

LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE



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2025

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS

Quiltmaking - page 1 Clothes Swap - page 5 Auction - page 2 Love your Graveyard - page 6 Painting - page 4 Burns Night - page 8

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Laura McGowan. Phone: 07394 060777 clerk@catonparishcouncil.gov.uk www.catonparishcouncil.gov.uk Find us on Facebook too.

The **December Parish Council meeting** opened with a presentation about the proposed housing development to the west of Quernmore Road. Much discussion of the disadvantages and merits of the scheme. A full planning application is expected early in 2025, and the Parish Council will consider it formally then.

The **January meeting of the Parish Council** is Tuesday 14th January at 7pm in the Lune Valley Methodist Hub and will focus on traffic and road safety in the parish. The agenda for each meeting is posted on notice boards and on the village website.

Greenway and Crook o'Lune Lancashire County Council is organising improvements to paths in the Life For A Life Woodland. In the coming weeks there will be work to grub out the overgrowth on the blackthorn hedge between the bridge and the Mill Lane development. The edges will be cleared and the path cleaned from the Bull Beck through to Station Road, and a path put in at Artlebeck Bridge, to improve access to the picnic table. The Lancashire County Council contractor will also prepare land for the community orchard planting.

Dog waste Many people work hard to keep our parish clean and well-maintained; it is infuriating that some residents think it acceptable to allow their dogs to leave dog mess on pavements, including right in front of bus stops! If you are in charge of a dog you are legally obliged to clean up after it.

Precept The Parish Precept - the amount of council tax residents pay towards the work of the Parish Council - will be set at the January PC meeting, and is likely to increase by 5%.

PROJECT LINUS UK - SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 10-3PM BAPTIST CHURCH HALL CATON

Project Linus UK makes quilts for children and young people. The ethos is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are sick, disabled, or disadvantaged through the provision of a new, homemade quilt made by volunteers. If you would like to join in sewing some quilts, please contact Louise Stevens 07808204782 for a place on the workshop.

CATON LEISURE CLUB

Why not spice up your Monday mornings especially during cold and damp January. Your welcome will NOT be cold and damp! Come along for Interesting talks Tea/Coffee biscuits and companionship.

For January we have : -

6th Astrology Martin Lunn

13th Skiing (Participation not required !) Les Fryer

20th It's a Secret Ralph Cruickshank

27th Inn and Out at the Top Neil Hanson

We meet at Victoria Institute at 10.00 for 10.30. Only £3 each time.

Norma's Chair Exercise Class - Good for body and Soul. They take place each Monday from 9 until 10 am for the modest charge of £2.

Short Mat Bowls have started again on Wednesdays at the Institute. 10 to 12. Come along for fun and companionship. Why not give it a try? Again you will be welcomed and shown what to do. Please contact David 01524 812342 for further details.

If you missed our Christmas Party at the Station Hotel then you missed a treat. Don't let it happen again. Join Up ASAP.

All Submissions and Advertising Enquiries via email to the Editor by the 15th of the month for the following edition. Email: catonlink2021@gmail.com
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2025 PROGRAMME

CATON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE We welcome women of all ages and walks of life to join us for fun, friendship, education and the opportunity to contribute to the local area. At our Christmas meeting, we enjoyed playing games together and refreshments. The next meeting is Thursday 7th January at 7:30pm at the Victoria Institute. This is our annual AUCTION of items. Bring along your unwanted but

perfectly usable items to be sold. It's a great meeting to come to, especially if you've never

been before, because our auctioneer is very entertaining and you leave with a laugh and either

less than you came with or a lot more! Come and try us out! Our 2025 programme is now

available below, on our Facebook page and also on display in the Victoria Institute, so please

Fun and friendship, plus the chance to learn new skills, get involved with the local community and take part in a range of activities; that's what you'll find at Caton Women's Institute. Made up of women of all ages local to our wonderful village, we meet at the Victoria Institute at 7:30 the first Thursday of the month. Visitors always welcome! (£3 incl. refreshments).



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

https://lancashire.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/caton/home

JAN 2ND

CATON WI

Our annual AUCTION of items. Bring along your unwanted but perfectly usable items to be sold. Also discussion of this year's Resolutions.

FEB 6TH

LET'S DANCE! Alysia Gilda returns to lead us in another fabulous dance session. Follow at your own pace (and rhythmn...)

MAR 6TH

Judy Beeston will be talking to us about Preston suffragette EDITH RIGBY. A fantastic dip into local

LIVING THE LUNE. An ecological talk by Louisa Blundell from the Lune Rivers Trust. Part of our clean rivers campaign.

MAY 1ST

KITTY BROWN FASHION SHOW, Our own members take to the catwalk to display stunning outfits for all occasions. Get some style tips!

JUN 5TH

The craft group will launch this year's campaign, crafting items for people with dementia. Also tonight a team IIGSAW RACE

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JUL 3RD

Sarah Lee B.Ed., M.Litt. a Genealogist from Cumbria will be explaining HOW TO BEGIN TO RESEARCH YOUR

AUGUST

No meeting in August but we will meet up socially for AFTERNOON TEA at a venue to be confirmed.

SEP 4TH

An entertaining evening with Fiona Smith's talk VICTORIANS UNBUTTONED, exploring Victorian undergarments.

OCT 2ND

Our AGM followed by FUN WITH PAPER. Create a set of useful or decorative origami models and explore this ancient and beautiful craft.

NOV 6TH

WINTER WREATH WORKSHOP, Create a natural wreath to decorate your home and brighten up the season.

CHRISTMAS MEETING. A chance to socialise with fun, games and refreshments.

ALSO OUR SUB-GROUPS

BOOK CLUB meets monthly to discuss a shared book. GAMES CLUB meets to play board games. GIN CLUB meets to sample different gins. CRAFT GROUP hosts a joint annual project.



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CATON COMMUNITY CENTRE (VICTORIA INSTITUTE)

COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

The following trustees were appointed at the Annual General Meeting that was held on 29th November: - Sally Shears (Chair), Lucy Holland (Secretary), Ron Gibbons, Ruth Gibbons, Elaine Hutchinson, Jo Pooley, Jenny Walmsley

Please get in touch with Peter if you would like to know about becoming a trustee

CATON COMMUNITY LIBRARY & IT ROOM Open Mon & Wed 10-12 noon & 1-3pm; Tues & Thurs 10-12 noon. The Library has a range of fiction, including General, Saga/Romance, Crime, Horror and Sci-fi. The Non-fiction bookcases include Autobiographies, Biographies and a small Lifestyle section. We have a dedicated Children's area that includes Fiction and Non-Fiction, for all ages from Infant picture books through to Young Adult/Teenage years. The Library relies book donations. Any books that can't be used on our shelves are then donated to charity. Good condition duplicate books are also available to buy for a small donation to the V.I. Many Thanks to everyone who donates and uses the Library. The IT 'Drop In' facility has 4 computers with Internet and Microsoft Office software. £1.50 per hour, 75p for 1/2 hour, min charge of 50p; Scanning 10p; Printing B&W 15p for A4, 25p for A3. Colour 30p for A4, 55p for A3.

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FREE TO ADVERTISE 'FOR SALE' NOTICEBOARD Sell for free. Forms from Peter.

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT FLOODING? Floodsax are available £30 for a pack of five.

EMERGENCY CENTRE The Victoria Institute is our village's Emergency Centre. If there are problems such as flooding, long periods without mains water, or power cuts, the Victoria Institute will be staffed and you'll be able to get practical help and information.

GET IN TOUCH For all enquiries contact Peter Collins the Community Centre Manager 01524 771733 Office Hours as library above. Email: admin@victoria-institute.org.uk.

Website: www.victoria-institute.org.uk www.facebook.com/victoria.institute.caton/

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FIRST SATURDAY LITTER PICK

A group of residents get together on the first Saturday of every month to pick up litter and tidy the villages. The meeting place is outside the Victoria Institute at 10am, weather permitting. You decide how much time and where abouts in the village needs some attention. Half an hour or an hour can - and does - make such a difference. If you have seen an area which would benefit from a tidy up, or have any queries, please contact Judy Powell on 771154. Rubbish bags, bag holders, and litter pickers are provided, and it is a good idea to bring your own gloves. Hi-viz vests (various sizes) also available on request. (Equipment can also be borrowed if a local community group wanted to arrange a special 'one off' litter pick as part of their ongoing activities). Many thanks to all regular volunteers and to City Councillor Joyce Pritchard who also keeps us supplied with the necessary green bags. Next session: Saturday 4th January

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB

We ended the year on a high with our social evening. Thanks to all who supported the event and we hope you enjoyed the entertainment on offer. Thanks for joining in and thanks especially to Philip who managed to provide tree and bush fruit samples in the middle of winter by clogging up his fridge! We also hit a high with our 80th member joining in December - a record. We look forward to seeing many of you at our January festive meal on Saturday the 12th, 12.30 for 1pm, St Pauls Church Hall. A happy new year to all.

PAINTING GROUP

The painting group will meet on Thursday 2nd, 16th & 30th January, from 1.30 - 3.30pm at Lune Valley Methodist Hub. We are a friendly group and everyone is welcome whatever level of skill. If you do not have any equipment, please let me know and I can maybe help with this. We ask for a donation of £2.50 to cover costs. Tea & coffee is available. For further information contact Ruth 01524 770605.

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CATON ST PAUL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Merry Christmas from all at Caton St Paul's to all children and families in the local area - we hope you have a peaceful, restful time with your loved ones.

We were thrilled to welcome the Bishop of Lancaster to officially open our Prayer Square - this is a spiritual space in the middle of school where children of all faiths, or none, can have quiet reflection time. We welcomed our local faith leaders as well from St Paul's, Caton Baptist and Brookhouse Community Church for a lovely service. Our first ever treasure hunt was well attended with over 100 adults and children exploring the local area to follow the clues set by the PTA. They then returned for hot

chocolate and mulled wine at school - well done to all who attended this lovely evening.

Our PTA online raffle raised over £1300 - we were blown away by the generosity of our parents and the local community. Thank you to all businesses who donated prizes. Check out the Facebook live raffle drawing for some Christmas cheer.

Our children enjoyed their PTA Christmas fair, playing games such as pin the nose on Rudolph, guess how many sweets in the jar and penguin pong!

Our choir has been busy, singing at the St Paul's pastoral service with our Pre-school children. The choir also sang at the beautiful village carol service and we are very proud of how involved they are with the local community.

The infant nativity, Secret Angels, was fantastic and all 67 children plus Pre-schoolers made it onto stage at some point. We don't believe in charging parents to watch their children perform at Caton St Paul's Primary school but our Foodbank collection raised over £400 for needy people in the local area. A great show of generosity from our parents, on top of the near £1000 raised for St John's Hospice from our Reindeer rush. A lovely end of term at school was rounded off with a KS2 carol concert at St Paul's where all 95 KS2 children sang their hearts out alongside their family members.

COMMUNITY HUB

Saturday 4th January 10am-12 noon Clothes and Gift Swap

Please bring good quality clothing to swap. And gifts or other new items to swap. Coffee, cake and company Craft corner and help with form filling No charge but donations welcome. Venue: Lune Valley Methodist Hub, Brookhouse Road.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

The Victoria Institute is our emergency centre. In the event of a disaster - such as the recent fire in Kirkby Lonsdale - it would be opened to provide warmth and shelter for residents, and support emergency workers. An emergency generator is available.

We also need to be prepared for other emergencies such as flooding or high winds. Many agencies put up useful information on their websites about problems, and allow you to report online. But if you prefer to telephone, key telephone numbers are:

Loss of electricity: 105 Loss of gas: 0800 111 999

Loss of water supply: 0345 6723 723 Sewage overflows: 0345 672 3723

Flooding of highways, blocked drains: 0300 123 6780

For more information about disaster preparedness locally, see our Emergency Plan, which is on the village website under Documents>Other Documents. And available at the Victoria Institute.

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CATON PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been a very busy and enjoyable run-up to the Christmas holiday.

Our children have benefited from myriad wider opportunities. Our older girls took part in a non competitive multi-sports event at Bay Leadership Academy, involving dodgeball, netball and trampolining; our swimming squad took part in the Lune Valley swimming gala; and children from Year 1 upwards benefited from gymnastics, multisports and tennis tuition, run by professional sports coaches.

Throughout the Autumn term, Years 3 and 4 had great fun learning to play the Samba drums through the Lancashire Music Service and performed brilliantly for parents in the playground after their final lesson. Our choir sang at Quernmore Christmas Tree Festival and at Hillcroft residential care home.

We welcomed assemblies led by Reverend Scamman from St Paul's and the Muslim learner services on the five pillars of Islam.

On 15th November, we raised £250 for Children in Need.

On 13th December, the whole school was treated to a trip to Mother Goose at Lancaster Grand Theatre. It was an excellent theatre experience for the children and wouldn't be possible without the support of our fabulous PTA.

Our 'reindeer run' in aid of St John's Hospice was great fun. Donning reindeer antlers, even our youngest children ran several laps of the running track and we raised £740 (at time of print) for this very worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who sponsored us.

The PTA's Christmas fair was a wonderful occasion, raising a massive £1500! Thank you to everyone who supported the event in any way. We must give a special mention to Year 5 and 6 for the brilliant electronic games which they made in their DT lessons.

The final week of term was packed with the usual festivities - our Christmas lunch thanks to our wonderful cook, Mrs Jarvis; Christmas parties and of course our fabulous Christmas production, Lights, Camels, Action.

The closing date for applications for a Reception class place in September 2025 is 15th January. Tours of the school are welcomed. Please call the school office on 01524 770104 to make an appointment.

We wish everyone in the community a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2025.

THE OLD POST OFFICE CAFE

Happy new year to all our customers. Thanks for your continued support throughout last year, it was a super busy year thanks to all of you. We really feel part of your community. Here's to 2025, hope you like the changes!! See you soon, Clair & Pablo

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Happy New Year everyone, we have a full year ahead of us beginning with the AGM on January 16th at The Station Hotel, 11am start. You will also receive your new membership cards with details of upcoming visits and get-togethers. We are back at the Station on February 20th at 12 o'clock for a Hot-Pot lunch.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Visits are every three weeks. Caton Station Hotel Car Park. Thurs 2nd Jan 2pm. INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVICE Brookhouse Methodist Hub Car Park Friday 3rd Jan 9:30. To check times the following regularly updated. https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-andwebsite archives/libraries/mobile-library/

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ST PAUL'S CHURCH BROOKHOUSE

You are welcome to come to St Paul's for our services every Sunday at 10am. The first Sunday of the month is All Age Worship, led by the children, and the following Sundays are Communion Services, with Sunday Club for the children (except during school holidays). All are welcome to join us for our services and for refreshments afterwards. If anyone would like to get in contact with the Rev Helen Scamman, the vicar at St Paul's, for conversation, or for a wedding, baptism or funeral, please e-mail vicar@stpaulscaton.org.uk or phone 01524770300.

St Paul's Youth Group 'SPY' meets every fortnight at 4.15 pm in the Church Hall. We will be starting again after Christmas on Thursday, 16th January at 4.15 – 5.45 pm. SPY is open to all those in Year 5 and above. If you would like to come along, please can parents fill in a registration form, available from Helen Scamman at vicar@stpaulscaton.org.uk 07515498860, or to download from our website.

Looking after our beautiful village graveyard

We appreciate that many of you wish to remember loved ones especially at Christmas with tributes and flowers. We would be so grateful if you could ensure that any tributes and flowers are tidied away by the end of January. You may find there is space in our bins. If the bins are full please take your items home, as otherwise our church members have to do so. The green bin is only for organic waste, not wrappers etc. Our next 'Love your Graveyard Day' will be on Saturday, March 22nd, from 10 – 1pm. Do come along, and help us make this a beautiful place to be. The field by the graveyard is used regularly by children. Please make sure that you do not drive cars on this area, so that it keeps the grass for children to play on, and please make sure that you always tidy up after your dog. Thank you so much for helping!

COFFEE MORNINGS AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH

The next Coffee Morning will be at the Parish Hall on the 8th of January 2025 at 10.30. The money raised will go to further development of the Church Hall. As usual there will be a raffle, a quiz, as well as stalls displaying a range of produce at reasonable prices. The Coffee Morning gives people the opportunity to meet friends and neighbours for a chat. You are most welcome to join us for a coffee, tea or cold drink as well as biscuits. The December Coffee Morning was a great success and raised £119.27 for the Church Funds. As well as mince pies, cakes and biscuits there was carol singing to which everyone joined in. Thanks go to everybody who attended and supported this event.

CATON METHODIST CHAPEL HAVE MOVED!

From January all our services and activities will be at The Lune Valley Methodist Hub, Brookhouse.

Weekly Sunday Service 10:30am

Book and Jigsaw Exchange - new time

Saturday 18th January 11am

Browse our great selection of books and jigsaws, have a coffee and donate to charity.

Saturday Soup - Change of date 3rd Saturday of the month.

18th January 12:30pm

£3.00 per person homemade soup and lots of Cake. Everyone Welcome.

Crafts @ Caton

Thursday 30th January 10-12pm

Bring your knitting or crochet and have a chat over a coffee.

Bible Study 7pm

Wednesday 8th and 22nd January

(The 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month)



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CATON BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Alan Wadsworth - Tel 01524 771371 Church Website - catonbaptist.org More details on our website and Facebook page.

We continue to meet for worship on Sundays at 10.30am and 6.30pm. Sunday School during the morning service. We also have crèche facilities available during the morning service. Please also remember if you would like to know more about becoming a Christian and finding new hope in Jesus, or if you have any concerns and worries and would like prayer or a chat you can contact Alan on the above number

Ladies Meeting - We are a friendly group of ladies who meet once a fortnight on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm. Our speakers always bring a devotional message and we all enjoy a cup of tea, coffee and a biscuit afterwards. All ladies from the village and further afield are welcome to join us and transport can be arranged if you need a lift. For any other enquiries or help with any matter phone Judith on 01524 770872. We look forward to seeing you. The dates for this month are: 8th Rev Alan Wadsworth, 22nd. Kim Lee

Crafty Tots is a fortnightly toddler group held in Caton Baptist Church on the dates shown below. Sessions will start at 9:30am until 10:30am and are open to preschool children from the age of 18months+. Come and join us for crafts, stories and singing, with a brew for the mums (and dads). For more information or to book your child's place please email catoncraftytots@gmail.com The cost will be £2.50 per session. The dates for this month are 10th and 24th.

Caton Baptist Church Anniversary.

To celebrate our anniversary this year we have a visit from the Revd Dr Seidel Abel Boanerges renowned lecturer at Spurgeon's College London who will be speaking on the Sat & Sun the 11th & 12th of January Sat evening 6-30pm light refreshments followed by the meeting at 7-00 pm On Sunday Seidel will speak again at 10-30am & 6-30pm Everyone is really welcome to join with us for any or all of these services.

COFFEE MORNING-FUNDRAISER FOR CANCERCARE

Thursday 16th January 10am to 11.30am at Caton Baptist Church. Come and enjoy refreshments and a chat while raising money for a great cause. We are planning for this coffee morning to be a regular monthly event on the third Thursday of the month.

BROOKHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Happy New Year to you all! Now to business: Sunday morning services: 10.45 at the Institute each week; creche and junior church. All very welcome

That old favourite - 'Meet to Eat' - Friday, 17th Jan. 12.30 at the Institute. A little pricier at £6 per person but still fit for a King.

'Tiddleywinks' toddler group starts up again on Thursday, 9th January. 10 - 11.30am at Brookhouse Church Hall. £2.50 per family and definitely not fit for a King, so say Elaine, Jim and Mary

CATHOLIC CHURCH STATION YARD

The Catholic Parish of 'Our Lady Immaculate, Caton', is being looked after by the clergy at the Cathedral Parish in Lancaster. The clergy serving at Caton are:

Rev Fr John Millar (Cathedral Dean); Rev Fr Philip Wrigley; Rev Fr John-Paul Evans If you need to contact the clergy, please email us at: clergy@lancastercathedral.org.uk Website: www.lancastercathedral.org.uk

Normal Parish Weekend Mass times for this area:

Saturday Vigil:

18:00 - Our Lady Immaculate, Caton

18:30 - Cathedral, Lancaster

Sunday:

09:00 - St Mary's, Hornby

09:00 - St Thomas More, Lancaster

10:30 - Cathedral, Lancaster

18:30 - Cathedral, Lancaster

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HORNBY PENSIONERS

Dates for dominoes January - 4th and 18th. Meetings take place in Hornby Institute. For information regarding these events, please contact Eileen Barton on 07780461517 Coffee Morning- Saturday 11 th January This will be a welcome occasion during a lacklustre part of the year. Come along and chat with friends, a good chance to catch up over a cup of coffee. Raffle prizes will be welcome plus any donations to the produce stall.

HORNBY DISTRICT RAMBLERS

11th January - 4-6 miles (Jenny H). Meet at Hornby Car Park to leave at 9:30 prompt - or at parking area for start of walk. Contribution towards fuel costs for car sharing: £3 for shorter distance; £4 for a longer distance. Chair Jenny Herd (015242 21690)

BURNS NIGHT - 18th JANUARY

Have you got your ticket yet for the best village night in January? At the moment we do still have some tickets left and we don't want you to miss out! Contact tricia@marybankfarm.uk to ensure you are on the list. £30 per head for a classic haggis supper, with vegan and gluten free options available followed by (brief!) traditional Burns Night speeches and, most importantly, a lively evening of dancing accompanied and Called by Caton Folk Band. A tot of whisky to toast the haggis is included and all other drinks are Bring Your Own. There will be a raffle and a Whisky Roll competition. All profits will be used to pay for the children's travel on our visit to France in April 2025. Also, our excellent chefs prepare the food in return for a donation to St John's Hospice.

TWINNING TRIP TO SOCX - 3rd to 6th APRIL 2025

Our friends in Socx are already planning our weekend visit next year. Leaving here early on Thursday and returning on Sunday, we travel door-to-door by coach and ferry to be hosted and entertained by the villagers of Socx. Please do let me know if you want to join us - the cost per adult will be a maximum of £150, but the price will be reduced if we have more adults. The more the merrier and the cheaper! As in previous years children under 16 will be subsidised as much as we possibly can, we have been able to offer free places for all before and hope to do so again. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The date has been chosen to enable the children to attend school in France for a day - a truly educational trip. A deposit of £25 per adult secures your place - to be paid by 14th February. I can assure you that you will be delighted that you came, Twinning is a wonderful experience, so many long term friendships have been made - both within the village and internationally. tricia@marybankfarm.uk for more information and to secure your seat.

GROW CATON

Happy New Year and may this be a veggieful and fruitful year for us all. I must confess that I have not yet made my sowing choices or planned the rotation for this year. I seem to have moved to growing the same tried and trusted veggies each year now, as some of the more exotic trials have not quite lived up to expectations, neither for the growing nor the eating. My 'growing in straw' experiment last year did not go well either, so we'll be back to good old soil this year. I will be buying potatoes at the annual 'potato day' in Lancaster on 25th of January (10am-3pm Friends Meeting House, Lancaster) where you can buy many varieties at around 20p per potato. I'm not sure where we will buy onion sets with all local sources disappearing and welcome any suggestions for sellers. Last month Anne held a 'canning' workshop on preserving vegetables and meat in glass jars which was very interesting. She showed not just her skill, but also her knowledge of all the safety issues surrounding this. Do get in touch with her if you would like to know more (Anne 771470). Brigitte has continued to collect end of date food to share through Olio, and apparently shared 175 kg food and stopped it going to landfill last month. A fair bit of this has gone to people from outside the village, it would be great to keep this rescued food local. If you, or anyone near you, would appreciate some free food, then do consider requesting it via the free Olio App. New items are added Wednesday and Friday around 9pm by 'Bee'. For help with any questions on installing or verifying the App, contact Brigitte (770771) or email growcaton@outlook.com.

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