

PARISH NEWS

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

Barley Parish Council Congestion and Yellow Lines, Toilets, Cabin, Planning...

Just over one year ago the Parish Council started lobbying Lancashire County Council to resolve the congestion on Cross Lane above the Village Hall that occurred when visitors parked on both sides of the road restricting traffic on the road to single file causing congestion and difficult access for larger vehicles.

LCC proposed installing double yellow lines from the village hall up to the bend just above the entrance to Heys Lane on the village hall side. They have chosen this side for safety reasons including the blind bend on the approach into Barley and because there is a footpath on the other side providing a degree of safety for those getting into or out of vehicles. Parking on the village hall side, where there is only a grass verge, is not as safe. After forty e-mail exchanges with LCC the parking enforcement was eventually confirmed and installed on 18 February but ironically the lines could not be completed as three cars prevented roadside access. At the time of writing, we are waiting for completion.



Cross Lane:
Congestion and
New Parking
Restriction Lining

As reported previously, the car park toilet block improvements are almost complete with just some masonry pointing and painting outstanding. I know that few residents use the facility, but the car park is the main source of income for the PC and so providing a clean, safe and functional facility is important. We hope to replace the two old doors on the building later this year meaning the exterior of the building will look well maintained and attractive. For information, when the forecast is for an inclement day, we will only be opening the Ladies toilet, as a mixed sex toilet, knowing that

visitor numbers will be very low so saving on cleaning and water, and the Gents toilet being soaked by driving rain.

The Council is grateful for a grant donation from Pendle BC of £2.5k towards our most expensive project to date.

You will be aware that the Cabin was also closed in January undergoing an electrical refurbishment. The Cabin is also planning a new roof for their building this year and it is likely to use the same roof tiles as the toilet block. Together we are improving facilities on the car park for all.

Planning Matters – The proposal at Whitehough Grange for the conversion of a stable block to form 1 no. dwelling. (25/0682/FUL) was refused by Pendle BC. The Parish Council had been neutral on the application because we could not fully comprehend the developer's intention; we raised queries but received no response. The refusal seemed to resonate with a previously refused application to build five properties on Whitehough Grange land in 2022; focusing on restricted access over the bridge which has limited weight capacity and the unacceptable impact on highway safety. In case you have not heard, the Barden Lane canal bridge will be closed by Lancs CC from 16 February until 23 March or until completion of the works. For us, this means a diversion through Brierfield if going to Burnley, I suggest you avoid at peak travel times.

Clayton Harriers will be holding a major Fell Race on Saturday 7 March starting from the Village Hall.

DEREK HEAP, CHAIR

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council Village Cleaning, Speeding, CCTV, History Boards...

The promise of Spring has kept many of us going this last month and at our February meeting we were heartened to discuss two village clean up dates and projects to tackle. The dates are Sunday 8th March and Sunday 12th April, between 11am and 1pm, meeting at the Pavillion at the top of the playing field in Newchurch.

We'd be delighted to see as many residents as possible joining the Parish Council for these events, and depending on numbers, the projects will include collecting tree guards from Sparable Wood (these will be recycled through a collection point in Skipton), clearing the creeping edges on the tarmac on the path from Gorrell Close to the school, and

weeding the long bed which borders the path by the side of the top playing field. Plus there's plenty of roadside weeding, general tidying and litter picking. Electricity North West will also be out in the Parish over the next few weeks, felling and pruning some trees which are too close to the power lines.

It was great to have PCSO Alan Fielding attend our February meeting to discuss a range of new initiatives to help reduce vehicle speeding incidents. He is hoping to get local school children involved in a project to monitor the speeds of vehicles passing the school, and will be asking them to design an anti-speeding poster for the roadsides. If you are interested in participating, look out for a forthcoming appeal for speed volunteers – further information to follow.

Continuing on the theme of safety, the broken CCTV camera in Sabden Fold is currently being replaced and we are seeking funding to upgrade all of the Goldshaw Booth cameras with vehicle registration recognition software. If you need to view any CCTV footage, please request this from clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk and be aware that requests need to be made within two weeks of the period to be viewed, as footage is over-written every 30 days.

We have recently applied for some funding to update and replace the information board in Newchurch, and to produce new information boards for Spenbrook and Sabden Fold. The content of the boards will be produced by Pendle Forest History Group and as part of this project, a speaker from the Group will be delivering a local history talk on Wednesday 25th March at 7pm in St Mary's Church in Newchurch. It's a free event and everyone is welcome, with tea, coffee and cakes served.

Finally a brief update on Spenbrook Mill. Despite the developers having recently been found guilty and fined for a breach of planning conditions, a number of significant issues remain outstanding on the site, including landscaping, relocation of the electricity substation, rebuilding of a stone perimeter wall, refurbishment of the old Spenbrook Mill gates and erection of road signs. Therefore the Parish Council, on behalf of the residents, will be asking Pendle Borough Council to consider alternative enforcement strategies, such as forced compliance and/or a confiscation order.

BECCY MURRELL - CHAIR



Talk by Brian Jeffery from Pendle Forest History Group

Free entry,
Refreshments
A fascinating exploration of the

history of our local area. Learn about the development and changes over the last 1000 years. Discover the features and names that highlight the ancient past, along with photographs which bring us more up to date.

Roughlee Parish Council
School Parking, Noggarth Road, Queen's Canopy, Gardener...

Earlier in February, we held our usual term-time meeting with Mr Elliott, Head of Roughlee School. As always, one of the key topics discussed was parking at school drop-off and pick-up times. This is an issue the school takes very seriously. They were already aware of the specific incident we raised and had proactively spoken with the parent involved. I have also been approached by several residents regarding vehicles travelling along Noggarth Road (from Fence towards the Noggarth Top Shop). Residents report that some vehicles are not being driven in accordance with the road conditions, and there have been a number of near misses involving pedestrians. I am advised that this is particularly noticeable during school drop-off and pick-up times. In response to both concerns, I have asked our local PCSO, Alan Fielding, to have an occasional presence at the school. His role will be to monitor the situation, support the school in resolving any issues, and provide advice regarding vehicles travelling at excessive speed.

On a more positive note, we have planted six additional trees near the Queen's Canopy area. Our sincere thanks go to the Jackson family for growing and donating the trees, and to the Hartley family for kindly allowing us to plant them on their land. Last month, I mentioned that we were considering withdrawing from the Lengthsman Scheme. This decision has now been made. Some of the associated tasks will be taken on by our new gardener, Scott Allan. Scott is a resident of the village, so if you see him out and about, please do say hello.

Finally, after much discussion and debate, we have received news that there may be funding available through the Pride in Place Fund, which was allocated to Barrowford by Pendle Council on

The History of Goldshaw Booth
Wed 25th March, 7pm in St Mary's Church

behalf of the government. We submitted several bids at the eleventh hour, so it is now a case of wait and see. 'Stop press'... we have been led to believe from press reports that we have been successful on the projects that we bid for. There is not yet any official confirmation on this or the financial amounts involved, but we are extremely hopeful.

Next meetings: 2nd March and 11th April, 7pm at the Village Centre

MARTIN SCHOFIELD, CHAIR

Roughlee Village Centre
Quiz (21 Mar), Casino (18 Apr), Call for Ideas...



Spring is the air and we at Roughlee Village Centre are ramping up our events schedule. In March we are holding a Pointless team quiz and tickets are selling quickly, so ring and book a team (up to 6) or join friends for a fun filled night with £200 in prizes

to be won. Get booking to avoid missing out what will be a superb evening.

In April on the 18th we are having a Casino Night with professional croupiers, canapes, and fizz, a totally new idea that we are sure will be great fun, again book early to avoid disappointment as the demand is high with our community high rollers. The annual Beer, Music & Gin Festival is on 5,6,7th June. Anyone willing to give a few hours will be most welcome as we try to add to the £8000 we have raised for Derian House Children's Hospice in the last 2 years. Don't book a holiday that week and come and support us and Derian.

The girls on the committee are organising a Royal Ascot Ladies Day on Thursday 18th June, details to follow in next months edition.

As some will have already been made aware Chris Wilson from our group has asking for ideas to make more use of the centre during the day and evening (see below). Many interesting ideas have been floated from table tennis, chess club, children's Learning about garden & nature classes, knitting

group. I am sure some will bear fruit and start dates posted here over the next few weeks.

Village Centre Community Events!

Roughlee Village Centre are exploring running regular (weekly? monthly?) daytime community events in the centre. Suggestions so far include board games, cards, watercolours painting, knitting, music (e.g. a Ukulele collective).

Would you be interested in attending such community events? And what other events or activities would be of interest to you? Contact Chris at chrisbasswilson@gmail.com.

Do let me know, so that we can shape the events to meet the needs of the villagers!

Thank You – Chris (on behalf of Roughlee Village Centre committee)



GLEN WATSON - CHAIR, RVC
COMMITTEE

Events in Barley: Mar 2026

Dates for your diary...



■ **Pendle Forest History Group – Wed 18th Mar, 7.30pm at Barley Village Hall – Business meeting and items of interest – Members £2.00, Visitors £3.00.**

Email

■ **Barley WI – Wed 4th Mar, 7.30pm at Barley**

Village Hall – This month, we're delighted to welcome Juliana Wilson, who'll be sharing her story about Sri Lanka's rich food heritage and her own cooking journey. There'll be a few fun interactive moments along the way, and of course, some delicious

bites to taste too! If you're new, we'd love for you to join us — first-time visitors are very welcome to come along for free — arrive a little early so we can give you a warm welcome.

■ **Pendle Patchers** – *Tues 10th and 24th Mar, from 1pm at Barley Village Hall* – At our last meeting, everyone was working on a slightly different aspect of sewing or knitting, with one member even getting ahead sewing Christmas gift bags! Just to show that if you want to come along to any of our meetings, you can bring anything at all that you're working on, or nothing at all, just come for a brew and a chat. Contact Gil Beeke 01282 602449 if you want to know more about us.

■ **Pendleside Gardeners Club** – *Tues 17th Mar, 7pm at Barley Village Hall* – Mike Dodd be sharing his expert tips and insider know-how on growing stunning dahlias. We'll also be hosting a seed swap — bring along any spare seeds you have and take home with something new to grow and enjoy.

■ **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

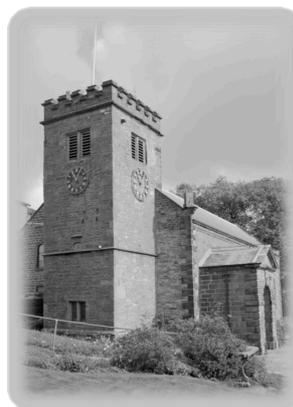
■ **Coffee and Chat** – *2nd Wed of each month, 10am-12pm at Barley Village Hall* – All welcome, not just the old folk – £2 gets coffee (or tea) and cake!

But let me say this of all the jobs I have had in my life, being Church Warden has been the most rewarding (not financially). Being Church Warden has helped my spiritual development and helped me through some tough times in my life recently.

It is a privilege to have the trust and the responsibility for the care and maintenance of St Mary's, and to have helped the Rev Nick during his first 12 months in the Benefice.

DOUGLAS BULL - ST MARY'S NEWCHURCH

St. Mary's Church Mar 2026 Services



As Spring 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.

■ Sunday 1st March, 9:30am – Morning Worship

■ Sunday 8th March, 9.30am – Holy Communion

■ Sunday 15th March, 9:30am – Mothering Sunday Family Service

■ Sunday 22nd March, 9.30am – Holy Communion

■ Sunday 29th March, 9:30am – Palm Sunday

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**.

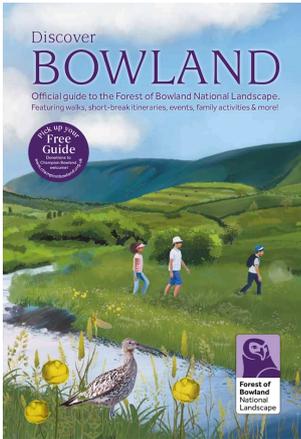
Notes from St. Mary's View from the Wardens Pew!

Hello, have you ever accepted a job and signed a job description without really reading every detail, I did, when I accepted the Church Wardens job. Trust me I should have read the 'small print', and the small print doesn't cover everything. It turns out that people have written books on how to be an effective Church Wardens, and the role of the Church Wardens!

Every Church is different so there is not a 'one size fits all' book for Church Wardens. In my time I had dealt with the closure of Churches during Covid, Bishops, Vicar vacancies, large building projects, wedding & funerals, baptisms, and other things too numerous to mention here.

Discover Bowland 2026

Your Guide to Exploring This Inspiring Landscape



The Forest of Bowland National Landscape team is delighted to announce the launch of the

Discover Bowland 2026 guide. Whether you're a local uncovering new paths or a visitor experiencing Bowland's magic for the first time, the guide is packed with ideas to help you make the most of your time here.

The guide was officially unveiled on 26 February at Holden Clough Nurseries, where forty members of the Bowland Sustainable Tourism Business Network gathered to celebrate. Many of these partners support the guide through advertising, helping to fund its production and ensuring it remains free to the public.

Hetty Byrne, Sustainable Tourism Officer for the Forest of Bowland National Landscape, said: "We hope the Discover Bowland guide and website will raise awareness of Bowland's stunning natural beauty and the fantastic work of our partnership. Through this publication, we aim to inspire visitors to connect with nature, linger longer, travel more sustainably and support local businesses."

She added: "It's been a busy and inspiring year for the team, with a host of exciting projects delivered across the area. From peatland restoration and inclusive access improvements to nature connection activities and support for farmers and landowners through the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme, 2025 has offered plenty to celebrate." This year's guide features brand-new Eco Escapes itineraries, encouraging people to explore the area slowly and sustainably. Linked to the Clitheroe train line, these routes promote car-free travel and invite readers to discover Bowland's hidden corners, seasonal beauty, delicious local food and outstanding places to stay.

The 'At a Glance' Festival Bowland listings are featured once again, and this year's programme puts 14 amazing Champion Species centre stage as well as offering a year-round programme of events celebrating nature, heritage and culture. From star-filled skies to vibrant spring wildlife and hands-on activities, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

The Discover Bowland guide is available from Visitor Information Centres and will soon be stocked by hospitality businesses across the Forest of Bowland National Landscape. A digital edition is available [here](#).

Both the free printed guide and the companion **Discover Bowland** website are packed with practical information, local stories and inspiration to help you explore and enjoy this beautiful area. The guide is free, but donations to Champion Bowland—the charity supporting sustainable tourism, environmental projects and community initiatives across the area—are warmly welcomed.

Festival Bowland

Curtain raises on the annual events programme celebrating the Forest of Bowland



Festival Bowland celebrates the nature, landscape, culture and heritage of the Forest of Bowland National Landscape and this year's programme is full of fantastic opportunities to get

involved.

The **2026 calendar** offers the chance to discover some truly "champion" species, enjoy night sky wonders and make the most of Bowland's more accessible walking routes, alongside regular favourites like the Garstang Walking Festival and National Meadows Day.

Sandra Silk, Project Officer with the National Landscape Partnership, said, "We're very excited to shine a spotlight on Bowland's Champion Species this year. These are the fourteen rare, inspirational or representative species at the heart of the Forest of Bowland's Nature Recovery Plan. Whether it's ballerina waxcap, hen harrier, globeflower or green hairstreak butterfly, we're hoping that this series of creative sessions, hands-on study days, family

events, and more, will reveal the champions in all their glory.”

The Festival programme also includes a series of brand new Welcoming Walks, exploring stile-free routes around the Forest of Bowland. Weekly walks in April, and again in July, will offer short, seasonal walks, with the chance to chat over a cuppa afterwards as an optional extra.

Sandra explained, “Booking ahead for events doesn’t work for everyone, so we’ve taken inspiration from the weekly walks organised by Wyre Coast and Countryside Service and similar opportunities in Arnside and Silverdale National Landscape, and made these new Welcoming Walks “just turn up”. This means that people can see how they feel on the day. Each walk will last around an hour, with the emphasis on a friendly atmosphere and fresh air, rather than distance. We’ll be starting at different locations each time, but all meeting points will have parking and toilet facilities and some will be accessible by public transport.” Bowland dark skies events will be taking place a little later this year, to coincide with International Dark Sky Week, which runs from the 13th to the 20th of April. With the chance to explore the University of Lancashire’s Alston Observatory, discover the life of the “whispering” bat, or experience an early evening forest bathe, these spring events are a great opportunity to explore the atmospheric world of the National Landscape once the sun has dipped.

Evening bat walks, botanical and bumblebee identification skills and river life explorations all add to the opportunities available to discover Bowland’s wilder side. And, for anyone wanting to roll their sleeves up and get stuck in, regular tree planting sessions throughout March, November and December are a great way to make a difference to this very special place.

Full details of the 2026 Festival Bowland events programme are available on the Forest of Bowland National Landscape [website](#).

Lancashire Ancestors Pendle & Burnley Virtual Branch of Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society

My name is Garry Walton, and I am the co-ordinator of Pendle & Burnley Virtual Branch of Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society. Now called Lancashire Ancestors. We are about 30 members



from all over the country and abroad in USA, Canada, Australia & New Zealand.

To give you a little background, my Gt Gt Grandfather Ambrose Walton 1802 -1851 was born in Colne. He

owned, together with his brothers in law, the mill in Roughlee and built the village school. He went on own mills in Narrowgates and Burnley.

Ambrose married Susan Roberts in 1824 at St Mary’s Newchurch. They had three children. Sarah Jane 1830-1865, Anne Walton 1833-1899 and John William 1827-1895.



If any readers are interested in local or global Lancashire family history they are very welcome to join our once a month zoom branch meetings on the first Thursday of the

month at 6:45pm.

They do however need to be LFHHS members. You can try us out first with a free visit. I will be happy to welcome you to our branch if you send me an email at garrywalton1950@gmail.com.

Friends of Newchurch School 100 club draw

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

- 1st Prize £25 – No. 94 Claire Loach
- 2nd Prize £20 – No. 13 Alannah Parkinson
- 3rd Prize £15 – No. 83 Lisa Forrester

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

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 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.

Send articles

Please send any articles for the Apr 2026 issue by Wed 25th Mar to editor@parishnews.org

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