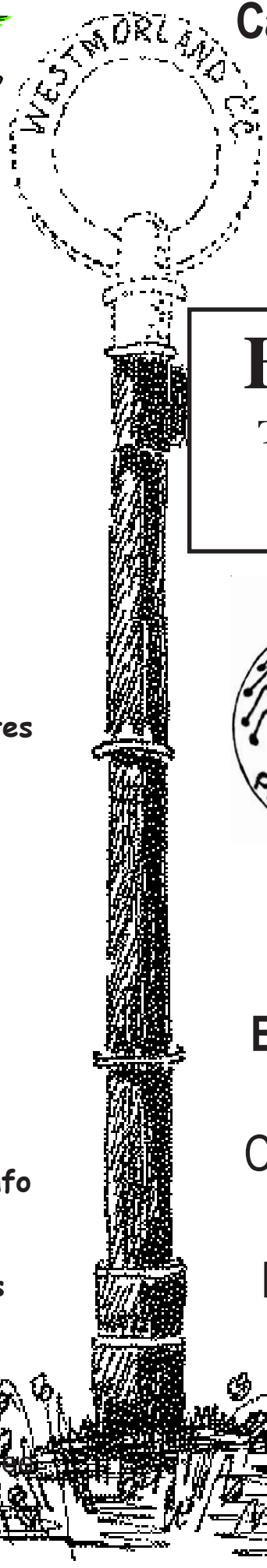
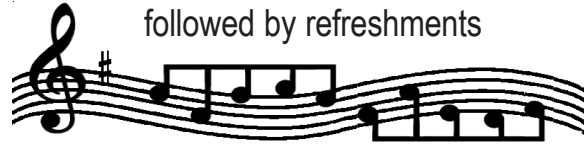




# Carol Service ~ St James' Church

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm

Please come and join us for traditional carols by candlelight followed by refreshments



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# BURTON NEWS

THE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

December 2004 Issue 132



# Christmas Fayre

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December

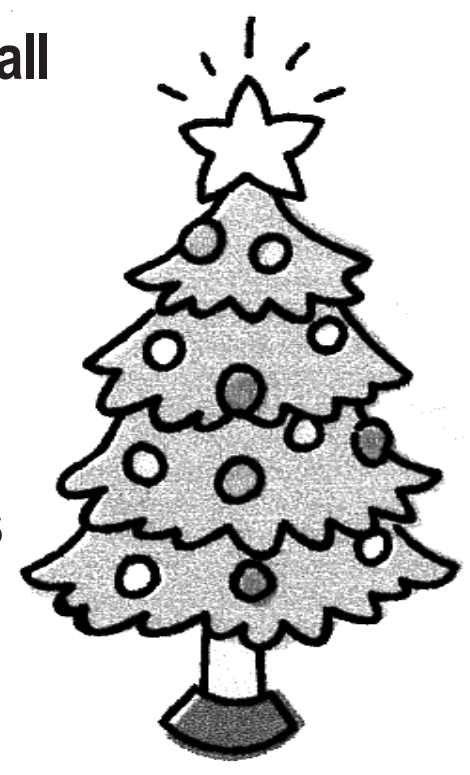
10.00am - 11.30am

Burton Memorial Hall

Children's Nativity

Raffle, Side Stalls

Refreshments



# Reader's LETTERS

Dear BN

## Leaving well alone

One day about three years ago, I chanced to pass Plain Quarry. It must have been a weekend as there were a few young boys on trials motor cycles riding around testing their skills on the rough surfaces. Watching were a few families who were obviously enjoying the day out.

Stopping to watch, it was a delight to see the smiles on so many faces as they succeeded in overcoming the obstacles. Even greater was the joy to hear a shout, "Dad, Dad, I've done it!" and to see the look of pride on dad's face.

Now the place seems to be always deserted and quite boring. Gone are the families and the bikers. Gone too has the natural beauty of the place.

To David Craig I say take heart, all is not lost! Nature has a wonderful way of regaining her own. Eventually the wooden kerbs and tables will rot away and become a home to a myriad number of smaller creatures. Weeds and plants will push through and gradually the whole place will regain its former glory.

Perhaps by then those in charge will have learnt the lesson of leaving well alone. At the moment, their actions remind me very much of a mother who said to her eldest son, "Go and find our Billy and whatever he is doing tell him to stop it."

Arthur Cunliffe, Burton

Dear BN,

## School Nativity

As a grandmother of Year 1 and Year 3 children at Burton Morewood School I am again getting caught up in the Children's excitement of the annual school nativity.

Once again staff will be putting in a lot of work rehearsing the children, parents busy getting together costumes; and I am sure there must be a lot more parents and grandparents like me who must think what a waste of effort - we all go along to support the school and the children but simply cannot see a thing! Is it so impossible for the school to use the Memorial Hall for this annual event? I for one would be willing to pay admission. I simply feel it such a shame, even with the new platform, that we all crushed in to watch a performance which is impossible.

Susan Hargreaves



Dear BN,

## Hilderstone Christmas Trees

Over the last few years our regular customers will know that domestic sized trees (4, 5 and 6 foot) have been in very short supply.

This year we do not have sufficient trees to offer for sale. With regret, the decision has been made to close the woods for the coming season 2004.

We hope stocks will recover sufficiently to enable us to review the position for next year.

We are sorry for the disappointment this may cause.

FW Herd & Son, Hilderstone Farm, Burton

---

Please would readers note that letters for these pages must include a valid name & address. This can be with-held from publication on request. We will not publish any anonymous letters, or material which, in the opinion of the Editorial Committee, is of an offensive or defamatory nature. BN reserves the right to edit letters & articles in the interests of magazine space.

# Thanks!

Elsie O'Connor would like to thank all neighbours and friends for their get well cards, good wishes and presents during her recent stay in hospital. Grateful thanks too to Cynthia, Joan, Gillian, Jean, and the two Tony's for all their help. To have friends and neighbours is something money can't buy.

---

## Thank You

My sincere thanks to all my relatives, friends and neighbours for their help and support during my recent illness. Also thanks to the children of Morewood School for their gift.

Ann Jeffrey

---

## Children in Need 2004

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to *Children in Need*. A magnificent £750 was raised. Well done!



## Lost'n'Found

Found in Burton Square on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 1 gold creole earring, phone: 782458

---

## Do You Remember...?

BN has been asked by a reader about the verse scattered through last month's issue. We all know the first four lines of "Remember remember the fifth of November..." does anyone know the rest of this poem? Something about "barrels lay below" and "England to overthrow". If anyone can supply BN with a full version of this poem to pass onto our inquirer we'd be grateful.

Editorial Team

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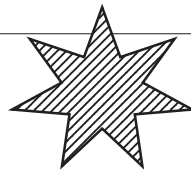
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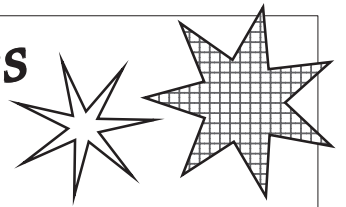
18 Vicarage Close, Burton, Carnforth  
E mail : alderson\_bay@lineone.net



Burton Amateur  
Dramatic Society



**Allstars**



## **B.A.D.S. have gone Hush Hush!!!**

Something unusual is happening in *BADS*. When a drama society is about to perform a play they are usually shouting it from the roof tops. This is not happening in Burton.

Last month I told you that our lips are sealed. We have such a good thriller that we all signed our own *Official Secrets Act* regarding the *Who Did It, To Whom*. We are, therefore, releasing the barest details to allow you to find us at the right time and place.

There is one stipulation... if you intend to be in the audience on the Friday night you are expected to take the *Vow of Silence* so that on Saturday the audience can sit on the edge of their seats as you will undoubtedly do on Friday!

If you are prepared to accept this condition please join us on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January, at Burton Memorial Hall, curtain up at 7.30pm.

*Alison Murphy, Chair, tel: 781007*

Once again, your very own *Burton Allstars* have started rehearsals for the new concert, which will be in April 2005, date to be advised. A few new faces will be joining us, and a wealth of local talent will be performing for your enjoyment. The concert will be over two nights as usual, and we have also decided to hire a DJ to make the evenings even better.

We have been busy recording a CD of selected tracks from the last concert, which will be on sale on the nights. All proceeds, after expenses, and equipment needed for the band, will be divided between local charities and good causes.

The *Burton Recreation Trust* will be holding a raffle on each night to raise funds. Watch this space for details on where and when to buy your tickets. We hope you will all continue to support us, and we are very excited and looking forward to entertaining you again. See you soon!

*The Burton Allstars*

PS Thanks to Garry Lancaster, we now have enough chairs to go round!

### **Kent Estuary Neighbourhood Forum**

**Meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December**  
7.30 pm at Levens Institute

For more details contact:  
Debbie Binch 01539 773180



**Burton Morewood School Website**  
[www.burtonmorewood.cumbria.sch.uk/](http://www.burtonmorewood.cumbria.sch.uk/)

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# Burton heartwatch

## Burton Community First Responders

In association with  
Cumbria Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Following the report in the November issue of *Burton News* I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of Burton residents. In the first two weeks following the issue the team received a cheque for £150 from one young lady, three of our senior citizens have offered to sponsor a pager each at £5 per month, Bob (a Team member) and Kath Kirkman have sponsored a pager for twelve months with a cheque for £60 - many thanks to you all. Quite a number of ideas and events are in the pipeline.

The Team did meet on 10<sup>th</sup> November and voted in favour of not allowing it to fold. From comments and gratitude we have received from residents who have made 999 calls we know how valuable the team is to the village. It was decided however to keep the Burton team as it is and not merge with Holme - as indeed Holme felt the same way - the main reason being that we did not know addresses in the other village. However we did decide that training together would be advantageous both to the Teams and the Ambulance Paramedics who carry out the training.

Arrangements are now underway with Vodaphone to supply fourteen pagers at a cost of £840 pa.

I also mentioned that the services of a Fundraiser were needed and was both surprised and grateful

that the offer came from a member of the Team. Chris Dodds, who is regularly one of the first to arrive on scene, has offered to take on this role, many thanks Chris. If his enthusiasm for raising money is up to his enthusiasm for response time, then we should be financially sound!

For team members who need assessing, or the odd one who has not had oxygen training, then please attend at the Royal Hotel dining room on Wed 1<sup>st</sup> December. Those who have not yet completed the *Criminal Records Bureau* form, please bring this along with the appropriate documents. Could I also remind you not to park outside the incident address and ensure that there is room for the Ambulance. As the dark nights are now upon us, could I please remind residents of Burton to check that their house number/name are clearly visible.

Finally, the Team would like to wish residents of Burton a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Susan Hargreaves, Tel: 781273

## Milnthorpe Family Centre Firs Road



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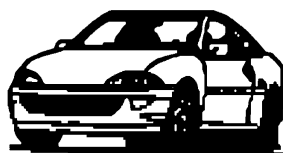
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# OUTDOORS

An ordinary walk, northward along the canal from the aqueduct on the road down to Hilderstone, as usual had its delightful moments. A wintry wind had packed a clay-grey cloud wrack across most of the sky. At some point north of Kendal a long lateral break must have opened in it and let sunlight stream through. Beneath it the slope of the fells somewhere between Longsleddale and Shap was glowing in a layer of cinnamon and apricot. It smouldered like an ember between shelves of slate, a beacon signalling north. It was like a vision of a promised land, not real, blessed and inviting. It reminded me of beautiful glimpses among the Scottish mountains - the lowlands of Speyside seen through the vee where the Lairig Ghru splits the Cairngorms, or the new-mown hayfields in the north-east of Skye seen from the weird volcanic rock-towers of the Quiraing.

The canal was in a good mood, frisky with birds. Near Wharf Cottage a gaggle of swans were swimming northward, four white adults and a dappled cygnet. Three pairs of coots were paddling through the verges of the reedbeds. I counted twelve mallards, mostly paired drakes and ducks, in half a mile. Twice a moorhen startled off in the usual panicky way and swam for dear life towards the opposite bank. Their



white tails always seem to draw too much attention to themselves as the birds flee, perkily flirting up and down like the bibs of waitresses in a 1930s restaurant. Two widgeons took off before I could get too near and whirred across the steep field above Holme Mill pond - always a pair, always in a hurry.

I turned at the bridge south of Sheernest and walked back with the stiff northerly behind me. Soon I reached Bank House where Nell and Robin Dale the artists have had their home and studio, and carved and painted their exquisite pictures and toys - whole chess sets featuring the characters from Alice in Wonderland, for example, or the bargee and his wife, six inches high and perfect in every detail, which they gave us for our wedding fourteen years ago. Now the swans were swimming towards me. The water was glittering in reawakened sunlight. Amongst the dazzle the birds were hard to focus. The wakes that streamed from their snowy breasts made a delirium of fractured gold. The water gleamed like sky come down to earth. As I came abreast of Bank House and looked briefly in at a work-bench sheeted in polythene, it occurred to me that Robin might well have exchanged looks with these very birds before he died last year, although he would not have seen the cygnet. He once pointed out to me that a wild fig tree grew at the foot of the bridge. The parapets have been re-pointed, so I can no longer do practice climbs up them, and there is no sign of the fig tree - crushed, I suppose, by the feet of the builders working on the bridge.

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## Burton Memorial Hall "200 Club"

The '200 Club' was set up in February 1971 as a fund-raising organisation in order to help pay for the extension to the Hall. The first prize was originally a 'Mini' brought over by Bill Turner from Holme. The format was the 'Mini' or £600 cash once a year. The first winners with a choice of car or cash were Jean and Scott Barmstone who had the village grocer's shop. The 'Mini' was never taken as the prize - cash being preferred! When the price of the 'Mini' increased, cash was substituted as the prize, the money being split up and becoming the format used today. A Ladies '200 Club' Committee organised a big dance each month, the Hall being decorated in a different theme every time, eg Dominoes - black and white. These dances were highly successful. Over the years the '200 Club' has been able to provide the Memorial Hall with substantial funds towards its maintenance and upkeep. At the writing of this the '200 Club' is full, thanks to the support of villagers, both past and present. It is drawn monthly, with prizes of £20 and £10, an extra £50 quarterly and twice a year the big draw - February and September - with the first prize being £500.

### "200 Club" Results

#### November Draw

£20	No. 19	M Stafford
£10	No. 95	Mrs O Hutchinson



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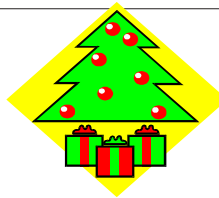
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CHRISTMAS  
GREETINGS

Tim, Elaine and all the staff at Burton Post Office would like to wish all their customers a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.



Brigitte and Paul Rogers wish all their friends and neighbours in Burton a Merry Christmas and a successful 2005.



Paul & Barbara Rossi wish all their friends and acquaintances a Peaceful and Happy Christmas and an Amazing New Year!



Anne, Barry, Alex & Matt would like to wish all our friends and neighbours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



*Burton News* would like to wish our readers a very Merry Christmas and a happy, peaceful and healthy New Year. Thank you for another year of your support.



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## HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE by Roger Bingham

### OFSTED for the Vicar of Burton 1861

As a result of my new County Council job as Cabinet Member for Culture I can access easily some Burton records, recently deposited in the Carlisle Record Office in Carlisle Castle where many of my meetings are held and where, for once, I feel I'm a round peg in a round hole! Some archives deposited from the Bishop's Palace at Rose Castle include the 'Answers to Queries' sent out by the Bishop prior to a 'visitation' or inspection of a parish. So it was that 'Samuel by Divine Permission Lord Bishop of Carlisle' informed the Rev. Robert Morewood of Burton in Kendal, Westmorland in the Deanery of Kirkby Lonsdale 'that if the Lord wills I intend a Visitation on 2 June 1861'. Mr Morewood provided the following information:- He had been inducted in 1842 and the patrons of the living were the trustees of the late Rev Chas Simeon. The living (vicar's income) was worth £205 pa - (compared to £130 at Milnthorpe and £750 at Heversham). A third of the income came from land in the Parish; the rest from commutation of tithes which were invested in 3% Consols. He paid £8.15 in property tax and £7.10 in rates. He also paid £19.12.1 on a mortgage on the Vicarage 'which was built in 1844, is quite sufficient and in very good repair'. He did not have a curate but he did not look after any other parish. 'The Church is very old, supposed built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (N.B. he was many centuries out!). It has a very good large modern vestry. The church has been well repaired and restored within the last



20 years in 1843....at a cost of £1000'. The church 'has sittings nominally for 241, actually for 194, unappropriated (free) 189, appropriated (pew rents were charged) 189, children's seats 80. The Church Yard is very old; the fences are not good; the paths sufficient. The population by the last Census is 871. It is mainly agricultural with the usual average of labouring class. The Parish acreage is 3573, its length is 3 miles by 2 miles broad. The Church is centrally situated and with the exception of 2 or 3 all houses are conveniently situated.' 450 people went to church 'but not at the same time'. 135 children also attended. There were 230 'neglecters and young children etc.' Burton had '45-50 dissenters but no dissenting chapel...a few Wesleyans hold service in a room on Sunday evenings'. Mr Morewood preached sermons at 10.30 and 6.30 services on Sunday and at Thursday evening services in winter. 'The Lord's Supper (Communion) was celebrated every month .... and occasionally on Festival Sundays'. There were 85 communicants with an average number at Communion of 45. 'Alms (collections) are divided between the incumbent (himself) and the Churchwardens'. He gave out his share on 'pastoral visits'. 'The (National) School was built about 40 years ago at a cost of £300. The Master's house was built in 1850 at a cost of about £250. The annual expenditure is £70 provided by school pence and subscriptions'. There were 35 boy

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scholars, 18 girls at the Day School. The Sunday School had 58 boys and 68 girls. '85 scholars do not attend the Day School and 9 day school do not attend the Sunday School.' 'We have an adult evening school during the winter months but is not as successful as I had hoped particularly the females'. Regarding Improvements 'I do trust there has been by God's blessing considerable improvements. Attendance on the means of grace has more than doubled', (the size of the congregation.) 'Drunkenness is very much diminished. Education is improved but does not satisfy me'. 'The physical condition of the labouring classes is very good. Any amount of distress may always be brought by drunkenness and waste'. 'Regarding the respect to the obligations of matrimony' he thought they were 'improved but still far from what I desire'. One wonders to what and to whom the question referred and, also, how the Vicar would find out! On 'any other matter' the vicar humbly recorded 'I think the great hindrance is a want of more earnest prayer in simple faith - perhaps also I have too much my own way. I assume I have your Lordship's prayers'. For the future he had high hopes of 'the Evangelical Union meetings ..and also the Advancement of Education Society. We want more Xtian union and spirit of love'. Despite the quaint language we can, perhaps, still see why Robert Morewood's memory was cherished well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century and why in the 21<sup>st</sup> century the 'Morewood Memorial School' and above all the Church continue his mission.

*Roger Bingham*

## Second Opinion....

### Observations from the extra November Parish Council Meeting

The PC called an extra meeting on 9 Nov to discuss a small agenda of 3 items. This was held (due to lack of space in BMH & the School) in the warm and cosy kitchen of the PC Chairman, with the press (i.e. BN) sharing a comfy sofa with a very attractive cat.

The amended plans for the Kings Arms car park/barn were discussed and no objections were raised.

Two tenders received for the Information Centre construction work at Clawthorpe were considered, one quoting for both shingle and slate roofs and enclosed information boards, the other for only a shingle roof and open noticeboards. It was agreed to refer the latter back and request a costing to include a slate roof and an enclosed noticeboard.

The last item was the reconsideration of a decision taken at the meeting on 21 Oct, when it had been decided to increase the Parish Precept by £1 per household. Due to the amount of money held in hand by the PC (several thousand pounds) questions had been raised as to the correctness of this decision. After a full discussion it was decided not to make an increase but to use some of the money held in hand to cover the shortfall in the 2005/6 budget, so maintaining the Precept at its current level.

In contrast to the last meeting, this one probably took the record for the shortest on record having lasted just shy of 55 minutes.

A.N





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## The Vicar Writes...

### Santa and God - What's the difference?

When it comes to trying to figure out what Christmas is all about there are two main characters - Santa Claus and God. In some ways the message they have is similar, but in other ways it's completely different. Both of them have something they want to give. They both offer you gifts. But that's where the similarity ends.

Santa has gifts he wants to give. But what do you have to do to get them? You have to be good. That's the question Santa always asks you when you go to see him at his grotto... "Have you been a good boy or girl this year?" The message Santa gives is that you have to be good to get presents.

But that's not the case with God. In fact, God is exactly the opposite. Believe it or not, he wants to give his gifts to those who have been bad - that is to those who don't deserve them.



Jesus said: "It's not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (Mark 2:17).

The other big difference between what Santa gives and what God gives is how long the gift lasts. The stuff Santa brings might not last through Christmas Day - let alone all the way to next Christmas. But just look at how long God's gift lasts:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

"...the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

Why not come along to one of our Christmas services (see opposite page) and find out more about this amazing God and his great gift to us in his Son Jesus Christ - it's what Christmas is all about!

Have a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year.

*Paul*



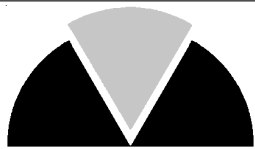
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# December Services

## Services at St James' Burton and Holy Trinity Holme



### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December

09:30 am Holy Communion at Burton  
11:00 am Holy Communion at Holme  
06:30 pm Evening Prayer at Burton

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December

08:00 am Holy Communion (BCP) at Burton  
09:30 am Family Service with Nativity at Burton  
11:00 am Family Service at Holme  
06:30 pm Evening Prayer at Burton

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December

09:30 am All-age Christmas worship at Burton  
11:00 am Carol Service at Holme  
06:30 pm Candlelit Carol Service at Burton

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve

11:15 pm Holy Communion at Holme

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day

10:00 am Family Celebration at Burton  
(followed by Holy Communion)

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December

10:00 am Joint Devotional service at Holme  
No Service at Burton  
No Evening service at Burton

### Notice:

If you would like to request prayer for yourself or for anyone else, please contact Paul on 781391



### St. Mary's R.C. Church Yealand Conyers

#### Mass Times:

Sat 6.00 pm : Sun 9.00 am

Contact: **Fr. J. Bamber** 01524 732943  
for further information

### New Website for Church Community

A website has been launched for St James' church (Burton) and Holy Trinity church (Holme). The website shows the types of activities that take place in the church family, tries to answer some FAQ's, and there are family photographs as well. Over the next few months the site will develop, partly in response to questions and comments received. The website address is <http://saintjamesburton.org/> - why not come and have a look.

### Burton Pre-School

#### Opening times



Mon 9.10 - 11.40 am Rising 5's only  
12.30 - 3.00 pm Pre-School & Rising 5's  
Tue 9.10 - 11.40 am Pre-School  
Wed 9.10 - 11.40 am Rising 5's only  
9.30 - 11.30 am Family Session  
Fri 9.10 - 11.40 am Pre-School & Rising 5's  
12.30 - 3.00 pm Rising 5's only

*Lunchtime session is optional  
11.40am -12.30pm*

*Children are required to bring a packed lunch.  
A fee will be charged for lunchtime.*

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*Fully qualified staff. Social Services registered.  
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### ST JAMES & HOLY TRINITY CHURCH TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Vicar:	Paul Baxendale	781391
Wardens:	Michael Carr	781283
	Janis Wood	781241
	Tony Morton-Jones	782659
Treasurer:	Kevin Gregory	781663
Secretary:	George Flanders	781729
Organist:	Kath Mills	732194
Choir Leader:	Kath Mills	732194
Reader:	David Mills	732194

## Burton Morewood School News

### “Wells for India”

Through the last school year £187.14 has been collected for the nominated school charity "Wells for India". This charity works in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan, in NW India, to help the poorest communities make the best use of natural resources by giving year round access to clean water even when the monsoon fails. Water supplies are needed to grow crops for everyone and provide fodder for their animals, and to alleviate the stress of seeking and fetching water - a task carried out by the women. Children are freed from caring for the animals and are able to attend school.

Somewhere in a remote village in the Thar Desert a notice reads, "Tuanka donated by Burton Morewood School (2004)". These specially designed concrete tanks store water from the monsoon rains and cost £150 to build, but completely transform life for those families struggling to thrive in such a harsh environment.

Further information on "Wells for India" is shown on the large noticeboard opposite the school staffroom, along with a copy of the September newsletter.

We also look forward to your presence and support at the school's Carol Service on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm in St James' Church.

*Barbara Rush, Volunteer Helper*

Registered for children aged 0 to school



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# SPOTTED DOG

School children also accepted after school and in the holidays. Please come and look around.

**CHILDREN'S DAY NURSERY**  
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## At the Car Wash.... Yeah!

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November a steady stream of dirty cars made their way to the BMH car park, to be transformed to sparkling clean specimens. Between 9:00 and 12:00 the Youth Group of St James' Church washed cars to help Yvonne Wilson raise money towards a vehicle for Pastor Bernard in South Africa. This vehicle is needed to transport people to hospital, church, etc and to allow some of the distant villages to be reached. Thanks to all who supported us with their cars and kind donations, and £145 was raised over the 3 hours. If anyone would like to make further donations then please contact Yvonne.



*Above: Some of the team in action (Andrew, Adam, Dominic, Simon, Laura and James - an honorary member)*

For up-to-date Broadband News Visit

**Broadband4Burton Website**

[www.burtonweb.org.uk/broadband4burton](http://www.burtonweb.org.uk/broadband4burton)

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**Boys Brigade News  
1<sup>st</sup> Burton Company**

**Sporting Success  
for 1<sup>st</sup> Burton**

Success for the 11-14 Team at Southport, now through to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of the National BB Competition.



Success for the Senior Team at Southport, through to the Second Round.



Well done to all!

Capt. D J Mills

**Want to know what the BB  
lads get up to...???**

**Why not visit the  
Burton Boys' Brigade  
Website**

[http://www.geocities.com/first\\_burton/](http://www.geocities.com/first_burton/)



# COUNCIL NEWS

**From South Lakeland District &  
Cumbria County Councillor**

**R.K Bingham**

**The Smithy, Ackenthwaite,  
Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7DH**

**Tel: 015395 63694**

**e-mail: roger.bingham@cumbriacc.gov.uk**

My regular moan that councillors do wrong by trying to do right has once again been demonstrated. In particular the requirements of the *Disability Discrimination Act* - which I have always championed - is causing endless trouble. The Act, which became law in October just as I got the Cumbria Cabinet Culture portfolio (which includes libraries) reasonably requires that we should have wheelchair access to all our facilities. This inevitably means that we will have to fit more ramps and lifts. But unfortunately we do not own all our library buildings, some of which are on short leases; others are listed buildings which cannot be adapted without damaging a heritage feature (something I obviously agree with) while far more have no room to fit the lift etc. without removing some other equally desirable facility. In one library we have had to stop library users going to the library toilet because it is upstairs and we could not provide the same convenience for a wheelchair user - so to be equal no member of the public can use that toilet. At another library a writers group, which uses an upstairs room, has had to move to a less suitable venue because they had used an upstairs room, which has not got



wheelchair access although the group does not have a wheelchair user as a member. Even so we will do our best to make sure that we comply with the Act as soon as possible. In some of our libraries we have been bothered by hooligans who have forced us to close early as staff and the public have been harassed in the evenings. At Millom after a smoke bomb 'incident' - we decided to close at 5 pm. To compensate we extended the daytime opening hours so that altogether the service would be reduced by only one hour. Having explained that hopefully this was only a temporary expedient I was disappointed when the press reported it as a cost cutting exercise. Similarly the report of SLDC's Community Committee (which I chair) about outdoor recreation stated that the District was seeking to download all playing fields etc. onto Parish Councils. This was the reverse of the case although we did say that sometimes a Parish or a trust can provide local services more efficiently (with grants from SLDC and other bodies) than can a directly provided district service. Indeed members had visited Burton to see our trust facilities, which were cited, as an example of good practice. By and large we have cause to be proud of our young people many of whom including QES students took part in the Democracy Week in October. One party came to a County Council meeting and far from being put off by the sight and sound of garrulous wrinklies they seemed interested, informed and asked articulate and quite tricky questions - so we could see who might be looking after our local and possibly our national affairs in the future.

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As part of our cultural diversity programme a group of Russian painters are visiting every school in Cumbria. Also we have had 'Stay Street Wise' training in Primary Schools and a 'Use Your Loaf' road safety campaign, sponsored by Warburton's Bakery. I am also considering two personal 'cultural' interests; one is long term, which is to stage a Cumbria Cultural Festival rather like the Liverpool/Glasgow City of Culture festival as part of European Heritage Programme. The other is short term and cheap which is to ensure that the holy books e.g. The Koran, of mainstream faiths should be in our libraries. Although only about 0.7% of Cumbrians come from non-Christian traditions all main faiths are part of the National Curriculum. Also providing more information about our fellows seemed to me to be fair and reasonable. But someone has said that this personal initiative is inconsistent with my being a Licensed Lay Minister of the Church of England. So yet again I've done wrong by trying to do right. But as always please let me know what you think.

We do not yet know what the Government's Revenue Support Grant will be so we are not able to fix next year's Council Tax. Last year Cumbria's Council Tax rise was, at 4.9%, the lowest in the land! But the Police Tax rise of 12.1% and the District Council Tax rise of 11.8% meant that we paid more than a 4.9% County increase. This year the government wants any rises to be in lower single figures - a target we'll do our best to meet. Unfortunately increased demands in education and in the police service, rising number of clients in Social Services and the deteriorating state of the roads will make our task difficult. This time last

year we were expecting a reorganisation of local government following a referendum about a North West Regional Assembly which, despite widespread opposition locally, was expected to go ahead. Following the difficulties over compulsory postal voting in this year's Local and European elections the NW referendum was postponed. Now, following the 80% rejection of an Assembly in the northeast, the Regional Government plan has been dropped. But I'm told that the idea of unitary authorities might be floated at the next election so will return to the 'Do we want to go in with Lancaster? Or Barrow? Or Eden? Or the whole County?' debate again.

In the meantime let us all enjoy ourselves so PLEASE have a MERRY CHRISTMAS.

*Bob Bingham*



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## Dalton Wine Club



It has suddenly occurred to me that this report will be in the December edition of Burton News. Somewhere I have mislaid the month of November!!!! Time really is moving at a rapid pace. This means that I will have to forego the Dalton Wine Club's 'hints and tips' on November specials, i.e. Sloe Gin and Celery Wine. I have just had a letter from a dear friend who has moved away from the area and she remarked on the abundance of sloes in the hedgerows in her part of the world, and how it always reminds her of me... Oh dear ???... Ah yes!!!! It was upon a special walk I was doing to London. As I approached Slyne I was invited into a cottage to sample a brew of Sloe Gin. I expected just a 'nip'. I was proffered a tumbler full with the remark... "You'll need it for your long walk." Being a polite person and not wanting to hurt any feelings, I drank. Lancaster appeared somewhat blurred and I still had 256 miles to go!!!

As for Celery Wine I haven't time or space to tell you about it. But would you want to know? It takes too long and who would want to drink it? Celery is for crunching with Cheese, depending on the state of your teeth/dentures.

So, dear readers it is now December. The season of goodwill which is necessary, because of the hassle and lack of time and last minute shopping cooking... oh don't remind me! But Dalton Wine Club would love to share a little gem of a festive drink:

1 bottle of orange wine \* 1 wine glass of whiskey  
1 dash of rum. Method: Mix all together.

Yes. That's it. Didn't hurt did it! No waiting/fermenting/racking off/taste of Campdon tablets/vitamin B/yeast.

During the next few shopping days 'til Christmas, do not forget the extra bottles of wine. Dalton Wine Club will be stocking up with extra bottles. NO NO. We do not drink MORE wine. It is not the rule of a good wine connoisseur to sip little during the year and to 'binge' at Christmas. Oh no... The extra wine is to share with one's friends. To celebrate together.

The Dalton Wine Club would like to share greetings to all our readers. Happy celebrating.

Look forward to January, a special month.

\* Could include your own. But... easier & quicker, zest of 1/2 orange in bottle of white wine.

M.N.

## CHIROPODIST HOME VISITS

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## BURTON CHILDREN SPORTS COMMITTEE

### Burton Enjoys Bumper Firework Bonanza

Some 500 villagers enjoyed the spectacular bonfire and firework display at the King's Arms on 5<sup>th</sup> November. On a rare dry evening, the annual event, organised by the *Burton Children Sports Committee*, was bigger than ever - the kick-off delayed due to crowd congestion!

Warmed by the bonfire, everybody enjoyed musical entertainment to accompany the hot dogs and soup before the grand finale of the fireworks display. The Five Musketeers sacrificed their hearing to put on a superb show, lead by Graham, or Fawksy as he is known in pyrotechnic circles, a keen amateur arsonist. Judging from the reaction of many spectators, this was the finest show yet.

As ever, there are many people to thank for their generous support; Mitchell's, Duckett's and Mike

Falcon, and Mike of the King's Arms for his hot dogs and critically acclaimed soup. Finally, thanks to everybody who turned out in such numbers for their continued support.

As a final word, some advice for the spouses of the Musketeers. Medical advice is that the hearing loss is temporary. If they are still turning a deaf ear at Christmas, it isn't the fireworks!

*The Secretary, BCSC*



### Burton Post Office - Christmas Opening Hours

	Shop Open		Post Office Open
Fri 24 Dec	6.00 am - 4.00 pm		9.00 am - 1.00 pm
Sat 25 Dec*	Closed		Closed
Sun 26 Dec	8.00 am - 12 noon		Closed
Mon 27 Dec	6.00 am - 12 noon		Closed
Tue 28 Dec	6.00 am - 12 noon		Closed
Wed 29 Dec	6.00 am - 1.00 pm	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm	9.00 am - 1.00 pm    2.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Thu 30 Dec	6.00 am - 6.00 pm		9.00 am - 1.00 pm
Fri 31 Dec	6.00 am - 4.00 pm		9.00 am - 4.00 pm
Sat 1 Jan*	Closed		Closed
Sun 2 Jan	6.00 am - 12 noon		Closed
Mon 3 Jan	6.00 am - 12 noon		Closed

\* Please note there will be no newspapers delivered on Christmas Day or New Years Day

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January the shop will be closed from 9.00am onwards as a new carpet is fitted. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Newspapers will be delivered as normal.

## *An Opinion...*

### **Murmurs at an Onion Show**

Comments on the goings on of the  
Parish Council

For the mere onlooker, Parish Council meetings sometimes achieve a dreariness it must be hard for those sitting round the table to understand. They demand a lengthy stint of concentration - you never know when someone will say something interesting, or important (not necessarily the same thing). Worse, it's often hard to hear what's being said. It's as if some PCllrs make sure to eat a raw onion for their supper before meetings, and then feel obliged to put their hands over their mouths before they say anything - out of consideration for their neighbours, presumably. If you relied on lip-reading at these sessions, you'd have no chance.

*An Opinion* sat next to our local WPC, who has the pretty name of Dominique Casson. She gave a brief report - nothing much has happened in Burton - and apologised because other duties had prevented as many foot patrols in the village as had been hoped-for.

Next came a change to the Minutes of the last meeting [9 Nov]. Burton's precept will be 'maintained', not 'reduced' as reported in the Minutes of that meeting. Then followed a long, riveting discussion about '*Matters Arising From the Minutes*', which seemed endless and of little interest to us punters. '*Matters*' in future will arise as the agenda proceeds and not be dealt with all at once.

There's a new bit instead - *Announcements by the Chairman*. I think it was here that requests from charities were discussed. Here they are:

#### ***First Responders***

They asked for a contribution towards purchasing pagers. Readers might expect this was readily agreed to. You would be wrong. Now A.O. knows that at least one PC next to ours has given a contribution to its Responders. And doubtless our own will be dragged to the scratch eventually. Unless, that is, they all perish with heart attacks and leave the matter till it's too late.

#### ***N-W Air Ambulance***

A long discussion about this request. Which Air Ambulance services Burton? Is it NW, or further North? Is it based in Blackpool or Penrith? Nobody knew the answer. This is a betting opportunity, surely. But it's A.O.'s guess that either can be called, depending on the circumstances.

#### ***Citizens' Advice Bureau***

Not a chance! But here's a footnote. SLDC have cut their grant by half. Since this necessary service is being curtailed, expect Cumbria Social Services to fill the gap. When they crawl out of their lamentable position of zero rating, sharing this place at the bottom of the league with only seven others in the whole country.

So no money was voted for any of these causes, though 1 and 2 will probably get lucky later.

#### **The Information Centre at Clawthorpe**

A tender has been selected. The centre will have a slate

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roof, and be financed as previously reported.

### The Housing Scheme at Boon Town

The Chairman was at pains to inform the PC that there is a proven need for low-cost housing in Burton. She is already wheeling this operation into place. A Housing Trust (What IS that, exactly? The word Trust seems to have lost the faith we used to put in it!) has agreed to provide plans for the houses and bungalows to be sited where the playground is at present, though there will still be some sort of play area there. When it has all been organised, there will be a public meeting about the project. "Won't we have gone too far down the road to turn back?" asked a PClIr, which happens to be exactly what A.O. was thinking. A definite "No," was the Chairman's reply. She went further, telling us that about 90% of such schemes got turned down at this point. Really? What wasted expense!

### Planning for the Future

What do Burtonians want? was the matter discussed here. The answer seems to be "Who knows?" (A.O. reflects unkindly "They probably won't get it anyway"). But the Parish Council wants to know. ClIrs seem to feel distanced from residents' opinions. Of course they DO get *An Opinion* but somehow that doesn't seem to impress them!

### Reports

It's at this point in the meeting that PClIrs do in fact have a chance to hear what some groups within the village are up to. PClIrs who act as representatives to these groups, or as delegations, I suppose you could call some of them, report back. Now here's a chance to hear What Really Goes On. Sad to say, these reports are often vague and

not very well prepared. PClIrs seem self-conscious, possibly. Is it that they are uncertain the part they played will meet with the PC's approval, or what? There were two reports:

### The Website.

This contradicts all of the above. It was a clear, concise explanation of exactly how the PC plans to lay out its website, and the very reasonable cost. Thanks were conveyed to Anne Nichols and Barry Morgan for the help they are giving. The website should appear early next year.

### The Royal Hotel

The Chairman and another PclIr met a representative from Avebury Taverns, who own the hotel. There is still a hope that they will sell to the village the land they own which is at present leased to the Recreation Trust. The chairman appeared to report that she had suggested they sell the adjoining cottage for affordable housing. Hopefully some rather interesting discussion that happened will seep out later.

### And so Other Matters came up

Perhaps the most amusing was the report that SLDC have removed the mattress that had been abandoned by the Snoozy Bed sign. I think all the other matters discussed come up again and again, so sorry, readers, if you've got as far as here, I've run out of fire-power, and I expect you have too. Finally, thanks to A.N. for her excellent coverage of PC meetings while I was unable to do so.

A.S



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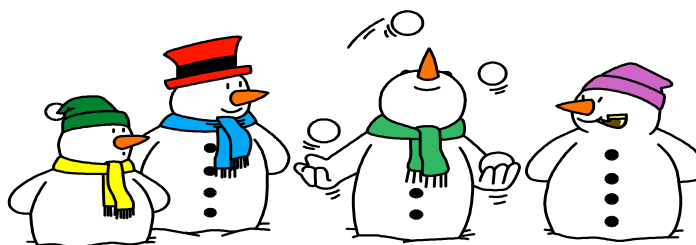


### BN on Tape!



A reminder that *Burton News* can be obtained on audio tape for those with a visual impairment.

Please contact Judith Ellis on 781057 for further details.



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