

HESKETH WITH BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Shoreline Summary

Hesketh Out Marsh

Edition No 32 ~ May 2013

Councillor Iain Ashcroft, newly inaugurated as The Mayor of the Borough of West Lancashire

We spoke with Iain Ashcroft, Vice Chairman of Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council, on the eve of his inauguration as The Mayor of the Borough of West Lancashire. He explained that he will take the post for a 12 month term of office from the Annual Meeting of the Council on 15th May until the next Annual Meeting in May 2014.



Asked how he had come to be appointed he said; "I was elected Borough Councillor for Hesketh Bank in May 2000, subsequently serving as a Cabinet Member for 10 years, in turn filling the posts of Portfolio Holder for Planning, Human Resources and Street Scene." Clearly Iain has earned this title.

Next, and obvious question, "What do you want to achieve as Mayor", Iain admitted was a difficult question; "I see the role as being mainly ceremonial, but also being there to thank the people that contribute so much to our society, by their support to the young, the old and infirm and the untrained. So much is given in time and effort by so many, but regrettably so often their efforts go unacknowledged. This is my opportunity to personally and publicly recognise all that is

great and good in West Lancashire". He added: "My motto for the post will be 'One Borough – supporting ambition in West Lancashire.'"

Clearly Iain, who was born in Crieff, Perthshire is passionate about the Borough, having lived in Manchester and Marple in Cheshire before moving to Hesketh Bank 25 years ago with his wife Beverley and their young family. Preferring to live in the countryside of Scotland than a city, maybe that is why the semi-rural area of Hesketh Bank appealed. The Ashcroft's have flourished, Iain, employed in the Electrical Power engineering industry, and his children growing up and being educated locally.

The Mayoress is originally from Accrington and from an early age knew a number of people from Hesketh Bank, who traded within the large market hall there. Keeping things in the family, it is interesting to note that her best friend from school married one of Beverley's brothers and the now sister-in-law will become Mayoress of Accrington, or the Borough of Hyndburn as it is now called, also this month.

We are sure you will join the Council in wishing both Iain and Beverley, now Mayor and Mayoress of The Borough of West Lancashire, a successful and enjoyable year.

Thanks for the Memory!

Shoreline is delighted to pass on this lovely message from John and Wendy Baxendale, who recently retired from running the Post Office on Shore Road:

"John and Wendy would like to thank everyone who attended or contributed to the surprise party on our retirement, something we will always remember.

We would also like to thank Barry and Lynne Dawson for organising the break they were able to arrange thanks to everyone's kind donations. We stayed at the Marriott Breadsall Priory Hotel in Derbyshire and had a great time."

Best Kept Village Competition

In 2012 Hesketh Bank had their highest ever placing in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition, gaining 4th place in the Large Village category.



To enhance Hesketh Bank's chances of success in this year's competition the Parish Council are organising a 'litter pick' on **1st JUNE 2013**.

We would like volunteers to join us between 10.00am and 2.00pm - meeting at 9.45am behind the village hall to be assigned areas of our Village that need attention.

We will provide all the equipment needed for the task - litter pickers, gloves, bags, and high visibility jackets. A collection cage will be positioned behind the village hall for the final collection of rubbish. We hope you can spare the time to join us.

The judging for the Best Kept Village Competition commences on 8th June - just a week away! To maximise Hesketh Bank's chances of winning, the Parish Council asked local residents which were their 'hot' and 'grot' spots within our Village.

Several areas have been identified which residents feel could be improved. These include issues such as overgrown gardens, and hedges that obstruct pathways, forecourts of local businesses which have been neglected and scrap cars in driveways. Any help in sorting these problems areas would be appreciated.

Name and Shame Campaign

You may have seen notices go up about the village recently inviting residents to 'Name and Shame' those that are not cleaning up after their dogs. As you know this has been an issue in the village for some time and despite our best efforts remains so. Therefore the Parish Council has launched this new and much tougher initiative, which we hope will drive home the fact that we mean business on dogs business.

Dog excrement is not only unpleasant and unsightly; it is potentially dangerous with the risk of catching Toxocariasis all too real. Therefore in conjunction with the notices, a dedicated hotline and website reporting system, the Parish and Borough Council's enforcement team is making a concerted effort to eradicate this disgusting habit.

If a person in charge of a dog is caught failing to remove their dog's excrement they can be issued with a £75 fixed



penalty. Repeat offenders or people who do not pay the fine will face legal action in the Magistrates Court which could result in a £1,000 fine.

To “NAME AND SHAME” call 01772 977513 or go to www.HwBPC.org.uk

Police and Communities Together (PACT) Panel



A meeting of the PACT Panel was held on Monday 13 May 2013. ECSO Andy Curry reported eight incidents that had occurred in Hesketh Bank during April, many of which had already been investigated and resolved.

The priorities agreed for June and July are:

1) Car parking on double yellow lines outside HSBC: 2) Dog fouling: 3) Speeding: Residents are invited to meet with ECSO Andy Curry to discuss any policing matters or concerns they may have at the public meetings at Booths coffee shop from 1pm on: Thursday 4th July 2013, Thursday 5th September 2013 and Thursday 7th November 2013.

Find out more about PACT at www.heskethbank.com

Police Non Emergency Number: 101 - Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

CBM PC Mark Woolston: 07595078081 mark.woolston@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

ECSO Andy Curry: 101 Andy.Curry@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

News from the Poor Marsh

Readers of Shoreline will be well aware from previous articles of the tremendous improvements that have been made to the Poor Marsh allotment site opposite All Saints School on Shore Road.

In less than three years the site has been transformed from a badly drained under cultivated field of twenty strip plots into an award winning area of over sixty allotments managed by HBALGA (Hesketh Bank Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association) together with the newly created area, New Shoots Permaculture Community Garden managed by NSPA (New Shoots Permaculture Association). Whilst most people are familiar with the purpose of an allotment site, some may require a bit more explanation to understand the concept of Permaculture and what NSPA is trying to achieve.



New Shoots and Permaculture

New Shoots is more than just a garden, a community growing space, an outdoor event space and somewhere where the whole community can get together and enjoy being outdoors. The word Permaculture is originally derived from the words 'PERMANent agriCULTURE', but has since gone beyond its origins in looking at strategies to create sustainable food growing methods to becoming a worldwide movement encompassing all aspects of how we as human beings can live harmoniously in relation to our Earth and its finite resources. At its core is an ethical framework involving care for the Earth, care for its people and a commitment to a fair share of the Earth's resources amongst all its people. Advocates of Permaculture argue that we can achieve these commendable ideals by developing a better understanding of how nature works and applying that understanding to the design to an ecologically, sound way of living in our homes, gardens, communities and businesses by observing a number of fundamental principles e.g. Use and value renewable resources and services; Use and value diversity. Anyone who wishes to learn more about Permaculture should visit this website: www.permaculture.org.uk/knowledge-base/basics

Many Thanks

Both New Shoots and HBALGA owe their development and continued success to the considerable help that has been given in the form of time, expertise and/or financial support by a number of key organisations, notably

Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council, West Lancashire Parish Council, Lancashire County Council (*especially Steve Edwards for his constant help and support*) and Lancashire Environmental Fund.

It is also important to recognise the huge contribution that has been made by the relatively small number of dedicated people who make up the Management Committees of New Shoots and HBALGA together with an equally small number of individuals who regularly volunteer their skills and their time to maintaining and improving the site. Anyone who can spare a bit of time and would like to help with the development of New Shoots should contact the Secretary, Chris Derby on 01772 813357.



Another vital element to the success of New Shoots and HBALGA has been the wonderful support they have received from a number of local businesses:

William Hunter of Huntapac has played a crucial role from the start by providing men, machinery, soil and seed whenever needed for the preparation, maintenance and development of the site.

Farringtons Module Plants have for the last two seasons donated over 20 varieties of vegetables in the form of plug plants in sufficient numbers for over 60 allotment holders to plant at least 10 of each type on their plots.

Graeme Iddon's Plant Nursery has donated over 1,000 wild flower plants to help with the creation of a wildflower meadow on the New Shoots site.

LS Systems, as well as offering a generous discount on purchases to all allotment holders, kindly donated hundreds of Narcissus flowering bulbs to help brighten up the New Shoots site.

Many other local businesses have donated raffle prizes or the loan of equipment for events and, whilst they cannot be mentioned here, their support has been greatly valued by all involved with New Shoots and HBALGA.



Finally, it would be wrong to end without saying thank you for the recent efforts of a local individual who gave up a working week of his time to help as a volunteer. Patrick Marshall of Glen Park, a first year student at Sheffield University won a bursary from Lloyds TSB Bank, a condition of which was that he spends a hundred hours doing voluntary work in the community. As his first instalment, he chose to offer his services to help out at the Poor Marsh and by all accounts did some sterling work. Many thanks Patrick!

Last but not least, New Shoots is celebrating the completion of Phase 1 of the Permaculture Project by holding its first open evening on Friday, 7th June, when the Mikron Travelling Theatre will perform a highly entertaining musical comedy called *Beyond the Veil*, a hilarious whodunit about murder on the allotments with a bee keeping theme. The site will be open from 6.00 p.m. and the show begins at 7.30 p.m. For more details, look out for posters in the Village or ring Chris on 01772 813537



PARISH COUNCIL:

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

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