



## Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council normally meets on the first Monday of each month. Meetings commence at 8.00 pm.

**All residents are welcome to attend**

Forthcoming dates include  
May 5th (Annual Assembly at 7.30 pm followed by Ordinary Meeting)  
7th June  
5th July

## Parish Council News.

### Dear Resident

It has been a long, long winter and Jack Frost has left his mark, not just in the potholes in the roads of Bretherton and the rest of the area, but also in the lateness of the Spring. Hopefully, as the days get longer, we will soon start to see the benefits.

As usual there has been plenty going on around the village to keep our interest, not least the opportunity for us all to follow Bretherton's first Olympian, David Ryding, in the Winter Games in Vancouver. David's success is the result of years of dedication by himself and his family to achieve every sportsman's dream. The fog may have hampered his performance in his first Slalom run, but 27<sup>th</sup> is a great result and I am sure he will be an even stronger competitor in Russia in four years time.

Busy times also for your Parish Council, with Amanda's resignation and the appointment of a new Parish Clerk, Jill Cavan. Even though we are a small council with a limited budget, we still have to ensure that we meet all the legal and financial requirements of a publicly elected authority. We have been very lucky to have had Amanda's support during the last five years and I am sure Jill will carry on the good work.

The next few months will see two of the Parish Council's main projects coming to fruition. Firstly, we are delighted to have the opportunity to do more to raise awareness of the dangers of excess speed with the purchase of our own SID. We are continually concerned by the number of accidents that occur on the village roads, largely due to vehicles exceeding the speed limits on North

Road and South Road.

We have been very lucky that there have been few serious injuries, but we need to do all we can to reduce the number of accidents.

Secondly, the Parish Council has been working with the school, play group, Chorley Council and Lancashire County Council to re-develop the Recreation Ground Play Area.

Detailed plans are currently being finalised based on the ideas of local children and we also hope that this project will be completed during the summer.

As I hand over the Chairmanship of the Parish Council to Tony Rigby in May, I would like to thank the other Councillors and people of the village for their support. I have very much enjoyed my year in office and look forward to working with Tony in the coming year.

**John Pigott – (Chairman)**

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

### Chairman

Cllr John Pigott Tel: 601455  
9 Bamfords Fold, Bretherton

### Vice Chairman

Cllr Tony Rigby Tel: 600602  
Over Hall Farm, Bretherton

Cllr Kris Jolley Tel: 600896  
6 South View, Bretherton

Cllr Brian Monk Tel: 600035  
5 Canal Leach, Bretherton

Cllr Gwyneth Lloyd Tel: 600705  
45 South Road, Bretherton

Cllr Simon Moulton Tel: 601388  
5 South View, Bretherton

### CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL:

Clerk to the Parish Council  
Jill Cavan  
2 Tarnbeck Drive, Mawdesley, L40 2RU  
Tel: 01704 822265

## Over 55's Club

We had our AGM on 15th February when 13 members attended. The balance sheet showed we have enough money to provide us with one or two treats thanks to The Leyfield Trust's annual donation of £100. Hot pot, fruit pie and delicious home made cakes were served after the meeting.

Three new members joined us and we would like to have more, as some of us are getting past our sell by dates! Feel free to join us on alternate Wednesday afternoons from 1.45 to 3.45. You will get a warm welcome.

Contact Mrs Bullen (601881) or myself (600214) if you wish to join us.

B Bamford  
Secretary

## Bretherton Gardens continue to support the National Gardens Scheme.

This summer a new garden is joining Hazelwood and Hazel Cottage in opening for the "Yellow Book." On two of the three open days, Joan and David Waterworth will be welcoming visitors to their lovely garden at Owl Barn (where South Road becomes Flag Lane) As usual, all dates are Sundays from 12 noon to 5 pm and the ladies of the Congregational Church will be providing refreshments.

May 23rd—Home made teas—combined entry to two gardens—£3.50

June 13th—Home made teas—combined entry to three gardens—£ 4.00

July 18th—Light lunches and home made teas—combined entry to three gardens—£4.00.

In 2009 the National Gardens Scheme across the UK raised £2.8 million for Macmillan Nurses, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Crossroads Care, Help the Hospices and other charities.

Thanks go out to everyone who contributed to this achievement. If you would like to be involved in any way please contact Kris Jolley on 600896.



## **David Ryding – Bretherton's Olympian**

As most people will know, David Ryding, a Bretherton lad, is now an Olympian and because of the local connection, the Parish Council sent him best wishes on behalf of the community. In return David has sent us this grand piece:

*“Getting to the Olympics in Vancouver has been a goal for me for the last 8 years, something that I often felt I wouldn't be able to achieve and something that looking back was a goal way too far away and unrealistic considering what level I was then. However striving for success 4 years ago I was selected for the British Team, still 2 levels below where I needed to be to get myself to the Olympics. Over the last four years I have trained as a full time athlete, and have worked hard to achieve my goal, during the winter being based in Austria and over the summer training and working on my fitness back at home, some may well have seen me out on my bike, or more likely in the Bakery getting my usual, awesome, 3 steak pies after a training session!*

*Getting to the Olympics wasn't straight forward with many obstacles in the way, however rather than letting these get in the way you learn to use them as a goal and strive to overcome them rather than let them hold you back. Obviously some are harder than others and some are more out of my control, especially the financial side of things but my family have been exceptional in helping me along the way and a massive thanks must be said to them for the sacrifices they made, and also everyone who has supported me!*

*The Olympics was a great experience for me and Vancouver put on a faultless show. Going there was always going to be more for experience and a stepping stone toward the future, I had to be realistic in my goals and to come away with a top 30 result. Twenty seventh was a good result and one I can use and build on. As for Whistler (the venue for the skiing) if anyone is into skiing I have to say its a must on the list of places to visit, but the jetlag is a bit of a killer!*

*As for what happens next for me, well its back out to the Austrian Alps where I start competing again almost straight away in races to get my world ranking lowered. As for the long term, obviously in 4 years time is the next Olympics in Sochi, Russia, where I will be looking to be much fitter and stronger and coming to the peak in my career in my late 20s early 30s so hopefully there will be much more to talk about in the near future.”*

Thank you David - we will continue to look out for you and wish



## **Bretherton School News**

As the new headteacher I can't believe I am in my second half-term at Bretherton already - I really have been made to feel so at home in such a short space of time. It's been lovely getting to know everyone in our school family. What a special place Bretherton is.

We managed to stay open during the bad spell of weather, thanks to such dedicated staff. The children are working very hard in school. The behaviour and manners of the children here are amazing, which certainly makes a very happy school indeed.

Shared worship is at the heart of our school and we are extremely fortunate to have so many visitors, as well as staff, who regularly lead worship. Both churches are represented by Rev. Bill and Pastor Les. Each class is also leading worship this term and parents are more than welcome to attend, as well as anyone from the community. We would love to see you there.

We have a wonderful turnout at our Toddlers Group on a Friday morning. The sessions run from 9:15 - 11:15am during term time and they all have a lovely time. Please come along for a play or a chat if you would like to join in the fun. We also have our pre-school on a Thursday afternoon for those children who have their names down to come to us in Reception. It's a fantastic opportunity for them to get to know their new school before they start.

Our PTFA do a great job raising money and organising events for our school family. The children have had school discos this term and are looking forward to a visit from the Life Education Bus in March, paid for by our PTFA.

On Education Sunday we had a wonderful service at St John the Baptist Church. It was fantastic to see so many of our children, staff, parents and friends there, worshipping together. We were made so welcome by Reverend Bill and the congregation at church. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making it such a special occasion.

As a school we had a non-uniform day so the children and their families could make a donation towards the Haiti appeal. We were deeply saddened by the plight of the people of Haiti and raised over £350 to help them. We are also fundraising for Barnado's at present, with the children caring for an 'egg'!

At our school there is a wealth of extra-curricular activities which the children hours. can participate in outside normal school hours. The children really enjoy

these activities which range from sporting to ICT to musical. We are lucky to have such talented staff and volunteers who give up their time to run these clubs. Our Y4 and Y6 pupils have recently taken part in Sportshall Athletics tournaments with the Y6 children coming third in the County Finals in Blackpool! We have also participated in cricket tournaments recently.

Please visit our website if you would like to know more about our school - it is constantly updated with news. The website is [www.bretherton.lancsngfl.ac.uk](http://www.bretherton.lancsngfl.ac.uk). I look forward to sharing with you life at Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School.

**Nick Ward—Headteacher**

## **Bretherton Film Society.**

The Film Society has just completed their first Autumn and



Spring Seasons as an independent organisation managing the projection of the films as well as organising the events on a Friday evening once a month at the village school.

The impact of the bad weather on attendances has made it difficult for the society to cover its costs. However, we hope that we will be back in the Autumn with a new season of films. We always welcome suggestions of which films to include in the programme, so please contact us with your requests.

Our aim is not only to make award winning films easily available to everybody in Bretherton and surrounding villages, but also to provide a social event where you can not only enjoy a good film together with a glass of wine, a cookie and good company all for a FIVER!

We would like to thank everybody who has supported us since last September and I am particularly grateful to the members of the committee, Barbara Bertram, John Senior, Gwyneth Lloyd and John Pigott for helping organise the events.

**Margaret Pigott (Secretary),  
Telephone: 01772 601455**

## Easter Services

### St John the Baptist Bretherton

Sunday 28th March (Palm Sunday) - Holy Communion at 11.00.

Sunday 4th April (Easter Sunday) - Holy Communion at 11.00 followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

### Congregational Church Bretherton

Friday 2nd April (Good Friday) - United Service at 11.00.

Sunday 4th April (Easter Sunday) - Family Service at 10.30.

On Good Friday there will be a **Churches Together Service** in The Congregational Church at 11.00.

## Making Bretherton Roads Safer.

For the last two of years, the Parish Council have jointly owned, with



Croston and Heskin Parish Councils, a "Speed Indicator Device" (SID) which tells drivers if they are driving within the speed limit (a smiley face) or exceeding it (a glum face). Currently Bretherton only has the device for one month in three.

The Parish Councillors have been so impressed by the response of drivers to the sign, they decided to try and raise the funds to buy their own SID outright.

Thanks to generous donations by Roger Bracewell of the Lilford Estate and Plock's Farm and the LCC Parish Council Champion, County Councillor Mike Otter, the Parish Council now have sufficient funds to purchase their own SID. Having our own device will mean that, from this summer, drivers will be warned if they are exceeding the speed limit almost continually at one of a number of locations around the village during every month of the year.

We would like to thank Roger and Mike for their generosity in enabling the Parish Council to extend its campaign to make Bretherton's roads safer.

## Neighbourhood Watch

### Alarm Companies

Although this item has been raised previously we have had disturbing information that a specific alarm company is operating again in our area.

The company contacts residents via telephone advising them that they have been chosen to receive a "free" alarm. But there is a necessity for a crime prevention survey to be carried out by the company.

The scam comes in the form of the subsequent maintenance charges which have in some cases run into thousands of pounds.

At the mention of alarms, during any telephone conversation, the best thing that residents can do is just say that they are not interested, and that they can get any crime prevention advice from their local police crime prevention team who are Margaret Rushton on 01257-246384 and Terry Burke on 0125-515333.

### Fraud Hotline

A new "fraud hotline" has been launched which people in Lancashire are being encouraged to call if they are a victim of fraud. The National Fraud authority (NFA) has launched Action Fraud a national fraud reporting centre that provides a single point of contact for people to report a fraud as well as seeking guidance and advice.

It is a one stop shop for reporting all types of fraud, including identity theft, investment, credit card and consumer fraud. At the same time it gives law enforcement and counter-fraud agencies better information to target fraudsters and protect the public as well as bringing criminals to justice, by providing vital information to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB).

This collaboration between Police forces, the NFIB and Action Fraud will help tighten the net on fraudsters. The Action Fraud number to call is **0300 123 2040** or textphone number **0300 123 2050**

### Theft of Metals

The theft of lead from roofs including churches, schools and domestic residences is still continuing. Added to this there have been a number of thefts of copper piping from unoccupied buildings, and reported thefts from private residences of items left outside which have not necessarily been scrap but which have been stolen. Please bear in mind all the types of crimes mentioned on this bulletin, being committed across the area, and report to the Police anything you consider suspicious taking place immediately on **0845 125 35 45**.

### Eddie Johnson

## POLICE UPDATE



It has been another quiet time on the crime front for the area but another word of warning with regards to 'Cold Callers' and 'Bogus Officials'. The latest scam we've heard about was from a man who received a call from someone stating they were from BT and for £9.99 per month they would ensure that they would not receive any further advertisements or cold callers over the phone. The man gave his bank details and the first payment was made by direct debit, unfortunately he later received several nuisance calls offering everything from double glazing to an offer to of a new kitchen. He contacted BT to find out that this was a nationwide scam which was being investigated. There is a facility from BT to monitor incoming calls but BT does not go touting for business, they would only offer you this service if you contacted them with a problem. Another scam was from a man saying he was from the council and they had paid too much Council Tax-if they gave their bank details he would ensure that the money was paid back into his account. Needless to say no money was paid in but a lot was taken! Please do not give your bank details to anyone over the phone as you cannot be sure who they are. With the promise of a hot summer, please take care with regards to home security. Ensure that your doors are closed and locked and that you do not leave windows open whilst you are out of the house. We live in an area that suffers from a lot of through traffic and if burglars spot an opportunity they will go for it; please don't let it be your property they are stealing. Likewise, please ensure your vehicles are secure and that you do not leave any property in them.

The next PACT meetings are as follows:-  
7pm Mon 12<sup>th</sup> April at The Old School, Ulnes Walton.

7pm Wed 5<sup>th</sup> May at Bretherton School

7pm Wed 9<sup>th</sup> June at The Old School, Croston

7pm Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug at Croston Police Office  
If you have any queries with regards to this article or any problems please do not hesitate to contact us on the following numbers:-

**0845 1 25 35 45** or by e-mail on

[Caroline.plummer@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Caroline.plummer@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)



All information is correct at the time of print and Bretherton Parish Council accepts no responsibility for items published that are directly attributed to named contributors.

## Gardening Tips by Gordon Gregg

### April

- Sow lawn seed on a well drained and prepared site. Seed can be bought which is bird repellent but otherwise protect with cotton. Mow established lawns with blades at a medium height. Treat with weed and feed fertiliser about 10 days after cutting and water in if no signs of rain.
- Complete the sowing of hardy and half hardy annuals by the end of the month. Move seedlings pricked off from earlier sowings to a cold frame or cold greenhouse.
- Take cuttings off dahlia tubers started into growth in March. Keep under glass until the end of the third week in May as frost can occur up to this date. If however you prefer to plant your tubers outside, do this before they grow shoots as by the time these appear all danger of frost should have passed.
- Lightly shear winter heathers.
- Remove faded flowers from rhododendrons and mulch.
- Divide spring flowering rock plants after flowering.
- Plant water lilies and other water-plants in your pond. Overgrown lilies can be lifted and divided. Replant the outer growth of the plant.
  - Plant early potato tubers about the second week in the month. When the shoots appear above the ground, watch out for late frosts and cover them with fleece which is fairly cheap to buy.

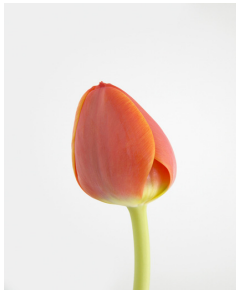
### May

Mow lawns at least once a week.

- Disbud hybrid tea roses grown for large blooms. Spray roses against pests and diseases if necessary and apply a rose fertiliser or good rotted compost.
- Plant out early flowering varieties of chrysanthemums and pinch out the growing tip to encourage the plant to throw out side-shoots and make a bushier plant.
- To make room for bedding plants, lift bulbs after flowering but not before the leaves have died. Never cut the leaves off as they provide food to the bulb. Let them die off naturally.
- Begin thinning apples, pears, gooseberries and plums to obtain bigger fruit. Peg down strawberry runners to encourage them to root and make plants for next year.

### June

- Continue to mow lawns weekly.
- Trim back privet hedges.
- Support tall growing annuals.
- Prick off seedlings of biennials such as Sweet William and Wallflowers.
- Cut down early flowering perennials to 3 inches from the ground.



## **SEASON TO LOOK FORWARD TO FOR BRETHERTON BOWLING CLUB**

This year will be special one for Bretherton Bowling Club. At the end of last season three of the five teams at Bretherton gained promotion in their respective leagues and they look towards a year of bowling in higher divisions than they have ever reached before. Last year was one of the most outstanding in our bowlers' performances and I hope that everyone enjoys the year to the full. As usual during the year we will be holding the in-club trophy competitions which give members a good social day at bowling as well a supplementing club funds.

### **COACHING SESSIONS AT BRETHERTON**

In order to attract new people to the sport of bowling, Bretherton is taking part in a scheme of running coaching sessions for both adults and juniors, where they will be able to learn the intricacies of the game under supervision of a trained coach. The course will take part over a five-week period beginning on Saturday, April 5th and will take place between 10am and 11am. The cost for this course of training is £5 for adults and £2.50 for juniors and will take place on Bretherton's recreation ground bowling green. Anyone interested in taking part can make arrangements by telephone - 01772 813954. So come along and have a try. This is a game all the family can enjoy and I can assure them they will be made very welcome.

### **FROM BOWLS TO BOULES!**

Anyone using the recreation ground will be aware that a new feature has appeared alongside the village institute. The village has now acquired a boules pitch! This is a game of French origin, played with steel balls on a gravel surface. It may not be generally known but there has been a flourishing interest in this game in the local area for many years, with quite a few local public houses having their own boules pitches. To initiate the pitch at Bretherton there is to be a demonstration of the game by the Croston boules players. This is to be arranged for Saturday May 22 and more details of this will be displayed on the village notice boards. It is the intention that given sufficient interest in the game a team will be formed that will join the local boules league sometime in the near future.

Brian Howarth  
Chairman



## **Thank you Amanda.....**

Amanda Partington was appointed as Bretherton Parish Clerk five years ago with very little experience of the role. Since then she has developed to be an extremely professional clerk with skills in and a detailed knowledge of the legal and accounting procedures that are needed to support your Parish Councillors. Amanda has also helped the councillors to fulfill their obligations and has introduced a number of innovative ideas to help us make decisions and to better represent the people of the village.

Due to pressures in her "day job" and a wish to spend more time with her family, Amanda has decided to resign her position as Clerk at the end of March. All the members of the Council would like to thank Amanda for the support she has given them over the last five years and wish her the best of luck for the future.

### **.....welcome to Jill.**

Following Amanda's resignation, the Parish Council has appointed Jill Cavan as her replacement. Jill, who lives in Mawdesley, has been Clerk to Downholland Parish Council for the last 3 years and was herself a Parish Councillor in Mawdesley from 1998 to 2006. The skills and experience she has gained at Downholland will equip her to continue the excellent work that Amanda initiated towards achieving Quality Status for Bretherton Parish Council. We welcome Jill to Bretherton and look forward to working with her from the beginning of April.