

CARNFORTH EXPRESS

Produced by Carnforth Town Council for the Community of Carnforth

Feb/March 2019 (Bi-monthly)



What have the Romans council ever done for us?

How often do we hear people say, "the council should do something about that" or "what do I pay my Council Tax for?" But do you know which council is responsible for providing each of our public services and spending your Council Tax? If the answer to these questions is "no", then you might find the following article useful.

Size matters

Local government in England can be difficult to understand. In some parts of the country (including other parts of Lancashire) there are **unitary** authorities like Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen which provide most of their local council services funded through Council Tax.

Here in Carnforth the situation is a little more complicated where there are three levels of local government. First, we have **Lancashire County Council** which takes the lion's share of the Council Tax and is responsible for important services such as adult social care, children's services and many schools, highways, trading standards, libraries and archives, waste and recycling centres to name just a few.

We then have **Lancaster City Council**, responsible for housing, street cleaning, refuse collection, planning, parks and leisure facilities and environmental health. And last, but by no means least, we have the smallest body of local government, parish/town councils – in our case **Carnforth Town Council**.

The Town Council looks after community amenities such as the Civic Hall, the War Memorial and its garden, several bus shelters, litter bins, and the flower displays around the town. The Town Council has several specific powers at its disposal ranging from the provision and maintenance of allotments, open spaces and parks to public clocks!

Despite its relative size Carnforth Town Council has ambitions to develop Carnforth for residents, businesses and visitors alike. It works hard to promote a positive image of the town and in the last year it has actively campaigned against the proposed closure of the Station booking office and championed the major road resurfacing works on the A6, whilst challenging Lancashire County Council on the disruption the work caused at the time!

The Town Council has recently brought cinema back to Carnforth with the introduction of Film Nights at the Civic Hall and it sponsored the production of the successful Town Trail and Poppy Trail leaflets, the latter marking the centenary of the 1918 Armistice.

We also run annual events, notably, the Remembrance Day Service and Parade and Carnforth in Bloom and periodic Heritage Trails. In the last year we have also made great strides in improving communications with the local community through our bi-monthly newsletter, the *Carnforth Express*, social media (Facebook and Twitter) and our revitalised website.

The Town Council is currently working on the production of a Neighbourhood Plan for Carnforth designed to set down a blueprint for the development of Carnforth for the next decade. We consulted with the local community and the Chamber of Trade on our *Values, Vision and Objectives* and have recently been successful in securing funding to take this forward.

Carnforth Town councillors are proud to serve the community as committed (and unpaid) residents of the town. There are normally 12 town councillors and all places will be up for election in May.

What about the money?

Carnforth Town Council has four part-time employees including the Clerk to the Council who ensures the smooth administration of the Council's day-to-day business and sound financial management and whose duties include maintaining the Council's website, and Facebook and Twitter accounts.

The Town Council receives a very small proportion of your Council Tax to support its work in the form of a "precept" and for the coming financial year it will be asking for an average of 90p a week for a typical Band D property.

We believe the Town Council uses your money sensibly and honestly to promote, protect and develop our town. But we serve the local community and we want to hear what you think.

So, whether you have an idea about how we can make improvements to local amenities or you want reassurances about how we are spending the precept we want to hear from you. Please contact us by email: clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org; by telephone: 07846 256 006 or through our website <http://carnforthtowncouncil.org/>

Perhaps you might like to consider standing for election to the Town Council in May? If so, you can obtain more details on how to set about doing this from elections@lancaster.gov.uk.

Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite



Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan:

Carnforth Town Council and the Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) are delighted that their application for grant funding for a Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan was successful. This application provides funding until 31st March 2019, after which further applications will be made. This,

together with the appointment of planning consultants is the first step in developing a neighbourhood plan for the local area that will supplement the Lancaster Local Plan, whilst setting out our future expectations, aspirations and ambitions.

This is an important project and community engagement will be essential to its success. More information on the plan and opportunities for the local community to comment on its development and come forward with ideas will be made available soon. Please keep checking our website. <http://carnforthtowncouncil.org/>, Facebook and Twitter pages for further information on how you can help us to make a difference and prepare for the future.

Bob Bailey, Town Clerk





Christmas Lights for Carnforth: Thank you to those of you who entered our Christmas Lights Competition. Thanks also to those of you who decorated your houses/gardens but did not enter the Competition. Why not put in that entry next year? You never know you might walk off with first prize! We were pleased to see Mr and Mrs Ingleby of New Street winning the first prize of £100 – seen here receiving their cheque from The Town Mayor, Councillor Bob Roe. Second prize went to

Alexandra Road Gardens and Third prize to the Carnforth Allotment Society.

Carnforth in Bloom: Watch out for more information about the Council's Carnforth in Bloom Competition. Last year we had a bumper response and we want to get an even better response this year. Start thinking about what you can do to help improve the environment in which we live and perhaps win a few pounds for your efforts. Application forms for your entry will be available on the Council's web site and from the Council Office in Market Street in April and we will give full details of the Competition in the next edition of the Carnforth Express.




CARNFORTH TOWN COUNCIL
HERITAGE TRAIL
 JOIN US FOR A WALK AROUND THE
 HISTORICAL HEART OF OUR TOWN

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL 2019 AT 10:00AM
 STARTING AT THE WAR MEMORIAL GARDENS AND
 FINISHING WITH REFRESHMENTS AT THE
 STATION HERITAGE CENTRE, FURNESS HALL

WALK IS SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES COVERING AROUND 1 3/4 MILES AND
 WILL TAKE ABOUT 1 HR 45 MINS TO COMPLETE...
 (VOLUNTARY DONATION OF £5 IS REQUESTED FOR THIS EVENT)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:- BOB BAILEY, TOWN CLERK
 EMAIL: CLERK@CARNFORTHTOWNCOUNCIL.ORG
 TELEPHONE: 07846-256006

Carnforth Heritage Walks: I trust many of you have seen the Leaflet about the Carnforth Heritage Walk and that you have enjoyed walking around the Town and seeing something of the history of the environment in which we live. If you haven't seen the leaflet, why not pick one up from the Council Office or from any of the several shops in town who are stocking them? If you would rather explore something of the town on a 'Guided' Heritage Walk then you can join us on **Saturday 13th April**. We will leave the War Memorial Gardens at 10 am and will finish the walk about 12 noon with a coffee at the Station Refreshment Room. A voluntary fee of £5 is requested for this event.

Councillor Malcolm Watkins

Growing Flowers, Growing Business and Growing Community: Change is good; and there is certainly a change happening in Carnforth! Our community is growing. And so is the Town Council's commitment to its residents and businesses! No doubt you will have noticed all the beautiful planters placed around our town which have received many positive comments. Our 'Planter Project' aims to enhance the benefit of flowers and plants to people's wellbeing, with the added advantage of bringing beauty and colour to the town. Several businesses have now taken up opportunity to sponsor a planter - the additional revenue from which is being reinvested in the town. A planter can be sponsored for just £50 per annum, in return for which the name of the individual / business will be displayed on the planter for all to see and maintained with Spring and Winter flowers and plants throughout the year! If you would like to be involved, in the scheme, please contact the Town Clerk.

Councillor Rico Barbu

Here are our fantastic film offerings for February, March and April. Book your tickets now to avoid disappointment!

Carnforth Town Council is delighted to announce the next in its highly successful series of Film Night screenings at Carnforth Civic Hall.

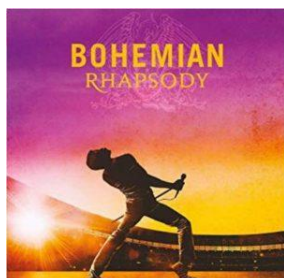
***Incredibles 2* – Thursday 21st February, Afternoon Matinee 2pm –**

Refreshments available. All children under 14 years of age **must** be accompanied by an adult.

Tickets cost **£4 for an adult** and **£2 for a child**.



***Bohemian Rhapsody* – Saturday 9th March 6.30pm**



***Stan & Ollie* – Saturday 13th April 6.30pm**



Tickets for *Bohemian Rhapsody* and *Stan & Ollie* cost just **£7.50 including hot pot supper** provided by *On a Roll Sandwich Bar!*



Other refreshments will be available on the night.

Tickets are available in person from the Town Clerk, Carnforth Town Council Office, 46 – 48 Market Street, Carnforth*.

Tickets can be booked by calling 07846 256 006 or emailing clerk@carnforhtowncouncil.org

Whatever you do, don't delay – tickets are limited and are sure to go quickly!

**Please note that the office is usually open Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 4pm*



Don't lose your right to vote: Time is running out for anyone who has not yet registered to vote if they want to make their mark in May's local elections. Voters will go to the polls on **Thursday 2nd May** to elect 60 new councillors to represent them on Lancaster City Council. 12 councillors for Carnforth Town Council will also be elected.

The deadline to register is **Friday 12th April**. Anyone registered after this time will not be able to vote and contrary to popular belief, you won't be automatically registered even if you pay council tax. Registering should only take around five minutes. Go to: gov.uk/register-to-vote

Become a councillor: All councils are led by democratically elected councillors who set the vision and direction and represent their local community. Councillors are elected to the local council to represent their own local community, so they must either live or work in the area.

Being an effective councillor requires both commitment and hard work, but the role offers the chance to make a huge difference to the quality of life for people in your local area.

If you want to be a councillor, you must make sure that you are officially nominated. This means getting 10 people to sign your nomination papers (signatories must be registered electors in the ward where you wish to stand) available from elections@lancaster.gov.uk. All the necessary documents must be submitted 19 working days before the day of the election. For more detailed information please visit the [Be a councillor](#) website. There is additional support available if you're disabled and considering standing for elected office.

Bob Bailey, Town Clerk



Bay Health &
Care Partners
delivering



Serenity Community Café: Mental Health & Well-being Café



On Saturday 24th November the Serenity Community Café were presented with a cheque for £2,666.99 from the Co-op at Carnforth.

Jayne Collins, who runs the café along with volunteers helps people with mental health problems by offering peer support. Pictured are two of the volunteers Cath Mason-Milward and John Pearce. Jayne and her colleagues were flabbergasted and delighted with the amount of the donation.

Jayne and everyone from the Serenity Community Café would like to thank all who nominated them as their local cause. The contributions will help so many people who frequent the café and they are extremely thankful for the backing received from the local community.

Co-op scheme works by giving 1% of money spent by its members on Co-op branded food products to local projects. Anyone can sign up to be a member. Over £19 million has been raised for local causes across the country since November 2017, with over £8,000 going to organisations in Carnforth.

Jayne commented that the scheme is a marvellous way of improving our local community, it is something that the locals can do to provide and build a healthier and stronger community. The money will be able to provide much needed outings and therapies to help the people in our area who are struggling with mental health.

The Serenity Café is open Wednesday's 1pm- 3pm at Carnforth Free Methodist Church on Hunter Street.

Carnforth Bipolar UK Support Group – Orchard Psychiatric Ward, Lancaster

All the members from the Carnforth Bipolar UK Support Group clubbed together and bought Christmas presents for all the residents of the Orchard Psychiatric Ward in Lancaster, which were gratefully received.

The Bipolar Support Group offers peer support for people who have been diagnosed with bipolar and their families and friends.

The group runs every **fourth Thursday of the month, at The Community Room, Carnforth Community Fire Station on Market Street from 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.**

For more information contact Bipolar UK on 0333 323 3880 or email: info@bipolaruk.org

Jayne Collins





Carnforth Community Swimming Pool

Carnforth Community Swimming

Pool News: The Friends have now launched its "100 Club": The '100 Club' gives you the chance of winning cash prizes whilst supporting your local swimming pool and making sure that this

wonderful facility - used daily by all ages within our local community - continues!

So, take the opportunity now to **win quarterly cash prizes**. 40% of all money raised is returned in prizes! You don't need to check anything for prize details, as we will simply forward the winnings by cheque to the address provided. The annual subscription for the year is **only £12 per entry** and there are opportunities to enter during the first week of February, May, August, and November 2019. Why not consider taking more than one number to increase your chances of winning?

Please email the Secretary Kath Bromilow at kath.bromilow@btinternet.com for a joining form – and mention to friends and family. Carnforth Community Swimming Pool Ltd is a registered charity (Charity No. 1176769) operating since February 2018, although the pool has served the community in North Lancashire, the South Lakes and parts of Yorkshire since 1978.

Councillor Kath Bromilow

Carnforth Twinning Association: In a previous edition of *Carnforth Express* we told you about the visit of our friends from Sailly-Sur-La-Lys in Northern France who visited the town to celebrate 15 years of twinning with the town. To mark the event the Twinning Association commissioned Ginny Koppenhol photography with a brief to 'capture Carnforth' in a selection of photographs as a gift to the people of Sailly-Sur-La-Lys.

After several walks and many conversations about the best bits of our town, Ginny managed to capture a range of vistas and at different times of year – and in variable weather conditions! There were lots of images to choose from but after lengthy deliberation the Twinning Committee chose its final nine and we think that they do capture the essence of our town's rich history and heritage (see below).

As Ginny, a local girl herself said about the project '*...it gave me a renewed appreciation of the town's size, amenities and, of course, its people and sense of community. The location is incredible. There can't be many places that can boast the 'city, coast and countryside' within such easy reach*'. These images can be viewed at: <https://www.gkoppenholphotography.com/>



Julia Grisenthwaite – Carnforth Twinning Association

Have your say

Consultation on Household Waste Recycling Centres' (HWRCs) opening days and times

We want your views on our proposals to change the opening days and times of Lancashire's HWRCs.

We want to keep HWRCs open when residents are most likely to use them. We have categorised all of the HWRCs based on how busy they are and/or how close they are to another centre. We are proposing new opening days and times based on this.

Visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/consultations to complete an online questionnaire available from **Monday 28 January**. If you would prefer a printed questionnaire then please ring **01254 220691**. Please return your comments to us by **Monday 25 March**.



Household Waste Recycling Centre

Consultation: Lancashire County Council is suggesting changes to the days and times Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) will open.

All the HWRCs have been categorised based on how busy they are and/or how close they are to another centre. New opening days and times have been put forward on this basis.

HWRC's currently have different opening hours during the summer (1st April to 30th September) and during the winter (1st October to 31st March). The summer opening times are 8am to 7pm and the winter opening hours 8am to 5pm. Based on an analysis carried out by Lancashire County Council are proposing to change the opening hours for HWRC's to 9am – 5pm for the entire year.

All 15 of Lancashire County Council's HWRC's

are open seven days a week (excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

Lancashire County Council are proposing to open seven HWRC's for five days a week only, being Friday, Saturday and Sunday and two other days in the week based on usage data and the availability of alternative facilities. One of these is Carnforth household waste recycling centre.

Lancashire County Council, like many councils across the country, is going through financially challenging times because of funding not keeping pace with the increasing demand and cost of services being delivered. This means that they must consider changes to some services as they do not have the resources to continue to deliver what they have in the past.

The HWRC's proposals are part of a much wider look at ways to reduce costs to help balance the books for future years and they are now consulting on what impact these proposals might have locally. The consultation is running until Monday 25th March 2019 and Carnforth Town Council want to hear your views before making their own formal response to the consultation.

If you want *Have your say* please contact the Town Clerk by email:

clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org or leave a message on our website:

<http://carnforthtowncouncil.org/>

Once everyone's views have been received and the responses collated, the results will be fed back to Lancashire County Council and form part of their decision-making process.

Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Bus: The Macmillan bus is returning to the War Memorial Gardens on **Thursday 28th March 2019 from 10am to 4pm**. The bus operates as a free mobile information service. On board are a team of cancer information specialists who offer Information and support to anyone with a concern or question relating to cancer.

When they were last in Carnforth in January the team were able to support over 80 people which is fantastic! No appointments are required, and anyone is welcome either to just pick up leaflets or have a face to face conversation. All information is free and confidential.

Bob Bailey, Town Clerk



Friends, family and colleagues bid farewell to

Councillor Pat Wooff: Last December the Town Council sadly lost its longest serving Councillor. Below is a report courtesy of the Westmorland Gazette – which says everything that you need to know about Pat's extraordinary life. The Town will greatly miss her.

The grandmother-of-two's funeral took place at Beetham Hall Crematorium on Tuesday 18th December 2018, followed by a reception at the Longlands Hotel, Tewitfield. The former magistrate died at home following a short illness on Monday, December 3. She was 80 years old.

Her dear friend Cllr Bob Roe, Mayor of Carnforth, was among those paying warm tribute to Mrs Wooff's dedication to the town, in a public service career spanning more than four decades. *"I'd known Pat for more than 25 years," said Town Mayor Mr Roe, "...and in that time she became my best friend, companion, mentor, you name it. She was there for me all the time. She was a joy to work with. Her contribution was vast, to so many organisations. She will be very sorely missed."*

The young Patricia moved to Carnforth in 1954 from Wales, when her father was promoted to relief stationmaster. She and her late husband, Lance, from Warton, had two children, Philip and Leonie, and two grandsons, Christian and Oliver.

Mrs Wooff's close ties with the council began in the 1970's. Last year she told the Gazette she had fond memories of "a smashing year" during 1977 when Carnforth celebrated the Queen's Silver Jubilee. She chaired the council that year, which saw the town's swimming pool opened and every child given a commemorative mug at the former Steamtown railway museum, home of the Flying Scotsman, where Mrs Wooff worked.

Cllrs Wooff and Roe first served as mayor and deputy together in 2005, attending a Buckingham Palace garden party and a reception hosted by Prime Minister Gordon Brown at 10 Downing Street to celebrate community work.

Mrs Wooff became mayor again in 2010 and 2017. She was passionate about the role played by Carnforth Air Training Corps' young cadets. For several years she ran a pensioners' drop-in afternoon at Carnforth Civic Hall and more recently she helped at the town's mental health cafe, Serenity. Mrs Wooff played a key part in the recent and successful campaign to keep Carnforth's swimming pool open.

Back in 1986 she chaired the first public meeting to save the town's iconic railway station from closure. That gathering led to Carnforth Station Trust being formed, of which Mrs Wooff was a director. Poignantly, her final public duty was to organise this year's Christmas party for the friends of the trust, said Mr Roe, adding: *"She was active right up to the last week of her life."*

Back in January 2017, when Mrs Wooff was elected to be mayor for the third time, she told the Gazette: *"I'm proud to serve the town; I think it's quite an honour. 'It's just a good community to live in and we try to keep it that way.'"* She also praised her colleagues on Carnforth Town Council as *"...a fantastic bunch, such a dedicated band of people with a wealth of knowledge"*. Town councillors were among the many mourners at the funeral.

Mayor Mr Roe said his friend took her town council duties *"seriously but not too seriously"* and had the knack of finding just the right moment to make a light-hearted comment in meetings. *"She was such an excellent lady whose work for the town will be greatly missed,"* said Mr Roe, publican at the Shovel Inn. *"Everybody knew her. She touched many people's lives. She wasn't doing it for her own glory, she just did it to help people"*