

# Love Hesketh Bank Newsletter

Welcome to your new look newsletter,  
which replaces Shoreline Summary,  
produced by Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council.

June 2016

---

## A New Council

I am honoured to announce that I was re-appointed as Chairman, and Iain Ashcroft was re-appointed as Vice Chairman, of the Parish Council at our meeting on 9 May. At the meeting I thanked all those that are continuing with me for their hard work and support so far and gave special thanks to those Councillors who have stood down; Julie Lancaster and Martin Forshaw. It was also my pleasure to welcome Simon Kenyon, who has joined us and we all look forward to working with. There is one more place on the council and I hope to be able to announce another appointee in the next issue of our newsletter. All that is left for me to say is I hope you have a lovely summer.

Paul Sergeant  
Chairman



## Our New Councillor



Simon Kenyon was born in Accrington and moved to Hesketh Bank in 2012 to live with his now wife, Helen. He is a support worker, working with people who have Autism, learning disabilities or brain injury. He previously spent several years working for local charity, Villages in Partnership, where he was responsible for supporting the development of local groups and small charities, and assisting with the search for, and application of, grant funding. This work benefitted local groups with around £200,000 of funding being shared between them. Simon is also involved with a number of other community activities - he is the Secretary of Tarleton Corinthians FC, Chairman of Burscough Dynamo FC and a Trustee of West Lancs Dial a Ride. Simon said "I am very honoured to be involved with the Parish Council and hope that my contribution will benefit the local community."

## Best Kept Competition

We're running our Best Kept competition again, supported by Southport Flower Show. Judges are tasked with finding the best front garden, business premises and allotment in the village – all you have to do is keep your part of Hesketh Bank looking tip top!

Judging will take place between 4<sup>th</sup> June and 17<sup>th</sup> July, the shortlist will be announced from 18<sup>th</sup> July and winners will be announced from 25<sup>th</sup> July. Winners will receive free tickets to Southport Flower Show, and all those shortlisted will receive free tickets to the Hesketh Bank Show on 17<sup>th</sup> September.





## Around the village

The Parish Council is continuing its efforts to acquire various plots of land in order to generally improve the appearance of the village. Latest acquisitions have been the central green at **Ashbrook Close** and land at the entrance to **Pardoe Close** where the vastly overgrown shrubs had provided shelter for drinking and other anti-social activities.



During May, final improvement works were completed at the Council's '**Centenary Sports Ground**' on Station Road with the resurfacing of the access roadway. Over the past 18 months the Council has improved the facilities with a new ditch, additional drainage, a resurfaced car-park, fencing, signage and lining out. In addition High Definition CCTV has been installed with an anchor point for the council's own microwave radio link serving some 13 cameras and recording devices. Throughout, the system is capable of face recognition recording utilizing 25x zoom lenses; Hesketh Bank now has the lowest crime rate in West Lancashire. The Centenary Sports Ground, through the three sports clubs and the 3G all weather pitches, gives facilities for over 1,000 sports men and women.



And last but not least, how many residents of Hesketh Bank recognise this idyllic stretch of water and surrounding woodlands? A recent straw poll suggested that over 90% don't know of its existence, but there again why would you, as it is within private land?

Well, all that could change in the coming years if the residential development goes ahead on the old brickworks site of Henry Alty. The lake is in fact the old clay pit from where clay was extracted to feed the adjacent brickworks and it is now part of a classified Biological Heritage site. The lake is presently stocked with trout and fished by Southport Fly Fishers. To the west of the lake, the West Lancashire Light Railway operates their heritage narrow gauge railway with a large area of scrubland in between.

The Parish Council is at present working with Alty's, as part of the overall development with a view to acquiring the land, *if planning consent is granted*, and creating Hesketh Bank's own public park of over 20 acres which in turn would form part of the Douglas Linear Park on the westerly banks of the river and canal down to Bank Bridge at Tarleton. The Light Railway is also pursuing plans to greatly enlarge their operations which could form part of the overall Park. The ultimate aim is to connect to Southport in the West via the outmarsh public footpaths and to the South via the canal towpaths to Rufford and Burscough Wharf.

Of course, such a project to develop a public park is a costly exercise and apart from purchase costs, we are presently looking for funding in the region of £750,000 from several sources to set this up for perpetuity; the whole project is only being made feasible through Alty's wish to leave the village a unique asset and the Parish Council being granted the top flight award of the "*General Power of Competency*" by the Government.

## With love from Hesketh Bank

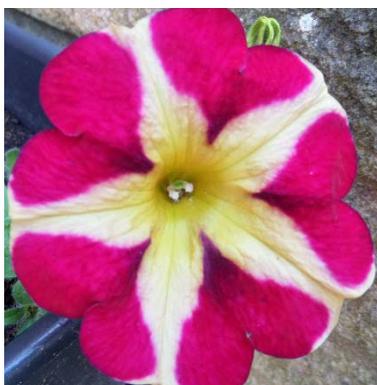
The sun is shining, at last, and the great British public are out gardening once more. Duncan Taylor has again planted the two containers at Moss Lane corner, for which we are very grateful, and the hanging baskets won't be far behind.

This year he is showcasing some brand new Petunias. They are called Petunia Night Sky, which are available at Booths and other outlets, and Petunia Amore, Queen of Hearts, which have been cultivated exclusively for B&Q.

Petunia Night Sky



Petunia Amore, Queen of Hearts



Duncan said, "In a couple of weeks they will put more flowers on and, hopefully, in a couple of months they should tumble over the edge of the containers in their full glory." We certainly look forward to seeing that.

Duncan's father started the family business, Arden Lea on Moss Lane, in 1949 when he returned from the war having served on the HMS Fleetwood. Duncan joined his father but has since passed it on to his two sons, Nick and Stuart. Arden Lea is one of the country's largest commercial bedding plant growers supplying B&Q, Booths and independent garden centres. Today, Arden Lea Nurseries produce hundreds of thousands of plants a year from 11 acres of land across several sites in Hesketh Bank.



Stuart and his dog, Poppy, inspecting 'Glowing Embers' Begonias.

Stuart said, "We are lucky that we have such fantastic soil here, which has kept the village's long agricultural history going, and we are very proud to be a part of that."

With regard to the contribution that Duncan makes every year to the village, he simply says "I don't do it for any recognition, I just enjoy doing something practical to add to the village I have lived in all my life." We are sure you will join us in saying a great big thank you.

## Dates for your diary

Parish Council meetings are now being held in Booths Café on the second Monday of every month from 7:30pm, except August when there is no meeting. These meetings are sometimes attended by our local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), now that we no longer have separate Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings, and other guests. All residents are welcome to attend, not only to hear about the work of the Council but also to raise any concerns or questions that they have.

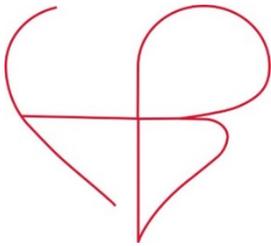
Meetings to the end of the year are as follows:

13 June	11 July
12 September	10 October
14 November	12 December

If you have any questions or concerns you wish to raise outside of these meetings then please contact the Parish Clerk on [clerk@HwBPC.org.uk](mailto:clerk@HwBPC.org.uk) or 01772 812681.

## Your suggestions please

Are there any areas of the village that you think need a spruce up? We are on the look-out for areas that might benefit from a bit of TLC and would welcome your suggestions. Please contact the Parish Clerk on [Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk) or 01772 812681.



## Love Hesketh Bank 2016 Award Winners

We launched Love Hesketh Bank on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2014 to celebrate all that is great about the village. In 2015 we launched the Best Kept competition and this year we launched our individual awards recognising those that have made an outstanding contribution to our village, showing their love for Hesketh Bank. The 2016 winners are as follows:



Dorothy and Mike Hind, who ran the Post Office for many years.



Steve Kirby, for the Heritage Trail.



Barry Dawson, for the village show.



Carl Pickering at Top Shop, 'Independent Newsagent of the Year'.



Lawrence Smye-Rumsby, who recently retired as Head Teacher of All Saints School.



Duncan Taylor, who brightens up the village with hanging baskets and Christmas decorations.

### Your Parish Councillors

Chairman, Paul Sergeant, 108 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

Iain Ashcroft, 1 Chandlers Croft, Hesketh Bank

Maureen Baldwin, 5 Rankin Avenue, Hesketh Bank

Diane Earles, 2 Chandlers Croft, Hesketh Bank

Norma Goodier, 43A Fermor Road, Tarleton

Simon Kenyon, 3 Alder Close, Hesketh Bank

Steve Kirby, 50 Shore Road, Hesketh Bank

David Maughan, 52 Newarth Lane, Hesketh Bank

Jillian McKean, 12 Sidney Avenue, Hesketh Bank

Ron Tyson, Lansdowne, Shore Road, Hesketh Bank



### Parish Clerk, Ian Cropper

Providence Place, 125 Roe Lane, Southport, Lancashire PR9 7PG

01772 812681 Clerk@HwBPC.org.uk

[www.HwBPC.org.uk](http://www.HwBPC.org.uk)

