



VILLAGE NEWS

The Link

“Just about a year ago I was given the opportunity to take on compiling the Link. In the last 12 months I have enjoyed preparing it and seeing it arrive, I tried different ideas that were passed to me and tried to include all the notes and messages I received for inclusion, but all things pass and after a well earned break I have handed back the Link to the chair of the committee. Thanks for all the support, Liz”.

Sunflower Competition

“Thank you to all who took the time and trouble to grow sunflowers. The Sunflower Committee [Diane Fallon and Liz Creasey] saw over 50 sunflowers as they walked through the village and many categories came to mind, including 'Best attempt to fool the judges', [49 Belthorn Road with shop bought ones!], 'Eco-friendly sunflowers' [eaten by sheep] and the 'Best camouflaged', even when we knew where to look we couldn't find the 6ft specimen”

The following winners were presented with a certificate and gift:

- (i) The tallest sunflower (287cm)
- Mrs J Partington
- (ii) The Group award -
- Belthorn School Gardening Club
- (iii) Most disappointed
- Hazel Baxter (Avon Lady).

A special mention was also made for the biggest sunflower head on Rydal Mount. The sunflower with most heads was on Belthorn Road. The junior award was also on Rydal Mount. As with previous years the seeds and awards were provided by the Sunflower Committee. Thanks again to everyone who took the trouble to get involved”.

Superfast Broadband for Belthorn?

For all those who regularly use a computer / the internet, one of the main issues in Belthorn is the broadband speed (or lack of it).

You can help bring fibre optic broadband services to Blackburn and Darwen. Over

the next five years BT is rolling out super-fast fibre optic broadband across the UK. If you're not on the announced roll out plan the Race to Infinity provides the opportunity to fast track our area to get BT Infinity next. **Blackburn and Darwen exchanges are not on the current roll out plan and they need your vote!** The five areas with the largest percentage of votes by 31st December 2010 will win the chance to bring super-fast broadband to their area. BT will also donate £5,000 of computer equipment to a local community project.

Go to the BT Race to Infinity site: www.racetoinfinity.bt.com and the 'VOTE NOW' button and enter your details. Don't forget to pass it on to your friends on Facebook and Twitter to get Belthorn / Blackburn / Darwen to the top of the scoreboard.

The Chapel Graveyard

The committee has been approached with a view to setting up a group to help maintain the graveyard on Chapel Street. Hopefully this subcommittee will help in organizing volunteers to assist in the upkeep and maintenance of the graveyard. Further information and details will follow in due course. However if you would wish to express an interest in this group please contact Chair@belthornvillage.co.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(Belthorn Village Committee)

PROFESSIONAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY Tuesday 2nd November 2010

The firework display has been arranged for Tuesday 02nd November 2010 at Belthorn School. Gates open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. This is a professional display which rivals (surpasses?) the one held in Witton Park. Entry will be £2.50 per adult (payable on the gate) to help pay for the display. As with previous years, entry for children is FREE although they **must be accompanied by and supervised by a responsible adult.** **Please do not bring your own fireworks** as any accidents involving fireworks

which are not part of the display are not covered by insurance of the Fireworks Company, village committee or school although the display itself is fully covered. For safety reasons this event is subject to cancellation at short notice should it be deemed to unsafe to set off the fireworks due to the adverse weather conditions. Please note that there will be no food on sale this year.

If any companies or individuals wish to sponsor the Fireworks display (say £50.00) please do not hesitate to contact Belthorn Village committee either by e-mail: chair@belthornvillage.co.uk. All sponsors will be acknowledged together with an advert in the next Belthorn Link unless otherwise agreed. As Belthorn Village Committee is a registered charity (Belthorn Village Hall Fund) such sponsorship can be accounted for as advertising or charitable donation. A receipt will be provided for accounting purposes.

OVER 60's CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday 12th December 2010

This annual event will take place at The Shed on Sunday 12th December 2010 from 2.00pm to 5.30pm. It is open to all those over 60 and their partners. Entertainment, food and drinks will be provided. Further details will follow in due course. The Committee gratefully acknowledge the time and effort of Jim and June at the Shed for allowing this event to take place.

CAROLS AROUND THE TREE (Sunday 19th December 2010)

The Christmas Carol service outside of the Dog Inn is scheduled for 8.00pm on Sunday 19th December 2010. Hyndburn Borough Council kindly provides a Christmas tree for the village which is erected outside of the Dog Inn. Members of the St James' Church will be in attendance and it is open to all villagers to attend so please come along. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available. This is another free event although donations towards village funds will be appreciated.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Due to factors outside of the control of the village committee and also time constraints, it is regrettable that the Children's Christmas Party will not be going ahead this year.

HISTORY SOCIETY NEWS

A dark and rather misty September evening proved most appropriate for the Ghost Walk around Blackburn Town Centre. Storyteller Simon Entwistle held everyone's attention with tales of local heroes, grisly murders, the macabre, and ghosts which are said to still haunt the town. Many thanks to Simon.

The penultimate meeting for 2010 took place at Belthorn School on Monday 18th October at 7.30 p.m. when Jenny gave an insight into holidays in Blackpool during the Lancashire mill town's Wakes Week. As we begin to think about next year's programme we welcome anyone willing to share with us their recollections of village life and would be most grateful to hear from someone who could enlighten us on the hamlet of Bank Fold and its past.

The last meeting of 2010 for the history society will be a quiz night and **Jacobs Join** supper at **The Shed** on the **15th November 2010** at 7.30pm. There is no bar so please bring your own drinks!

A bit of Belthorn History Society history - as of 10th November 2010 the Belthorn Local History Society will be 2 years old, its inaugural meeting having taken place on Monday 10th November 2008. (Hope that was not a quiz question!).

BELTHORN SCHOOL Macmillan "Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning"

The Belthorn School PTFA raised £150 for Macmillan Cancer Support at their Coffee Morning on Friday 24th September. We would like to thank everyone who baked cakes, helped on the day, or supported this event.

CHRISTMAS FAIR Saturday 4th December 2010

Belthorn School Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 4th December, 11am - 1pm. There will be the usual mix of stalls, activities and games, and all are welcome.

PACK HORSE NEWS "Church in the Pub" / Sunday School

The Rev. Tim Horobin, the new vicar of St James Church Lower Darwen, took his first Church in the Pub service on 17th October 2010 which was well attended by over 30 individuals and 6 children at the Sunday School.

The new vicar is very excited by the Church in the Pub which is becoming increasingly 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). The next service at the Pack Horse will be on Sunday 20th November 2010 at 2.30pm.

The Sunday School also runs at the same time as the Church in the Pub with stories and activities aimed specifically at children who are very welcome to attend.

CRIB SERVICE Christmas Eve at 3.00pm

Following on from the above, the Rev. Tim Horobin and St James's Church, with thanks to the Nuttall family, will be holding a "Crib Service" in the Barn at Spring Hill Farm, Belthorn (just higher up than the School).

This service, the first of its kind in Belthorn, will take place in the Barn with informal worship and singing. This service is an open service to anybody wishing to attend and celebrate the start of Christmas. "Sunday Best" not advised....bring your wellies! Further details will follow in due course.

THE DOG INN

Following the recent closure of The Dog Inn it has now re-opened with Joanne as the new landlady. With the return of the Chef it is hoped that food will be available from 30th October 2010.

THE POLICE SECTION

The next PACT (Police And Community Together) meeting will take place at 7.30pm in the Dog Inn on 01st November 2010. These meetings now take place every other month. The PACT meeting will precede 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**

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LINK

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.

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 at chair@belthornvillage.co.uk The £20.00 donation goes towards village funds / production costs.

DONATIONS GENERALLY

The Committee gratefully acknowledges receipt of all donations which go into Committee Funds. There have been some generous donations from individuals who do not wish to be mentioned in the Link and have not requested receipts. All individual donations received in this manner 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. This report will subsequently be recorded in the minutes. Should anybody wish to donate to The Belthorn Village Committee, all contributions towards village funds are gratefully received. The Belthorn Village Committee is a registered charity which is run by volunteers who are villagers (or connected to the village) for the benefit of the village and its residents. Any donations received therefore will go into a village event or project.

The village committee is reliant upon donations to continue with the work they do on behalf of the village. In the near future a collection envelope will be delivered throughout the village together with a short questionnaire to seek their views / ideas of villagers on village issues / events which the committee could consider for the future. Obviously there is no obligation to donate or complete the questionnaire but any feedback / donations will be gratefully received.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Belthorn Village Committee meeting will take place at **8.00pm** on **Monday 01st November 2010** at The Dog Inn. Villagers are welcome to attend.

If anybody has any matter which they would wish to be considered by the Committee please forward them to the Chair at chair@belthornvillage.co.uk at least 3 days before the meeting.