



Brompton-on-Swale Village Newsletter Spring 2019

Parish News

A belated Happy New Year to all the readers. Some unseasonably warm weather has ushered in the first two months of the year. It has been an unusual delight to walk around the river side and other footpaths most of the time when it has been firm under foot and not tacky or muddy and now (at the end of February) there is a distinct feel of Spring in the air.

Further to the last Newsletter we have welcomed a further new member to the Parish Council. Carol Birch was co-opted at the January meeting. She has lived in the village more than 30 years and will be known to many of you. We wish her a long and successful tenure and hope that she enjoys her role.

We are grateful to those who have come forward to join the Village Society following the article in the last Newsletter. The Society now has a new Treasurer, bookings secretary, event organizer and maintenance coordinator as well as new members without portfolio. There is clearly determination within the group to build the role of the organization and to develop the use of the Hall but at the moment there is still a need for a Chairman to lead the group. There is no limit to the number of people who can be involved in the Village Society and I know some people are still considering coming along and adding their support. Please do so. The Village Society meets in the Community Sports Hall at 7.30 pm on the first Sunday evening of every month. Thank you, incidentally, to Mark and Mick who have worked hard to tidy up some of the grassed areas around the Hall and reduce the impact of moles.

The Parish Council has included money in the budget for next year (2019/20) for the possible acquisition of a mobile speed matrix sign in conjunction with two other local Parish Councils. The sign would be one that warns speeding motorists to slow down and locations where the sign could be installed would be agreed in advance and the matrix would be fixed periodically at the different points to deter speeding. In addition to being moved between locations in the village the matrix would be displayed for periods in the other villages who jointly own the sign. We are aware that several persons have concerns about speeding motorists and their impact on road safety and I hope you agree that this seems a good step to try and improve safety. Additionally, steps are being taken by North Yorkshire to make the temporary speed restrictions that have been in force on Catterick Bridge and Fort Bridge, permanent. We are sure you will agree it is only sensible to limit potential speed in this area to protect manoeuvring drivers at the Catterick Bridge junction.

We are still receiving many complaints about inconsiderately parked vehicles. Behind the bus shelter in River Lane, in Brompton Park and on Gatherley Road people are parking and driving across the grass. On practically every road people are parking on the pavements – in some cases such as Bridge Road – in a way that able bodied pedestrians let alone the infirm are forced off the pavement. Some of the offenders may be visitors and not residents but there is a duty in such cases to ask them not to inconvenience others with their parking. There are many people who have a number of cars in their possession and who bring home

works vans. That is their choice but equally it is reasonable to expect them to make provision for those cars without churning up the grass or blocking pathways. The Parish Council and other local authorities pay for the upkeep of grassed areas which if kept in good condition greatly benefit the appearance of the village. People have suggested to me the introduction of double yellow lines to solve the problem. Do we want it to come to that, which would make it difficult for everyone? The ball is in our court to be sensible and considerate or else drastic action may well follow.

Spring will soon be on us so let us hope for an inspiring and incident free run up to summer.

Andrew Guest

Chairman of Parish Council

Riverbank News

As the season advances, snowdrops are already beginning to give way on the riverbank to the first green shoots of wild garlic. The recent mild weather has also encouraged hawthorn buds to turn from brown to green as they prepare to break into leaf. Although pleasant to see such signs of spring, this early growth appears to be another indicator of our changing climate, with its potential to upset the current balance of nature and the established relationships between plants, insects, birds and other wildlife.



As usual I've put together an annual record of my 'river bird' sightings for the previous year. 2018 turned out to be a record year for sightings of both mallard and goosander but the biggest increase was in the number of black-headed gulls seen. In addition, little egret and heron were noted in record numbers. One other less frequent visitor, the common sandpiper also showed a modest increase.

On the minus side, there were fewer sightings of kingfisher, grey wagtail and pied wagtail. I mentioned in a previous newsletter about the big drop in the number of sand martins nesting on the riverbank in 2018, one of the two local nesting sites apparently remaining abandoned throughout the summer while the number of birds at the other was drastically reduced. Without knowing the reasons behind the decline, I can only hope that last year was a "blip" and that numbers will return to normal this year.

Frank Broughton, Riverside Volunteer

Yorkshire Countrywomens' Association

Spring is in the air and we are looking forward to longer days and warmer weather. The Yorkshire Countrywomens's Association meet in the Chapel on the second Tuesday of most months at 7.30pm (please check for times with the YCA via the Parish Clerk). January saw us lunching at the Arden Arms, for our February meeting we had a lovely evening with Kathy Pullan showing us how to make stunning arrangements using bunches of flowers purchased from supermarkets. March is our AGM. April will be a talk entitled Beamish Remake by Natasha Anson, Project Officer at Beamish Museum, our May speaker is Jane McKeown who will enlighten us on the History of the York Minster Library. All are welcome so please come along and join us, we always end our meetings with tea/coffee and cake. For further information please contact the Parish Clerk by email: bosparishclerk@talktalk.net or phone 07849 048581, who will pass your details to the YCA.

Jackie Barber, Secretary Yorkshire Countrywomens's Association, Brompton-on-Swale Branch

Indoor Bowling

We are now entering the final stages of our 8 teams league season, 2 teams comprised of our members use the Community Hall for their home matches. With 2 games remaining to be played Richmond lead the table with Brompton-on-Swale in fifth position. Our end of season Knock-out competition is contested at Hunton early in April.

The regular thrice weekly club sessions continue on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons. We take subscriptions as our contribution to the use of the Hall and charge a small Refreshment Levy to cover the cost of drinks and biscuits for our half-time break. These sessions (and the League matches) provide some gentle exercise, playful competition and, most importantly, social interaction for attendees – in fact they often need reminding that they are actually there to play bowls!

New players, of any experience, are very welcome to join us – perhaps newly retired people or those wishing to make new friends. We have members from Brompton-on-Swale, Richmond, Marrick, Bedale, Northallerton, Kirkby Fleetham, Scorton, Aldbrough St. John, Colburn, Scotton and Darlington with different backgrounds and experiences of life providing an interesting mix of characters and personalities.

However, dwindling numbers because of illness, people moving to outdoor bowling or taking holidays during the summer months and concerns about whether there will be enough able people to officiate or help on a regular basis, mean that consideration is being given as to how many sessions can be supported. Tuesdays will continue uninterrupted; it is hoped that Thursdays will also continue during the summer, perhaps with some cancellations (in previous years Thursday sessions were discontinued during the April to September period); it is most likely that Saturdays will become an ad hoc situation from now on, assuming suitable booking arrangements can be made. Of course, this would all change if there was an influx of new, able players!

Bowlers would like to thank the Village Society Committee and Richmondshire Area Partnership Funding Scheme for providing the funding to enable the purchase of a new carpet, which was received recently.

Brompton-on-Swale Ladies Choir

Our village choir, having recently taken part in the Festival of Brass and Voices at the Royal Albert Hall in November is back from the Christmas break in full swing rehearsing for 2 Spring/Summer concerts.

The 40 strong choir is singing songs from well-known west end shows as well as other choir favourites.

The concerts which both start at 7.30pm are as follows;

Wednesday 1 May at the Town Hall, Richmond in aid of Garget Walker House, Richmond

Wednesday 3 July at the Methodist Church in Richmond in aid of the Friends of the Friary Hospital, Richmond

Everyone involved would welcome your support.



We rehearse every Wednesday evening in St Pauls Church, B.O.S from 7.45pm to 9.30pm. Please feel free to come along and join us if you enjoy singing a wide range of music. No auditions necessary.

Anyone who wishes to come along for a taster session to see if it's for them would be very welcome; just turn up!

Further information can be obtained by ringing 01748 822191.



Community Sports Hall News

The Community Sports Hall's web site is www.bromptonsportshall.btik.com or you can contact us by telephone on **07974 550 704**. If you would like any information about the Hall, to make a booking for a party or function or perhaps start up your own class then give our bookings secretary a ring.

The Village Society are looking for a Chairperson to lead the Committee. You don't need any particular skills to be able to take on the role just an interest in our village and helping others.

New volunteers are always welcome – in fact the more the merrier.



If you have any spare time and would like to volunteer with us it will be greatly appreciated. If you are interested you can call on 07974 550 704 or just turn up at the Community Sports Hall on the first Sunday of each month at 7.30pm.

200 Club: For just £12 a year you can have a ticket in the monthly draw to win one of three cash prizes of £40, £20 and £10. Tickets will be available soon for the 200 Club for 2019/2020, if you'd like a ticket please telephone: **07974 550 704** or email the treasurer: bosvstreasurer@yahoo.com. **The Annual draw in March has a main prize of £80**

Parish Contacts

Chairman	Mr A Guest	7 Grange Road, Brompton-on-Swale
Vice-Chairman	Mr D Sharp	8 Bronte Close, Brompton-on-Swale
Councillors	Mr D Dempsey	1 Shakespear Close, Brompton-on-Swale
	Mr N Mason	19 Brompton Park, Brompton-on-Swale
	Mr M Rutter	11 Nightingale Close, Brompton-on-Swale
	Mr R Haynes	Shireholme, Richmond Road, Brompton-on-Swale
	Mrs H Frankland	44 Bridge Road, Brompton-on-Swale
	Mrs C Birch	19 Brompton Court, Brompton-on-Swale
County Councillor	Mr C Les	Forest Lodge, Motel Leeming, Bedale
District Councillors	Mr D Gill	Brompton-on-Swale
	Mr I Threlfall	The Old Barn, Uckerby, Scorton
Parish Clerk	Miss S Rudge	58 Brompton Park, Brompton-on-Swale
	Parish Website:	Tel: 07849 048581 Email: bosparishclerk@talktalk.net www.brompton-on-swale.org.uk