CARNFORTH EXPRESS

Carnforth Town Council - Working for you

June 2025

A Residents' Parking Scheme for Carnforth



Carnforth Town Council frequently receives inquiries from residents concerned about indiscriminate parking outside their houses by shoppers, tourists, and rail travellers.

While the streets around the railway station are particularly affected, this issue extends beyond that area. Residents of North Road, Hawk Street, Bridgeside and Bloomfield Park have also expressed their frustrations. Since the introduction of electric vehicle charging bays in New Street, Preston Street and Market Street a couple of years ago, local residents have faced

increased pressure on parking spaces. At the same time, attracting workers, visitors and shoppers to Carnforth helps local businesses to thrive – and they need somewhere to park. This raises the question: can anything be done?

A possible solution: One potential solution to alleviate this parking pressure is the introduction of a residents' parking scheme. For the scheme to be effective, it would need to cover all of central Carnforth from Pond Street and Hunter Street extending up Haws Hill to Stanley Street and Oxford Street, and along North Road to include Bloomfield Park, Bridgeside and Hawk Street.

We have recently engaged in lengthy discussions with representatives of Lancashire County Council about the feasibility of introducing a residents' parking scheme to Carnforth. The County Council would be responsible for establishing, maintaining and enforcing such a scheme. Typically, elsewhere in Lancashire where residents' parking schemes have been introduced, residents pay an annual fee of £25 per parking permit. Until the scheme is officially considered, the number of permits per property in Carnforth remains unknown. Elsewhere, however, residents can typically purchase up to 4 permits, comprising 2 vehicle specific permits (requiring registration of their vehicles) together with 2 visitor permits but deciding the final figure for Carnforth residents would be an outcome of the design process of the scheme. While a parking permit does not guarantee a resident a space outside their home, it frees up spaces taken by non-residents and encourages them to use off- street parking spaces at supermarkets and railway stations.

The Town Council is aware that parking options for non-residents (including a number of small business proprietors) is currently limited and we are actively exploring options for further provision.

Our View: Carnforth Town Council wishes to clarify that we are neither advocating for nor opposing the introduction of a residents' parking scheme to the Town. However, we are eager to hear your views, particularly if you live in or immediately next to any of the streets within the area mentioned above.

If there is a majority in favour of pursuing this idea, we will ask Lancashire County Council to conduct a detailed feasibility study. Conversely, if most respondents feel that such a scheme would be too costly or would have little impact, we will drop the idea and not take it any further.

What happens next? We will be holding two public meetings at Carnforth Civic Hall in July when you can find out more about how a Residents' Parking Scheme might affect you. These meetings will also offer an opportunity for you to ask questions and share your views. Following these meetings, we will distribute a questionnaire to all households in central

Carnforth to gather more information about whether you and your neighbours are in favour of the Town Council progressing with the idea of a Residents' Parking Scheme. For more information on resident parking schemes in Lancashire, please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk and search for "Residents Parking" on the home page. The dates of our two public consultation meetings to be held at Carnforth Civic Hall will be announced soon to ensure we attract a wide audience.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please email Bob Bailey, Town Clerk at clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.gov.uk or write to Bob Bailey, Town Clerk, 46 – 48 Market Street, Carnforth, LA5 9LB. **Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite**

Carnforth's Big Lunch: A Recipe for Community Spirit!



Get ready for a day of friendship, food, and fun! Carnforth is hosting The Big Lunch on Saturday, July 12th, from 12 noon to 4 pm, and you're invited. This isn't just a picnic; it's a vibrant celebration of community, connection, and belonging. Hosted by the fantastic Beyond Radio it promises to be an unforgettable event. The Big Lunch is all about bringing people together, sharing cultures, experiences, and stories. It's a chance to strengthen bonds, find common ground, and make everyone feel welcome in our wonderful town. The power of shared food and laughter is undeniable; it fosters a stronger sense of community and belonging, doing wonders for everyone's well-being. Get your FREE tickets here: https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EYKS

Whether you're a long-time resident or new to Carnforth, The

Big Lunch is the perfect opportunity to connect with your community and make lasting memories.

So, dust off your picnic blankets, prepare your favourite dish, and let's celebrate together. What can you expect?

- **Delicious Food**: Bring a dish to share or enjoy the culinary creations of your neighbours. It's all about sharing and discovering new flavours!
- **Fun and Games**: From **aerial acrobatics** by *Northern Heights Dance & Aerial* to a **hands-on animal experience** with *Pets Encounter Cumbria*, there's something for everyone.
- **Prehistoric Party**: This year, The Big Lunch is going **Jurassic**! Meet some **roarsome dinosaur guests** that are sure to thrill dino-lovers of all ages.
- **Live Entertainment**: Enjoy the upbeat sounds and lively atmosphere brought to you by **Beyond Radio**.
- **Community Connection**: Reconnect with old friends, meet new neighbours, and celebrate the spirit of Carnforth.

The Bay Free Fringe Festival returns to Carnforth Bay Fringe Festival: For the third year, we are pleased to host the Bay Free Fringe Festival. Events kick off with a variety evening on 11 July at the Royal Station Hotel with a series of short performances to give you a taste of what's to come during the week of 12 to 20 July.

Saturday 12 July starts with the Lancaster Male Voice Choir, followed by comedy shows from Edinburgh Fringe players and 'It shouldn't happen to a bus driver' - humorous stories from Alan Main, a local bus driver. The evening closes with songs from singer/songwriter, Glyn Shipman.



Sunday,13 July features Edinburgh Fringe shows but also includes a show from local theatrical producer, Emma Rucastle – 'A selection of Shakespeare's Greatest Hits'- performed in the order the audience chooses. Expect tragedy, poetry and lots of comedy! Monday,14 July showcases our much-loved Carnforth Community Choir; Kara Woods who returns to delight with music on her saxophone; Stacey Griffiths, a talented local vocalist and ends with songs by guitarist, Mike Dillon.

The week continues with award winning comedy/poetry and theatre shows from visiting Edinburgh fringe artists, interactive theatre, and local comedians and musicians.

On Thursday,17 July, look out for our own, ever-popular, Gabriella and Jasmine T - stars of Michael McIntyre's *Big Show* and Beyond Radio. This will be followed by *War Stories'* - narrated memories compiled from Bay Veterans, plus other stories from dependents of those impacted by war. Friday,18 and Saturday,19 July continue with Edinburgh Fringe shows, together with some home-grown interactive theatre.

The Festival closes on Sunday, 20 July, with more comedy and a final show by 'Captain of the lost waves' - music and the spoken word.

There will be something for everyone, and we hope to re-run 'Children's Story Time', that was so popular last year.

Entry to the events is free (with bucket donations to artists), although the final gala night on Sunday, 20 July is likely to be ticketed.

Performances will be at the Royal Station Hotel, the Furness Hall (at the Station Heritage Centre) and the Ex-Servicemen's club.

Look out for more details on social media, Carnforth Town Council Notice Boards and posters displayed in and around Carnforth. **Councillor Chris Smith**

Easter Fun Day a Roaring (and Purring!) Success



Carnforth Civic Hall was buzzing with excitement this Easter Monday as families flocked to our Easter Fun Day—and what a fantastic day it was! With laughter, learning, and lots of animal cuddles, the event was a resounding success, thanks in no small part to the wonderful team from Pet Encounters Cumbria. From 10am to 4pm, the hall was alive with fantastic face painting, crafts, and Easter-themed fun, but the real highlight came between 2pm and 4pm when the animal experience began. Children and adults alike were captivated by the chance to meet a wide variety of animals—furry, scaly, and everything in between! Pet Encounters Cumbria brought their passion for education and animal welfare to life, offering hands-on experiences that taught visitors about responsible pet ownership. Attendees learned about the care and equipment needed, in keeping exotic and domestic pets, making it both an entertaining and enlightening

Cllr Viktoria Szalai, who helped coordinate the event,

said: "It was heartwarming to see so many families enjoying themselves and engaging with the animals. Events like this bring our community together and inspire the next generation to care for animals responsibly."

With smiles all around and plenty of memorable moments, the Easter Fun Day proved to be a perfect blend of fun and education. A huge thank you to everyone who attended, especially Pet Encounters Cumbria for making the day truly special. **Bob Bailey Town Clerk**

Carnforth Celebrated VE Day 80th Anniversary

Carnforth shone brightly on 8 May, 2025, as we joined the nation in commemorating the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day. The day's events were a powerful testament to community spirit and our shared commitment to peace. The turnout was magnificent, exceeding expectations and demonstrating the enduring relevance of this historic occasion.

The celebrations began with a stirring early morning cri from our Town Crier, Mel Guilding, a perfect start to a day filled with remembrance and celebration. Students from Carnforth High School then raised the flags at the War Memorial Gardens, a powerful visual representation of our freedom and the sacrifices made to secure it. As evening approached, the atmosphere became even more poignant. Uplifting wartime music



filled the air, setting the scene for a short, reflective service. The community then joined together in a shared experience, lighting candles of peace as we joined the nation in lighting the beacons at 9:30 pm. The evening culminated with a truly moving rendition of "I Vow to Thee, My Country" led by the Carnforth Community Choir. The wartime music and the choir's performance added emotional depth to the evening's proceedings and the national lighting of candles and beacons created a powerful sense of community and unity. Carnforth Town Council is incredibly proud to have been a part of this national commemoration and received a certificate from the Royal British Legion in recognition of our efforts. This award reflects the dedication and hard work of everyone involved. The VE Day 80 celebrations in Carnforth were a resounding success, showcasing the strength and resilience of our community while honouring the past and looking towards a peaceful future.

Keep checking our social media and website for information on our planned commemorations for Victory in Japan Day, 80th Anniversary. **Bob Bailey, Town Clerk**

Carnforth Annual Town Assembly & Community Awards

The Carnforth Town Assembly and Community Awards event, held on 29 May at the Carnforth Free Methodist Community Centre, was a spectacular success. The evening was a vibrant celebration of our amazing community, filled with inspiring stories, heartfelt recognition, and a palpable sense of unity. We extend a huge thank you to everyone who made this event so special.

A heartfelt thank you to:

 Our guest speakers: Jo Wilkinson (Chief Officer, Housing & Property) and Councillor Caroline Jackson (Leader of Lancaster City Council) – your insightful words and passionate delivery truly resonated with the audience. Your presence elevated the event significantly.

- Our community groups: Your vibrant stalls showcased the incredible diversity and energy of Carnforth. Thank you for sharing your work and connecting with attendees.
- Our award winners: Congratulations again to all our deserving recipients! Your dedication and commitment make Carnforth a better place for everyone.
- Our attendees: Your enthusiasm and participation were the heart of the evening. Thank you for joining us and celebrating our community's achievements.

Get Involved

We want to build on this incredible momentum and continue fostering our strong community spirit. Here's how you can stay involved:

- Join our mailing list: Receive updates on future events and initiatives: http://eepurl.com/jeE 6l
- **Volunteer**: Share your skills and time; get involved in community projects. Contact the Town Council for opportunities.

The success of this event is a testament to the strength and spirit of Carnforth. We look forward to many more shared celebrations in the future!

Full list of Community Award Winners:

We are thrilled to announce and celebrate the winners for each award category, recognising their outstanding contributions to our community. Each of one of them has gone above and beyond in their dedication and service, making a significant impact on those around them.

Outstanding Community Champion:

lan Rankin: For 27 years of tirelessly cleaning our streets, come rain or shine, always offering a friendly word and a warm chat.

Gillian Mason: With over 40 years at Carnforth Swimming Pool, Gillian has taught and encouraged thousands of children to be confident in water and to swim.

Glen Pearson: For his unwavering support and promotion of community events, making them accessible and enjoyable for all.



Carnforth Pharmacy: The award-winning Carnforth Pharmacy who always support community events and foster collaboration with the council and local groups.

Phillippa Williamson: As County Councillor and former Leader of Lancashire County Council, Phillippa's exemplary work for children, young people, schools, and the broader Carnforth community has been exceptional.

Karen Belton: As 1st Carnforth Beaver Leader Karen has given many young children an enriched childhood, life-skills and resilience both within her Beaver Section but also throughout 1st Carnforth Scout Group.

Outstanding Volunteer:

The Two Keiths: Keith Moore and Keith Quinn have tirelessly worked on local projects, like adorning Market Street with Christmas Trees every year, spreading joy and festivity.

Gail Brown: For her dedication to the upkeep and decoration of Alexandra Park, creating a beautiful space for residents and visitors alike.

Gail Brown receiving her award from Town Mayor, Cllr Rowland Parker

Outstanding Voluntary/Community Group:

Carnforth Chamber of Trade: Under Caroline Charnley's leadership, this group has significantly supported local businesses and the Carnforth community.

'Fuelling the Bold': Suzy and Alex Carrington are leaders in championing well-being, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship with tireless dedication.

Outstanding Young Person:

Matthew Roberts: An inspiring young fundraiser, whose efforts have raised an impressive £10,448 for Help the Heroes and the Little Princess Trust. Also, during Covid, Matthew raised £4,190 for St John's Hospice.

Each of our winners have shown remarkable commitment and passion, and we are deeply grateful for their contributions. They all truly make our Carnforth community a better place.

Bob Bailey Town Clerk

We've cornered the Market!



We're thrilled to announce that the Wednesday Market at Carnforth War Memorial Gardens, Market Street, is now managed by the Carnforth Town Council.

This beloved community hub is a wonderful opportunity for local vendors to showcase their products and for residents to support local businesses.

Prospective Stall Holders: If you're interested in joining our market community, we encourage you to reach out. Contact Leah, our Assistant Town Clerk, for more information on how to become a stall holder email

<u>assistanttownclerk@carnforthtowncouncil.gov.uk</u> Please do spread the word to fellow vendors who might be interested.

This is an excellent chance to engage with the community and grow your business.

Grow Your Own Happiness: The Joy of Allotment Gardening

Did you know that tending an allotment can do wonders for your mental and physical wellbeing? Whether you're digging up potatoes, planting carrots, or simply soaking in the fresh air, allotment gardening offers a wealth of benefits:

- Stress Reduction Spending time outdoors and connecting with nature has been shown to lower stress levels and improve mood.
- A Sense of Accomplishment Watching your hard work blossom into fresh produce is incredibly rewarding.
- Community Connection Allotments are great places to meet like-minded people, share tips, and build friendships.

Here in Carnforth, we're proud to manage the Highfield Allotments, home to 36 plots, including two dedicated community plots. Since taking over the site two years ago, Carnforth Town Council has invested in a range of improvements—and we're not stopping there! We're continuing to develop plans to enhance the site and support our local growers. There's currently a short waiting list, so if you've ever dreamed of growing your own fruit and veg, now's the perfect time to get involved.

Express your interest today by visiting our website:

https://carnforthtowncouncil.gov.uk/carnforth-highfield-allotments/

Let's grow together—one seed at a time! Bob Bailey Town Clerk

Carnforth gets its own Poet Laureate: Local Poet and regular broadcaster on

Beyond Radio, Brian Griffin, is set to become Carnforth's own Poet Laureate. Brian is passionate about bringing spoken word and poetry to a wider audience and wants to base this project in Carnforth, engaging with its schools and community. Brian is planning to run a Poet Laureate 'Junior Poetry' competition later this year and will be inviting schools around Lancashire to take part. He will also run community events during 2025 so get



you pencils and paper out and look out for his workshops. Cllr Chris Smith

Introducing Leah Longhorn: Our New Assistant Town Clerk

We are excited to announce the appointment of Leah Longhorn as the new Assistant Town



Clerk for Carnforth. Leah has been an integral part of our team for the past four years, working part-time as an Administrative Assistant. During her tenure, she has gained invaluable experience in local government operations while also utilising her skills and qualifications in marketing to enhance the Council's community engagement initiatives.

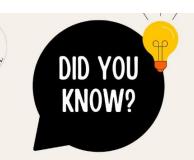
Leah's journey with the Council has been marked by her dedication and commitment to serving the residents of Carnforth. Her role as an Administrative Assistant allowed her to develop a comprehensive understanding of the c Council's functions, processes, and the needs of our

community. Her proactive approach and keen insight into effective communication have significantly contributed to improving our outreach and engagement strategies. In her new role as Assistant Town Clerk, Leah is eager to take on greater responsibilities and further

support the Council in meeting the needs of our residents. This position is vital for ensuring the smooth functioning of our local governance and for fostering a strong relationship between the Council and the community.

Leah's background in marketing will continue to play a crucial role as she works to implement innovative strategies for community involvement and feedback. Leah expressed her enthusiasm about stepping into this new position: "I am thrilled to take on the role of Assistant Town Clerk. I look forward to continuing the great work we've been doing and finding new ways to engage with the community. It's an exciting opportunity to make a positive impact in Carnforth."

We believe that Leah's skills, experience, and passion for public service will be an asset to our Council as we strive to enhance our



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If you are interested in these regular updates please subscribe through this link: http://eepurl.com/jeE_6I

Or scan our QR code!



programs and services for the benefit of all residents. Join us in congratulating Leah on her new appointment and welcoming her into this important role. **Bob Bailey Town Clerk**



Civic Hall Film Nights

Carnforth Town Council's Film Nights at Carnforth Civic Hall continue to be popular. Our recent showings of *Conclave* and *A Complete Unknown* were sold out! Tickets for the films with supper included are just £10 and as a fully licensed premises, a range of drinks is available in the 'Civic Arms'.

Planning an event and looking for the perfect venue?

If you are planning a special event and looking for the perfect venue, you need look no further than Carnforth Town Council's two versatile halls, ideal for a range of occasions, from parties to meetings and community events. Both halls are well equipped and can accommodate groups of various sizes, ensuring a comfortable and enjoyable experience for all attendees. Both halls offer a spacious layout with ample seating and state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment available to hire. They are perfect for performances, lectures, physical activities and large gatherings, children's parties, and community groups. There is also free use of our fully equipped kitchens and WiFi.

Both halls are conveniently located and fully accessible for all guests. Crag Bank Village Hall enjoys free parking spaces whilst the Community Room at Carnforth Civic Hall has our recently established bar, the 'Civic Arms', and provides a more intimate setting, making it ideal for workshops, smaller meetings, or family celebrations.

Booking your next event is quick and easy. Simply visit our booking page:

https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Carnforth-Town-Council or email Leah at: assitanttownclerk@carnforthtowncouncil.gov.uk for availability and pricing information. We're here to assist you every step of the way, ensuring that your event runs smoothly and meets all your expectations. Don't miss the opportunity to host your next event in one of our TWO welcoming venues.

Supporting our vibrant community

We are now publishing a Monthly Calendar of Events. Keep an eye out for it on our social media and noticeboards around town—it's your go-to guide for everything happening in Carnforth. But that's not all...we also have a Community Directory on our website featuring Local clubs & societies, Hospitality venues and Services in and around Carnforth



If you'd like to be included in either the Calendar or the Directory, we'd love to hear from you. Email Leah at:

assistanttownclerk@carnforthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Let's celebrate and support our vibrant community together!

Leah Longhorn, Assistant Town Clerk

Date/Time	Event	Venue
28 June	Armed Forces Day	War Memorial Gardens
28 & 29 June	Carnforth 1940's weekend	Carnforth Heritage Visitor Centre
11- 20 July	Carnforth Fringe	War Memorial Gardens and other venues to be confirmed
12 July	The Big Lunch	War Memorial Gardens & Market Street

Eden Project Morecambe – Update

Eden Project Morecambe is set to become a significant visitor attraction right on Carnforth's doorstep. For those who have experienced the original Eden Project in Cornwall, you may already have an idea of what to expect. However, for many residents, this will be their first opportunity to engage with such a transformative



experience without the long journey to Cornwall.

The new site will be located along the seafront near the Midland Hotel and will blend indoor and outdoor experiences designed to connect visitors with the natural environment of Morecambe Bay.

The attraction will feature a variety of activities around the iconic Eden pavilions, including exhibits, performances, educational programs, play, horticulture, art, and much more. Project Timeline and Updates

Many of you have followed the progress of the Eden Project over the years and may be wondering, "Will it ever happen, and when?" Large-scale projects like this require time to develop, but significant progress is being made. On 4 March, several Carnforth councillors attended the latest update event, where we received key information:

- The government has confirmed its commitment to funding its portion of the costs, enabling the project to move into the detailed design phase.
- The detailed design will encompass not only the Eden site but also essential components such as transport links and parking facilities.
- The year 2025 will focus on finalizing the design, with construction expected to begin in 2026 and the grand opening planned for 2028.
- Like Eden Cornwall, education will be a central focus of Eden Project Morecambe. We learned about the Morecambe Bay Curriculum, which is already being implemented in schools and colleges throughout the Bay area. For more information, please visit Morecambe Bay Curriculum. A list of participating schools can be found here.

For further details about the Eden Project Morecambe, visit <u>Eden Project Morecambe</u>. The website also provides a link for businesses interested in becoming suppliers for the project. Additionally, Lancaster City Council hosts regular community conversations about the project. If you are interested in attending one, please keep an eye out for future dates here: <u>Eden Project Community Conversations</u>. This project presents numerous opportunities for our local area, including benefits for our children, businesses, and community groups. Carnforth Town Council is committed to maximizing these opportunities and is eager to hear your thoughts or questions. **Councillor Sharon Richmond**

A pool to be proud of!

It's been a very busy time at Carnforth Community Swimming Pool recently so here's a chance to bring everyone up to date.



As a charity, everything we make goes back into improving the pool for the benefit of the community and we are now employing several local young people in our café area; some already having gone on to qualify as lifeguards within our approved RLSS training centre status. This means they can progress up the tree with us and seek work anywhere in the country. Invaluable for those going onto further education.

The building extension has been open for eight months and has proved to be a great asset for the pool and all its customers.

Our children's parties now have a private space for youngsters to enjoy themselves after a swim and parents can sit and enjoy a coffee whilst they watch their children swimming. Parties can be booked on Saturdays and Sundays and every day during school holidays. The room is also available to hire for meetings or a group get together.

Our ever-expanding swim lesson programme runs every night after school and on Saturday mornings, catering for all the age range - nine weeks to ninety-nine years! Public sessions include aquafit, aquablast, swimsanity, family fun swims, lane swims, adults only and general swims. All just turn up, no need to book.

The pool is available to book for private sessions by groups or individuals. Currently we have underwater hockey clubs, PTA groups, vision of adventure for the blind, weight management and wellbeing courses and we have even hosted a baptism! Additionally, twenty local primary schools swim with us weekly. For full details or any other information please check our Facebook page @carnforthpool.org or contact one of the team: Tel 01524 734699 Email info@carnforthpool.org. Website: www.carnforthpool.org.

Following her visit to Carnforth High School in May, Lizzi Collinge, Member of Parliament for Morecambe and Lunesdale, called in to see for herself the brilliant new two storey extension to Carnforth Community Swimming Pool opened in 2024. The extension provides new changing and storage facilities on the ground floor with a fully accessible meeting room and café area on the first floor. The Pool, built in 1978, is managed by a small number of independent trustees, who took over its running from Lancashire County Council in 2018. Under the management of the trustees the Pool has thrived and apart from a growing number of regular adult users, it provides swimming classes for a wide range of age groups including over 20 primary schools from Carnforth and the surrounding area. Ms Collinge was visibly impressed by what she saw during her visit and said:

This is a marvellous community asset which is entirely self-financing; for example, this brilliant new extension cost £240,000, all of which was raised from grants, donations and sponsored



events. I must pay tribute not only to the trustees but to their dedicated staff who have worked so hard to create a modern, welcoming environment in which people of all ages can learn how to swim, to keep fit and to enjoy themselves. The residents of Carnforth can be truly proud of their Community Pool and I wish it, the trustees and the staff every success in the future.'

Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite

Left to right: Gillian Mason (Pool Manager), Kathryn Ripley (Pool Business Manager), Lizzi Collinge MP, Jim Grisenthwaite (Trustee), John Blowes (Chair of Trustees).

Swimming Teacher Wanted: Have you a passion for teaching? Want to join the team at Carnforth Community Swimming Pool? We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated teacher to cover hours both for school swimming and our well-established swimming lesson programme. Hours are available during the day, evenings and weekends for the right person, with the possibility of increased hours in the coming months. Level 2 is desirable, but we are willing to help with course fees for the right person and to progress their career.

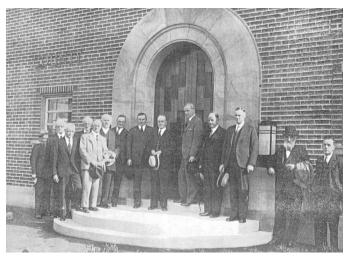
A lifesaving qualification would be a "plus" but this training can also be provided. For more details and to speak to one of the team, please email Pool Manager Gillian Mason gillianm@carnforthpool.org

New project celebrates the heritage of Carnforth Library

Carnforth Library will celebrate its 90th anniversary in 2026. A new community project is looking for volunteers who would like to get involved in researching and celebrating the heritage of the Library and its role in the lives of the people of Carnforth as it reaches this important milestone.

How and why did the Library come to be built? Who was the first librarian? What was it like at the Library during the war years? What have been the most popular books over the decades? These are just some of the questions we hope to explore.

The project is led by Lancaster-based charity, Global Link, and made possible by The National Lottery Heritage Fund thanks to money raised by National Lottery players. It is supported by Lancashire County Council's Cultural Services team and historians from Lancaster University. Monthly workshops at Carnforth Library will start on 18th June, involving hands-on research and discussion, as well as tea and biscuits! We will learn how to search digitised newspapers and family history websites and explore how to analyse and piece together the history of the Library using different sources. We'll also take a free guided tour of Lancashire Archives in Preston where several original documents relating to the Library are held.



No previous experience or background in history or research is needed – just a willingness to get involved. You will be supported to explore the topics or themes that are of particular interest to you. The project will lead to the creation of a free booklet about the Library's heritage and an exhibition and Open Day event at the Library in summer 2026.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Alison at Global Link on: info@globallink.org.uk or 01524 36201.

Opening of Carnforth Library 1936 Reproduced with permission of Lancashire Archives

The Salvation Army to welcome new ministers.

From the end July 2025, the Salvation Army in Carnforth and Morecambe will be welcoming new church leaders. Captain Tracy Collis, who has been the leader of Carnforth for the last two years, will be moving to Bolton, to take up leadership of the Salvation Army in that area. She will be succeeded by Lieutenants Faith and Christopher Thompson. Faith and Christopher



along with their 3-year-old son, James, will be moving from Stornoway, to take up leadership of the Salvation Army Bay Area (Carnforth and Morecambe). A formal welcome and installation service will take place on the 27 July.

Sensory Bench to honour much loved teacher

As many of you will know we lost a beloved member of staff last year at Carnforth High School, Mrs Reeves. Mrs Reeves was a long-standing member of the Carnforth High School family and always had the children's best interests at heart. Her passion was safeguarding children and supporting positive mental health, and she often spoke about the need for a sensory garden where students can sit when they need some time out. To honour her memory, we decided to fundraise for a sensory bench.

We did this by collectively travelling 961 miles, that's the distance between Carnforth and Reykjavik. Mrs Reeves loved trips to Iceland with school, so this distance felt fitting to her memory. Many students and staff were involved in the challenge with some of our students raising nearly £100.

By the end of the challenge, we had raised over £700, and we started work with a local business called Woodies who are currently making the school a custom bench for the courtyard. We are looking forward to seeing the finished product and adding the final touches to give Carnforth High School its very own sensory bench and to have a lasting memory of Mrs Reeves in the heart of Carnforth High School.







