

Parish News

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December 2022

Curate's Thoughts
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Church Services



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

Curate's Thoughts

Almost all ancient religions and civilisations held a mid-winter festival.

But then, why wouldn't they? Having something to celebrate in the middle of the darkest and coldest season of the year seems like a pretty good idea to me.

Of course, when your very existence depended upon the careful husbandry of resources and starvation was never far away, knowing exactly when the worst was behind you wasn't just a good idea: it was of vital importance. Hence structures such as Stonehenge, painstakingly erected to identify the very day upon which the sun's slow retreat from the northern hemisphere was halted. From that day onwards, the days would begin to lengthen and the sun's strength return. Little wonder that in many cultures, the shortest day – or winter solstice as it is more correctly known – became a symbol of rebirth and renewal.

It comes as a bit of a surprise therefore to learn that the very early Christians did not have a midwinter festival. Their main celebrations centred upon Easter, marking Christ's death upon the cross and his subsequent resurrection from the tomb. The idea of holding a festival to mark his birth, let alone fixing it in late December, just didn't seem to occur to them.

It wasn't until the dawn of the third century of the Christian era that interest started to be shown in establishing the date of Christ's birth; and not until AD336 that we find the first recorded celebration of Christmas on December 25th.

So, why that particular date? Truth to tell, no one is quite certain, but there are lots of theories. One is linked to the ancient notion that great people are born and die on the same day. And, as we know that Christ died during the Jewish Passover festival and this normally takes place on or around the Spring Equinox, well, that means he must also have been conceived around the Spring Equinox. And 9 months after the Spring Equinox is – yes, you guessed it – December 25th. Another somewhat simpler theory is that the early Christians re-appropriated the old Roman festival of Saturnalia; why invent a new festival, when you can simply take over an old one?

That said, historians would tell you that it is highly unlikely Christ was born in the middle of winter – shepherds simply would not have been out on the hills with their flocks at that time of the year. They were most likely to be up there, caring for their sheep, during the lambing season – and that's sometime in the Spring. Others argue for an autumn birth.

In short, nobody knows and, even if archaeologists managed to find incontrovertible proof that we'd been marking the wrong date for nearly 1700 years, I'm fairly certain that we'd just ignore that inconvenient fact and go on marking Christmas on December 25th; so deeply is it embedded in our collective consciousness.

Of course, how we mark Christmas has changed over the years with many of our most cherished traditions having been invented by the Victorians or even more recently. And there's the persistent worry that a sea of commercialism is swamping the simple Christian message of God's love.

But I don't buy that. Try as hard as the advertisers might, God's love is stronger than anything they can throw at it! It's a love so strong that he sent his Son down to the earth, to be born a baby, to experience what it is to be human, and to die for us. In doing so, he took the weight of our sins upon his own shoulders and saved us.

That's God's message to us this and every Christmas: a message of love and hope.

And people who wouldn't normally go near a church or a chapel will, once a year, flock to hear that message in our places of worship. They'll attend carol services in the most unlikely of places. And they'll show greater kindness, generosity and love for their fellow human beings than they do at any other time of the year.

For that, we should all give three rousing cheers.

Merry Christmas and God bless.

David



Barley Parish Council

I hope you are all enjoying the winter world cup – England are still in it at the time of writing and optimism is growing as usual. A world cup in the winter, the first ever, still seems a bit odd to me. History should demand a negative outlook but the team looks great on paper and has some class players and so, maybe, England will be world champions for Xmas if we can avoid penalties.

The Barley Remembrance Service was well attended again with the weather being kind this year and the Chapel put on refreshments for all who stayed, others went off to Turf Moor to see Burnley beat their old rivals, Blackburn Rovers. At the televised game, the highly charged crowd held an impeccable minute's silence which was a credit to both sets of supporters and a proud moment for East Lancashire

As I have reported previously, the drainage and footway improvements on Heys Lane have been completed making more pleasant walk without the need for bog dodging. The route has not been improved in all areas and there are still some wet areas and the lane remains mainly inaccessible to all but four-wheel vehicles with high ground clearance. For those who have not been up there, I have included a photograph of the works which were funded by the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership (PHLP) just before their demise at the end of this year.



Council matters to report on, we have had three companies look at the playground improvement project in November and we will be progressing designs and costs in the new year with a view to works starting after Easter. The Council has promptly received the grant payments for the village green (LEF) and car park works (PHLP) and we are hoping to add some Xmas decorations to the village in December. On the planning front, the Cross Lane Farm extension was refused again by PBC.

The lady who was living in the shelter on the car park moved on in early November after a month with us; she was last seen at Hurstwood. Most strange that someone should choose to live outside and turn down offers of shelter. I think most, if not all, people around here have a generous spirit and so Rosie received a lot of help whilst she was here. However, it was time for her to leave the shelter for numerous reasons, including the cold and damp weather and her vulnerability in a secluded spot and the Council were pleased she left of her own free-will.

I will finish by asking you all to drive carefully now that the winter has arrived. Whilst we will see the Gritters out and about, the road surface can still freeze before they arrive. And on our rural roads we suffer from water flooding across the roadway from wet fields and washing the salt off – then freezing to create ice patches that can be a real danger. Even if you have seen a Gritter, take care, there could be ice just around the corner.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to wish everybody in the Parish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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.



Barley Village Hall

Barley Village Hall is open for hire! 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



Pendle Patchers

Readers might be forgiven for thinking the name Pendle Patchers is just a disguise for what is in fact an eating group but I promise we do manage some sewing and knitting as well.

We recently enjoyed an afternoon tea prepared by the lovely ladies at the Cabin in Barley so the picture is to advertise the delicious spread they laid out for us.

Our fingers weren't too sticky to stop us getting on with our work and mouths not too full all the time, so we could still chat. The group will be meeting just once in December, on Tuesday 13th, before having a break until 10th January. If you would like to drop in to join us, you will be most welcome.

And yes, if you do come in December, there will probably be mince pies.

tel. 01282 602449
email : gilbeeke@btinternet.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!



FOG Club

Thursday evenings

6:30 to 7:45

Barley Chapel

RING Angela Hargreaves

07967 121031

for more information



CARD MAKING CLASS

First and Third Monday of each month

Barley Village Hall

1pm – 3pm

For details contact Valerie

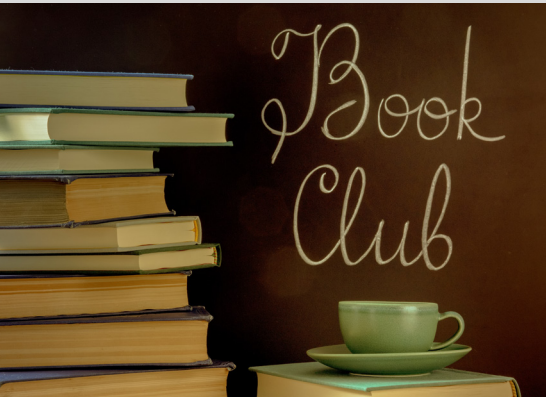
Tel 01282 691850

UP! Book Club

Up! Book Club is having a break for Christmas, however if you fancy reading more for your New Years resolution get in touch with me at

joanne@underpendle.com

Currently Reading : "A Still Life by Sarah Winman"



Pendle Forest History Group

Wednesday 21st December 2022

7.30pm at Barley Village Hall.

Christmas Social and items of interest.

Members £2.00, Visitors £3.00.

Email: pendleforesthistory@gmail.com



Barley to Bethlehem

Barley Chapel Sunday 11th December
Barley to Bethlehem 6 pm from Barley car park

Follow the donkey to watch as the live nativity unfolds through the village
Refreshments in the beautiful candle lit Barley Chapel afterwards

Angels and shepherds (all children invited) meet at chapel 5:30.

Carols by Candle Light

6pm Barley Chapel
Sunday 18th December



Christmas Day

Short service at Barley chapel
Bring your favourite present
Meet at chapel 5:30.



Roughlee Village Centre - Dates for 2022

Fri 2 December
Sat 17 December

Dickensian Christmas Fayre
Roughlee Christmas Boogie

Full details will be advertised at 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.

DICKENS CHRISTMAS NIGHT FAYRE

FRI 2nd DEC, 3-8pm

SANTA'S GROTTO
Santa on his sleigh arrives 5pm

**CHRISTMAS
TREE FOREST
& WREATHS**

CRAFT & ARTISAN FOOD STALLS

**CHILDREN'S RIDES &
UNICORN PONY RIDES**

**MULLED
CIDER**

HOG ROAST DICKENS FANCY DRESS

FOLLOWED BY (OUTSIDE THE BAY HORSE INN)...
Christmas tree lighting at 7pm with carols
Wassail singing and dancing at 7.30pm

**ROUGHLEE
VILLAGE
CENTRE**

FREE ENTRY
To book a stall call 07849 774438



Dickens Christmas Night Fayre

Come celebrate with us in Roughlee Village Centre and the Bay Horse pub.

There are many stalls, mulled cider and Dickens fancy dress along with the ceremonial lighting of the Christmas Tree!

Friday 2nd Decmber 3-8pm.



Roughlee VC photography competition charity calendar

details will be posted on local social media sites as soon as goes on sale.

The calendar contains all the winning pictures.

Competition starts again now!



Roughlee CE Primary School

Roughlee Church of England Primary School Christmas Fair is going to take place on Friday 9th December 1.30pm - 3.30pm. The children will be busy making items that will be on sale alongside a variety of stalls being run by school. The fair will be an invaluable source of fundraising for school and will help us to buy resources for the children and take them on fantastic free school trips.

There are many activities taking place such as: face painting, Little Log Cottage, chocolate tombola, Thea Cormack Cakes, children's handmade items, bottle tombola, raffle and refreshments.

Our fair will only be a success if we receive plenty of kind donations - a huge thank you to the Pendle Inn, Little Feet, Spar Barrowford, Farmhouse Biscuits, Oddies, MFA Bowling and Burnley FC in the Community who have already very generously donated. If anybody else wishes to donate something, then please contact Hayley Lord via email at bursar@roughlee.lancs.sch.uk.

Raffle tickets will be on sale at the fair and from the office until Wednesday 14th December 2022 - please pop in if you would like to purchase a ticket. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 15th December 2022.

Roughlee CE Primary School

Christmas

Fair

Friday 9th December 2022

1.30-3.30pm

Come and join us for: chocolate tombola, bottle tombola, raffle, face painting, Little Log Cottage, Thea Cormack Cakes, refreshments and much more!



Newchurch – Christmas Eve

Start Christmas on Christmas Eve at a candlelit Communion Service in St. Mary's Church, Newchurch, 10pm.

Listen to the old, old Story and join in singing traditional carols with some of the Occasional Carol Singers.

It is a very special time!

St Marys School, Newchurch

Newchurch St Mary's School Gardening Club has been very busy this term, and has small pots of daffodils or snowdrops to sell.

They will be selling them outside school on

Thursday 8th December at home time,
Please bring cash if you can.

Subject to the Gardening Club agreeing they will be £2.00 for snowdrops and £3.00 daffodils.

The funds are to go towards the cost of an apple tree or maybe two.



Oh Christmas Tree

Sunday 4th December
Christingle service • The Church • 5pm
Gathering around the Tree • 6pm
Carols, Mulled Wine, Mince Pies



SAAAANTTTAAA!!!!

Is coming to Newchurch

Saturday 10th December

5pm with Santa arriving around 6pm

Hot turkey sandwiches

Mulled wine

Mince pies

Tombola

Tickets to visit Santa

£2

Per child



Carol Singing



The Occasional Carol Singers hope to sing to raise money for charity- St Mary's and Food Banks and some will be singing with the congregation at the St Mary's Newchurch Christmas Eve Communion Service. If you would like to sing with us, the dates are below. The practices are important, of course as we sing harmonies, and a light supper is provided at the practices.

Practices on Sundays 4th and 11th December, 7pm with supper, venue to be confirmed

- Sainsbury's, Colne, Sunday 18th 1.00-3.30
- Burnley centre, singing, 23rd Dec, 1.30-4.00pm with a break, collecting money

• Our usual Christmas Eve tour, 6.00- 10.00 collecting money: , finishing in St Mary's Church, Newchurch for an unaccompanied candle-lit service to welcome Christmas at 10.00-

Interested? Email : familycrewe@hotmail.com

It's a Goodbye from me!

After a year of editing the magazine this will be my final edition, I put a lot of time each month into the magazine however due to work commitments I'm struggling to find the time to give it the time it deserves..

I'm not a graphic designer either so taking me longer than it probably should do!!.

I've really enjoyed putting it together every month, I've met some fantastic people and am glad i've been able to put my stamp on it.

It's not the end of the magazine though! Simon Cronshaw from Roughlee has stepped up to the challenge and has offered to take over as I step down.

Can I wish Simon the very best of luck with taking the magazine forward and I look forward to seeing how he improves the magazine further still.

You can contact him on editor@parishnews.org



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

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council

What a busy month it's been!

A massive thank you to all who attended the Newchurch Bonfire! It was great to see so many locals plus some familiar faces from Barley and Roughlee too. The pie & peas, hot chocolate and cakes were gifted to the event and donations raised another £90 to the Events Committee fund. Many thanks to Martin H., Chloe H., Laura N., Ruth N., Sarah N., Kathleen W., Reid N., and Brooke N. for helping make the event another success.

Well done all!

Upcoming Events:

Sunday 4th December - Christmas Lights Switch-on & Carols! - Newchurch centre - 6pm

Saturday 10th December - Santa Comes to Goldshaw Booth! - Newchurch centre - 5pm

The Events Committee have also been busy stocking up on Christmas gifts for our older residents. The gifts have been purchased using some of the proceeds from this year's fund raising events (well done everyone for taking part). Santa's little helpers will be delivering soon!

In other news, the Access-4-All pathway on the park has been approved by PBC. It's taken over 12 months of research, design, quotes etc. but, now, it's happening! This will make access to the park generally easier for anyone with mobility issues, and, everyone will be able to take part in community events in the future. Welcome to our new Parish Council Clerk! Joe Cooney will be joining us in December. As a Town Council Clerk and as a former Borough Councillor Joe has a wealth of experience to bring to the Parish. You will be able to reach Joe on the same email address clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk. Welcome Joe! The New Year brings with it change... From January the Parish Council meetings will take place on the 1st Thursday of the Month - we look forward to seeing you at Barley Village Hall. There is, of course, no meeting in December as the Parish Councillors take a well deserved 'break'!

I'd also like to thank Lee Hunt for his sterling work on the Parish Magazine for the past 12 months. Lee hands the reins over to Simon Cronshaw in the New Year. Simon, a former GBPC Cllr., is very active in the community of Roughlee and I'm sure he will do a brilliant job of the magazine too. Happy Christmas and Seasons Greetings to you ALL!!

Kind regards,
Ainsley



Next Parish Council Meeting:

Thursday 5th January 2023, 7.15pm, Barley Village Hall

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

www.goldshawbooth.org.uk

If you are interested in the Clerk position please email clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk for more information.

Planning Applications:

None at time of writing,

A link for further details of any planning applications can be found here: www.goldshawbooth.org.uk

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council Facebook page:

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

Friends of Newchurch

100 Club

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

November

1st Prize £25 Helen Norris

2nd Prize £20 Sophie Fowler

3rd Prize £15 Ray Krelle

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



Roughlee Parish Council

As we near the end of 2022 our Christmas celebrations will hopefully be closer to normal than we've seen over the last couple of years. Never again will we take indoor dining for granted!

I'm very pleased to report that work has now been completed on Roughlee Village Centre renovations, largely funded through a grant of £12,900 from the FCC Communities Foundation. The centre is looking absolutely fantastic, with new bi-fold doors, a refurbished outdoor toilet block and store, and new security fencing around the roof.

Among other benefits, we should see a much greater connection and easier access between the indoor and outdoor areas – making it a perfect space for busy village events as well as private hires as we head into 2023.



The Dickens Christmas Fayre will be held on Friday 2nd December from 3pm to 8pm, featuring Santa's Grotto, hog roast, craft stalls and more. Watch the Christmas tree lighting with carols from 7pm plus wassailing and dancing from 7.30pm outside the Bay Horse Inn. The Parish Council is also looking forward to hosting its annual Christmas Lunch for senior citizens on Thursday 8th December, and we will be joined by the Mayor of Pendle and by the children of Roughlee school.

We shall soon see the planting of several new trees near Old Hall Close, which will be part of the Queen's Green Canopy and planted in memoriam to honour Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. A special plaque is planned, so please look out on the website and noticeboards for details of the unveiling ceremony to be scheduled over the next few weeks. As part of our ongoing commitment to biodiversity, and in response to some of the feedback from the BKV competition, the banking on Blacko Bar Road is being reworked. Brambles, bindweed and ash samplings have been cleared, although the bistort is being conserved. This helps to make space for new wildflower planting to include yellow rattle, bluebells and primroses.

As a village, we are on the frontline of protecting our AONB against intrusive or inappropriate housing developments. We therefore need a strong voice to represent our village interests on the Borough Council, so please remember to have your say and cast your vote on 15th December.

As a final note we'd like to say a very heartfelt thank you to everyone who has contributed to the rich vibrancy of village life over this last year. From the Bay Horse Inn to Clarion House; from the caravan parks and accommodation providers to the school; from the volunteers toiling countless hours for the Village Centre Committee, FORA and Parish Council to the litter pickers, community groups and keen gardeners... Each of these and many more add an extra special layer to create such a wonderful community. Many thanks for everything you do for our village, and wishing each of you a very special Christmas and New Year ahead.

Simon Cronshaw, Vice-Chair



Parish Contacts

Barley with Wheatley Booth

www.barleyparish.uk
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

Parish Council Clerk
C Heap
clerk@barleyparish.uk

Goldshaw Booth: Newchurch, Sabden Fold & Spenbrook

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
Acting Council Clerk
Heather Robbins
clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk

Roughlee Booth

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
Parish Council Clerk
Mary Reed t: 611 126
roughleeclerk591@gmail.com

MP & Councillors
MP for Pendle
Andrew Stephenson t: 01282 614 748
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St. Mary's Church

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Treasurer
Peter Crewe
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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 December

- Sunday 4th December- 9.30am BCP Holy Communion
- Sunday 4th December-5.00pm Christingle Service
- Sunday 11th December-9.30am Holy Communion
- Sunday 18th December- 9.30am BCP Holy Communion
- Saturday 24th December-10.30pm First Communion of Christmas
- Sunday 25th December-9.30am Holy Communion

Please note there will be no service at St Mary's on Sunday 1st January 2023. There will be a service of Holy Communion at St Thomas Barrowford at 11am

Contact the Vicar for more details

Articles for the January edition should be sent to editor@parishnews.org by 20/12/2022

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