

The Belthorn Link

November/December 2009

Thought for the month – One mans junk is another man's treasure.

Note from the Editor

This month we welcome 2 new items, Give and Take, for giving and getting things for free and Village News, both ideas from villagers that we hope will take off.

If you want to add anything to the Link please contact the Editor using the new email address below. You can also contact any member of the Committee.

Hope to hear from you soon,

The Editor.

thelink@talktalk.net

Calling all under 11's

Put a smile on some faces and send your jokes, with pictures if you can. for putting into the next edition of the Link.

Useful numbers

Hyndburn Borough Council	01254 388111
BwD Borough Council	01254 585585
Belthorn School	01254 55620
Community Police Officer	01254 222135
Royal Blackburn Hospital	01254 263555
PC Steve Jeffrey	01254 422135

Dates for the Diary

Church in the Pub & Sunday School [under 10's]

This takes place in the Pack Horse every third Sunday (unless otherwise advised). All welcome. The next services are :

22nd November 2009 - [Shoe box appeal] 2.30pm

20th December 2009 - a special performance of 'The Inn Crowd', featuring our very own Clive Carroll and the Choir of St. James Church, 2.30pm start, everyone welcome

17th January 2010 at 2.30pm

Belthorn History Society

The Belthorn History Society meet at the Dog Inn at 7.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month unless otherwise advised. Everybody welcome.

There is no meeting in December. The next meeting will be **18th January 2010 at 7.30pm.**

Christmas Events

07th December 2009~ Children's Christmas Party
13th December 2009 ~ Over 60's Party at the Shed
20th December 2009 ~ Carols 'round the tree, 8pm

Belthorn Village Committee

Belthorn Village Committee meet at the Dog Inn at 8.00pm on the 3rd Monday of the month unless otherwise advised. Everybody welcome.

There is no meeting in December. The next meeting will be **04th January 2010** at 8.00pm

PACT (Police And Community Together)

The PACT Meeting takes place at the Dog Inn at 7.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month unless otherwise advised.

There is no meeting in December. The next meeting will be **04th January 2010** at 7.30pm

If you would like anything adding to this list please see a member of the Committee

Congratulations

Go to Michael Lapsley of Belthorn Rd for successfully decoding the message in September's edition of the Link, Michael has agreed to be our junior reporter and will be receiving his 'Junior Journalist card' soon. We look forward to reading his reports on village activities in future editions.

For those still struggling, the code was written in wingdings, print off the alphabet and take it from there.

BELTHORN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

News From Yesteryear from the Darwen Advertiser And News, 25th August 1982, courtesy of Lee Fallon

Chapel reveals its 100-year-old secret...

WORKMEN demolishing the United Reformed Chapel at Belthorn have uncovered a 100-year-old secret - copies of three newspapers including the Darwen News buried under the foundation stone.

Now the minister of the chapel, the Reverend Richard Gill of 122 Sandy Lane, Lower Darwen, is trying to unravel the mystery of why they were buried.

The three papers, the Darwen News, the Preston Guardian and the Christian World, all dating from around the time the chapel was built, June 1884, were discovered in a glass bottle. Unfortunately the glass bottle was broken but the papers have been preserved after being dried out carefully.

Mr. Gill believes they were buried for posterity. "There was an advert and an article about the laying of the foundation stone on June 14 in the Darwen News.

*"I should imagine they included the Christian World as it was **THE** newspaper of its kind then and it has long since disappeared but so far I haven't been able to discover any reference to the chapel in the Preston Guardian, so I don't know why that was buried as well.*

"I haven't read them in detail but they're all very interesting said Mr. Gill.

The Darwen News, which cost one penny, was only 10 years old in 1884 and published at that time by Joseph John Riley at 41 Union Street and 1 Market Street. The article about the laying of the foundation stone by a Mr. T. Mitchell Eccles from Blackburn read: "The management have had the good sense and sound judgement to select a gentleman to lay the foundation stone who is well known and highly respected."

The original chapel at Belthorn was built 162 years ago and the one which replaced it, and has just been demolished, a gift from Daniel Thwaites Brewers. Mr. Gill said he understood the first building was quite small and needed rebuilding. However due to subsidence over the past few years the present building had to be demolished.

"We're hopeful of building another but at the moment we're holding services in the school," he said.

Well it never did get built but there is still a service and Sunday School held in The Pack Horse once a month. The chapel was a major part of Belthorn life in days gone by and the graveyard is now a peaceful little spot full of wildlife and history. Who was Mr. T. Mitchell Eccles and I wonder what became of those newspapers that lay for so long hidden under our chapel...

Sunday School

In October the Sunday School celebrated the Harvest Festival. After listening to a Harvest story they were joined by their mums who very kindly helped to share out the Harvest gifts for our friends in and around the village. We are very lucky to have such supportive families to take the children round delivering the gifts of food and flowers, thanks mums and dads.

In November we will be filling a Shoebox for the Operation Christmas Child appeal as well as our usual story and craft time. In December we will be joining with the others in watching 'The Inn Crowd'

Sponsorship

The Link and/or the Belthorn website can be sponsored by businesses or individuals at a cost of £20 each or £30 for both. An advertisement will appear in the Link for 1 edition. The website advertisement will be for 1 year. The Link gets distributed throughout the village. Any money raised will go towards the production and running costs, with any extra supporting the Village funds.

FIREWORK DISPLAY

Fireworks on Bonfire Night report, by our junior reporter, Michael Lapsley [age 11]

On the 2nd November a dazzling display of fireworks went off at the park instead of at the school because there was a gas leak.

Anyway back to the fireworks, 20 minutes of fantastic fireworks by the way, in all different colours, sizes, shapes and sounds (with the help of some music).

We raised more than enough to help cover the cost of the astonishing fireworks!

[Editors note, due to the change in venue we were unable to fully cover the cost of the fireworks, but Michael wasn't to know]



Photos
thanks to
Michael
Lapsley,
Junior
Reporter



Christmas events

The **Over 60's Christmas Party** at The Shed is arranged for the 13th December 2009 from 2pm-5pm. This is a free event open to all eligible villagers and their partners. Please email chair@belthornvillage.co.uk for your free place.

Carols 'round the tree outside of the Dog Inn will be the last Sunday before Christmas [20th Dec.] starting at 8pm. Mulled wine and warm mince pies supplied to keep you in good voice. Why not wear something festive and make it a colourful as well as musical celebration.

Competition Results

Thank you to all those under 10's that sent on firework pictures, it was a difficult decision to make but it was eventually settled with a tie between Sammy and Georgie Brown. Well-done girls!

It is hoped that some of the pictures entered through the year will make it onto a village calendar next year, so please continue to enter the competitions.

NEW – YOGA CLASSES AT THE SCHOOL

There is now a Yoga Class every Tuesday in school from 7.00pm -8.30pm. Flow Yoga is a dynamic form of Yoga where postures flow from one to the next. Increase your strength, improve your flexibility, de-stress, energize your body and experience total relaxation. Open to anybody of all abilities. All you need is a Yoga mat. For more information contact Jane on 07825 137657

The classes are £6 per session and new mats are available for at £10.00



Congratulations to Louisa and Mark and a big welcome to Ewan Simpson-Brown, the newest and youngest Belthorn Baby. Ewan was born at 12.04pm on the 4th November and weighed in at a fine 7lb 3oz. Best wishes from everyone on the village.

A motorbike has been taken from the top of the village, if anyone saw a bike being pushed along the top of Belthorn Rd, or being put into a vehicle, please contact PC Steve Jeffrey on 01254 422135

Give ...

Pushchair, simple to use folding pushchair. Handy for grandparents to keep in car boot, contact the website for more details.

&

Take ...

Kittens. If you have some kittens due in the next few weeks and would like a good home for two of them please contact the website for more details.

As the title suggests this is “for free” items. We will advertise sale items for a donation to village funds.

The Link is prepared the week following the Committee meeting, as there is no meeting in December the next edition will be out in January. Happy Christmas and a peaceful new year from all connected with the Committee and The Link.

The committee includes: Jason, Brian D, Colette, Dale, Kath, Hazel [the Avon lady], Chris N, Clive and Jean.

Items for the Link can be left with any member of the committee or emailed to thelink@talktalk.net, chair@belthornvillage.co.uk or via the Belthorn village website www.belthornvillage.co.uk