

Bretherton Parish Council

Th' Edge O' Leet

Winter 2016
Issue 50



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Autumn has been and gone along with Halloween and Bonfire night. The Cricket Club organised a Bonfire and Firework display which despite the awful weather was well attended was really appreciated by us all.

Our Service of Remembrance was a heart-warming experience. I felt honoured to lay a wreath as Chair of the Parish council and to give thanks to all our fallen. After the service which was very well attended by young and old we were all invited back to the Congregational Church for tea and biscuits. I would like to give a special thank you to George Pears who stood in at the last minute for us and played the trumpet brilliantly. It was also nice to hear the positive comments on the work undertaken so far in refurbishment of our War Memorial.

We do not have a Council meeting in January but please be assured we are working on your behalf on matters raised throughout the year.

Christmas is nearly upon us, it's a time for celebration and family gatherings. Give support to all the village festivities and do try and come along to our Church services. Let us not forget that Christmas is a time for giving and sharing but please give a thought for the less fortunate, elderly or the sick, at this time of year.

Finally just to remind our younger residents to post your letters to Father Christmas. Enjoy your Christmas, and watch out for Rudolf! Remember be good for your parents as Santa knows who is naughty or nice!

May I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Karen Wait, your Chair



Happy Festive Season and Good Wishes for the New Year from all the Parish Councillors

Future meetings of the Parish Council

Please note the Council does not meet in January

Monday 6th February 2017

Monday 6th March 2017

Monday 3rd April 2017

All meetings are open and are held at Bretherton Endowed C of E Primary School at 8pm (except AGM)

Future Newsletters

If you are responsible for a village event or organisation please send me your details so that I can contact you for a short article in a future newsletter.

We would also like to recruit more people to help with delivering the newsletter.

Call Barbara Farbon on 01772 600750.

All information in this newsletter is correct at the time of printing. Bretherton Parish Council take no responsibility for the content of any of the articles included.

Newsletter Sponsored by R & E Bamford Ltd, Globe Mill, Midge Hall, Leyland PR26 6TN



VISIT THE BRETHERTON WEBSITE

www.bretherton.org.uk

Farming in Bretherton – Andy’s farming blog

Well our traditional wet winter has caught up with us. Our porch has become a combination of wet dogs, muddy welly boots and the farm cat looking through the window wishing it too was a dog. "Bag-in" time or "brew" time to most people, somehow seems to get longer through the winter months as we find longer topics to discuss in the warmth, usually politics!

A fantastic Autumn allowed the drilling of next year’s crops to run smoothly and most farmers in the area got finished before the rains came. Grass kept growing allowing livestock extra outdoor grazing time and extra cuts of silage to be made for the over winter feeds.

Even Forage Maize which is one of the later harvested crops was chopped and cleared without too much mess being made. Various ditches and brooks are being cleaned, unfortunately not by the Environment Agency yet, Wymott and Lostock would be a start.

Some fields have been left for spring sowing allowing manures to be stockpiled and spread in spring unless there is some frosty weather beforehand.

At home we have dropped the oil seed rape crop from our rotation after almost 40 years of growing it, being plagued with pigeon damage from above and slug damage from below. The ongoing restrictions of chemistry to grow the crop successfully has become a challenge not worth pursuing at the moment. We have replaced the area with milling wheat this year, maybe we could get some Bretherton Buns in the bakerySimon?

So the hatches are battened down, we are confined to yard duties, cleaning and bagging grain, machinery maintenance in the workshop and fixing that broken gutter!

Hopefully the local turkeys are getting plump and the pigs are snug in their blankets ready for the big day ! On that note I wish everyone a content and peaceful Christmas in the warmth of your homes without too much of the wet stuff!

Andy P

Crime

We are lucky to live in a relatively crime free village and when incidents occur it is disappointing and upsetting to those who are victims of the crime.

Please be vigilant, keep doors locked including bicycle sheds and garages at night and when you are away. We are in a Neighbourhood Watch area so please look out for your neighbours and if you see anything suspicious please report it.

Recently there have been some petty incidents late at night of road signs being twisted incorrectly and there has been a report of damage to vehicles on South Road. Where damage is involved or items stolen it is imperative that the police are informed.

To find out more about crime in our area, sign up to the regular bulletins from the In the Know team

<https://www.stayintheknow.co.uk/>

receive regular crime updates, information on road closures, information about fires and other emergencies and learn about what your local neighbourhood policing team is doing.

In The Know is the free messaging service brought to you by Lancashire Police supported by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and Lancashire County Council where you decide when and how you are kept informed about the issues that matter to you.

Police and Communities Together (PACT) - have a say and involvement in how your local neighbourhood is policed.

The way PACT is delivered has changed to meet the needs of local communities and make best use of technology to make PACT more accessible. It can be difficult for you to physically attend a meeting during the evening, when you might have other commitments or find it difficult to get transport. E-PACT, has recently been introduced, where virtual meetings are held online and also mixing physical with online meetings either on Facebook or using new products such as Google Hangouts.

You can find out when and where your next PACT or E-PACT meeting is by following your local policing team on **social media**.

<http://www.lancashire.police.uk/contact-us/get-connected.aspx>

Website

Apologies for the late updating of the village website calendar recently, we were experiencing some technical problems caused when the web master updated the security on the site. This has now been sorted out and normal service is resumed.

If your organisation or club has an area on the site can you please check that all details of personnel is correct? If anything needs changing please let the Parish council know.

Key dates

WI	Thur Dec 8 th 7.30pm
Film Club	Fri Dec 9 th 7.30pm
Lights Camel Action (at the school)	Mon, Wed, Thur before end of term – details from school office 600431
Carol Singing at Bamfords Fold (school)	Fri 16 th December (no time announced yet)
Carol Service (Congregational Church)	Sun Dec 18 th 6.30pm
Christingle at St John’s	Sat Dec 24 th 4pm
Christmas day at Congregational Church	10am
WI	Thur Jan 12 th 7.30pm
Best Kept Village planning	Sat Jan 14 th 11am
Film Club	Fri Jan 20 th
Film Club	Fri Feb 24 th
Film Club	Fri Mar 24 th
Film Club	Fri Apr 21 st
Open Gardens (NGS Gala Weekend)	Sun 28 th & Mon 29 th May
Open Gardens	Sun 2 nd July
Open Gardens	Sun 3 rd Sept

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What has the Parish Council been doing on your behalf recently?

During 2016, the Parish Council has been working towards implementing the key issues from the Transport Survey the process has been slow and resources are limited but initially a short list is being taken forward. These are,

- Improvement of the Pedestrian link between Bretherton and Croston;
- Restricting the use of Sarah Lane and Back Lane as routes for through traffic;
- Introduction of a 3.5 Tonne vehicle weight restriction on South Road and North Road;
- Maintenance of footways, including frontage hedges
- Exploring the alternatives to replace the public transport services
- Exploring the possibility of opening up the link between the Blue Anchor and the Recreation Ground.

Some of these issues will be less easy to achieve than others because they are dependent upon decisions at County level or by neighbouring Parish councils but we will continue to press for suitable solutions on behalf of the village.

The public meeting in May gave us a mandate to enable the refurbishments to the War Memorial to take place. The initial work has been completed to repair the frost and water damage thanks to Brian Anderton and to Stephen Wignall for the cutting back of the hedges. Further work will be undertaken when planning permission is granted for the removal and pruning of the surrounding trees. Further work on opening up the site will commence after the trees have been removed.

In May it was agreed that commemorative mugs should be given to all the 0 – 4 children living in the village and all those children attending the school in Years R to 6 on 11th June 2016 to celebrate the Queen's official birthday.

110 mugs were given out by the school and a further 25 to pre school age children and those under 11 attending other schools.

The village playground is always popular with families and the Parish council carries out weekly inspections throughout the year to enable any problems to be recognised early and corrected. The whole site undergoes a ROSPA standard inspection every year as is required by our insurers. The annual inspection serves to help the Parish Council to prioritise certain aspects of maintenance before issues arise. This year Chorley Council helped us by replacing some cracked paving and decking planks, they also arranged for the tractor to be painted and gave us special playground quality bark chippings to replenish the barked areas. We are also hoping to have some of the matting replaced in the near future. As part of our weekly checks we also check the Defibrillator which is on the Institute wall.

County Council Elections

Could you be a Councillor and stand for what you believe in?

If you care about the area that you live or work in and the issues facing local people, we need you. Lancashire County Council is holding its county council elections in May 2017 and we need new candidates to represent their areas.

In Memory of Jean Lloyd

Roland and family would like to thank all for their donations to the Alzheimer's society in memory of Jean. A final total of £1156 was donated.

W.I.

Bretherton W.I now has 54 paid up members! We held our first AGM on 13th October 2016, having had a busy and enjoyable first year together, and it is safe to say that we have learnt a very great deal in that time!

We are still very new, and we are learning all the time, but we seem to have developed our own Bretherton style – informal, sociable, and supportive, with members ranging in age from 22 to (we think) 82, all enjoying each other's company. Hopefully, we can continue to build on these positive foundations in the coming year, encouraging each other in new activities and continuing to make a positive contribution to village life in Bretherton.

As we go forward into our second year, members are being asked to complete a questionnaire about interests and ideas you would like to pursue, so that we can make sure we develop a variety of activities with something for everybody. We are already considering holding more events during the week, and setting up special interest groups, as well as putting national resolutions into practice.

Please join us in the New Year, we meet on the second Thursday of every month. Our January Meeting is on **Thursday 12th January at 7.30pm**

Jane Elphick. President Bretherton W.I.

You can also find details on our website www.brethertonwi.co.uk or on Facebook.

Preparing for the Best Kept Village Competition 2017

We were placed sixth in the 2016 Small Village category of the Best Kept Village Competition, a somewhat disappointing result given the efforts made by so many people. The Blue Anchor received a Highly Commended award. The pub building and planting does look truly spectacular throughout the year so this is much deserved.

In 2016, our village clean-up days were very well supported by a very willing band of villagers. We will recommence these on a monthly basis from March 2017. An initial meeting to plan for 2017 was held on Saturday 19th November but was very poorly attended. A further meeting is planned for Saturday January 14th at 11am meeting at the Bowling Hut. Please join us to start planning! If you would like to join the group please ring 600750.

Bretherton Endowed Primary School

What a busy first term at Bretherton! I would like to thank everyone for their kind words of welcome and I look forward to being able to share with you, our amazing experiences. All children and staff have settled back into the routines of school and it was a great first half term with the good weather meaning we could make full use of our field right up until the end of October.

Our sporting involvement has continued and we have participated in Athletics, Kurling and Boccia alongside other schools.

We held a Harvest celebration in St John the Baptist Church. The children wrote prayers to support equality and to eradicate poverty around the world, such insightful thoughts from the adults of the future.

Our children have the opportunity to be involved in many after school and lunch time clubs. Our teachers and visitors offer Spanish, games club, football, sewing for KS1 and KS2, Wild outdoors and many more. This term we had a very successful friendship week. Children learned about how to be a good friend, how to resolve differences and how to celebrate differences as well as similarities. Wild outdoors came in to promote working as a team, Relax Kids came into school to help children manage their emotions, in particular anxiety and worry, the police came in to discuss conflict resolution and Nippon UK about the effects of bullying on self esteem and emotions. Year 6 were invited to attend an 'Author Roadshow' led by Chris Riddell. They listened to how he gets his ideas for writing and how important the editing process is. They have been influenced by this and have shown those skills in their work linked to WW1.

Our Ethos group, hosted a Remembrance Day assembly independently (their first time) and it was a huge success. An hour packed full of remembrance, poems, songs and thoughts of the sacrifices that were made. They also asked children for their dreams of peace which was lovely as they unified in the fact that wars don't solve anything. At the end of November we had our Christmas Fair... it is always surprising how quickly we get into the Christmas spirit! Children opened it with carols around the tree which was special and a few of our children were presented with certificates by the Brain and Spine Foundation as they won a national competition to design their Christmas cards. What talented children!

Class 1 and 2 are in full swing preparing for their nativity production 'Lights Camel Action!' They will perform this on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday before we finish. If you would like to join us, please contact the school office for further details 01772 600431.

Our children are fantastic ambassadors for charities. This term they have hosted a cake sale for Children in Need, raising over £100, They have supported Longton Community Church in providing cleaning materials and equipment to help those less fortunate and the NSPCC raising money through a sponsored exercise session in school.

We are hoping to go carol singing at Bamfords Fold on the 16th December so it would be great to see you there. Watch out for flyers in the village for further information.

All at school would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy 2017. If you would ever like to come and visit us, help out in school or have any ideas for community events we can be involved in, please contact school by telephone or email

Alison Moxham, Headteacher

Film Society

The last film on the Film Society's Autumn Programme is **LEARNING TO DRIVE**, a romantic comedy starring Ben Kingsley and Patricia Clarkson & Grace Gummer on Friday 9th December Cert PG. (90 mins).

As her marriage dissolves, a Manhattan writer takes driving lessons from a Sikh instructor with marriage troubles of his own. In each other's company they find the courage to get back on the road and the strength to take the wheel.

Details of our Spring Programme have yet to be agreed but film nights have been provisionally planned for **January 20th, February 24th, March 24th and April 21st**.

If you have any suggestions for our Spring Programme or if you would like to be included on our email contact list, please contact us at brethertonfs@btinternet.com or phone John or Maggie on 601455 or Gwyneth on 600705.

All films will commence at 7.30 pm. The doors at Bretherton Endowed School open at 7.00 pm when refreshments, including wine, will be available. We very much look forward to seeing you then.

Thanks to the Cricket Club.

The re-formed Cricket club did us proud on Bonfire night with a superb bonfire and firework display along with excellent refreshments. We all missed this event last year so let's hope that the club goes from strength to strength in 2017.

If you would like to get involved in the New Year contact John, Adam or Mick.

John Blanchard (07748 356245), Adam Fletcher (07879 494087) or Mick Haworth (07962252433).

Open Gardens

Four gardens will be taking part in the scheme in 2017, Hazel Cottage, Glynwood House, Pear Tree Cottage and Owl Barn.

Dogs

DOG FOULING

Please also take responsibility for your dogs when walking them through the village. It is an offence to allow your dog to foul the highways. Dog faeces can carry parasitic toxocarasis which can lead to blindness in humans. Remember to 'scoop the poop' and dispose of it safely!! Please note, dogs are not permitted in the children's playground or on the field of the recreation ground.