

# Parish News

Barley | Newchurch | Roughlee | Sabden Fold | Spenbrook

## August 2022

**Curate's Thoughts  
What's On  
Parish Councils**



**St. Mary's Church**  
Newchurch in Pendle BB12 9JR

# Curate's Thoughts

Whilst I'm on holiday, I enjoy seeking out some of the more unusual customs that flourish in the area I'm visiting. This summer I came across a particularly strange one. Every ten years most of the people in the village where I was staying stop cutting their hair for 18 months; in addition, the men stop shaving. Not at all good if you're the local barber. And it makes crowning a Rushbearing Queen or two opposite the public conveniences in Newchurch every summer seem pretty well normal behaviour.

But if I now reveal that the village in question is called Oberammergau, the reason for the unkempt hair and beards may become obvious. It's part of their vow to perform a passion play in thanks to God for delivering their village from the plague that was sweeping across Europe almost 400 years ago. Not that it's an unchanging custom: the text has changed radically over the years and the decree against hair-cutting only came into force in the 1960s!

The idea of communities coming together to perform a play to tell the story of Christ's Passion can trace its origins back to the 13th Century. Which means, passion plays are relatively recent inventions compared with the custom of rushbearing. The earliest reference I've found to our custom goes way back to the 9th Century when Pope Gregory IV directed that "rushes should be strewn on the floors of the churches on their saints days".

Back then, it was an intensely practical thing to do. Most buildings, including churches, had floors made of compacted earth. The rushes soaked up any water that seeped through; they provided insulation against the cold; they also some sweet smells to offset the more obnoxious ones; and, when they became just too grotty to carry on, they could easily be replaced.

What was new about Gregory's edict was linking this very practical act to a church's saint's day. In effect, making it an ecclesiastical festival; part of the annual celebration of the church's very existence within its community; part of saying thank you to God for all he has provided over the past year – and all he will provide in the year to come.

There was also something intensely symbolic about the custom as it originated. The taking out of the old rushes and their being replaced by new ones; things change but they also remain the same. There's a continuity to life, which is emphasised by this annual process of renewal.

Our Rushbearing Ceremony today bears only a passing resemblance to those early days, just as today's Passion Play in Oberammergau bears only a passing resemblance to its medieval forebears. We don't have earthen floors in the church anymore. So there is no practical reason for scattering rushes on them.

Instead we have symbolically, an old Rushbearing Queen passing on the title (and the crown) to a new one – or, this year, to two new ones. Change has occurred, yes, but continuity has been preserved. And with it comes renewal and a fresh beginning for all of us.

Rushbearing is undoubtedly an occasion to have a bit of fun, to put on pretty dresses, to parade through the village, to celebrate the past. But it remains more than that. Because unchanging through it all is our need to say a big thank you; a thank you to God for all he has provided for us and all he will continue to provide.

Whatever you are doing this Summer and wherever you may be going, may I wish you well and hope that you too may come across some unusual local customs!



# Barley Parish Council

As I am writing, the drainage works on the Village Green are well advanced and whilst the project is going well the rain forecast for the next few days might slow things down. Once the drains are completed the footway across the green will be improved with drainage channels installed and a new footpath surface. The last part will be to turf over some of the damaged grassed areas and you can bet that it will stop raining once the turf is laid. There will also be some environmental works on the embankment above the village green including tree planting and bird boxes.

The project has had financial support from the Lancashire Environment Fund which we are grateful for and Pendle Borough Council have provided some welcome technical support to the design of the scheme, that has been a big help and played a part in securing the grant funding.

Parking charges were introduced on the Turning area from 1st July. So far it has been a success with the turning area mainly free of vehicles during the day and providing its primary function for a range of vehicles seeking to turn, has prevented congestion in the village centre and re-established the village centre piece. To date there has been six parking charges issued.

Up on Heys Lane, the adjacent landowner has completed some damage repair works to the lane that were required by LCC before they would sanction essential maintenance work to the centre section of the lane. These will now be progressed by the PHLP using their funds. The Council are lobbying for some drainage works on the incline above Bridge End to prevent wash-out in front of the properties and hopefully some wall repairs.

Hurray – In July 2021 I reported to BT that the manhole in front of the noticeboard by the VH had partially collapsed and was a hazard. They duly turned up a week later and put a small red fence around it which you have most likely seen over the last twelve months. After many e-mails and a few phone calls it was repaired last week – twelve months in the planning stage.

Other matters in brief, we have not made the final of the Best Kept Village competition this year, the planning application to extend Cross Lane Farm was rejected and can I request that you have a word if you see dog fouling around the WI garden not picked up.

Finally, I am sure everyone will join us in wishing Jess Kirk and Jack Thompson health, wealth and happiness following their wedding at Stirk House. And we all wish Cllr. John Connor a speedy recovery following a few days in hospital.



## What's On

### Barley WI

The Barley Women's Institute meet on the first Wednesday of the month at the Village Hall. In February we had a great evening in the company of Malkin Morris Dancers and in March we have a demonstration on Felting. Each month is very different. We have a great age span from 20 somethings to 80 somethings so ladies please come along and spend an evening with us and try before you buy.

**In September this year Barley WI celebrate 80 years since its formation and we have held our meetings at the Barley Village Hall ever since!**



## Barley Village Hall

**Barley Village Hall** is open for hire! It's been a strange few months but we are open and have our regular groups using the hall every week. If you ever want to book the hall for a social event such as birthdays, christenings, weddings or various occasions then please feel free to email us.

We have various rooms to book and a kitchen to use if required.

The hall is the heart of the community. We will be investing in the hall over the coming year. If you would like to help out or join our committee then please let us know.

You can contact us by emailing [barleyvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:barleyvillagehall@gmail.com)



## COFFEE AND CHAT

Second Wednesday of each month

Barley Village Hall

10am – 12 noon

All welcome, not just the old folk

£2 gets coffee (or tea) and cake!

## UP! Book Club

Up! Book Club meets on the last Wednesday of the month; come along and discuss your favourite books!

7.00pm at The Pendle Inn

Contact : joanne@underpendle.com

# Barley Chapel



Barley Chapel has been at the heart of village life for the past 122 years.

It has weathered many storms. Many of you will have fond memories of Harvest festivals, Carols by Candlelight, Barley to Bethlehem, weddings and christenings at the Chapel.

Not to mention the wonderful shows, birthday parties, toddler groups, table tennis and of course FOG club. The chapel has been there for us all in some way or another and stands as a reminder of times gone by.

The congregation at Barley has fallen because of many changes in our daily lives, and most recently due to Covid resulting in the chapel facing extreme financial difficulties and potential closure. With your help this can be averted.

Unfortunately, we have uncovered major problems with the chapel roof which needs to be addressed in order that the building continues to be functional for generations to come.

We can apply for grants to fund the work but as part of the grant process we need to evidence that the chapel building is not only used for worship but for community purposes as well. We do need to generate some income and this is where we are looking to people in the villagers to help us. We are looking to open up the Chapel occasionally as a 'Pop Up Café' just serving hot and cold drinks and cakes to try and capitalise on all the visitors that now visit Barley to go up the Sculpture Trail. We need volunteers to staff the café. If we can get the volunteers, the commitment will not be too onerous as we can staff on a rota basis.

We also need your ideas on how we can use the chapel building.

Please contact either Lorraine (07966261520) or Angie (07967121031 or 605090) to have a chat without any obligation at all or if you have any ideas on how we can use the Chapel.

Look forward to hearing from you

## Pendle Patchers

The Pendle Patchers had a most enjoyable session this month when they treated themselves to an afternoon tea from the Cabin.

Paula and her team prepared a great selection of goodies and delivered them to the Village Hall for us to graze through the afternoon, interspersed with a bit of sewing and knitting and a lot of chatting.

We had visions of sitting out on the patio outside the terrace room, enjoying the afternoon sun, but showers put an end to that idea. We nevertheless had a lovely afternoon and it was good to see everyone.

Our meetings in August are on Tuesdays 9th and 23rd from 1.00pm and we would welcome anyone who wants to pop in, although we will only be offering brews and biscuits next time.

tel. **01282 602449**

email : **gilbeeke@btinternet.com.**



## CARD MAKING CLASS

First and Third Monday of each month

Barley Village Hall

1pm – 3pm

For details contact Valerie

Tel 01282 691850

## Pendle Forest History Group

Wednesday 17th August 2022

7.30pm at Barley Village Hall

Business meeting and items of interest

Members £2.00, Visitors £3.00

Email: [pendleforesthistory@gmail.com](mailto:pendleforesthistory@gmail.com)

# Goldshaw Booth Parish Council

What a sterling effort by the gang; Christine, Hailey, Laura, Dave, Sarah, Ruth 1, Ruth 2 and not forgetting... the mini-troops! Strimming, weeding, painting, planting and cleaning. Newchurch park looks fabulous and was enjoyed by all at the Rushbearing Summer BBQ.

Talking of which, BIG thanks to all those who contributed to the day; Liz for her amazing salad (watermelon and feta – game changer!), Chloe for her artwork, Sarah and Laura for cakes, drinks and goodies, Caroline for her salad, Frank and Janet for chairs and games, Hailey for lots of things and of course, the Captain, Anthony for his legendary BBQ-ing!

Locals and visitors were welcomed, new friends were made and the day went off almost without a hitch!

As a reminder, since the Public Space Protection Order came into effect owners of dogs on the park can be fined.



Who's been down to the woods today? Or recently? Sparable Wood is looking lush! With meandering pathways and a wealth of wildlife it really is worth a walk and a picnic – either for some peace and quiet or with the kids during the holidays. There is space for all! Dave is carrying out a nature survey with plans for nature walks, bat and owl boxes, bee homes, bird feeding/viewing station and a potential yoga/meditation space – keep an eye on the FB page (below).

It's the holidays! Those with children at Newchurch St. Mary's will have received their passes for free swimming sessions at Pendle Leisure Trust pools. Thank you again to Barley Parish Council for helping to fund this most valuable initiative. If you need a spare pass please contact us.

In other news, the Goldshaw Booth bid for funding for CCTV in Sabden Fold and Spenbrook was successful. The system in Newchurch has already proved useful both for providing evidence and, it is

felt, as a deterrent as we have seen fewer instances of speeding and cold-calling. Safety first! Thank you to Frank for liaising with LCC on the provision of 'Slow Down, Save Lives' stickers for our bins. If you would like to help improve road safety in the area please contact us and we will be happy to drop stickers off to you.



And, it's that time of year again....**TRACTOR RUN!** The annual Pendleside Charity Tractor Run was set-up over 10 years ago in memory of local farmer Andrew Nutter.

It has raised many £1,000's over the years and continues to raise valuable funds for Pendleside Hospice and the chemotherapy centre at Blackburn Hospital. Supporters are welcome to watch as the 100's of tractors trundle past on Saturday August 20th (more details are available on their FB page).

Together in Goldshaw (TIG!) has a new FB page (<https://www.facebook.com/tigoldshaw/photos/a.113104018133087/113103254799830>).

Sign up to keep up to date with projects and events. There are various things coming together in Newchurch and Sabden Fold over the next weeks so watch that space!

Kindest regards,  
Ainsley  
[s.a.macadam786@btinternet.com](mailto:s.a.macadam786@btinternet.com)

## Next Parish Council Meeting

**Tuesday 9th August 2022, 7.15pm, Barley Village Hall**

Copies of Meeting Agendas & Minutes from Previous Meetings (etc.):

[www.goldshawbooth.org.uk](http://www.goldshawbooth.org.uk)

## Planning Applications:

22/0457/TCA | Works to trees within a Conservation Area. | Sabden Great Hall Sabden Fold Higham Burnley Lancashire BB12 9LS

22/0378/FUL | Full: Erection of replacement sub-station. | Spenbrook Mill Spenbrook Road Newchurch In Pendle Lancashire BB12 9JH

A link for further details of any planning applications can be found here:  
[www.goldshawbooth.org.uk](http://www.goldshawbooth.org.uk)

## Goldshaw Booth Parish Council Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/915228842660833>

# FREE\* Swimming

during the School Holidays for  
Pendle's Primary School Children



For session times, please visit  
[www.pendleleisuretrust.co.uk](http://www.pendleleisuretrust.co.uk)



with support from



\*Only valid with Free Swim Pass issued from School



## St.Mary's Summer Barbecue

1.00pm Sunday 21st August, 5 Osborne  
Terrace, Spenbrook BB12 9JJ,

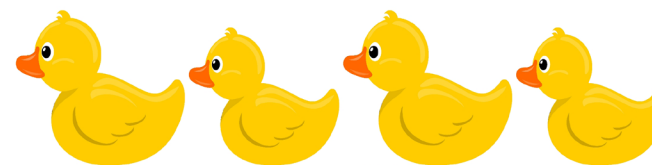
Food ready from 1.30pm.

Adults £15 (includes all food and drinks).  
Children welcome: £5.

Trains from 1.00 (weather permitting)

Contact [familycrewe@hotmail.com](mailto:familycrewe@hotmail.com)

# Roughlee Parish Council



**ROUGHLEE  
VILLAGE  
CENTRE**



**SAT 13 AUG, 6PM**

Outside school then RVC evening event from 7pm

**Food served from 7:30pm**

Hot Roast Topside Baguette  
or Vegetarian Goats Cheese Flan  
with Garlic New Potatoes and  
a vast array of Buffet Salad £10

Children's hot dogs £3

With Music | Bring Your Own Drinks

**TICKETS MUST BE PRE-BOOKED/PAID BY  
8PM, THURSDAY AUG 11th - 07849 774438**

## Friends of Newchurch

### 100 Club

The results for the Friends of Newchurch School 100 Club Draw for June are

£25 Number 83 Lisa Forester.

£20 Number 43 Ann Norris-Johnson.

£15 Number 56 Rachel Shaw.

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who takes part!



## Roughlee Village Centre - Dates for 2022

Sat 13 August  
Sun 30 October  
Sat 5 November  
Fri 2 December  
Sat 17 December

Duck Race  
Pendle Halloween Festival  
Witch Wines  
Dickensian Christmas Fayre  
Roughlee Christmas Boogie

**Full details will be advertised at [www.roughlee.org.uk](http://www.roughlee.org.uk)**

Don't forget! RVC is available for hire to private events at very reasonable prices. See the website for further details or call Gail on 01282 696997.

# Parish Contacts

## Barley with Wheatley Booth

[www.barleyparish.uk](http://www.barleyparish.uk)  
[www.barleyvillagehall.org](http://www.barleyvillagehall.org)

Meetings are held at 7.30pm in  
Barley Village Hall on 2nd Wednesday  
in the month

### Parish Council Chairman

Derek Heap t: 692 264  
[derekheap1@googlemail.com](mailto:derekheap1@googlemail.com)

### Parish Council Clerk

C Heap  
[clerk@barleyparish.uk](mailto:clerk@barleyparish.uk)

## Goldshaw Booth: Newchurch, Sabden Fold & Spenbrook

[www.goldshawbooth.org.uk](http://www.goldshawbooth.org.uk)

Meetings are held at 7.15pm at Barley  
Village Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of every  
month.

### Parish Council Chairman

[s.a.macadam786@btinternet.com](mailto:s.a.macadam786@btinternet.com)

### Acting Council Clerk

Heather Robbins  
[clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk](mailto:clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk)

## Roughlee Booth

[www.roughlee.org.uk](http://www.roughlee.org.uk)

meetings are held at 7pm in  
Roughlee Village Centre on the 1st  
Monday of the month.

### Parish Council Chairman

Andrew Walker t: 07808 003035  
[ajwplanning@hotmail.com](mailto:ajwplanning@hotmail.com)

### Parish Council Clerk

Mary Reed t: 611 126  
[roughleeclerk591@gmail.com](mailto:roughleeclerk591@gmail.com)

## MP & Councillors

### MP for Pendle

Andrew Stephenson t: 01282 614 748  
[andrew.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:andrew.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk)

### Councillor

Carlo Lioni  
[carlo@lioni.co.uk](mailto:carlo@lioni.co.uk)

## St. Mary's Church

### Vicar

Rev. Julie Smith t: 613 206  
[jls446439@gmail.com](mailto:jls446439@gmail.com)

### Curate

Rev. David Hargreaves  
[da\\_hargreaves@hotmail.com](mailto:da_hargreaves@hotmail.com)

### Warden

Kathleen Wilkinson t: 617 971  
[brianwilco@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:brianwilco@tiscali.co.uk)

### Warden

Douglas Bull  
[douglas@douglasbull.co.uk](mailto:douglas@douglasbull.co.uk)

### Secretary

Virginia Crewe  
[familycrewe@hotmail.com](mailto:familycrewe@hotmail.com)

### Treasurer

Peter Crewe  
[familycrewe@hotmail.com](mailto:familycrewe@hotmail.com)



# St Mary's Church

Our 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.

## Services at St. Mary's in August

Sunday 7th August 9.30am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 14th August 9.30am Common Worship Holy Communion

Sunday 21st August 9.30am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 28th August 9.30am A Service of the Word

Refreshments are served after the service.

Everyone Welcome to any of the services.

Contact the Vicar for more details

Articles for the September edition should be sent to [lee@underpendle.com](mailto:lee@underpendle.com) by  
29.08.2022

published by St. Mary's Church, Barley Parish Council, Goldshaw  
Booth Parish Council, Roughlee Parish Council & Roughlee Village Centre