
PARISH NEWS

Your official monthly update from the Pendleside communities of Barley, Newchurch, Roughlee, Sabden Fold & Spenbrook.



Wishing you a very
Merry Christmas!

At a Glance: Christmas Dates for Your Diary

Wed 3rd Dec, 7.30pm – Barley WI Christmas Party at Barley Village Hall

Fri 5th Dec, from 5.30pm – Santa Lights Switch-On & Carols outside the Bay Horse Inn

Sat 6th Dec, from 6.30pm – Let's Light Up Newchurch in the centre of Newchurch Village

Sun 7th Dec, 4pm – Barley Chapel & St Mary's Newchurch joint Christingle Service at Barley Chapel

Tues 9th Dec, 1pm – Pendle Patchers at Barley Village Hall

Thurs 11th Dec, 12pm – Roughlee Seniors' Christmas Lunch at Roughlee Village Centre

Fri 12th Dec, 7pm – Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's

Sun 14th Dec, from 5pm – Barley to Bethlehem, starting at Barley car park by the Cabin then on to Barley Methodist Chapel for the Children's Party

Wed 17th Dec, 7.30pm – Pendle Forest History Group Christmas Social at Barley Village Hall

Sun 21st Dec, 6pm – Carols by Candlelight at Barley Chapel

Wed 24th Dec, 4pm – EPIC family Christmas at St Mary's Newchurch

Wed 24th Dec, 9.30pm – Bethlehem service at St Mary's Newchurch

Thurs 25th Dec, 9 – Christmas Day service at St Mary's Newchurch

Mon 29th Dec, 7pm – Christmas Cèilidh at Roughlee Village Centre

Read on for further details...

Barley Parish Council

Toilet block, Whitehough, Christmas events (14 Dec), Planning, Parking...

Our annual remembrance service graced us with a bright and clear day, and it was good to have over 50 people attending. It was wonderful to hear the brief histories of all those whose names appear on the Barley Memorial stone read out by Angela Hargreaves; where and when they died and how young they all were, brought to life the sacrifice they made for us. The local preacher Cath Heywood conducted the short service, and she laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council along with representatives of the armed forces, the Borough Council and the Pendle Inn who laid wreaths after the last post had been played on a bugle, with distinction, by our local man, Rod Wilson. Thank you to the chapel for providing tea and cakes for those retiring to the chapel after the service.

The work to improve the toilet block which was going well, soon hit setbacks as layers of the building were peeled back. The building is over 50 years old, and I doubt much maintenance happened in that period until the PC started this project to upgrade the building. Some things only become obvious once you have good access and it soon became apparent that the tiles, battens and felting were far beyond their best and one of the first instructions was to renew the roof followed by another instruction to replace the windows. Being positive we now have new roofs with long guarantees that should mean I will never have to worry about it again. The new windows will delay the project completion until January, but we plan to have the toilets fully open for Xmas.



Last month I reported the improvement works carried out to the access road to Whitehough. It looks great but the new surface could

cause horses to slip and so the County Council has implemented an order to temporarily prohibit horses being either ridden or led over the Bridleway for a period of 6 months or until any necessary works are completed within this period.

At the PC we will be considering a planning application to convert a stable block at Whitehough Grange to form one dwelling – see Application 25/0682/FUL. If you have an interest you should respond to PBC by 9th December. The planning application for a glass conservatory at the rear of Meadow View on Barley Green was approved and

the application for a two-storey side extension at Bollards Barn, Whitehough is still being considered after revised plans were submitted.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Curry/Quiz night fundraiser at the Village Hall. The next event is Barley to Bethlehem starting at 5pm at the car park and the children's Christmas party both to be held on Sunday 14 December.

Cross Lane Parking Enforcement update – the formal consultation process was completed on 24th October. LCC had reported that they had received several comments and all were supportive and so a Traffic Regulation Order will now go to LCC members for sign-off. Members will pay attention to the Officers Report and the public response to the consultation.

The village community was saddened to hear of the passing of Maureen Moles who recently lived on Beckside before moving to a care home in Clitheroe. She spent most of her life in Barley living at numerous homes under pendle and was well known to many residents. Our most sincere condolences are with her daughter Cheryl Davies of Narrowgates and the wider family.

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.

DEREK HEAP, CHAIR

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council Light Up Newchurch (6 Dec), Maintenance, Wellbeing...

On Sunday 9th November, our community came together to show respect and gratitude for members of the armed services, past, present and future. During a poignant Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church, led by Reverend Nick Murray, Councillor Kathleen Wilkinson read out the names of local servicemen who sacrificed their lives during the First and Second World Wars, and wreaths were laid by Goldshaw Booth Parish Council, Roughlee Parish Council and Pendle Borough Council.



Our seasonal events got off to a good start with Houses of Halloween in Newchurch again being a great success. The bonfire was very well attended with approximately 100 people, and we take on board the feedback that people would have liked more refreshments –

we'll do our best to arrange that next year, in collaboration with local residents.

Food will not be in short supply at our 'Let's Light Up Newchurch' Christmas lights switch on and Santa's grotto event, as Debs Mousley has kindly offered to organise the catering! The event will be held on Saturday 6th December, at 6.30pm in Newchurch, with a super-tombola, free presents for children, and hot turkey sandwiches, mince pies and mulled wine for residents. There will be a donation box on the evening for people to give what they can, and if anyone has any tombola prizes, they would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the church in advance.

We've been busy with some maintenance jobs and are pleased to have installed a new surface under the cradle swings and to have cut back all of the brambles around the top playing field, as well as around the toilet block. Thankfully the issue causing water to stream down the steps by the toilet block now seems to have been resolved following exploratory digging. Please let us know if there are any maintenance projects you would like the Parish Council to consider, so we can discuss and allocate budget funds accordingly.

Looking forward to next Spring, we are hoping to organise some outdoor wellbeing events in conjunction with Active Pendle, such as tai-chi and a park run. Again, do let us know if you have any ideas and watch this space for more information... Finally, may we take this opportunity to wish all residents a very happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Many thanks

BECCY MURRELL - CHAIR

Roughlee Parish Council

Seniors' Xmas Lunch (11 Dec), Kids' vouchers, Forest of Pendle, Sinkhole...

The turkeys have been plucked, the spuds bashed, and the Brussels sprouts are already on the boil — which can only mean one thing: preparations are well advanced for our Seniors Christmas Lunch on Thursday 11 December. As I write, I don't yet know the final numbers, but it looks very much like we're heading for a sell out. Please do remember that walk-ins on the day cannot be accommodated. During November, we wrote to all households in the village where we believe under 16s reside, inviting them to "opt in" to receive the gift of a book token. This is our way of recognising and engaging with the youth — the future of our community. If you feel you qualify but haven't received an invitation, please get in touch **with Mary** so we can put that right.

We have now received an update from Pendle Planning regarding the "alleged unauthorised engineering of land – creation of 9 No. caravan pitches" by the Forest of Pendle Leisure Park, Pasture Lane. They have been issued with an enforcement notice relating to this development. The upshot of this is they are required: "to remove all caravan bases and associated roadways, re profile the land so that it matches the original contours and landform that existed prior to the engineering works and reseed the land with grass." Whilst this is good news for our countryside, I am sure that this will run for quite a period of time and we would expect the site to appeal this decision or put in further applications to regularise part of the site. So, once again watch this space.

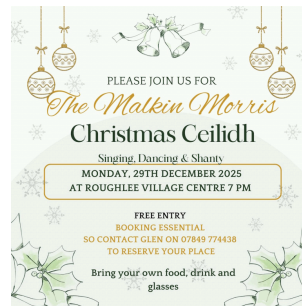
The sinkhole on the riverbank has unfortunately worsened. Lancashire County Council has begun stabilisation work, which explains the traffic lights. We have not yet had any official indication of how long this will take or what the permanent solution will be, but we will continue to press for clarity. Looking ahead, our January meeting will focus on reviewing finances and setting the budget for the coming year, which will form the basis of our precept.

Finally, though it may be a touch early, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held tonight (1 Dec) at 7pm in the Village Centre.

MARTIN SCHOFIELD, CHAIR

Roughlee Village Centre Santa Lights Switch-On (5 Dec); Christmas Cèilidh (29 Dec)



The very busy month of December has arrived and as usual there will be many things to see and do. At Roughlee Village Centre we are having a change to our usual Fayre – everybody seems to be overloading on

markets/crafts and so we have decided to have a more family-orientated offering this year and in conjunction with the Bay Horse we will be having Santa switch on the lights on our village tree outside the pub on Friday 5 December.

Santa and his elf ride into town on their sleigh at 5.30pm with free gifts for all children – so don't be late to cheer as he arrives at the village. Malkin Morris will dance and at 6.30pm, Santa will switch on the lights accompanied by hot mince pies, Carol singing and the usual mulled wine to welcome the start of advent.

Later in the month we are holding a Cèilidh night with the Malkin Morris on Monday 29 December at the Village Centre starting at 7pm to 11pm. Music will be provided by the Roughlee Ruffians, including ceilidh band Frolicking Pete and the Fumbling Fingers, but musicians are welcome to join in. This is a free social event which will be a fundraiser for Derian House Children's Hospice in the form of a raffle and donation bucket. Bring your own drink and food and dancing shoes. There will be a limit on numbers set at 40 (plus Morris 20 entertainers) so anyone interested in attending must book in with me on 07849 774438 or by emailing **familycrewe@hotmail.com** before Christmas Day to avoid disappointment.

We are having a plethora of new and exciting events in 2026 to keep a look out for – including a Casino event, red carpet extravaganza, Mystery event show, plus next Christmas time a Pendle Villagers Have Got Talent show all at the centre.

A big one for your diary... our MUSIC, BEER and GIN FESTIVAL will be the weekend of 5th to 7th JUNE.

All that's left is from the village centre committee is to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. See you all at Santa lighting up night!

**GLEN WATSON - CHAIR, RVC
COMMITTEE**



Barley Chapel Dec 2025 Events

Barley to Bethlehem will be held on Sunday 14th December at 5pm from the car park. Anyone wishing to take part please come up to the chapel by 4.30pm to get into costume.

Sunday 21st December is the Carols by Candlelight service at 6pm.

Barley Chapel community look forward to welcoming all villagers!

Events in Barley: Dec 2025 Dates for your diary...



■ **Pendle Forest History Group** – Wed 17th Dec, 7.30pm at Barley Village Hall – Christmas Social with items of interest – Members £2.00, Visitors £3.00. Please **email** to book a place.

■ **Barley WI** – Christmas Party – Wed 3 Dec, 7.30pm at Barley Village Hall – New members are welcome to attend but be prepared for a festive treat as we have seasonal drinks and nibbles and a Christmas Singalong led by the very tuneful Mann Family. For catering please let us know you are coming along either message the

Facebook page or let another member know. Wear something blingy or your favourite Christmas jumper! We are doing a collection for the local foodbank so please bring a donation if you can. Last week the members had a coach trip to the Harrogate Christmas Markets, and the Sticky Toffee Pudding Club visited the Britannia at Oswaldtwistle. Both Book Clubs will meet in December, each having their own Christmas Parties. We are a very busy WI with sub groups for walking, cinema, trips and crafting as well as the two book clubs so come along – keep busy this winter and meet new friends.

■ **Pendle Patchers** – Tues 9th Dec, from 1pm at Barley Village Hall – Our picture shows a bag made by one of our members from a stunning fabric to carry all things patchwork. We will only be meeting once in December with mince pies to go with our brews, so if you were thinking of dropping in to meet the group, the December meeting would be a good time to come. If you want any more information, contact Gil Beeke – 01282 602449 / **Email** →

■ **Pendleside Gardeners Club** – Nothing planned at the moment.

■ **FOG Club** – Thurs evenings, 6.30pm-7.45pm at Barley Chapel – For children aged 6-11 years. Contact Angie on 07967 121031 or just come along

■ **Card making class** – 1st and 3rd Mon of each month, 1-3pm at Barley Village Hall – for details contact Valerie on 01282 691850

■ **Coffee and Chat** – 2nd Wed of each month, 10am-12pm at Barley Village Hall – All welcome, not just the old folk – £2 gets coffee (or tea) and cake!

Notes from St. Mary's Ready or Not!

Well, I moved to Barrowford in November 2024, and it's been a really busy year. But in and amongst the busyness I'm glad God called me here and I'm grateful for the welcome I've had from the community. I'm still finding my way to most places by satnav but gradually working out where places are. Nothing could have prepared me for the changes that have taken place in my life this last year.

And being prepared (or preparing to be prepared) is what Advent is about. It's a season of getting ready and anticipation. In truth, we are never prepared,

and Christmas happens anyway. Whether or not the tree is decorated, or the turkey bought, or the cards written (though with each year I wonder why I am writing cards...), Christmas will still come. And for some of us it means excitement, for some it means dread and for some it could really be done to be avoided because we would rather not see some family members... But it happens anyway regardless of how we prepare.

This year the church will be reflecting on Matthew's gospel. Matthew starts his good news (gospel means good news) with a big list of names. These names trace the history of the Old Testament and culminate with Jesus' birth. Matthew is making a huge claim. He is claiming that all history and all these people were in some way preparation for the moment when Jesus was born.

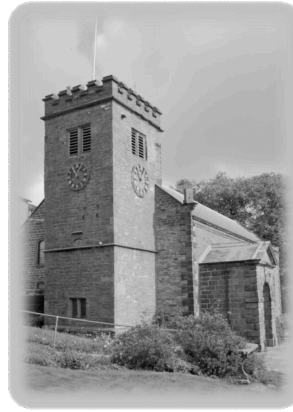
In the list of names there are people who were successful, and adject failures, people who had muddled along, and people you would have done well to avoid. The list of names in Jesus' family tree doesn't shy away from some uncomfortable truths and some people who you wouldn't want around your Christmas dinner table. Mathew asserts that in the birth of Jesus, which the world wasn't ready for, is the one in whom we are offered a fresh start and a new beginning. All the hurt and failure of the past, all those false starts and unfulfilled longings, all the shame that we carry with us. These are like a long list (like the names in Jesus' family tree) which weigh us down and hold us back. But into all of that lived reality steps Jesus and he brings with him a new start which we can all have if we give him our hurts, failures, success, fears and shame.

At the end of Matthew's gospel Jesus promises to return. Since then, the world has been waiting. All history is again building towards that day when Jesus will come again and make all things new. My invitation this Advent is to not let your past prevent you from stepping into the new life, the fresh start that Jesus brings.

I look forward to seeing you in Church this Christmas.

Happy Christmas

**REV NICK - VICAR, ST THOMAS
CHURCH BARROWFORD & ST MARY'S
NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE**



As Christmas approaches, we look forward to welcoming you to our services. Our church is relaxed and friendly. We always end our service with coffee and cake. We also have activity bags for children and a space for them to play.

Hope you can join

us soon.

- Tuesday 2nd December, 6pm – Cruck Barn Carol Service at *Pendle Heritage Centre in Barrowford*
- Saturday 6th December, 6pm – Newchurch Christmas Lights Switch On, followed by a visit from Father Christmas, starting in the village centre then on to St Mary's Church
- Sunday 7th December, 9.30am – Holy Communion for Advent
- Sunday 7th December, 4pm – Christingle Service at *Barley Methodist Chapel*
- Friday 12th December, 7.00pm – Carols by Candlelight
- Sunday 14th December, 9.30am – Holy Communion for Advent
- Sunday 14th December, 5pm – Barley to Bethlehem, starting at *Barley car park* by the Cabin then on to Barley Methodist Chapel
- Friday 19th December, 7pm – Carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies at St Thomas' Arms (pop up bar) at *St Thomas'*
- Sunday 21st December, 9.30am – 'Preparing for Christmas' Holy Communion Service
- Sunday 21st December, 6pm – Carols by Candlelight at *Barley Methodist Chapel*
- Wednesday 24th December, 4pm – EPIC Christmas. A fun way to kick off the big night for the whole family
- Wednesday 24th December, 9.30pm – Bethlehem Service. As midnight falls in Bethlehem, we mark the start of Christmas with them
- Thursday 25th December, 9am – Christmas Day Holy Communion

St. Mary's Church
Dec 2025 Services

■ Sunday 28th December, 11am – Benefice Communion Service at *St Thomas' Church*

For more information please contact our Vicar Nick Murray on 01282613206 or 07551936436, or **email**. Alternatively you can contact our Church Warden, Doug Bull on 07907 458894 or **email**.

everyone will see the adverts on noticeboards. Thanks for your help!

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Have you got a new neighbour? Please mention Parish News to them!



IF YOU HAVE any neighbours or friends that have just moved to the area, or who might not be aware of this newsletter, please can you mention Parish News to them. We're now on 800+ email subscribers across Barley, Goldshaw Booth and Roughlee so are definitely

reaching the majority of households, but it's an ongoing job to let people know when there's no longer a physical copy being delivered and not

Send articles

Please send any articles for the Jan 2026 issue by **Sun 21st Dec** to **editor@parishnews.org**

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