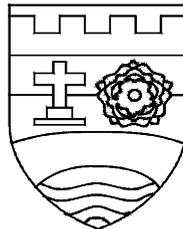
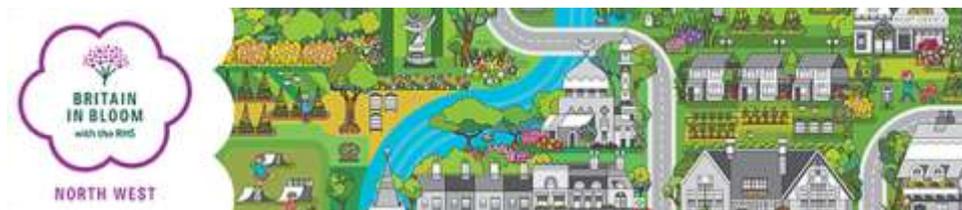


Croston Parish Council Newsletter



September 2018



This year's North West in Bloom Competition judging took place on 1 August (see centre pages for full report). Proving particularly useful this year were the new flower boxes for the river wall, which contain large reservoirs and were very effective during the extended dry spell.

We are now waiting for the end of October/early November for the results and hope our December newsletter will be carrying some good news from the Awards Ceremonies.

As always, the Parish Council would like to thank the members of Croston in Bloom, for their efforts tidying and planting around the village and residents and businesses who provided floral displays and kept the village clean and tidy. Thanks also to the Councillors and residents who took part in the clean up of the river in the centre of the village



Christmas Fair and Lights Switch On - CANCELLED

Can you imagine that?

This is exactly what will happen this year unless Croston Village Festivities Group can get more volunteer members.

We are holding a public meeting on Tuesday 11th September, 7:30pm, at Croston Sports and Social Club to gauge the support of the community.

If you are unable to attend but can volunteer on the day please email crostonfestivities@gmail.com

**To the residents of Croston we say HELP
To the businesses of Croston we say HELP**

Without further support this year's events will NOT go ahead.

Registered Charity Number: 1074784

Chairman's Message

The summer holidays are over, children are heading back to school and the Parish Council returns from its summer break on Wednesday 12 September. We have several projects which we hope to complete in the coming months including the re-surfacing of the village car park on Out Lane, works to the trees on the Village Green and further works to the Recreation Ground.



In late July Councillors Bruno Paillusson, Peter Fennemore and Kath Almond and I joined volunteers from Croston in Bloom and other residents to clear the River Yarrow of debris and overgrown vegetation.

Starting at the Castle Walks Bridge and working along to the weir by the Old School, a mountain

of rubbish and greenery was removed which Chorley Council then took away.



The closure of Meadow Lane to allow the bridge over the railway to be replaced has meant that the road through centre of the village has been very quiet. However Moor road and Bretherton have seen a big increase in traffic particularly HGV's. In recent years the Parish Council has joined with both Bretherton and Ulnes Walton Parish Councils to try to find a solution to the traffic congestion which plagues our villages but as yet attempts to get weight restrictions etc have been unsuccessful. We will continue to lobby for a solution!

Anne Peet

Tots Group

Hello. Are you looking for somewhere to go on a Thursday morning with your toddler, baby? Like-minded mums/grandparents/childminders meet on Thursday morning 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!

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.

Services include:

- Free home pickup and return as standard
- Broadband optimisation (up to 3mbps speed increase* on your existing service)
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- Remote and/or on-site support
- Patient tuition
- Video to DVD transfers

* speed increase depends on home phone line set up and router configuration



Contact **Technohow**:

Ansaphone: 01704 822874 Mobile: 07777 631689

Email: neil@technohow.co.uk

Website: www.technohow.co.uk

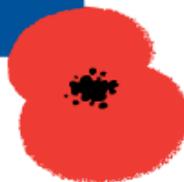
Remembrance Sunday

Subject to approval for road closures, this year's Parade will take place on Sunday 11 November. Look out for information on the Parish Council's notice boards and social media nearer the time.



This year, to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, the Parade will leave Croston Community Centre, which was the Old Comrade's Hall following the War, at 1:00pm and walk along Town Road to the War Memorial for a short service. There will then be a Service at around 1:30pm at St Michaels and All Angels Church. Following the Service everyone is invited back to the Community Centre for refreshments.

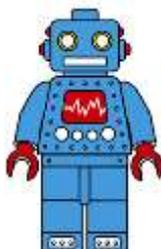
If you can spare time for door-to-door collecting in the run up to 11 November please contact Alan Platt, the Poppy Appeal Organiser for the Croston District, on 01257 234003 or via email at crostonpc@btinternet.com



Croston Lego Master Builders

invite you to take part in:

Lego Junior S.T.E.M



Croston Community Centre
Sunday 23rd September 2018

5-7 years old - 10am

8-10 years old - 12 noon

10-13 years old - 2pm

£5.00 per Child (Booking Essential - Limited Spaces) Some overlap of age will be considered for this age appropriate event.

A fully DBS checked Junior Lego STEM instructor will be running this educational yet creative, fun and enjoyable event.

Incorporating the use of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to take your Lego creations to the next level.

Please text Kelly Quinn (07702012649) to book and get your child involved



education



Japanese Knotweed

We have a problem which needs to be addressed!

- knotweed is spreading within the village and needs to be controlled
- it has potential to cause very expensive damage to both public and private property and infrastructure
- it will take at least three or four years to eradicate by consistent herbicide applications and, where the growth has crossed property boundaries, the whole clump needs to be treated at the same time.

The first priority is to update the map of Knotweed locations in Croston. This needs to be done before the dieback makes it too difficult to identify the plants.

The second priority is the recruitment of a steering group. This should include skills such as:



Japanese Knotweed



beside the Yarrow, looking towards Fishery bridge beside Shevington Causeway

- Secretarial, records, and communications
- financial management
- IT skills
- coordination, planning, programming, action table management
- horticultural and herbicide knowledge
- PR, liaison with other groups

Then there is the need to recruit volunteers to obtain

the cooperation of landowners hosting knotweed and to carry out the herbicide applications.

If you would like to help, please contact The Clerk (details on back page).



Croston Pre-School Nursery

Nurturing The Future

As another pre-school year begins we should like to express our thanks to every-one for their continued support. From the resident who kindly cleared our paths of snow earlier this year, to the volunteers who tend to the adjacent church grounds and make our surroundings so beautiful and every-one who has attended one of our fundraising events. We are very grateful to you all!

Pre-school has now been operating for over 44 years and continues to provide high quality care and education. We also run a '**Stay & Play**' session every Wednesday morning (9.30-11.30am term-time only) in the hall at The Old School for parents/carer of children



from 0-4 years where every-one is welcome!

At the end of last term our longest serving member of staff Judith Williams retired after 33 years of service to pre-school. She will be much missed by us all!

We currently have limited nursery vacancies. Further

information and our application form can be found on our website: www.crostonpreschool.org or you can call: 01772 601241.

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Croston Pre-School Nursery

Nurturing The Future

Registered Charity no:1100800 Registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 4805524



Are you looking for high quality, affordable childcare provided by highly experienced, professional and caring staff?

Come and visit us!

We have limited places available and callers are welcome anytime!



- For children aged 2 - 5 years
- Core hours 9.00am - 4.00pm Mon - Fri
- Breakfast and tea-time clubs (subject to sufficient numbers attending)
- Established over 40 years
- Led by specialist Early Years Teacher
- All staff qualified to Level 3 or higher
- Every child valued as an individual
- Tranquil riverside location
- 2 & 3yr funded places available - Terms apply
- 'Stay & Play' session - Wednesday 9:30-11:30 in The Old School Hall



Croston Old School, Church St, Croston

Tel: 01772 601241

Email: admin@crostonpreschool.org

www.crostonpreschool.org



News Update



The new boxes on the river wall have looked fabulous despite the drought and heatwave!

They are proving to be a very good investment and easy to manage. During the hot spell we have held twice weekly watering sessions when volunteers have come along with their watering cans and spent half an hour



filling the reservoirs in the planters.

Now that the weather has returned to its more normal cooler setting we now only need to have one session a week on Sunday mornings at 10.00am. Please come and join us if you can spare 30 mins.

This year's judging on August 1st went well. We won't know

the results until late October/early November but the judges did say that they were bowled over by the strong sense of community they felt throughout the tour of the village.

Highlights of this year's tour included visits to The Black Horse, Croston Sports Club, Croston Station and a hidden gem of a garden at Cock Robin.



All in all the village looked great so thank you to all the residents who go that extra mile to make it so special.

Thanks also to Sue Clough of 'TillysTreats andTipples Vintage Caravan Pop Up Tea-Rooms' for providing a lovely lunch for the bloom volunteers and judges at the end of the tour.



We now move on to plan our projects for 2019.

Our next meeting will be Monday 10 September at 8.00pm in The Grapes. Would anyone like to join us?

Our plans will include:

- Planting a river of red tulips opposite the War memorial
- Creating a permanent garden for the Croston Charter on the village green
- Working with the Parish Council to enhance the Village car park on Out Lane

But we will also enjoy a good gossip and make new friends along the way!

Could you help people facing court alone?

Preston Personal Support Unit (PSU) is looking for volunteers to join its small, friendly team.

The PSU helps people who are facing family or civil court alone. The role involves:

- providing practical and emotional support
- helping with court forms and paperwork
- attending hearings in Preston
- signposting to other agencies



No legal background or knowledge is needed. Expenses, shadowing days and training are provided. The PSU is based in Preston Combined Court and the work is varied, challenging and extremely rewarding.

Volunteers are aged 21 and over and need to commit to at least 2 days (10am-3pm) per month.

CROSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

McMillan Breakfast Morning

Friday 28th September 9am—Noon

Raffle Prizes would be appreciated

Ukes from the Wharf

A Musical Evening with Hot Pot Supper

Friday 19th October

Bring you own drink. Tea & Coffee available

Fashion Show

Saturday 27th October

Watch out for Further Details about these Events



**Wrightington,
Wigan and Leigh**
NHS Foundation Trust

South Lancashire Breast Screening Unit
Thomas Linacre Outpatient Centre
Parsons Walk, Wigan
WN11RU

Telephone 01942 774713

Women aged between 50 and 70yrs should be invited to a FREE NHS Breast Screening examination EVERY THREE YEARS

We will shortly be inviting eligible women In the Croston area to attend for Breast Screening.

Screening will take place on our mobile unit located at Chorley Hospital.

3 in 10 women living in Lancashire do not attend their Free Breast Screening appointment.

The earlier breast cancer is found, the better the chances of beating it.

Please contact us on the number above or your GP for further information relating to the National breast screening programme.

Croston Velo

Croston Velo Cycling Club has recently established a Youth Section with the aim of providing an exciting range of opportunities for younger riders to develop and broaden their cycling skills and experiences.

Our first initiative is to offer guided road rides for young people aged 12-16 who wish to gain experience of group riding on the road. These rides take place on the first Wednesday of every month between April and November. We ensure that we take riders' capabilities into account when designing the routes and we try to avoid busy roads. Anyone who would like to join us for a youth ride must email the ride co-ordinators in advance at

CrostonVelo_WelfareOfficer@yahoo.com.

We will require parental consent for the rider to take part.

As the Youth Section continues to grow we hope to offer a range of additional activities to encourage young people to get out on their bikes. We would be very keen to hear from you if you have any suggestions for activities you think our Club should explore. Please do email us at the above email address with your ideas! We would also be very grateful for offers of assistance from any adults! Happy riding!

The Trustees of Croston Old School have launched an appeal to raise funds to replace the three boilers which heat the Community Centre. The Old School has now been open for over 17 years and the boilers are now starting to require frequent repair which is at times difficult as some parts are becoming obsolete.

Several very generous offers have already been received for which the Trustees are very grateful and a charity Barn Dance is being organised - see poster.

If you would like to contribute to the fund or can help in any way with our fundraising efforts, please get in touch.

Tel: 01772 603600
email:crostonoldschool@tiscali.co



**CHARITY
BARN DANCE**
In Aid Of
Croston Old School
Reg Charity No:1074784

Mooncoyn Ceilidh Band
Hot Pot Supper
Well Stocked Bar
Raffle

SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER
7.00PM - 10.30PM
AT
BISHOP RAWSTORNE SCHOOL
TICKETS: £10

AVAILABLE FROM:
FAVOURITES, TOWN ROAD 01772 400142
OR
CROSTON OLD SCHOOL, CHURCH ST, 01772 403600

A Refresh for the Croft Field

As most people know, the Croft Field was set out 20 years ago as a mini country park for everybody to enjoy. At the time members of the community came together and planted trees, set out paths, created wildflower meadows and installed seating and a small play area. Managing the Croft Field balances public access and recreation with the landscape and wildlife, all within the historic context of the village.

The Croft Volunteers and the Church Council think it is time for the site to have a refresh. Some of the sculptures have come to the end of their serviceable lives, gateways are starting to look tired, the riverside path is poor in the winter and some of the play equipment needs replacing.

Croston Together were confident enough to provide the first grant, which was a great start. This money demonstrated local support and was used to unlock a much larger grant from the Lancashire Environmental Fund. This, in turn, demonstrated to the National Lottery Awards for All that the project had momentum and they offered a final grant towards the project

The most exciting part of the project is that stone will be used to refresh much of the play area. This will be in keeping with the area and be part of a long term maintenance solution. The new play equipment may take the form of an obelisk, a horizontal climbing wall, a stone climbing stack, scramble boulders carved into natural shapes or a circle of standing stones, final designs are being prepared.

We've had offers to sponsor carvings and there are opportunities to donate or sponsor other items of the project including play equipment, carvings, new gateway features and tree planting. If this is of interest please make contact with Tim on 01772 603339 or email croftfield@btinternet.com

The Croft Field is a unique resource for the whole village and there are very few other communities that have such wonderful site. The list of users grows and grows. As well as regular walkers, dog walkers, fishermen, children playing, residents of Croston Park and those travelling through to and from work the Croft is also used by visitors to the village who in turn help to keep the village vibrant. We also have regular forest school activity taking place on site.

The plan for the Church Council is to keep it that way so that as many people can enjoy the site as possible. Keep an eye open over the next 12 months, because some of the new sculptures may be keeping an eye on you!

Tim Blyth

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**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

Home Truths Launches the 'Village Life' Photography Competition



Home Truths estate agent has launched the 2018 'Village Life' Photography Competition, to encourage adults and young people to send in images that celebrate the villages they live in and love.

Croston has much to be inspired by, with beautiful open spaces, communal spaces, hidden gems, much loved local businesses and of course an abundance of history. There really is so much to celebrate.

This year's competition is open to amateur and professional photographers alike. Adults are invited to send in images with the title 'Village Life' and for children aged 16 and under there is a special category, titled 'What I Love About My Village!'

The winners will be revealed in December and will not only win a special trophy but will also win a £50 gift voucher. The ideal prize for some extra Christmas shopping spends!

If you would like to get involved in the competition you just need to send your images to the Home Truths Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/hometruthsestatesandlettings/>, via email to cathy@icepr.co.uk, by visiting the Home Truths office, or in the post to 265 The Green, Eccleston, PR7 5TF.

The deadline for entries is the 12pm on the 31st October.

Eccleston Office 01257 451 673
Coppull Office 01257 794 588



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www.hometruthslancs.co.uk  



Contact Details

Councillors

Tel

Anne Peet (Chairman)	600012
Kath Almond	600368
Mark Cowley	07545 976151
Peter Fenemore	600572
Keith Iddon	07787 005663
Stuart Laverick	07983 578671
Bruno Paillusson	603427
Gill Stubbs	07905 452160
Kevin Ward	07415 410037

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

Coppull Police Station
01257 246103

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

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

Chorley Borough Council
01257 515151

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

National Grid (gas leaks)
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)
Leakline 0800 330033

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

Environment Agency Floodline
0845 988 1188

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 the Co-op, in front of the former Police Station on Westhead Road 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.