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Normal Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10am to Noon



## Message from the Chairman – Cllr Sarah Balfour

In addition to our usual community activities Ackworth will have more events to celebrate and commemorate in 2018. As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, the Tour de Yorkshire is passing through the village on 4 May and we want to make sure that everyone watching both along the road and on TV sees that Ackworth can put on a great show.

Also you can join with others to commemorate, in November, 100 years since the end of the First World War. So please keep an eye and ear out for more information, and get involved in whatever way you can.

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank Elizabeth Ford and Don Marshall for their work as Councillors. Both have resigned from the Parish Council because they have moved out of the village. This has created two vacancies, one in each ward of the village. There are proper procedures that the Parish Council must follow to replace them. Copies of the 'Notice of Casual Vacancy' have been displayed, these along with information are on our website.



## Parish Assembly – Monday 16 April 2018

**This year's Parish Assembly will be held on 16 April at 6:30 pm prior to the Parish Council meeting. The agenda will be published on the website.** Everyone who is on the electoral register for the parish of Ackworth is eligible to attend. The Chairman of the Parish Council will preside at the meeting.

## Improvements at Low Ackworth Community Centre

Thanks to funding from Wakefield Council and from Ackworth Coop Communities Fund, Low Ackworth Community Centre now has a new roof and new heating. In the next few weeks the committee hopes that the inside will be decorated and new blinds fitted. This will make the Centre a much more pleasant and comfortable place for its users.

Low Ackworth Community Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday 18th April at 7.30pm**. The AGM is open to all Ackworth residents. Please come along and give the committee your support.

## TOUR DE YORKSHIRE



On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May the Tour de Yorkshire will be racing through Ackworth. The Parish Council are working with businesses and communities to welcome the tour through the village and encourage everyone to get involved. Regular updates will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Additionally, Welcome to Yorkshire are hosting some Tour de Yorkshire Roadshow events that businesses and communities are invited to attend. The Parish Council has registered to attend the event being held at Hooton Pagnell on Wednesday 7 March.

Ackworth Parish Council would like to thank all those who came along to our events over the Christmas period. Firstly there was the Christmas lights switch on; thanks to Gala Queen Megan Mackay for switching the lights on and to Churches Together in Ackworth for organising a beautiful carol service. Santa Day followed soon after, where over 300 children visited Santa in his grotto;

The Senior Citizens Christmas Tea, held at Ackworth School and organised by District and Parish Councillors, proved again to be a lovely afternoon. A hot meal was provided for everyone followed by musical entertainment. All of these events contributing to a very busy and wonderful season.



Pictured: Senior Citizens Christmas Tea organisers with the Mayor of Wakefield, Senior Citizens Christmas Tea and Santa's Grotto.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM - MEET YOUR PCSO

PCSO Lorraine Kavanagh holds regular informal drop-in sessions around the village. Come and discuss issues in connection with Policing matters. These are not formal meetings and everyone is welcome to attend. Details of these sessions can be found on noticeboards around the village and on the Parish Council website.



## ACKWORTH GALA 2018

This year's village gala will be held on Saturday 30 June. The theme is "Sporting Greats".

A great opportunity for community groups and local charities to raise funds. Further information will be published on our website over the coming months.

## LOW ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM

Wed. 18 April @ 7.30pm

Ackworth residents, come along and give the committee your support.

## PUMPKIN PLANTING DAY 2018

With lots of help from Brackenhill Allotment Association, the Parish Council are giving children an opportunity to grow their own pumpkins. Over 30 children got involved last year, which saw most of them return to the allotments in October to show off their pumpkins.

The same will take place this year and the Parish Council would like to invite all budding gardeners to visit the Allotments on Wakefield Road on **Saturday 28 April from 11am until 1pm**. Please register your interest by contacting the Parish Council via its website or by phone. Pictured: Harry and Alexia-Mai with their pumpkins at last year's event





## Roll of Honour Restored

During the summer of 2017 a wooden wall plaque, which contains the Roll of Honour of members of Moor Top WMC who fell in WW1, was found discarded in a builders waste skip.

The plaque had previously been hanging in the old Moor Top WMC premises, but had been discarded during a refurbishment of the building. The plaque was rescued by a member of the Royal British Legion, and with the help of

the three District Councillors, funding was secured from Wakefield's Council's Neighbourhood Improvement Fund (NIF) enabling the plaque to be cleaned and restored.

Finally it was remounted onto the wall of a hallway in the Ackworth Parish Council Community Centre, along with another plaque which honours the Royal British Legion. A short rededication was held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 during which the Legion's Standard was dipped in salute and words of remembrance from the poem 'For the Fallen' by Robert Laurence Binyon were recited. Those attending were Cllr Sue Hollyhead, Cllr Terry Hollyhead, Cllr Alan Garbutt, Brian Berry, Pat Matchan, George Hepworth, Betty Johnson, Steve Clifton and Anne Moran from WMDC.

# BATTLE'S

# O V E R



A NATION'S TRIBUTE

11TH NOVEMBER 2018

100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

On 11th November 2018, the United Kingdom and its friends overseas will mark the day 100 years ago when the guns fell silent at the end of the First World War.

The Parish Council has registered its interest in this event and will be lighting a beacon on this day at 7pm. More information about this event will be advertised in future publications of this newsletter, on our website and our Facebook page.

Furthermore, a resident recently contacted the Parish Council suggesting the planting of an oak tree in the village to commemorate the end of the WWI. This has been agreed and will be planted in the coming weeks on the grassed area adjacent to the cemetery.

## Carr Bridge Improvements

Three new trees have been planted at Carr Bridge playing field to replace the willow tree that was in poor condition. The new trees are a great addition to this open space and have really tidied the area up.

Planning permission has been granted for the installation of a new noticeboard near to the car park. This will be installed over the coming months.





## Are You A Member Of A Local Scheme?

Neighbourhood Watch is the largest voluntary crime prevention group in the country. It is based on the idea of community cohesion.

Following on from the successful scheme recently setup in Brackenhill by resident Lee Randall, we look to encourage other schemes to be setup within the village.

Neighbourhood Watch schemes vary in size and geographical area. Some schemes may consist of only a few houses covering a street or cul-de-sac, whilst others may extend to an entire estate. Residents can meet on a regular basis to discuss ways

in which they can tackle low level problems relevant to their area, or some Neighbourhood Watch schemes exist via social media making use of technology to communicate and share information.

Neighbourhood Watch groups are encouraged to be attentive towards any suspicious behaviour. They often run campaigns promoting crime prevention advice that can be adopted by the average household, such as fitting extra locks and making sure that windows and doors are locked at all times.

For further information please email [wyp.nhw@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wyp.nhw@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk) or visit website <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/our-services/neighbourhood-watch>. Alternatively you can message the Facebook group "the Ackworth Neighbourhood Watch Area 1: Brackenhill – Dando Way" and find out from Lee Randall his experience in setting the group and up and how it's working.



**Follow us on Facebook.** The Parish Council has a Facebook page. This enables us to distribute information about numerous matters which may be of interest to the residents of Ackworth, including events, open days, Parish Council meetings etc.

## Contacting the Parish Council

If you have any comments, compliments or criticisms to make about the work of the Parish Council, then please contact us in one of the following ways:

**BY EMAIL:** [clerk@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk) or [info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**VIA OUR WEBSITE:** – [www.ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk) use the 'Contact Us' section.

**BY TELEPHONE:** 01977 611583

**VIA FACEBOOK:** private message us at Ackworth Parish Council.

**BY POST / IN PERSON:** Ackworth Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane, Ackworth, West Yorkshire, WF7 7JH. The office is situated at the front of the building. Opening hours are Monday to Friday 10am to 12 noon or by appointment.

Alternatively you are welcome to attend a Parish Council meeting – dates are published on the website and in the notice board at the front of the Community Centre. We have a 'public' session from 7:15 pm for approximately 15 mins.

We endeavour to respond within 7 working days to correspondence received in the above ways.  
Sue Templeman, Clerk