

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE BB12 9JR

Your Parish Church exists to be the people of God through faith in Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, worshipping Him, making disciples and serving others.

Parish NEWS



**SEE
BACK
PAGE**

FEBRUARY 2012

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CHURCH SERVICES ARE HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 9.30AM

Congratulations to Hayley Sumner and Adam Holleran
who were married on December 27.

A funeral service was held at Burnley Crematorium on 16 January for Barley
resident Arthur Slater, our sympathy goes to the Slater family.

CHILDRENS' SOCIETY BOXES

Thank you to all boxholders. The total raised in 2011 was £234.
A special Thank You card is displayed on the church porch notice board.
New boxholders are always welcome.

PARISH NEWS IN THE INTERNET

In order to reach a wider audience, future issues of 'News' will also be available on the church
website. Paper copies will continue to be delivered but residents who prefer, can receive their
issue online. To take your address off the delivery round, and place your name on the email list
please contact the Church Secretary, John Parsons. john@spenbrook.co.uk

CHURCH WARDENS

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HONORARY SECRETARY

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Spen Brook, Newchurch-in-Pendle,
Burnley BB12 9LZ Tel. 01282 699580

HONORARY TREASURER

Ronnie Williamson, 6 The Meadows,
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Next issue Please have your articles for the next 'News' by **Friday February 17.**

*Compiled by James Starkie for St Mary's Church and the communities of Barley, Goldshaw Booth & Roughlee.
Funded by St Mary's Church, Barley Parish Council, Goldshaw Booth Parish Council,
Roughlee Parish Council & Roughlee Village Centre.*

Dear Friends



My much admired friend Bill Bailey has made another magisterial pronouncement - the boom in comedy in the UK is because we are the most depressed country in Europe.

Religion doesn't 'cut it anymore' so going out to have a good laugh is the answer. In one sense I think he is right. Comedy has replaced religion as the opium of the people. (Sorry, Karl!) I confess to an addiction to stand-up comedy. In many of the shows I've seen, even when the comedy has been mediocre, I've noticed a widespread desire on the part of audiences to laugh at stuff that isn't funny. Perhaps comedy is like religion in the sense that an uncritical search for an escape in either is bad for people.

I disagree with Bill, though, that religion should provide a way of coping with unhappiness. In my experience, Christianity has never provided me with easy answers to life's problems. Instead it seems to focus hard questions - what makes a well-lived life? How should I respond to other people's suffering? What is right and wrong all about? Why can't I just pursue my own interests? I suppose at one level the Gospel provides some answers, but it seems to me the answers are not theoretical. Life is practical and we have to get out of our comfy chairs and live it. Jesus may be the Way, but I have to do the walking.

Richard Herring did a show recently called Christ on a Bike. It laid into religious belief, but there was more than a sense of irony when he compared his parents with himself. They are practising Christians and heavily involved in their local community in Somerset. Richard has no faith, and lives a self-centred life by his own admission. He clearly admires them, but he still couldn't find anything positive to say about their faith. Is he missing something - or does he think there are no laughs to be had in what he suspects to be true?

Comedy is more than an anaesthetic. It can deflate, challenge, inspire, and celebrate. The gospel in the right hands can do the same and more. We need more and better stand-ups - comedians and evangelists.

God bless you, *John*

Rev John Hallows, St Thomas' Vicarage, Wheatley Lane Road,
Barrowford, Nelson BB9 6QS Tel. 01282 613206 Email jhallows@tiscali.co.uk

NOTICEBOARD

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.pendleforesthistorygroup.co.uk

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 15th February 2012 7.30pm Barley Village Hall
AGM and 1950s film of Newchurch and Sabden Fold Area.**

The following is an extract from the Burnley Express, written by the local historian, Roger Frost

JUST before Christmas, newspapers were full of the news that Malkin Tower, home of the Pendle Witches of 1612, had been discovered at a lonely location not far from the village of Barley. Even I was swept up by the excitement!

The event was presented as having a ring of truth about it as the scanty remains of a mummified cat were found. Four hundred years since the Witch Trial, the remains of a (black?) cat, the building in ruins: too good to be true, and it was!

Pendle Forest Heritage Group, which meets in the splendid Village Hall in Barley, arranged with Carl Sanders of United Utilities, who had made the discovery, to meet the archaeologist on site. I was fortunate enough to be present and thoroughly enjoyed the Saturday morning visit to Lower Black Moss reservoir where UU had been doing maintenance work.

We met Frank Giecco from NP Archaeology who gave us a conducted tour which lasted for two hours. What we visited was the substantial remains of a stone-built 17thC farmhouse. Only part of the ground floor survived but it revealed a lot about a farmhouse of that era – how it was built, the materials used, how the building was heated and how its residents prepared food. The latter was particularly interesting as a small kitchen range survived in what had been an inglenook fireplace and, better still, there was a double bread oven not unlike those which can be seen in operation in the Walled Garden at Towneley Hall.

As I say, the morning spent in the shadow of Lower Black Moss was a real pleasure and I would like to thank everyone involved – the Heritage Group, Carl and Frank - for arranging a most memorable event.

mothers union

Our next meeting is on
Tuesday Feb 28 at 2pm
in St Thomas.

Wednesday 1st February
"Inside Sainsbury's"
at 1.30pm (Note time)
at Barley Village Hall
Visitors most welcome.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Find a face for Alice

SATURDAY 11th FEBRUARY

1pm to 4pm at Roughlee Village Centre

● Find out more about the story of Alice
& the Lancashire Witches 400 programme

● Tell us what you think our
commemorative statue should look like

MESSY CHURCH

BARLEY VILLAGE HALL

**Takes place on the third Tuesday of
EVERY month at 3.30pm**

FUN, GAMES, WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP



Parish NEWS

BARLEY ~ GOLDSHAW BOOTH ~ ROUGHLEE

Residents are welcome to attend their local Parish Council meetings. There is a Public Question Time at the beginning of each meeting and there is no need to make a prior arrangement to speak.

Barley with Wheatley Booth

www.barleyvillagehall.org

Parish Council meetings take place on Wednesdays of every month at 7.30pm in Barley Village Hall. Next Meetings: February 1 & March 14

Parish Council Chairman: Derek Heap Tel. 692264 derek.heap@lancashire.gov.uk

Parish Council Clerk: Vicky Thorp Tel. 449912 vicky@oldhamsweb.co.uk

Village Hall Chairman: David Weatherill Tel. 613280 david.weatherill@cibluk.com

Goldshaw Booth ~ Newchurch, Sabden Fold & Spen Brook

www.goldshawbooth.org.uk

Parish Council meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm in Newchurch School. Next Meetings: February 14 & March 13

Parish Council Chairman: William Mayor Tel. 691369 chairman@goldshawbooth.org.uk

Parish Council Clerk: Sheila Grindrod Tel. 693857 sheila.grindrod@btinternet.com

Church News Co-ordinator: Chris Widdas Tel. 691850 chriswiddas@gmail.com

Roughlee Booth

www.roughlee.org.uk

Parish Council meetings take place on the first Monday of every month at 7.30pm in Roughlee Village Centre. Next Meetings: February 6 & March 5

Parish Council Chairman: Brian Nelson Tel. 697220 brian.t.nelson@btinternet.com

Parish Council Clerk: Carol Donohoe Tel. 07769 857595 caroldonohoe@msn.com

Village Centre Chairman: Michelle Harvey Tel. 619602 m.harvey@cobra-at.com

Councillors

Lancs. County Councillor: Shelagh Derwent Tel. 616064 shelagh.derwent@lancashire.gov.uk

Pendle Borough Councillor: James Starkie Tel. 699262 james.starkie@pendle.gov.uk

BARLEY

We are now well in to 2012 but I must start by wishing all our parishioners a healthy and prosperous year, or at least the last eleven months of it.

I am expecting a number of challenges for the Parish Council this year - one of our key responsibilities is to look after the fabric of the village and so we will be looking for opportunities to spend our income. In recent years we have spent monies on fencing, riverbank walling, finger post signs, benches, landscaping and roadway surfacing and this will continue. Footway works are planned for March and if you have any suggestions of what needs attention please speak up.

Looking after the character of the area and representing you is another PC responsibility and hence we will continue to respond to planning issues or inappropriate activity in the AONB. United Utilities withdrew their plans to build three houses next to the Village Hall before Christmas but no doubt they will be back with new plans for development and, we must remain vigilant to protect our woodlands.

The big event of the year will probably be the Queen's Diamond Jubilee to mark 60 years on the throne. The PC will be contributing towards the local festivities being arranged for June and will be encouraging you all to get involved in processions and other activities that the Barley, Newchurch and Roughlee Jubilee Committee are arranging.

Your Councillors in 2012 are Frank Wilkinson, John Connor, David Goodger, Simon Halliday, Frank Rigg, Derek Oldham and myself. Our Clerk is Vicky Thorp and Caroline Heap is our Finance Officer.

Our role is outlined above so if you think we should know tell us, can help ask us and when we need you, please support us. Finally, we send our best wishes to Tom Robbins who is now running the Garage in the village. Why not call in or phone 699695 / 07990 708046 Derek Heap

Village Hall

On Saturday 21st January we held a very successful Burns Night supported by our Scottish friends, a great Traditional Evening with piper & haggis, thank you for your support. This event helps to keep the rents down for local Groups although the committee need to find other means to make the Hall viable as we are relying on the catering to cover the basic costs of the Hall. We are very proud of our hall, many visitors are amazed that we can support such a facility, but it is thanks to the hard work put in by the committee & volunteers.

The next big event is the ST. GEORGE'S DINNER on SATURDAY 21ST APRIL followed 2 weeks later by our 19th MODEL EXHIBITION on 5th, 6th & 7th MAY.

New exhibitors always welcome tel. Chris 691850 or David 613280

CRAFT GROUP: 1- 3pm. 3rd Monday, check with Valarie for these very popular classes Tel. 691850

YOUNG FARMERS: every Monday 7.30pm contact William Eminson 07817057314, Mark Hartley 07889891622

KEEP FIT: Monday 8pm weekly circuit training, Contact John Tel. 611517.

PENDLE PATCHERS: 2ND & 4TH Tuesday 1 to 5 pm. Call in if you would like to see what we do. Tel Dorothy 709780

WHIST: Last Sunday in the month. Jean 615089

COFFEE & chat: Wednesday 8th at 10am to 12 noon.

PENDLE PUMPKINS: every Thursday 10-12 noon. COME & JOIN THIS GROUP there seems to be a shortage of young children in the district. Contact Tracy tel. 07811114865 PILATES Thursday.. Tracy 07773785904. 10 – 11am.

No Pumpkins or Pilates at half-term holiday. BADMINTON: contact John for availability Tel.611517.

LINE DANCERS: Wednesday 7.30pm Tel.867438

Audrey Weatherill

Goldshaw Booth

PARISH COUNCIL

There was a sad end to Christmas when the pine which stood in front of the toilets in Newchurch was blown down in the gale on the 28th December. Luckily no harm was done in its falling and the lights, which had looked so splendid, were undamaged, and, indeed, shone brightly on the fallen giant. There was some consideration of trying to resurrect it but, after taking advice, the PC reluctantly decided that it should be removed. Discussions are now in hand to decide what sort of tree should replace it; we will try to get as mature a specimen as possible but it will be some time before it will look as good as it did this year.

Tenders for the mowing of the playing fields are being sought and should be in by 10th February; please see the noticeboards or call a councillor for details.

The application for the development of Spen Brook Mill has been withdrawn and the PC awaits details of a possible alternative.

Discussions are taking place with PBC about the future of the toilets in Newchurch; ideas are needed; we don't want a derelict building in the middle of the village, and we would not wish to see them closed: what should we do?

Bill Mayor

ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Following our Christmas concert collections we raised £235. These donations will be shared between the charities chosen by our School Council: Alzheimer's and Water Aid.

Monday 20th February – "Phil the Bag" collection in school gam

The main aims of this scheme are to

increase textile re-cycling rates, reduce landfill and to raise money for school projects. Some of the money raised will be given to our School/Eco Council to buy some new wet playtime games. So the more you send the more money we will raise! They take all kinds of clothing, shoes, bags, belts, hats, curtains, towels & bedding. Please bring your bags into school. The van will be at school at gam to receive and weigh them.

Congratulations to Mia (Rec.) who has been awarded Highly Commended in the Mini Me Card Company 2011 Christmas art competition. Well done Mia!

We are looking forward to inviting the following visitors into school this half term: The Fire & Rescue Service to deliver 'Child Safe' sessions to the children. Rhema Theatre Group who will be delivering a 'Citizenship morning' – a fun and inspiring cross-curricula experience for all the children.

Following KS2's visit to the archaeological dig at Overhouses, Barley Mr Kevin Davies from United Utilities will be in school to present prizes for a writing competition.

Mrs S Hasler-Cregg

GOLDSHAW EVENTS COMMITTEE

Santa arrived in Newchurch village on Saturday 17 December bringing gifts for all the children. The mulled wine went down a treat with the adults, helping them to keep warm on a bitterly cold winters evening. Unfortunately the disco planned for Saturday 14 January had to be cancelled. Hopefully 'Party in the Paddock' planned for Saturday 28 April will show a bit more enthusiasm! Details next time.

Bob Donovan

ROUGHLEE

On behalf of the Parish Council can I wish all villagers, their families and friends a happy, healthy and prosperous new year. 2012 promises to be a very eventful year in the village calendar.

We have scheduled for late spring, although the exact date has still to be confirmed, the unveiling of the Alice statue on the straight bit of road between the centre and Crowtrees. This will form part of a series of activities to coincide with the 400th Commemoration of the so-called Pendle Witches leaving the villages.

An artist has now been commissioned and is intending to visit groups and organisations in the villages to gain a deeper understanding of what 'Alice' may have looked like. There will be an open afternoon in the Village Centre on February 11 so that residents can meet the artist, chat to her and even have their portrait drawn! The final design won't be based on anyone in particular though so fear not! Funding is from PBC and the Forest of Bowland, who are both keen to ensure that the story of Alice in particular is properly told. The project is led by Borough Councillor James Starkie and assisted by Barley author Kate Mulholland whose book 'A cry of innocence' is all about Alice Nutter.

On Monday June 4th Roughlee will be joining Barley and Newchurch for celebrations of the Queens Jubilee. As has already been mentioned a procession is planned from the village centre area to Happy Valley to meet up with the two other village processions and then onto Mark Hartley's field between Whitehough and Barley. Events are already planned for the day and evening. Full details will be given through the

Parish Magazine in the forthcoming issues. However residents might like to consider how they can participate in the procession etc. Hopefully we can have a great turnout to celebrate the 60 years of the Queens reign.

January in the Parish Council calendar means the budget for following Council year (ie April 2012-March 2013). Our grant from Pendle Borough Council was cut by 10% this year due to the extremely tight financial constraints they, like all councils, face. This was not unexpected and we are fortunate as most Parish councils in fact receive no grant from their parent Authority. The Parish Council felt that even though we had a reduction in grant we did not wish to increase the precept so kept the figure at the same amount for I believe the third year running. As all villagers are aware we do hold a Parish Meeting usually in May and at this time a full breakdown of the Parishes expenditure is outlined and we as Parish councillors value any opinions on the way we spend what is after all our villagers' money!!

We once again held our Seniors Christmas party during December and as always it was a great success. I would like to thank on behalf of the Parish Council the Staff and pupils of Roughlee School for coming and entertaining us yet again. A truly wonderful performance, much enjoyed by all present.

Brian Nelson

The Village Centre Committee has started planning this year's Village Events. Our first will be an Irish Night and posters will be put up on the notice boards shortly. Our second event will be the Village Fayre, which this year is a little earlier than normal, so that it doesn't coincide with the Jubilee celebrations. This will be held on Sunday 27th May.

Michelle Harvey