

BELTHORN LINK

Aug / Sept 08

NEWS

(i) Oswaldtwistle Sign

A number of villagers and committee members attended the Oswaldtwistle Area Council Meeting last month and the sign at the bottom of the village was raised as a concern. It did not appear to have been taken very seriously by the chair of the meeting but subsequently a councillor has been to see the sign and hopefully some rectification may take place in the near future.

(ii) Chapel Graveyard – Volunteers wanted

As mentioned in previous Links, volunteers were being sought to tidy up the graveyard opposite Chapel Street. Weather permitting it is hoped that any volunteers would meet at the graveyard on Saturday afternoons from 1.30pm to help with strimming down the overgrown grass, uncovering the original paths and generally tidying it up. There has already been a vast improvement but still more needs to be done. Anybody wishing to help please simply go down and do whatever you can on Saturdays.

(iii) Flower Tubs

As mentioned in the last Link Christine Hodgkiss, Landlady of The Dog Inn has bought and planted the flowers in the tubs at entrance to the bottom of the village for the benefit of all. Flowers have also been donated and planted in the tubs at the top of the village by Sue Hodgkinson of Tower View for the benefit of all.

(iv) Stolen Top Stones

During the early hours of Friday 08th August the top stones were stolen from the front wall of “The View” on Belthorn Road.

The police have been informed but if anybody has any further information please either contact Gareth Bailey at “The View” Belthorn Road or the police (see below).

FIRE BRIGADE – FREE SMOKE ALARMS & ADVICE FOR VILLAGERS

Members of Lancashire Fire Brigade came up into the village on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th July 2008. The fitting of smoke alarms was a success, even though they didn't manage to get round the entire village due to operational restraints. They managed to fit 25 houses with smoke alarms (that's 25 Families now leading a safer existence). Anybody who was missed and wishes to have a visit from their fire safety officers they can book a visit on Blackburn 01254 52111.

DOG MESS

This still appears to be an ongoing problem within the village. A number of complaints have been received by the Committee regarding the amount of dog waste which is around the village and also on the Recreation Ground. Some of the children of the village have also raised the issue. Requests have been made for dog owners to be more responsible for any mess their dog makes particularly in public areas such as pavements and on the Recreation Area which is an area for the children of the village to enjoy. Due to the ongoing problem on the Rec the Council has been informed.

Dog waste is not only a health hazard to the children but also to all those who wish to enjoy the Recreation space. Please could dog owners who walk their dogs or allow them to roam on the recreation ground please clean up the waste they produce so as to keep the areas clean and free from unwanted dog waste.

If anybody notes any stray dogs or unsupervised dogs in the village these should be reported to the local dog wardens either in Blackburn or Hyndburn:

Blackburn Dog Wardens 01254 585397

Hyndburn Dog Wardens 01254 388111

NOTICES FROM THE PACK HORSE

“Church in the Pub”

The next service at the Pack Horse will be on Sunday 21st September 2008 at 2.30pm.

This service is becoming more and more popular with a warm and friendly welcome extended to anybody wishing to attend. The service takes the form of light informal worship and takes place on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 2.30pm (unless otherwise stated).

As mentioned in the last Link, last year the service in the Pub joined forces with St James, Lower Darwen and Trinity Church, Lower Darwen, to support Operation Christmas Child (OCC). OCC is a project arranged through the Samaritans Purse, an international charitable organization, which sends gifts, collected in decorated shoe boxes, to under privileged children in impoverished countries.

Attached is a leaflet from OCC giving details of project. If you wish to donate a shoe box details of the collection will be given in a subsequent Link. This will be sometime in November. If you require a further leaflet please contact Jason Slack at Chair@belthornvillage.co.uk and further leaflets can be dopped off.

NOTICES FROM THE DOG INN

“Once again our annual trip to Coniston FC was a real success despite the weather.

The football matches were for once a double success with the first game resulting in Belthorn winning 7-4 with goals from Josh Lones (2) Andy Sager, Heath Whalley, Nick Leadley, Sam Wilson, and Dean Ellwood. Miss of the day went to Gaz Riding after being set up by Jordy Ellwood with what Jordy described as a "neat step over" but I'm with Gaz as there was a definite bobble and I believe they have now retrieved the ball from Lake Coniston.

The second more serious game again resulted in Belthorn being victorious against a very strong Coniston squad. The match finished 3-1 with goals from Simon Hodgkiss, Razz Steel and Toby Hodgkiss. Misses of the day all went to Simon.

On a serious note Brian and Christine would like to thank Craig Steele (Manager) and all the villagers who went for braving the weather and making it another weekend to remember.

Congratulations once again to Craig and his C team 7 a side who this summer played through the full season not only without losing but managing to win all their matches resulting in a 100% record. The last game 7th Aug against their closest rivals was standing at 1 nil down with 5 minutes to go before a goal from late sub Craig himself then Razz Steel in the last minute ending with a thrilling victory.

The B Team finishing the season with a very creditable mid table position.

Dates for diary.

10th Sept 2008 - golf singles at Garstang - 11am tee off. Anyone interested please put your name on list at The Dog with non refundable £10 deposit, a good day to be had regardless of ability.

19th Sept 2008 - Jim Fletchers quiz night at The Dog - always a great evening starting around 8.30pm.”

Brian and Christine Hodgkiss

POLICE SECTION

The following is from PC Roger Morris :

“A White transit van with 03 in the registration has been sighted in and around your area which we believe is responsible for a number of recent thefts. We think there are 3 males onboard with Irish accents. It would be ideal if

somebody could get the full registration in order for us to trace the driver/owner. If anybody has information on this vehicle or similar vans then they should forward the details to myself or Steve (PC Steve Jeffries). On a positive note crime in your area is at an all time low. It may help to reassure residents that the Police do take onboard what is being said at the PACT meetings. Thanks for your help, Roger”

01254 222135 – Community Policing Team

01254 51212 – Police Station

The next PACT (Police And Community Together) meeting will take place at 7.30pm in the Dog Inn on **1st September 2008**. The PACT meetings precede the Belthorn Village Committee meetings which are generally held on the first Monday of every month.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LINK

As mentioned in previous Links this a village newsletter for the benefit of the villagers to keep them aware of events, issues and matters connected to the village. If anybody has any contributions for an edition of the Link please either e-mail these to Chair@belthornvillage.co.uk and every effort will be made to accommodate such a request in a subsequent edition of the Link. It also helps the writer fill the pages!!!!

SUNFLOWERS IN THE VILLAGE

If anybody has a sunflower which has survived the Belthorn Summer and wishes to be entered into the competition please complete and return the slip at the bottom of the Link to Liz Creasey before Sunday 24/08/08. Voting for the competition will take place on 25th August 2008.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Belthorn Village Committee meeting will take place at **8.00pm** on **Monday 01st September 2008** at The Dog Inn. The Police and Community Together (PACT) meeting will precede the village committee meeting, commencing at **7.30pm**.

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BELTHORN'S FIRST SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

Name / Family Name :

Address / location of Sunflower

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Please complete and return to Liz Creasey at before Sunday 24/08/08

Frank Littler & Sons, High Class Butchers, 129 Blackburn Market
Pendle Lamb, Bowland Beef
Local Pork & Chicken.

Free deliveries to Belthorn 3 days a week.
Now suppliers to the Pack Horse Restaurant and The Dog Inn, Belthorn

Contact Mark on 01254 661713/ 01254 671408 or mark@alittler71.fsnet.co.uk for more details

Do you struggle to find somewhere for friends and relations to stay when they come to visit?
Do you wish there was somewhere close to Belthorn where they could stay?
Now there is!

Midsummer Barn, Bank Fold Lane, Belthorn.
A 3-bedroomed, mid-barn conversion, which is now available for holiday lets.

For more information, please go to: www.midsummerbarn.co.uk,
or contact **Yvonne Brown** (01254 263173) or e-mail: yvonne.brown@virgin.net

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SPONSORSHIP OF THE LINK

The Link is distributed throughout the village (over 220 households). If anybody or any business would like to advertise or sponsor an edition of the Link at £20.00 please contact Jason Slack at Chair@belthornvillage.co.uk . The £20.00 donation goes towards village funds / production costs.