## **CARNFORTH EXPRESS**

Carnforth Town Council - Working for you

November & December 2023



# Carnforth pays respect on Remembrance Sunday and looks ahead to a special year in 2024

Hundreds of Carnforth residents gathered to pay their respects to those who died for their country in the two World Wars and who served in more recent operations including Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan.

They were joined by representatives from over 30 organisations including our armed forces and emergency services, and local community and faith groups. Mrs Emma Morris, on behalf of David Morris MP, the Leader of Lancashire County Council, Councillor Phillippa Williamson and Ward Councillor Chris Hanna were also in attendance.

The Remembrance Sunday parade and service is always a major event in Carnforth Town Council's calendar and we understand how important it is to our local community, which is why we spend several weeks planning the event - from inviting guests and organisations to attend, organising wreaths and ensuring that all the legal and safety obligations are met. Led by Councillor Ian Laurence and Town Clerk, Bob Bailey, the Town Council delivered a successful event that has received excellent feedback.

We are grateful to Ventbrooks Ltd - who started putting out road signs before 08:00 on the day - and to the volunteers from Carnforth Carnival who helped to ensure that the 'rolling' road closure worked efficiently and kept everyone safe.

The parade formed outside the Town Council office and, on the order of WO Shuttleworth of the Royal Air Force Air Cadets (RAFAC), set off at 10:35 to the War Memorial Gardens.

Another poignant and respectful service was led by former Town Councillor, Major Malcolm Watkins, supported by Father Stephen Jones, Pastor Ian Ellershaw and Captain Tracy Collis and Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Councillors Grisenthwaite and Jones.

Having led the Remembrance Sunday for many years, this was Major Watkins final time before moving away, whilst we welcomed Captain Tracy Collis of the Salvation Army for the very first time. The Salvation Army band provided the live music and sounded the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' whilst Reelife Productions provided the PA system and incidental music throughout.

Looking ahead to 2024, Carnforth Town Council will be holding an event in June to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings. We will also be holding a very special weekend of events next November to celebrate the centenary of the unveiling of the Carnforth War Memorial.

In preparation for this special event, the Town Council is seeking sponsorship to help remodel the area around the War Memorial.

The War Memorial was paid for by public subscription and it was unveiled to great acclaim by Lord Cavendish of Holker Hall on 9 November 1924.

The unveiling ceremony was preceded by a march past by soldiers of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment complete with military band. They marched towards the railway station along Market Street which was lined with flag waving schoolchildren and members of the public. We are very fortunate that the event was captured on film, the original of which is now deposited with the North West Film Archive in Manchester.



We are hoping to have a public screening of the archival film and other contemporary newsreel films on the evening of 8 November and a re-enactment and re-unveiling event



and our Remembrance Day service and parade on 9 November – the anniversary date itself – and 10 November respectively.

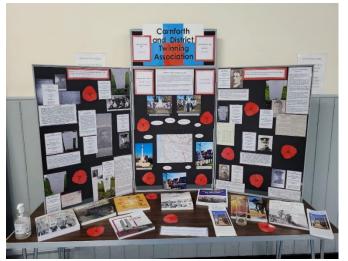
We plan to resurface the area around the War Memorial and remodel the seating and gardens in advance of the anniversary weekend and we are seeking sponsorship from local companies to help cover the costs.

In return we will place a commemorative paviour in the gardens inscribed with the company's name and logo and feature them in a future edition of the *Carnforth Express* - delivered to every household in Carnforth. Contact Bob Bailey, Town Clerk for details.

**Corporal Carey – Town Mayors aide de camp** 

Councillor Parker laid wreaths on behalf of Carnforth Town Council & Carnforth Twinning at the Menin Gate, Ypres, alongside many others from all over the World





# Association marked this year's Remembrance Commemoration with a month-long photographic display in Carnforth Library. The display illustrated the lives and deaths of a number of servicemen from Carnforth and elsewhere in Lancashire who gave their lives in the Great War and who are buried in cemeteries in and around Sailly-sur-la-Lys, Carnforth's twin town in

### **Residents' Parking – the Next Step**

In the last edition of the *Carnforth Express* we asked for your views about introducing a residents' parking scheme in Carnforth. We received almost 200 responses with a majority (67%) of respondents in favour. Thank you to everyone who took the time and trouble to send their thoughts.



As we said last time, if a majority were in favour, we'd contact Lancashire County Council (the highway authority) and ask them to undertake a more detailed feasibility study to determine the practicability of introducing a scheme here. Several people who responded to our survey expressed their concerns about the impact a residents' parking scheme might have on local businesses. Their assumption is that drivers would be discouraged from coming into Carnforth because they would be unable to park their cars. However, there are several different types of parking scheme that could be introduced ranging from placing a limit on the length of time cars can be parked in a particular spot to a straight "residents only" restriction. The current lack of restrictions on "on street" parking in Carnforth is a source of frustration to many residents who are unable to park in their own streets. There is a compelling argument to bring some order to this situation but without having any inadvertent impact on the local economy.

Lancashire County Council has considerable experience in designing parking schemes that take full account of the needs of a particular area and of its residents and businesses. For that reason, we are confident that if this idea attracts the support of the County Council, the final design – which will be subject to public consultation – will reflect the views and the needs of everyone who will be affected. We have now contacted the County Council to inform them of the outcome of our survey. **Town Mayor, Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite** 

**Budget consultation: Carnforth Town Council** is committed to improving its consultation with the local community and taking your views into account when planning services and taking spending decisions. So, we are undertaking a consultation on setting the Council Budget for 2024 / 2025 through a short questionnaire that provides an opportunity to comment on our plans and how to fund them. Your comments will be taken into consideration as part of the budget setting process. Our questionnaire is available on our Facebook page and website or by emailing: <a href="mailto:clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org">clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org</a>. There will also be a series of 'surgeries' around the town -details to be announced – where you will be able to discuss the Town Council's functions and activities and its plans with Councillors and staff. **Bob Bailey, Town Clerk** 

### **Food for thought**

Struggling to access or afford food?
A food club may be able to assist you. Food clubs are a great way for people to save money on their weekly food bill and also a fantastic way to stop food going to waste.

Traditionally, food clubs operate from a community centre or church hall but anywhere with the right amount of space and facilities can be a good venue for a food club. Members of the food club would attend once a week and pay a membership fee (generally between £3 - £5). Food is sourced from various places including donations and intercepted food from supermarkets that would normally go to waste.

All the food complies with food safety regulations. Nothing is offered past its 'use by' date but some food can be close to its use by date or after its 'best before' date. The food that you would receive from a food club is meant to be a top up to your weekly shop but would have an estimated sale value of £25 - £30.

What's On At Carnforth Hub? Kellet Road, Carnforth, LA5 9LS 01524 581280 Held every Monday F.A.B (Breastfeeding Support Group) 9.30am - 11am All sessions Development free Matters to attend (0- Preschool) 1pm - 2.30pm Inside Out (8-11 years) 3.30pm - 4.45pm Lancashire

Food clubs are generally run by their members. There is also normally a social aspect to food clubs too. Members meet up for a brew and a chat before and after getting their food collection. There may be cooking classes or a communal meal as part of the club and members are encouraged to get involved.

There is no current food club provision in Carnforth, and we want to know if local people would be interested in having one, potentially at the Hub on Kellet Road. You can complete our online form (see our Facebook page & website), email: <a href="mailto:admin@carnforthtowncouncil.org">admin@carnforthtowncouncil.org</a> or write to Bob Bailey, Town Clerk, 46 – 48 Market Street, Carnforth LA5 9LB.

All we need to know is whether you support a Carnforth based food club, together with some optional information about yourself. Information provided will be treated in accordance with our policy for handling personal data. **Bob Bailey, Town Clerk** 

Lancashire Warm Spaces: Carnforth Library will again be participating in Lancashire's Warm and Welcome scheme, which has been developed by the County Council in response to the rising cost of living. You will be able to pop in to enjoy a cuppa, a space to sit, the free use of computers, WiFi, and charging points for digital equipment, events and activities and help from staff. This support will be available throughout the winter months. Check out the updated Cost of Living Hub for details of all support available to residents and businesses. https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/cost-of-living/



### Jacob aged 7 has his first book published!



Many congratulation to Jacob who, at just seven years old is a published author! Jacob developed a passion for reading from infancy and loves to read to his younger brother and his cousin who has special needs and unable to read herself.

After learning about authors at school, Jacob told his mum, Gemma, that it was his dream to be an author himself one day and with that started writing a story. The result is *Teacher's Pet* about a new student at school – who just happens to be a very silly and mischievous dog called Peanut!

Gemma said that Jacob thoroughly enjoyed coming up with fun ideas and plots for the book and, seeing how determined he was to get it published, she sent it to be professionally edited and illustrated.

Gemma told us 'The whole book has been written and designed by Jacob. He knew exactly how he wanted his book. He created and described the layout he wanted, the images and all of the characters individually for the illustrator and she brought his ideas to life.

It was partly because of his cousin having needs that he wanted to include children with learning difficulties in his book. Along with characters from other minority groups such as people who wear glasses (like himself), people with red hair and ethnic minorities. He didn't want to leave anyone out. His compassion, inclusivity and caring nature runs right through his book – alongside his sense of humour! It's been such a beautiful experience to support Jacob in his endeavours and we are immensely proud of his achievement'.

Jacob's book is available to purchase on *Amazon* now and will be available from other online bookstores soon.



### **Around our community:** We are the Friends of Carnforth Canal Park.

We would love to introduce ourselves to the wider community and give you an idea of who we are and what we're hoping to achieve. We are a committee made up of local parents, led by chairperson Hayley Hartley. In March 2023 we signed our formal constitution and have already managed to raise a good amount of money towards our cause in the months since.

As many Carnforth residents will be aware, in recent years the canal side park has become tired and run down with some of the equipment unusable.

With many parks in neighbouring towns being improved, families in our community are having to leave Carnforth to find a more suitable place for their children to play.

The potential of the space is incredible and it's such a shame to see it fall into disrepair, especially as it's a big part of Carnforth's history and community.

Our aim is to improve the park in ways which mean that everyone can enjoy it, to create a real community space. We would like to make the park more inclusive, more 'user friendly,' and create a safe and environmentally friendly space for everyone to enjoy. Whether it be children using the play equipment, families enjoying a picnic in the park, or any other members of the community enjoying some fresh air.

We hope to involve local schools and young peoples' groups to help us with the design of the area, as well as possibly helping us build garden planters, bug hotels, bird and bat boxes. We're keen to improve the park and surrounding area, as we know how much it will help the wider community in so many ways, including boosting mental health, and combatting social isolation. We hope that it will also increase visitors to the area, which will help to support local businesses.



In May 2023 we took part in our first official fundraiser for Carnforth Canal Park. We held a bake sale and raffle at Carnforth's Big Lunch, celebrating the King's Coronation. This was a massive success and we managed to raise £500 towards our goal. We would like to say a huge thank you to those that helped us in all aspects of that fundraiser, whether it was buying a cake, giving some money, or kindly donating a raffle prize. Without you it wouldn't have been possible. We would also like to say a big thank you to

Lancaster City Council, for all their help and support with this project. Earlier this year, they supported us to conduct a survey which ran throughout June, giving people the opportunity to voice their feelings and ideas. The responses were brilliant and have really given us a clear idea of what the local community would like to see happen to the park.

A special thank you must go to Bob Bailey and Cllr Ian Lawrence of Carnforth Town Council. Their support with this project means a lot to us and it's wonderful to be working together to try to make a real positive difference to the people of Carnforth.

We have a dedicated Facebook page and group – 'Friends of Carnforth Canal Park' – and here you will find all the information about our upcoming fundraising events, and updates about the park. If you have any queries about the park, please contact the Facebook page or, alternatively, you can email us: <a href="mailto:friendsofcarnforthcp@gmail.com">friendsofcarnforthcp@gmail.com</a>

We're very excited about the future of the Carnforth Canal Park, and hope you are too! **Aby Allan-Hendy, Friends of Carnforth Canal Park** 



Meet Fr. Peter Houghton from Our Lady of Lourdes RC church: "I hail from Preston and was educated by Jesuits. After 5 years in insurance I trained for Catholic Priesthood, in Rome and in Durham, and was ordained in 1985.

For the last 40 years I have served in parishes across Cumbria: Carlisle, Egremont, Barrow, Coniston and Appleby. I have three younger sisters and six nephews and nieces.

My interests include sport, especially horse racing and Blackburn Rovers, music, World War II, history and philosophy with theology - naturally! I hope to meet people of all the Christian churches during my time amongst you here in Carnforth.

The greatest influence on my life, after my beloved parents, is Pope Benedict XVI. Looking forward to meeting you all".

Carnforth Community Choir has been in existence since 2015. Group singing is proven to lower stress levels and has beneficial effects on physical and emotional health. As a choir we have fun singing together whilst learning new songs and would like to invite you to join us on a Monday (term time) 7.15pm at Crag Bank Village Hall. Bring a mug as we have a social time and tea break at half time. Linda Downes, Carnforth Community Choir.

It's a busy time of the year for the Carnforth Chamber of Trade as we get the town

looking festive. For the third year in a row, we are delighted to donate the Christmas Trees that make our town look so lovely over Christmas.

As ever, our massive thanks to Keith Moore (Moore n Wife), Keith & Mark Quinn (Dyno Start), Glen Pearson (The Royal Station Hotel), Town Councillor Paul Turner and regular volunteer, Richard, for all their hard work.

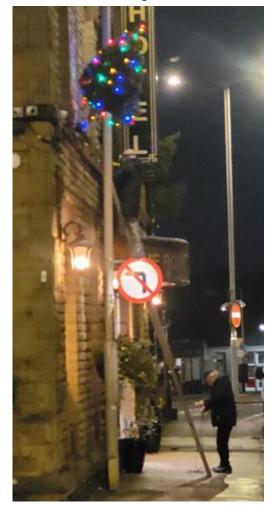
It is also our biggest event of the year with the Christmas Light Switch On and again our massive thanks to the Chamber Christmas Switch On team who have put in so much hard work organising this ever-popular event.

Special mention to Town Clerk, Bob Bailey and Carnforth Carnival for their support.

Moving into next year we are very excited to announce our first Carnforth Business Expo. It will take place on the 23 March 2024, and it is an opportunity to showcase our many local businesses to other local businesses and the public, bringing everyone together to celebrate the heart of our community and build a working network. You can register your interest by emailing:

carnforthchamber@gmail.com.

Alison Seddon, Secretary, Chamber of Trade



### **BARBIE IS COMING CARNFORTH CIVIC HALL ON SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER!**

Barbie is a riotously entertaining candy-coloured feminist fable that manages simultaneously to celebrate, satirise and deconstruct its happy-plastic subject. **DON'T MISS IT!**TICKETS £10 (with food) BOOK NOW: <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/uk/CUTX">https://www.trybooking.com/uk/CUTX</a>

Our newly opened 'Civic Arms' will be selling a range of drinks and snacks too!



### **Coming Soon!**

Date/Time	Event	Venue
2 December – 19:30	Carnforth Choir Concert	<b>Carnforth High School</b>
3 – 17 December	Santa's Sleigh	Carnforth & Surrounding Area
6 December – 18:00	Christmas light switch on	War Memorial Gardens
16 December 2023	Film Night: Barbie https://www.trybooking.com/uk/CUTX	Carnforth Civic Hall
17 December – 10:30	Children's Christmas Presentation	Carnforth Free Methodist Church
24 December – 18:30	Carols & Readings	Carnforth Free Methodist Church
25 December – 10:30	Christmas Day Service	Carnforth Free Methodist Church
27 January 2024	Film Night: Allelujah. <a href="https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CORW">https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CORW</a>	Carnforth Civic Hall
24 February 2024	Film Night: The Outfit. https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CORX	Carnforth Civic Hall
23 March 2024	Film Night: Three Thousand Years of Longing <a href="https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CORY">https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CORY</a>	Carnforth Civic Hall

If you would like your event to be promoted here, please email Leah at: <a href="mailto:admin@carnforthtowncoucil.org">admin@carnforthtowncoucil.org</a> or call Bob on 07828 254149