

Parish News

Barley - Newchurch - Roughlee - Sabden Fold - Spenbrook

December 2020 & January 2021

HAPPY CHRISTMAS



St. Mary's Church

Newchurch in Pendle BB12 9JR

The Vicar's Letter



As I write this it is six days till Advent Sunday, the beginning of a new church year. Advent is the time when we prepare for Christmas. Twenty- twenty has been a difficult year across the globe and as we approach Christmas people are naturally concerned for the future and concerned about Christmas itself and how it will be celebrated.

During the first national lockdown I watched more films and TV than usual and I'm reminded of two of them now, Robin Hood Prince of Thieves and the original Star Trek series.

In Robin Hood the Sheriff of Nottingham famously shouts, 'Call off Christmas' and many people quote Dr McCoy from Star Trek saying, 'It's life Jim but not as we know it'

Christmas has not been called off or cancelled. To misquote Dr McCoy this Christmas will be Christmas but not as we know it.

Many celebrations this year including Easter were different. We may not like the changes but we learnt to adapt, to find new ways of being the church, serving the people of God and sharing the gospel message.

In the words of St Paul in Romans 12:15 this Christmas more than the church will need to, 'Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.'

At St Mary's we will aim to celebrate together in church if we are able but through the Church of England's Christmas campaign Comfort and Joy we will seek to embrace the wider community that wants to join in the celebration but may not be physically able or emotionally ready to do so.

Please see the website churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy for more details. For those who do not use websites or social media material will be available through the Daily Hope (0800 804 8044) phone line. This is a free phone number offering music, prayer, reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England.

Christmas 2020 will be different but when we light the final candle on the Advent wreath in our homes and churches on Christmas Day that light will shine brightly reminding us that Jesus is the light of the world that St John writes about in the opening chapter of his gospel used during Christmas services.

'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it' (John 1:5 NRSV)

May that light shine on you this Christmas and forever.

Revd Julie

Barley

Whilst at the time of writing we are in the middle of the November Covid 19 lockdown with restrictions on meeting people from other households, pubs and many shops forced to close and a national concern regarding the damage caused to the economy and our social well-being – along comes some great news announcements, like buses, three effective CV19 vaccines are looking likely to be available by January. It is also likely families will be allowed to get together over the Xmas period. Things suddenly look better for 2021 but till then – stay safe everyone.

The car park and toilets have remained open during the November lockdown whilst they were closed during the first CV lock down in March. The Council thinking has been that there are no restrictions on travelling locally to exercise so people could come to Barley and it was felt better to have them in the car park than around the village. Whilst visitor numbers do surge on sunny weekend days, with many businesses still operating, schools open and winter weather dominating the visitor numbers are generally much lower over a week than back in March before restrictions on all travel were introduced. I doubt if there are any public car parks closed due to CV19 during this lock down period.

That said, the surge in visitor numbers on sunny days causes traffic problems and the Council have now persuaded the County Council to introduce passing places on Barley Lane and Barley Road. The location and format is currently being considered.

Whilst we have few parking issues in the village, mainly down to the success of the CV19 signs encouraging visitors to park outside the village, we still have inconsiderate visitors occasionally parking on the white lines and the pedestrian crossings around the Village Hall area creating hazards for all. The Council have agreed to make further representations to LCC to have the white lines changed to yellow lines in these areas.

Whilst the Village Hall is closed the Village Hall Committee have been looking at the condition of the building and putting together a programme of repairs. The timber floor in the down stairs main hall was in a very poor condition and so a few weeks ago the floor was removed and replaced with a concrete slab floor costing over £8k. The works are now completed and the floor has now cured and the Parish Council were pleased to be involved in funding the works. Further works are needed to tackle some damp problems and then decorating is required; a significant investment is going to be required.

Two final notes, Councillor Connor laid a wreath at our war memorial on Remembrance Day on behalf of the village, a few residents attended and were able to comfortably social distance for the short service. A contractor will be carrying out works to finally complete the short footpath at the back of the car park in the next couple of months.

BARLEY VILLAGE HALL

We are now moving forward with the many building repairs required at the Hall, money is always a problem but ours is in the safe hands of our treasurer Sarah.

We are looking forward to planning more activities and aim to have 50% occupancy, some suggestions crafts, cookery, dance, exercise, youth work. men's or ladies forum, toddlers group, camera club. None of these activities are possible without your help and support. Other ideas very welcome. This is your hall.

We look forward to a NEW ERA here at the HALL in the coming year. Next meeting Tuesday 8th December 7.00pm at the Village Hall.

MOBILE LIBRARY NEXT VISIT 7th DECEMBER

Sorry the last two visits cancelled due to broken down van.

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council

I start this month's newsletter with the sad announcement of the passing of a long term resident Brian Sainter who died on 17/11/20. Brian has lived in the village with his wife Margret for 52 years. Brian was a keen photographer and loved to post his pictures on social media which a number of followers thoroughly enjoyed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Margret, Catherine, Philip and family during this sad time.

With the announcement of the imminent introduction of effective vaccinations against COVID-19, it seems we may soon be over this awful pandemic and slowly begin to return to some sort of normality, whatever normal will look like.

The Parish Council should hopefully in the near future resume physical meetings and complete schemes that were planned prior to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The village Christmas lights will be switched on this year but unfortunately there will be no official switch on or gathering that have happened in the past for obvious reasons.

On behalf of Goldshaw Booth Parish Council I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Let us hope 2021 brings recovery and normality back to our villages.

Bob Donovan

The 100 club

draw on behalf of St. Mary's School took place in November.

Winners were:

- Laura Lane with number 79, winning £25
- Michael Eardley with number 89, winning £20
- Amber Nutter with number 11, winning £15

Thank you everyone for your support.

If anyone would like any details please contact me on

pialyle@gmail.com or 07872610118

Barley Chapel

Can you help
by donating items for the food bank?

Items for the food bank can be left in
the front porch of Barley Chapel.

The door is open.

Any non perishable food items and
toiletries would be welcome.

Angie Hargreaves 605090
Minister Revd Phil Taylor 01282 613165

Pendle Forest History Group

Happy Christmas
to all our members.

joan@spenbrook.co.uk or
wendy.stansfield@live.co.uk

Roughlee Parish Council

This News covers the two months including Christmas and the New Year. Whilst I hope that most villagers will have something to look forward to, I expect that we will all be glad to see the back of 2020. Here's hoping for much better things in the new year. One of the sad consequences of the present difficulties was the cancellation of this year's Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch. This is always very well attended and will be returned next year. Meanwhile the Parish Council are looking at things we might do this year to bring a little Christmas cheer as an alternative to the lunch.

November 11th, Remembrance Day, was marked by a small gathering of villagers at the village war memorial. A short video on of the event is available on the village web site.

Whilst we are keeping formal meetings to a minimum the work of the Parish Council continues. We are developing our proposal to designate the riverside opposite the school as a village green. This will change very little as the area is currently maintained by the Parish Council but it will mean that the recreational use of the area which has been enjoyed by generations of villagers will be preserved into the future. Many of you will recall the presentation by the local history society to the Parish Gathering about three years ago. This revealed a number of fascinating facts about the village including the site of ancient mills at Thorneyholme and at Damhead on the site of the school. Work in connection with the footpath gates at Thorneyholme, which are clearly more than standard gates, has led us to do further research relating to village history. This could lead to the development of a Heritage Trail to bring our interesting past to the attention of present and future generations. Sadly, there has been further fly tipping alongside the informal lay-by on Jinny Lane. In this case it appears to be residue from the drugs trade and the usual problems clearing the mess have resulted. It may be a sign of the times but if you see anything untoward please be careful but take note of any vehicle numbers and let us know.

Most of you will know that Mary Reed our Parish Clerk is also the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) looking after money matters for the Parish Council. Mary works very hard at these dual roles and would like to reduce her burdens to spend more time on other things. We are therefore looking for someone to take on the RFO job. It would suit someone who is interested in Parish affairs and can spare a few hours a month looking after financial matters. Whilst

a background in working with figures would be helpful this is not essential as full induction training will be arranged. The formal handover will be in April 2021 but some earlier integration would be useful. So, back to the present. I hope that by the time you read this Bay Horse will be open again and things will be improving giving us all a better quality of life. I certainly hope so. Meanwhile the Parish Council send their very best good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Andrew Walker

WHEN THE LIGHTS ALL WENT OUT IN EUROPE

Whilst watching the Remembrance Service on TV and the Service at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday my thoughts were drawn back to the Commemoration Service at St.Mary's in 2014 of the 100th anniversary of the start of World War 1.

The service, led by John Hallows, began with some appropriate music at 10.30pm followed 15 minutes later with readings and prayers during which all the lights in the church were switched off until just one candle was alight beside the lectern as 11pm approached. A member of the congregation came forward to extinguish this after which a poem was to be read at the back of the church. As the candle was extinguished the church clock started to chime 11pm after which the poem was read and the service ended.

Had we tried to co-ordinate the timing of the service and the extinguishing of the candle with the chiming of the clock it would have been very difficult, if not impossible.

Many visitors have commented how they have felt a calming presence in St.Mary's when sitting quietly. Was the chiming of the clock at the precise moment the candle went out a coincidence, or could it have been the result of some divine intervention?

Chris Widdas

CAROLS ON THE DOORSTEP

*** SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER
5:30 PM**

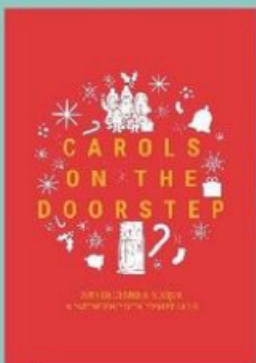
**Join us for a National carol sing on your
doorstep with your neighbours.**

It's so easy to join in....

***Download and print the Carol Sheet and invitation from
www.premierchristianradio.com. or
www.newcastlemethodistdistrict.org**

***Pop them through your neighbours' doors inviting them
to join you**

***5:30pm on 20th December tune your radio to Premier
Radio or Freeview 725 or download the Premier Radio app
on your phone, then sing along to the Carols played. Why
not wear your festive jumpers too and even bring out
something to shake or rattle?**



<https://www.facebook.com/CarolsOnTheDoorstep>

Parish Contacts

Residents are welcome to attend their local Parish Council meetings. There is a Public Question Time at the

Barley with Wheatley Booth www.barleyparish.uk www.barleyvillagehall.org.uk

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

Parish Council Chairman	Derek Heap	692264	derekheap1@googlemail.com
Acting Parish Council Clerk	C. Heap		clerk@barleyparish.uk
BVH Secretary	Sue Burnett		07971371602

Goldshaw Booth (Newchurch, Sabden Fold & Spenbrook) www.goldshawbooth.org.uk

Council meetings are held at 7pm in St. Mary's School on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Parish Council Chairman	Bob Donovan	07449399838	bobdon1612@gmail.com
Council Clerk	Jennifer Sutcliffe		clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk

Roughlee Booth www.roughlee.org.uk

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

Parish Council Chairman	Andrew Walker	07808 003035	ajwplanning@hotmail.com
Parish Council Clerk	Mary Reed	611126	roughleeclerk591@gmail.com
Village Centre Chairman			

MP & Councillors

MP for Pendle

Andrew Stephenson	01282 614748	andrew.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk
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St. Mary's Church

Vicar	Rev. Julie Smith	613206	jls446439@gmail.com
Curate	David Hargreaves		da_hargreaves@hotmail.com
Warden	Kathleen Wilkinson	617971	brianwilco@tiscali.co.uk
Warden	Douglas Bull		douglas@douglasbull.co.uk
Secretary	Virginia Crewe		familycrewe@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Peter Crewe		familycrewe@hotmail.com
MESSY CHURCH	Mandy Culshaw	07790341542	mandy.culshsw@gmail.com
Safeguarding Officer	Lesley Muffitt	694575	3muf@talktalk.net



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 Newchurch in Pendle

6 th December	9.30am BCP Holy Communion
13 th December	9.30am Holy Communion
20 th December	9.30am BCP Holy Communion
	4.00pm Christingle Service available on Facebook and Youtube
	5.30pm Carols on The Doorstep
24 th December	10pm First Communion of Christmas
25 th December	9.30am Holy Communion for Christmas Day
27 th December	9.30am Holy Communion

Social distancing and hygiene measures will be in place at all our services.

Please remember that it is now the law that face coverings should be worn in places of worship (unless you are exempt).

Everyone welcome but please be advised that we will need to record your name and a contact telephone number.

Our Facebook page can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Church-Newchurch-in-Pendle-111894550353183/>

or by going to www.facebook.com and searching for St. Mary's Newchurch in Pendle.

(Our Facebook page has replaced the old church website.)

Articles for February issue to be sent by **noon on 21st January 2021**

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

This magazine is now only available by email. If you wish to receive a copy please email john@spenbrook.co.uk to be included on the mailing list.