

LINK

ISSUE FOR APRIL 2021

THE LINK AND COVID - 19 (CORONA VIRUS)

There may be some difficulty with distribution this month, we may find it difficult to maintain a doorstep delivery service, but are hoping to deposit copies in the local shops as previously. We are tentatively looking to a return to doorstep deliveries for the May edition, but we must respect the wishes and views of our amazing team who do the deliveries, so coverage of the villages may be patchy.

You may have received this copy of The Link via e-mail. The editor will have passed the copy to our regular contributors for onward distribution, to comply with Data Protection Rules. The editor does not have access to any other e-mail addresses. The 'Link' team wish you and all your families and friends well at this difficult time.

PARISH COUNCIL

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

BUS SHELTER ON LANCASTER ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH QUERNMORE ROAD. - This has now been fully refurbished and will be a much more pleasant place to wait for the bus when we go into Lancaster. Thank you Chris Lennon for carrying out this work.

BECKSIDE ASH DIEBACK - The diseased trees will be removed shortly. Comments from local people about what sort of trees to plant in their place would be welcomed. Contact Judy Powell on 771154.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE - At its March meeting, the Parish Council decided to set up an Environment and Climate Change Working Group. Ideas include a community orchard and tree-planting. More information to follow, but if you are interested now contact Janet Taylor on 770527.

FOOTPATH ALONGSIDE THE ARTLEBECK FROM BROOKHOUSE ROAD TO HORNBY ROAD - Lancashire County Council is responsible for reinstating this footpath. Both the Parish Council and the Peak and Northern Footpath Society have asked them to act. However the work will be very expensive. It seems it will need more pressure from local residents to get action from LCC on the footpath. If you want to see this footpath restored, please contact The Lancashire County Council Public Rights of Way team by email on PROW@lancashire.gov.uk, or telephone 01772 530317. The reference number for the footpath is FP14 in Caton-with-Littledale. It would be helpful if you could let the Parish Clerk have a copy of your letter or email, or information about your phonecall.

FLOODING - United Utilities A reminder of the item in the March Link saying that local councils have been asked to report on flooding in their areas. If you have information about recent flooding which hasn't already been passed on to our Community Emergency Group, please contact Jenny Walmsley on 771299. In addition, the Lancashire Association of Local Councils has organised a meeting between United Utilities and representatives of local councils on April 10th, to discuss issues around water and sewage, including flooding. If you have any concerns about UU, please contact Jenny in the first instance, and your comments will be passed on to the councillor attending this meeting.

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 13 April at 7pm, via Zoom. Contact the Parish Clerk if you would like to attend.

CATON AND BROOKHOUSE GARDENING CLUB

As things stand lets hope all goes to plan and we can start thinking about restarting the Gardening Club. Watch this space.

On a wider front it seems that during lockdown many more people have taken up gardening and buying more plants to grow. The RHS has found that an additional 1 million front gardens are now filled with greenery. 60% of gardens have at least one tree. 'Such a substantial increase in greenery will bring wide reaching benefits to people's mental and physical health and to wildlife, improving air quality, helping conserve rainfall and cooling cities' says the Director of Science. I wonder what our record is here in Caton and Brookhouse where by and large we are lucky not to have to use our front gardens as car parks!

LOCAL NEWS OF CATON & BROOKHOUSE

www.catonvillage.org.uk

 Linking Caton and Brookhouse
www.facebook.com/catonbrookhouse

Baptist Church Artlebeck Bridge

10.30 am:

*Morning Service and
Sunday School*

6.30 pm: *Evening Service*

Brookhouse Methodist Church Brookhouse Road

10.45 am:

*Morning Service and
Junior Church*

7.00 pm: *Evening Service*

Caton Methodist Brookhouse Road

10.30 am:

*Morning Service and
Junior Church*

Catholic Church Station Yard

Holy Mass

Saturday Evening 6.00pm

Holydays of Obligation

*Mass on eve of Holyday at
6.00pm*

St Paul's C of E Brookhouse

*Sunday Communion
Service 9.30am*

*All Age Worship, read
and led by children – 1st
Sunday of the month*

*Sunday Club in the Church
Hall, all term time
Sundays except 1st
Sunday of month*

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

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CATON AND BROOKHOUSE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

As most of our members have had their 2nd Covid 19 vaccine or they have a date to attend for one and the rules indicated that non urgent retail could open on the 12th of April, we hoped our April trip to Boundary mill might go ahead. However; the rules still indicate that unnecessary travel outside the local area was not allowed.

We did contact Bibby's and they confirmed that unfortunately our 15th of April trip is covered by this rule and has been cancelled.

Our next trip to Lytham and Dobbies garden centre on the 20th of May when we hope the travel ban will be lifted. Again we have everything crossed that it will go ahead and we can meet our friends, have some much needed fresh air and buy our bedding out plants. Pick up at the Victoria Institute at 9.30am then on to pick up at Brookhouse.

Other pick up points can be arranged by calling our secretary
If you are aware of anyone who is not receiving their 'Link' please let our secretary know.
To book or for further information call our secretary, Benita on 01524 771943

CATON THEATRE INTEREST GROUP

We will be updating our information as we receive it on the theatre visit to the Octagon Theatre Bolton on the 26th of June for a matinee performance of 'One man two Governors'.

This date is very close to the total lifting of all restrictions, we cannot be sure until at least April that theatre restrictions will be lifted.

If your name is on our list all changes will be included in this magazine or give us a call.
The cost for a theatre ticket and coach is £38.50 which we will be collecting in April.

This coming Christmas the Grand Theatre Blackpool will be presenting the pantomime 'Snow White'. We have reserved seats at the front of the Dress circle for a matinee performance on the 1st of January 2022. The prices will be advertised as we receive them. We have started a list and already have many expressions of interest.

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

CATON LEISURE CLUB

We now have a 'Road Map' out of the pandemic however still nothing is certain but we remain positive. The Victoria Institute is unable to open its doors until 17th May at the earliest and as our year runs from September to end of April we would not normally be meeting again until September.

In an effort to support the Institute and to enable us to get together again we will be looking to put on one or two meetings/events during what would be our closed period. This might mean that we will not be able to meet on our usual day and time. If anyone has any suggestions for an event we would be happy to hear from you.

The trip to Ripon that was booked for 12th May has been cancelled. We look to reinstate it sometime in the near future.

Chair Exercises will start again on Monday 17th May 9.00-10.00 in the main hall. All Covid rules will apply.

Caton Short Mat Bowls. The indoor season will have finished when the Institute will be able to reopen. It will recommence in October. The group however will move on to play outdoor bowls. For further information contact David 01524 812342.

If you or anyone you know would like an electronic copy of 'The Link' or need any further information please contact Susan on 01524 771862 or email sec.leisureclub@gmail.com

ASSOCIATION DE JUMELAGE - JOURNÉE DU POISSON D'AVRIL

En France, le 1er avril s'appelle Poisson d'Avril ou April Fish! C'est un jour où les enfants jouent des tours et des blagues à leur famille et à leurs amis. Ils adorent découper et décorer des poissons en papier qu'ils essaient de coller au dos des gens sans qu'ils ne le remarquent. Un an, nous étions à Socx pour le poisson d'avril et nous avions des poissons en papier collés partout par les enfants. L'année dernière, nous avons prévu une soirée pour les enfants à Caton et Brookhouse le 1er avril avec des activités en français amusantes et des rafraîchissements - malheureusement, nous avons dû annuler - peut-être l'année prochaine!

TWINNING ASSOCIATION - APRIL FOOL'S DAY

In France the 1st April is called Poisson d'Avril or April Fish! It is a day when the children play tricks and jokes on their family and friends. They love to cut out and decorate paper fish which they try to stick to people's backs without them noticing. One year we were in Socx for April Fool's Day and we had paper fish stuck all over us by the children. Last year we planned an evening for children in Caton and Brookhouse on 1st April with fun French activities and refreshments - unfortunately we had to cancel - maybe next year!

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VICTORIA INSTITUTE

‘Social, recreational and meeting space at the heart of our community’

The Victoria Institute is hoping to be able to reopen from Monday 17th May, this is in line with the recommendation of ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). The Council of Management are continuing to meet each month via Zoom, to discuss the various matters related to the Institute.

FLOODSAX

Floodsax are available from the Institute at a cost of £30.00 for a pack of 5 sax.

For those residents and businesses who, during times of flooding have been provided with free Floodsax, donations can be made towards the cost, by contacting Peter Collins on Tel: 771733.

COMMUNITY PANDEMIC SUPPORT

During the past twelve months, the Victoria Institute landline has been transferred to the mobile phone of our Community Support Worker Peter Collins.

To enable Peter to return to his normal hours of work; from Thursday 1st April the Community Pandemic Support service will be available during office hours of 9:30-3:00, Monday to Friday, this excludes bank holidays and annual leave.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Library and IT Resource Room

Proving the Government’s plan to lift the Lockdown goes ahead, the Library and IT room will reopen on Monday 17th May, under the following conditions: -

A phased re-opening (increasing as required)

Via a Booking system: Telephone (01524) 771733 or email admin@victoria-institute.org.uk

Starting with two sessions per week:

Monday - 10:00am to 12:00noon

Wednesday - 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Maximum two people at a time allowed in the room

Library, computer & photocopying slots can be booked

30-minute booking slots (or combination) bookable via telephone or email

Library book returns to be left in the Cottam room

No book donations until further notice

Computer work stations and printers to be cleaned in between each booked session

Items for printing can be sent via email to; admin@victoria-institute.org.uk and collected by arrangement, on the days that the Library and IT is open

All visitors to comply with the Victoria Institute Covid-19 conditions, including; not entering the building if you have the Coronavirus symptoms, wearing of face covering, use of hand sanitiser, social distancing, following of the one-way system and use of toilets

Kitchen & Drop-in refreshments

The kitchen remains closed and the ‘drop in’ refreshments will continue to be unavailable.

Room Hire

For information about Covid-19 restrictions, related to room hire please contact Peter Collins; Telephone (01524) 771733 or email admin@victoria-institute.org.uk

FIRST SATURDAY LITTER PICK

A group of residents get together on the first Saturday of every month to pick up litter and tidy the village. Meet outside the Victoria Institute at 10.00 a.m., weather permitting and in line with social distance guidance. Bags and litter pickers provided, and it is a good idea to bring your own gloves.

You decide how much time and where abouts in the village needs some attention. Half an hour or an hour can – and does - make such a difference. All the effort is having a positive effect as there seems to be less litter about since this community effort started six months ago.

Next session Saturday 3rd April.

PAINTING GROUP

Unfortunately the virus is still around, so we still can’t meet. Hopefully, now though there is light at the end of the tunnel, although it will probably be some time before we can meet because of social distancing. Hope you are all keeping well. Ruth

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CATON ST PAUL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been wonderful to welcome all children back to school. School has felt vibrant and full of joy, just like it is supposed to be. We would like to extend a massive thank you to our children, parents, staff and Governors for ensuring children managed to flourish during remote learning.

For our first week back, children took part in Science week. This involved a range of activities from catapulting marshmallows, investigating heart rates and testing unlabelled tins to find out what was in them - thankfully, no one ended up eating the cat food!

During lockdown, we managed to hold some fantastic events to keep the children learning, both in school and at home.

World book day saw 'the masked reader' with children trying to guess which staff were behind the disguises. Children also decorated potatoes as their favourite book characters and we had lots of fun guessing who they were.

Our fabulous eco-committee held an eco day which involved children taking part in all sorts of activities to try and save our planet - we even played eco-bingo during a zoom worship.

We held a 1 Corinthians 13 day to celebrate St Valentine's day with lots of activities based around the theme of Love is Patient.

We are still considering the possibility of opening a pre-school on site from September. If this is something you might be interested in, please email head@stpauls.lancs.sch.uk for more information.

B4RN HYPERFAST BROADBAND

The window for accessing the Government Voucher funding may be extended by the time you are reading this. B4RN are expecting an update soon.

If you haven't already, please sign up to support our village to get future proof fibre broadband to every home.

Your service and contract would only start at the point when the network is built, and you are ready to go live. B4RN can only draw down the voucher funding once your service is live so there's plenty of time to work on the detail, so that you don't have to pay for two contracts.

The key is that we have enough homes in the village who would like the B4RN service now or in the future.

Did you know... Almost all Brookhouse properties that have been sold in the last four years; that can access the B4RN service have done so. (Welcome to those who have moved to Brookhouse)

Having excellent reliable internet is now an essential service. Please sign up to benefit our whole community. Please register today at b4rn.org.uk/getb4rn

CATON NEWS -

We now await action from B4RN head office. They are busy drawing plans, and we await a Green Light for go and an outline schedule of when works will take place.

BROOKHOUSE NEWS -

Work continues around Caton Green Road and Kirkbeck Close so if you back on to the fields then now is the time to get your B4RN ducting through your back garden so you're ready for fibre. See Steve at 15 Caton Green Road for supplies of ducting etc.

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CATON GALA

When, due to circumstances, we were forced to cancel Caton Gala 2020 we were all confident that we would bounce back in 2021.

That was 12 months ago, since then the situation has changed on innumerable occasions. This has meant that there have been many changes to government rules and guidance. We have been carefully monitoring these.

Even before Christmas, we were still fairly hopeful that we would be able to hold Caton Gala 2021. You will all be aware that in January the government introduced yet another "lockdown". The legislation imposing these restrictions did not set out much in terms of providing the opportunity to plan for a recovery. We have now had the "roadmap out of lockdown". This provides certain dates concluding with a proposal to end restrictions by the 21st of June 2021. It is clear from the actual wording that the dates put forward are "earliest possible" dates and restrictions may continue far beyond these.

We are mindful that individuals and businesses need to "plan ahead". We have had a number of discussions and are not prepared to promote and prepare for an event that we may not be able to lawfully deliver. We have therefore taken the decision that we will not hold Caton Gala 2021. We will reconvene in the autumn with a view to carrying on the tradition of Caton Gala into 2022. We thank you for your understanding and hope that you will be aware that circumstances are totally beyond our control.

VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB

Greetings to all my friends in the village lunch club. I hope you are well and coping with lockdown. I hope most of you have had your first vaccinations and many of you your second and that you are enjoying the signs of spring. I hope we shall be able to meet up in a few more months. In the mean time I am enjoying the take away Sunday lunches from the Black Bull.

If you would just like a chat you can call 01524 771559. Sue Brown

VILLAGE CHURCHYARD

Very many thanks to the volunteers that came forward last month to help with maintaining the graveyard. We are very grateful, but please don't stop! Any more volunteers will be made very welcome - the more the merrier. The work can be divided flexibly to suit your skills, abilities and time available.

Please contact:- phrawsthorn@hotmail.co.uk for further information. Thank you!

HORNBY PENSIONERS

I hope you are all well & have been enjoying the early signs of spring. Such a lovely optimistic time of year!

Thank you to those who responded to last month's request for feedback, which concluded that meetings in the Institute should not be held before members have had their 2nd vaccine injection. This means that, hopefully, our first event this year will be the June trip. All being well, details of the itinerary, arrangements on the coach & how to book will be published in next month's edition of this newsletter. Fingers crossed everybody!

In the meantime, take care, stay safe & enjoy the season.

LUNE VALLEY SWIMMING POOL - RE-OPENS.

The Lune valley swimming Pool re-opened on Monday 8th March to provide weekly swimming lessons for local schools.

Staff training ensured that the latest lifeguarding/first aid guidance and Covid procedures were in place..All pupils, staff and teachers were very happy to be back swimming again.

As always we are focusing on making sure that swimming continues to be available for all.

Our next big step is for General Public Sessions which, subject to government legislation ,will commence on 12th April

Please check out our website and the revised operating guidelines and timetables when published..

Above all come back and enjoy your pool again, we so look forward to seeing you .

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CROOK O'LUNE BEAUTY SPOT GETS NEW LEASE OF LIFE AS A WILDFLOWER MEADOW

A beauty spot at the Crook O'Lune near Lancaster, known locally as Hermitage Field, is getting a new lease of life as a wildflower meadow.

A formal 12 year license agreement has been finalised between Lancaster City Council as owner of the site and charitable residents' group, Hermitage Field Community Meadow. The agreement will allow the group to manage a five acre plot of land in the field on the council's behalf as a wildflower meadow.

Hermitage Field already contributes to the area being a popular place to visit, with car park and picnic facilities nearby, as well as stunning views across the Lune Valley. The remaining two acres at the centre of the field is already being managed under a separate licence by charity 'Life for a Life', as a memorial forest.

The Hermitage Field Community Meadow charity was recently set up by a group of local residents and has already acquired funding to help them create and manage the meadow. Work has begun on preparing the land before new planting can take place later in the year. The aim of the project is to develop an attractive and enhanced landscape at the popular site which will complement the new memorial forest.

The paths running through the site and parallel with the road will be retained and maintained to enable visitors to the Crook O'Lune to enjoy access to the field.

Councillor Kevin Frea, Cabinet member for climate action and member of Crook O'Lune Advisory Committee, said: "The creation and development of a wildflower meadow at Hermitage Field by local people that are passionate about the conservation of this special place, has provided the council with another perfect opportunity to breathe new life into this treasured beauty spot.

"As well as looking incredibly attractive and complementing the natural beauty of the memorial forest on the same site, the new arrangement will also have massive ecological benefits. Introducing pollinating plants and enticing pollinating bees, insects and other wildlife to the site will increase biodiversity as well provide a local seed bank for other potential meadows."

"The arrangement also supports the aims of the council's new grassland management strategy which will see changes to the way grass is cut in local parks and public spaces, again to help increase biodiversity and meet the council's climate change commitments."

The initiative was spearheaded by local resident and trustee of the charity, Erica Sarney who initially set up a group called the Community Pollinator Patches and went on to form the charity with a number of like-minded friends.

Erica said: "We're very much looking forward to getting this exciting project off the ground and creating a stunning meadow teeming with wildflowers and wildlife for everyone to enjoy. Local people love this area so much and which is also part of a popular ramble overlooking the Lune Valley towards Ingleborough.

"We really hope everyone enjoys the meadow and may be inspired to come and join us, when restrictions allow, to help us bring it to life. For more information and how you can get involved, visit our website at www.hermitagefieldcommunitymeadow.com"

The charity has secured funding from Plantlife, The Areti Charitable Trust, Halton Lune Hydro Trust, Forest of Bowland AONB and Life for a Life Memorial Forests. Part of the site has already been sown with seed from Lancashire's Coronation Meadow at Bell Sykes Farm, Forest of Bowland AONB, as well as Gait Barrows Reserve in Silverdale.

The project will be growing wildflowers with volunteers in polytunnels at the council's White Lund Depot in Morecambe.

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We are planning to have our Easter Sunday morning service in church in person at 10:30am - Hurray! Government Guide Lines will apply but we are so pleased we can meet together again. If you would like to attend please give Alan a ring on the above number to book in. If you are unable to meet in person with us we will be continuing to meet on Zoom. These services will also be available on YouTube at a later time and you are most welcome to catch up with us there.

Please do remember if you would like to know more about becoming a Christian and finding new hope in Jesus, or if you have any concerns and worries and would like prayer or a chat you can contact Alan on the above number.

The Ladies Fellowship will meet for a Easter Celebration Service on Wednesday 7th April at 2pm. The usual restrictions which we have all come to know will of course be observed but we are so looking forward to seeing you all again.

CATON METHODIST CHAPEL

At the time of writing we are scheduled to reopen on Easter Sunday

The service will be taken by our Minister Emma Holroyd and will be at 2pm with sacrament.

Everyone is welcome but due to the restriction on numbers we are operating a booking system. If you would like to attend please contact Emma on emma.holroyd@methodist.org.uk

Or ring Mary on 01524 770200

Going forward we are hoping to continue with our worship on Sunday Mornings at 10:30am

There will be no need to book on these days. If you would like details of the zoom services do not hesitate to contact Emma who will be happy to send you the link.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

Please find below some links to some of the local churches and their activities.

Caton Baptist youtube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcbeHa6he8gA6QCQoKVRujg>

Caton Baptist Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/Caton-Baptist-Church-353898628118923/>

Brookhouse Methodist Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/212957269817153/>

Caton Methodist Chapel

<http://www.facebook.com/CATONMETHODIST>

THE EDWARD & ALICE COTTAM TRUSTS

The Trustees would like to make another distribution from the trust funds held on the trusts of the Wills of the Edward Cottam and his sister Alice.

The Trustees are required to use the trust income for the benefit of:

'poor and deserving persons aged 50 years or over who have resided within the parish of Caton with Littledale in the County of Lancaster for at least five years and are still resident at the date of the application'.

These charities are open all year round and the Trustees welcome applications for funds at any time from anyone who considers that they fulfil the above criteria (taken from the wording in the Wills of the late Edward and Alice Cottam) and also any organisations where the majority of its members fulfil the criteria.

The Trustees also make an appeal for applications once a year in order to distribute what income they can as well.

During the charities' last financial year (which ended 11th September 2020) the distributions to various individuals amounted to £8,150 and for organisations in Caton and Brookhouse amounted to £15,669.

This year, application forms will once again be available from the Brookhouse Post Office during the month of March and the postmaster has kindly agreed that completed forms can be left at the Post Office for us to collect. Alternatively, you can post them directly to Emma Edwards at BSG Solicitors LLP of 3 & 4 Aalborg Square, Lancaster LA1 1BJ telephone: 01524 386500. All applications will be welcomed and treated with strict confidentiality.

It is hoped that the distributions of trust money will be made before the end of June.

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Sonnet 98 W. Shakespeare

From you have I been absent in the spring,
When proud-pied April, dressed in all his trim,
Hath put a spirit of youth in everything,
That heavy Saturn laughed and leaped with him.

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THE ROTARY CLUB OF LUNESDALE

On 25th February the club was privileged to have a speaker from the lesser known part of the medical profession. Members welcomed Kadaba Srinath Vasuden who likes to be called simply Vas. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Blackpool Palatine. It was a surprise to hear, early on in his talk, that as a one year old toddler he had been the victim of polio. It was learning about the global Rotary commitment to rid the world of polio that attracted him to become a Rotarian himself. He gave a fascinating talk about his work and that of his colleagues referring to himself and them as The Backroom Boys. His subject is Histopathology which is the diagnosis and study of diseases of the body's tissues. This involves examining under a microscope tissues and or cells. The results of such detailed examination help clinicians to manage a patient's care. Vas explained that the common concept of a pathologist is a person who examines dead bodies. He emphasised however that the examination under a microscope of tissues and cells is a vital process which assists in determining the cause of problems very much in the living! On March 4th Stephen Hinde, a retired police officer, also gave an excellent talk. He spoke about his career in the force and his involvement in solving the cases of 3 murders. On 11th March Graham Jackson gave an extremely interesting talk about the history of legal dress. He spoke about the use of vibrant colours of the robes worn by the judiciary eg scarlet, gold and blue, the materials used including silks, taffeta, and white fur plus an explanation about the different types of wigs worn. The result of being confronted by such impressive attire can be very intimidating to the criminal in the dock! Keep well, keep safe. Lilian

EASTER POEM

As I write these few lines for April

Easter will be drawing near;

Days should be feeling warmer

Little lambs will soon appear.

I'm thinking now of that Easter,

Though the experience is far in the past,

When we spent time in the Holy Land

Where dusk is over so fast.

The sun beat down daily upon us,

Many donkeys roamed free in the street

Over-loaded under their burdens,

People begging from anyone they meet.

We visited Gethsemane and the Tomb,

And sailed across lake Galilee,

Walked up on the Mountain of Olives;

Rode a camel – of course for a fee!

So many interesting places,

Two weeks passed swiftly by

Now leaving just precious memories,

But they're so special they'll never die.

The memory of those cobbles streets

Sitting on the ancient city walls

We heard a blind girls choir singing

Hallelujah, Christ arose.

By Dorothy Brennand, Caton Methodist Church.

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