

LINK

ISSUE FOR JUNE 2020

THE LINK AND COVID - 19 (CORONA VIRUS)

The distribution of 'The Link' in May worked very well, helped by the fine weather which meant that the copies left outside did not get wet! Given that circumstances are changing very slowly we will again use this method for distributing the June edition.

This copy of your Link may not be the paper version you usually receive. Some paper copies will be distributed through the villages and others will be deposited at the Co-op, Post Office and other premises for you to collect as you are going about your essential business.

We thank all the local shops and businesses who have agreed to help in this way.

You will also be aware that many of the clubs and groups in the village have suspended meetings for the time being. Please keep in touch with other members of your group for further information. They may have sent you this Link via e-mail. The editor will have passed the copy to them for onward distribution, to comply with Data Protection Rules. The editor does not have access to any other e-mail addresses. You will also see that the content is rather different. We hope that you find something of interest within the pages.

The 'Link' team wish you and all your families and friends well at this difficult time.

Please Keep Safe.

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk:- Gill Mason - 07882 949110. E-mail - catonparishcouncil@gmail.com

GRASS CUTTING - Because of the current emergency, Lancaster City Council staff are not cutting grass in the village. This includes Fell View and the verges. The Parish Clerk will ask them to collect the clippings when they do the first cut of the season - whenever that may be - as otherwise the clippings will make an awful mess.

LITTER AND WEEDS - It is great that so many people are helping look after the area by picking up litter during their daily walks. Please keep up the good work! And a thank you as well to our many responsible dog walkers for cleaning up after their pet. Please do what you can to keep the pavements and gutters near your home clear of weeds. When it rains heavily, unobstructed gutters get the water to the drains more easily.

PC MEETINGS - The Parish Council was able to "meet" in May, using Zoom. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9th June. We expect it will be held using Zoom again, and local residents can still take part online - contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested.

CORONAVIRUS: THANK YOU TO LOCAL WORKERS

Many residents would like to thank the staff of local shops, the pharmacy and the Victoria Institute for their exceptional service to the community during the lockdown period and whatever follows it. We felt that a gift of money would be appropriate so they can treat themselves to something they would like. The Parish Council has agreed to administer a collection. Donations can be made by cheque or cash at the Victoria Institute (when it reopens), or by sending cheques to the Parish Clerk, Gill Mason, at 21 Maplewood Avenue, Preesall, FY6 0PU. Cheques payable to Caton-with-Littledale Parish Council.

WAVECREST

Hi - just a note to say we are thinking of you. We are missing all our customers (friends) very much. And we wanted to let you know that as soon as the Government allows us we will be back to work and working round the clock to see you all again. We hope very much that you and your families have kept safe through this awful time. Lets hope we can all get back to normal very soon and we will be doing your hair again and chatting with you as soon as is possible. Stay Safe. Much love Zoe and Tina xxxxx

PAINTING GROUP

It will be a long time before we will be able to meet again. Hope you are all keeping safe and well during lockdown. Perhaps lots of extra time for painting! At least the weather has been brilliant. Take care. Ruth.

LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE

www.catonvillage.org.uk

 Linking Caton and Brookhouse
www.facebook.com/catonbrookhouse

Baptist Church Artlebeck Bridge

10.30 am:

*Morning Service and
Sunday School*

6.30 pm: *Evening Service*

Brookhouse Methodist Church Brookhouse Road

10.45 am:

*Morning Service and
Junior Church*

7.00 pm: *Evening Service*

Caton Methodist Brookhouse Road

10.30 am:

*Morning Service and
Junior Church*

Catholic Church Station Yard

Holy Mass

Saturday Evening 6.00pm

Holydays of Obligation

*Mass on eve of Holyday at
6.00pm*

St Paul's C of E Brookhouse

*Sunday Communion
Service 9.30am*

*All Age Worship, read
and led by children – 1st
Sunday of the month*

*Sunday Club in the Church
Hall, all term time
Sundays except 1st
Sunday of month*

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CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The message to all our members is to follow the information from the government on social isolating and distancing while the corona 19 virus is still virulent.

This has had devastating effects on our club whose main aim is to promote the very opposite.

As I reported in the May issue all our coach trips have been cancelled for this year. That would take this year's programme to October. We have a committee meeting arranged for the 29th of October which may have to be by 'phone or e.mail. Decisions on the November hot pot and the Christmas party will be confirmed then. Any comments to me by 'phone from our members would be very welcome and helpful.

In the meantime please continue sending in your recipes and funny stories to support the 'Link' Our Secretary's phone number is 01524 771943

CATON THEATRE INTEREST GROUP

We are all aware the theatres have been advised to close down. Social distancing would be impossible. As we reported in the May issue we have had a full refund into our account from the Theatre by the Lake in Keswick for 'Evita'. As soon as we are able we will be contacting people with their refunds.

The Octagon Theatre in Bolton cancelled the September showing of the West-end hit comedy 'One Man Two Governors'. They have provisionally booked us in for Saturday 26th of June 2021.

Following our very successful pantomime visit this year to the Grand Theatre Blackpool for 'Peter Pan'. We immediately booked the same seats for a matinee performance of 'Snow White' on January 2nd 2021. We await further information before making any decisions on the booking.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our theatre lovers for their patience and understanding in these difficult times. Please take care and stay safe.

For further information please call Jean on 01524 770980 or Benita on 01524 771943

LOCAL SAUNTERINGS

More Local Saunterings
At the time of writing (May 11th), we are apparently allowed to drive somewhere to walk – but people living where we might wish to drive to don't want us there. So we might be better advised to continue to walk locally for exercise – in which case the items recently added to the Saunterings blog (listed below) might be of interest. The blog can be read at <http://www.drakkar.co.uk/Saunterings.html> and probably accessed by just Googling 'saunterings'.

- The latest items are
- Gray's Seat and the View from the Crook o'Lune
 - A Loop along Littledale Lanes
 - The Tarn Brook Heronry
 - Bluebells and Going Round the Lune Bend
 - Around the Claughton Clay Pit
 - The Lune Millennium Park Artworks
 - Tracking the Thirlmere Aqueduct
 - The Littledale Cuckoos are Back!

THE EDWARD & ALICE COTTAM TRUSTS

The Trustees are aware that having invited members of the community to make applications to the Edward and Alice Cottam trust funds the impact of the restrictions caused by the coronavirus is likely to affect people's ability to obtain the application forms.

If you would like to apply and are unable to get to the Post Office to pick up an application form, you are welcome to contact Emma Edwards at BSG Solicitors LLP 3 & 4 Aalborg Square, Lancaster LA1 1 BJ directly who deals with the administration of the Trust Funds on behalf of the Trustees. Where possible, can you please use her e-mail eje@bsgaw.co.uk or telephone on 01524 386500.

The Trustees are required to use the trust income for the benefit of:

'poor and deserving persons aged 50 years or over who have resided within the parish of Caton with Littledale in the County of Lancaster for at least five years and are still resident at the date of the application'.

These charities are open all year round and the Trustees welcome applications for funds at any time from anyone who considers that they fulfil the above criteria (taken from the wording in the Wills of the late Edward and Alice Cottam) and also any organisations where the majority of its members fulfil the criteria.

With best wishes to you all.

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VICTORIA INSTITUTE

The Victoria Institute remains closed, due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Council of Management is awaiting further information and instruction from the Government, regarding the easing of the lockdown, before any decision can be made concerning reopening of the Institute. The Trustees are looking forward to the time, when the many regular groups and customers, can return to the Victoria Institute. The Council of Management continues to hold its monthly meetings using 'Zoom' to conduct the business of running the Institute.

Two Swift boxes have been fitted to the front of the Institute, thanks to the Lune Valley Swift Group. We are hope that boxes will be occupied in the not too distant future.

During this time, Peter Collins (the Community Support Worker), is coordinating the efforts, on behalf of the Community Pandemic Support Group, to provide help and support to the residents of Caton with Littledale and North Quernmore and in some cases Hornby & Halton.

Update on the Community Pandemic Support Group - We have over fifty volunteers, (this includes seven befrienders), the majority living within the parish. The selection of volunteers, tends to be based upon the geography of the person who has requested the help and regular callers tend to be paired with the same volunteer whenever possible. Over thirty volunteers are being called upon on a daily basis to provide the service. Some of the volunteers have developed direct contact with the clients, and are providing a regular service to them.

Due to the kindness of some of our volunteers, we are able to deliver the service to people who live outside the parish. Boots pharmacy in Caton and the Queen Street Medical practice continue to recommended people to use the service. People are so appreciative of the service and cannot thank everyone enough.

During the past six weeks the service has delivered: -

- Over 130 prescriptions have been collected and delivered to people's homes
- More than 40 essential shopping trips have been made and delivered to homes
- Other requests for help and information

Special thanks goes to all of the volunteers for their help and support. They have been truly outstanding.

If you are struggling with shopping or prescription collection or have another problem and you don't know where to turn, we are here for you. Call us now, what are you waiting for?

The service can be accessed via the Victoria Institute telephone number: - 01524 771733, the phone number has been redirected and the email is being monitored, whilst the Institute is closed.

Available services: -

- Prescription collection and delivery
- Shopping collection and delivery
- Befriender service

Hours that the service is available:-

- Normal business hours, 9:30am – 3:00pm Monday to Friday, available outside business hours if required

Geographical area covered: -

- Parish boundaries of Caton with Littledale and North Quernmore and Lune Valley if required

The Council of Management would like to thank Peter Collins for all his hard work in coordinating the service, and for all the extra time that he is giving in order to make sure everyone is being cared for.

LUNE VALLEY SWIFT GROUP

Having flown over 5,000 miles from southern Africa, our Swifts have now returned here to nest, some welcome news in difficult times.

These fabulous birds can be seen around the village from May to early August. They look a little like Swallows, but are larger with longer, crescent-shaped wings. They often fly at high speed around buildings in groups known as 'screaming parties', for reasons that become obvious the minute you spot them!

Swifts have been declining due to a lack of suitable cavities high up on buildings in which to nest, and so, with the help of local residents and the expertise of builder Andrew Hill, we have been working to install nest boxes on houses and community buildings around the village, including the Victoria Institute.

Over the coming months we may not be able to travel too far from home, but Swifts can be spotted from gardens or on local walks, with warm evenings a particularly good time to keep an eye on the sky. If you spot Swifts or are interested in installing a Swift nest box, please let us know. Help us to make sure these amazing birds remain a feature of our summer skies.

lunevalleyswifts@gmail.com

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THE FLOWER by Welsh Christian poet R. S. Thomas

I asked for riches
You gave me the earth, the sea
the immensity
of the broad sky. I looked at them
and learned I must withdraw
to possess them. I gave my eyes
and my ears, and dwelt
in a soundless darkness
in the shadow
of your regard.
The soul
grew in me, filling me
with its fragrance.
Men came
to me from the four
winds to hear me speak
of the unseen flower by which
I sat, whose roots were not
in the soil, nor its petals the colour
of the wide sea; that was
its own species with its
sky over it, shot
with the rainbow of your coming and going.

A poem by Dorothy Brennand, member of Caton Methodist Church.

You never know the out come
When you start a brand new day
The day looks bright and sunny
Then sadness can quickly cross our way.

Soon family and friends are on the phone
And neighbours smile and wave
They offer you a helping hand
Which helps you feel more brave.

We can all feel sad and lonely
With the lockdown still in place
But our loving God and Saviour
Gives to us His Peace and Grace.

And whatever trials come our way
And we feel bowed down with care
We know God walks beside us
When we call on Him in prayer.

POETRY PAGE

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HORNBY DISTRICT RAMBLERS

All walks have been cancelled until further notice.

HORNBY PENSIONERS

Alas, we have had to cancel our trips planned for June & July, because of the ongoing lockdown. This also means that the July Coffee Morning will not take place, and the Games Evenings continue to be cancelled. We are very sorry to disappoint our loyal members in this way. We hope that you are all keeping safe & well, and that we will see you all again before too long.

ARCHERS OF DOLPHINHOLME

Archers of Dolphinholme will resume shooting in the village when our governing body and the government advice permits- this is likely to be shooting in the wood in the first instance, with Hall shooting resuming for members when feasible with social distancing. Beginners coaching is likely to be after this due to the close proximity needed.

Check the Archers of Dolphinholme Field Archers Facebook page for latest updates.

THE JOYS OF ELECTRIC BIKES & TRIKES.

Many of my friends are quite keen cyclists. In recent years more and more have been doing the previously unthinkable and have bought an electric bike. They have all been delighted that they are able to get to the top of the hills now without undue pressure on their knees and they can keep up with their friends.

A few years ago I had to abandon my bike because I kept falling off. I treated myself to an electric trike. Unless you have very strong legs, it is too hilly round here to manage a non electric trike. I had a very scary half hour learning to concentrate on steering instead of balancing but once I got the hang of it I loved it.

Trikes are wider and heavier than bikes, more difficult to store and very difficult to transport but once you are used to them they feel much more stable. Cars tend to give them a wide berth. You have to peddle hard to get up hills but each push on the pedal takes you a bit further and faster and I can even climb up to the windmills and to Little Cragg. I don't like going fast. Coming down hill you can switch my motor to recharge and that really slows me down on steep hills.

People often ask me how far I can go on one charge. It all depends- on how steep the hills are and on how hard I pedal. If I pedal very hard I need less assistance. I have been 35 kilometers in hilly country on one battery. I now carry a back up battery if I go out for the day.

The trike comes into it's own in the better weather. Mine has been a great boon for exercise during the lockdown. If you would like to know more do stop me or phone Sue on 771559.

LUNE VALLEY PRE SCHOOL CENTRE – CLOSURE END OF SUMMER TERM

Our Pre School is a charity, run by trustees and largely funded by payments from Lancashire County Council through the government's free childcare scheme.

Over the last few years, the numbers of children attending Pre School have dropped and the costs have risen, and not been met by government childcare grants. For some years we have been running at a loss, and have survived by using up our savings. We hoped to build up the numbers of children and become viable once again. However it is now clear that we can't do this. Therefore the trustees have decided that the Pre School must close at the end of the summer term 2020 (21st July).

As we are a charity we have to go through a formal process in order to dissolve our organisation. A public meeting has to be held to ratify the decision to close, and local residents are invited to attend. It will be held on Monday 8 June at 7pm, either in the Victoria Institute or via video link. If you would like to come to the meeting, please inform Pre School on lunevalleypreschool@gmail.com or ring 07751907358 and we'll inform you of arrangements nearer the time.

The trustees are so sorry that we haven't been able to keep our lovely Pre School going. We're really grateful to Anne-Marie, Sarah and Jordie who have worked so hard and cheerfully and created such a calm and happy place for the children.

VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB

Greetings to all my friends in the village lunch club. I hope you are keeping well and coping OK with the lock down. I hope you have been able to enjoy the glorious weather and the Spring flowers. I look forward to the day when we can all meet again.

If you feel you want a chat you can call 01524 771559. Sue Brown

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Merry sing cuckoo!

Cuckoo, cuckoo!

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SUMMER PASTORAL SERVICE FOR THE VILLAGE at

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, BROOKHOUSE

Due to the current coronavirus situation it has been decided to cancel the Summer Pastoral service.

The service was due to take place on the 7th of July. It is very disappointing, but we felt we had no alternative.

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CATON ST PAUL'S CHURCH

St Paul's virtual church - each Sunday whilst our church building is closed, we will be meeting as a church online at 9.30am using Zoom.

We would love for you to join us, if you would like details of how to take part please contact Rev Paul on 01524 770300 or revpaulboulter@gmail.com.

ST MARY'S PARISH (HORNBY) with OUR LADY'S CATON

Tel: 0152421246. Parish Priest: Canon Luiz Ruscillo.

Although our churches are closed at present daily Mass at 9am and Sunday Mass at 11am are being celebrated at St Mary's. These can be joined via our website www.lunevalleycatholics.org.uk where you will find more information and reflections.

CATON BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Alan Wadsworth. 01524 771371.

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus epidemic we are sad that our church is still unable to be open for worship. However every Sunday and also during the week pastor Alan gives a short, relevant, meaningful and encouraging word. To access this visit YouTube - just type in Caton Baptist Church and it will come up. If you would like just to have a chat with Alan please do feel free to give him a call.

CATON METHODIST CHAPEL

Unfortunately we do not know when we will be reopen, but look forward to the day we do, we are all keeping in touch with each other and our craft club are busy at home making various items.

We were very sad to be unable to celebrate our 184th Anniversary at the beginning of the month, this was going to be a 'Songs of Praise' led by our Minister Rev Andrew Champley accompanied on our Pipe organ by his wife Ruth Champley with supper afterward, this is always a great evening with many visitors coming to enjoy the singing.

The Methodist Society at Caton was created in 1799 with 15 members growing to 70 members by 1831, the cost of the land in which the chapel now stands was £20.00 and the Chapel opened in 1836.

In 1875 a gallery was erected at a cost of £135 the chapel was reopened on the 18th September 1875.

Before the present organ was installed in 1894 the instrumental music was supplied by a choir and a bass fiddle played by Richard Heaps.

Extracts from the book 'The story of Methodism in Caton' written in 1936 by H W Baker for the centenary of the chapel.

Stay safe, keep well.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

Please find below some links to some of the local churches and their activities.

Caton Baptist youtube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcbeHa6he8gA6QCQoKVRujg>

Caton Baptist Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/Caton-Baptist-Church-353898628118923/>

Brookhouse Methodist Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/212957269817153/>

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH BLESSING

If there is righteousness in the heart

There will be beauty in the character

If there is beauty in the character

There will be harmony in the home

If there is harmony in the home

There will be order in the nation

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I know a bank where the wild thyme blows,
Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows,
Quite overcanopied with luscious woodbine
With sweet musk-roses and with eglantine
There sleeps Titania sometime of the night
Lulled in these flowers with dances and delight:

And there the snake throws his enamelled skin

Weed wide enough to wrap a fairy in.

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B4RN HYPERFAST BROADBAND

We're on Facebook at www.facebook.com/b4rn4candb and our website is at b4rn.catonvillage.org.uk

BROOKHOUSE NEWS - We are still helping home owners dig in their ducting across their gardens and advise on fitting house kits during this time following the guidelines set. Bear in mind some properties already have an orange 7mm tube for you to aim for at the property boundary. Please contact your local volunteer for more information and materials or email b4rn4bn@gmail.com

B4RN continue to connect properties. If you haven't yet registered an interest then please sign up at <https://b4rn.org.uk> and click on get B4RN.

CATON NEWS - Have you struggled working from home/entertaining kids/home schooling during lockdown with woefully inadequate broadband? B4RN, full fibre to the property, 1 gigabyte (upload and download) broadband is the answer!

Planning for Caton is quietly going on in the background, even during the COVID-19 lockdown. However, B4RN would like to see a high level of interest in the village before committing to rolling out. PLEASE, go here; <https://bit.ly/catoneoi> and register your interest. You can fill in the form again, even if you think you may have done it in the past.

VILLAGE WEBSITE

Our village website is now managed by Matt McCabe of Bay Tech. In order to make it easier to keep the software running the website up-to-date, Matt is rewriting the website in Wordpress, maintaining the functionality of the current website and transferring the content. People who upload events, news and photos at present will need to reregister when the new website is up and running. Once the current restrictions have ended, the web administrator will contact those businesses and organisations currently listed on the website and ask them to update their information. We will also use The Link and the village Facebook to invite more local businesses and organisations to add their information to our Directory.

OBITUARY

DERGES - Brian Derges, formerly of Caton, sadly died at Lytham St Anne's on April 26th 2020, shortly before his 86th Birthday, after a four week fight with Coronavirus. When a young man Brian served his country in the Royal Air Force, joining Her Majesty's Inland Revenue when he left, which he remained with until he retired. Brian was a Parish Councillor for Caton and an active member of the RAFA. The funeral was held at St Paul's Church Caton on May 14th. A widower since 2016 Brian will be much missed by his son, grandson, nieces and friends. The family currently intends to hold a memorial service for Brian at St Paul's once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WIGMORE - Sarah, Barry and Jessica would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support following the death of dearly loved father and grandfather, Keith Wigmore. Keith had lived in the village since 1969. The family plan to hold a memorial service at a later date.

WALKER - Isabel, Carolyn and Helen would like to express sincere thanks for all the lovely cards, flowers, and generous donations received in Donald's memory to the Lewy Body Society.

THE LINK

As we are still uncertain of the position regarding the continuation of 'lockdown', the July edition may still require poetry, recipes and reflections - please put your thinking caps on.

If we are moving towards a relaxation in the rules then clubs and business will need to let the villages know of the new arrangements. Therefore please send any details of any plans you may have for limited opening to the editor by 15th June.

As you will be aware there is no Link in August, therefore our intention is that we should return to normal by the September edition.

If we are unable to distribute a paper edition we will distribute the June and July editions by the same method we have used in May. Keep Safe.

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