more serious floods. It should do the job, but have no real wish to test it.

The sunny weather was also a bonus in providing some relief from the Covid situation and the areas of exposed rock were well covered with bathing towels and sun worshippers – mostly socially distanced.

It was also good to see £9,375 of hydro support of community projects during 2020 via the Halton Lune Trust. We intend to list details on the LCD screen outside the hydro building, in addition to being provided on the Hydro Website.

For shareholders, and indeed guests, the AGM is April 23rd 2021 at 7pm, by Zoom.

A link can be obtained from any shareholder or by emailing [secretary@haltonlunehydro.org](mailto:secretary@haltonlunehydro.org). More detail at this meeting and on the web on fish counting and fish trapping – and with thanks here to the fish care volunteers, as well as those doing the daily job of hydro “Duty Officer”.

### **John Blowes MBE**

CEng – Director and Chairman

### **HALTON GARDENING GROUP**

You may have read in the last Prattle about Halton Gardening Group and our ambitious project for 2021/22 to refurbish the Memorial Garden, situated on the corner of Church Brow and Foundry Lane. The garden is tucked away but we hope that with plans for new signage and regular updates, more people will visit the garden, take the time to smell the roses and look at the new planting scheme. While work is in progress you will see how the garden gradually changes over the next year.

### **Holywell Care Group**

135 Balmoral Road  
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Since our last article the group has been extremely busy, obtaining estimates from contractors, designing the new planting scheme, researching and sourcing suitable plants and applying for further grants. The next major task is for the chosen contractor to remove certain large overgrown shrubs and prune the cherry tree, for which a permit has been obtained. Soil improvement will be incorporated alongside selected pruning, then the planting can begin, all within the Covid-19 regulations at that time.

This is a long term project, aiming to benefit the whole village by making it a welcoming, peaceful and beautiful space with plants providing interest throughout the year. We also want to make the upkeep of the garden manageable for the current group members, and for the Memorial Garden to become a legacy for future volunteers who will hopefully continue to garden there. We find gardening is such a pleasurable experience and good exercise as well as creating an attractive and harmonious space to share with everyone.

Over £2500 has already been raised from grants, both locally and nationally. Last year's plant sale raised over £600 within this total, to help with the restoration. Further fundraising applications are being made alongside plans for our next **Plant Sale on Saturday 22nd May 2021**. Money raised from this sale will be put towards the Memorial Garden refurbishment as

well as the planters and various sites around the village.

The **Plant Sale** will be held at The Centre on the field from 2pm to 4pm, providing this is within the Covid-19 regulations at the time. You will easily spot us under the gazebos. There will be a range of plants including summer bedding, perennials, vegetable seedlings, houseplants and various other plants.

As before, we ask people to socially distance when queuing, and please bring bags/boxes and plenty of change as we



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or visit [www.excelfitnesslancaster.co.uk](http://www.excelfitnesslancaster.co.uk)

won't be handling money. Payment can also be made by cheque and BACS and these details will be available on the day. The Centre Coffee Shop will hopefully be open with seating outside, in the main hall or on a takeaway basis.

In the event that our plans for the Plant Sale are curtailed by Covid-19 or other unforeseen circumstances, an alternative date will be organised and advertised as soon as possible.

**Thank you to those who have already offered their help with the Memorial Garden. If anyone else would like to assist or are interested in joining our group, please get in touch with Anne Snowden, Secretary HGG, 07523 182617, Or email: [haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com)**

## ST WILFRID'S SCHOOL



Throughout the latest period of lockdown, school has remained open to a significant number of identified children and operated comprehensive home learning provision for the rest. This has been quite an achievement on the part of the staff and we have received many appreciative comments from parents. In turn, we are deeply grateful for the efforts of parents and grandparents who have supported their children at home during this time – they have done an amazing job!

Every Wednesday at 1:15pm, during the latter part of lockdown, we encouraged all the children at school and at home to step outside and “Make Some Noise”.

This was the brilliant idea of one of our parents and meant that all pupils throughout the village could hear each other and remain connected as a school family. The children have loved taking a few moments to be connected and be really noisy, so listen out on Wednesday lunchtimes as we intend to continue doing this each week (weather permitting). We hope that all the children within school can still enjoy seeing and hearing each other, even though they are separated in their class bubbles.

We welcomed all children back into school from March 8th and it was so lovely to see everyone back in class again. As the weather gets warmer we will be maximising the use of our beautiful school grounds with lots of outdoor activities, promoting learning and fun.

Our value for March was LOVE and we looked for opportunities to discuss this with the children. During Lent, there are many parts of Easter Story linked with LOVE and we explored these during our Collective Worship.

We are very grateful to B4RN and all the volunteers who helped with the school installation. We finally got connected in half term and we hope this now enables our neighbouring properties to get their B4RN connections working and keep it moving on around the village.


We also now use our Twitter account to celebrate what's going on in school. Please take a look! [@stwilfshalton](https://twitter.com/stwilfshalton)

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](mailto: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](http://www.stwilfrids-halton.co.uk)

 @stwilfshalton

## HALTON SENIOR COHOUSING

Halton Senior Cohousing at the end of Forge Lane where it meets Mill Lane now has planning permission. There are just a few details to finalise before we can start building later this summer. There have been many delays along the way from road adoption to Covid 19 restrictions. Each day brings us a little closer to moving into our warm and cosy Passiv Haus homes. We are looking forward to keeping active with our friendly neighbours during our retirement years.

There are still one and two bed flats and two bed houses available. You can view the plans & availability on our web site: <https://www.haltonseniorcohousing.org.uk/>

If you are interested please get in touch at [enquirieshaltonseniorcohousing@gmail.com](mailto:enquirieshaltonseniorcohousing@gmail.com)

## HALTON GALA 2022?

There has been a flurry of activity on Facebook recently about the old Halton Gala Days. A celebration at the end of lockdown has been welcomed but to try and organise something this year seems to be a tall ask. Therefore a proposal to

hold a Grand Gala Day in 2022 is something for discussion but can only happen with lots of volunteers and a steering group to plan and organise. If anyone is interested in helping in any way please email to [info@haltoncentre.org](mailto:info@haltoncentre.org) or telephone 01524 811316 with your details and in what capacity you are willing to help. We need planners, marshalls, people to book acts, stalls, programme design, people to man stalls, sell tickets, litterpicking, erecting marquees etc. If we get enough support we will organise a first meeting in May to get the ball rolling.

On Monday 8th March at approx. 20:30 a group of young people were caught on CCTV ripping out the ornamental grasses from the flowerbed at the front of The Centre and throwing them around. There has also been similar acts at other flower beds around the village. The Gardening Group is a dedicated group of people who volunteer their time for free to improve the appearance of the village and should be encouraged and not discouraged. What may seem a bit of fun to these youngsters is a kick in the teeth for the volunteers not to mention the costs involved in replacing these plants. No action will be taken at this time but if future events occur then CCTV will be passed onto police. Halton is a lovely village – let's all try and keep it that way.

## Carol Slinger

Chair Halton with Aughton Parish Council

## THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Halton Community Association Charity No. 115206

[www.haltoncentre.org](http://www.haltoncentre.org) / Information 811316 / Hall/Room hire 811444/  
[info@haltoncentre.org](mailto:info@haltoncentre.org)

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

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

Following the government roadmap date guidelines we can now start to plan to open up slowly at The Centre. Of course dates may alter. If government guidelines are not followed it could cause another resurgence of the virus. No one wants to end up back where we were before, in a lockdown, so everyone please continue to keep your distance, wear masks and wash your hands regularly.

**This virus has not gone away; even if you have been vaccinated you can still**

**become infected and pass it on. You may be fortunate and only have a mild reaction yourself but those you pass it on to could become very ill, or still even die. THINK – You must protect others as well as yourselves.**

We will be living with this virus for a very long time so I believe the 'Hands – Face – Space' motto will continue as the new normal.

The Coffee Shop will be the first to reopen on 27 March, as a takeaway only. Weekends 10am to 5pm and Monday to Friday 1 pm – 5pm. During these hours only, the upstairs toilet, within the Café area, will be available to the public.

**From Monday 29 March:-** All our regular OUTSIDE user groups may restart, either on the field or MUGA.

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**OPENING TIMES - TUE to SAT, 9 - 5**

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**REDUCTION DAYS FOR SENIORS - GENTS - CHILDREN**

**From Monday 12 April:-** Our Cafés for vulnerable groups should be able to restart. i.e. Memory Café & Lunch Club Café. We are not sure if this can include Knitter Natter on this date yet. Valley Church should be able to restart. The rule of 6 applies to everyone still and numbers will be restricted.

**From Monday May 17:-** The Centre and other village halls can open. We think that the majority of our regular user groups can return but there will still be some restrictions in place.

According to the Government roadmap from 21 June all restrictions will be lifted. We are keeping this in mind and are very hopeful that we can allow party bookings from then. I will wait until the next Prattle issue June/July to confirm this, as opening dates could have changed again by then.

### **PROJECTS & VOLUNTEERING**

When The Centre was closed during the pandemic, the need for an outside toilet while The Centre is closed was highlighted.

Our next project will be to provide wheelchair access directly to the changing spaces and an outside Ladies/Gents/Disabled combined toilet. A feasibility study is being pursued along with costs.

Once The Centre is open fully, we can restart fundraising events again for this new project. We need volunteers to assist us in providing this much needed amenity for the village and to keep all other facilities at The Centre in good running order.

We need volunteers, for one off or regular help. Have you experience with crowd funding, catering skills, maintenance/DIY skills or event organising? Could you help by doing a few hours of Coffee Shop duty, bar work or general set up and clear away at events?

There are always lots of small jobs to be done even if it's only an hour spent laminating or litter picking; any volunteering time you can offer will be greatly appreciated by your community.

It would be great to have a BIG party to bring the village back together, where all of The Centre groups, village activities and local businesses can remind everyone what is happening in and around our vibrant village.

If there is anyone who would like to be involved, contact The Centre. We are a small bunch of volunteers so the more people who join in to help the better the event will be. Obviously we have no dates but it takes time to plan these big events and we want to be ready for when we can roll out the carpet, probably in 2022. It's intended to be a community event with community involvement. No helpers, no event. Please ring and leave a message 01524 811316. Messages are picked up regularly during the lockdown.

**GENERAL & COVID PRECAUTIONS:**

**Everyone MUST wear a mask and sanitise 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 a different door.

The downstairs toilets are ONLY available to the group who is hiring the hall and no one else. The lift is out of use and 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 effort has been made by our staff to safeguard those who use our facilities.

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Those who attend the outside spaces should comply with social distancing while visiting our premises.

### **NEW SESSIONS, SESSION NEWS & CHANGES subject to Government rules**

Preschool & Kids Club – will continue as previously

Lock down baby Café – runs every Tuesday. Pre-booked places only

From 29 March – All outside User groups can restart

From 12 April – Valley Church, Memory Café & Lunch Club Café can restart

From May 17 – Most regular users can restart.

See **What's on pages** For more information on each club -

### **CENTRE EVENTS 2021**

**Polling Station** – Thursday 6th May

**Outside Garden & plant Sale** Sat 22 May 2-4pm – Ann 811684

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

For more information – contacts for all sessions normally at The Centre are in What's On pages.

### **COFFEE SHOP HOURS**

**Coffee Shop is OPEN from 27 March**

Sat or Sun 10am to 5pm [Closed Easter Sunday]

Weekdays 1pm to 5pm

Volunteers needed.

**Visit the Centre @ Halton's website**

<https://www.haltoncentre.org>

**General Information: Office 811316 or**

**Email** – [info@haltoncentre.org](mailto:info@haltoncentre.org)

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

**Hall or Room Hire:** Carol Holman email [bookings@haltoncentre.org](mailto:bookings@haltoncentre.org) or 811444

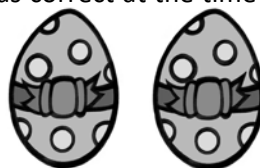
**Facebook page:** The Centre's active Facebook page announces events & activities. Keep up to date & 'like' the page. <https://www.facebook.com/HaltonCentre>

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](http://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 at the time of writing.

**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

## **PLEASE CHECK IF YOUR CLASS HAS RESUMED!**

### **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 9:30-10:30am,  
11-12noon, 12:30-1:30pm 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

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 restric-  
tions

#### **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 at this time

**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  
Hospice

### ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### May 2021

Thur 6 Polling Day, The Centre

Sat 22 Outside Garden Plant Sale, 2-4pm,  
The Centre

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

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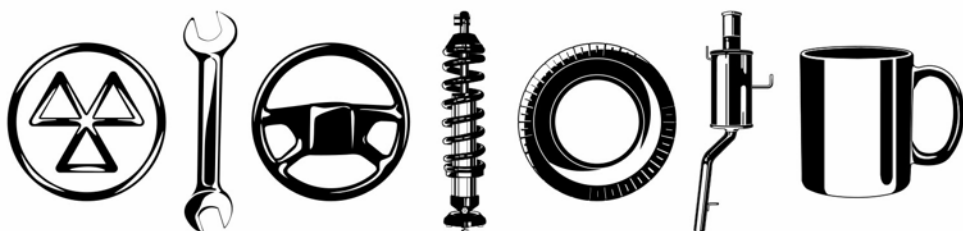
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# TORRISHOLME CRICKET CLUB UPDATE

[www.torrisholmecc.co.uk](http://www.torrisholmecc.co.uk)

After the government announcements about the roadmap to normality, unless something unforeseen happens we are expecting to play a full season with some distancing restrictions at the start. This will mean that the senior teams play their first games over the weekend of 10th and 11th April with two friendlies arranged and the league starting the following week. Senior practice (including juniors who will play senior cricket) will commence from 29th March and be pretty intensive to make up for lost time. Junior practice for the younger groups will commence in early to mid April, the formats and days will depend on what we are allowed to do in terms of group size. Initially the 'Big Friday Practice' will not be possible so it will be in smaller groups and is being planned by the coaches to make maximum, safe use of the facilities. Details will be circulated by email and social media in due course and junior games will begin from mid-May.

The bar will be allowed to open for customers drinking outside from 12th April and we hope to make extensive use of our new outside seating – here's to glorious spring weather. By the time the season starts our new scoreboard should be up and running, we should have upgraded the nets and seen our new sight screens delivered. The grounds equipment acquired over the winter has already proved invaluable with the outfield having been cut three times by early March. With limitations on how many people can be on the ground all the routine pre-season jobs will need to be

fitted in as and when, but the outlook is very positive overall.

A survey of junior parents showed a great appetite for cricket and we have entered 9 junior and 5 senior teams in various competitions. Of course we are welcoming new players of all ages and abilities, including running All Stars (an ECB coordinated programme for 5 to 8s which can be booked via the central ECB All Stars website), and registering new junior and senior players for our various age group teams and senior teams. Our girls section is one of the largest in the area with some outstanding players; cricket is a great game for girls as well as boys and any girls who would like to have a go are encouraged to do so.

We are also nominating girls and boys to progress through both Lancashire and Cumbria squads so there is a pathway for talented and committed players which could lead to a career in the game.

Once restrictions are eased we would plan to run our usual selection of family oriented social events and the ground is a great place to relax, watch a game and socialise in a safe and distanced environment. If you, your children or family want to be involved in playing, coaching, volunteering, sponsoring or just socialising, by all means contact Mark Drinkall (Junior Chair and Safeguarding Officer) on 07738 252449 or by email: [drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk](mailto:drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk)

**Mark Drinkall**, 5th March 2021



## THE PRATTLE QUIZ No 43

1. During the February cold snap a town in Deeside, Scotland recorded the lowest temperature in the UK for many years, -23C. Which town?
2. The military of which Asian nation staged a coup to remove the elected leader from power in February 2021?
3. Which US state suffered a major shutdown in its water supply, then had to boil its water during an unusually cold spell in February 2021?
4. Who is the current Westminster Health Minister?
5. Who presents the new TV game-show Bank Balance?
6. The England cricket team recently played two test matches at a new cricket ground in India with a capacity of 132,000 spectators, though attendance was limited by Covid restrictions. In which city is that stadium?
7. Marcello Bielsa was the head coach of which Premier League team during the 20-21 season?
8. Michael O'Leary is the outspoken boss of which airline?
9. Hongkong Shanghai Banking Corporation, or HSBC, took over the business of which UK high street bank in 1992?
10. The movie 'To Olivia' is effectively a biopic of which children's writer?
11. The largest tank battle in history took place in July and August 1943 in the then Soviet Union. By the name of which town has it been known ever since?
12. Halton had two pubs until relatively recently but what was the name of the Mitchell's pub occupying the building adjacent to St Wilfrid's Church until the early 2000s?



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13. B4RN is currently installing fibre optic cable throughout the village but what is B4RN an abbreviation of?
14. Galena is the most important ore of lead, but is also a substantial source of which precious metal?
15. DS Sioban Clarke is a prominent character in which very successful series of crime novels?
16. The Lancaster laundry formerly known as Lakeland Pennine, then Sunlight, then Berendsen now goes under what name?
17. A Lancaster business set out in 1986 to build a cheap, easy to maintain vehicle for use in poor countries without much road infrastructure, by what name did that company go?
18. Which Morecambe street was often referred to locally as 'The Barbary Coast' because of the concentration of pubs?
19. Which fruit is used to make Perry?
20. Each year a number of brave, some would say foolhardy, people row the Atlantic starting at La Gomera in the Canary Islands. On which Caribbean island is the usual finishing point?

*Thanks to our Quizmaster, Mark Drinkall - answers on page 30*

# LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

**Dear Editors,**

We would like to inform people in the village of the passing of Jeremy Richardson. He was a member of the Halton with Aughton parish council and the man who was instrumental in the initial formation of *The Parish Prattle*. Jeremy and his wife Carol were the editors from the very first issue of June 2001 until issue 35, Jan 2007 when they left the village to both work in Orkney.

Carol sadly passed away with cancer in 2012. Jeremy had recently moved from Orkney to Wigton, near Carlisle, where he lost his life in a cycling accident at the end of January 2021.

**Brian & Carol Holman**

**Dear Editors,**

I am hoping to find out some of the history of the house 'Shefferlands' on Foundry Lane, Halton.

Any information from your readers would be gratefully received. We are the current owners of Shefferlands; we moved in a couple of years ago and we are in the process of restoring the house. I have started to research and have gathered some of the history of the house, but it would be lovely if anybody else is able to share any information they may have. Please contact me on [katybradley87@outlook.com](mailto:katybradley87@outlook.com)

**Katy Bradley**

**Honey bees are in decline.  
Please help!**

The swarming season is about to started. If you see a swarm of bees, please notify us asap. We shall happily collect and re-house them at no cost.

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# SQUARE DANCING

## ABOUT SQUARE DANCING

Square Dancing evolved in America from immigrants sharing and amalgamating their own country's dances. It took off in England in the 1950s at American air bases.

The Square Dance moves have been standardised now, so that wherever you are in the world you will be able to dance, as it is ALWAYS called in English. Like many hobbies you can join in the fun and dance at the intake level of Social Square Dancing for as long as you wish. If you master it and feel you want more, you can go on to learn a higher programme, of which there are many. Previously we only recruited once every two years to allow our dancers plenty of time to practise before new people started again.

Lune Valley Ocean Wavers Square Dance Club is now pleased to announce that we will be changing the way we

teach, which means we should be able to teach the basic moves in 12-16 weeks. We hope to recruit 3 or 4 times a year for Social Square Dancing (SSD), starting from Monday 6 September at The Centre @ Halton.

## WHAT IS IT?

Unlike almost all other forms of dancing there is no footwork, each step is walked in time, to the beat of the music. There are no structured individual dances to learn, only the moves.

E.g., Sequence, Line Dancing, Scottish & English Country all have a sequence of steps or moves that make up a dance, which is repeated until the end of the music. You have to remember all the dances.

In Square dancing you learn the only the moves and the 'caller' blends the moves you have learned into a dance. Every time you get on the floor the dance will be different. The more moves you learn

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## PRATTLE QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1. Braemar
- 2. Myanmar, formerly Burma.
- 3. Texas
- 4. Matt Hancock
- 5. Gordon Ramsey
- 6. Ahmedabad
- 7. Leeds United
- 8. Ryanair
- 9. Midland
- 10. Roald Dahl
- 11. Kursk
- 12. The White Lion
- 13. Broadband for the Rural North
- 14. Silver
- 15. Ian Rankin's Rebus books
- 16. Ellis
- 17. Africar. It ceased trading in 1988.
- 18. Queen Street
- 19. Pears
- 20. Antigua (Nelsons Dockyard)



the more interesting the dances will become. In this way you can dance and have fun on the very first night. Remember how much fun a Ceilidh can be? That's week one.

Usually there are 2 parts to each dance. The first is the pattern or 'Patter call' where the caller will mix you around using only the moves you have learned so far, until you are back at home with your original partner. This is followed by a singing call, which is more structured with some repeated sequences usually practised in the patter, but you don't have to remember them as the caller provides all moves to be danced a second or two before you dance it. The 'Singing call' is intended to be your reward for the work you have achieved in the patter, where you can sing along with the chorus if you know it and just enjoy the dance.

The 2 parts are known as a 'Tip', thought to be from when dancers tipped the fiddler/ band in the past.

Social Square Dancing is Fun & Friendship to music. Suitable for all ages from 14yrs. I know some dancers who have been dancing since the 1950s and are now in their 80s and fit as fiddles. It keeps you supple, fit, and is an excellent mental exercise.

More next time.

**Carol Holman**



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## A YEAR OF THE LUNE LOOP

On the day of the Prattle deadline for this edition, it was tipping it down, but that didn't stop me going for my daily 'Lune Loop' walk.

I started doing this walk regularly at the beginning of April last year. Actually I'd done it two or three times a week for a long time, but from 2nd April 2020, I've done it every single day, except for one day (when I went on another walk in Settle instead). So by 2nd April 2021, all being well, I'll have done it 365 times!

When I first started doing it, to brighten up the day a bit I started livestreaming on facebook – my idea was, if people wanted to lie in, but fancied coming on a country walk, they could share in my early morning walk from the comfort of their own bed!

A few friends would join me each day, making comments about the walk in the 'chat'. In particular, two friends, Carol in Dorset and Tina in Cambridgeshire used to come nearly every day.

And Carol and Tina started teaching me the names of some of the plants we saw in those early days – because when I started, I think I knew maybe five plants – bluebell, daffodil, forget-me-not, buttercup and dandelion – I didn't know what gorse was, or any other plants.

After a few weeks of livestreaming, and learning more plants from friends, my daughter said it was embarrassing! So I started doing it as a Zoom meeting, and pasting the meeting details on my facebook page so people could join me.

Again it was mainly Carol and Tina who joined in, plus another friend Kerstin who spent most weeks 'walking' with us. Kerstin and I both enjoyed learning plant names from Carol and Tina, who were really knowledgeable and who loved challenging themselves with new plants, chatting about the Latin names, and the species.

I think at the end of the season last year I'd learned about 75 different plant

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names! (A few of them are listed at the end).

I got quite observant noticing new plants coming out every week, I found it really exciting! It was also great to see the work done by Erica Sarney's group, having a wild flower area near Woodies with all the names marked on little slate markers... and having some of the flower names chalked on the cycle path down near the bridge.

After I'd done 33 days of walking, which was 100 miles, I set up a Justgiving page to raise money for the Trussell Trust, which supports food banks around the country, and campaigns to make food banks unnecessary. I added some funds to the page when I hit 500 miles – and rather amazingly I've now covered 1,000 miles on my daily Lune Loop, so have added some more funds. If anyone else would like to help out, you can find the donation page at [tinyurl.com/fionasfundraising](http://tinyurl.com/fionasfundraising)

I think my favourite plant is the germander speedwell – it reminded me of little flowers that might be embroidered on to a little girl's cardigan – maybe I had a cardigan like that when I was little!

It's great that this month we're starting the 'plant year' again. We've already seen the snowdrops, this week I saw my first primroses on the path going down from Woodies to the cycle track, and the ramson/wild garlic are beginning to sprout everywhere. It looks so exciting, spring starting again.

As I said I've been doing this walk for a year now. There are quite a few regulars



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– on bikes, with dogs, with prams, on their own.... and we all greet each other! I've managed to do it through every weather – snow, ice (despite slipping a couple of times on the bridge and by the hydro!), and even floods! It was impassable one day when the water was really high, and on that day I cycled to Woodies and back along the cycle track, so I could say I'd got to Woodies under my own steam each day.

I'm very happy to say I've felt in great shape all year. About three years ago I was stuck on a sofa for two months with sciatica, and it's always latent – there have been a few weeks when I've noticed the familiar ache, but it's never stopped me walking, and I'm back to pain free walks at the moment – having experienced the pain I am VERY appreciative of that. I had a cold one day and spent the morning in bed, but did the walk in the afternoon – and I've felt buoyant enough to get up and walk every day – there was one day when i



felt a bit rubbish in my head; I just set off slowly with no expectations, and suddenly realised that I'd nearly done the whole loop and I was feeling a whole lot happier.

I think doing this walk each day has been great for my mental health. Being grounded in my locality is new for me – I've had a job which involved travelling round Scotland every week for the last ten years, so sleeping in my own bed every day for a year is a novelty and very welcome. My cat likes it too!

Here are some photos of my walks through the year... and at the bottom of the page there's a list of some of the plants I've seen along the way. If you see me on the route (sometimes with my neighbour's King Charles' Spaniel) do stop to chat!

### **Fiona Frank**

*And just a few of the plants to see on the Lune Loop over the year: Germander Speedwell, Comfrey, Hypericum (St John's wort), Dame's Violet (Hesperis Matronalis), Red Campion, Arum Lilies (Lords and Ladies), Silverweed, Bloody*

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*Cranesbill, Hogweed, Creeping Buttercup, Field Buttercup, Wild Garlic/Ramsons, Herb Robert, Wood Avens, Water Avens, Cowslip, Greater Stitchwort, Jack by the hedge/garlic mustard, Herb Bennet, Bugle, Yellow Rattle, Knapweed, Clover, Hawkweed, Crossfit, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Flag Iris, Hemlock, Hemp Agrimony, Vetch, Dog's mercury, Rosebay Willowherb, Mouse eared Chickweed, Nipplewort, Wall lettuce, Himalayan Balsam, Tansy Ragwort, Dog Rose, Marsh woundwort, Field Scabious, Yarrow, Hedge Bedstraw, Purple Toadflax... etc etc...*



# LUNE VALLEY COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

## NEWS ON COMMUNITY HOMES FOR HALTON



### WORK STARTS ON SITE .....

The CLT has now purchased the land on Mill Lane and signed our partnership lease with South Lakes Housing, thus enabling the housing scheme to start on site. The CLT will lease the land to South Lakes who will organise the construction of the homes and manage them, under the 150-year lease. This ensures that the homes will stay affordable in perpetuity and that people with a local connection will have priority.

Homes England awarded South Lakes Housing a substantial grant towards the cost of construction, on condition that work starts on site in March. So the start date has had to be moved forward. Halton residents will have noticed the recent flurry of activity, with scrub and ivy cleared at the end of February, before birds started nesting. Some of the sparrows displaced from their roost sites in the ivy have now moved into the new terraces of nest boxes on the north side of Halton Mill!

The site is now being cleared by Tyson Construction, the principal contractor, in readiness for the build to begin at the end of March. Tysons will liaise regularly, through newsletters, with Mill Lane

neighbours from now on. Construction is expected to last 15 months.

The CLT Board would like to thank everyone who has helped us bring this project to fruition. Special mentions go to Kathy Beaton of Lancaster City Council and Mark Dutton of South Lakes Housing who, over the last two years, have shared our determination to create affordable, high-quality homes for local people in Halton.

### CONTACTS

**Lancaster City Council** is managing the 13 affordable rented homes. To apply, you must be on the Housing Register: [www.lancaster.gov.uk/housing/council-housing/apply-for-a-home](http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/housing/council-housing/apply-for-a-home)

**South Lakes Housing** is managing the 7 shared ownership homes. To apply, tel. 0300 303 8540 or contact [development@southlakeshousing.co.uk](mailto:development@southlakeshousing.co.uk)

**Tyson Construction**, principal contractor: [www.tysonconstruction.co.uk](http://www.tysonconstruction.co.uk)  
[info@tysonconstruction.co.uk](mailto:info@tysonconstruction.co.uk)

If you have any questions or would like to join **Lune Valley CLT**, please contact us at: [info@lunevalleyclt.org](mailto:info@lunevalleyclt.org)



## CATON CLUBS NEWS

### CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

As most of our members have had their 2nd Covid 19 vaccine or they have a date to attend for one and the rules indicated that non-urgent retail could open on the 12th of April, we hoped our April trip to Boundary Mill might go ahead. However; the rules still indicate that unnecessary travel outside the local area was not allowed.

We did contact Bibby's and they confirmed that unfortunately our 15th of April trip is covered by this rule and has been cancelled.

Our next trip is to Lytham and Dobbies Garden Centre on the 20th of May when we hope the travel ban will be lifted. Again, we have everything crossed that it will go ahead and we can meet our friends, have some much needed fresh air and buy our bedding out plants. Pick up at the Victoria Institute at 9:30am then on to pick up at Brookhouse. Other pick up points can be arranged by calling our secretary

To book or for further information call our secretary, Benita, on 01524 771943.

### CATON THEATRE INTEREST GROUP

We will be updating our information as we receive it on the theatre visit to the Octagon Theatre, Bolton, on the 26th of June for a matinee performance of 'One Man, Two Governors'.

This date is very close to the total lifting of all restrictions; we cannot be sure until at least April that theatre restrictions will be lifted.

If your name is on our list all changes will be included in this magazine or give us a call.

The cost for a theatre ticket and coach is £38.50 which we will be collecting in April. This coming Christmas the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, will be presenting the pantomime 'Snow White'. We have reserved seats at the front of the Dress Circle for a matinee performance on the 1st of January 2022. The prices will be advertised as we receive them. We have started a list and already have many expressions of interest.

For further information, or to book, call Jean on 01524 770980, or Benita on 01524 771943.

### Spoken Spanish Lessons

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# HAPPENINGS AT HALTON MILL

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

## REOPENING HALTON MILL – YOGA, PUBLIC ART AND HALTON HERITAGE

Now we have a roadmap out of lockdown, we've been discussing what it means for the Mill. We plan to open slowly and safely, and aim to be fully open by September, when we hope most restrictions will be over.

### YOGA AND OTHER CLASSES

The good news is that the River Room, our beautiful yoga studio overlooking the Lune, should reopen on Monday 17 May (as long as the Government's planned timetable doesn't change).

For a lot of people, online well-being classes like yoga, meditation and Pilates have been a lifesaver over this last year. But it's not the same as being able to meet and practice in the company of others. We're particularly lucky to have such excellent local teachers and we are also looking forward to inviting renowned teachers from further afield for weekend workshops.

Whether you are returning to your favourite classes or wanting to try something new, you can find information about all the teachers and what they are offering via [www.theriverroom.org.uk](http://www.theriverroom.org.uk). Contact each teacher individually for further information. Rebecca, who runs the River Room, has been working with the teachers and with us to make sure we all have everything in place to make it a safe environment.

If you are interested in booking the room for a class or workshop, please email Cal

Rodgers on [hello@rebeccayoga.org.uk](mailto:hello@rebeccayoga.org.uk) for more information on availability and costs.

Other classes are also allowed from 17 May, but as yet we don't know which, if any, will be running. Some tutors have decided to wait until September to get restarted. Keep an eye on the Halton Mill website for further information.

### EVENTS AND VENUE HIRE

It's still not absolutely clear when we can start letting out rooms and holding events again. Given the uncertainty, and that we are continuing to furlough ourselves part time, we don't envisage doing much until September. If you've hired out space regularly from us before, we may be able to accommodate you, but we are playing it by ear. Get in touch to find out more. And we'd love to talk to anyone who is interested in using the Mill from September.

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**PRINTING, TEXTILES, LIVING ART  
AND ANIMAL HEADS – AN OUT-  
DOORS EXHIBITION**

Sarah Galloway, an architectural glass artist and printmaker based at the Mill, is holding a series of outdoor public art exhibitions in late April. She has been commissioned, with three other artists, to produce four simultaneous exhibitions in four different locations around the UK.

Each artist comes up with an idea of what they would like to produce using their own practice and expertise. They then create and share a set of instructions with their fellow artists, who will each make their own version of the others' art work.

So as well as producing her own 'Transmissive Imprints', Sarah is creating words using live, growing willow trees; using textiles dyed in traditional ways, to create a 'Diary of Lost Events'; and producing The Guardians – a set of animal heads made out of tetra packs. She will

be displaying all four exhibitions between 23 and 30 April. She's not totally sure of the location yet, but at least some of them will be near her studio on the river side of the Mill. Keep an eye on our website nearer the time for more information.

**UNCOVERING OUR LOCAL  
INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE**

If you are interested in the history of the village and the Lune Valley, you might want to check out a YouTube channel we have set up called Uncovering Halton Mill. It contains films about the Mill, including a series of talks from a virtual study day we held last year with Halton with Aughton Heritage Group and the Regional Heritage Centre at Lancaster University. This fascinating day focused on Halton Mill in the context of the wider industrial history of the area. Filmed talks feature, amongst others, Dr Mike Winstanley, retired Senior Lecturer in History at Lancaster University, on Rural Industries in the Lune Valley in the 19th



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Century and Ian Miller, Assistant Director of Salford Archaeology, on the Evolution and Development of the Textile Industries in Lancashire.

You can find them all here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcI3-q0f1SgR5VLuJ2A5FAA>.

It is part of a longer-term project to catalogue and archive the historical material we have accumulated about Lunsdale Engineering, the precision engineering works, founded at the Mill by Polish emigres after the second world war.

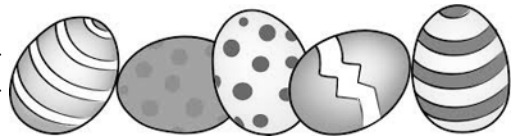
Recently we have been able to start work with two student placements from Lancaster University history department: they are looking through the material with a view to making some of it

available online on our website and, we hope, creating an exhibition at the Mill. The material will eventually go to the County Archive in Preston.

Ideally, we will round the project off in September by taking part in Heritage Open Day again, including the exhibition.

That is assuming things will have returned to some sort of normality by then.

If you are interested in the history of the village you can follow the Heritage group on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/HaltonwithAughtonHeritageGroup](http://www.facebook.com/groups/HaltonwithAughtonHeritageGroup)





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# YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

## HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

LIST OF COUNCILLORS AS AT JAN 2021

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

Cllr. Claire Buntin, contact details to follow

Cllr. Joe McAleer, contact details to follow

Cllr. Jonathan Sewell, contact details to follow

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

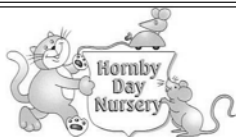
Parish Council meetings are held at the Centre on the second Wednesday  
of each month (excluding August) at 7:15pm - all welcome!

[www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

## LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Kevin Frea, Tel: 07716 246 672, kfrea@lancaster.gov.uk



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# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## MEMORIAL GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS

Halton Gardening Group has generously offered to help improve the Memorial Garden, which was donated to the village in 1935 by the Rev. Hastings, in memory of his parents and of his brother, Captain George Hastings, who was killed in action in France in 1915.

Their main objectives are to:

Provide an appropriately attractive garden for the Village War Memorial.

Improve the appearance of the Memorial Garden throughout the year.

Consider the wider needs of the environment and nature.

Make the garden sustainable and more manageable to maintain.

Engage with, and encourage, community involvement in this focal point of the village.

Wherever possible, plants and bulbs have been chosen that are sympathetic to the time period, such as Rosa 'ax' (Latin for peace) which is a hybrid musk rose that was launched in 1918 to commemorate the end of WW1. Some of the older or larger shrubs will be either pruned or removed.



The Parish Council approved the plans in March, so HGG members will gradually progress the work over the forthcoming year, whilst continuing to raise funds for the work. COVID permitting they would also welcome offers of help.

## PART TIME VACANCY – GROUNDS MAINTENANCE PERSON

Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council has a vacancy for a person to carry out grounds maintenance around the village. You will work as part of a team of three and report to the Parish Clerk. Duties will include: monitoring and maintaining play areas and equipment; managing open spaces around the village (mowing, strimming, hedge trimming, litter picking, etc.); maintaining the football pitch and grounds around The Centre; minor repairs and maintenance to equipment and property.

You should be prepared to work outside throughout the year. Previous experience of using garden tools, machinery and power tools is preferred, but training can be given where necessary.

8 hrs per week over the course of the year, with days and times of work to be agreed. Competitive salary dependent upon age and experience. 20 days holiday (pro-rata).

For further information or an application form please contact the Parish Clerk.

**Luke Mills**, Parish Clerk

e: [clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk),  
t: 01524 881 499

## BUS SERVICES IN BRIEF

Timetables are available in the library or check [www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables](http://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

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## 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. **Reduced services to April 12** - see page 12

**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](http://www.lancar.org.uk)

Halton Juniors FC: [www.haltonjuniorsfc.com](http://www.haltonjuniorsfc.com)

Halton Lune Hydro: [www.haltonlunehydro.org](http://www.haltonlunehydro.org)

Halton Mill: [www.haltonmill.org.uk](http://www.haltonmill.org.uk)

Halton Social Club: email [haltonsocialclub@gmail.com](mailto:haltonsocialclub@gmail.com)

Halton United Reformed Church: [www.nlancsurc.org.uk](http://www.nlancsurc.org.uk) then click on 'Halton'

Lancaster CoHousing: [www.lancastercohousing.org.uk](http://www.lancastercohousing.org.uk)

Parish Council: [www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk)

St Wilfrid's Church: [www.achurchnearyou.com/halton-st-wilfrid-church](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/halton-st-wilfrid-church)

St Wilfrid's Church of England Primary School: [www.st-wilfrids.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-wilfrids.lancs.sch.uk)

The Centre@Halton: [www.haltoncentre.org/](http://www.haltoncentre.org/)

The Prattle: email [haltonprattle@btinternet.com](mailto:haltonprattle@btinternet.com)

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Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage or any other loan secured on it.

**Tel: 01524 68812**

**Email: [admin.bridges@sjpp.co.uk](mailto:admin.bridges@sjpp.co.uk)**

**Web: [www.bridgesandco.co.uk](http://www.bridgesandco.co.uk)**

**Braestone, Kirkby Lonsdale Road, Halton, LA2 6PH**