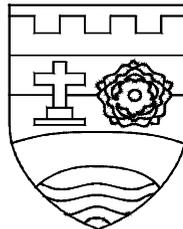


Croston Parish Council Newsletter



March 2020

Croston Remembers Project

This is an example of the plaques which we are hoping to affix to the houses where a Croston serviceman lived before losing his life in WWI or WWII, subject to the houseowner's permission.



They are 5 inches x 3 inches, and will cost in the region of £29 each. The cost is being paid for by donations, which can be made payable to Croston Together, and can be gift-aided.

Croston lost a total of 48 men, and we are proud of them all. We are hoping to have the project completed by Remembrance Sunday 2020.

US Pilot Kenneth V Burnett Plaque

The plaque in memory of the US pilot Second Lieutenant Kenneth V Burnett, whose Lockheed P38 Lightning plane came down close to Isle of Man Farm, Meadow Lane, Croston in January 1943, will be placed on the War Memorial wall for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day, 8th May 2020.

The cost of this has been paid for by a Croston resident who was 7 years old when the accident occurred.



Lockheed P38 Lightning similar to the aircraft flown by Second Lieutenant Burnett (photo courtesy of U.S. Air Force)

Chairman's Message

At recent meetings the Parish Council has been discussing ways of engaging with residents using social media and IT. Work has begun on a new, more informative Parish Council website which we hope to have up and running by the Summer. We will also soon be launching a new Facebook page where we can keep residents up to date with information and items of news relating to the council.

The issue of flooding from rain water run-off has once again been highlighted during recent storms. Whilst there is no simple solution to this, every avenue is being explored with the relevant authorities to see what can be done. Our thanks must once again go to the volunteers of LYFAG and the Flood Action Group for their tireless work keeping the pump running and organising the provision of sand bags etc.

At our February meeting we were very pleased to hear that the owner of Croston Park is intending to reinstate the Gateway which was demolished some months ago by a delivery wagon. Known as the 'Rectory Ruins', the gateway has always been seen as a quintessential part of our village and will be a welcome sight when work is completed.

With Spring just around the corner we hope the weather begins to settle and we can all get out and enjoy the events around the village in the coming weeks.

Anne Peet



The 'Rectory Ruins' in better days (photo courtesy of Croston Village Archive)

Computer Problems? Slow Broadband?

Call Technohow for local, reliable support with all aspects of your home and small business IT needs. Serving Mawdesley and the surrounding villages.

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 - Video to DVD transfers
- * speed increase depends on home phone line set up and router configuration



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Ansaphone: 01704 822874 Mobile: 07777 631689

Email: neil@technohow.co.uk

Website: www.technohow.co.uk

CROSTON
COMMUNITY CENTRE

Next year, 2021, will be the Centre's 100th Birthday!!!

We hope our extension of providing a new disabled toilet and baby changing facility will be in place with the extra storage facilities for our user groups. In addition, the new French windows onto a new decking area for all to use. The Committee are currently applying for grants to source funding to complete this project. Other News.....

Table Top Sales 1st Sunday of the month - contact Sue on 601321

Can you help your Centre by offering a few hours per month?? We really need your input as there are only 5 Committee members at present!!! Please contact John on 601216.

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 5th May at 7.30pm.

Please come along to support your Village Community Centre

VE Day Commemorations in Croston

Friday May 8th is a public holiday to honour the 75th Anniversary of the end of the war in Europe.

At 2.50pm the Churches will muster at the flag pole on the Village Green.

John Lightfoot will play a lament and lead us to the War Memorial for 3:00pm

There will be a very short Service of Thanksgiving, after which people may join us for a cup of tea and to look at the exhibitions in The Old School and St. Michael's Church.



VE Day was not the end of the Second World War, as many allied troops were still fighting in the Middle & Far East.

The prisoners in camps there had not yet been discovered and freed...

In Britain, the celebrations were largely to do with the relief that the bombing raids had finished and some troops would be coming home, maybe in a month or two - the end was in sight, but not yet accomplished.

So, although there are joyous scenes in the old newsreels, the celebrations were short-lived for many families and they had to wait for many months to see their folk return to hospitals (in many cases) and eventually home.

Janet Maggs

Croston Parish Council accepts no responsibility for items provided by third party contributors.

Croston Parish Council does not endorse or recommend any of the advertisers contained in this publication.

Croston St Michael's Scout Group



We would like to say a big thank you to the residents of Croston for donating to their recent Food Bank Appeal. The Scouts collected donations on the evening of Saturday 8th February at St Michael's Church, before sleeping over and attending Church Parade on the Sunday.



We also have some fantastic events coming up across all sections, including St George's Day camp, Bibby's Blowout and County Rally.

Beavers meet at 6.15pm on Mondays, with Scouts from 7.30pm and Cubs on Tuesdays from 6.30pm, all at the Community Centre.

If you'd like to join us, for more information, please contact:

becky.barnes@chorleyscouts.org.uk

Local Clubs and Organisations

If you want to advertise an event or publicise your club/organisation in the quarterly newsletter (March, June, September and December) please contact the Clerk, Alan Platt (details on back page).

Businesses

If you would like to advertise in the quarterly newsletter please contact the Clerk, Alan Platt (details on back page) for details for advertising rates.

Dave Williams
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CROSTON IN BLOOM

RHS Britain in Bloom

We are very proud to be once again representing the Northwest in the large village category of this prestigious competition. This year we are aiming for **GOLD!** - but we need more volunteers!

Have you considered the mental health benefits of community gardening? Fresh air, gentle exercise and companionship are just some of the positive benefits gained by our volunteers. Gardening knowledge is not essential - just a willingness to 'get stuck in'. For the next few weeks our sessions will be on Tuesdays at 1.30pm - check out our facebook page or call 600012 to find out exactly where we will be. We will be adding evening/weekend sessions once the days lengthen.

Community Orchard and Herb Garden

Work has begun on the orchard and herb garden at the Out Lane car park. Apple, pear, plum and cherry trees have been planted and a raised bed has been constructed for the herb garden.

The Parish Council kindly paid for a skip to take away all the garden waste created since work began to tidy the overgrown site. Once the weather improves we will be doing further works on the site to remove tree/shrub stumps and create a wild flower meadow around the orchard.



A job well done - the garden waste we collected was taken for re-cycling



Volunteer and WI member Karen Yates plants a Plum tree donated by Croston WI

CROSTON IN BLOOM

Open Garden

Saturday 6 June

Yarrow House

51 Town Road

11.00am - 4.00pm



CAKE
STALL



Adults £2 - children free

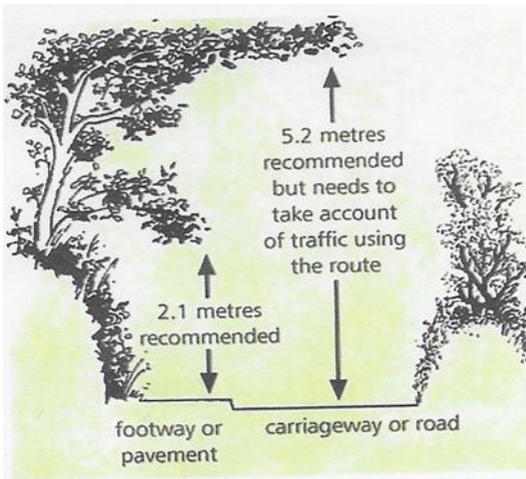
All proceeds to Croston in Bloom

New Addition to Croston Archive

Three postcards were handed over to Croston Archive by the parish clerk, who had been sent them by a thoughtful man in Blackburn. Treasures turn up this way, and we had not seen two of the views. They will be on view when we next hold a display, 8th May, at the Old School.



This is a view of Station Road, when cars were unheard of, manure was free, and Croston had it's own gas works (left).



Thank you

to all the landowners who have cut their hedgerows back during the winter months. Hedge cutting is banned during the nesting season 1st March to 1st September.

The only exception to these dates are when the roadside growth compromises road safety for pedestrians and visibility for road users.



Dear residents, business owners and friends of Croston

Thank you for supporting our village's Christmas events. The rain held off for the 2019 lights switch on and it was our VIPs in reception at TSM primary school who had the special task of lighting up the village. The terrible weather forecast meant that the fair the following week had a slow start but by mid afternoon it was in full swing. Children were delighted by the return of the tractor rides to Santa's grotto and the reusable Croston shopping bags were a huge hit with several being posted around the world as Christmas gifts!

Many people have asked us what happens to the raffle money. Every penny goes straight into the coffers to fund future Christmas events. This pays for all the entertainment that is enjoyed during the fair - the musicians and singers, morris dancers, magician and circus acts. There are also costs associated with making the fair traffic free and in maintaining the wonderful lights display around the village. In 2019, our income was £5,347 versus gross expenditure of £5,783. So you will see that for Christmas 2020 we will be relying upon funds raised in previous years, a situation which we can't afford to repeat too often. Any donations and sponsorships are always welcome!

Plans for Christmas 2020 are well underway. We are always looking at ways we can improve the festivities and one way we hope to do that this year is by switching the Christmas lights on at the end of the fair. So in 2020 we are combining our two events and both are set to take place on Sunday 6th December. Please save the date and we will announce further details later in the year including which special guests will be bringing their cheekiness to the village! In the meantime, if you fancy volunteering with us, please get in touch at crostonfestivities@hotmail.com

Kind regards

Samantha Myers

Vice-chair of CVFG

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Outstanding

Following an inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS), Lancashire Constabulary has been rated as outstanding for efficiency.



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

Additionally, the Inspectorate rated the Constabulary good at reducing crime, keeping people safe, protecting vulnerable people and treating its staff and communities with fairness.

The 2018/19 report, published in February 2020, praises the Constabulary's approach to planning based on evidence and insight, making investment in critical service areas to meet the changing nature of demand and aligning resources to meet the expectations of the public.

This robust approach to planning has enabled the Constabulary to focus on its core services - answering calls from the public, responding to the public's needs and investigating crime.

In The Know.....

is a free service that allows the police and selected partners to send you information and updates about what is happening in your area, keeping you In The Know. It also



allows you to reply to messages and participate in the exchange of information with Lancashire Constabulary and Neighbourhood Watch.

As a registered recipient you will not only benefit from two way messaging but may also hear about positive police action in your community, help identify suspected or wanted criminals or learn about community groups, events or meetings in your area.

To sign up to receive updates from In the Know go to
<https://www.stayintheknow.co.uk/>

Tots Group

Looking for somewhere to go with your toddler/baby? Like-minded mums/grandparents/childminders meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 11:30am in the Community Centre, Castle Walks. It's a great way to make new friends - we provide toys for the children to play with in a safe environment, snacks and that essential 'brew' for adults!

Contact Details

Councillors Tel

Anne Peet
(Chairman) 600012

Kath Almond 600368

Robert Baker 07963 820393

Peter Fenemore 600572

Keith Iddon 07787 005663

Sam Myers 07966 674392

Bruno Paillusson 603427

Gill Stubbs 07905 452160

Vacancy

Alan Platt (Clerk to the Council)
can be contacted at:

9 Ambleside Avenue
Euxton
Chorley
PR7 6NX

Tel: 01257 234003

e-mail:
crostonpc@btinternet.com

website:
www.crostonparishcouncil.org.uk

Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except August), commencing at 7:30pm, in The Old School, Church Street, Croston. Details of the meetings are placed in the notice boards prior to the meetings.

Residents are always welcome to attend and part of each meeting is set aside specifically for residents to air their views on local issues.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Police (non-emergency): 101

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

British Transport Police (Station and car park): 0800 405040

National Grid (gas leaks)
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)
Leakline 0800 330033

Environment Agency Floodline
0845 988 1188

Flood Action Group
Kath Almond: 01772 600368,
Richard Guinness 01772 600957
Dave Massam 01772 601077

Lancashire County Council
(roads and pavements, including
street lighting): 0300 123 6780

County Councillor
Keith Iddon 07787 005663

Chorley Borough Council
01257 515151

Borough Councillors
John Dalton 01772 622597
Paul Sloan 01257 515151

Notice boards

Keep up to date with Parish Council activities and details of meetings etc. The notice boards are located on the Village Green, outside McColls and by the Surgery on Brookfield.

Local non-for-profit organisations wishing to include A4 sized posters to publicise events etc should contact the Clerk.