

WRAYLY MAIL
Happy New Year

JANUARY 2015

DIARY DATES:

- Mon 5 Come for Coffee, a lovely community get-together, in the Sunday School Room at Wray Methodist Church, 10am to 12 noon. It's a time to come and sit and chat or play a game of dominoes whilst enjoying a morning coffee or tea with friends. Just come for a while or stay the whole time. It's open to all, both men, women and children too, so please come along and keep us company, a warm welcome awaits everyone, we'd love to see you there.
Come for Coffee is a collection point for the Morecambe Bay Foodbank and this month they are asking for donations of sugar, cup-a-soups, instant mash potato & tinned sponge puddings. They are still having to buy in soap and toothpaste too. Or bring along any suitable non-perishable food you may prefer to give. For more details see their website: morecambebay.foodbank.org.uk Thanks so much for all the items that you have donated in 2014, it has been really appreciated.
- Tues 6 7.00 p.m. Wray Neighbourhood Planning Group meeting in
and the Wray Institute Computer Room.
Thurs 22
- Tues 6 7.30 p.m. Wray Community Book Group meets at Jane & Roger Shimmin's, 'Burnside', Main St., Wray. (Due to redecoration in the George & Dragon.) To discuss: 'If No-one Speaks of Remarkable Things' by Jon McGregor. All welcome.
015242 21462. janeshimmin@hotmail.co.uk
- Tues 6 13th, 20th, 27th January - Pilates at Wray Methodist Hall.
5.45 - 6.45pm (Pilates Basics) 7 - 8pm (Improvers/
Intermediates).

- Thurs 8 10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Wray Toddlers, Wray Chapel Sunday School room and each following Thursday. All parents, carers, and small children welcome.
- Thurs 8 Joyful Noise: All pre-school children and their carers are most welcome to this monthly 'service' in Wray Church at 2.00 p.m. We extend a warm welcome to an hour of activities. Stories, music, crafts, refreshments and some welcome fellowship for the adults. Come and make some joyful noise with us. For more information ring Mary Winter 21784.
- Thurs 8 Dancing in the Fells. Informal ceilidh dancing, the Old and
Thurs 22 School, Lowgill, 7.30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. Come on your own or with a partner, all dances are called so no experience needed. Everyone welcome, £1.50. Anne Wilson 63399.
- Sat 10 Hornby District Ramblers, meet 9.30 a.m. Hornby Car Park, Tatham Fells, Ringstones and Brents 5 miles, leaders Barbara Harrison & Jenny Herd, 21101 & 21690.
- Sat 10 Drop In - youth club for ages 9+ in the Sunday School Rooms, Wray. 7.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. 50p. Tuck Shop,games.
- Mon 12 7.30 p.m. Wray with Botton Parish Council Meeting, Wray Institute. Members of the public welcome to attend and speak about issues concerning you at the start of the meeting.
- Mon 12 7.30 p.m. Wennington Parish Council Meeting in Wennington Hall School. (Please note change from 19th).
- Tues 13 7.30 p.m. Tatham Fells W.I. in the Old School, Lowgill. Speaker David Butcher: 'The Sizergh Estate - a magical history tour'. Comp: a piece of silver. Visitors welcome.

- Thurs 15 7.30 p.m. Hornby Flower Club in Hornby Institute. Speaker - Paul Cocker from Lancashire Parks. There will be a display of photographs showing designs submitted at the RHS Show at Tatton Park. Our meetings are open to all and cost £4.00 to include refreshments.
- Fri 16 8.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Waste Paper Collection at Lairgill Car Park, High Bentham in aid of N.S.P.C.C.
- Fri 16 After-School Club, straight after school until 4.45 pm. Mary Winter 21784.
- Fri 16 7.45 p.m. Countryside Society in Hornby Institute. Sarah Littlefield will give an illustrated talk on “Invasive non-native Species”.
- Sat 17 7.30 p.m. Tatham Fells Village Society '**With great pleasure**' an evening of poetry and prose, in the Old School, Lowgill. £6 including savouries and a glass of wine. Raffle.
- Mon 19 Yoga in Wray Institute 7.30pm to 9pm and following Mondays. Beginners and regulars are all welcome. Mats are provided. Wear loose or stretchy clothes and bring something warm to put on for relaxation. £5 per session. Tel: Kathy Cartledge 015242 61567.
- Tues 20 2.00 p.m. Wray Over Sixties AGM in Wray Institute. Raffle, Bring & Buy Stall. Tea & biscuits. Subs are due at this meeting.
- Tues 20 7.30 p.m. Tatham Parish Council Meeting in The Old School, Lowgill.
- Sat 31 Auction of Promises, Bentham Golf Club. Viewing 7.30 p.m. Auction starts at 8.00 p.m. Auctioneer - John Whitfield. On behalf of Tatham Fells School.

Advance Dates:

2nd January 2014. Come for Coffee. 10am to 12 noon in the Sunday School, Wray.

February 13th 2015. Bentham Agricultural Society Annual Quiz, High Bentham Town Hall, 7.30 p.m. Further details available from Val Lawson 61606 or John Whitfield 07540 181524.

Saturday 21st February 2015. St. Laurence singers performing “Love is in the air...” 7.00 p.m. at Lower Tatham Church. Wine and Supper, tickets £12.50.

Saturday 21st February 2015. Drop In - youth club for ages 9+ in the Sunday School Rooms, Wray. 7pm - 9.30 p.m.

Pilates at Wray Methodist Hall - New Term starts Tuesday 6th

January: 5.45-6.45pm - Pilates Basics, 7-8pm Improvers.

* Developing posture, mobility, fitness and wellbeing. *1-1 tuition available. *Other local venues - Caton, Melling, Bentham , Hornby. £51 for 6 weeks, £85 for the full term (12 weeks). *Details and to reserve a place call Anne 22425 or 07935803370. *e-mail anne.pilates@yahoo.co.uk

Church Services in January and early February

January 4th, Feast of the Epiphany

9.00am	Holy Communion	Tatham
10.00am	Morning Service	Wray
11.00am	Family Service	Tatham Fells

9.30am Family Service – Melling, 11.00am Sung Eucharist – Tunstall

January 11th, First Sunday of Epiphany

10.00am	Holy Communion	Wray
11.00am	Plough Sunday Service	Tatham
2.15pm	Evensong	Tatham Fells

9.30am Holy Communion – Melling, 11.00am Sung Eucharist –Leck

January 18th, Second Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am	Holy Communion	Wray
9.30am	Holy Communion	Tatham Fells
10.00am	‘Messy Church’	Wray

9.30am Morning Service – Melling, 11.00am Sung Eucharist – Tunstall

January 25th, Feast of the Conversion of St Paul

9.30am	Morning Prayer	Tatham Fells
10.00am	Holy Communion	Wray
11.00am	Holy Communion	Tatham

9.30am Holy Communion – Melling, 11.00am Christingle Service - Leck

February 1st, Feast of the Presentation - Candlemas

9.00am	Holy Communion	Tatham
10.00 am	Morning Service	Wray
11.00am	Christingle Service	Tatham Fells

9.30am Candlemas Service – Melling, 11.00am Sung Eucharist - Tunstall

Church Contacts:

Revd Mark Cannon, Wray Vicarage (21030)

Readers: Ann Dawson (62936), Peter Osborne (61029),

Mary Winter (21784)

Wray Neighbourhood Planning News...or “The Wray Forward”

Your monthly update from the Wray Neighbourhood Planning Group

Neighbourhood Planning Master Class

Members of the group attended a day course at the Storey Institute on the 4th December 2014 run by “Locality”. They looked at amongst a number of topics; Process - what we want to achieve and how the Local and Neighbourhood Plans work together. A large part of the meeting was then spent discussing the information gathered from the course and how to use the information to support our plan. It was felt that the group needed to have a better understanding of the process and that we should produce Aims & Objectives, which related directly to the plan.

Funding

Bridging funding of £5250 has been applied for, which will fund advice from a consultant who will provide specialist planning support, research into local and national policy guidance and other housing surveys. The consultant will generate methodologies and associated materials; questionnaires, information etc., from which data will be analysed and a report will be produced. He will also consult and meet with Lancaster City Council and Wray Parish Council.

We expect to hear soon after 17th December 2014 whether or not our application has been successful.

The Development Management DPD

John Yellowly informed the group that The Development Management DPD document was due to go to full council for ratification on 17th December 2014. This document will be available on line following acceptance by the council.

John explained that there are three main sections within the document of interest to the group: Economy, Environment and Sustainable Communities (Housing). It was decided that each of these would be championed by, Cath Halstead, John Holcroft and Tamsin Matthews respectively with others contributing to selected topics within each section. These groups would look at each individual policy to gain a basic understanding of its scope, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats relevant to our plan area at Wray. This should help identify the topics and interpret what they should mean for Wray. It should also help the consultation process by indentifying where we need further information and from whom in order to make better judgments based on sound evidence.

For those who might wish to look at this document this is the link which takes you to the City Council's website page for the Development Management process.

<http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/local-planning-policy/work-in-progress/development-management-dpd/>

Friends of Lower Tatham Church would like to thank everyone who has joined our 100 Club. We have had a very good response and the numbers are rising daily.

There is still time to join before our first draw on Sunday 11th January after the Plough Sunday Service. Please pick up a leaflet from Wray Post Office, the Church or phone Sue Wood on 015242 21170 for a copy.

During 2014 at Come for Coffee, the nominated charity for any donations was the North West Air Ambulance. This raised £281. In 2015 we will support 'The Rosemere Cancer Centre' in Preston, 88% of patients with cancer from our area will be treated there. A few in Wray village have already used their services and realise how valuable a centre it is.

The Wray Institute telephone number is 22311. Frank Gretton is the Caretaker.

The Old School, Tatham Fells for bookings and enquiries please contact Gillian Middleton 61307. **Regular users** please make sure you book your dates ahead with Gillian to avoid any clashes.

Please return my Cable Scanner - Please, please can the chap who borrowed by Cable Scanner for work on B4RN installation at the beginning of Sept. please return it immediately.
(Brian Kirkby 07850 765 526)

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Please ring: 015242 21649

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Sunday -8.00 a.m. to 12 noon Tel: 21253

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Thankyou to all who help with the distribution of the Wrayly Mail, and many thanks to Jane & Tony for allowing Wray Post Office to be used as a collection point.

Copy Date for the Wrayly Mail

ONLY Diary Dates (as they are free) can be emailed to:

wraylymail@woodengates.net by the 13th of each month.

ALL other items are collected from the tin in Wray Post Office on the 15th of each month. Business advertisements £2 per month, announcements etc. £1. Cheques should be made payable to Wray Institute. Please could a name and contact number accompany each item. (Diary Dates can also be put in tin if preferred).

If you would like a page on the village website please email

chris@wrayvillage.co.uk or if you would like a link to your own website on ours just ask. A link back to us is the only payment required.

<http://www.wrayvillage.co.uk>

Wray Village Life - Great War 1915

The war, approaching a duration of twelve months, became the main focus of village life. Even in January 1915 nationally “hundreds of families are in mourning for deceased members, or in painful anxiety about missing relatives.”

Fundraising continued for the War Effort. The Archbishop of Canterbury came up with an appeal, the effect of which would result in good. Wray C. of E. Men's Society took up the challenge by signing people to this patriotic pledge:

“I hereby undertake to abstain from all alcoholic drink from this day until after the day upon which peace has been signed.”

There appears to be no record of how it went!

May 6th 1915 saw Wray House open as a Military Convalescent Home with room for 15 wounded.

August saw names of casualties being recorded, the first two being:

Lieut. G. Bargh, King's Liverpool Regiment, missing. H. H. Beck, Scots Guards, killed.

This is it for my early Great War recollections. Anyone interested, please get in touch.

Bob Smith

Wray History - The Smiths

1955, husband visiting wife in hospital “I have some bad news, the landlord has given us notice to leave.” Lady in adjacent bed “The pub in my village has 5 bedrooms, although somewhat run down.” Visit to Mitchell's Brewery followed, husband signed up with the brewery advising “Sorry you will never make a living from the George & Dragon. Thus Jim and Ada Smith arrived in Wray with the help of Gladys Bowman (Bill's mother)/ Also came three teenage siblings, bemoaning the fact they had been uprooted from all their friends in the big city, Lancaster. The year 1955 means that 2015 is the 60th anniversary of our arrival.

Jim was the kindest of men, and I am proud he was my father. He did some electrical work when he first came, but became well known as the Watchman. If a clock or watch did not work, it went to the Dragon. Ada became involved with the Institute committee, but mainly with the Over 60's Club. (She also did a Windmill theatre impression on that fateful day in August 1967, served innumerable cups of tea for 24 hours).

Jim and Ada eventually did “make a go” of the Dragon. The pub was revamped, culminating in the Main Street being closed for hours as a massive girder was edged into place, which is now the main support for the building.

Marie, the youngest eventually married a local farmer from Hornby and has always lived, for 50 years, in the Lune Valley. Brenda married and moved around the country, and has now landed back in Wray. She did sterling work as a school governor, but has become a legend in her own lifetime with her connection to Wennington & District W.I. That leaves myself. Like the rest of the family I was accepted in the village straightaway. At that time the village was a busy working village.

Employment was supplied by three farms, garage, haulier, four shops, joiner/undertaker, wood merchant, two pubs, coalman, milkman and possibly some I have forgotten. The Youth Club was well supported, as it's leader I was a member of the Parochial Church Council. I was also on the committee helping with the Over 60's. By this time I had also caught the eye of a local girl. National Service called, and I did two years with the Royal Engineers. Afterwards I managed to get a job with Telamite in Bentham, and in 1963 married Rita. Work then took me first to Newcastle and then to Manchester. In 1977 we decided to take over the Dragon, Jim

wanted to retire. One of our main reasons for returning was the chance for our two children to get into decent schools. They both followed their parents into the local grammar schools.

1977, back to Wray, and what a change. Local businesses were beginning to disappear, a large number of students were now resident, the presence of Lancaster University was being felt. The first post I took on was as chairman of the Institute Committee (nobody else was prepared to take the job on). In that position it was obvious to me that we needed money and quickly. I devised the membership scheme to get people to financially support the Institute, even if not using it. The next big earner I resurrected was Wray Fair, which has turned out quite well. The Wrayly Mail was also my idea with Christine Conder's help. I have served as a school governor, chairman of the Parish Council and am currently chairman of the school Trustees.

Now we come to the Wray Neighbourhood Plan, currently being planned by a sub-committee of the Parish Council. I do not have to repeat how important the plan will be, all the details are in the Institute. Later this month (January) a survey will be run to canvas what the village sees as Wray's future. Please complete your survey and make sure your views are heard.

Bob Smith

