



FORTHCOMING EVENTS



14th October 2011 at
The Pack Horse

Belthorn Village Committee is having a Charity Race night on Friday 14th October 2011 at the Pack Horse.

This is a fund-raising event commencing at 6.30 pm with the meal at the Pack Horse and it is anticipated that the first race will be under starter's orders at approximately 8.30pm, but book early to avoid disappointment. We hope both villagers and non villagers alike will support this event.

The race night consists of 8 races with 8 horses per race and this will be shown on the big screen at the Pack Horse.

We will be selling ownership of the horses at a cost of £2.00 per horse, as well as the jockeys too at a cost of £2.00 per jockey. People who purchase a horse or a jockey will be entitled to enter the race night free. Corporate sponsorship of a race is available at £25.00. Non-horse and jockey owners will pay an entry fee on the night itself.

Special discounted dining tickets for a 2 course meal including a glass of wine at a cost of £10 per head (which includes free entry to the race night itself) will also be available (Limited to 60) on a first come, first served basis from 1st August 2011. For tickets please contact Jean Bain either at 5 Rydal Mount on 07825 201 825 or via chair@belthornvillage.co.uk

VILLAGE NEWS

Proposed 20 mph for Belthorn

The traffic passing through Belthorn, particularly at rush hour in the morning has increasingly become a problem for the village. Not only does it make it increasingly difficult for villagers to get out of the village in the morning but it raises safety issues. The police and council are aware of the issues which have been raised at PACT (Police And Community

Together) meetings and the village committee meetings.

One suggestion which is being considered is reducing the speed limit through Belthorn to 20 mph.

Please could villagers e-mail their response in favour or against the proposal to Peter Britcliffe at peter.britcliffe@hyndburnbc.gov.uk.

THE CHAPEL GRAVEYARD

If any villagers can spare an hour or two to help maintain the graveyard, all help is appreciated, especially those who have petrol trimmers and petrol lawn mowers, as well as wheelbarrows and garden rakes.

Recently there has been some damage to the graveyard boundary walls. It is unclear whether this is due to individuals taking the stone or it being used to create a short cut from the garage / rec to Chapel Street. If anybody notices any damage being done to the walls please can you report this to the police or if you prefer to the village committee via chair@belthornvillage.co.uk. If it is being used as a short-cut by children please could parents advise them not to do this. There are also safety issues especially if the integrity of the wall is breached.

DONATIONS / MAY DAY

Following the collection on May Day there was just over £295.00 donated from the villagers which has gone towards the village committee funds. The generosity of those who made donations is greatly appreciated.

DONATIONS / Bric-a-Brac

Belthorn Village Committee are grateful to all those who kindly contributed bric-a-brac for the stall at The Accrington Lions Gala. The event was held on Saturday 18th of June 2011 at Accrington & Rossendale

Following this event just over £100.00 was raised but due to the weather (and our location) the event was not as successful as was anticipated as we have been left with quite a lot of the donated items. It is therefore intended that the remaining items are sold at a car boot sale in due course.

REQUEST to Horseriders

Please could horse riders avoid using the village footpaths were possible as there has

recently been occasions where the horse muck is on the pavements which causes problems for those with prams and mobility scooters.

VILLAGE POND

Regrettably there have been instances of Individuals dumping grass cuttings and builders rubbish in the village pond next to the Shed. If anybody notices this occurring please can you report this to the police or council, or if you prefer to the village committee via chair@belthornvillage.co.uk.

FLY TIPPING

Following on from the above there have been a number of fly tipping incidents in and around the village over the last few weeks. This is such an anti-social thing to do and given the locations at the top and bottom of the village it is assumed that the culprits have driven into the village for this purpose. If you see anybody fly-tipping or you suspect they are fly-tipping please take a note of their car registration number and report them to the police. See below for details.

DAMAGE TO VEHICLES

It is understood that some vehicles have been damaged recently on Belthorn Road. Please can residents report any such damage to the police.

HYNDBURN COUNCIL

(For your information)

There are reduced swimming costs for children at Hyndburn Leisure Centre during the school holidays.

There is a transport service for over 60s to Blackpool at a cost of £1.00 per person. This service operates on a Tuesday departing from the Cabin End Public House.

For more details on the above please see the Hyndburn Council Website. www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk or 01254 388 111.

BELTHORN WEBSITE

The village website can be found at www.belthornvillage.co.uk. This website is run and maintained by a villager and is well worth a look. It contains interesting articles, photographs and also keeps you informed of village events. There is also the opportunity to contact the website with your ideas, comments and views

Following on from the above, Belthorn now has a **Facebook** page. Search for "Belthorn Village" from your Facebook page and click "Like" and it will add your news and opinions to he page.

REQUEST(on behalf of the Committee)

Belthorn Village Committee have received planning permission to erect a garage on the 1st corner plot as you drive around to the garages from Holden Street. Unfortunately we have been unable to commence work on the base due to vehicles parking on the plot. We would be grateful if those who park their vehicles in this area would refrain from parking on the plot so that work can commence on the village committee garage base.

REQUEST(on behalf of a villager).

"A very nice animal solar light has gone missing from my front garden, it is not the value of the item but the act of someone walking up the path and taking it, that has upset me. I really wouldn't expect this to happen in Belthorn and on such a quiet cul de sac as Rydal Mount! And I would appreciate if anyone knows of its whereabouts to return it" – Rydal Mount. Please contact the website or chair@belthornvillage.co.uk if you have any information (in confidence).

NOTICES FROM BELTHORN SCHOOL

"Going Academy"

Belthorn Primary School has applied to become an Academy under the Academies Act 2010. The school has held meetings with staff, and has been keeping pupils informed throughout the process.

The school is also interested in forging greater community links with the village and this is indeed one of the principles of an Academy.

An Academy is essentially an independent school which is funded by the state. It is independent of the Local Authority and receives its funding direct from central government.

Previously Academies tended to replace schools which had poor results or otherwise needed to improve. **THIS IS NOT THE CASE WITH BELTHORN SCHOOL.** Under the Academies Act 2010 **Belthorn School became eligible to apply for Academy status because it is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted).**

Academy status for Belthorn Primary School will not change Belthorn except in ways which will improve the school even more. For pupils it is unlikely that they will see much, if any, change in their day to day school lives. Academies do have the power to vary their curriculum's and vary the length of the school day although these steps are not intended to be taken.

The Governors believe this is the right move for the children, parents, local community and all those associated with the school. It will not alter the way the school is managed or the character and ethos of the school but will give Belthorn the flexibility and resources to continue to make this the successful school it is.

Representations can be made in writing to: Mr T Small, Chair of Governors, c/o Belthorn Primary School, Belthorn Road, Belthorn, BB1 2NY by 18th July 2011.

The school is also opening its doors **at 6.00pm on 20th July 2011** to the community and parents to come and look around the school and raise any questions.

THE POLICE SECTION

The next PACT (Police And Community Together) meeting will take place at 7.30pm in the Dog Inn on 5th September 2011. These meetings now take place every other month although due to the potential cut-backs the future of these meetings are not guaranteed. The PACT meeting precedes the Belthorn Village Committee meeting. If anybody has any issues they would wish to raise with the police concerning the village please feel free to attend. Alternatively the Community Policing Team can be contacted **01254 222135**. For other police matters the main police station number is **01254 51212**

NOTICES FROM THE HISTORY SOCIETY

Summer / Autumn Programme 2011

"July 18 - A Historical Tour of Darwen Town Centre. Led by Darwen's Jayne Waring we're having a preamble around the centre, looking at the many old buildings and talking over the story of this town that's so familiar to Belthorn. Meet outside Darwen library at 7.30pm. Plenty of free parking nearby, please contact Diane if you need a lift. We're asking a donation of £2.00 each for this guided tour by Jayne.

August 15 -The Cemetery Walk. Blackburn's old cemetery was opened in 1851 and is the final resting place of many local notables amongst the 200,000 recumbent. Following a walk laid out by Gordon Hartley and Albert Branscombe of The Blackburn Local History Society we'll be visiting this beautiful and evocative spot, and some of the more curious residents including Fred Kempster 'The Blackburn Giant' and poor Alice Beetham, the victim of a scandalous murder in 1912. Again information leaflets provided, meet at the Top Cemetery Gate at 7.30pm. Please ring Diane for directions or a lift.

September 20 - DVD Night. We switch to Tuesdays for the next three meetings. We've *Darwen 1939 - 1949* to show, a collection of images set to the music and sounds of the era. Also we have a couple of short films from the amazing Edwardian Mitchell and Kenyon collection which was found in a shop cellar on Northgate and restored by the British Film Institute. We'll be meeting in The Shed at 7.30pm.

October 18 - Jenny's Talk. Our chairperson Jenny will be talking about the kinds of utensils and recipes found in days gone by in that heart of the home, the kitchen. Again we'll be meeting in The Shed at 7.30pm, and if you have any peculiar or old items please bring them along.

November 22 - Lancashire Quiz Night. As the last event of this year it's time for a few drinks and a natter. Diane will be holding the

now customary Lancashire Quiz, followed with a Jacob's Join supper. Gather by the log stove in The Shed at 7.30pm.

Thanks to everyone who's been along so far, it's been both interesting and entertaining. Particular thanks to those who came to the April meeting about wartime evacuees and the village, a great evening. We're always looking for ideas for future meetings so if you have any suggestions please let us know. Here's to a lovely summer on the hill.

If anyone has any photos, artefacts, ephemera, stories, facts or information relating to Belthorn and the village's history that they'd like to share please let us know. EMAIL - BelthornVillageHistorySociety@googlemail.com

SPONSORSHIP

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 the Committee c/o 95 Belthorn Road / chair@belthornvillage.co.uk The £20.00 donation goes towards village funds / production costs.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

DONATIONS GENERALLY

The Committee is reliant upon donations and fundraising in order to continue putting on events for the benefit of the village and its residents. All donations go into Committee Funds. All donations received are accounted for in the Committee meeting's minutes unless received at an event in which case they are accounted for generally by the treasurer when reporting to the committee on the amounts received from an event. Should anybody wish to donate to The Belthorn Village Committee, all contributions towards village funds are gratefully received. The Belthorn Village Committee is the generic name for The Belthorn Village Hall Fund which is a registered charity. The Committee is run by volunteers who are villagers (or connected to the village) and donate their time and effort for the benefit of the village and its residents. Any monetary donations received will go towards future village events and projects.

NOTICE OF VILLAGE COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will take place at **8.00pm on Monday 01st August 2011** prior to the usual Village Committee meeting in The Dog Inn.

At the AGM will be a review of this years Committee's achievements as well as the election of the new committee and officers for the forthcoming year. All are welcome.

If anybody has any matter which they would wish to be considered please forward them to the Chair, c/o 95 Belthorn Road, BB1 2NY or chair@belthornvillage.co.uk at least 3 days before the meeting.