

Brompton-on-Swale Village Newsletter

Winter 2018



Parish News

Since the last Newsletter two Parish Councillors have resigned: Simon Ducker and Rupert King. Both had only served for a short period and I thank them for their useful contributions. Helen Frankland has already put herself forward for co-option and we were pleased to welcome her as a new Parish Councillor at our last meeting and hope she will enjoy her new role.

By the time this Newsletter is published the lights on the Christmas tree, which has been erected on “the green” next to Brompton Court and Bridge Road which will have been switched on by Councillor Ian Threlfall. It was all the work of Aaron Auton who came up with the idea of the tree and Christmas lights and having put it to us towards the end of October worked extremely hard to obtain sponsorship of the tree from North Yorkshire Timber, the lights from B&Q, printing from Richmond Print Ltd., and donations from Hall Autos and assistance with installation from Coates’ Garage, not to mention the Catering Food Van and Sam’s Celebrations who provided entertainment for the official switch-on. We are very grateful to all those who have sponsored Aaron and who have given time and help so generously. Above all our congratulations to Aaron on all the work he has done. It is no mean feat and we are very grateful. It is the first time I can remember something like this in the village but others go back further than I do!

In commemoration of the centenary of the Armistice the Parish Council sponsored a competition at the Primary School. Prizes were awarded in three age groups for work in three categories: handwriting (copying an excerpt from the poem In Flanders Fields); creative writing – a poem or essay on the meaning of peace; a piece of art illustrating peace. All of the entries were very good and some were excellent making the judging very difficult. There are some pictures of the prize winners in this Newsletter. We hope the children enjoyed partaking and that they learned a lot about the history of the period. Our thanks go to the school for their organisation and help.

At last we have a new light under the A1 Bridge on Station Road. It is very disappointing that it has taken so long for it to be up and lit but at least we now have one. A number of people have also commented on the increased noise from traffic on the A1 which is naturally greater in the winter. There is still time to raise it with our MP to put pressure on Highways England to take more sound deadening measures. They have money to spend on refinements to the scheme for up to one year after the scheme’s completion.

As ever we are looking for people to join the Village Society who are particularly thin on the ground following the resignation of Chairman Simon Ducker, Treasurer Charlene King and their spouses, who had worked very hard in the last eighteen months to stabilise the Society. The Village Society plays an important part in the life of the village but I am sure it is often unclear what that role is and how anybody can contribute. I have included an article explaining in some depth what the Village Society does and if you are interested in joining please let us know; the more the merrier.

Sadly we have received a lot of complaints about dog fouling in the village, not only about the mess left on pavements and footpaths by walkers who have not picked up after their dog but astonishingly about walkers who have allowed their dogs to go onto other people’s gardens and also to leave a mess! Dog walkers please keep dogs under control and clean up after them where necessary.

I hope that you receive this Newsletter before Christmas and that you will all have a very happy Christmas and a successful and happy New Year.

Andrew Guest Chairman of the Parish Council

Riverbank News

The recent winds and rain have left the riverbank woodland looking rather wintry, not always a bad thing as, stripped of their leaves it’s now possible to appreciate the graceful and interesting shapes of the branches and twigs of our different tree species.

Apart from the usual large numbers of mallard, birds seen on the river have included frequent sightings of little egret and heron which, although hunting the same prey, seem to co-exist with little friction. I have not had the good fortune to see any otters since the last newsletter but neighbours have reported seeing them recently. Less popular with angling friends are regular sightings of goosander and cormorant.

I shall shortly be compiling my annual record of birds seen on the river and hope to report on the year’s out-turn in the next Parish Newsletter.

Frank Broughton

Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association

The nights are darker, the days are shorter but the Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association continue to meet in the Chapel on the second Tuesday of most months at 7.30pm (please check the YCA for times via the Parish Clerk). Our November meeting was a craft evening where we all learned how to needle felt an angel for Christmas decoration. As the days lengthen we are looking forward to a full programme in the New Year. January will see us going to the Arden Arms for lunch. February will be in the Chapel at 7.30 pm where we will see a demonstration by Kathy Pullan of how best to display a supermarket bunch of flowers. March is our AGM followed by a light lunch and gossip. April will be a talk entitled Beamish Remake by Natasha Anson Project Officer at Beamish Museum. All are welcome so please feel free to come along and join us.

For further information please contact the Parish Clerk email bosparishclerk@talktalk.net or phone 07849 048581, who will pass your details to the YCA.

Jackie Barber (Secretary), Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association, Brompton-on-Swale Branch

Village Society – Community Sports Hall News

The Village Society has a long history having been responsible for running the old village hall which used to be located on the bends at the west end of the village and was formerly the Reading Rooms. It is registered with the Charity Commission and in the 1980's they started raising money to build a new hall. In the early 1990's the resurrection of the cricket and football clubs led to the need for proper changing rooms and facilities to replace the temporary portakabin which had been placed on the sports field and they started raising funds to build a new pavilion. Not surprisingly the two organisations merged under the banner of the Village Society and quickly raised the money required to build the Community Sports Hall, which was opened in 2000.



The sports field is leased to the Parish Council by Richmondshire District Council and the Parish is responsible for maintaining the field to a good standard. The Lease Agreement set up an organisation to manage the field on behalf of the Parish Council which is formed from representatives of sports clubs and organisations who use the Hall and volunteers from the village. Because the Hall is on the sports field the Village Society took over the role of the management committee.

The Hall is self-funding and pays its way through lettings and fund raising through such schemes as The 200 Club and the Annual Duck Race, which are run by the Village Society. Indeed the Village Society is generating a surplus this year which enables it to undertake necessary repairs and maintenance some of which can be quite expensive. The Village Society is made up of volunteers who look after the bookings open and close the Hall for users and also runs the events that raise money for the upkeep of the Hall. At one time there were many more social events such as dances, bingo nights, summer and Christmas raffles and a Summer Fete and Easter Fayre. Some people may be disappointed that these events are not held now but to a large degree the lack of voluntary assistance has hampered organisation of these events. Undoubtedly there is scope for social events in the Hall which would give enjoyment to the village and assist the finances of the Hall but the Village Society needs more members than it can currently draw on.

Currently we are recruiting people to join the Village Society. I am pleased to say some people have agreed to join but if you would like to be involved in organising and running something in the village we would be delighted to hear from you and welcome you on board. We have a very good hall which may be the envy of many communities and we need to make the most of it.

We are all looking forward to making the acquaintance of new members.

Brompton-on-Swale Ladies Choir

The Brompton on Swale Ladies Choir has been preparing for the Christmas Season since September, this year we included rehearsals for our visit to the Cancer Research Festival of Brass and Voices in The Royal Albert Hall.

We had two regional rehearsals for choirs singing at the festival, the first of these was at Chester le Street and the second for the Northern Region was at Huddersfield.

The Festival weekend was a busy time with a full rehearsal for the choirs and bands on Saturday morning, then a quick return to the hotel to have a snack and to get dressed in our finery for the evening festival. We enjoyed hearing two of the top brass bands in the country playing together; the Cory Band and the Grimethorpe Colliery Band, the sound was brilliant! There were also 1,400 voices and it was a thrilling experience and an honour to take part and sing in such a wonderful building for such a worthy cause.

Now our feet are firmly on the ground as we commence our Christmas Concert season, all of the concerts begin at 7.30pm.

This year we begin at St Anne's Church in Catterick village on 28th November, then on 5th December we are at Hipswell Church, on 12 December we go to Scorton Methodist Chapel. We are singing the Candlelight Carol Service in St Paul's Church Brompton on Swale on 19th December.

We would be delighted to welcome you to come and share with us at any of these concerts, we do not charge the Churches for our concerts, but hope that the audience will enjoy the music that we sing and that it brings the spirit

of Christmas to those who have come along. The funds raised by the churches for these concerts help towards their work.

Meanwhile amongst the Christmas preparations we have to sort out the music for our Spring concerts as we will start rehearsing for those in January, when we meet again in St Paul's Church, Brompton on Swale each Wednesday at 7.45. If you are interested in singing and would like to join with us do come along and see if you think it is for you.

We do have one Wednesday off when we get together for a social occasion - our Christmas meal in January, we're just too busy in December!

What's happening in the Parish of Easby, Skeeby, Brompton-on-Swale and Bolton-on-Swale

Wednesday 19th December

7.30 pm – Carol Service
with Brompton on Swale Ladies Choir
St Paul's Church Brompton on Swale

Monday 24th December

1.00 pm - Crib Service
St Mary's Bolton on Swale
4.00 pm - Crib service
St Paul's Brompton on Swale
9.00 pm - Bethlehem Time Holy Communion
St Mary's Bolton on Swale
11.00 pm - First Holy Communion of Christmas
St Paul's Brompton on Swale

Tuesday 25th December

8.00 am - Christmas Day Holy Communion
St Agatha's Easby
9.30 am - Christmas Day Holy Communion
St Agatha's Skeeby

Friday January 18th 7.00 pm

The Parish Quiz in St Paul's Church. Quiz masters Lilian and Tony present another relaxed evening of enjoyment as they test your knowledge. Nibbles and drinks available.

Carol singing around Brompton on Swale, on 17th & 18th December – let us know if you would like us to come and sing a carol or if you would like to join the Carol Singing team for further information please ring Diana the Parish Administrator, 01748 810613.

Problems travelling to work, training or education? We have the answer – Wheels 2 Work (a not for profit charity) has a fleet of mopeds for loan. Since its launch in 2001 hundreds of local people have benefitted from the scheme.

Successful candidates receive a moped, safety equipment, insurance, tax and bike servicing for a small weekly contribution.

To be eligible for the scheme you must:



- Live in North Yorkshire
- Be 16 or over
- Have no suitable transport to travel to work, training or education
- Hold a provisional licence

For more information and to apply online visit
www.hambletoncommunityaction.org
or telephone Andy Reddick 01609 780458
Ext 209.

Patient Participation Group

Scorton Medical Centre

www.scortonmedicalcentre.nhs.uk

We would like to invite new members to join this patient group which was set up a few years ago to support and inform our local Surgery – Scorton Medical Centre. Providing you are registered with the practice your time, however limited, and skills will be valued and will help us support the development of the service and to produce a regular newsletter and ongoing work on the patient satisfaction questionnaires. Next year we are looking forward to arranging some speakers to support our local community with topics around health promotion and wellbeing. Any other ideas will be welcomed. Please contact us for more information or come to our next meeting which is scheduled to take place at 1.00pm on 22nd January 2019.

Working in partnership with the PPG the staff at the surgery are hoping to send festive gift bags of toiletries to a local women's refuge. The centre supports women, often with children, fleeing domestic abuse. Therefore, any donations of toiletries would be gratefully accepted at the surgery where they will be sorted and sent to this worthy cause.

The PPG would also like to help the surgery purchase a Buzzy device (In the shape of a bee), designed to make vaccinations less distressing for children. Unfortunately, this is not covered by normal funding methods so donations for this worthy cause can be made at the surgery.

First World War Centenary Competition!

The Parish Council and Brompton-on-Swale CE Primary School organized a special project to celebrate 100 years of the end of the First World War. The children took part in handwriting, artwork and creative writing projects. The work produced was of an extremely high standard which made judging difficult for the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Prizes were given for each category in the three age groups. Many children whose work was highly commended received a smaller prize.



The children took part in their own Remembrance Service in the school garden on Monday 12 November. The garden was decorated with poppies made by the children. A small group of children then visited the cenotaph in the cemetery where they laid a poppy wreath

Busy Bees Pre-school Christmas Fair

St Paul's Church on Friday 14th December 12.30-3.00 pm,
adults and children all welcome to come along and join in the exciting things for children to do
approaching Christmas

Busy Bees Pre-school is a registered Charity