



Dear Resident

Welcome to the Winter 2011 edition of Th'Edge O'Leet - the 30th edition! It's hard to believe that the first was delivered in 2003.

I was delighted to read the report from the Best Kept Village Competition as it reflected the pride and care we have in our village. With just a few tweaks and renewed effort we may gain the coveted Best Village award in 2012.

After much delay, the potholed road surface on South Road is in the process of being repaired. Additional locations have been allocated to the SPID and we continue to gather information via the device to support our discussions with Lancashire Highways for reducing speed on sections of North Road.

Councillor Booth will shortly be inviting all residents to share their views and visions for the future of Bretherton by completing a questionnaire. This information will help the council to include the opinions of the whole village when it completes a parish plan, so please take time to complete it.

As I sit here writing my message the blustery weather is rattling, with sharp blasts across the fields and between the houses. But as Sir Walter Scott said:

Heap on the wood! - the wind is chill;

But let it whistle as it will;

We'll keep our Christmas merry still.

All your parish councillors send their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year of 2012 to everyone living and working in our community of Bretherton.

Cllr Gwyneth Lloyd

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chairman

Cllr Gwyneth Lloyd Tel: 600705
45 South Road, Bretherton

Vice Chairman

Cllr Simon Moulton Tel: 601388
5 South View, Bretherton

Cllr Robert Booth Tel 600100
Lane End Farmhouse, Pompian Brow,
Bretherton

Cllr Wayne Jackson Tel:600500
Brook House Barn, North Road, Bretherton.

Cllr John Pigott Tel: 601455
9 Bamfords Fold, Bretherton

Cllr Tony Rigby Tel: 600602
Over Hall Farm, Bretherton

CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL:

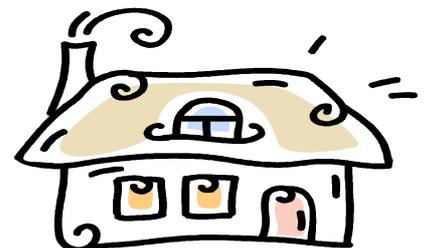
Glenys Southworth
12 The Avenue
Penwortham
PR1 0SU
01772 746178
Email: brethertonpc@yahoo.co.uk

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 6th February, 2012 at 8pm at Bretherton Endowed C of E Primary School.

Protecting your home in winter

- Check that **pipes** are adequately lagged
- Check that you have ordered your **winter heating fuel**
- Check that you know where your **stoptap** is located

Find out if you are entitled to **grants and subsidies** for home heating and insulation



Church Services

The Congregational Church:

18th December 2011
6.00pm Tree / Carol Service
25th December Christmas Day
10.00am Christmas Morning Service @ 10.00am Sunday 25th December

St John's Parish Church:

24/12/2011 Christmas Eve
4.00 pm Christingle Service
9.00 pm Christmas Eucharist
25/12/2011 Christmas Day
11.00 am Eucharist
1/1/2012 New Years Day
10.30 am Joint service at Croston



Bretherton Primary School-news from the Headteacher-Nick Ward

Children in Class 1 and Class 2 performed their nativity 'Hosanna Rock' in school. They were wonderful and the production really captured the essence of Christmas.

Over £750 was raised by the PTFA Christmas Fair! Our PTFA work very hard and the support from all of our school community is very much appreciated.

Children in Class 3 have been learning to play brass instruments in school. We were treated to a super concert by the band.

Jessica Johnson from Class 4 was one of the runners-up in the designing a Christmas card competition for our local MP.

Our building work is almost complete and I am sure you will agree that it is looking beautiful and has been designed in keeping with the traditional building and will greatly improve security and provide areas for the children to work in smaller groups.

We continue to live by our Mission Statement at school: Learning together, growing together, achieving together, caring together within our Christian family. Please visit our website if you would like to know more about our school, www.bretherton.lancs.sch.uk We hope that everyone has a lovely Christmas.

On behalf of everyone I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2012.



Gardening Courses

Marguerite our Gardening Correspondent will be starting new series of weekly Gardening Courses from 9th January 2012. If you are interested please email her for details. D.hughes180@btinternet.com



Bretherton Film Society **Spring Season Programme 2011.**

Friday 20th January:

ANOTHER YEAR starring Jim Broadbent, Ruth Sheen and Lesley Manville. Cert 12. (129 min).

A married couple who have managed to remain blissfully happy into their autumn years, are surrounded over the course of the four seasons of one average year by friends, colleagues, and family who all seem to suffer some degree of unhappiness.

Friday 10th February:

TINKER TAYLOR SOLDIER SPY starring Gary Oldman, Colin Firth and Tom Hardy. Cert 15. (127 mins).

Film version of John le Carré's classic spy story. In the bleak days of the Cold War, espionage veteran George Smiley is forced from semi-retirement to uncover a Soviet agent within MI6's echelons.

Friday 2nd March:

THE HELP starring Emma Stone, Viola Davis and Octavia Spencer. Cert 12A. (137 mins).

An aspiring author during the civil rights movement of the 1960's decides to write a book detailing the African-American maid's point of view on the white families for which they work, and the hardships they go through on a daily basis.

Friday 23rd March:

MY WEEK WITH MARILYN starring Michelle Williams, Eddie Redmayne and Kenneth Branagh. Cert 12. (99 mins).

Colin Clark, an employee of Sir Laurence Olivier's, documents the tense interaction between Olivier and Marilyn Monroe during production of *The Prince and the Showgirl*.

All films will commence at 7.30 pm (doors open 7.00 pm) at Bretherton Endowed School. Refreshments available (including wine).

Please contact Margaret Simmonds (01772 601455) or Gwyneth Lloyd (10772 600705) for further information. We look forward to seeing you all at the film nights.

brethertonfs@btinternet.com .



Weather watch

Do you think our weather is getting more extreme, more variable, less predictable? It has certainly been rather interesting during the past couple of years, especially for anyone interested in gardening and the natural environment. In March this year we started to keep a record (in inches) of rainfall in Bretherton, the results are set out below. Does anyone else in the village keep records of the weather? It might be interesting to build up a bigger picture of our climate.



March 0.67", April 0.66", May 1.79", June 1.91", July 3.31", August 3.73", September 3.18", October 3.67", November 1.47".

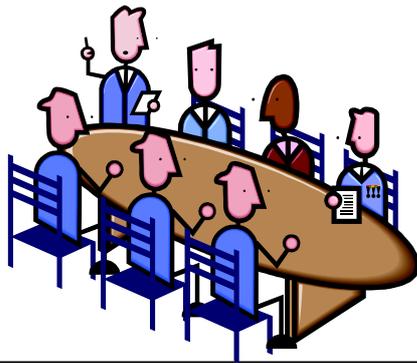
If you have any comments or observations you would like to share please contact me.
John Jolley, South View. Phone No 600896. Email address; jolley@johnjolley.plus.com

PACT Meetings

Due to the reduction of Community Beat Managers within this area to just one it will not be possible to attend any Parish Council meetings, unless there is a specific concern, hence the reason for the combined PACT. The combined PACT meetings for all of the rural west area i.e. Bretherton, Croston, Ulmes Walton, Charnock Richard, Eccleston and Heskin is held on the first Wednesday of every month at Park Hall.

I am hoping to increase the visibility of the Community Support Officer for each area, in your case Maria Featherstone.

PC 2316 Loz Elphick.
Chorley Rural West
CBM.
01257 246103/8
01704 822277



Some tips for clearing snow and ice:

When shovelling snow, take care not to block other people's paths or drains. Clear a path down the middle of the area so you can walk easily and move snow from the centre of the path to the sides. Start early – it's easier to move fresh snow than hard snow that has been packed together by people walking on it. Use grit sparingly - sprinkle grit on the area needed to give a fine coating. As the area is driven or walked on the grit will activate and melt the ice. Around one tablespoonful is enough for one square metre of ice, so a shovelful will go a long way.

BRETHERTON BOWLING CLUB

The Bowling Club have had yet another successful and enjoyable year with the Veterans team finishing top of their division in the Leyland League and the 'B' team narrowly missing out on promotion in the Chorley League for what would have been the third successive year.

The full list of competition and merit winners is:

Merit Winners 2011:

Chorley League – 'A' Team: D Hughes

Chorley League – 'B' Team: B Chambers

Leyland League: Brian Howarth

Vets: Brian Gray

Ladies: Kath Watkinson

Trophy Winners 2011:

President's Day: Graham Whittle

Institute Trophy: James Whittle; Runner-up: Kath Watkinson

Rigby Trophy: Kath Watkinson

Bamford Doubles: Joan & Jimmy Bullen

Men vs. Ladies: Men

The Bowling Club AGM will be held on Saturday 21st January at 7.30 pm in the Village Institute and all new and potential members are welcome. We are particularly interested in hearing from anyone who would like to join a second Vets Team which we are hoping to enter in the Leyland League on a Tuesday afternoons in 2012.

John Pigott (Secretary) Tel: 01772 601455

BIRDS IN BRETHERTON

There is quite a noticeable difference in bird behaviour this year compared to last because of the warmer weather. Last year the birds were queuing up at the bird table whereas this year there is only the occasional visitor to our bird table. It's nice to hear the flocks of migrating geese flying over and there seem to be plenty this year. They sound quite different to the resident Canada which seem to have a much harsher call. There have also been small groups of Whooper swans with their characteristic squeaky wing beats. Whilst birds of prey seem to be thriving (buzzards, kestrels and sparrow hawk are seen regularly) I've not seen any herons for some time.

If you have any comments or observations you would like to share please contact me.
John Jolley, South View. Phone No 600896. Email address; jolley@johnjolley.plus.com





Gardening News

We're probably thinking back to this time last year & remembering how cold it was & that it was certainly not gardening weather. What a difference a year makes, we've just had the warmest November on record but winter now seems to be rolling in (or blowing in) with a vengeance.

One of my talks is called "winter a season of surprises" and whilst it may be a bit wet to plant we can wrap up warm and appreciate nature – berries, seed heads, architectural plants like twisted hazel, & mahonia and the wildlife coming to our gardens for the winter food that is provided on such plants.

Whilst you are outside collect natural garden plant material to make a stunning Christmas wreath – berries & fruit not just from holly but also from pyracantha, viburnum opulus, sorbus, cotoneaster, crab apples & rosehips. Foliage & flowers from viburnum tinus, ivy, Fatsia Japonica, cornus and birch twigs and all manner of seed heads, catkins from teasel, inula, alder, hazel, poppies & phygelis.

Here are some essential winter jobs

January

Trees Shrubs & Climbers

Provide or add to winter protection for plants that need it and don't forget the garden tap
Plant bare rooted trees, shrubs or hedging plants & container grown plants if the weather is suitable

Flowers

Remove any wet leaves & debris clogging up herbaceous perennials
Remove faded and weather damaged flowers on winter bedding plants

Herbs & Vegetables

Buy or order vegetable seeds & seed potatoes
Chit seed potatoes as soon as you get them

Fruit

Prune established currants
Prune summer fruiting raspberries if you forgot to do this in the autumn, then tie in new vigorous canes

Ponds & Water Features

Keep the surface of ponds at least partially free from ice

Fixtures & Fittings

Treat timber structures if the weather is suitable
Take your mower for a service to beat the rush

February

Trees Shrubs & Climbers

Cut back deciduous hedges before the birds start to nest in them
Prune Group 3 clematis
Water trees, shrubs & climbers in containers if the weather is dry or windy – evergreens need this most
Winter prune wisteria

Flowers

Prune winter flowering heathers once they have finished flowering
Sow sweet peas

Lawn

If the conditions are not too wet, prepare the ground now if you intend to create a new lawn this spring

Fruit

Prune apples & pears before the leaves break
Prune autumn flowering raspberry canes
Continue to plant fruit trees, bushes & canes including bare rooted varieties

Best Wishes and Happy New Year from Marguerite.