



# THE PRATTLE



Issue No. 140

Halton-with-Aughton

Dec 2024 / Jan 2025



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readers and  
advertisers**

**A Merry  
Christmas and A  
Happy New Year!**

**The Prattle Team**

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

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## DEADLINES for Feb / Mar 2025

Copy: Wed 8th Jan 2025  
Adverts: Wed 8th Jan 2025  
Delivery: Fri 31st Jan 2025

## Advertising Rates:

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

# 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. Jonathan Sewell; Cllr. Darren Rigby

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



**LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLORS** Sarah McGowan and James Somerville

## REFURBISHMENT OF ST WILFRID'S PLAY AREA

Initial quotes have been received for refurbishing St Wilfrid's Play Area with the lowest starting at £47,000. The proposed list of new play items includes an inclusive roundabout, climbing net, toddler swings, junior swings, nest swing, stepping logs, roll 'n' rope, wobble board, clatter bridge and springers. The next stage is to explore how this could be funded, which will include identifying grants and, if necessary, a loan.

## BINS

There are continuing problems with dog bins not being emptied around Halton. We have raised this problem several times with Lancaster City Council who are responsible for emptying them. The team manager is aware of the issue, so we hope that this will be resolved eventually. In the future, if you spot a bin overflowing

please inform the Clerk via email, or alternatively directly to Lancaster City Council.

Two new floor standing bins have been purchased and placed on Arrow Lane and in the ginnel between Penny Stone Road & Beech Road. These replace the dog bins that were removed.

## TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES

Many issues relating to traffic and parking have been reported to the



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council or online over the years. The restricted parking in some areas, such as High Road, can result in damage to vehicles and obstruction to both vehicles and pedestrians. Highways are generally very reluctant to make any changes, so at the recent Parish Council meeting it was suggested that we start logging incidents and problems so that evidence can be gathered to persuade Highways that action is needed in some areas.

If you would like to help, then please email the Clerk with details of the issue or incident; this will be logged to build up evidence of issues in particular areas. This could cover obstructions to the road or footpath, damage to vehicles parked on the road, speeding, accidents or near misses.

Please include the following information:

- Date of the issue/accident
- The location or address of the issue/incident

- A brief description of the issue/incident
- A photograph if available/applicable

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

### **PROGRESS**

The Steering Group has reviewed the comments from the formal Regulation 14 consultation which happened over the summer. The plan will be updated to reflect these comments ready for approval by the Parish Council at the December meeting, and then submitted to Lancaster City Council for the Regulation 16 stage and a review by the external Examiner. Finally, Lancaster City Council will organise a referendum of the parish to ask whether the plan is acceptable.

### **Luke Mills, Parish Clerk**

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



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## VILLAGE NEWS



### SANTA AND HIS SLEIGH

**Carnforth Rotary will be bringing Santa and his Sleigh to Halton, Sunday 8th December; first of all to The Centre, where there is a Santa's Grotto 2pm to 5pm, then to as many streets as possible until 9pm.**

There will be a little more detail regarding hovering points on Facebook nearer the time.

All profits, as always, go back into local areas via the Halton Lune Trust grant arrangements - and if not possible to meet him, you could just show your camera this QR code and donate on line.

All the best for Christmas and the New Year from us, Santa and his elves.

### John Blowes

Carnforth Rotary, President



### HALTON LUNE TRUST

#### A reflection from our Chair

Living in Lancashire, the rain is a constant companion, something we accept as part of our daily life. The rain, falling far away on the Howgill Fells in Cumbria, makes its way down the River Lune to Halton. Here, many years ago, water powered the Halton Mill as it now powers the Halton Lune Hydro.

The project for the Halton Lune Hydro was completed in 2015 and is truly inspirational. Whilst a major project, it is in many ways a simple process - water flows down a pipe, turns a propeller which spins a fly wheel leading to a belt that drives a sturdy but modest generator, feeding electricity at a profit to the nearest houses and the National Grid. When you boil the kettle some of that electricity may well have come from the village's hydroelectric plant. The income from the Hydro covers its ongoing maintenance, provides a fair return to its shareholders, with the remaining profit coming to the Halton Lune Trust to enable grants, in accordance with its criteria, for the benefit of Halton and surrounding villages through the Halton Lune Trust.

During my time as a Trustee of the Charity I have seen two significant changes.

The first, improved clarity of its criteria which has enabled the Trust to support



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projects in adjoining villages along the Lune Valley, including Caton, and Gressingham.

The second, the increasing number of private individuals who recognise the value of the Trust's work and mission. Some individuals are now choosing to make regular personal donations to the charity as a way of recognising what can be achieved to enhance the quality of life in our villages, whether it be community, environmental or conservational.

If anyone is interested in making a donation to the Trust, whether it be one-off or regular, or a legacy in your will, please contact the secretary: [secretaryhaltonlunetrust@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryhaltonlunetrust@gmail.com)  
We are fortunate to live in a very beautiful valley, where the water is working to improve and preserve our community for the next generation.

**Jonathan Sewell**

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



## MARK WATSON HOME & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

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planting, power washing  
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**07759680938** turfing, gutters cleared

**07759680943** Loft insulating, pointing,  
rendering, painting

**Low Bentham**

**015242**

**62038**

No job too small, reasona-  
ble rates, estimates given.

## AUGHTON VILLAGE BINGO

Fun for the whole family and lots of great prizes including chicken and gammon dinners, wines, spirits and other Christmas treats.

Refreshments provided. 7:30pm on Saturday 7th December 2024.

Aughton Recreation Room, LA2 8LT.

Proceeds to St. Saviour's Church Roof Fund.



## LITTER PICKS

It's been another great year for our community litter picks, with lots of volunteers joining us during the warmer months for our family friendly events. Our 'official' litter picks will resume in March. The next 'low-key' litter picks are taking place on 25th Jan and 22nd Feb, meeting at 10 Forgewood Close at 1pm. These picks are only suitable for adults that are physically able to walk up to 3 miles and pick on steep slopes in inclement weather. I would like to say a big thank



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DipFA C&MAP

**Managing Director**

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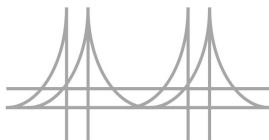
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you to the members of our community who have helped to keep the village clean and tidy for everyone to enjoy this year. I hope to see you at a pick in 2025!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Our AGM is taking place at the Community Centre (in the cafe area) on Wednesday 4th December at 19:30. At this meeting we will agree on our areas

of focus for 2025. All are welcome; there will be a free glass of mulled wine and a mince pie for all attendees.

In 2025, our quarterly meetings will revert to a Thursday at 19:30, venues and dates TBC. Our first meeting will be taking place in March.

## CARDS FIGHTING LONELINESS

Our 4th campaign has got off to a fantastic start! At the time of writing we have already received 223 cards and have 126 recipients on our list. We've also received 43 beautiful flower keepsakes from fellow recipient, Tony Woodhouse, which will be distributed during December with our festive cards and gifts.

Our recipients love nothing more than a card that has been lovingly made by a child that lives in the village. Many of our recipients keep their cards on display for the duration of the campaign and read them regularly.

If you have a couple of hours to spare with your little ones on a wet winter weekend, please get them involved and help spread some sunshine across the village! Volunteer packs are available to collect anytime from 10 Forgewood Close, LA2 6NZ. Remember - your art skills won't be critiqued, it's the messages inside the cards that really matter! The upcoming themes for cards are as follows; January: beat the January Blues, February: the month of love.

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## ST NIC FOR A NEIGHBOUR

Earlier this year we received exciting news from Standfast & Barracks to say that they would be supporting the campaign as part of their centenary celebrations. On 07/11/24 I received confirmation that the centenary celebration committee would be donating £500 to the campaign, which is absolutely fantastic!

They have asked that the funds are used for our 'St Nic for a Neighbour' appeal, meaning that the majority of our recipients will receive a festive gift from Standfast & Barracks this year!

I have asked the team whether they would like to accompany Mrs Elf and deliver some Christmas cheer during

December with one stipulation - festive fancy dress is actively encouraged!

I would personally like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to the team at Standfast & Barracks for this generous donation. I really hope they are able to join me making some deliveries, so they can witness first-hand the difference their funds have made to the community in which they have operated for 100 years.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone who has helped our village Neighbourhood Watch scheme this year. Whether you've attended a scheme meeting, volunteered at a litter pick, or been in **any** way involved in our loneliness campaign - thank you for being

# CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

## Sun 8th December

## 2pm - 5pm

### £1 Entry

### Children free

## WITH SANTA'S GROTTO



@HaltonCentre



The Centre @ Halton



HaltonCentre.org

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



## 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



a part of our wonderful community, we couldn't have done this without you all! I hope that you have a magical Christmas and a happy and healthy 2025.



**Sam Pritchard**

### HALTON LIBRARY

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

### HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

If you can't get to a library because of your age, disability, poor physical or mental health, caring responsibilities, or mobility problems then we can deliver books to you! This service is once a month and completely free of charge. Please call 0300 123 6703 or email: [library@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:library@lancashire.gov.uk) for more information.

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Story Time\*

Join us for a weekly morning of songs, stories, and crafts for pre-school children.

Held every Wednesday 9:00 - 9:30am – (Term time only)

(\*Little Steps Sessions on first Wednesday of every month)

#### 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

A drop-in session for anyone who would like to create Lego masterpieces. All you need to bring is your imagination! Attendance is free, just come along. Held every Saturday 10:30am-12:30pm.

# **New Year's Eve Ceilidh**

**31st December**

**7:30pm - 12:30am**

**JIG - RUN - RIG CEILIDH BAND**

**£15 a Ticket**

**Adults and Children aged 11+**

**Must be booked in advance from:**

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## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR LIBRARY BANK AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

Tuesday 24th December – CLOSED

Wednesday 25th December – CLOSED

Friday 27th December – CLOSED

Wednesday 1st January 2025 – CLOSED

Please note the Digital Library is available 24 hours a day (includes an online catalogue, download library of eBooks and eAudiobooks plus our eReference library):

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/digital-library/>



## CORRECTIONS

The team would like to apologise for an incorrect answer in Quiz No 64 (Oct/Nov issue).

The question was "Who was the Ancient Greek God of the Sun?" and the answer given was Apollo.

Apollo was actually the God of Light among other things. The God of the Sun was Helios, which gives us words such as helianthus, the sunflower. Many thanks to our eagle eyed viewer who spotted the error.

## TREASURE ISLAND

It is so gratifying to see the island reappearing just below the weir. It has been growing slowly for a few years now but is not just stones any more; vegetation is establishing itself. It used to be an island with small trees and a little 'beach' and inlets where swans nested until the mighty flood of 1964(?), I'm not sure of the year but the river flooded upriver in Wray and all sorts of heavy stuff, logs, furniture etc came down with the water which reached up to the caravans on the Greyhound park until they were floating. The island was carried away in the flood.

Does anyone have any photos of the island as it was?



## Pat Chamberlain

*If you have any photos please email in to the Prattle and we will arrange to forward to Pat. Thanks - Ed*

## CATON & BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

September was a busy month; we had a visit to Keswick and enjoyed the market and shops, although the

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afternoon tea in Grange was a disappointment after the lovely tea we had last year. A week later and we were visiting Penrith for another good morning of shopping and sight-seeing, followed by a lovely afternoon in and around Lowther Castle with its lovely gardens and nice cafe.

Many thanks to The Station Hotel for the buffet lunch enjoyed by a number of our members at the beginning of October; the food was lovely and it was great to catch up with friends old and new. Our mystery tour later in the month introduced most of us for the first time to Ormskirk Market, a busy and traditional market, which was enjoyed by all. We later headed for Southport, always a favourite visit. In December we are visiting Chatsworth

House with its Xmas decorations and later that month we will have our traditional Christmas lunch. The Friendship Club AGM will be held at The Station Hotel on January 16th, and we will be having a hot pot lunch on February 20th before trips begin again in March. We hope everyone has an enjoyable Christmas.

## CATON LEISURE CLUB

No speakers for December but we are back again with more interesting speakers for January.

6th Astrology - Martin Lunn  
13th Skiing - Les Fryer  
20th Watch This Space - Ralph Cruickshank  
27th Inn and Out at the Top - Neil Hanson

Only £4 for non members, £3 for members (yearly subscription £5) and that includes tea/coffee with biscuits. Also included is a friendly welcome for anyone new and companionship for all.

## FESTIVE FUN RUN

Want to keep running over Christmas and New Year? Then do think about doing the friendly **4k Festive Fun Run** from the Lancaster & Morecambe AC clubhouse at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre **on Friday December 27th at 11am.**

Really great for families and fun runners as well as more regular competitors. Brilliant atmosphere, super festive medals and lots of wonderful spot prizes. Only £7 to enter in advance or £10 on the day.

Do enter early – last year all our numbers were taken – on [https://bookitzone.com/susan\\_lucas\\_2/VgjFFX](https://bookitzone.com/susan_lucas_2/VgjFFX)

## APPEAL TO THE VILLAGE

As Halton residents, we are very concerned about the increase in traffic, disregard for speed limits, and heavy vehicles passing through our village, especially on High Road. As a result, there have been many incidents of parked vehicles being damaged.

Together we want to build up a picture and have evidence to prove how much of a problem we have in order for something to be done about it. We need to report all incidents to:

## Coffee and Carols for Christmas!

THE FESTIVE SEASON STARTS HERE!

Enjoy a coffee and mince pie and listen to the live music and carols - join in with the singing!

**Halton Park House**  
**Saturday 7th December**  
**10 am – 12 noon**

**Cakes & Produce, Books, Raffle,  
Tombola,  
Christmas Decorations and Gifts**  
**AND A CHANCE TO MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS**



**Entrance £3 (children £1) in aid of St Wilfrid's  
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Tickets from Melissa Bowring 07771527469  
[melissa\\_bowring@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:melissa_bowring@hotmail.co.uk) or pay at the door

1. The police (for damage and speeding, which can be done online or by phone)
  2. Love Clean Street app (for parked cars obstructing roads/footpaths)
  3. Luke Mills, the clerk of the Parish Council ([clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk))
- Any suggestions or comments on this subject would be gratefully received.

**Name withheld**



## NEWS FROM ST WILFRID'S C E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Dear Reader,

Life at St Wilfrid's School is in full swing.

We are busy with our learning and looking forward to all the joys

of Christmas. We have a trip to the panto organised, along with our school Nativity, Christingle, and Carol Service all planned.

Recently, we have welcomed Sportsreach into school to deliver their 'Walk Through the Bible' course to our Year 5 and 6 children. We have also established a JAM (Jesus and Me) Club run by NISCU. Messy Church, organised by St Wilfrid's Church, meets regularly in school, and the numbers are really growing.

Once again, we have supported International Aid by sending many shoeboxes to various countries. I would

like to thank Caton Baptist Church for their support in this initiative. We recently focused on Anti-Bullying as we drew attention to National Anti-Bullying Week and the importance of not accepting bullying in any form.

We are moving forward with our learning and spending as much time outside as possible. We have been very grateful for the fine November weather. We have welcomed back our Year 6 leavers to their Hot Chocolate drop-in and have also hosted our Community Tea event. Our next Community Tea is on Wednesday 4th December at 2pm in the school hall.

This publication will cover both Christmas and the New Year. May we wish you a Happy Christmas and a wonderful start to the new year.

**From all at St Wilfrid's School**

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## HALTON GARDENING GROUP

The Halton Gardening Group planted plenty of bulbs again this autumn and we're looking forward to a colourful display next spring. There are other activities to get on with, such as digging up and splitting plants to make new ones, looking after cuttings, studying seed catalogues, cleaning tools and greenhouses, tidying up borders or leaving some areas for wildlife, and planning the Garden Safari for next year.

The Garden Safari will be held on June 7th and 8th. We welcome new residents around the village, and we are inviting residents of Forest Heights and Foundry Close to join in, as well as any residents with mature gardens. You do not need a large garden to take part, or have to be a perfect showcase. Thinking about taking part but not sure? You might have something in your garden that would inspire other people, whether it's a creative touch

for a small garden, a scheme for a new border, or a special feature. People like to see what you've done. Some participants may have plants for sale but you don't have to. We would like to get gardens confirmed by March if possible as we need to get the map ready in good time.

My garden was in the previous Safari. It's a working garden and we're constantly changing borders and beds, with occasional plant murdering going on. We compost what we can but the green bin has been full to the brim. It was interesting to chat to visitors and meet other people. They asked questions about the plants, the names of certain flowers, which fruit and vegetables we liked to grow, what worked best, any problems we had or new features that we had begun. Some people just liked to have a wander on their own, others walked round with us.

Don't be shy, get in touch, see our contact details below. There's also some information about our next meetings.

From January 2025, we are trialling a new meeting format for the Gardening Group. We will meet on the third Thursday of the month at 10:45am at the Red Door, for an informal discussion on gardening matters within the village and in our own gardens. We hope this will encourage more villagers

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with an interest in gardening to join us. No expertise needed!

To get in touch about Halton Gardening Group or the Garden Safari please email [haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com) or contact Kath Pink, Secretary on 07900416961.

### **BEE HAPPY**

One of the most popular plants with bees in my garden was my 'posh thistle', *Cirsium rivulare* 'Atropurpureum', which bears deep purple-red thistles on long stems, in contrast with spiny, dark green foliage. They flowered for months. I dead-headed them regularly, wearing gloves. Bees also enjoyed the dandelions, which I tolerated up to a point then hoicked some out.

Recently in a newspaper I read about a study on bees by University of Bristol researchers. They found that small patches of garden in rural areas offer a steady and reliable source of nectar for bees throughout the year, crucially in early spring and late summer when nectar from farmland is scarce. Dr

Thomas Timberlake, the study's author, said, "It's well known that gardens and urban areas can be great places for pollinators like bees, flies and butterflies." By making gardens pollinator friendly, and planting a variety of flowers that bloom year round, people can have a positive impact beyond their own gardens.

Their results found that pollinator-friendly planting is more important than the size of a garden, giving every gardener an opportunity to contribute. They recommended planting nectar-rich shrubs with complementary flowering periods and prioritising flowers with an open structure in late summer and autumn. Dr Timberlake said that gardens might be helping pollinators more than we ever realised. One study recommended the following flowers and shrubs for pollinators:

Early spring (March):

Hellebore, Pieris, Pulmonaria, Skimmia japonica

Mid to late spring (April–May):



Aquilegia, Ceanothus, Apple, Cherry, Ribes (currants)

Early to mid summer (June–July):

Campanula (bellflower), Geranium (cranesbill type not pelargoniums), Lavender, Honeysuckle.

Late summer to autumn (August–October):

Echinacea purpurea (coneflower), Hedera helix (ivy), Oregano, Hylotelephium (Sedum), Verbena bonariensis

From observation I'd add chives and alliums, thyme, rosemary, foxgloves, Cirsium, and crocuses for early bees. It might be too late to buy crocus bulbs but some garden centres may have some in pots. If you want to plant a fruit tree, check the rootstock as sizes and growth can vary a lot, and a dwarf variety might be better. Personally I avoid the small campanula varieties as they can be invasive but I have a tall one which seems OK to control – so far. Nothing against pelargoniums, I like them for colour.

After reading those articles I wondered if our local university had any studies. They've been bee-keeping on the campus for some time now. With a bit of virtual digging I found that scientists at Lancaster University, in collaboration with the University of Reading, studied data on insect pollinators at solar parks in the UK, covering 15 sites. It showed that UK solar parks, if managed correctly, can provide vital resources to help stem the decline in the nation's

bees and butterflies. Whether you love or hate the idea of solar parks, this is a benefit that I wasn't aware of.

They recorded around 1,400 pollinators across more than 30 species, including nearly 900 butterflies, more than 170 hoverflies, more than 160 bumble bees, as well as moths and honeybees which is phenomenal! Parks with a wider variety of flowering plants saw increased numbers of bumblebees, butterflies and hoverflies. The study also showed the number of flowering plants is less important to the pollinators than having a variety of flowering species to forage across, the same as Bristol's findings. Hollie Blaydes, of Lancaster University, lead author of the study, said: "Pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies and hoverflies have been in dramatic decline in recent years and there is a need to restore more resources for these species in our landscapes." She also said, "We've shown that through management decisions such as planting a variety of flowering plants, solar parks can support insect pollinators and also those communities can be relatively diverse and abundant - particularly in those landscapes where there are few hedgerows and wildflowers for pollinators to depend on." Happy gardening!

**Janet Theobald**



## 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](mailto:aughtonevents@gmail.com)

THE CENTRE @ HALTON: HALL/ROOM HIRE 07981 743959 or [info@haltoncentre.org](mailto:info@haltoncentre.org)

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### **Mondays:**

Outdoor Circuits: 6-7pm 07745

798337. 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](mailto: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.

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](mailto: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](mailto:cubs@haltonscouts.org.uk)

#### **Wednesdays:**

Tots Play Lancaster: 9am-1:30pm (from  
Jan 29, new time 10am – 2:30pm)

Lauren 07398 312544 term time only

Storytime: 9-9:30am (term time

only) for preschool children and their  
carers. Halton Library

Line Dancing: 10:30 – 11:30am Tony

07488 348809 Anne 07923 455939

Squirrels: 4-5pm during term times,

Scout hut; [squirrels@haltonscouts.org.uk](mailto:squirrels@haltonscouts.org.uk)

Pilates: 6-7pm Kate 07799068191

Walking Netball: 7-8pm £4 07745

798337

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

#### **Thursdays:**

Hartbeeps Lancs Baby & Toddler

(music): 9am-1pm TTO 07834818493

Pilates: 9:30-10:30am 07799068191

Walking Football: 10-11:30am £3. John

01524 418753

Gentle Exercise class: 11-12 noon Cheryl

07711 335807

Carpet Bowls: 7-9pm Aughton Village

Hall Email [aughtonevents@gmail.com](mailto:aughtonevents@gmail.com)

to enquire

Samba Espirito (Drumming): 7-9:30pm

Karen 07711 262288

#### **Fridays:**

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

Indoor Bowling: 2:00-4pm 811316

### **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](mailto:secretary@haltonjuniorsfc.com)

### **FORTNIGHTLY EVENTS**

#### **Tuesdays:**

Lunesdale Camera Club: venue/ info ring David 07903 392021

Bay Big Band Practice: 2nd & 4th Tues 7:45pm Paula 07788 974691

### **MONTHLY EVENTS**

#### **MONDAYS:**

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

**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). Debbie on [animalcare.db@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:animalcare.db@hotmail.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.  
Dec 19th – ring 811316 to book or for more info. 2025s dates TBC  
Luncheon Club: 12:30–3pm, Dec 12th – ring 811316 to book or for more info. 2025s dates TBC

**3rd Thurs** Gardening Group 10:45am Red Door (No meeting December), email: [haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:haltongardeninggroup@gmail.com) or message/telephone Kath Pink Secretary on 07900 416961



## **WHAT'S ON ENTRIES**

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

# MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## DECEMBER

- Wed 4 Community Tea; 2pm in the school hall.
- Wed 4 Neighbourhood Watch AGM; The Centre (in the cafe area) at 19:30.  
Refreshments. See page 8
- Sat 7 Carols and Mince Pies at Halton Park House; 10 am to noon
- Sat 7 Aughton Village Bingo; Aughton Recreation Rooms, 7:30pm
- Sun 8 Christmas Craft Fayre; 2pm – 5pm @ the Main Hall, The Centre  
Santa's Grotto; 2pm to 5pm upstairs @ The Centre
- Thu 19 Aughton Village Carol Service; 7pm @ At St Saviour's Church. Carols and seasonal refreshments.
- Sat 21 Christmas social events; Aughton Recreation Rooms.
- Sun 22 Halton Village Carol Service; 4pm @ St Wilfrid's Church. Carols and seasonal refreshments.
- Fri 27 4k Festive Fun Run at 11am; Lancaster & Morecambe AC clubhouse at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre. See page 14
- Tue 31 New Year's Eve Ceilidh; 7:30pm-12:30am @ The Centre

### ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

'Low-key' litter picks are taking place on 25th Jan and 22nd Feb, meet at 10 Forgewood Close at 1pm. More details on page 5.

June 7&8 - Halton Garden Safari



### WHAT'S ON ENTRIES

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

# A Big Thank You ...

Thank you to all our Prattle deliverers, whether you deliver every time or have offered to be a reserve, the magazine would not work without you all.



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# AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

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## RECENT ACTIVITIES

Thanks to a grant from the Skelton Charity we have been able to complete further work on the hall roof, replacing the roofing over the entrance area and also weatherproofing the west gable end. Not only does the hall now look much smarter, but the work should provide protection from winter storms. A group of volunteers from the village has planted a variety of native flowers beside the hall, which should look good in the spring, and on the 16th November we held a volunteer day during which a number of smaller jobs were completed. The following day the hall hosted one of the Vale of Lune Young Farmers 'Big Breakfasts', with all funds going to charities.

We continue to host birthday parties, and the Vale of Lune Young Farmers meet regularly in the hall on Monday evenings. Tuesday morning exercise classes with Gabi Crossley continued to

be well attended and new members are very welcome. The classes are very friendly and suitable for all ages and abilities.

## ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Regular activities continue with exercise classes every Tuesday morning: circuits at 9:30 and Pilates at 10:30. If you are interested, please contact Gabi at [gabicrossley@gmail.com](mailto:gabicrossley@gmail.com), or just turn up at the hall. The Vale of Lune Young Farmers continue to meet in the hall on Monday evenings, and we will be announcing our full programme of activities, including talks and bar/sports evenings through our usual WhatsApp group and on our Facebook page. On Saturday December 21st we will be holding a Christmas social event for villagers with mince pies and mulled wine. . If there are activities that you would like to see taking place in the village hall, please do contact us. All suggestions will be very welcome.

**Any questions about Aughton Village Hall?** Contact the Secretary, Claire Athis Schofield on 07484660174 or [aughtonsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:aughtonsecretary@gmail.com)



# THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Halton Community Association Charity No. 115206

**Enquiries:** Office 01524 811316  
office@haltoncentre.org

**Room Bookings:** Carol 079817 43959  
bookings@haltoncentre.org

**Website:** haltoncentre.org

**Ticketsource:** www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
haltoncommunityassociation

**Facebook:** facebook.com/HaltonCentre  
Like us to keep up to date.

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

## **Coffee shop opening hours:**

Monday-Friday 2pm-5pm

School and bank holidays 11am-5pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am-4pm from  
October to February half term

Actual opening times may vary  
depending on volunteer availability.

## **UPDATES FROM THE CENTRE**

The next dates for Soup and a Song and Luncheon Club have been confirmed. Luncheon Club's Christmas meal will be on Thursday 12th December with music from the Two P's. The final Soup and a Song of the year will be on Thursday 19th December with festive tunes. Please remember to book your place in advance on 01524 811316. Luncheon Club is £8 per person, Soup and a Song is £4 per person. Keep an eye on the newsletter (sign up link above) for 2025s dates.

Please note the reduced Coffee Shop weekend opening hours after October half term - from Saturday 2nd

November to Sunday 9th February, the Coffee Shop will open 10am to 4pm at the weekends.

Our Christmas Craft Fayre with Santa's Grotto is on Sunday 8th December 2pm - 5pm. The Craft Fayre will be in the Main Hall with stalls from local artists. There will be lots of seasonal festive products available to purchase. Santa will be in his grotto upstairs for the first part of the afternoon before heading off around the village on his sleigh thanks to The Carnforth Rotary Club. Please Contact the Office to book a stall on 01524 811316 or office@haltoncentre.org

We are delighted to announce that the New Year's Eve Ceilidh will return this year on the 31st December 7:30pm-12:30am. It has been extremely popular in previous years. The JIG-RUN-RIG Ceilidh band will be performing

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again with tickets for just £15 for adults and children 11+. Tickets must be purchased in advance, please use the events link above. There will be a bar, nibbles available for purchase and a raffle - please bring your own picnic tea!

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/](http://haltoncentre.org/) bookings or contact our Bookings Officer, details above. We are very pleased to now be able to allow bouncy castles after a change in our insurers. The Centre will close for the Christmas period from Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January inclusive. Most groups will break over this time. Please check with individual organisers for their dates.

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

## NEW SESSIONS & EVENTS

Luncheon Club - 12th December 12:30-3:00pm

Soup and a Song - 19th December 12:30-2:30pm

Christmas Craft Fayre - 8th December 2pm - 5pm

New Year's Eve Ceilidh - 31st December 7:30pm-12:30am

Above correct as at 5th November 2024

## Naomi Turner

Centre Coordinator



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## DEAR ALL AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

We are Sophie and Rhiannon from Lancaster University. We have spent the last 6 weeks volunteering at The Centre @ Halton. As our placement with you comes to an end we wanted to write something to thank everyone for the warm welcome and for letting us experience life at the Centre. We wanted to share with you the impact that this placement has had on us - we have had a great time diving into life in Halton and meeting a whole range of people!

From the moment we arrived, we noticed how the work you do can impact and improve the day-to-day life of people in Halton. The Coffee Shop, in particular, gave us the experience of seeing how a cup of tea, a warm social space and a friendly face can provide a sense of community care and connection, without any expectations or pressure. We heard how this space

allowed people to share what was important to them, such as Trevor's research into the war casualties in Halton.

We enjoyed seeing the thought and genuine care that you put into every activity. You shared with us the difficulty in continuously engaging people, such as how to advertise groups and events with older adults who may not use social media, or how to provide groups and events that would target youths and younger adults – particularly when budgets and lack of funding are a constant challenge. It was inspiring to see how you continually looked for ways to improve the Centre, particularly to try to include everyone in Halton i.e., developing the Changing Places toilet to be more accessible.

While speaking with Lauren, we reflected on the importance of the baby and toddler groups in providing open and inclusive spaces where parents can interact and connect while nurturing



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their babies. Having this space and sense of community can make a real difference to people’s experience of parenting.

The range of physical activity groups available provides an opportunity for all ages and abilities to get involved, from Gentle Exercise to football groups or Pilates. We loved taking part in weekly Line Dancing classes with Tony, which were incredibly welcoming, even for two beginners with two left feet! Soup and a Song and Luncheon Club were other highlights. These events gave us insight into how conversation, music, and laughter can bring people together. We also saw how the Centre supports the development of important life skills,

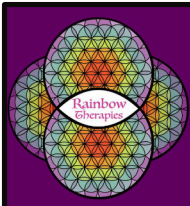
whether that is learning how to make a hot dog while volunteering in the Coffee shop or figuring out how to play Mahjong.

At the Centre, we were struck by the power of everyday connection and interaction in maintaining wellbeing within the community. As Trainee Clinical Psychologists, we will keep in mind the importance of considering and developing a person’s community and social networks. We will also take the value of presence with us - how simply being available, listening, and connecting on a human level can make a difference.

We are really grateful to everyone for looking after us and teaching us about Halton. Every single person we met was so welcoming, inclusive and patient with us as we figured out how to use the toastie machine or remember the line-dancing steps! We had such a valuable experience, providing important considerations for our future work. If you are interested in getting involved, either in joining in or coordinating your own group - please drop in to The Centre or call us on 01524 811316. If you, or anyone you know, is looking for a similar opportunity, The Centre @ Halton will always welcome new volunteers. Best wishes,



**Sophie and Rhiannon**  
Trainee Clinical Psychologists  
Lancaster University



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| Hot Stone Massage                   | Aromatouch Technique     |

**Contact Becky...**

07974752610  
@rainbowtherapies  
@rainbowtherapies777  
rainbowtherapies@hotmail.com  
The Rainbow Room, Halton Mill, LA2 6ND

## Holywell Care Group

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- Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Head Injuries
- Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI)
- Tracheostomy Care

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Discover how Holywell Care Group can support you or your loved ones through our comprehensive TDDI and complex care services.

Contact our caring team today to begin your journey toward greater independence and a better quality of life.

## NEWS FROM THE 1ST HALTON SCOUT GROUP

The new term has been going well so far; this is my first time writing for the Prattle having now fully taken over as Group Lead Volunteer. On behalf of the whole group, I would like to thank John Elliott for all his years as group scout leader and thank him for now taking on the role of our group chairperson. Thanks also go to Hannah Proctor and Alan Felstead for the last 7 years they have been treasurer and chair, and who stepped down at our AGM on the 8th October.

All four of our sections are very active at the moment and we currently have 78 young persons in the group. As a group we have just attended the Remembrance Service in the village.

Squirrels this term have been looking at their favourite story characters, building a house for Nutty the Squirrel out of Lego, playing new games and creating bonfire and remembrance-based crafts including their own poppy wreath.

Beavers have started the term exploring the area local to the hut and making equinox art. They have tried food from around the world whilst looking at international Beaver groups and have celebrated bonfire night with sparklers and apple bobbing! By the time you read this, they will have had a "sleepover" at Giggles. Still to come in the coming weeks: escape room codes, imaginary aircraft building and, of

## COFFEE SHOP OPENING TIMES

Serving a variety of hot & cold drinks and snacks



**Eat in and takeaway**

|                                                            |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Monday - Friday</b>                                     | <b>~ 2pm - 5pm</b>  |
| <b>School &amp; Bank Holidays</b>                          | <b>~ 11am - 5pm</b> |
| <b>Saturday &amp; Sunday</b>                               | <b>~ 10am - 5pm</b> |
| <b>Weekends between October<br/>and February half term</b> | <b>~ 10am - 4pm</b> |



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

The  
**Centre@  
Halton**

## 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)  
 Hearts of Halton WI: Debbie on [animalcare.db@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:animalcare.db@hotmail.co.uk)  
 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)



course, a Christmas party! We are delighted to welcome Raven to the Beavers team. Thank you to all the parents who help regularly.

Cubs have recently been modelling out of junk, creating different creatures, looking at money skills, global issues and where our food comes from around the world. They have also looked at the history of scouting and what it means to be a scout.

It has been quite a month of competitions for the Scout section, taking part in the first District Dragnet where teams had to get from Dallam High School to the Silverhelme scout campsite in Silverdale without being caught and within the time limit. They have just taken part in the County Crew Challenge down at Beacon Fell where they came 15th out of over 80 teams, so well-done Scouts! And by the time you

read this will have taken part in the annual district Knight Activity completing bases to score points around a night-time hike. Alongside all that the scouts also have taken part in a 24hr sleepover in the hut, where they took part in a Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) interacting with other scouts from around the world.

We are always on the lookout for more adults to join our teams and nationally are undergoing a restructuring of all our adult teams to make volunteering more accessible and easier for all. If any adults have any interest please do get in touch, there is a volunteering role that can suit anyone!

**Robert Prescott**  
 Group Lead Volunteer  
 1st Halton Scout Group



## TORRISHOLME CRICKET CLUB UPDATE

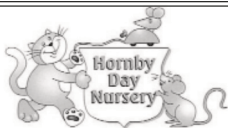
[www.torrisholmecc.co.uk](http://www.torrisholmecc.co.uk)

With the season over and the ground put to bed for the winter the social activities continue with a Quiz Night run by John Hewetson and Beth Laverick, new Halton residents. The bonfire night party went very well and a further gathering is scheduled to celebrate Christmas in December.

Once we get into the New Year things will start winding up towards the season, with the AGM taking place at the end of January. Senior nets start from early February, with junior nets starting in early March, by which time Eddie will have begun preparing the ground for the season starting in April. After a reorganisation of the leagues both teams will remain in the Palace Shield and the cricket committee is hoping that a number of players will be recruited or return to strengthen the squads.

Long serving Bar Volunteer Coordinator Doug Schofield has stood down so we really need to fill this critical role at the club. We should have our first qualified female coach by the spring and junior registration will be at the end of March. As always anyone interested in playing, coaching, volunteering or being a sponsor at the club can contact Junior Chair and Halton native Mark Drinkall on 07368944220 or by email: [drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk](mailto:drinks@torrisholmecc.co.uk)

**Mark Drinkall,**  
9th November 2024



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## THE PRATTLE QUIZ No 65

1. In the song "Frosty the Snowman," what are the two items that bring Frosty to life?
2. Which fairy tale were the first gingerbread houses inspired by?
3. Alphabetically, which of Santa's reindeers comes first?
4. The Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square has been donated to the people of Britain every year since 1947 by which Nordic capital city?
5. What is the surname of Ebenezer Scrooge's business partner?
6. In which country did eggnog originate?
7. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
8. How many gifts were given in total in 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' song?
9. What is traditionally hidden inside a Christmas pudding?
10. What colour are mistletoe berries?
11. What decoration do elves traditionally have on their shoes?
12. Stollen is a traditional fruit cake in which country?
13. When making mince pies which way should you stir your mincemeat for good luck?
14. What plant is sometimes known as the 'Christmas flower'?
15. How many tips do traditional snowflakes have?
16. 'Jingle Bells' was originally a song for what other holiday?
17. Boxing Day is also known by another name celebrating a saint, who is the saint?
18. How many ghosts show up in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*?
19. What fruit is traditionally put inside a Christmas stocking?
20. According to tradition, when should you have your Christmas decorations down by?

*With festive thanks to Santa and his elves!*

*Answers on page 38*





**16 Foundry Close**

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**Lancaster**

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

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## BUS SERVICES IN BRIEF

Bus Timetables for 81, 82, 580, 581 & 583 now available from Halton Library.

### **Monday to Saturday: Single tickets £2 (£1 after 7pm)**

#### **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, hourly until 1508, 1608 (SO), 1618 (NS), 1708, 1808, 1908, 2008, 2038, 2108, 2138, 2238)

#### **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](http://www.klch.co.uk))**

**No 81/82 from Low Road:** 0614 (NS), 0654 (NS), 0709 (SO), 0736 (Sch), 0749 (NSch), 0849, Hourly until 1349, 1414 (Sch), 1434 (Hol), 1449 (SO), 1549 (SO), 1604 (NS), 1659, 1749, 1834, 1904, then hourly as far as Hornby until 2304

#### **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, 1952, 2052, 2152, 2252

#### **LAST BUSES BACK TO HALTON FROM**

|                        |      |                         |      |               |      |
|------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|---------------|------|
| <b>Lancaster</b>       | 2252 | <b>Carnforth direct</b> | 1713 | <b>Hornby</b> | 2222 |
| <b>Kirkby Lonsdale</b> | 2015 | <b>Ingleton</b>         | 1958 | <b>Caton</b>  | 2233 |

SO – Saturdays only

Sch – School days only

Hol – School holidays only

NS – Not Saturdays

NSch – Saturdays and School Holidays

### **Sundays and Bank Holidays: Single tickets £1**

#### **TO LANCASTER (Last bus back: 1815)**

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

#### **TO KIRKBY LONSDALE (Last bus back: 1815)**

**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

Real time bus running info at [www.bustimes.org/map](http://www.bustimes.org/map)

Service 81/82 is run by Lonsdale Buses except the last four journeys from Lancaster to Hornby. Those evening journeys and Service 49 are run by Stagecoach

No service on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year's Day.

**DIAL A BUS** Book on: 01524 581260; email: [itslancastermorecambe@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:itslancastermorecambe@lancashire.gov.uk)

# SQUARE DANCING

## Club News

The North West & Lakes Weekend, here in Halton, went with a real swing. I think everyone was danced out by the end but some visitors from away, stayed, and joined in on the Monday with our beginners for the Birthday Dance, where they were presented with Club dangles.

Brian & I, Norman & Ann, Gill & Alan, Aprille & Daren, Chris & Trevor, all travelled down to St Ives for the 70th Anniversary of Callers Club dance weekend in Nov.

There were 3 halls, with all day and evening dancing provided for SSD, Mainstream, Plus, A1, A2 and Rounds. We all had a great time dancing to about 15 callers from all over the country, including our own Trevor Day and Di Green.

We had 2 special club evenings in Nov, "colours of the season" wearing autumnal colours and Trevor choosing music to highlight various colours. We had a book sale & preloved dance wear sale on both days.

Proceeds from clothes, shoes, books & raffle sales at NW&L & colours event totalled £160 toward the new 2024/25 charity to be voted at the AGM in Nov. The AGM is still to come as I write this but I know that the two 2023/24 to Aug Charities will receive a share of over £700.00. We will also receive our new banners that Pauline Seymour has been making for us.

Our Christmas Party, free for all our dancers, with fun & games, a raffle and dancing of course, is on Sat 21 December 7:00 – 10:30pm. This will conclude the dancing for 2024.

We return on Fri 3 January.

Happy Christmas to everyone and a Happy New Year.

## Carol Holman

07981 743959

For more info, photos etc go to our website:- <http://www.wocceanwavers.co.uk>



## Lancaster City Councillor Sarah McGowan



I will be holding Residents' Surgeries in Halton Social Club or Over Kellet Eagle's Head, on the first Wednesday of the month, between

**7pm - 8pm.**

December 4th Halton

January 8th Over Kellet

February 5th Halton

March 5th Over Kellet

Apr 2nd Halton

May 7th Over Kellet

Come along and discuss in confidence any problems you're having with Lancaster City Council services and I'll do what I can to help. I look forward to meeting you.

**If you can't make it in person, you can email me at [smcgowan@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:smcgowan@lancaster.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://stjosephs-lancaster.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



## ST WILFRID'S HALTON

**St Wilfrid's School Community Tea**  
Wednesday 4th December at 2pm  
Everyone welcome



**Carols and Mince Pies**  
AT HALTON PARK HOUSE

Saturday 7th December, 10 am to noon

### St Wilfrid's Church Christmas Services

Sunday 8th December at 10 am –  
Christmas Tree service

Sunday 15th December at 10 am -  
Christingle service

### Halton Village Carol Service

At St Wilfrid's Church  
4 pm on Sunday 22nd December  
Join us for Carols and  
seasonal refreshments.

### Christmas Eve Crib Service

At St Wilfrid's Church  
You are invited to join us for our  
'Pop-up' Nativity and to sing carols



3pm on Christmas Eve

Children are encouraged to come dressed  
as a character from the nativity story

### St Saviour's, Aughton:

Christmas Bingo

In Aughton Village Hall

Saturday 7th December 7.30 pm  
Proceeds to Church Funds



### Aughton Village Carol Service

At St Saviour's Church  
7 pm on Thursday 19th December  
Join us for Carols and  
seasonal refreshments.

## 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). Contact Revd Susan at [revsusan.seed@btinternet.com](mailto:revsusan.seed@btinternet.com).



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## You're Invited

Sundays at 10:30am  
The Centre @ Halton

*creating a HOME  
to EMPOWER a new  
GENERATION*

Exploring faith, have questions about God, want to connect with people or find a place to call home? Then we'd love to invite you to Valley Church!

Valley Kids also happens every week alongside our services with play, teaching, activities and games.

To find out more check out the website or look us up on social media.

valleychurch.eu/lancastr  
@valley\_lanc  
/valleychurchlancastr

## PRATTLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Hansel and Gretel
2. Blitzzen
3. Oslo
4. Jacob Marley
5. Britain
6. Germany
7. 364
8. A coin
9. White
10. Bells
11. Germany
12. Clockwise
13. Poinsetta
14. 6
15. Thanksgiving
16. St Stephen
17. 4: former business partner
18. Jacob Marley, & the spirits of Christmas
19. Past, Present and Future.
20. Orange or tangerine
- By end of 12th Night (Jan 5th)



## Christmas Events at Valley Church

We meet every Sunday at The Centre @ Halton.  
Check out what's going on over Christmas...



8TH  
DEC

**Santa's Grotto & Kids Crafts** 2-5 PM

Alongside The Centre's Christmas Fair join us upstairs to visit Santa and get creative.

**'The Christmas Cracker'** 10:30 AM

Snow machine, Rodeo Reindeer, Christmas service and a Valley Kids Christmas Party!

15TH  
DEC



25TH  
DEC

**Christmas Day Service** 10:30 AM

Join us for shoer, chocolates and a short service on Christmas Day.



**New Gen Sunday** 10:30 AM

A Sunday that's all about building up the next generation as they lead our service.

29TH  
DEC



All events will be held at The Centre @ Halton.

valleychurch.eu @valley\_lanc /valleychurchlancastr

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# 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](mailto:revsusan:seed@btinternet.com)

### ST. WILFRID'S HALTON

#### Services in December

- |    |                                                      |
|----|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | 10:00 am Family Communion                            |
|    | 4:00 pm FAMILIES@4 at Slyne Church Hall              |
| 3  | 9:00 am Morning prayer                               |
| 8  | 8:00 am Holy Communion                               |
|    | 10:00 am Family Worship and Christmas Tree service:  |
| 10 | 9:00 am Morning prayer                               |
| 15 | 10:00 am Family Communion and Christingle            |
| 17 | 9:00 am Morning prayer                               |
| 22 | 10:00 am Family Communion                            |
|    | 4:00 pm Village Carol Service at St Wilfrid's Church |
| 24 | 3:00 pm Crib service                                 |
| 25 | 10:00 am Christmas day Family Communion:             |
| 29 | 10:00 am Family Communion                            |

#### Services in January

- |    |                           |
|----|---------------------------|
| 5  | 10:00 am Family Communion |
| 7  | 9:00 am Morning prayer    |
| 12 | 8:00 am Holy Communion    |
|    | 10:00 am Family Worship   |
| 14 | 9:00 am Morning prayer    |
| 19 | 10:00 am Family Communion |
| 21 | 9:00 am Morning prayer    |

26 10:00 am Family Communion

28 9:00 am Morning prayer

Junior Church is held on the 3rd 4th and 5th Sundays during term time:

### ST SAVIOUR'S AUGHTON

#### Services in December

- |    |                                          |
|----|------------------------------------------|
| 8  | 11:30 am Morning Prayer                  |
| 19 | 7:00 pm Village Carol Service            |
| 25 | 10:00 am Christmas day Family Communion: |

#### Services in January

- |    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| 12 | 11:30 am Morning prayer |
| 26 | 11:30 am Holy Communion |

### FROM ST WILFRID'S REGISTERS

#### Baptism:

15th September – Olive Deanna Smith

22nd September – Jack Christopher Gaskarth

6th October – Joseph Alan Butterworth-Jones







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