

PARISH NEWS

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



Wishing you a very
Happy New Year!

WORK/LIFE Exhibition now online Step back in time this New Year



Pendle Hill Museum CIC is pleased to announce the launch of the **online exhibition** of **WORK/LIFE**: Photos from Workers at Play in Roughlee, Barley & Newchurch 1900-1980. If you missed the physical exhibition last month, you can now

view it online [here](#).

WORK/LIFE is funded by Historic England's Everyday Heritage programme. Focused on picturesque villages at the foot of Pendle Hill – Barley, Newchurch-in-Pendle and Roughlee – WORK/LIFE explores how families from local mill towns travelled to the countryside for relaxation, and how this transformed these tiny villages into rural leisure destinations for workers between 1900-1980.

Pendle Hill Museum CIC would like to thank the many contributors who have made this exhibition possible. Thank you for sharing your memories with us.

A special thanks to Susan Waine & Jon Bailey for sharing their family images of the lake; to Kai Horner for digitising the photography and Mia Horner for additional research; and to the RJ Hayhurst Collection, the Francis Frith Collection and the volunteers of Lancashire Archives' Keeping East Lancashire in the Picture project for additional imagery.

We would also like to thank the photographers and models who participated in the 'Hill & High Fashion' photography workshop; Matty Hill of Sairo for organising it; and acclaimed photographer Quinn Lovero for being so generous in sharing his insights.

Barley Parish Council Christmas, Thefts, Trees, Planning...



Well Xmas arrived when the Xmas lighting decorations arrived. We were able to get some new lights on the Village Hall which are a warm white

glow and they do look well. The tree on the Turning Area looked great and the Santa & Sleigh on top of the bus shelter is a good centrepiece for the village. Thank you for all who made this happen and to the Women's Institute for bringing festive lighting to the car park again. I must also add a "well-done" to Newchurch who have done a great job with Xmas illuminations in their village centre.



For a second year Barley held a Christmas party for local children in the Chapel. A very impressive Father Xmas (John Connor) handed out presents

and party games were played throughout the afternoon before Barley to Bethlehem. The weather on the day was very wet, but it fined up in time for the procession meaning there was another good attendance by residents. The Pendle Inn also hosted a pensioners and a children's Xmas party adding to the festive spirit and the PC handed out gifts to Pensioners just before Xmas.

The toilet block improvement project had a further setback with a delay in the delivery of the new toilet cubicles, they arrived just too late to be fitted in both toilets so it will be early January before they are fully installed, at the same time as the new windows

and the external cladding. We also suffered damage to the Gents toilet door by thieves trying to force their way in, I am sure they were not after the toilet paper in there, so I assume they thought the contractor had tools stored inside – the room was empty as the contractor does not leave any tools overnight as the premises are not habited. We are hoping the toilet project will be substantially completed and open by mid-January 2026, but some external pointing and painting may take a while longer depending on the weather.

If you are on Facebook, you will be aware that we have had a couple of recent visits from thieves leading to the theft of a quad bike from the foot of Pendle Hill and of tools from the village centre, plus damage to property as they tried to gain access to properties (such as the toilets above). I know many of you are vigilant and report suspicious vehicles on the residents Facebook page etc and that is great, but we could all do a bit more and make a note of any behaviours that seem shady or vehicles that seem shifty – it might help catch the culprits.

The PC have again undertaken works to remove dead trees and branches and have cut back more of the large laurel bushes on the car park area. Some of the laurels were particularly big, in excess of 15ft high, and in danger of toppling when it is windy. Our colleagues from Pendle BC spent a day on site and have removed a lot of dead or dying timber and the pruning will allow more light into the car park landscape allowing other plants to thrive.



Planning Matters –
At the PC meeting we considered an application (25/0682/FUL) to convert an existing stable block to form

1 No Dwelling House which will be linked to a previously approved, but not built, 2 storey garage and games room building (which the developer claims have extant consent from 2016) by a new build joining section. The combined property, within the grounds of the Grade II listed Whitehough Grange, will form a house with dimensions circa 28m x 7m. Members were somewhat confused by the developer's application and could not come to an agreed understanding of what was proposed and thought detail was missing. Questions were raised with PBC, but no clarity received, so the PC stood neutral.

Planning was approved at the Pendle Inn for a single storey side extension and replacement of the conservatory. Planning was refused for an extension at Bollards Barn in Whitehough, by reason of scale and design causing damage to the Conservation Area.

The Chapel are still working on raising funds for the essential repairs for the building and an encouraging announcement is expected soon, let's hope so.

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

DEREK HEAP, CHAIR

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council Christmas Lights, Maintenance, Dog bins...



Goldshaw Booth may have fallen short in the Best Kept Village Competition this year but that certainly would not have been the case, had there have been

a Best Christmas Lights Competition! Newchurch, Spenbrook and Sabden Fold have all looked resplendent in a light extravaganza and we would like to thank all residents for their efforts, with special thanks to Carl and Alison Ryder for lending their expertise and experience.

The Light Switch on and Santa's Grotto event was a great success despite the wet weather, and a good time was enjoyed by over 75 attendees. Again, thank you to everyone who contributed to the super team effort that made the food, drinks and activities possible, especially to Debs Mousley whose catering professionalism is second to none!

We are pleased to report that progress has been made with several blocked drains, potholes, damaged kerbs and faded road markings in the Parish over the last month. Lancashire County Council's 'LoveCleanStreets' app is extremely effective and easy to use, and we urge residents who have not already done so to download the app and report any highways issues they come across. With wintry conditions on the horizon, we are looking into a road sign to advise car drivers not to attempt to use Jinny Lane when it is icy.

GBPC's Clerk, Jennifer Sutcliffe has recently completed and attained an internal audit qualification as part of her ongoing professional development, and the Council is grateful for her willingness to always go above and beyond with regards to the clerk role.

On a less pleasing note, we have received several complaints from residents in Newchurch regarding dog fouling on the walkways within the village, and it appears that some dog owners are failing to clean up after their pets. There are numerous dog bins

sited in the village and so we respectfully ask people to use them and encourage everyone to be vigilant to help stamp out this anti-social behaviour which as we know, can have serious consequences, particularly for children.
All the best for the New Year.



BECCY MURRELL - CHAIR

Roughlee Parish Council

Seniors' Christmas Lunch, Book vouchers,
Caravan Park, 2026 Budget...

Happy New Year and best wishes to you all for 2026.

During December we hosted our annual Seniors' Christmas Dinner which, from the many positive comments received, I believe was a great success. My sincere thanks go to the extended team — shoppers, table dressers, servers, pot washers and the after-party cleaning team — and of course to you for attending.

Our efforts to engage the young people of our community also proved very successful, with around 30 book tokens distributed to under-16s in the village. I hadn't realised we had so many!

On planning matters, a not totally unexpected retrospective planning application has been submitted for the caravan park development on the south side of the village, just off Pasture Lane. The Parish Council has lodged objections to this proposed development, and we now await the due planning process.

Our January meeting on the 5th will see us setting the budget for the forthcoming financial year. This will form the basis of our precept request to Pendle Council. One of our main ongoing costs is village maintenance and gardening, which helps keep the village looking pristine and tidy. This may require increased funding, as we have struggled to find a

FORA leader to coordinate activities. If you feel you could help with this and assist in keeping costs down, please do shout.

We are also seeking ideas for capital-based projects that would enhance the village. Once again, if you have any suggestions, please let us know.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Parish Councillors for their support over the past 12 months; the Village Centre Committee for the tremendous work they put into delivering so many successful events; the FORA team for keeping the village looking so splendid; and, most importantly, you — our community — for your continued support.

Next meetings: 5th January and 2nd February, 7pm at the Village Centre

MARTIN SCHOFIELD, CHAIR

Repair Cafe Barley Chapel

Do you hate throwing things away when you know they can be fixed? Or maybe you are someone who can fix stuff? Are you keen to be sustainable and save a bit of money as well?

We're looking at starting a repair cafe in Barley Chapel and would love to hear from you if you have a skill / are good at fixing things or would like to volunteer to keep the brews flowing. We are hoping to get this up and running early in the new year.

In addition to this being a great chance to get those things that you've shoved to the back of the cupboard fixed, it's also good to get out and have a chat and brew. Please express your interest in volunteering by messaging or calling 07800 791680 or 07773 369062 or emailing Rosemary Connor [here](#).

Also, Sunday Services at Barley Chapel at 11am:

Jan 4th – Richard Hoyle

Feb 1st – Rev Rick Ormerod

Mar 1st – TBC

Events in Barley: Jan 2026 Dates for your diary...



■ **Pendle Forest History Group** – *Wed 21st Jan, 7.30pm at Barley Village Hall* – A Powerpoint talk by Brian Jeffery titled “Hapton Hushings and how Hapton won WW2” –

Members £2.00, Visitors £3.00. Please **email** to book a place.

■ **Barley WI** – 1st Wed of the month, 7.30pm at Barley Village Hall – New members are always welcome, first three meetings are free so you can make sure you like it! The WI isn't just a monthly meeting – 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 13th and 27th Dec, from 1pm at Barley Village Hall* – One of our newer members completed this festive trio, they may have missed the December deadline but are too cute to be left out altogether. Others in the group have been inspired to do similar projects, so if anyone else feels like starting something different in the new year, come and join us. For any more information, please 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!

kept or even started? Do we make them to improve ourselves or to make us better towards others? Dry January is a popular one because people feel they over-indulged during Christmas or they feel they need to be healthier.

Celebrations are a constant in our lives and in the Church calendar. Christmas is a special one though there is surprise that some do not know it is the celebration of Christ's birth because it has become so commercialised.

Most of us enjoy celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and other special events in our personal and national lives. Food and fellowship have always been important for social interaction and a way of getting to know others in a better way. In St. Mary's we have the narthex for coffee and a chat after the service and to host gatherings.

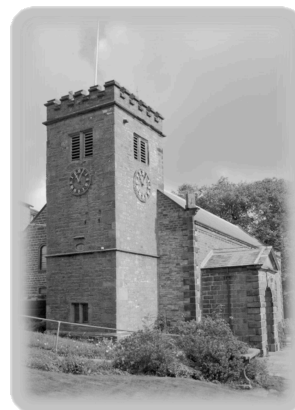
Our church is nearly 500 years old so we have to wait for that celebration but Blackburn Diocese is celebrating 100 years this year. There will be events through the year, to which we will be invited, with September being the special month. St. Mary's will have a weekend that month with a varied programme of activities which will be advertised in the usual places.

Let us hope and pray that we all have things to celebrate this year which give us joy and happy memories, including those we share in church. On behalf of St. Mary's I wish you all a happy and peaceful 2026.

SUSAN PROCTOR - BLACKBURN

DIOCESAN SYNOD MEMBER

St. Mary's Church Jan 2026 Services



As the new year begins 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.

Notes from St. Mary's Resolutions and Celebrations

It is the time for New Year resolutions. Have any of us made them? What do they contain? Will they be

Hope you can join us soon.

- Sunday 4th January, 9.30am – Holy Communion (Epiphany)
- Sunday 11th January, 9.30am – Holy Communion
- Sunday 18th January, 4pm – Plough Sunday *
- Sunday 25th January, 9.30am – Holy Communion (Conversion of Paul)

* The Plough Sunday Service marks the traditional start of ploughing. It acts as a covenant service where we commit our ways to God and trust Him for His provision.

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](#).

Happy New Year from St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC)

...and so on to 2026. Over the coming year we are keen to make the church more of a community hub. With the development of the narthex area, we are now able to use the space for meetings and events. It would be wonderful to see the space being used as much as possible to enhance our local community. The narthex can be hired privately for a small fee (to cover heating/lighting). For example it could be used for activities such as a local book club, coffee morning or village get-together. The church is also an excellent building for musical concerts or displays. Over the last couple of years we have held classical, folk and contemporary music events in addition to a craft fair, wellbeing event, eco and flower displays.

Please let the PCC know if you have any ideas or suggestions – contact Doug Bull on 07907 458894 or [email](#).

2026–2031 Forest of Bowland National Landscape Management Plan Consultation Opens



In spring 2026, the Forest of Bowland National Landscape will unveil its new five-year **Management Plan** — a bold and

refreshed vision to protect, enhance and celebrate this extraordinary place for generations to come. Formerly designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Forest of Bowland now forms part of the National Landscapes family—a name that better reflects the significance of these protected landscapes.

The draft 2026–2031 Management Plan has been developed with input from a wide range of partners via workshops and meetings over the last six months. This plan sets out what makes the Forest of Bowland so special, the challenges it faces and the actions needed to conserve, enhance and celebrate its components of natural beauty and special qualities.

The Management Plan aims to:

- Celebrate the unique character and special qualities of the Forest of Bowland.
- Present a shared vision for its future, shaped by those who live in, work in and care for the landscape.
- Set out clear outcomes and measures to guide decision-making and action.
- Reflect the aspirations of a wide range of stakeholders, from local communities, farmers and landowners to local authorities and conservation organisations.

Tony Lund, Partnership Manager for the Forest of Bowland, said: “A management plan is vital for a National Landscape. It provides the statutory framework to define a shared vision, coordinate action with partners and set clear outcomes for conservation, climate resilience, community needs, health and wellbeing, and opportunities for people to explore and understand this special place. This plan is our primary strategy to protect and enhance the Forest of Bowland’s special qualities while tackling major challenges like biodiversity loss and climate change.”

Have Your Say

This is not the finalised plan, and views are now being sought from people who live in, work in and visit the Forest of Bowland National Landscape. The public consultation period runs from 16 January to 27 February 2026.

For more information and to take part in the consultation, visit the website [here](#).

Friends of Newchurch School
100 club draw

The Friends of Newchurch School 100 Club draw has taken place for December. The winners are:

- Christmas Prize £50 – No. 53 Tracy Connor
- 1st Prize £25 – No. 59 Sandra Dixon
- 2nd Prize £20 – No. 69 Hailey Hermansen
- 3rd Prize £15 – No. 32 Sam Hooper

Thank you to everyone who takes part.

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

Print a note to post through their letterbox here
→

They can enter their email address to receive an email on the first of each month online at **www.parishnews.org** – their data is managed/protected by Roughlee Parish Council on behalf of the other parish councils.

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

Send articles

Please send any articles for the Feb 2026 issue by Sun 25th Jan to **editor@parishnews.org**

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