

Shoreline Summary

Edition Number 23 ~ April 2011



Spring has arrived at last – it doesn't mean the end of the cold and wet weather but it does mean longer days with a promise of warmer weather and sun shine to come.

Hesketh Bank Allotments Update

Hesketh Bank Allotments and Leisure Gardeners Association are delighted to announce that the beginning of April saw the newly created Hesketh Bank Allotments site fully open to all plot holders.



With the much needed support from our very committed local sponsors the former 'Poor Marsh' site has been transformed into the brand new Hesketh Bank community allotment site. With a total of 57 large plots and some smaller raised beds it is set to become one of the largest community allotment sites in West Lancashire and is a great asset for the village. In these times of austerity and with the demand for growing space at an all time high this is a magnificent achievement and is a symbol of the air of optimism within Hesketh Bank.

HBALGA have worked tirelessly with the Parish Council for over 2 years to create a space where local residents can grow their own fruit and vegetables and the 17 lucky plot holders who were able to move on site in June last year are starting to see all their hard work paying off. On the plots you can tell that Spring has most certainly 'Sprung' and there is a real feeling amongst many that the village is truly beginning to sprout new shoots of growth in all aspects.



Well done to everyone involved with the newly created Hesketh Bank Allotments and a special mention for Simon and Bob Bond who double handed took on the task of marking out plots 18 to 57. With all the plots now allocated we look forward to seeing some winning produce being entered into this summers' Hesketh Bank Village Show!

For anyone interested in the transformation of the former Poor Marsh please just pop down most weekends and see what is happening and stop for a chat – you will be most welcome. For those of you with access to the internet HBALGA have a website www.heskethbankallotments.co.uk which is a mine of information and photographic record of the sites development.

Linear Park – Update

Many of you may recall that a feasibility study was commissioned to consider how we might take forward the idea of creating a linear corridor along the west bank of the River Douglas, running from the Alty's site in Hesketh Bank to Tarleton Lock and connecting to the existing network of footpaths in this area. The idea was to provide improved access along this stretch of the river for walking and cycling to promote increased leisure and tourism opportunities, healthy exercise and safe alternative transport between the two communities and beyond.



The feasibility study was completed last year and it makes an interesting (if rather lengthy) read. Anyone interested can access an on-line copy via the following link: www.hwbpc.org.uk. It was considered by

West Lancashire Borough Council in November but, unfortunately, this has coincided with the biggest round of Central Government cuts to Local Government funding in history and so it may come as no surprise that WLBC have decided that they cannot provide any financial support for it at the moment.



However, all is not lost. A Task Group has been set up which includes representation from Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council to keep the momentum in the project going. Its first meeting was held in March when it was agreed that it will continue with the task of clarifying the land ownership issues with a view to establishing a stretch of the corridor that might be developed as the first phase of the footpath/cycle path provision along the river bank. Watch this space for further updates.

Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition.

As you will all be aware the centre of the Village looks much better this year than it has for ages. Last years major building works have now come to fruition and the surroundings look good too. With the improvements that have been made the Parish Council have decided to enter the Best Kept Village Competition again.

To start with can all the beautifully presented areas (gardens, paths, hedges, signs, houses and businesses) be kept as they are? Can the litter free areas stay litter free? For the fastidious just look around and spread the desire to be 'litter free' a little further.

For the not quite so neat and tidy now would be a good time for mowing, trimming, painting and sweeping before summer and the Best Kept Village judges are amongst us. Judging takes place between 11th June and 13th July with the final judging happening in August.

Look out for posters and further information which will be available in due course.

Poppy Appeal 2010 (Held over from February Edition)

As some of you may know, our Parish Clerk Ian Cropper is also the local organiser for the Annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. He's just advised us that the grand total raised last November from the collecting boxes around the village amounted to £691.55; the star performer was again the Spar shop with the excellent total of £142.94. On behalf of the Legion, Ian extends his sincere thanks to everyone who contributed.



The Great Poppy Party Weekend 10th, 11th and 12th June 2011

Join the Royal British Legion in Celebrating 90 Glorious Years

For more information go to <http://www.thegreatpoppypartyweekend.org.uk/> Email: rblpoppyparties@btconnect.com or ring 01722 714937



Volunteering Opportunities in West Lancashire - You Can Make a Difference

Volunteers needed: Veggies To Grow: are looking for volunteers to help at events during spring and summer. Volunteers will assist and engage with the general public in various activities such as planting seeds, promoting growing own veggies and setting up of veggie growing in own gardens/yards. Good communication skills, gardening knowledge useful but not essential as full training will be given prior to any event. **West Lancashire Ref: 803**

Volunteers needed: To provide a door to door service for residents living in Tarleton, Hesketh Bank, Parbold, Newburgh, Wrightington, Appley Bridge and Dalton who find it difficult to use public transport. Good driving skills needed with clean driving licence. Volunteers to handle a small amount of money and need to be able to complete claim forms, training will be given. Good communication skills must be kind, caring and patient. Expenses paid to volunteers **Ref: 26**

Victim Support are looking for volunteers to: Attend court, meet and greet witnesses, to give free and confidential service which will include giving general information on court proceedings, emotional support, explanation of court procedures/protocol and Pre-court visits. No experience needed as full training and support offered: **Ref 94**

Relate are looking for evening receptionists: To provide admin support in the Ormskirk District Office. To provide reception cover for early evening counselling sessions in the Ormskirk office as required. Monday 5.45 - 9.15pm, Tuesday 5.45 - 8.15pm and Thursday 5.15 - 8.45pm **Ref: 7**

If you have a few hours to spare and would like to help with any of the above opportunities please contact Jan or Lisa at:

Volunteer Centre West Lancashire on 01695 733737 or email lisa@wlcvs.org janice@wlcvs.org

We can put you in touch with many more organisations that could benefit from your help and skills.



Parish Archives



The Parish Clerk is at present putting archive documents relating to the Parish Council onto the Council's internet website. Regrettably much information is missing especially Council Minutes for which we do not have any records prior to 1959; there are also many sets of Minutes missing from then until 2003. We feel sure that some of these documents, or copy documents, must exist around the village and we would ask ex Members of the Council to check out their lofts or other storage spaces in the hope that some may be found. To view the documents, go to "Archives" at the bottom of the list on the Website home page.

Village Hall Ball Court

Whilst the Ball Court has been very popular and in demand by the young people of Hesketh Bank it has, sadly, caused problems to both neighbours and the Village Hall Committee recently.

There have recently been instances of the use of foul and abusive language, improper use of equipment and excessive littering of both the ball court and the surrounding area.

If users can't or won't respect the facility that has been provided for them **the ball court will be closed.**

Would any parents reading this whose children regularly uses the Ball Court please pass this message on to them.



PARISH COUNCIL:

Cllr. Iain Ashcroft 1 Chandlers Croft, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Maureen Baldwin 5 Rankin Avenue, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Paul Blane 92 Station Road, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Norma Goodier 43A Fermor Road, Tarleton - Cllr. Chris Jones Primrose Farm, Marsh Road, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Steve Kirby 50 Shore Road, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. David Maughan, 52 Newarth Lane, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Richard Plant 12 Granville Avenue, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Paul Sergeant 108 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Ron Tyson Lansdowne, Shore Road Hesketh Bank - Cllr. Hilary Tompkins 69 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

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