

HESKETH WITH BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Shoreline Summary

LOVE HESKETH BANK

Hesketh Out Marsh

Edition 38 June 2015

A further two Parish Councillors in the 'spotlight'.



Councillor Julie Lancaster was born and raised in the Medway Towns in Kent. "After leaving school, I trained as a Chemical Analyst with the Wellcome Foundation in Dartford for five years. When I married my husband Shane, in 1983 we moved to Peterborough. At College there I worked as a laboratory technician and qualified as a lecturer in Science."

"In 1992 my husband's job took our family to Lancashire, where we settled in Hesketh Bank with our two children. I would like to take this opportunity, to thank the local people for always making us feel welcome both through school and the play group. I quickly became involved with the play group and went onto qualify as a nursery nurse. This led to a job at Preston College as a NVQ Assessor and lecturer. I worked at the college for fourteen years teaching a variety of subjects from Anatomy and Physiology to Childcare."

"My involvement with the Parish Council started in 2012, when I 'volunteered' to become a Councillor. I've been very involved with the Poor Marsh allotments and the new village trail."

Councillor David Maughan joined NatWest Bank in his native North East back in 1971 and after moving around the country eventually ended up in Lancashire via London, Chester and Northwich in 1988.

He moved to Hesketh Bank in 1992 and was appointed as Manager of the local branch there in 1993 before eventually becoming the Agricultural Manager for West Lancashire in 1998

He left the bank in 2012 and he and his wife now operate their own Finance Consultancy and Book-keeping business from their home in Newarth Lane

In addition to work, David and his wife Kate are involved with the local branch of Macmillan Cancer Support, Kate is Chairman and David is Treasurer/Secretary, and they are very proud that last year they sent over £9k to Macmillan.

David is very honoured to be involved with the Parish Council and sees it as his way to put a little back to the local community.



Best Kept Front Garden/Business Premises - The Parish Council has again submitted an entry to the Best Kept Village Competition this year. As part of that, and our continued **Love Hesketh Bank Campaign**, we are running our own 'Best Kept' competition too.

We are now on the lookout for the 'Best Kept Front Garden' and 'Best Kept Business Premises' in the village. Residents will be pleased to know that they will not have to do anything – other than keep their gardens and businesses looking smart – we will do the rest. Judges will be tasked with finding the best garden and business premises that are visible from the road with completely open criteria for their choice. They will be asked to give an explanation for their decisions. Judging will take place during the first three weeks of July and winners will be announced at the end of July with tickets to the Southport Flower Show as prizes.

HAPPY DAYS NURSERY ARE ON THE MOVE - Hesketh with Becconsall Village Community Centre on Station Road has been home to 'Happy Days Nursery' for many years, but at the end of July the nursery will be moving house and setting up in the Cricket Club Pavilion which is located behind Hesketh Bowling Club on the Centenary Sports Ground which lies next to the Village Community Centre site.

The Community Centre Trustees wish their new neighbours every success and, whilst they are sorry to lose a good tenant, this presents the opportunity to provide a much greater range of uses of the Back Hall for the wider community of Hesketh Bank and the surrounding area. This was after all the intention of the local benefactors who donated the land for the benefit of local residents to enjoy for the pursuit of social, recreational and educational interests.

Already Becconsall U3A has signalled its intention to use the Back Hall for its weekly Thursday Coffee Mornings and for its Tuesday Table Tennis sessions, but, with a much larger space than is currently available to them in the Front Hall; there are many possibilities to expand on the activities that their members already enjoy. For example, Aerobics, Pilates, Yoga, Zumba, Tai Chi, Line Dancing and Carpet Bowls will all now be possible in the Back Hall and these sorts of activities can also be offered to the wider public if there is sufficient interest to provide paid leaders.

Not everyone is aware that both the Front Hall and the Back Hall are also available for private hire. This can be for Children's Parties, Family Celebrations, Dance Practice, Table Tennis - whatever takes your fancy (well almost!)

Clubs and Societies are also welcome as are business uses e.g. meetings, training etc. and what's more, at £9 per hour the charges are extremely competitive.

The Front Hall has good access and toilet facilities for the disabled, as well as brew facilities and Wi-Fi. The Back Hall has disabled access and a fully equipped kitchen and both halls are served by a spacious car park.

To book either of the Halls or to find out more, please contact the Booking Secretary, Maureen Baldwin, on 01772 814457.

HESKETH OUTMARSH - THE NEXT CHAPTER - The Environment Agency gave a presentation to the Parish Council at its April meeting to update Members on the shoreline management and flood defence work being carried out on the outmarsh.

Richard Shirres from the Environment Agency reported that phase one is to be completed by June 2015, phase 2 by October 2015 and phase 3 this coming winter with the project to be finished in total by summer 2016. This will allow us to extend the Village Trail later next year for all you keen walkers out there, but in the interim, some of the paths on the outmarsh will be closed whilst the earthworks are carried out.

The project has already won The North West Award for Coastal Excellence 2014 and Richard has been invited to give talks about the project, the second largest of its kind in the country, at a number of conferences.



HERITAGE TRAIL HITS THE SPOT - The recently completed Hesketh with Becconsall Heritage Trail was launched on Saturday 21st March when more than a hundred people attended the unveiling of the Information Board to the musical accompaniment of the Hesketh Bank Silver Band. The four mile trail celebrates the fascinating history of Hesketh Bank and incorporates twelve points of interest spread along a picturesque route around the village and surrounding countryside.

Local historian, and author, David Edmondson, unveiled the Information Board which is now permanently mounted on Station Road close to the bus stop outside Booths Superstore.

A guided walk of the route followed with around sixty walkers taking in the various points of interest, including a stop at Becconsall Old Church, which was opened especially for the visitors. A high tide gave added interest to the riverside part of the walk which looked especially picturesque under a beautiful blue sky. An RSPB guide was also on hand to help with bird spotting.

The guided walk concluded at the site of the West Lancs Light Railway, where the walkers enjoyed a short ride on one of WLLR's beautifully restored Steam Trains. Following the completion of the trail walk a presentation and display was held at the nearby All Saints Church Hall on the theme of "The Evolution of Hesketh Bank from Past to Present" including the following:-

A display by West Lancs Steam Railway marking the fiftieth anniversary last year since the last train stopped at Hesketh Bank Station on the Southport - Preston Line before its closure in September 1964.



A photographic display of Hesketh Bank Past and Present with illuminating black and white images of old Hesketh Bank combined with some stunning views of the Village today.

A display by Becconsall U3A's wonderfully creative Craft and Watercolours Groups featuring inspired works of interpretation of Hesketh Bank's Heritage.



A presentation by local historian, Graham Fairhurst entitled "The Development of Hesketh Bank via rail, river and clay"

A presentation by RSPB Warden, Nick Godden on RSPB's plans for the development of Hesketh Outmarsh.

A Short Video featuring glimpses of Hesketh Bank and Tarleton Past and Present by the late John Crane.

Hot Food, Tea, Coffee and delicious U3A Baked Cakes were enjoyed by all who attended.

Leaflets describing the Heritage Trail are currently in production and will be available shortly in Booths, Top Shop, the Post Office and Tarleton Library.

THE HERITAGE PANELS...THE BEGINNING I was approached by Steve Kirby in January 2015 with the idea of a panel to promote and celebrate the opening of the "Heritage Trail" in mid-March. Although he was unsure what was wanted or what it should look like, a seed had been planted in my head and with that, my brain got into gear and ideas started flowing. My one worry was the time... to be designed and completed by at least the 18th March ready for the big launch on the 21st of March 2015.



Realising that the undertaking may be more than I could do alone I asked a friend Sue Ellis if she would like to be part of this adventure; she greeted the challenge with open arms and excitement. It would be the first time she has tackled anything like this as she is firstly a knitter and a crafter second.

So it was that I began to formulate ideas in my head and transfer them onto paper. I had the idea of three panels to show - past, present and well the third had yet to be decided. Designs were drawn and redrawn until two panels had been decided upon. The idea for the third panel came one night... it had to be completely different from the other two, a more abstract design rather than picturesque like the first two. And so the idea of images of the village and

reference to its horticultural heritage and its former days was to be considered.

But I still needed a third person to help out as the task was going to be bigger than originally thought. Both Sue and I confronted Rose Yates, a quiet quilter and crafter; we asked if she felt she would be up to the task and willing to join the group. Frightened at first and worried about the large undertaking along, with her ability to do it justice, she hesitated before saying "Yes, but I have never done anything like this before".

I assured them both that I would be there for them either at the end of the phone, on the lap top or popping round at their houses for help and advice...they would never be alone or left to struggle. So a plan was made as to who was creating which panel and when we should meet up; twice a week to begin with in order to keep an eye on progress and solve any problems arising from the making of each part and then once a week as work progressed and confidence grew.

I discussed with Sue and Rose the overall vision I had for each panel and that it would be in the choice of colours, fabrics and the techniques used that the three panels would be linked together. Decisions made; both Sue and Rose happy with the designs and keen to get on there was only one thing stopping us.....FABRIC...we did not have any.

A trip to Abakhan in Wales was on the cards the very next day. Armed with our full sized drawings and a few coloured pictures that had inspired us along the way Sue and I descended on the huge warehouse to find our much needed fabric. Five hours later and with rolls of fabric strewn across tables checking that each "married" with the other we came up with our chosen colour scheme and array of different fabric types to create our wonderful interpretation of the design's that I had drawn.

We came out very happy and pleased with ourselves at the choice's we had made yet excited that the next stage, the creative side, was about to begin.

Our first meeting after that weekend was the beginning of an intense 6 weeks of sewing, creative imagination, and sore fingers!

Husbands had been warned that the house and outings would be on hold for the duration of the making. However they were not left out entirely as we used them for options and further creative input. Sue's husband Mike created the panel's embroidered lettering and my husband Dave helped create the rigging on the boat. We must thank both our families for their patience, understanding and their help throughout the making of the panels.

We finished the huge task with 20 hours to spare!

I am so proud of what we have achieved and I cannot put into words how I feel about my two new friends, nor the effort and hard work they have put into something they have never done before. They are both ready to take on something similar but for themselves this time. Christine Smith

250 NOT OUT - Friends of Becconsall Old Church will be celebrating its 250th Anniversary in July with a three day Flower Festival and would love you to join in the celebrations. The Church is set in a beautiful location at the bottom of Becconsall Lane (PR4 6RR)

As well as commemorating this momentous anniversary for the Old Church, there will be more themed floral displays to celebrate other local and national anniversaries including Martin Mere, the Women's Institute, Alice in Wonderland and the West Lancs Light Railway. Visitors to the Church will also be welcome to visit the nearby gardens of Mrs June Baxter at 31 Becconsall Lane.

This delightful Church will be open to visitors on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th July from 11.00 a.m. until 7.00 p.m. and on Sunday 19th July from 11.00 a.m. until 5.00 p.m.



The entry fee is £5.00 for adults with no charge for children. If you are thinking of driving, please park at the nearby All Saints Church Hall on Station Road, where a shuttle service will transport you to the Old Church which has no parking facilities. For further information telephone 01772 815352 - 812832 - 814788.

Love Hesketh Bank is supported by a Facebook page ([facebook.com/loveheskethbank](https://www.facebook.com/loveheskethbank)) and Twitter account ([#loveheskethbank](https://twitter.com/loveheskethbank)) and residents are encouraged to use them to communicate what they love about the village. In addition, activities that normally happen during the year, such as The Best Kept Village Competition, will be branded with the Love Hesketh Bank logo.

PARISH COUNCIL

- Cllr. Iain Ashcroft 1 Chandlers Croft - Cllr. Maureen Baldwin 5 Rankin Avenue
- Cllr. Diane Earles 2 Chandlers Croft – Cllr. Martin Forshaw 7 Becconsall Lane
- Cllr. Norma Goodier 43A Fermor Road, Tarleton - Cllr. Steve Kirby 50 Shore Road
- Cllr. Julie Lancaster 3 Chandlers Croft - Cllr. David Maughan, 52 Newarth Lane
- Cllr. Jillian McKean 12 Sidney Avenue - Cllr. Paul Sergeant 108 Moss Lane
- Cllr. Ron Tyson Lansdowne, Shore Road

PARISH CLERK Ian T Cropper, Providence Place, 125 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 7PG

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