

CARNFORTH EXPRESS

Carnforth Town Council – Working for you

May & June 2023



A weekend fit for our King!

The Coronation Big Lunch on Sunday 7th May saw neighbours and communities come together to share friendship, food and fun as part of the celebrations over the Coronation weekend. More than 65,000 Coronation Big Lunch events were held in all four corners of the UK.

Carnforth Town Council are delighted that they were able to bring this memorable event to the town, less than a year after the highly successful Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

The formal coronation on Saturday 6th May was streamed live on our cinema screen at the Civic Hall with a glass of Pimm's, snacks and other refreshments were available. Attendance at this event was lower than expected but it was nonetheless a very pleasant occasion for those that did attend.

The Big Coronation Lunch was a different 'kettle of fish' altogether. A glorious sunny day saw hundreds of residents and visitors sit down to one of our three Big Lunch sittings or simply enjoy the quality entertainment, food and crafts that were available all day.



The town was transformed into a sea of red, white and blue and Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite, officially opened the event at noon, after which we were treated to the first of two outstanding performances by opera singer and West End star Leigh Rhiannon Coggins. Leigh sang a mix of pomp and musical theatre, getting proceedings off to a wonderful start.

The crowds also thoroughly enjoyed all our other artists: The Fourth Colour; Triple A; C and C Entertainments;

Gabriella and Jasmine T and Carly Mai.

Added to that we had a stilt walker, a unicycling juggler, face-painting, balloon modelling, glitter tattoos, aerial and pole demonstrations and Beyond Radio on hand providing their usual great music, interviews and banter!

There was great food and drink available for those who hadn't brought their own lunch and a range of quality crafts to enjoy, as well as games and tombola provided by Carnforth Twinning Association and Carnforth Rotary and cakes and activities from the Friends of Canal Park play area and 1st Carnforth Scouts.

Children, of all ages, were also given the opportunity to look around a fully functioning ambulance manned by North West Private Ambulance Liaison Services as well as a Fire Engine provided by Carnforth Fire Station, who also kindly allowed staff and volunteers use of their community room for the whole weekend.



On Monday 8th May, following a V.E. Day Service in the War Memorial Gardens, we joined the more than 6 million people who joined in with The Big Help Out.

Over 60 overseas students from Capernwray Hall joined Carnforth Town Council and Carnforth Rotary Club for a couple of hours of litter picking, weeding and wire brushing flaky paint on the War Memorial Gardens. It was fantastic to see them coming together to lend a hand and to experience how rewarding volunteering can be, and the power that it has to make a change.

After months of planning, organising and resourcing the Carnforth Big Weekend, Carnforth Town Council are delighted with its success and would like to thank everyone who was involved in any capacity in bringing this together – you should all be very proud of achieving another fabulous and memorable weekend for our town. And to all those that who attended and had such a great time, thank you for proving, as if it were needed, that the community spirit of our town is second-to-none!

There is no doubt that Carnforth knows how to party! **Bob Bailey, Town Clerk**

Carnforth looks forward to 'Fringe' Benefits



How many of you have heard of the Edinburgh Fringe I wonder? Did you know it's the world's third largest event after the Olympics and the World Cup and is THE largest performance arts festival in the world? In 2022 more than 3,300 shows from 63 countries sold 2.2 million tickets to 50,000 performances!

En-route to Edinburgh many of the artists stop to perform at other venues, to practice their acts and to get reviews in advance of their main fringe event. Over the last few years Morecambe has become an established 'stopping-off' point

with residents having the opportunity to see the shows and many tourists attracted to the area, injecting valuable income into the local economy.

Buckle up for the Carnforth Fringe. Carnforth Town Council has been working with event organisers in Morecambe and plans to trial an off shoot of the fringe here in July. **Between the 14th - 16th of July Carnforth will host festival acts as well as giving the opportunity for local talent to perform.**

Spread over several easily accessible venues in town we are hoping to provide you, and visitors, with a wide range of entertainment whether that be theatrical, musical, comedy or acrobatic. We are also seeking to showcase local talent, with slots being made available for artists to perform on Saturday 15th July. We hope you will be as excited as we are at the prospect of such a ground-breaking event so please pencil the dates into your diaries and look out for details nearer the time. **Cllr Chris Smith**

Community engagement key for new Town Mayor:

At the first meeting of the newly elected Carnforth Town Council on 17 May, Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite was elected Town Mayor and Councillor Elizabeth Jones Deputy Town Mayor for the municipal year 2023/2024.

Cllr Grisenthwaite said that he is very much looking forward to serving as Town Mayor during 2023 – 2024. Building on the Council's established strengths and reputation he will lead it in developing community engagement and collaboration with the principal authorities and local groups/organisations to tackle challenges and realise opportunities.

The newly adopted Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan - produced with input from the local community – will be the driving force for the coming decade – with its key objectives and aspirations to protect the best of Carnforth and Crag Bank, whilst seeking to encourage growth and investment in our community and associated infrastructure.

He concluded *'Ours is a vibrant town with lots of hardworking people who have ambitious ideas. Clear and unambiguous communication is essential if we are going see Carnforth prosper but better community engagement is a crucial first step. We need to bring people together to harness those ambitious ideas so that we can speak with focus as a united community. I promise that I will do my bit as Mayor this year to get that message across to as many people as possible'*.

The new Council was elected uncontested with 10 of the available 12 vacancies being filled. Action is now being taken to fill the vacancies by co-option. **Bob Bailey, Town Clerk**



A new approach for the Carnforth Allotments takes root!



The Town Council has held the freehold of the Highfield allotments since its transfer from Lancaster City Council a decade ago, whilst the administration and day-to-day management of the allotments has been in the hands of a volunteer Allotments Committee.

After several months of discussion, it was resolved unanimously at their recent

Annual General Meeting that Town Council should take on this responsibility with a volunteer 'friends' group' being formed to allow allotment holders to continue to have a collective voice and to come up with ideas for improvements to the site.

Carnforth Town Council commissioned a professional survey of the allotments in August 2022 which has created an accurate record of the size of each plot on the site. This has helped to remove the rather antiquated method of charging rents based on the system where plots are measured in perches with a simpler and fairer charge for each square metre occupied.

Town Mayor, Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite, said:

'It is the Town Council's firm intention and ambition to protect and develop the allotments for the benefit of the whole community. We want to encourage allotment holders, old and young, to take a pride in their plots and to pass their skills to others.'

Protecting our local environment and sustainability is a key element of the Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan that was officially 'made' by Lancaster City Council in March. As such we will promote the environmental and economic benefits of growing fruit and vegetables to the residents of Carnforth as a whole and give priority to those local residents who may wish to take up an allotment.

The Town Council thanks the Carnforth Allotments Committee and plot holders for their efforts in maintaining the allotments over many years and we look forward to working closely with them going forward to ensure that the town is proud of its allotments'.

Council venues for hire: Carnforth Civic Hall on Lower North Road and Crag Bank Village Hall on Jesson Way, are suitable for baby groups, ceremonies, corporate events, exhibitions, music practice, music events, meetings, parties, sports and fitness, societies and clubs, theatre productions and training and workshops. Carnforth Civic Hall Meeting Room is suitable for corporate events, exhibitions, music practice, meetings, societies and clubs, training and workshops. All our venues have super broadband available free of charge.

Book online here: <https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Carnforth-Town-Council> or by emailing Leah at admin@carnforhtowncouncil.org or call 07828254149.

Regular bookings at Carnforth Civic Hall and Crag Bank Village Hall are £15 per hour; £18 per hour for one-off bookings. The Civic Hall Meeting room is £12 per hour for regular bookings and £14 for one-off bookings.

Bob Bailey, Town Clerk

Time moves on...at last!

Carnforth Town Council recently asked Mr Mike Mortimer of North Road to examine the clock at the Sizzle Inn to determine the extent of what would be needed to get it working again!

To our delight and pleasure, he not only examined it but managed to free up the mechanism to get it going too - after some 20 years when time has stood still!

So, just days before the town celebrated the Carnforth Big Coronation Lunch, on Sunday 7th May, the clock was ticking away again!

It may well require some further TLC going forward but for now it's great to see it back working...and Mr Mortimer gave his expertise and time freely. Many thanks, Mike!



Great Big Green Week

Carnforth Town Council is again supporting the Great Big Green Week from 10th – 18th June. This is a national celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. The full programme for the week is being put together but already guaranteed is the Carnforth Great Big Green Day on Saturday 17th June at Crag Bank Village Hall from 10am until 1pm.

This will be a celebration of what action the Carnforth community is taking to protect our planet and our parks and green spaces.

We will be joined by representatives from Lancashire County and Lancaster City Councils and there will be also be an opportunity to hear what volunteer and

community groups are doing to enhance our local environment and how you can get involved. We are also planning on hosting the Carnforth Great Big Clean-Up, including litter picking and weed clearance – keep checking our website and social media platforms for more details. We would also like to hear from anyone who can pledge a 'random act of greenness' to reduce their impact on the environment either as a "one off" during the Great Big Green Week, or as part of a permanent lifestyle change. The Great Big Green Week is an opportunity to show our local and national leaders that we care about the environment and tackling climate change. For the next generation to have the future that we want and that they deserve, we have a duty to tackle the climate crisis and protect nature today. This week of events will celebrate how the Carnforth community is working together to create meaningful change. If you wish to join us for either the *Great Big Green Day* or the *Great Big Clean Up* or just want to tell us about your 'act of greenness', please email Leah: admin@carnforthtowncouncil.org

Kids go above and beyond to help Charities

Youngsters at Carnforth's Christ Church CE Primary School have been having fun while supporting good causes as part of the RotaKids club.

RotaKids is an organisation where children and schools help to raise money to give to charities both at home and internationally. It allows children to have fun while doing fantastic things for good causes. At Christmas time, they held an elf run which



raised £554 for St John's Hospice, and also donated food to Morecambe Bay Food Bank.

At Easter, the school hosted an Easter bingo evening, where children could win chocolate prizes (donated by parents) and raised £440!

This was recently donated to the local swimming pool, where the children swim every week, so that they can build a new extension. Additionally, Carnforth RotaKids have raised £132 from a cake sale for North West Cancer Research in return for them delivering some scientific experiments with classes during Science Week 2023.

Internationally, they support 'Lend with Care', which supports small businesses around the globe, and are collecting ring pulls for the 'Purple Community Fund', which supports children in education in the Philippines.

Outside of school, the children have planted crocus bulbs to support the polio eradication around the world. In future months, Carnforth RotaKids, who are supported by Carnforth Rotary Club, are looking forward to litter picking in the community, the RotaKids conference, working with The Rivers Trust and taking part in first aid training, which will be used to teach Key Stage 1 in school.

Natural Beauty on our doorstep!

The Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was designated 50 years ago, in December 1972. As an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the landscape is recognised as special and unique. The AONB covers approximately 29 square miles, making it one of the smallest AONBs in the UK. This extraordinary place is famous for its amazing wildlife, stunning scenery, and superb walks. From the simple beauty of the wild orchids to the shining sands of Morecambe Bay, the area is simply awe-inspiring. Stunning limestone pavements, ancient woodlands, intimate orchards and meadows and an impressive coastline make Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty one of England's finest landscapes.

The AONB Partnership Team, Arnside/Silverdale Landscape Trust and Bittern Countryside Community Interest Company are all local organisations dedicated to protecting and enhancing the landscape. Volunteers can help with everything from repairing dry stone walls to litter picks, clearing brash to laying hedges, leading walks to social media. If you're keen to get involved there are volunteering opportunities listed on the Arnside & Silverdale AONB website: www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk

There are also regular free events in the AONB – from guided walks to lectures, family fun days to wildlife surveys.

The AONB Partnership Team manages Warton Crag and Trowbarrow Local Nature Reserves. The Arnside/Silverdale Landscape Trust owns Coldwell Parrock & Meadow and Teddy Heights, and there are many other nature reserves which you can visit.

The AONB Partnership Team also runs a Dementia Friendly Walks for All programme, meeting

weekly from March to November for gentle supported walks out in nature. The programme is supported by a huge number of dedicated volunteers, and you can find out more about joining or supporting this accessible walking group on the AONB's events page.





The AONB Partnership Team recently celebrated the anniversary of the designation of the landscape with a celebratory dinner at Leighton Hall, a venue which hosted some of the original meetings when the landscape was being designated 50 years ago. Four attendees had been part of these meetings - Joan Jackson, Roger Cartwright, John Wilson and Suzie Reynolds - and were thanked for their many years' service to this beautiful landscape.

All Change at The Salvation Army

2 Corinthians 13:11 says: Finally, Brethren, farewell. Be perfect, of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. (KJV)

After almost seven years of ministry in Carnforth, during July 2023, Andy and Gay Tonks will say farewell to the community they have grown to love and move to be the leaders of the Salvation Army in Chester.

At the same time, Captain Tracy Collis, currently the Commanding Officer at Morecambe, will take up a new appointment as the Bay Area Lead for the Salvation Army in all its expressions within the Bay Area.



Andy and Gay would like to thank the people of Carnforth for making them feel an integral part of the local community whilst supporting the initiatives and activities that they have brought to the area through the Salvation Army and its work. In years to come many will look upon the Covid times and recollect where they were and what they were doing.

Andy and Gay will do that knowing that they were a part of a community that pulled together and helped one another. A community that sought the assistance of the Salvation Army in many practical ways but which also raised funds, food and friendship in an amazing way and allowed the Salvation Army to run the satellite Foodbank, to work alongside the Covid19 Support group in getting people to various NHS appointments, to work alongside local companies, the Rotary Club, Carnforth Free Methodist Church and Carnforth Integrated Care Community to ensure local school children and their families received extra help at Christmas and Easter school holidays.

For the Salvation Army in Carnforth it's business as usual and the doors will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and, most importantly to us, Sunday. If you don't know what happens there, pick up a leaflet from the Charity Shop on Market Street or call 736217 or email carnforth@salvationarmy.org.uk for any assistance. As Captain Tracy commences her new ministry, it is certain that there will be more initiatives to be explored and the good work and witness for God of the Salvation Army in Carnforth will continue.

So, Farewell, Andy & Gay and Welcome Captain Tracy.

Carnforth Bowling Club have a number of vacancies within the teams including South Westmorland Seniors, Ladies and Vets. They offer superb facilities and reasonable fees. If you would like more information on where the teams travel to or any other details please contact Brian Cooke Secretary on: 07887873849

UPCOMING EVENTS



LEIGHTON HALL

NOW OPEN

Open until 30th September for family visitors
 May – September 1:30pm – 5:30pm Also Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday
 Also open Sundays in August

Admission

Adults: £11.50 Children (5–12 years): £6.75 OAPs: £10.50 Family: £39

Tickets available now www.leightonhall.co.uk

EXCITING SUMMER SEASON OF EVENTS

Classic Car Rally

Sunday 2nd July 2023 10:00am – 4:00pm
 Tickets available now from www.greatbritishmotorshows.com

Shakespeare in the Garden "Twelfth Night"

Thursday 27th July 2023 at 7:30pm. Open air performance.
 Grounds open from 6:00pm for picnics. Bring your own seating.
 Tickets available at www.leightonhall.co.uk

Motorcycle Hill Climb

Sunday 30th July 2023. Racing from 1pm.
 Tickets available now www.leightonhall.co.uk

Family Month – August

Extended opening times and free activities for children: Teddy Bear Hunt,
 Tree Face Trail, Bee Corner and Caterpillar Maze (Included in your admission)

Malice in Wonderland

Wednesday 16th August 2023 10:00am and 1:00pm
 Part Mystery, part treasure hunt, interactive event for all the family.
 Tickets available at www.leightonhall.co.uk

M6 Exit 35, Carnforth, Lancashire LA5 9ST • T: 01524 734474
www.leightonhall.co.uk

Date	Event	Venue
1 st – 30 th June	Pride Month	National event
10 th - 18 th June	Great Big Green Week	National event
17 th June	Carnforth Great Big Green Day	Crag Bank Village Hall – 10am to 1pm
24 th June	Armed Forces Day	War Memorial Gardens
24 th June	Film Night – Brian & Charles	Carnforth Civic Hall from 6:30pm
1 st July	Carnforth Carnival	Carnforth High School Field
14 th – 16 th July	Carnforth Fringe	Carnforth Civic Hall; Royal Station Hotel; Furness Hall War Memorial Gardens
w/c 17 th July	Presentation of Coronation Coins	Carnforth High School
24 th – 29 th August	Twinning Association exchange	Sailly sur la Lys
<p>If you would like your event to be promoted here, please email Leah at: admin@carnforthtowncouncil.org or call Bob on 07828254149</p>		