



# THE PRATTLE



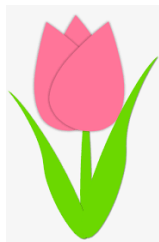
Issue No.130

Halton-with-Aughton

April/May 2023

Welcome to this next edition of the Prattle. By the time you read this the clocks will have moved forward an hour and the lighter evenings are noticeable as we look forward to summer.

There are lots of activities going on in our villages and surrounding area with a wealth of information inside these pages, so, go on, pop the kettle on and settle down for a good read! Feel free to drop an email with your comments to the address below!



**Jan & Dave**

**Editors**

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE PRATTLE

WHAT'S ON INFO, ARTICLES & LETTERS TO THE EDITORS, **JAN & DAVE**,  
by email to: [halton-prattle@outlook.com](mailto:halton-prattle@outlook.com)

ADVERTISING COPY & ENQUIRIES to **HELEN**: email  
[halton-prattle@outlook.com](mailto:halton-prattle@outlook.com) or tel **812679**

DISTRIBUTION & GENERAL ENQUIRIES: **CAROL** on **811444**

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### DEADLINES for June / July 2023

Copy: Wed 10th May 2023  
Adverts: Wed 10th May 2023  
Delivery: Fri 2nd June 2023

### Advertising Rates:

Box Ad: £12  
Double Box Ad: £24  
Classified Ad: £5 - 20 words



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



## VILLAGE NEWS

### HALTON SCOUTS

On February 27th the scout section restarted in Halton, and is now being run by Sorrel (who was running beavers) and her husband Mark. The new scouts include cubs that were wanting to move up and also children who are brand new to scouting and had shown an interest in joining the group following a very well attended open evening we had at the end of January. The open evening resulted in lots of children also wanting to join Cubs and Beavers.

At the time of writing we have had 2 scout meetings, one in which we were making pancakes (albeit a week after pancake day) and one where we started covering the stage 3 navigation badge. I will be continuing to support Mark and Sorrel for the next few weeks as they get to grips with running the scout section, and will be helping on an

occasional basis thereafter when needed for some of the more technically challenging badges. I am also looking forward to being at the district camp later in the year with the group.

**John** (GSL and 'previous' scout leader)

### HALTON HYDRO

I am pleased to report that 2022 was a good year for the Hydro, in that turbine blade inspections on drain down indicated very little wear on blade pitch control linkages, so no major overhauls on the horizon just yet, and whilst electricity price increases are not good for consumers, electricity generation income increased dramatically in December and remains high today. This means that the proceeds going to the Halton Lune Trust will increase next year, resulting in more funds being

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available for worthy local causes. Aside from this financial side, there is still plenty of river stone for garden use available, so just a matter of contacting me or the secretary to gain access through the normally locked gates.

The subject revenue does however depend on operating for as long as possible in a 24hr period, and thanks here to our volunteer Duty Officers, who enjoy a walk and call in to record some figures for a given day – and get assistance if necessary, to remove the occasional tree branch and general debris, including plastic, from the launder channel. We need more Duty Officers, so if interested, you will be most welcome and training will be given. Just a matter of contacting our Secretary Brian Jefferson Secretary@haltonlunehydro.org

Moving on now to our environmental responsibilities for salmon and sea trout. Automatic counting is being recorded all the time and whilst there was an improvement last year, numbers are significantly down. e.g. 1,936 total fish up during 2022 compared to 3,957 in 2017. (Month by month and year by year numbers incidentally, are available on our web site.)

With fish well-being in mind, the Environment Agency halted fish trapping in July 2021 and this has not been re-instated. We believe that river pollution has some responsibility for reduced numbers, especially as we had

the blue green algae floating on top of the water during July 22. Warnings therefore for this coming summer about swimming when algae is spotted anywhere in our local stretch of the river.

There will be a little more to report, with a few photos on screen at the AGM 7pm Friday 21st April 2023 at the Halton Community Centre.

**John Blowes MBE CEng**  
Chair – Halton Lune Hydro Ltd  
John.blowes@haltonlunehydro.org



**Halton Park**  
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**Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 May 2023**  
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## HALTON LIBRARY

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### Weekly Events

#### Story Time

A weekly story reading session for pre-school children. Includes crafts and songs! Held every **Wednesday 9:00-9:30**.

#### Knit & Natter

Come along and have a knit and a natter, share gossip, tips and patterns. It doesn't matter whether you're new to knitting or a 'dab' hand, everyone is welcome – friendly atmosphere guaranteed. Held every **Friday 13:00-15:00**.

### Lego Club

Come along and create Lego masterpieces. All you need to bring is your imagination! Attendance is free, just drop in. Held every **Saturday 10:30-12:30**.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Our areas of focus for 2023 were agreed at our AGM in December. These are; the cost of living crisis, loneliness, anti-social behaviour, litter picking and community resilience.

At our March meeting we began exploring ways we can increase focus on these areas whilst supporting the wider community. We are currently considering the potential for a 'community larder', the 'share a meal' initiative, public defib training / familiarisation. Our litter picks and 'Cards Fighting Loneliness' campaign are still ongoing.



# bay volunteers

Bay Volunteers is a community-led service which supports the needs of people and communities across the Lancaster District, especially those who are elderly, vulnerable, isolated and/or housebound. We work with many partners, including Lancaster City Council, Lancaster District Community Hub, Lancaster District CVS, Lancaster and Bay Integrated Care Communities, Lancaster University Students' Union, and many others to bring support to those in our community who need it. As part of Bay Volunteers, volunteers can sign up and pick which tasks they would like to do, when they do them and how much they want to volunteer. The tasks that we receive, which our volunteers take up, mainly include either: shopping for someone, collecting and delivering post/parcels, collecting and delivering prescriptions, a listening call/walk, patient transport and/or digital support.

You can ask for support here:

<https://www.hopelancaster.co.uk/bay-volunteers/new-request/>

You can sign up to volunteer here:

<https://volunteers.hopelancaster.co.uk/index-classic> & click on 'Try Volunteering'.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.hopelancaster.co.uk/bay-volunteers/about-us/>

We are always keen to welcome new members to our scheme. To join, head to [www.ourwatch.org](http://www.ourwatch.org) and search for the Halton scheme.

If you have any ideas or initiatives you think we could adopt which would tie in with our objectives, please come along to our meeting and get involved. Our next meeting is 15th June at 19:30 at The Red Door Cafe.

Please email [samanthajanehicks@gmail.com](mailto:samanthajanehicks@gmail.com) to confirm your attendance.

## LITTER PICKS

Are you sick of seeing rubbish in the village? If so, come and join us!

Litter picks are a great way to get to know people in the community,

whilst being active and enjoying some time in the fresh air.

Our picks are suitable for all ages, we even have a number of 'little' litter pickers for the youngsters!

There are free refreshments, including a slice of cake for all attendees (please email me at the address above to reserve your slice of cake!)

Every child that takes part gets to choose something from my 'thank you' box at the end – there is even a trophy for the child that finds the most bits of rubbish!

The dates for our next picks are as follows; 22nd April, 27th May, 17th June. We meet at The Centre at 1pm. All you need is suitable clothing, footwear and gloves, we'll provide the rest! We hope to see you there!

### CARDS FIGHTING LONELINESS

By the time you read this, our 2nd campaign will have come to an end, as our campaign runs from October-March each year.

As of 10th March, we have received an incredible 978 cards and keepsakes since October, which is absolutely amazing! We have had 102 recipients on our list this year and sadly we've lost a number of our founding recipients over the course of our 2nd campaign. My love and thoughts to all their friends and

family, our campaign won't be the same without them.

Preparations are well underway for our '2nd Big Get Together,' which is taking place on 25th March. The event gives everyone involved an opportunity to come together and celebrate everything we have achieved as a community. I look forward to being able to share more details of the impact of our 2nd campaign in the next Prattle edition! A huge thank you to everyone that has been involved this year, the campaign wouldn't be what it is, without YOU!

**Sam Pritchard**

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# THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Halton Community Association Charity No. 115206

**Bookings:** Carol 01524 811444  
bookings@haltoncentre.org

**Enquiries:** Office 01524 811316  
info@haltoncentre.org Centre

Manager: Maureen Richardson

**Event tickets:** Ticket source [www.ticketsource.co.uk/haltoncommunityassociation](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/haltoncommunityassociation)

**Website:** [haltoncentre.org](http://haltoncentre.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/HaltonCentre](https://www.facebook.com/HaltonCentre) Like us to keep up to date.

**Newsletter sign up:** <http://eepurl.com/btqwFX>

## Coffee shop opening hours:

Monday-Friday 1pm-5pm

School and bank holidays 11am-5pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am-5pm

Please support the Centre by visiting our community Coffee Shop while you are enjoying the Centre's facilities.

## UPDATES FROM THE CENTRE

The Centre @ Halton is a valuable asset to the community of Halton. The recent

increase in energy and other costs has had a dramatic impact on our day to day running costs. We have recently had to increase Coffee Shop prices and room hire rates to slightly ease the severity of this impact. As a charity we rely on the income from the Coffee Shop, room hire and fundraising events held through the year. We would really like to encourage you to use the facilities on offer here to help support our work and enable us to continue offering our fantastic range of groups and activities. Please consider hiring the hall or meeting rooms for parties and family events, attending our fundraising events or a group activity. Even just making a small purchase from the Coffee Shop when using the play areas or skate park is beneficial. We are also very grateful to receive any donations, big or small towards our on going work and projects.

## Holywell Care Group

135 Balmoral Road

Morecambe

LA3 1HJ



[www.holywell.care](http://www.holywell.care)

[info@holywell.care](mailto:info@holywell.care)

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The Centre's next fundraising event is the Craft Fayre on Saturday 20th May 2pm-5pm in the Main Hall, alongside Halton Gardening Group's Plant Sale 2pm-4pm on the field. We still have tables available for £15 for the Craft Fayre. Please contact the Office to book or if you are able to help at the event, donate raffle prizes of cakes to sell on the day.

We have secured grant funding to start a new Soup and a Song group. The sessions will be on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, starting after Easter, 12:30pm-2:30pm at a cost of £4 per person. We will start with a meal eaten together followed by singing as a group led by an experienced instructor. If you can help us set up, clear away, prepare and serve food or wash up afterwards, please contact Maureen. If you would like to register your interest to join the group to sing, please leave your details with the Office. No prior singing experience necessary.

If you have a couple of hours to spare midweek we would be grateful for more volunteers in the Coffee Shop in the afternoons between 1pm and 5pm but especially between 3pm and 5pm. Full training and support will be provided and it's a great opportunity to meet new people. Doing good makes you feel good – helping others will help you too!

Do you or any young people you know have an idea for youth activities at The Centre? We are keen to start some activities or events for young people. We are having a Young People's Open Evening on Tuesday 4th April 5-7pm with refreshments provided. If you have any thoughts, come and see us and we can work together to get your ideas going.

There are positions available on the The Centre Management Committee – Halton Community Association. If you would like to be involved in the decision making and running of The

	<p><b>MARK WATSON</b> <b>HOME &amp; GARDEN MAINTENANCE</b></p> <p>Digging, fencing, hedge trimming, mowing, paving, planting, power washing spraying, strimming, turfing, gutters cleared</p> <p><b>07759680938</b> <b>07759680943</b></p> <p><b>Loft insulating, pointing, rendering, painting</b></p> <p><b>Low Bentham</b> <b>015242</b> <b>62038</b></p> <p>No job too small, reasonable rates, estimates given.</p>
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Centre, please contact the office for more information. We meet monthly on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm.

An opportunity exists for an enthusiastic and reliable person with experience of cooking for large numbers (up to 50) to join our team to plan and provide meals for our Luncheon Club. The role will be supported by a team of volunteers and staff. Minimum 5 hours on 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month with the potential to expand this. Competitive salary. The successful applicant will be required to start as soon as possible. For detailed information and an application form please contact: Naomi office@haltoncentre.org Closing date 24th March 2023.

See **Prattle What's On** pages for contact information of all regular groups, clubs & classes. Individual flyers are available from The Centre.

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**NEW SESSIONS, SESSION NEWS & CHANGES**

Elite Dance Studio starts 8th April  
Salsa Night Saturday 22nd April  
Halton Brews and Babies has now finished.

**CENTRE EVENTS 2023**

Plant and Craft Fayre Saturday 20th May 2pm-5pm  
Above correct as at 6th March.

**Naomi Turner** Publicity Officer

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**Ian Felton**  
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## HALTON GARDENING GROUP

Members will be improving the wildflower bank this year to produce a display of indigenous wildflowers. We have sown the seed generously given to us by Erica Sarney who is wildflowering the Hermitage Field. We are also growing plug plants so they can be added more selectively. This refurbishment will take time, but hopefully in a couple of years the bees and butterflies will return and feed on the nectar available. We ask that the area is respected, not trampled on and kept free of animal excrement.

By the time you read this, HGG will have participated in the Health and Well-Being Day held at Halton Mill on 18th March. It gave us an opportunity to reflect on the health benefits of gardening and plants. Gardens can be great for the environment and for wildlife – and they're good for people too, the benefits of being in the garden run much deeper than just exercise. A King's Fund report examining the research, showed broad and diverse benefits, including significant reductions in depression and anxiety and improved social functioning; it can help to maintain independence and prevent cognitive decline. Boost your Vitamin G (Green) by exposing yourself to plants, gardens, and woodland whenever you can.

The Group are organising a trip to RHS Harlow Carr near Harrogate on Monday 24th April 2023, there may well be a

few seats left on the coach so if you are interested please contact Janet Theobald on 01524 811419.

We are now affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and as a result we will receive certain benefits such as, free gardening advice from experts on our projects.

In future the RHS logo will be used alongside our own.

If you would like to join the group our next meeting is on 3rd April at 9:30am – 11:30am in Halton Mill.

For more information email [haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com) or contact Kath Pink Secretary on 07900416961



### Halton Gardening Group

## Plant Sale

**Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**2pm - 4pm**

On the field at the  
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Facebook: [facebook.com/haltongardeninggroup](https://www.facebook.com/haltongardeninggroup)

*Proceeds for village planting projects*



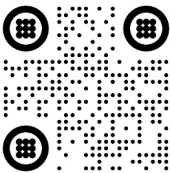
## NEWS FROM THE HEARTS OF HALTON W.I.

My goodness – how time flies by! By the time you receive this edition of the Prattle you will have had a leaflet put through your door as part of a huge recruitment campaign within our village with the thanks and blessing of Jackie Hobson, our Lancashire Federation Chairman, and Sheila Mitchell, our WI Advisor, for trying to increase the membership of the Lancashire WI.

Sadly through Covid our membership suffered, like many others! Even though goody bags were sent out on many occasions and the committee members who distributed them had a chance for a short doorstep chat it has taken a while for us to get going. So, then preparations for the recruitment drive got started!

Denise, our Secretary, has done an AMAZING job of producing a fabulous flyer for us, which looked classy and straight to the point. As we have said the WI has had a presence within our village for 76 years, and to continue the progression new blood needs to be put into The Hearts of Halton!

From production of the flyer to the letterbox became a well oiled operation over the weekend of 26th of February. With the aim to pop one through every letterbox twelve of our lovely ladies tramped the streets from Saturday morning into afternoon, Sunday with the outlying area Monday to Thursday... bad backs and aching legs were the result, but how amazing it was to chat to people round and about.



### Dawn Keyse LCPH Homeopath

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HOMEOPATHY AS A NATURAL ALTERNATIVE

The wonderful phone calls and emails to myself asking for information on the WI started to come in, with them asking for more info and to visit us for a taster session in March.

Even though the group has been here for 76 years[!] modernisation has had to take place, whilst holding on to the WI values of educating women. We reinvented ourselves about 4 years ago by changing our name to H♥arts of Halton, suggested by Iris Suthers who was then one of older members, then voted on by our members, and we all absolutely love our catchy and fresh new name.

We have some visits coming up – one is a trip to the Castle in April; date to be

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The Rainbow Room, Halton Mill, LA2 6ND

arranged; and an August Coach trip to Saltaire which is a World Heritage Site in Shipley.

If you want any information or fancy any of the trips please contact myself so I can get you to the correct member sorting the trip out.

Our ladies who walked the walk for our group are to have a treat of coffee and cake where we can discuss our efforts!

**Jane Mealor**  
(President)



# AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

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**Hire our Hall/Kitchen/Playground and Garden area:** ring Ruth Keeler on 07789373100 or email her at ruthkeeler@gmail to request our Conditions of Hire and a Booking Form.

## Regular Recreation:

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Thursdays 2pm to 4pm Carpet Bowls £2 donation to attend

Thursdays 6:30pm to 7pm Community Library Free entry to browse

Thursdays 7pm to 9pm Lune Valley Voices Community Choir £7 entry fee

## Spring Volunteer Day and Community Gardening: Saturday 15th April 11am onwards

It has reached that time of year again when we are planning to meet up as a village community to spruce up our Hall. Thankfully, we can draw upon a

wide range of skills locally, including carpentry, plumbing, joinery and painting and all are needed to keep our 100 year old building maintained!

This year we are launching our own Gardening Club which will design and execute a planting plan for our communal green spaces. We are also fund-raising for structural improvements to our car park and outside paths. If you can assist us in our spring make-over then please do come along – many hands make for lighter work. Refreshments provided.

## CENTENARY CELEBRATION: SATURDAY 22ND JULY

We are delighted to announce that we will be celebrating our 1923 to 2023 Centenary on the evening of 22nd July 2023 with a Ceilidh led by local musicians 'The Riot Band' and catering provided by Lancaster's famous Go Burrito restaurant. This will be a ticketed event with priority given to those people currently living and working in Aughton or using the Village Hall regularly, but there are likely to be spaces for Halton residents too, so if you are interested, please save the date.

**Any questions about Aughton Village Hall?** Contact the Secretary, Claire Athis Schofield on 07484660174 or aughtonsecretary@gmail.com



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The Red Door Cafe, Church Brow, Halton, LA2 6LS



## 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 Lune Trust: [www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk](http://www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk)

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

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

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 [halton-prattle@outlook.com](mailto:halton-prattle@outlook.com)



# WHAT'S ON IN HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON?

All events are at The Centre @ Halton unless specified otherwise

AUGHTON RECREATION ROOM: BOOKINGS Events Secretary Ruth Keeler on  
07789373100 or ruthgkeeler@gmail.com

THE CENTRE @ HALTON: HALL/ROOM HIRE 811444 or info@haltoncentre.org

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Weekdays Mon - Fri:

Preschool: 8am – 5:30pm, 3pm on  
Fridays term time Donna 07855  
326670 Louise 811811

### Mondays:

Outdoor Circuits: 6-7pm 811316  
Meditation Group: 7-8:30pm 811013  
for location

Scouts: 7:15-9pm. Scout Hut

Vale O' Lune Young Farmers Club: 7:30-  
9pm, Aughton Village Hall

American Square Dancing: 7:30-10pm  
Carol 811444

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

### Tuesdays:

Halton Baby & Toddler Group: 9:15-  
11am; 811316

Computer Help at the Library: 1-2pm,  
Halton Library

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

Board games: 2-4pm Free

Beavers: 5:30–6:30pm Scout Hut e:  
beavers1sthalton@outlook.com

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

Cub Scouts: 6:45–8pm term time Scout  
Hut e: cubs.1sthalton@gmail.com  
Sorrel 07960 942082

### Wednesdays:

Storytime: 9:00-9:30am (term time

only) for preschool children and their  
carers. Halton Library

Walking Football: 10–11:30am £3.  
John 01524 418753

Pilates: 6-7pm Kate 07799065191

Scouts: 6:45-8:30pm 811360 Scout Hut  
Walking Netball: 7–8pm on MUGA,  
inside when wet. £4 811316

### Thursdays:

Pilates: 9:30-10:30am 07799068191

Samba Espirito (Drumming): 6:45-  
9:30pm Karen 07711 262288

Gentle Exercise class: 11-12 noon  
811316

Carpet Bowls: 2-4pm Aughton Village  
Hall £2 on the door inc refreshments

Aughton Community Library: 6:30pm  
to 7pm Free entry to browse

Lune Valley Voices Community Choir:  
7-9pm Aughton Village Hall £7 entry  
fee

### Fridays:

Knit 'n' Natter: 1-3pm Halton Library

Indoor Bowling: 3:30 – 5:30pm 811316

The Greyhound Games Night: 7:30pm

The Greyhound 01524 963769

### Saturdays:

Lego Club: 10:30-12:45pm Halton  
Library

Elite Arts School of Dance: Acrobatics,  
Gymnastics, Contemporary dance. 5-  
18yrs Lauryn 07490 713992

**Sundays:**

Valley Church: 10:30am David 07885  
435910

**FOOTBALL - Halton Jnr Football Club**  
**Damian 07850 913051**

**Saturday** 10:30-11:30; 3-6 yr olds

**Sunday** 9:00-4:00; (Subject to  
fixtures)7-14 yr olds

Contact secretary@haltonjuniorsfc.com

**FORTNIGHTLY EVENTS****Tuesdays:**

Lunesdale Camera Club: venue/ info  
ring David 07903 392021

**Thursdays:**

Walking Group, 1st & 3rd Thurs. Meet  
in front of the Centre 9:15am. More  
info 811316

**Fridays:**

Memory Café: 1st & 3rd Fri, 11am–  
12:30pm; dates Apr 7, 21; May 5, 19;  
prebook Rita 07979715041

Over 55's Luncheon Club Café: 2nd &  
4th Fri, 10am-1pm; dates Apr 28; May  
12, 26; by appointment 811316

**MONTHLY EVENTS****MONDAYS:**

**2nd Mon:** Halton Reading Group:  
9:30-10:30am Sarah 811160

**TUESDAYS:**

**3rd Tues:** Gardening Group: for venue  
information, email:

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haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com or  
message/telephone Monica Williams,  
Chair HGG, 07883 908948.

**WEDNESDAYS:**

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

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

**3rd Wed:** WI (Hearts of Halton):  
7:15pm Jane 812702.

**Last Wed:** Halton with Aughton  
Heritage Group: 7:30pm Halton Mill  
contact 07426 701155

**THURSDAYS:**

**1st & 3rd Thurs:** Soup and a Song:  
12:30pm-2:30pm at a cost of £4 per  
person, Starting after Easter. 811316

**WHAT'S ON ENTRIES**

Email: [halton-prattle@outlook.com](mailto:halton-prattle@outlook.com) or Tel Carl on 811444

# MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## APRIL

- Tue 4 Young People's Meeting, 5-7pm at The Centre.
- Sat 15 Aughton Spring Volunteer Day 11am-4pm – come along and help out!
- Sat 15 The Craic Inn, 9pm, Irish duo live at the Greyhound
- Sun 16 3 Bridges 10k race 11am
- Fri 21 Halton Hydro AGM @ The Centre 6:30pm
- Sat 22 Litter Pick, meet 1pm at The Centre
- Sat 22 Salsa Night with bar The Centre
- Sat 29 Free Tennis Open Day, 2-4pm, Lancaster Tennis Club. Info 07771 734920

## MAY

- Thur 4 Polling Day
- Sat 13 Aughton Cycling Road Race 10am-2pm: with real coffee, bacon sandwiches and home bakes.
- Sat 20 Plant Sale & Craft Fayre, 2-5 at The Centre
- Sat 20 Halton Park Open Days, 11-4pm for charity. £5, See poster page 3
- Sun 21 Halton Park Open Days, 11-4pm for charity. £5, See poster page 3
- Sat 27 Litter Pick, meet 1pm at The Centre

### Advance dates for your diary

- June 10 Lancaster Contra Dance 2pm The Centre. Caller Rhodri Davies with musicians Ian and Charley Roberts. Entry minimum £ 10. Full info at <http://LancasterContra.org.uk/>
- June 17 Litter Pick, meet 1pm at The Centre
- July 1 & 2 Halton Garden Safari
- July 15 Salsa Night & Bar
- July 22 July Centenary Celebration Ceilidh, Aughton Recreation Room

## WHAT'S ON ENTRIES

Email: [halton-prattle@outlook.com](mailto:halton-prattle@outlook.com) or Tel Carol on 811444



**16 Foundry Close**

**Halton**

**Lancaster**

**LA2 6FE**

**Telephone – 07740 308422**

**Email – [andrew@asparker.co.uk](mailto:andrew@asparker.co.uk)**

**Website – [www.asparker.co.uk](http://www.asparker.co.uk)**

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**About the business:**

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# TORRISHOLME CRICKET CLUB UPDATE

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

At the time of writing the upcoming season is looming large with senior and junior indoor nets in progress, work starting to get the ground ready for another busy season and the club's Safeguarding, Coaching and Umpiring teams busy with renewing or gaining accreditations and qualifications. Registration night for both senior and junior players will be on Friday 31st March, 6 until 8:30 at the club. Of course registrations can also be made after that point.

Junior teams have been entered at U9, 2 x U11, 2 x U13 and U16 age groups, with four senior teams and the Diamonds Women's and Girls team. A number of social and fundraising events are planned including a quiz hosted by Barry Lees in May. Perhaps the best news is the confirmation that popular Aussie overseas Matt Cline is planning to return at the end of March,

well ahead of the playing season and in time for pre-season outdoor nets.

The expanded bar team are in the process of installing a new EPOS system and long serving groundsman Eddy is recovering well from his back operation but will need some support in the early part of the season. Finally another long server, Trustee Harold Jackson, has decided to step down and will be replaced by respected former player and Treasurer, Steve Hatton. Harold has been associated with the club since its formation in 1947 and plans to watch games at Boundary Meadow for many more years. Anyone interested in being involved at the club as player, coach, volunteer or sponsor should initially contact Halton resident and club Safeguarding Officer Mark Drinkall on 07368 944220 or by email on: [drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk](mailto:drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk)



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## EVA HERMACINSKI

Sadly, Eva Hermacinski, who ran Luneside Engineering in Halton after her father Teodor Benirski's death, died at her home in Zionsville Indiana, on 5th March 2023, aged 93. Here [tinyurl.com/evaobit](http://tinyurl.com/evaobit) is a link to her obituary detailing an adventurous, well travelled life starting in Poland, taking in Dublin, Spain and the USA before she made a complete about-turn and spent 20 years running Luneside Engineering in Halton.

When she returned to Halton in 2018 for the 70th anniversary of Luneside Engineering she was greeted by many friends who remembered her from her time here, and many of the workers who appreciated her so much for the energy and love she put into keeping her father's legacy going.

Speaking after a tour of Halton Mill, which took over the former engineering works in 2013 and transformed it into a flourishing co-working and event space with managed offices and studios, Eva said: "Myself and my daughter are

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delighted with what we see. I was sad when I sold the place and distraught when I saw how it was falling to ruin. I could never imagine it being put to a better use by a better bunch of people, people who appreciate and love this place as much as my father did."

See Eva in the film 'Precision, Camaraderie and Courage' made by Alison Cahn and Frances Bowen of Halton based Forgebank Films, which premiered at Halton Mill's heritage open day in September. [tinyurl.com/Evafilmhaltonmill](http://tinyurl.com/Evafilmhaltonmill)



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## THE PRATTLE QUIZ No 55

1. Which country adopted the Euro as its national currency on 1st January 2023?
2. The Montgolfier brothers are generally considered to be the first people to ascend in what type of aircraft?
3. Who won the 2023 World Darts Championship, his darts nickname is 'Bully Boy'?
4. Cayenne pepper is often used to add heat to spicy food, but where is Cayenne?
5. Who wrote the fairy-tale The Water Babies which was first published in serial form in 1862?
6. Who hosts the TV Series 'The Chatty Man'?
7. He has been married to Barbara Bach for many years and his real name is Richard Starkey, what name is he better known by?
8. Which Scottish Loch has the distinction of being the deepest body of fresh water in the UK?
9. In physics what term is used to describe the change in frequency of sound heard by someone who is moving relative to the source of the sound?
10. Canadian musician Abel Tesfaye is better known by what name?
11. What is the nationality of Jesse Marsch, manager of Leeds United?
12. Patek Philippe and TAG Heuer are well known manufacturers of luxury goods, mainly what type?
13. Formerly known as Batavia by what name is the capital of Indonesia now known?
14. Former US Vice President Al Gore starred in a documentary film highlighting the impacts and dangers of climate change in 2006; what was the name of the film?
15. The exciting, attacking brand of cricket currently played by the England test team is sometimes referred to as 'Baz Ball', but who is Baz?
16. The smaller and juvenile fish of which UK freshwater species are often referred to as skimmers by coarse anglers?
17. The accounting scandal and failure of which US energy company was mainly responsible for the disappearance of the Arthur Anderson firm of multinational accountants and auditors?
18. Which Manchester City and England footballer was sidelined by his club for returning from the World Cup overweight?
19. Augusta is the capital of which US state?
20. Which silvery white metal has the atomic number 48 and the chemical symbol Cd?

*With thanks to our Quiz Master, Mark Drinkall - answers on page 34*

## HALTON MILL NEWS

### NEW ROOM HIRE AND EVENTS MANAGER

Nick Lakin has been employed as Halton Mill's new room hire and events manager.

He'll be your first point of contact for any enquiries about hiring the spaces – including the atrium, seminar room, arts and crafts room, exhibition space and co-working space The Hive – or putting on your own events at The Mill. You can find him at The Mill on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or contact [venue@haltonmill.org.uk](mailto:venue@haltonmill.org.uk). Nick also co-organises the annual Halton Millfest, which returns this year on September 16, coinciding with Halton Mill's 10 year anniversary in its current form.

### CARDBOARD COSMOS

Aliens will visit Halton Mill as part of an interactive, family friendly performance this Easter.

Cardboard Cosmos will welcome two friendly alien visitors from a hidden corner of the galaxy, who have crash landed and need your help to get home.

The audience will be asked to help mend their broken spaceship, share their intergalactic story, and find their way home. With a gentle alien encounter and a sustainable message, the show is suitable for children aged four and above.

The innovative new show from Stute Theatre will take place in the atrium at Halton Mill on Friday April 14 at 2pm. Tickets are £5 per person, available from [www.trybooking.co.uk/CDFF](http://www.trybooking.co.uk/CDFF), and attendees are asked to bring along some spare cardboard and a bit of imagination to join in the fun.

**Nick Lakin**

*AM* Hair & Beauty



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OPENING TIMES - TUESDAY- SATURDAY 9-5

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# HALTON MUD BATH

Put a Pebble in a Puddle.

“Halton’s Cobblestone Pavement.”

Replaces Sludgy, Muddy, River Bank Mess.

In the balmy days of summer, the footpath from Halton Mill to the Crook of Lune is an idyllic, tranquil, colourful treat. Wandering along the river bank I spot fallow deer, dippers, herons, sand martin’s and occasionally the azure blue flash of a kingfisher. Otters swim here and I have twice spotted a family of them with young from the old railway bridge.

However, in the winter, particularly after a hard frost or heavy rain, the otherwise delightful path, becomes an impassable, squidgy quagmire.

I have a potential, partial solution! Why not, “Plop a Pebble”.

Imagine what would happen if everyone who walked along the path picked up a river worn stone from the huge pile by the Halton Hydro and dropped it onto the path in the deepest squishiest mud? Multiply this by a thousand stones, then what would happen to the mire over a year or two? Some people would place the stones in ridiculously wrong places, or on top of other stones to build an unwanted cairn. However other pebbles would gradually fill a muddy hole, evolving after a couple of years into an amazing dry shod cobbled path.

I have a personal ambition that the footpath from Halton Mill to the Crook of Lune shall become a fully accessible path for all. I have seen this on a much wider scale in very remote parts of New Zealand where amazing trails have been made fully usable to all. Why not on Halton on Lune?

What do you think?

Plop one in for me.

**Halton Parish Councillor Revd Jonathan Sewell**

The Centre @ Halton

# Craft Fair

## Sat 20th May

2pm - 5pm  
Tables £15

Entry adults £1, children free  
Plant sale on the field 2pm - 4pm free entry

For more information contact Centre Office  
01524 811316

The Centre @ Halton, Low Road, Halton LA2 6NB | 01524 811316 | info@haltoncentre.org

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The Centre @ Halton | COMPANY REGISTRATION No. 0839419

@HaltonCentre | PROCEEDS TO CENTRE REFURBISHMENT FUND

## CANCERCARE'S LIGHTS ON THE LAWN

### **PAY TRIBUTE TO LOST LOVED ONES AT CANCERCARE'S LIGHTS ON THE LAWN REMEMBRANCE**

Lights on the Lawn is a remembrance event which will take place at our Slynedales Centre on Sat 1 April where we are inviting people to join us to pay tribute to the memory of a loved one. We will be illuminating the grounds, trees and flowerbeds at our historic centre with fairy lights and lanterns and inviting people to dedicate a candle with a personal message. The candle will then be added to the lawn at the historic building, as the sun sets, to create a glittering display of commemoration. The evening will also feature special areas of reflection and contemplative live music throughout. The gardens at Slynedales have long been a source of tranquillity and

comfort to the people who come to us for support. Many of them say being surrounded by nature is an important part of their therapy.

People wishing to dedicate a candle but are unable to attend, can ask the charity to do so on their behalf and they will receive a special keepsake postcard from the event.

CancerCare provides professional counselling and complementary therapy to people affected by cancer and bereavement across north Lancashire and south Cumbria. Demand for our bereavement services has increased hugely in since the Covid pandemic and we hope the event will raise valuable funds.

If you would like to know more visit [cancercare.org.uk/news-and-events/lights-on-the-lawn](http://cancercare.org.uk/news-and-events/lights-on-the-lawn)

# Lights on the Lawn

**Saturday 1st April 6:30pm - 8pm**

Celebrate someone special as we illuminate our beautiful gardens in memory of lost loved ones.

**CancerCare**  
Registered Charity Number: 1120048

**40** YEARS CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY  
1983 - 2023

# HALTON HISTORY - HALTON WAR MEMORIAL

## Herbert Davis. M.B. Ch.B.

Commemorated on the south wall interior of St. Wilfrid's Church, Halton and lived at Carus Lodge.



DAVIES, H. CIV SURG

(Brass Plaque.)

Died aged 26 of Dysentery 15/06/1900.

Doctor/Surgeon in the Transvaal's First Boer War, South Africa.

VOLUNTEERED IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRANSVAAL WAR AS A CIVIL SURGEON FOR DUTY ON THE FRONT.

DIED OF DYSENTERY AT SPRINGFONTEIN IN THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY JUNE 15th 1900 WHILST ENGAGED IN ALLEVIATING OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED OF HIS FELLOW COUNTRYMEN.

"Yet he did much in his days were so few."

**Trevor Green**

IN MEMORY OF  
HERBERT DAVIS M.B., ChB.  
4th SON OF HENRY DAVIS JP.,  
OF CARUS LODGE

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Saturday & Sunday	10am - 5pm
Weekends Oct half term to Feb half term	10am - 4pm



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 The Centre @ Halton

 HaltonCentre.org

The Centre @ Halton Low Road Halton Lancaster LA2 6NB TEL: 01524 811316

The  
Centre  
Halton @

# HALTON LUNE TRUST

Halton Lune Trust is a charitable organisation registered with the Charity Commissioners, which was set up in 2015 to distribute the profits of Halton Lune Trust for public benefit within and around the Parish of Halton with Aughton in line with the trust objectives.

It meets three times a year to consider grant applications, and its next meetings will take place on Monday 5th June and Monday 16th October.

Applications to the Trust need to meet at least one of these criteria:

- Improving and enhancing recreational opportunities and sporting activities;
- Supporting energy associated measures delivery energy efficiency and carbon reducing technologies;
- Promotion of conservation, protection and improvement of land, buildings, other structures and

artefacts of particular historic, architectural, archaeological or cultural significance;

- Promotion of conservation and enhancement of the natural environment for the benefit of the community.

If your organisation has an idea for an activity or project which meets at least one of these criteria, we would welcome an application from you. You can see a list of grants previously awarded, with the amounts received, on our website [www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk](http://www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk).

The application process is simple and straightforward: we ask for a short statement of the purpose of the grant, how it will benefit local people, whether the grant will lead on to further long term benefits for the local community, and a short budget statement. We would ideally like to



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## VILLAGE 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.

**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

receive applications seven days in advance of our meeting but we will consider all applications received prior to the meeting.

To apply, go to the Trust website [www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk](http://www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk) and download the application form from the 'how to apply' page – or email the secretary [info@haltonlunetrust.org.uk](mailto:info@haltonlunetrust.org.uk) and ask for a form. If you'd like to discuss your application in advance you can contact Fiona Frank, chair of the trustees, on 07778 737681.

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## CATON CLUBS NEWS

### LINE DANCING

Any questions contact Anne: 01524 811052/07923455939

### CATON LEISURE CLUB

Bowling continues either outdoor or indoor. Please contact David for further information - tel 01524 812342.

### CATON & BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The AGM was held at the Station Hotel on 19th Jan and was well attended, allowing a good catch-up after the festive season. Members got together

for an enjoyable coffee morning at the Station Hotel on the 16th February, the table quizzes were great fun and caused some head scratching, There will be a report on our March visit to Helmsley and Ripon in the next issue. On the 20th April we will be visiting Boundary Mill and Skipton, leaving Caton at 9:00 and Brookhouse at 9:10 and on May 4th we will get together for a buffet lunch at the Station Hotel at 12 noon. Visits cost £15 for members and £18 for none members. Further information / booking Ally Whitfield 01524 770827 / 07738912923



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**Saturday 15th April, 9pm**

"The Craic Inn" Live Irish duo playing  
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*keep an eye on our facebook page for  
further upcoming events .....*

**(01524) 963769**



The Greyhound at Halton

## SQUARE DANCING

Our dinner dance was a super evening. The Golf Club's food was excellent, as always, and our Caller, Di Green, provided a lovely programme of dancing for everyone's abilities, including our none square dancers. Four of us went to Street in Somerset for a dance weekend to callers from Canada and Germany.

We had four new dancers join us for the FREE taster session. I think they enjoyed themselves dancing with our more experienced dancers, who will have helped them succeed if they faltered.

We are hosting a Tea Dance for SSD, MS & Plus on 15th April with Callers from

Yorkshire, Cliff Anderton & Gene Turner. There are other dances during April & May over in Yorkshire and around the country which are advertised on the Club notice board.

My refresher classes are short on numbers but I will continue to help people to improve wherever I can.

The next round of beginner lessons will be sometime in the autumn.

For our club newsletter and info go to our website:- <http://www.oceanwavers.co.uk>

**Carol Holman**  
07981 743959



## Places for 2-4 Year Olds

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To have a look around contact Claire:

07746 857904

[infinitypreschools@gmail.com](mailto:infinitypreschools@gmail.com)

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

CHAIR: Cllr. Carol Slinger, Tel: 07810 356929; carol.slinger@hotmail.co.uk

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; Cllr. Joe McAleer; Cllr. Jonathan Sewell

Parish Clerk & Financial Officer: Luke Mills, Tel 01524 881499;  
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

**LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLOR Cllr Kevin Frea**, Tel: 07716 246 672  
kfrea@lancaster.gov.uk

### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have continued to update the draft plan. Please refer to the website (<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>) for details of the latest draft and meeting information.

### PLAYGROUND UPDATE

The work to upgrade the play areas at St. Wilfrid's Park and the Centre is on hold, with the hope that it will restart later in the year once the Neighbourhood Plan has been agreed by the parish.

### LOCAL ELECTION

The Local Elections on the 4th May will cover the Parish Council. There are currently 7 councillors, with one vacancy. If more than 8 people apply to become a councillor, then an election will be held, otherwise it will be an uncontested election with those that have applied being automatically elected.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

There is always an opportunity at meetings for residents to raise issues or questions. The next meetings will be held upstairs in the Centre at 19:15 on the following dates:

Wed 12th April

Wed 10th May (Annual Parish Meeting)

Wed 10th May (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)

**Luke Mills**, Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.

uk, t: 01524 881 499 w: [http://www.](http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk)

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

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# CHURCH NEWS

## 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 - <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

Join us at 10:30am every Sunday at the Centre @ Halton. Our vision is to empower the next generation and create a home where all are welcome. We have a full kids programme for 1-11 year olds, a youth programme during the service and we're looking forward to launching our new discipleship groups in April for all ages.

For more information check out - [www.valleychurch.eu](http://www.valleychurch.eu)  
Instagram - @valley\_lancs  
Facebook – Valley Church Lancaster  
Get in touch – [lancaster@valleychurch.eu](mailto:lancaster@valleychurch.eu)

## ST WILFRID'S HALTON

**Good Friday (April 7th) 10:30 am – Children's activities and service.**

There will be a morning of children's activities starting at 10:30 am, followed by a short interactive, child-friendly service at 11:30am. Everyone welcome. Drinks and Hot Cross buns will be served. Suitable for children of all ages.



Good Friday  
10:30 am - Children's activities  
11:30 am - Family service for Good Friday  
12–4 pm – The Church will remain open for private reflection and prayer



## Bay Vets

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**Lancaster** 01524 32696

**Morecambe** 01524 410867

**Milnthorpe** 015395 62770

**Caton** 01524 770615

**24 hours emergency service**

[info@bayvets.co.uk](mailto:info@bayvets.co.uk) [www.bayvets.co.uk](http://www.bayvets.co.uk)

**HOLY WEEK AT ST WILFRID'S CHURCH**

Tuesday 7:30 pm - Taizé Service  
 Wednesday 7:30 pm - Music and meditations  
 Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm - Holy Communion and stripping of the Altar

**ST WILFRID'S JUNIOR CHURCH**

Junior church meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month during school term time at 10am. For more information email Sandra Dawson at s.dawson135@btinternet.com.

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP:**

**Thursday evening group** meets on 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:30pm on Zoom. Please contact Revd Susan for the zoom link. revsusana.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 pray requests for specific people, places or situations. (Details are kept confidential).

You can also contact Revd Susan to discuss having a christening wedding or funeral at St Saviour's or St Wilfrid's Church. Tel 01524 822128, email revsusana.seed@btinternet.com.

**ST WILFRID'S OPEN CHURCH**

St Wilfrid's will be open during the day on Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10am to 4pm. You are welcome to come and reflect or pray in the peaceful atmosphere of the church building. There will also be leaflets available with information about our beautiful historical church and Viking Cross.

**PRATTLE QUIZ ANSWERS**

- 20. Cadmium
- 19. Maine
- 18. Kalvin Phillips
- 17. Enron
- 16. Bronze Bream
- 15. Coach Brendon McCullum
- 14. An Inconvenient Truth
- 13. Jakarta
- 12. Watches, time pieces.
- 11. USA
- 10. The Weekend
- 9. Doppler Effect
- 8. Loch Morar
- 7. Ringo Starr
- 6. Alan Carr
- 5. Charles Kingsley
- 4. It is the capital of French Guiana
- 3. Michael Smith
- 2. Hot Air Balloon
- 1. Croatia



# 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)

### Services in April

- 2 10:00 am Family Communion  
4 9:00 am Morning prayer  
7:30 pm Taizé Service  
5 7:30 pm Music and  
meditation for Holy week  
6 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday  
service  
7 10:30 am Good Friday –  
Children's activities  
11:30 am Good Friday Family  
Service  
9 8:00 am Holy Communion  
10:00 am Easter Sunday  
Family Communion  
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 in May

- 2 9:00 am Morning prayer  
7 10:00 am Family Communion  
9 9:00 am Morning prayer  
14 8:00 am Holy Communion  
10:00 am Family Worship  
16 9:00 am Morning prayer  
21 10:00 am Family Communion  
23 9:00 am Morning prayer  
28 10:00 am Family Communion  
30 9:00 am Morning prayer

### ST SAVIOUR'S AUGHTON

#### Services in April

- 9 11:30 am Easter Sunday Holy  
Communion  
23 11:30 am Morning Prayer  
30 7:00 pm Evening Prayer

#### Services in May

- 14 11:30 am Holy Communion  
28 11:30 am Morning Prayer

### From St Wilfrid's Registers

#### Baptisms:

- 15th January: Nella Lund  
19th February: Maisie Maxwell  
5th March: Isla Austin

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