

THE PRATTLE



Issue No. 135

Halton-with-Aughton

WANTED - NEW QUIZMASTER!!!

DO YOU ENJOY QUIZZES AND PUZZLES? CAN YOU SET 20 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS EVERY 2 MONTHS?

If you'd be happy to become our quizmaster please email Jan or Dave at halton-prattle@outlook.com. Unfortunately, if no-one comes forward the Quiz will disappear from the Prattle, which would be a shame!

Jan & Dave

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE PRATTLE

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

ADVERTISING COPY & ENQUIRIES to **HELEN:** email halton-prattle@outlook.com or tel 812679

DISTRIBUTION & GENERAL ENQUIRIES: CAROL on 811444

TREASURER: BRIAN on 811444



DEADLINES for Apr / May 2024 Copy: Wed 13th Mar 2024 Adverts: Wed 13th Mar 2024 Delivery: Fri 5th Apr 2024

Advertising Rates: Box Ad: Double Box Ad: Classified Ad:

£12 £24 £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

A CROCK OF GOLD, HALTON'S ORIENTEERING TREASURE HUNT

You probably think that you know Halton pretty well, you may have lived here for a long time or be a new resident. The Halton Orienteering Map will take you to some rather obscure parts of our village.

Orienteering is a great activity for all ages and abilities, to get out into the fresh air and explore.

The map is simple to follow, no special skills are needed, it has 27 marks.

You may have already noticed these small squares in red and white and wondered what they are. The course can be taken at any speed, the challenge is to find the marks in the correct order in one of three suggested courses from 1.4-4.4km long or find as many marks as possible in an hour.

The orienteering map is produced by the South Ribble Orienteering Club WWW.SROC.ORG. Maps, £1, are available from the Centre @ Halton where the course begins and ends.

You can even use your phone to follow the course and download your score http://mobo.osport.ee/

Jonathan Sewell

Parish Councillor Member of the South Ribble Orienteering Club

3 BRIDGES 10K - 14TH APRIL

Have you started running and maybe done some Parkruns and would like a new challenge? Then do enter the popular **3 Bridges 10k on Sunday 14th April at 11am** from the Lancaster & Morecambe AC clubhouse at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre.

Still low entry fees - only £14 for members of running clubs and £16 for non-members. An extra £3 for entries on the day. A really great medal for all finishers. Pre-enter SOON on https:// bookitzone.com/ and search for 3 Bridges.

HALTON LUNE TRUST

The Trust next meets on 19 February – if anyone has any applications please submit them before that date to secretaryhaltonlunetrust@gmail.com. Information on grant criteria and



applications forms can be found at https://www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk Following the resignation of Fiona Frank as Trustee, a new Trustee has been recruited and the Trustees have welcomed Susanna Dart as Trustee from 1 November 2023. The Chairperson for 2024 will be appointed at the AGM in February.

If anyone would like any further information on the work of the trust please contact the secretary on the above email.

CARDS FIGHTING LONELINESS 3RD BIG GET TOGETHER!

As I write this in early January, we have 123 recipients on our list and have received 681 handmade cards since October 22! A huge thank you to everyone that has supported us so far, the response has been absolutely incredible!

To mark the end of our 3rd campaign, we will be holding our 'Big Get Together' event on Saturday 23rd March from 15:00-17:00, at the Centre at Halton.

It's a **completely free** event that is intended to bring everyone in the community together and celebrate everything we have achieved. There will be a bouncy castle, face painting, puzzles and games, inclusive exercises and lots of other things going on, not to mention a free slice of cake / drink! A huge thank you to the 3R Foundation for providing funding for the 'Big Get



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Together', which means our event is completely free to all who attend.

If you have been in **any** way involved in our campaign, we would love you to come along and meet the people who have received our cards (I know they are looking forward to meeting you!). Don't forget to bring some spare change as there will be a raffle too! Organising a community event takes a huge amount of preparation and planning. If you have any time to spare and would be willing to help on the day (helping to set-up, overseeing activity areas, or with the clear up), please do

get in touch with me by emailing samanthajanehicks@gmail.com

ST NIC FOR A NEIGHBOUR APPEAL

In the last edition, I wrote about assessing the viability of an appeal for a 3rd year, as I wasn't sure we would receive the number of gifts needed - I couldn't have been more wrong, it seems the kindness of our community knows no bounds! We received a staggering 180 gifts and hundreds of Christmas cards!

Not only did our recipients all receive a gift and a card, we were able to donate 58 surplus gifts to Age UK and 6 gifts to Reverend Susan. These gifts were delivered on our behalf, to people living alone across the Lancaster District, with little to no support at home. Our 197 surplus Christmas cards were given to Age UK, 3 care homes, 2 care providers and 1 charity - it really has been such a heartwarming, humbling and wholesome thing to be a part of.

On behalf of our recipients, I would like to offer a huge and heartfelt thank you to everyone who took the time to create a card or donate a gift. Your acts of kindness and generosity made a real difference this Christmas; reminding them that they are special and loved members of our community and that they were in someone's thoughts at such an important time of year. I would also like to thank The Red Door Cafe for supporting us for the 3rd time, by allowing gifts to be left under their Christmas tree. None of this could have been achieved without the support of the community, so thank you all.

LITTER PICKS

Our final low-key litter pick will take place on 17th February at 1pm,

meeting at 10 Forgewood Close. This pick is only suitable for those willing and able to pick in inclement weather.

From March, our family friendly litter picks will resume. We meet at The Centre Petanque pitch at 1pm, with refreshments and cake served at 3pm. These are family friendly events, with a medal and treat for all the 'little pickers' that attend. There is also a trophy for the child who finds the most pieces of litter. To reserve your slice of cake (gluten free / vegan options are available), please register vour attendance 48 hours prior to the event, by emailing samanthajanehicks@ gmail.com or texting 07786623063.

The upcoming dates for our family friendly litter picks are 30th March and

27th April. They are a great opportunity to get some fresh air and light exercise whilst improving our local environment- we really hope to see you there!

HALTON LIBRARY

Did you know that your Lancashire Library Card can give you access to thousands of free audiobooks and ebooks to read on your Kindle, iPad and other electronic devices? Come into Halton Library to set up an account today and find out more!

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If you can't get to a library because of your age, disability, poor physical or mental health, caring responsibilities or





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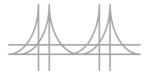
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Available now at Halton Library, this your imagination! Attendance is free, edition features a wide spread of just drop in. Held every Saturday articles from all corners of Lancashire 10:30-12:30. and beyond, from domino clubs in Preston to medieval wells in Clitheroe and into the skies above Europe during World War Two.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Story Time

Join us for a weekly morning of songs, stories and crafts for pre-school children. Term time only. Wednesday 9:00-9:30.

Knit & Natter

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MAUREEN'S RETIREMENT FROM THE CENTRE @ HALTON

I would like to say a big thank you to Carol, Naomi and Linda for organising my surprise retirement celebration before Christmas. It was lovely to see so many people who have supported me over the years that I have been involved in The Centre both as a volunteer and as the manager. I would like to say a huge thank you to those who attended, passed on good wishes and to those who contributed to my leaving gift which I will spend wisely on our planned holidays.

I have been a member of Halton Community Association, as a volunteer, since 2006 and am very proud to have worked with some fantastic people, including my husband Carl, who have all shown such commitment and support creating what is The Centre @ Halton today. I feel that the time is right for me to step aside, and see more of my family, knowing that I am leaving

COFFEE SHOP OPENING TIMES

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Monday - Friday 2pm - 5pm

- School & Bank Holidays ~
 - Saturday & Sunday

Weekends between October and February half term 10am - 5pm 10am - 4pm

11am - 5pm



Centre

Last made to order food requests 30 minutes prior to closing Actual opening times may vary dependant on volunteer availability

the place in safe hands. It has been hard work at times but we have been rewarded in the knowledge that we have all made a difference to so many people's lives.

I would encourage anyone who is thinking of stepping forward as a volunteer. It's a great way to meet new people, feel part of this great community and it's very rewarding. I will be continuing to attend activities and will be volunteering at events and looking forward to seeing the place continue to flourish.

Maureen Richardson BEM



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YOUR LOCAL TRIATHLON CLUB IS HOSTING AN 'INTRO' DAY

Hello from Lancaster Tri club! We're your friendly local club, keen on all things, Swim, Bike, Run. Lots of us live in Halton and are often seen running and cycling around the village (and occasionally swimming in the Lune when the weather is warmer!). If you fancy taking on a new challenge this year, then why not come along to our club's introductory session, being hosted on April 14th at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre.

All the details about the event, and about our club more generally, can be found on our website. CityofLancasterTriathlon.co.uk. Or

find us on Facebook; search City of Lancaster Triathlon.

HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON HERITAGE GROUP UPDATE

We are planning to reapply for funding for the project to open Castle Hill to the public in the next couple of months. Possibly with a community archaeological dig – if we can get the funding.

As part of the project we are planning a mini-bus tour of all the Motte & Bailey Castles in the Lune Valley. If you are interested in getting involved with the group you can contact us at: haltonwithaugthonheritagegroup@ gmail.com

USEFUL LINKS

Community run Car Club: www.lancar.org.uk Halton Juniors FC: www.haltonjuniorsfc.com Halton Lune Hydro: www.haltonlunehydro.org Halton Lune Trust: www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk Halton Mill: www.haltonmill.org.uk Halton Social Club: email haltonsocialclub@gmail.com Lancaster CoHousing: www.lancastercohousing.org.uk Parish Council: www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk St Wilfrid's Church: www.achurchnearyou.com/halton-st-wilfrid-church St Wilfrid's Church of England Primary School: www.st-wilfrids.lancs.sch.uk The Centre@Halton: www.haltoncentre.org/ The Prattle: email halton-prattle@outlook.com

THE CENTRE @ HALTON Halton Community Association Charity No. 115206

Enquiries: Office 01524 811316 info@haltoncentre.org **Bookings:** Carol 079817 43959 bookings@haltoncentre.org Website: haltoncentre.org Facebook: facebook.com/HaltonCentre Like us to keep up to date. **Newsletter sign up:** http://eepurl.com/ btgwFX Coffee shop opening hours: Monday-Friday 2pm-5pm School and bank holidays 11am-5pm Saturday & Sunday 10am-5pm Weekends Oct half term to Feb half term 10am-4pm

Actual opening times may vary depending on volunteer availability.

UPDATES FROM THE CENTRE

The **New Year's Eve Ceilidh** was a sell out success! Thank you to all who came along and to Jig-Run-Rig for hosting a fantastic ceilidh again. The event raised over £1300. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who ran the bar for the evening and to the guests who stayed to help clear away. These events raise vital funds for The Centre and we couldn't do them without volunteer help.

As you will be aware, without a dedicated cook and coordinator, for the next few months at least, we are not able to host the **Luncheon Club**. You would be most welcome to come along to Soup and a Song instead on the dates below so you can still benefit from a hot meal and social time together. If you are able to help cook or coordinate Luncheon Club, please get in touch with a member of the Centre Office team.

We will be running **Soup and a Song** once a month on the following dates:





AN INTRODUCTION TO TRIATHLON

Looking for a challenge? Swim? Bike? Run? Make 2024 the year to try something new!

SUNDAY 14th April 10:30 - 15:30 Salt Ayre Leisure Centre, Morecambe VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT MORE AND SIGN UP: cityoflancastertriathlon.co.uk

22nd February and 21st March. Please book in advance. Sian will be leading the sessions and there will be a hot food offering. Donations of cakes are most welcome!

A new **Hartbeeps** class has launched in Halton. Come on Thursday mornings for magical, musical adventures! 9:30am Happy House (walkers and their younger siblings), 10:35 Baby Beeps (sitting babies to first steps) and 11:45am Baby Bells (newborn to sitting babies). See haltoncentre.org/ hartbeeps for more information and booking links.

We have **availability to hire** our Main Hall and Meeting Rooms as a one off or for regular sessions. For more information see haltoncentre.org/ bookings/ or contact our Bookings Officer, details above.

See Prattle What's On pages for contact information of all regular groups, clubs & classes.

NEW SESSIONS, SESSION NEWS & CHANGES

New - Hartbeeps on Thursdays 9:30am, 10:35am and 11:45am No upcoming Luncheon Club dates Soup and a Song - 22 Feb and 21 March

Above correct as at 8th Jan

Naomi Turner - Publicity Officer



NEWS FROM ST WILFRID'S C E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Happy New Year from Primary School.

As we enter into 2024, we are eagerly anticipating the year ahead. We have introduced a new tradition this year called 'Chalking the Doors'. This tradition allows us to commemorate the visit of the Wisemen and to seek God's blessing for all who come to our school. Throughout the months of January and February, we will be focusing on the values of Freedom, Justice, and Hope. These values will be explored through class discussions, songs, and our collective worship.

In February, the school choir will once again have the opportunity to participate in the Young Voices event held in Manchester, singing alongside more than 7,000 other children. Also, to celebrate Safer Internet Day, we will have workshops and informational sessions led by our own pupils. Our 'Languages Day', with fun activities and interactive learning, will also take place in February. Also, St Wilfrid's will be participating in numerous sporting events, promoting both competition and participation in school sports.

We will continue to host our Community Tea and Hot Chocolate Drop-Ins. On Wednesday, 7th February, from 4pm to 5pm, we will have our next Hot Chocolate Drop-In for children who left St Wilfrid's last summer and are now in Year 7. We look forward to catching up with them and hearing about their experiences in their new high schools.

Our next Community Tea is scheduled for Wednesday, 7th February, from 2pm to 3pm, and Wednesday, 13th March, from 2pm to 3pm, in the school. During these events, we will be serving afternoon tea for the senior residents of our village. We extend a warm invitation to grandparents and carers connected to the school to join us at these events each half term. Please help us spread the word to anyone who might be interested in joining us!

As a school, we have initiated class visits to the local Halton library. This



initiative not only allows us to support excellent library our but also encourages our children to develop a love for reading. We hope that one day soon the Halton library will receive a much-needed face-lift. Such an upgrade would benefit the entire community and ignite a collective enthusiasm for reading.

We acknowledge that residents living close to our school sometimes find it challenging to navigate traffic during drop off and pick up times. We are actively exploring ways to improve this situation and have communicated about it in our weekly newsletter to parents. We are committed to working with all parties involved to overcome the challenges posed by our location. While we recognise that progress may take time, we are optimistic about seeing improvements in the short and medium term.

We are genuinely excited about the ahead and the continued vear development of the relationship between our school and the Halton community. We appreciate vour ongoing interest and support as we strive to provide the best possible education for our children. God bless.

Mr Mark Curwen

Headteacher, St Wilfrid's, Halton



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HALTON GARDENING GROUP

There are early signs of spring! Some of the bulbs we planted in the autumn showing, the days feel are now somewhat longer, and we can begin planning and planting. The rather dull month of January was somewhat enlivened for us because we were officially presented with our King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) at a ceremony in Preston. Although the announcement made in was November. all eight Lancashire recipients, including four from Lancaster and Morecambe. came together on January 15th to be formally presented with the awards from the Lord Lieutenant. We were honoured to receive the award and to have the opportunity of meeting the other groups.

Our first monthly meeting of 2024 will take place on Tuesday, February 6th at 9:30 a.m. in the Engine Room at Halton Mill. We have established the practice of having a speaker at our February meeting, to which all are cordially invited. You don't need to be a member of HGG, and entry is free. This vear our talk is entitled 'For Peat's Sake'. This will be an illustrated talk about peat, highlighting the important role that peat plays in carbon capture, flood control and biodiversity. Some of us have discovered that using peat free compost presents new challenges, and we will be considering samples of peat free growing mediums and the success or otherwise of using these. Please do come along if you would like to.

Another date for your diary is Saturday May 18th, when we will be holding our Annual Village Plant Sale. Further details about this will be in later editions of the Prattle, but we thank in advance those of you who grow plants for us to sell, and who may even now be sowing seeds or splitting plants ready for the sale. It is our major fundraising event, and we very much appreciate the support we receive from the whole village.

In order to keep the village up to date with our activities in between Prattle publications, we post on our Facebook page - Halton Gardening Group. We are also developing our own website more of this in the next edition of the Prattle.



We welcome new members. If you think you may be interested in joining the group, please do let us know. We do not expect attendance at every meeting, nor a weekly commitment to community gardening, but rather an interest in contributing as and when you can to the communal areas we garden around the village.

Email - haltongardeninggroup@gmail. com

Kath Pink,

Secretary, 07900416961



BOWLAND DARK SKIES FESTIVAL 2024

Adding a little sparkle to late winter, the annual Bowland Dark Skies Festival returns this half-term from 10th to 17th February.

Stargazing, photography tips, family crafts – even a dark-skies inspired food tour – are all on the menu this year.

And don't worry if you miss the main event: there'll be more opportunities to explore Bowland's starscapes in autumn as part of the wider Festival Bowland 2024 programme.

For full details of Bowland Dark Skies Festival events, go to: https://www. forestofbowland.com/festival-bowland

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AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

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Charity No. 1135888

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RECENT ACTIVITIES

On Thursday 28th December 18 villagers of all ages turned out for a post-Christmas walk on local footpaths. Despite the mud and heavy rain for part of the walk everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. We then returned to the hall for a lunch of soup and scones. On New Year's Eve the hall hosted a party for around 140 members of the Vale O' Lune Young Farmers.

REGULAR RECREATION

Fortnightly Friday bar evenings restarted on January 12th and continue through February and March. Doors open from 7:00. We stock a good range of drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) plus table tennis and pool are both available. All welcome.

Weekly exercise classes restarted on Tuesday 16th January: Circuits at 9:30 and Pilates at 10:30. Just turn up or contact Gabi at gabicrossley@gmail. com for more information. Exercises can be adapted for most levels of fitness and ability.

Vale O' Lune Young Farmers meet in the hall most Monday evenings. The Young Farmers' Club is membership-based, but is open to anyone who has an interest in farming, you do not need to be a working farmer to join. Search them out on Facebook to find out more about their educational, fun and community fund-raising activities.

As the better weather (hopefully) comes in the next few months we will be organising additional events, including another village walk. If there are activities that you would like to see taking place in the village hall please do contact us.

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



WHAT'S ON IN HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON?

All events are at The Centre @ Halton unless specified otherwise AUGHTON RECREATION ROOM: BOOKINGS Chris Jarvis on 07756102577

email aughtonevents@gmail.com

THE CENTRE @ HALTON: HALL/ROOM HIRE 07981 743959 or info@haltoncentre.org

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays:

Outdoor Circuits: 6-7pm 811316. A £6 Ch £3 Meditation Group: now meets on Zoom. Please ring 07818647345 Scouts: 7:15-9pm during term times, Scout Hut; scouts@haltonscouts.org.uk American Square Dancing:7:30 9:30pm Carol 811444 5-a-side: 8-9pm Andrew 074434 26458

Tuesdays:

Tots Play Lancaster: 9am-1:30pm Lauren 07398 312544 term time only Halton Baby & Toddler Group: 9:15-11am; 811316 Exercise Classes: Circuits: 9:30am and Pilates: 10.30am Aughton Village Hall £8 for 1 session, £12 for both Computer Help at the Library: 1-2pm, Halton Library Knit 'n' Natter. Crafts & Chatter: 2-4pm. Free. Ann 811684 and Sallie 812017 M1 Board games: 2-4pm Free Beavers: 5:30-6:30pm during term times, Scout hut; beavers@haltonscouts.org.uk Taekwondo: 6:15-7:15pm Mick 07985125530 Cub Scouts:6:45-8pm during term times, Scout hut cubs@haltonscouts.org.uk

Wednesdays:

Tots Play Lancaster: 9am-1:30pm Lauren 07398 312544 term time only Storytime: 9-9:30am (term time only) for preschool children and their carers. Halton Library Art Workshops: 9:45am – 12:15pm Julia 0769661351 Walking Football: 10–11:30am £3. John 01524 418753 Line Dancing: 10:30 – 11:30am Tony 07488 348809 Anne 07923 455939 Squirrels: 4-5pm during term times, Scout hut;squirrels@haltonscouts.org. uk

Pilates: 6-7pm Kate 07799068191 Walking Netball: 7–8pm on MUGA, inside when wet. £4 811316 5-a-side: 8-9pm Andrew 074434 26458

Thursdays:

Hartbeeps Lancs Baby & Toddler (music): 9am-1pm TTO 07834818493 Pilates: 9:30-10:30am 07799068191 Gentle Exercise class:11-12 noon Cheryl 07711 335807 Carpet Bowls:7-9pm Aughton Village Hall Email aughtonevents@gmail.com to enquire Samba Espirito (Drumming): 7-9:30pm Karen 07711 262288

Fridays:

Knit 'n' Natter: 1-3pm Halton Library Indoor Bowling: 10:30am-12:30pm 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: from 9:15am. 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 9-10:30; 3-6 yr olds Sunday 9:00-16:00;7-15 yr olds (times subject to fixtures) Contact secretary@haltonjuniorsfc.com

FORTNIGHTLY EVENTS

Tuesdays: Lunesdale Camera Club: venue/ info ring David 07903 392021 Bay Big Band Practice:2nd & 4th Tues 7:45pm

Fridays:

Bar and Games Room at Aughton Village Hall: 7pm til late. Info ring Ruth Keeler on 07789373100

MONTHLY EVENTS MONDAYS:

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

TUESDAYS:

1st Tues: Gardening Group: 9:30am Halton Mill, email: haltongardeninggroup @gmail.com or message/telephone Kath Pink Secretary on 07900 416961

WEDNESDAYS:

1st Wed: HCA meeting: 7:30pm
811316 (except Aug & Jan)
2nd Wed: Parish Council Meeting:
7:15pm (except August) 07810 356929
3rd Wed: WI (Hearts of Halton):
7:15pm (except August). Denise
Medcalf - desined19@yahoo.co.uk
Last Wed: Halton with Aughton
Heritage Group: 7:30pm Halton Mill
contact 07426 701155

THURSDAYS:

Soup and a Song, 12:30pm-2:30pm at a cost of £4 per person, 811316. Feb 22nd; Mar 21th.

WHAT'S ON ENTRIES

Email: halton-prattle@outlook.com or Tel Carl on 811444

MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- Wed 7 Community Tea, from 2pm to 3pm, St Wilfrid's School
- Sat 10 Contra Dance, The Centre 1:30pm 4:45pm; Entry: minimum £10. Full info at http://LancasterContra.org.uk/ All welcome. No previous experience necessary.
- Sat 10-17 Bowland Dark Skies Festival. See page 16 / www.forestofbowland. com/festival-bowland
- Sat 17 Community Litter Pick 1pm, meeting at 10 Forgewood Close.

MARCH

Wed 13 Community Tea, from 2pm to 3pm, St Wilfrid's School

- Sat 23 The Big Get Together, 15:00-17:00 The Centre; see page 3 for more info
- Sun 24 Valley Church Lancaster's 'Easter Special', see page 32 for more info
- Sat 30 Family Friendly Litter Picks 1pm, meet at The Centre Petanque pitch

ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

Sat 20 - Salsa party

Sun 14 - 3 Bridges 10k run, Salt Ayre Leisure Centre [see page 2] Sun 14 - Triathlon introductory session, Salt Ayre Leisure Centre [see page10] Sat 27 - Family Friendly Litter Picks, 1pm, meet at The Centre Petanque pitch

MAY

Thur 2 - Polling Day The Centre Sat 18 - Plant Sale

JULY

Sat 20 - Salsa Party

WHAT'S ON ENTRIES

Email: halton-prattle@outlook.com or Tel Carol on 811444

NEWS FROM THE 1ST HALTON SCOUT GROUP

We are currently doing our annual census of children and adults taking part in scouting in Halton, which determines our fees to the scout association that cover liability insurances and administration costs (locally as well as nationally). This is our largest single expense of the year and is around a third of our total income. We also have to raise funds from grants and hall hire to help us to keep the costs of subs as low as we do. The annual census helps us to see how we are doing as a group each year. Last year we had 35 children in the group, this year we have 61. This is the largest increase in numbers I have seen in all the time I have been with the group (14 years now). This is a combination of us starting a Squirrels section (Ages 4 to 6), which now has a waiting list, restarting the Scout section, and

growth in Beavers and Cubs. Squirrels and Beavers have small waiting lists and Cubs are close to being full. Scouts is the one exception and they are actively looking for more young people to come and try the section out (lots of adventurous activities planned for the year). This is a fantastic boost for the group, but what we really need now is growth in the adults helping across all sections, but Beavers (6 to 8 yrs) and Squirrels particularly could do with more assistance. The wav that volunteering works in scouting is going to be changing this year to make it more flexible which will hopefully encourage more people to get involved.

John

Group Scout Leader



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Helen.burrow@hotmail.com www.aughtonroadkennels.co.uk High Snab Farm, Gressingham, Lancaster, LA2 8LS





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Please contact Andrew Parker for an initial appointment at no cost and let's see how we can help you.

About the business:

Andrew S Parker is a well-established, trusted and experienced firm of Chartered Accountants. We work with businesses and individuals mainly in West and North Yorkshire, Lancashire and across the UK.

We have over 30 years of accounting experience and work with both small to medium-sized businesses and personal tax clients offering a full range of accounting and audit services including tax returns, tax advice, VAT services, payroll and budgets.

TORRISHOLME CRICKET CLUB UPDATE

www.torrisholmecc.co.uk

After an unbelievably wet 2023 let's hope that 2024 is drier, certainly a dry first quarter to the year is needed if the grounds are to dry out in time for an April start to the season.

The 2024 season will begin with new captains for the Saturday teams, these will be confirmed at the AGM and before this issue of the Prattle goes to press. Senior indoor nets start at Carnforth High on 28th January and run through to early April, Junior nets start in March at the same venue and at the time of writing there are still some places available to pre-book.

We will again be entering junior teams in the Westmorland League Junior League and will be entering a Diamonds (Women and Girls) team in the local soft ball competition. Should anyone reading this be interested in being involved in the Diamonds please contact Mark Drinkall as below. The competition is likely to comprise six or seven mini tournaments on Sundays at various clubs.

By the time you read this pre-season work will have started at the club and indoor nets will be under way. As normal we are planning to visit a number of local primary schools (including St Wilfrids, Halton) to promote cricket, invite players to join our club and participate in the 2024 All Stars program.

Should anyone be interested in becoming involved at Torrisholme CC

as a player, volunteer, coach, supporter or sponsor, or have a child who wants to participate, please make contact with the club through Safeguarding Officer and Junior Chair Mark Drinkall: drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk 07368 944220.

Mark Drinkall, 6th January 2024



POST NATAL FITNESS CLASSES with James, Be Healthy Active

My postnatal classes are designed for new mums who want to get back into exercise safely and effectively.

The classes are:

- Kept small (no more than 10)
- Supportive and exercises can be adapted to suit individuals
- Child friendly little ones are welcome – bring their favourite toys, pram or car carry cot if needed. There is matting available too

When? Tuesdays 9:30 – 10:30am at St Mary's of the Angel Church Hall, Boltonle-Sands

Costs: £7.50 PAYG, blocks of classes also available (£67.50 for 10, £95.50 for 15)

Get in touch to find out more or to book:

James 07946098787 james@behealthyactive.co.uk www.behealthyactive.co.uk

THE PRATTLE QUIZ No 60

WANTED - NEW QUIZMASTER!!!

DO YOU ENJOY QUIZZES AND PUZZLES? CAN YOU SET 20 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS EVERY 2 MONTHS? If you'd be happy to become our quizmaster please email Jan or Dave at halton-prattle@outlook.com

1. Teenage sensation Luke Littler was the big headline of the recent PDC World Darts Championship but who beat him in the final?

2. Which river flows through the centre of Kendal and used to power a number of carpet mills?

3. The recent Government action on the Post Office Scandal was triggered by which ITV dramatisation of the events from early in the 2000s surrounding the now discredited Horizon computer system?

4. Which great Welsh Rugby Union fullback from the 1970s, who was also a practising doctor throughout his career, passed away in early January?

5. The recent movie Barbie has been critically lauded; who plays the role of the iconic Mattel doll in the movie?

6. Annapolis is the capital city of which US state?

7. The Caribbean island Martinique is an overseas Department of which country?

8. If your birthday falls on 1 February what star sign are you?

9. Which UK politician was christened The Grocer for his negotiating style at



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a European Food Price Conference?

10. Glenda Slagg is a fictional columnist on which UK satirical magazine?

11. Though he was a highly respected classical actor before he won a role in Dad's Army, who is best remembered for playing Private Fraser in that series?

12. The culinary term 'goujon' is thought to be derived from the name of which small freshwater fish, historically fried and eaten whole?

13. Clive Sullivan Way, or the A63, is a major access road to which Northern city?

14. Fishing rods have been made from cane, greenheart, glassfibre and even metal, but what material are most modern rods made from?

15. In the Compare the Market adverts what is the name of the clumsy but well-meaning Australian Wombat character?

16. Professional footballer Troy Deeney and Irish songstress Dana both achieved which distinction on a recent edition of Celebrity Mastermind?

17. The Perth Scorchers and the Hobart Hurricanes both compete in which competition?

18. Which US based aircraft manufacturer has recently admitted that it was at fault when one of it's 737 Max 9 aircraft had a section of fuselage blow out in flight?

19. In December 2023 who said that he planned to stand down as First Minister of Wales?

20. Liverpool football star Mohamed Salah represents which country internationally?

Many thanks to our outgoing Quizmaster, Mark Drinkall. Answers on page 27

LUNE VALLEY COMMUNITY LAND TRUST News on Affordable Homes for Halton

THE OPENING OF LUNE WALK IN HALTON



Last July 6th, Lune Valley CLT, with our partners South Lakes Housing and Lancaster City Council, celebrated the official opening of our 20 new affordable eco 'Passivhaus' homes at Lune Walk, on Mill Lane. All are now lived in, and the residents have been getting to know their homes, and each residents other. Some have rediscovered past Halton connections, now they can afford to live here.

This was the culmination of several years of planning and collaboration for all the partners in this scheme. It is spreading the word about the quality standards be achieved. that can particularly achieving much lower energy costs, and avoiding fuel poverty. The scheme has now won three national housing awards: for best small scheme, best partnership, and best sustainable, low carbon, design. You may also have seen Lune Walk appear

as an example to follow, in an autumn Channel 4 documentary on sustainable housing, with Kevin McCloud!

We are keen to help deliver more developments like this. Kathy Beaton, Principal Housing Strategy Officer from Lancaster City Council, has said: "Demand for affordable housing since the pandemic is off the Richter scale. We want to do more.."

So, if you would like to see more affordable housing development, can see land that could be used, or existing buildings that might be converted to homes, get in touch with us, and help support the delivery of affordable eco homes for local people.

PUBLIC GREEN SPACES

The CLT has worked with the Parish Council, helping to prepare the 'Green Spaces' part of its Neighbourhood Plan; championing the development of green corridors, and aiming to enhance the green spaces attached to new housing.

If you are interested in better community use of local green spaces, or developing local food-growing, we would love to hear from you.

Contacts to get in touch with us are:

info@lunevallyclt.org, www.lunevalleyclt.org





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

SQUARE DANCING

CLUB NEWS

Our free Christmas party dance was a great success, with everyone joining in with the fun and games. Some dancers will have been somewhat surprised by the elastic squares, highly amused by the final spot prize antics and by my weird selection of 40 small prizes. I think everyone enjoyed the party and dancing called by Di Green.

The next event is our annual dinner for club members and their non dancing partners at Morecambe Golf club on 8 March with Trevor Day calling.

Not many of the beginners who joined us in November have continued dancing, which is very sad.

Unfortunately people, with so much tech at their disposal at home, find it harder to commit to the time needed to physically go out and learn something new especially on a cold and wet winter evening. We have all begun to expect things to be achieved almost instantaneously with the internet etc but square dancing takes time, patience and regular attendance to learn. With most people it takes a little while to get "hooked" but when they do, its a wonderfully healthy, sociable and fun pastime which never stops giving.

I'll see you in a square on Monday or Friday.

Carol Holman 07981 743959



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

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Milnthorpe	015395 62770	Caton	01524 770615	
24 hours emergency service				
	info@bayvets.co.uk	www.bayvets.co.uk		

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 COUNCILLORS Sarah McGowan and James Somerville

OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR 90 HOMES OFF LOW ROAD

The Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group both objected to this planning application, along with almost 30 other public objections. The developer has not engaged with the village or council whatsoever, so the application was very unexpected.

The consultation period is now closed, so we will await the decision. James Sommerville, one of the District Councillors, has asked that the decision is made by the Planning Committee, which will hopefully provide more scrutiny of the application.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION

The Steering Group has been making steady progress over the last few months preparing the draft Neighbourhood Plan ready for consultation with residents and statutory consultees. There is a strict legal process for the consultation which we need to carefully consider, so once we have a clearer understanding and plan, we will be publicising when and how the consultation will take place.

There is Neighbourhood Plan page on the Parish Council website which provides more information on the evolution and background:

https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc. gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/

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: Wednesday 14th February & 13th March.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk w: http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc. gov.uk

LOVERS OF LIVE MUSIC

thank the Luncheon Club for their 6th & 20th - starts 8pm - £3 warm welcome, inviting us to share our The Northern All Stars Big Band music in December. I thought I'd spread The Jubilee Social Club, Slyne Rd, about other listening Torrisholme the word opportunities to support live music - Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the contact me here -

paula.williams.2410@gmail.com

Sunday Feb 4th - starts 7pm - £7.50 The Neil C Young Trio

The Olive Bar, Gregson Arts Centre, 33-35 Moorgate, Lancaster

Lancaster Jazz Scene presents the fifth gig in its Gregson Gig Series featuring UK-based fusion guitarist Neil C Young who has established himself as a composer, arranger and musician on both the British scene and international stage.

Paul and I (aka Two P's) would like to Wednesday Feb 7th & 21st and March

Paula Williams - for more information, month, come and enjoy reasonably drinks comfortable priced in listening surroundings, to some talented musicians brought together from Lancashire and Cumbria to play in this fine 16-piece big band.

> Saturday Feb 17th March 9th - starts 3pm - free entry

The Cornerhouse. New Street. Lancaster

The Luca Brasi Group is a Lancasterbased 5-piece band including Paul on sax and myself on keys - expect straight-ahead swing, be-bop and Latin iazz classics of the mid-twentieth century and later.

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BUS SERVICES IN BRIEF

Timetables are available in the library or check www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables Monday to Saturday:

TO LANCASTER

No 49 from High Road: 0722, 0752, 0807, 0922 then 1/2 hourly until 1522, 1552 (SO), 1737, 1837, 1937

No 81/82 from Low Road : 0703 (NS), 0718 (SO), 0803 (NS), 0808 (SO), 0918 (SO), 0928 (NS), 1008, 1108, 1208, 1308, 1408, 1508, 1608 (SO), 1618 (NS), 1708, 1808, 1908, 2008, 2108

TO KELLETS, CARNFORTH AND WARTON

No 49 from High Road; *Mon-Sat*; 0947, then hourly until 1447, 1547 (SO), 1632, 1732 TO KIRKBY LONSDALE (most journeys continue to Ingleton, and many to Settle and Skipton; see www.klch.co.uk)

No 81/82 from Low Road: 0614 (NS), 0654 (NS), 0709 (SO), 0736 (Sch), 0749 (NSch), 0849, 0949, 1049, 1149, 1249, 1349, 1414 (Sch), 1434 (Hol), 1449 (SO), 1549 (SO), 1604 (NS), 1659, 1749, 1834, 1904

FROM LANCASTER TO HALTON

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

No 81/82 0600 (NS), 0640 (NS), 0650 (SO), 0722 (Sch), 0735 (NSch), 0835, 0935, 1035, 1135, 1235, 1335, 1400 (Sch), 1420 (Hol), 1435 (SO), 1535 (SO), 1550 (NS), 1645, 1735, 1820, 1850

LAST BUSES BACK TO HALTON FROM

Lancaster 1915 Kirkby Lonsdale 2015	Carnforth 1713 Ingleton 1958	
SO – Saturdays only	Sch – School days only	Hol – School holidays only
NS – Not Saturdays	NSch – Saturdays and Schoo	h Holidays

Sundays and Bank Holidays:

TO LANCASTER

No 81/82 from Low Road 0955, 1055, 1155, 1255, 1355, 1455, 1555, 1655, 1755, 1855 **TO KIRKBY LONSDALE**

No 81/82 from Low Road 0927, 1027, 1127, 1227, 1327, 1427, 1527, 1627, 1727, 1827

FROM LANCASTER TO HALTON

No 81/82 0915, 1015, 1115, 1215, 1315, 1415, 1515, 1615, 1715, 1815

LAST BUSES BACK TO HALTON FROM

Lancaster 1815 Kirkby Lonsdale 1815

Service 49 is run by Stagecoach, 81/82 by Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire – return tickets only valid with same operator.

DIAL A BUS Book on: 01524 581260; email: itslancastermorecambe@lancashire.gov.uk

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://stjosephslancaster.co.uk/ for more information. Clergy: Fr. John Paul Evans,

Deacon Stephen Pendlebury, St. Joseph's Church Slyne Road, Lancaster, LA1 2HU Tel: 01524 32493

Valley Church

Sundays, 10:30AM, The Centre @ Halton

Our vision is to create a home to empower a new generation! Our desire is to empower you to fulfil all that God has for you and called you to be. We believe that Church should be a home for everyone, no matter who they are or where they've come from.

Each Sunday we have a designated Parent & Baby area and a Valley Kids programme for children aged one and walking to Year 6 of primary school. Our fortnightly discipleship groups meet on Tuesdays for fun, food, friendship and bible study. We'd love to welcome you! Find out more at valleychurch.eu, Facebook or Instagram.

Save the date and join us for 'Valley Lancaster's Easter Special' on Sunday

24th March. Arrive at 10:15am for hot cross buns, snap a picture in the photobooth and enjoy our contemporary Easter service before taking on our Easter Challenge Hunt including crafts, puzzles, lego, biscuit decorating, prizes and more! During the service our Valley Kids team will a fun also be running Easter programme for children 1 and walking to year 6 of primary school. This will include play, songs, learning, games and activities. Pop this date in your diary, spread the word and we'll look forward to welcoming you!

ST WILFRID'S HALTON 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).

ST WILFRID'S HALTON: GOOD FRIDAY (MARCH 29TH) 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.

Tues 25th Mar: 7:30 pm Taizé Service meditations

Maundy Thursday: 7:30 pm Communion and stripping of the Altar light to remember a loved one

at St Luke's Slyne

Good Friday: 10:30 am Children's left on the prayer tree. activities.

12 - 4 pm The Church will remain open village of Aughton. Wherever you live, for private reflection and prayer

MID-WEEK GROUPS: **Ecumenical** Lent Course 'Journey to Freedom': Meeting on Thursday evenings at 7pm on 8th, 22nd, 29th February and 7th and 14th March, at 2 Thrushgill Drive, Halton. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday afternoon House Group. 25 Harrowdale Park, on the first Tuesday of the month at 2 pm. To find out more, ring Revd Helen Leathard on 849495

THE CHURCH IS HERE FOR YOU!

St Wilfrid's Church is open on Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 4

Hormby

Day

HOLY WEEK AT ST WILFRID'S CHURCH pm. Information is available about the history of the church, the stained-glass Wed 26th Mar: 7:30 pm Music and windows and its unique Cross. It is a peaceful place for guiet reflection or Holy prayer. There are candles available to departed, and prayer requests can be

Every week the Churches pray for 11:30 am Family service for Good Friday different streets in Halton and for the please get in contact with Revd Susan if you have any pray requests for specific people, places or situations. (Details are kept confidential). Contact Revd Susan at revsusan.seed@btinternet.com.

> **Baptisms and Wedding and Funerals:** Everyone who lives in the Parish of Halton with Aughton is entitled to have their baptism, wedding or funeral at St Saviour's or St Wilfrid's Churches. If you would like to make a booking for a baptisms or wedding, please contact Revd Susan on 01524 822128 or revsusan.seed@btinternet.com

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REVERENT REFLECTIONS

Last August I became a grandmother for the first time. Although I had been looking forward to becoming a grandmother for a long time, nothing had prepared me for the great joy that the birth of my granddaughter Fern would bring into my life. There is nothing more special than looking down on her, especially as she sleeps, and to experience the profound love that overwhelms me.

I was reminded recently that we should never feel guilty if we fall asleep when we are praying, because God will be looking down at us, his child, with an even greater depth of love than we could ever feel through looking at a sleeping baby.

Since Fern's birth, I've been reflecting the important role that on grandparents can play in the lives of their grandchildren and that of their own children when they become parents. I was privileged to be able to spend the first week of Fern's life with my daughter and son-in-law and was able to support them during those first precious days. I took over the household duties so that they could concentrate on their new arrival and my daughter could start to recover from having a C-Section.

Sadly, many parents today don't have the support of grandparents in their lives due to separation caused by distance, broken families or strained relationships.

At St Wilfrid's we are discussing ways that we can support the children and young people in our church. It is said that children and young people will often graduate to the oldest person in the room when they are in need of someone to talk to and to gain advice from. Last autumn when it was our harvest festival, the children at our Junior Church were fascinated when one of the very elderly members of our congregation spoke to our children's about her experiences church of rationing after the 2nd World war. It was wonderful to see the interaction which takes between different place generations and to see new relationships built up.

We are now looking at linking each family with children in our church with a member of our congregation who will pray for them. I know from personal experience how much it helps to know that someone is praying for me, so I am sure that many parents would be greatly encouraged if they knew someone was specifically praying for them and their children.

Revd Susan Seed



THE CHURCHES OF HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON

CHURCH OF ENGLAND RECTOR Rev'd Susan Seed

The Vicarage, 2 Summerfield Drive Slyne with Hest, Lancaster LA2 6AQ Tel: 01524 822128

E: revsusan:seed@btinternet.com

ST. WILFRID'S HALTON

Services in February

- 4 10:00 am Family Communion 4:00 pm Families@4 at Slyne Church Hall
- 6 9:00 am Morning prayer
- 11 8:00 am Holy Communion 10:00 am Family Worship
- 13 9:00 am Morning prayer
- 14 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday service
- 18 10:00 am Family Communion
- 20 9:00 am Morning prayer
- 25 10:00 am Family Communion
- 27 9:00 am Morning prayer

Services in March

- 3 10:00 am Family Communion 4:00 pm Families@4 at Slyne Church Hall
- 5 9:00 am Morning prayer
- 10 8:00 am Holy Communion 10:00 am Family Worship (Mothering Sunday)
- 12 9:00 am Morning prayer
- 17 10:00 am Family Communion
- 19 9:00 am Morning prayer
- 24 10:00 am Palm Sunday Family Communion
- 26 9:00 am Morning prayer7:30 pm Taizé Service

- 27 7:30 pm Music and meditation for Holy week
- 28 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday service at St Luke's Slyne
- 29 10:30 am Good Friday -Children's activities
- 29 11:30 am Good Friday Family Service
- 31 10:00 am Easter Sunday Family Communion

ST SAVIOUR'S AUGHTON

Services in February

- 11 11:30 am Holy Communion
- 25 11:30 am Morning Prayer

Services in March

- 10 11:30 am Holy Communion
- 24 11:30 am Morning prayer
- 31 10:00 am Easter Sunday Family Communion

From The Registers -

Funerals St Wilfrid's:

8 December – Brenda Pearce

- 11 January Denis Cottam
- 17 January Rosemary Williams

Live streamed services: We continue to livestream our Tuesday Morning prayer service at St Wilfrid's onto 'St Wilfrid's Church of England' Facebook page.



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