

# **ISSUE FOR OCTOBER 2020**

#### LINK DELIVERIES

Two stalwart members of our delivery team have decided that after many years of delivering the Link, now is the time to "retire".

John Frankland of Sycamore Road and Cath Siddall of Ashcroft have both delivered the Link to neighbours in their respective areas. Many thanks to them both for their contribution over many years on behalf of the Link team and their local communities.

We are very fortunate to have already found a replacement for John and he will pick up the delivery of 90 copies in the Sycamore area of Brookhouse. We would be very pleased to hear from a volunteer in the Ashcroft area to deliver 24 copies of the Link each month. If you are able to do this please get in touch with Marilyn and Alan Davis on 01524 771146 or 07855 157951.

# **PARISH COUNCIL**

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

COUNCILLORS - Councillor Paine has stood down as Chairman and as a councillor. We thank him for the work he has done for the Parish Council and for the village as a whole. There are now two vacancies on the Parish Council. They can be filled by co-option, without waiting for next Parish Council elections. Any resident (over 18) who would like to take part in the work of the PC is welcome to come along and observe a PC meeting and then apply to be co-opted, if they wish. Contact the Clerk for more information.

STATION FIELD AND THE CATON SPORTS ASSOCIATION - After discussions between the PC and the CSA, a statement should appear in the November issue of The Link.

HEDGES - Now we are into autumn it is a good time to plan to cut back hedges and bushes alongside roads and pavements. Hedges must not obstruct pedestrians or other users of our roads and pavements. If you don't deal with problem hedges and bushes, the Parish Clerk may contact you to ask you formally to do this. In the worst cases, the local council can cut them back and charge the house-owner. Let's make sure we don't get to that point!

POLLINATOR/WILDFLOWER PATCHES AND GRASS CUTTING - Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this discussion. The Parish Clerk continues to press Lancaster City Council to resume routine grass cutting in accordance with our contract, so we look tidier this autumn. The Parish Council recognizes that some grassed areas need to be kept short for informal ball games, such as Fell View. Other areas such as Beckside could be developed to be more wildlife-friendly. We're going to work out plans over the next few months on how to do this, and hope to get started on the work next autumn.

ROAD SAFETY - The Parish Council has asked Lancashire Highways for more double yellow lines at Crook o'Lune, and been refused. We're also trying to get traffic and speed censuses done. We're looking into getting solar-powered Speed Indicator Devices in the hope that these will encourage drivers to observe the speed limits.

TREE ON STATION ROAD - There is a sycamore tree on Station Road, close to the telephone exchange. It is causing problems to neighbours, is tangled in the phone wires and is spreading into Station Road. The Parish Council is getting prices to have it removed.

FOOTPATH ALONGSIDE THE ARTLEBECK FROM BROOKHOUSE ROAD TO HORNBY ROAD. This was lost in Storm Desmond, five years ago, and hasn't been reinstated. The Parish Council is working with Lancashire County Council and the Peak and Northern Footpath Society to see how this can be restored. We will need support from residents.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** is scheduled for Tuesday 13th October. It is not yet clear whether it will be held via Zoom or in person; please contact the Parish Clerk for more information

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Linking Caton and Brookhouse

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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

Copy & Communications Copy by 15th of the month to the Editor:

Anne Jackson, Old Hall Barn, Brookhouse Rd. Brookhouse. Tel. 771551. E-mail: catonlink@talktalk.net

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#### CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The message from our committee is stay safe and well. We will keep you up to date with any changes to our meetings and events.

Just to confirm that our programme for 2020 is cancelled.

We hope to hold our A.G.M on the 21st of January 2021 at 2pm in the Victoria Institute.

It has been accepted that the 2020 programme and membership cards will be rolled over to 2021 making small changes to the dates. There will be free membership for all paid up members. The fee for new members will be £5.00.

We have all missed meeting up with our friends in the social settings of our events and day trips out. Our main concern has to be the safety of our members, we will be back as soon as circumstances allow. Until then stay safe and well and watch this space.

For any further information call our secretary, Benita on 01524 771943

# **CATON THEATRE INTEREST GROUP**

We are very sorry that this year's theatre visits are cancelled. All refunds for 'Evita' at The Theatre by the Lake in Keswick have now been distributed.

The Octagon theatre in Bolton has reserved seats for us on 26th June 2021 for 'One man two governors' we have fingers crossed.

We will watch carefully any news on theatre openings and look forward to seeing you all again soon. Stay safe and well.

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

#### VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB

Greetings to all my friends in the village lunch club. I hope you are keeping well and coping OK with the new restrictions. I look forward to the day in the distant future when we can all meet again. In the mean time the pubs are open and we are allowed to meet in very small groups. If you would like to be put in touch with one or 2 people interested in eating out locally or if you would just like a chat you can call 01524 771559. Sue Brown

#### **CATON LEISURE CLUB**

We know how important our meetings are to you. The committee met recently and discussed plans to bring back the meetings in the New Year, however we are unable to take our usual time slot on Monday's in the Sir Thomas Storey Room but have booked Tuesday's starting on the 12th January 1.30-3.30 in the Main Hall. This was due to the maximum capacity of the rooms and having to observe social distancing.

We are also hoping to reinstate our trip to Ripon and have booked with Bibby's for 11th May 2021.

We have contacted our members individually to update them via email and post. Thank you to all of those who have given us their email address which has made things so much easier.

We now also have a dedicated email address sec.leisureclub.gmail.com to contact us or call Susan on 01524 771862

These are strange and difficult times. We think we have got things sorted then overnight things change. We are sure that you will all appreciate that it is really difficult to confirm any plans and that they might have to change quite suddenly.

The Chair Exercises continue on their usual Monday timeslot 9.00 -10.00 and are well attended with everyone enjoying the social aspect in addition to the physical exercises. Classes remain excellent value at £2.00 per class.

Short Mat Bowls returns on Wednesday 7th October 10.00-12.00 contact David for any information on 01524 812342

Look after yourselves, keep safe and we hope to see you all soon.

#### WI IS BACK!

Having canvassed our members, the majority of whom were keen to meet others, and as we understand that we are allowed to meet in the Victoria Institute which is Covid compliant provided we follow all the rules regarding social distancing and wearing masks, we are really pleased to announce that the WI will meet again on Thursday 1st October at 7.30pm in the Victoria Institute. Unfortunately we will not be able to use the kitchen so if you would like to bring your own refreshments that evening you are welcome to do so. We have not arranged for a speaker as we thought we would have too much to talk about but if there is a lull in conversation I may organise a fun quiz!!!!

Hope to see you there. Ruth Gibbons, President.

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#### VICTORIA INSTITUTE

Since the reopening of the Institute for its room hire, a number of our regular groups have returned, whilst others have made the decision to delay their return for the time being. We are currently discussing phase 2 of the reopening, this will include the drop-in services such as the Library and IT.

## COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

The Council of Management continues to hold its monthly meetings to conduct the business of running the Institute. Thanks to the tremendous support from the Cottam Trust and the Co-op 1% fund, we have been able to have new flooring laid in the Cottam room, Victoria room and the Library/IT room.

Refunds for tickets bought for the cancelled VE Day commemoration at the Institute, can be made by contacting Peter.

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Victoria Institute Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday 2nd November at 4.00pm. Given that the Covid situation changes quite quickly it maybe that we will have to hold the AGM via Zoom. We will give an update in November's edition of 'The Link' and also on social media. A notice will also be posted on the VI notice board outside. As we don't know what the restrictions on numbers attending will be at the time, can you please let Peter know if you intend to attend the meeting together with your contact details.

Although still mainly working from home, Peter Collins, our Community Support Worker, is also spending some time at the Institute helping the groups and carrying out other duties. In addition, Peter is continuing to co-ordinate the efforts of the Caton and Brookhouse Community Pandemic Support Group.

## UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY PANDEMIC SUPPORT GROUP

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. Since the start of the lockdown, the team has delivered the service to over 400 calls.

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

#### CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB

Hello everyone, Keep cheerful. The Gardening Club will be back. After 138 years of existence a virus is not going to deter us.

This month, October, we would have been having a talk by our very own Nygel Harrot on Gardening by Moonlight. Not only a talk but plenty of Nygels own jokes and even some of his 3-D pictures of flowers with us in the audience wearing special glasses! A sad loss of a good evening but never mind - Nygel has agreed to postpone for a year. So it is something to look forward to next year when we will be back and hopefully all immunised. Good luck and health to our scientists who are working on the vaccine projects.

News of interest from the RHS includes a citizen science project enlisting gardeners to help SUE provide early warning signs of what may become invasive plants of the future. Via 'Plant Alert' (call Graham if you want help with this) gardeners can report ornamental plants that are showing BRIDGES signs of invasiveness. Ornamental plants escaping from the garden are the main pathway for nonnative plants outnumbering native

British flora. One such plant already reported is Mimulus Guttatus, the yellow monkey flower. From personal experience we are not surprised. Our mimulus came in accidentally with another 01524 68811 plant we bought. Jane now describes it as a nightmare!

#### FIRST SATURDAY WORK PARTY

Residents are getting together on the first Saturday of each month to pick up litter and generally tidy up the village.

Meet at the car park next to Boots in Caton at 10.00, weather permitting. Bags and litter pickers provided – you decide how much time to give. Residents working together have already tackled roadside gutters along Brookhouse Road/Beckside, and last Saturday's volunteers cleared Boots car park, Station Road, and around the Memorial Garden/Institute. The difference was huge!

Where else in the village needs a tidy up? If you know of any areas needing some attention, please get in touch with Peter Collins, Community Support Worker, on the Victoria Institute number of 771733.

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#### A NEW TERM AT CATON ST PAUL'S

It has been wonderful to welcome our children back to school this September: school seems its usual vibrant, happy self. Parents have been brilliant following the guidance to keep their children safe and we are managing to make things feel as normal as possible.

Although we weren't able to hold face-to-face parents' meetings, arrangements were put in place for a virtual meet-the-parents evening which seemed a great success.

We welcome our new Headteacher, Mr Ian Gittins, who joins us from Bolton-le-Sands: look out for him on the playground before and after school.

We are now in the window for applying for Primary School places for a September 2021 start. We aren't able to hold our usual open day, but we are offering visits round the school, led by Mr Gittins, for one parent at a time, and their child. If you would like to come and see what our wonderful school has to offer, please ring 01524 770241 to book an appointment: we would love to see you. To apply for a school place, please visit https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/

Our extra-curricular clubs are now up-and-running, with children enjoying a wide range of experiences to enrich their time here. We have also re-opened our Wraparound Care Club (WAC club) which offers before and after school care from 8:00am to 5:50pm.

#### **CATON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Our children had a magical return to school in September with a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory themed week. They each received hand-delivered golden tickets beforehand and enjoyed bringing them to school on their first morning back. Thanks to Alan and Janice, our neighbours, for making our fabulous Wonka arch which looked amazing as our families approached school along Broadacre.

We are managing to keep school safe but as friendly and nurturing as ever in this new climate, operating in two bubbles.

Our large sports hall is still available for hire (subject to government guidelines) and is cleaned thoroughly after each use. We also have a pleasant meeting room with Wifi available to hire separately. Contact the school office for more information.

Raising funds for school through social events is a challenge at this moment in time but our PTA is not deterred! It is organising a car treasure hunt which can be enjoyed at any time between 9th and 16th October. It starts in Caton and finishes in Kirkby Lonsdale, taking in some lovely villages en route. The cost is £10 per car with a prize for the winners. If you would like to take part in this enjoyable and Covid-safe event, please contact Tracey Howarth on 01524 770104.

It's an event for all ages and we would be really grateful for the community's support.

# CATON BAPTIST CHURCH ANNUAL BONFIRE AND FIREWORK DISPLAY.

Please note that we will NOT be holding our annual bonfire night celebrations due to the ongoing corvid restrictions.

Every year we raise money at different events for local good causes, this year we are supporting Parkinson's UK and the good work they are doing for the many people who suffer as a result of having Parkinson's. This year we will be giving the normal amount we spend on fireworks for this worthy cause. If anyone would like to help in supporting this charity then please get in touch with Pastor Alan -01524771371

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# HORNBY DISTRICT RAMBLERS

All walks have been cancelled until further notice.

### HORNBY PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

### **Activities Update**

We have had a good response from members supporting our October trip to Swaledale. We had hoped this would lead on to some sort of programme of winter events. Alas, at the time of writing, that is looking increasingly unlikely. We shall, of course, continue to study the virus statistics & advice. When the situation improves, we will contact you all through the Village Newsletters with details of future activities. In the meantime, take care & stay safe. - Annie Stephens (Social Secretary).

# LUNE VALLEY SWIMMING POOL

Open again, come and join us!

Pleased to report that the LVSC pool re-opening has been extremely well supported by the local community and we are delighted to have welcomed so many people in the first few weeks.-Both new faces and old friends.

The restrictions placed upon us to ensure staff and customer safety have brought about several operational changes but we are very pleased by the response to our revised protocols and we hope even more of you will come along and swim with us in the near future.

Please remember to book in advance because numbers are limited and some sessions may be over-subscribed. If in doubt take a look at our LVCS pool website, check out the revised operating guidelines and the new timetables.

Current advice from Swim England can be found on their website - "Club activity and swimming lessons will be able to continue as previously as they are taking place in Covid-secure environments operating within the Swim England guidelines. All other pool activity can also continue but people should not travel to pools socially in groups of more than six"

The financial impact of the Covid 19 closure and lifestyle restrictions are of course an additional economic burden at this time but we have applied for additional funding to assist and are hopeful that this will be granted. Meanwhile we are very grateful for generous voluntary donations received from Wray Methodist Church and Kieron Basset Financial Services of Morecambe

Be assured that we will do all we can within the bounds of legality, health, safety and received wisdom to meet the current challenges to keep the pool operational and provide a welcoming and beneficial experience for everyone.

Take care, keep safe.

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## HORNBY LUNESDALE PROBUS CLUB.

In view of latest government legislation regarding the Covid 19 Pandemic Lunesdale Probus club will not be holding any face-to-face meetings until the new year.

However. in order to maintain contact with the membership monthly 'Zoom' meetings are planned for October, November and December and details of speakers and subjects will be circulated as and when confirmed.

This is not going to beat us and we will do all we can within the bounds of safety, legality and received wisdom to meet the current challenges and plan for the future continuity of our club accordingly.

Guests and new member enquiries are always welcome.

For further information please contact - Roger Carter, Hon.Secretary Lunesdale Probus Club. 015242 22283.

### 'THE PHOENIX PROJECT'

A new visual arts mental health & wellbeing programme

Thanks to emergency grant funding from Arts Council England, Green Close are offering a series of accessible creative art workshops in partnership with the Lancashire Recovery College. The workshops continue to run in October The number of attendees per session is limited, to give everyone an opportunity to contribute and participate, so spaces on the workshops will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

To find out more visit https://greenclose.org/the-phoenix-art-health-project/ Or phone Sue Flowers on 07940 775290

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## THE ROTARY CLUB OF LUNESDALE

The club continues to hold its virtual meetings on line. Although this is not the way we would prefer to meet it is an option which enables members to maintain contact on a weekly basis. The facility which Zoom offers is now becoming an almost everyday part of life for many of us and for lots of other organisations. On a personal note when I was inducted as President of the club it enabled members of my family and members from other clubs to share the occasion and so make it both special and memorable.

A recent selection of guest speakers has included Ken Kirkwood from the Rotary Club of Workington. Ken spoke about saving a ton of pencils from being dumped in a refuse tip because they had minor imperfections and were not considered saleable. Many Rotary Clubs, including ours, took advantage of obtaining lots of these imperfect pencils which were then passed on to be put to good use. Many found their way into backpacks given to the children from Belarus. Ron Duxberry, a past Rotary District Governor, spoke about his work in financial services and also as a freelance football fan commentator for Barrow FC on Radio Cumbria. A polio survivor John Nanni, from Delaware USA, told about his fascinating story re his recovery and rehabilitation. Gloria Barnet "The Weird Fish Lady" was another excellent speaker. She is an author, international speaker and advocate of the ocean environment. Why not have a look at her website?

One of our members, John Clare, recently had his head and beard shaved In a bid to raise money for Cancer Research Uk. After gift aid was applied he raised an incredible £3,443. A big thank you from John to everyone who sponsored him.

We are so fortunate to live in our lovely Lune valley area where, even in these difficult times, help and kindness is never far away. Keep well and keep safe.

#### SHOEBOX APPEAL

Sausage and Bacon Bun Cafe at BMC - Unfortunately at the moment it looks as though the annual Sausage and Bacon Bun Cafe at Brookhouse Methodist Church in aid of the shoebox transportation will not be able to take place. But watch this space in case we can!

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal - We are desperately trying to plan how we can do the annual community packing day this year whilst complying with whatever social distancing rules may be in place at the time. However we are going to give this a go!

We still hope to have a packing day (hosted at Brookhouse Methodist Church) on Saturday 7th November and if so we will extend our hours on the day to 10am to 5 or 6pm. We will need to ask people to 'book in' to pack a box, so we can spread the numbers throughout the day and keep social distancing measures in place. If required by the government, we may need to take track and trace details from you, which we would hold (in confidence) for 14 days, before destroying.

There will be fewer items on tables and people will be asked to handle things less than normal at any one time but we will keep topping up during the day so everyone has a good choice no matter what time they come. Sanitiser and gloves will be provided but you will need to bring your own masks. We also thought it would be nice if people in the village want to contribute to boxes themselves they could call by and collect boxes from BMC in the run up to the Packing Day and take them home to top up with items to make it more personal. Dates and times for this will be on the Linking Caton and Brookhouse Facebook page, if they are not finalised before the next Link. Completed boxes can be brought back either on the Packing Day or during the Collection Week to BMC. We hope to have plenty of knitted hats to be able to give out too should you want any.

This year we will also be a Church Collection Centre for the Samaritans Purse Charity for the North Lancs Area and will be open to receive completed boxes from individuals, schools, churches and other organisations during w/c 9th November 10am to 2pm.

There are lots of ways you can get involved.

You can donate items for us to pack for you: You can pack a box yourself (see suggestions below): You can come and join us on the packing day: You can also donate money towards transportation costs

Items you can include are: flannels, soap, toothbrushes (but not toothpaste), hats, scarves, gloves, pens, pencils, felt tip pens, rubbers, pencil sharpeners, pads and paper, (no sweets, chocolate or food items sorry), balls, hair bands/bobbles, small cuddly toys (hand knitted stuffed toys are now allowed!) and small toys or puzzles.

Any items donated need to be new or nearly new and can be dropped off whenever you see the church open and of course on Sundays before or after the service or just call me. For more information contact Sara Tyrer 07977289009. Thank you!

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## ST PAUL'S CATON

Sunday services continue at St Paul's at our usual time of 9:30am. All are welcome, please bring a face covering.

On Wednesday mornings at 9:30am, we have a Zoom service for those unable to get out to church. Please contact Paul on revpaulboulter@gmail.com or 770300 for login details.

Unfortunately our church coffee mornings will be unable to take place for the time being, please do look out for announcements in future editions of The Link.

Please check the St Paul's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsBrookhouse/for the latest information.

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

Tel: 0152421246.

Sadly as of 17th August our parish priest Canon Luiz Ruscillo has moved to a parish in Carlisle and we welcome Father Michael Docherty as our new parish priest.

Our churches are now open for Mass with government guidelines in place and details can be found on our website www.lunevalleycatholics.org.uk

#### **CATON BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor Alan Wadsworth 01524 771371

Finally we have finished our building refurbishment and we are going to be opening for services from the 7th October.

Due to the current situation we will be having a booking system so that we can follow the guidelines for Worship. For more information how to book call Alan on 01524771371 or email alanrwadsworth@gmail.com

We will continue to have services every Sunday on Youtube so if you can't make it please look us up there.

For more information do look at our website www.catonbaptist.org or look us up on Facebook.

#### **CATON METHODIST CHAPEL**

Weekly Sunday Service 10:30am It has been some months since we were able to meet at the Chapel but after a Risk assessment we re-opened on the 6th September.

We have a new Minister Rev Emma Holroyd who also covers Roeburndale, Silverdale and Warton.

We look forward to her leadership over the next few years

Our Harvest will take place on Sunday 4th October.

This will be led by Rev Andrew Champley with Ruth at the organ. This will give us an opportunity to say thank you for everything they have done for us over the last couple of years

There will be a box for donations to the Foodbank at the back of chapel

We do ask anyone attending that they wear a face mask and enter by the side door, once in please follow the one way system

For information on what is going on at Caton Methodist you can visit our facebook page.

# **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/

#### ST PAUL'S CHURCH BROOKHOUSE COFFEE MORNING

We are sorry to have to relate that due to the current situation the Autumn Coffee Mornings at St Paul's have been cancelled.

Hopefully circumstances will allow us to restart them in the New Year.

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#### B4RN HYPERFAST BROADBAND

We need everyone in Caton & Brookhouse who is remotely interested in taking a B4RN service at some point to register an interest now. It helps us plan and also opens the door to increased government funding. With many people still working from home, the government is keen to invest in the expansion of hyperfast fibre broadband to the property. Simply visit b4rn.org.uk/getb4rn, enter your postcode in the page that comes up, and fill in the form! The page also gives more information on the project. (If ANY kind of business is run from home please register as a business, because more government money is available) Connections can be deferred if you are tied into a contract. You MUST fill in the "GetB4RN" form even if you have filled in other forms in the past. Filling in this form does NOT obligate you to anything, it is an expression of interest that can be turned into a voucher for government funding. Please do this now even if you're in contract with another provider or only think you 'might' take a B4RN service in the future.

BROOKHOUSE NEWS - Even though we have fibre in the ground and a good number of live properties in Brookhouse, we can still benefit from the available government funding, so please register an interest as outlined above.

The great news is that work will commence in November on making good the path to Caton Green Road that runs through St Pauls churchyard. This allows us to lay our core route under the path and connect up to our existing road crossing on Caton Green Road. Plans are in place to site a ground distribution chamber near Kirk Beck bridge and get the ducting in place to connect that chamber to one in the fields behind the properties on Caton Green Road (we are most grateful to the land owner and tenant farmer for their support). At the same time we will make progress towards Holme Lane. If you live on Caton Green Road or Kirkbeck Close, now is the time to get your ducting across your garden. We will be needing volunteers over the next few months to assist with some of this work. If you can help, please email b4rn4bn@gmail.com – many hands make light work! This latest news opens up the availability of BARN fibre to many more properties on the north side of Brookhouse. Helping us at this stage will speed up getting it to properties further down the route.

CATON NEWS - B4RN head office is working hard to finalise full plans to connect the whole of Caton to hyper fast fibre through the pavements. However, for it to happen we need more properties to sign up. Please register your interest as detailed above as B4RN will NOT start work on the ground until they see there is sufficient interest!

#### DOROTHY BRENNAND, CATON METHODIST CHURCH

It was 25 weeks since we last met in church My what a year it's been At least we did have one special joy Our first great grandson came on the scene.

After five lovely little girls Each of them such a pleasure But then the virus hit us all With all its heartache in fullest measure.

So to be sat in church with all our friends Spread out, with our masks in place With our faithful minister Andrew in the pulpit We just thanked God for His love and grace.

He spoke about the rainbow Gods promise given long ago A sign of hope when we see it Shining gloriously all aglow.

Although it's not been easy So many trials have come our way With our friends and loved ones round us God has helped us face another day.

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