

INSIDE

Letters
pg 2

Outdoors
pg 5

SLDC/CCC News
pg 6

Going Green
pg 8

An Opinion
pg 10

Adventures
in an MG
pg 12

Historical
Footnote
pg 14

Church Updates
pg 16

Focus on...
pg 18

Editorial
pg 22

Community Info
pg 23

What's On?
pg 21 &
back page



Happy Valentine's Day!



BURTON NEWS
THE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
February 2007 Issue 156



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Readers'
LETTERS

Dear Sirs,

Old Burton area postcards

If any of your readers have old postcards of Dalton (Burton), Hutton Roof and Clawthorpe which they no longer want could they contact me please? I am looking to purchase more for my collection. Please contact Mr C Brown on (01524) 782074.

Thank you,
C Brown, Burton

Dear Edfitors,

Fergus Ancestors

I am researching my family history and have a number of Burton/Melling ancestors. One was Christina Fergus who was the innkeeper at the Green Dragon between about 1829 and 1889. Also I have links to the postmistress (Elizabeth Gibson) about 1881.

I will be pleased to share my research with anyone with connections.

Christopher James Fergus Gibson
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Dear Sirs,

**Regarding the vehicles parked outside
Barton Row, Main Street**

These vehicles are proving a serious traffic hazard. Sometimes there are 5 or 6 vehicles parked outside the cottages. When approaching from the south it is almost impossible to see if it's safe to overtake them as they extend almost to the blind right-hand bend in the road.

This morning on my way to work, driving south (approaching from the north side of the village) I was almost upon the row of vehicles when an articulated lorry overtook from the south. He made no attempt to stop and I narrowly avoided a collision by pulling onto the kerb, only just avoiding the metal bollards embedded in the parking area opposite the cottages. If there had been a pedestrian on the pavement I couldn't have pulled over and the lorry would have hit my car head-on, causing a very nasty accident and probably causing injury to the pedestrian as well.

It is only a matter of time before someone is injured, especially a child who may not realise the danger of walking on the pavement opposite the cottages, or an elderly person who cannot get out of the way quickly.

I cannot protest strongly enough about the hazard these vehicles are causing and request that the parish council either stops vehicles parking completely or makes this area a restricted, short-term stopping area only, (15-30 minutes maximum - and for no more than 2 vehicles at any one time).

Theresa Holden,
Clawthorpe, 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!

Children's Society Box Collection

Just a few pence or loose change put into a box each week helps to give our most-needy young people a chance of a home, a job and a future. Thanks to everyone who has a box - we raised £3,000 this year.



Thank You

Kath Fearnside

Alison and family wish to thank everyone who sent cards, love, prayers, letters and flowers following Mum's death on December 13th, 2006. Special thanks to Rev. Paul Baxendale, Burton Fellowship and the Tuesday Club for their overwhelming support at this sad time.



Thanks!

Bryn and Chris would like to say a huge thank you to all those who sponsored their canoe trip along the canal in late 2006. Your generosity helped us to raise £1995.00 for The Prostate Cancer Charity.

As smart as new paint...

Edward Ellis sent us this super photo of the sign post on Dalton Lane. (You can see it in colour on the BN website as well.)



REMINDER..

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OUTDOORS

If you got the impression that it was a bit wet from time to time last autumn, you would be right. Not so much wet as saturated, and not so much now and then as all the time. As soon as October set in, so did the rain. I looked back through my weather diaries to make a few comparisons. They run continuously from 1989. The only year I could find that was anything like as wet was 2004 - 432 mm of rainfall from October to December; 27 rainless days in the three months. The year just gone scored 20% more rain - 535 mm, with just 23 rainless days. We seem to have lost the cold snap that often brought in December. Frost is far less common than it has been in all our twenty-nine years in Burton. We used to welcome sheer blue skies, hoar-frost on the grass, the birdbath frozen over, nights when the sky scintillated with sharp stars. In 1991 there were just 210 mm of rain in the three autumn months and on 60 days there was no rain. In October it froze on seven consecutive nights, from the 15th to the 21st, and on three more before the month ended; then six nights below zero in the second half of November and five more by Hogmanay.

If I seem to be saying, "Ah, those were the days", I suppose I am. The warming-up of the Earth's climate looks as though, as most experts have forecast, we are in for non-wintery winters from this on out. The season of short days and gale-blown rain is not going to be relieved any more by open skies and the crispness that fumes into the

nostrils like cold fire. We are steadily losing the beauty of rime crystallised on every blade of grass and every needle of yew or fir, and we are losing the relief which comes of knowing that a night of frost will be followed by four or five hours of radiant sunlight.

This year more than ever, the Christmas cards with their jolly imagery of robins on snowy branches and cottage roofs laden white looked like a throwback to the time when the Victorians brought in all those wintry fol-de-rols from middle Europe - Santa Claus from Bavaria, sleighs with bells from Russia or Poland. Presently we may have to explain to our grandchildren where the strange white stuff came from.

I do actually remember winters in Aberdeen when we couldn't see, on our way to school, where the pavement ended and the thoroughfare began. Those were the winters of 1941 and 1942 - great for snowballing and sledging, sometimes down streets empty of cars. In 1947 we could play no rugby on our school field for sixteen weeks on end. And even in 1963, when I did a lot of driving in the Yorkshire dales as an adult education tutor, the drifts in Wensleydale flowed up out of the fields and straight over the barn roofs. Once when I gave the children a run round as darkness fell, we were nearly ambushed by snow blowing furiously out of the field gates behind and in front of the car.

So proper winter can mean difficulties, even hardships. It is also interesting, it is physically stirring, in its difference from the prevailing grey soddiness of the long months from November to March. As I began to write this piece,



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HOME VISITS

Ian McCutcheon

MSSCh, Dip. Pod. Med., MBChA

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on January 3rd, there was actually some brightening in the sky, a few blue spaces visible between clouds. By the time the day was ending and I was driving back from Milnthorpe across the Moss, squalls of rain were lashing once again, the wipers could hardly cope, and withered bindweed stems in the hedges were streaming and writhing like demonic hair. All we can hope for is that this unseasonably temperate mid-winter, which has seen the bulbs already three inches high and scarlet blossoms open on our quince, does not turn and blight everything with frost before the real spring comes.

APOLOGIES to the Hallidays of Mowbray Drive for two mistakes in my December piece: the tree felled in their garden was an ash, not an oak, and they worked out its precise age - it had started its life in 1797.

DAVID CRAIG

SLDC Recycling News

Research suggests that the average household spends around £400 on food each year that is then wasted. We can probably all imagine how it would feel if we looked at the amount of food we could buy for £400 and then saw it being thrown to waste. Why not think about the food you buy and check the 'eat by' dates so that food isn't wasted because it is out of date?



At the beginning of each year we like to take a look at the amount of waste that was recycled during the previous 12 months. We take the tonnage of each material and

average the number of items that were collected during the year.

During 2006 we collected the equivalent of:

- 11 million cans
- 10 million newspapers
- 7.5 million glass bottles
- 6.5 million plastic bottles
- 145 tonnes of cardboard
- 160 thousand books

This is an incredible amount of waste, but we believe it is only about half of the amount that could have been recycled. During 2007 we expect to collect even more as the kerbside recycling scheme will be extended in March. We also expect to collect more plastic and cardboard as the level of use continues to increase and more banks are introduced. We are now collecting a million plastic bottles every month, around 20 for every house in the district.

We'd like to say a big thank you to everybody who joined in and recycled with us during the year, and hope you will carry on in 2007.

If you have any questions about recycling please contact us either through the Customer Contact Centre on 0845 050 4434 or by email at recycling@southlakeland.gov.uk

Thank you for recycling.



For more information contact:

Andy Vickers, telephone 01539 717268 or email: a.vickers@southlakeland.gov.uk

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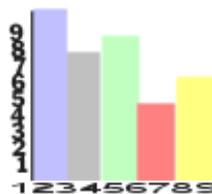
Council News from
 South Lakeland District &
 Cumbria County Councillor
 R.K. Bingham
 The Smithy, Ackenthaite,
 Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7DH
 Tel: 015395 63694
 e-mail: roger.bingham@cumbriacc.gov.uk



Roger Reports On....

The New Year is the time when Councils along with the rest of us take stock and make plans for the future. The main budget process is now an all year round task about which I try to keep you informed regularly. I'll report the outcome of the Budget Debate and the new Council Tax in the March issue.

2006 got Cumbria over the Comprehensive Performance Assessment - a sort of OFSTED for Councils - with an improved assessment in all services. 80% of people surveyed were at least 'satisfied' with Council services. Basic factors such as demography and geography inevitably influence all we do. Cumbria is England's second largest and third most rural county. Providing services like home care, waste collection and disposal, school transport and road maintenance are bound to be proportionately higher. Moreover, the shift in population from the west coast's former heavy industrial areas to the east also creates problems as well as opportunities for us in south-east Cumbria. Only Eden and South Lakeland have a better health record than the national average. Elsewhere 'there are pockets of poor health in areas of deprivation.' Alcoholism accounts for an average 18 months reduction in age of death for males in Barrow.



The County already has 'a significantly aging population' which by 2029 will mean that 1 in 3 Cumbrians will be over 65. Cumbria Adult Social Care currently supports 132,000 people across the county. A voucher scheme has been started to enable carers to access a wider variety of services. Older people's residential homes are being upgraded to provide, for instance, en suite facilities for all rooms. I am pleased that Croftside at Milnthorpe has been judged one of the best 'homes'. Residents of Cumbria Care homes are now offered at least five portions of fresh fruit and vegetables each day. Improved school meals have received a mixed response, though in our area secondary school menus are good. There are still concerns about some Primary School meals.

Raw statistics don't always tell the whole story. Our Killed and Seriously Injured road accident numbers fell from 482 in 2002 to 363 in 2005. But the reduction was in the injured rate. Road deaths increased - with 12 people being killed for example in two accidents on the A6 between Carlisle and Penrith.

For the first time for many years there is positive news about the County's economy. Cumbria now has the eighth fastest growth in the UK at 6.5% pa compared to the U.K. average of 5.9% contributing £6.4m to the UK economy. Waste disposal is still a major issue and the County aims at reducing landfill waste by 60% and increase the recycled/composted rate to 34%+. Our collection rate is good. During 2006 SLDC's refuse service collected the equivalent of 11 million cans, 10 million newspapers, 7.5 million glass bottles, 6.5 million plastic bottles, 145 tons of cardboard and 150,000 books.



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Cumbria's crime rate is low, especially in South Lakeland. A special group aims at reducing repeat victims of domestic violence by 32% by 2010.

Perhaps our best New Year news is that by and large Cumbria's 114,000 school pupils are doing well, with 'some exceptionally good individual school performances': e.g. Queen Elizabeth School, which is easily in the top ten of Cumbria schools. 64% of QES pupils pass 5 GCSE's at Grades A-C compared to the UK average of 45%. We also have very successful Key Stage 2 results: so well done Morewood! Costs for Cumbria's 486 looked-after children are rising. The warm(ish) January should help our winter road maintenance costs - though we must remember that last year the snow and frost came in March and April. Even so, perhaps, we can at least try and look on the bright side - or am I being deluded by the spring like weather with forsythia out already?



Barry Morgan

Burton Post Office



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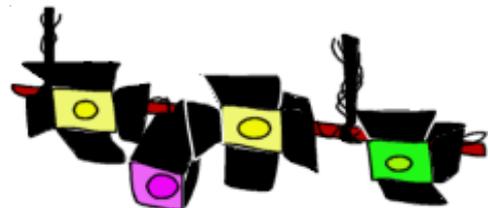
Spring Play 2007

Well here we are at the start of rehearsals for a new play and this time with another new producer. Yes, Barry Morgan (one of your *BN* editors) is donning yet another cap and trying his hand at bringing 'Ladies at Sea' to the Burton stage.

This is a light-hearted comedy with an all-female cast, set just after the end of the second world war and, judging by the play reading, it is going to be a lot of fun rehearsing and very entertaining for you, our audience, to watch, so mark your diaries now for May 18th and 19th to be sure you don't miss it!

BADS is always on the lookout for more behind the scenes help to keep things shipshape, as well as actors so, even though we have started on this one, please don't think you've missed the boat. Hop aboard and join us and we'll be sure to make you feel right at home matey.

If you want to find out what BADS is like then don't be shy, call Barry on 781306 to find out when our next rehearsal is going to be. Heave-ho me hearties!



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Going Green

February 2007

With the new year came a new conflict. As winter cold and rain seeped in through our limestone walls and poorly insulated windows and doors, Carbonlite and I went to war over the central heating thermostat. Snatched stealth visits to the downstairs loo (home of the thermostat panel) soon turned from amusement to obsession. As the Carboncopies ran to school at the start of term, our carefree Christmas household emissions were curtailed and the radiators were already cooling. With a new year's resolution of cutting our emissions, I took the recommended action and put on an extra jumper. But at my computer next to the kitchen, a gale blew under the door, feet turning to ice in double socks. I soldiered on, ignoring the onset of grumpiness, having just found out that our household heating emissions for last year came to four and a half tonnes of carbon dioxide, emitting more harmful gases than the family car. I made coffee, and warmed my hands on a half empty kettle. Thoughts of a warm living room kept creeping in and for a moment I imagined myself snaffling elevensies with my bum against a hot radiator. All of a sudden I felt as ungreen as an American President. I nipped into the loo and quickly flicked the thermostat switch before guilt set in. A light came on, and a ready brek glow spread through me at the thought of being warm once more. I returned to my desk and typed away with renewed energy. Carbonlite came down for lunch and entered the downstairs toilet. I listened through the door but heard nothing. Perhaps he hadn't noticed my indiscretion? Perhaps he'd turned a blind eye to the tiny light? Perhaps the house would be

Diary of an Eco-Warrior

warm enough for cheese on toast in comfort? Then behind my desk the radiator seemed to visibly sag. Carbonlite had flicked the switch.

We arranged for a man with a green plan to come and advise us. He told us energy efficiency measures could save two tonnes of carbon dioxide a year, and offered a range of practical ideas for sealing keyholes and blocking doors, insulating attics and double glazing windows. But our listed building status and original sash windows scuppered this, so the man with the plan revised the plan and recommended secondary double glazing at a cost of five hundred pounds per window. Although aware that radical insulation action could save us a few hundred pounds a year, we had no ready cash for windows. So Carbonlite took budget emergency action on the bedroom sashes, sealing crumbling paintwork and bolting down wood. While this kept us warm at night, it also trapped the condensation and each morning our windows resembled a winter wonderland as condensation clung to the panes, melting onto the wood and rotting woodwork. Carbonlite handed out cloths and instructions on wiping them down.

I raised the cloth to the glass and swept it across the misty pane. My arm became covered with a strange substance, which clung to my wrist and fingers like spiders web. In a panic, I pulled and ripped, and it wrapped itself around my other hand. On closer inspection I realised it was cling film. This explained why I had nothing to wrap the sandwiches in, but not why a window cleaning session had turned into a scene from a low-budget science fiction movie. Suspecting a DIY insulation technique I questioned

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Carbonlite. "It's home made double glazing," he replied. "Don't look at me like that, it's a recognised technique. Well it is environmental circles anyway." Carbonlite's mother came to visit and gave us her motherly wisdom. "Heat one room and close all the doors. You'd think you were all born in barns." Now I had almost no time to work as I spent all day closing doors and wiping down windows. But I was still cold. I considered lighting a fire in the chimney next to my workstation, but remembered we'd instructed the builders not to line the chimney to save money and while I wanted my home to be warm, I didn't want to set it on fire. "The most effective insulation is to turn the heating off and wear outdoor clothes inside," said Carbonlite, now walking around in two fleeces and a cagoule. "I bet Tony Blair doesn't make Cherie turn the heating off during the day," I shouted from the loo. "Perhaps you should have married him then," Carbonlite called back from the kitchen. Suddenly feeling cross, I flicked the thermostat to 'on,' piled up the recycling crates in front of the panel to hide the light, flushed the loo and closed the door behind me. It might only be minutes before Carbonlite discovered my environmental recklessness, but at least until then I'd have warm toes.

Harping On!

The Harps North West concert held in the Memorial Hall on the first Sunday in December last year was a resounding success, and raised over £800 for the charity. Harps North West exists to promote the playing and teaching of the harp and has members from Cumbria, north Lancashire and north Yorkshire.

The concert featured pieces by both adult and junior harpists, and by Northumbria pipers: the latter being a much less strident instrument than the better-known Scottish bagpipes. Over a hundred people enjoyed the pleasant mixture of seasonal music, some of the pieces were solos by the concert harpists and the juniors, others involved all the musicians. After the concert the audience was invited to stay for tea/coffee and mince pies. All-in-all it was a lovely start to the Christmas season.

To find out more about the charity phone the secretary, Mrs Lyn Walby on 01946 823167

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An Opinion...

Comments on the goings-on at the
Parish Council

SURPRISE OBJECTION BY THE PARISH COUNCIL TO BOON TOWN PLANS

Four members sent apologies for non-attendance. These included an apology from the Chairman, PCllr Paul Rogers, so Vice-Chairman PCllr Francis Mason-Hornby sat at the head of the table.

New Co-opted Member

The Chairman welcomed John Brown, from Church Brow as the new member. Three parishioners had applied for the position, and it had fallen to the present PC to select one of them, as no election by Burton voters had been called for. (You have to have the signatures of twenty electors before a real election can take place. How many people know this? A.O. noted that on previous occasions members of the public and Press, while absent during discussion of possible candidates, were called back into the room to witness the actual process of voting, but that custom seems to have fallen into disuse.) PCllr Brown has recently retired from his job as Sales Manager and says he would like to put something back into the community. He's lived in Burton for eight years.

The Public Forum

Members of the public were well-represented. A.O. notes that when she first began writing these columns it was rare for anyone to turn up. For some time that's been reversed, and it's heartening to see concerned villagers. Mind you, they seldom stick it out to the end of the meeting,

and who can blame them? A mistake they sometimes make is to leave before the item they're most concerned with comes up on the Agenda, and though they may have registered their point of view they don't give themselves the chance to see it discussed by the PC.

1. The first concern raised was the increased number of minor traffic accidents and near-misses in Main Street, particularly at the junction with Tanpits Lane, and at the more southerly end of the village. Car-parking outside Barton Row was causing vehicles coming from the south to swerve into the path of oncoming traffic - which, incidentally, is in breach of the Highway Code, as those on the side of the obstruction are required to give way to oncoming vehicles. In many instances this isn't happening. The situation was discussed in some detail, though it was agreed there was little chance of the parties involved being reconciled. PCllrs felt the only course open is finally going to be the painting of double yellow lines, unless residents can be persuaded to park elsewhere. Dist. Cllr Bingham pointed out that the car park at the head of Boon Town was available for all villagers and might provide the parking space required - though it's usually pretty full up.

2. A member of the public whose work brings him into frequent contact with most residents told the PC that the strong feeling against the plans for building on the Boon Town playing field was almost unanimous. In fact he claimed he'd only spoke to three customers who favoured it, all of them PCllrs or ex-PCllrs.

The PC's Letter to Impact Housing

At the December meeting of the PC (not reported by A.O. because there's now no issue in December) it had been

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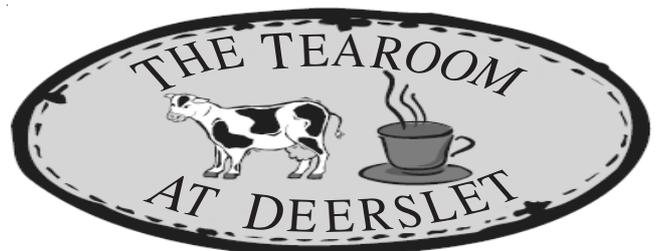
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agreed by majority vote that Impact should be requested to give a written assurance that (a) local residents should be given priority in selection for the low-cost housing. (b) that a written undertaking should be given by them that a modernised, high-standard playground would replace the present one, at their cost. If this written promise wasn't forthcoming, the PC would "vigorously oppose" the plans.

The Vice-Chairman now reported the Parish Clerk had sent the letter as agreed, and Impact had not replied. It was then (at this January meeting) put to the vote that objection to the plans should go ahead. All Pcllrs voted in favour, except one, who didn't vote. Presumably the Clerk will now put the PC's objections before the Planning Cttee. What happens now? We shall see.

It is difficult to understand why Impact, who pride themselves on their good work in community building, undertaking many worthy projects here, and according to their PR, abroad too, are apparently indifferent to the genuine concerns of our community. "Build, and you extend your power" is a slogan A.O. once saw at an excellent exhibition of animal and insect house-building in Glasgow. Is it this power that drives Impact apparently to be so imperious, or, as has already been claimed, so arrogant that they can't be bothered to reply to a PC letter? "Why is it necessary to have a playing field at Boon Town at all?", a PClIr had asked when the matter was first raised (*BN* May 1993, issue 115). The Village Survey had indicated that 4 local residents, living in 3-bedroom council houses now required sheltered housing. "Wasn't this the very place to build?", she asked.

The suggestion was a bit of a bombshell at the time, and

arose as the upkeep of the playing-field was being discussed. You could say the bombshell has become a cluster-bomb, with bits spreading all over and turning up at unexpected places. We can only await events.

Christmas Tree

A much jollier topic. Deerslet Nurseries have kindly offered to donate last year's Christmas trees free of charge, and to do so in the future. This offer was gratefully accepted by the PC, who expressed their thanks to the garden centre.

The Lights

At last! Perhaps spurred on by the prospect of free trees, it was agreed that new lights should be bought next year. This year's ones were some that Morecambe didn't want, and have been here for at least ten years. The new lights will probably be low energy and a PClIr undertook to find out details. "We're not aiming to be like Holme," promised a PClIr. Hmm. Pity, though here A.O. may be in a minority.

Speaker for the PC Annual Meeting

Debbie Binch, the Neighbourhood Development Officer, has agreed to give the annual talk. PClIrs who know her assured us she is an excellent speaker. The meeting is to be held on March 15th at 7pm.

The Boon Walks Verges

These are showing signs of deterioration because parents turn their cars over them when taking their children to and from school, it was agreed that boulders should be put in strategic places to discourage careless manoeuvring.

Continued on the next page...

Honey Tree Restaurant

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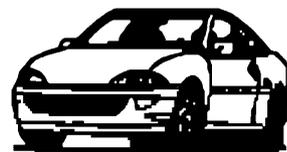
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Dalton Crags

A Pcllr reported that some Burtonians were avoiding the Dalton Crags walks because they felt intimidated by the cattle put there to graze to keep down the undergrowth. She understood that the present herd of 18 beasts was to be increased to 30, and that they would graze throughout the year, instead of from Feb-May, which is the present practice. She reminded the PC that the intention of the Quarry Fund, who helped to fund the development of the area, had been to open it up for walkers. She felt the herd was undermining the whole objective of opening up the area.

As a regular walker in the woods, A.O. felt some sympathy with the points she made, but can only sadly add that anyway it's becoming impossible to drive into the quarry carpark, as the potholes at the entrance are so enormous.

Some other details:

1. A new carpet is to replace the (smelly) one in the small hall (in BMH).
2. Persimmon have tidied up Caterpillar Walk as requested.
3. The tumble-down wall in the Royal carpark has been repaired.
4. Damage to the bus-stop sign at Orchard Close has been reported.
5. SLDC have indicated that they will poison the knotweed in Dickin Lane in the Spring. It's the wrong time of year for that, a knowledgeable PClIr commented, but it's better than doing nothing

It was a long meeting, but not without interest. It's taken A.O. 2hrs and 10mins to type this out. Never seems to get any faster!

A.S.



"It's supposed to be a cow drowning!"

Malcolm Brownsord's Further Adventures in an MG

Circling the Atlantic...

After a successful tour round Scotland early last year, our friends from Gressingham, Peter and Pip, suggested we join them on a tour of the Norwegian fjords with the MG Owners Club. On June 16 we drove to Newcastle to join fifteen other couples on the MS Fjord Norway, sailing to Haugesund via Stavanger.

We had been told that the country was expensive, particularly the alcohol, so we took three boxes of wine to enjoy in the evenings. We were taken aback when we found out on board that the allowance would be one litre per person. We had nine litres between the two cars and I was carrying it all! On arrival two Customs officers stopped at our car and spoke to us for some time. They were asking, not about what we were bringing into Norway, but about the car. Our friends three or four cars behind were convinced we were being arrested. After being waved on through the Customs gate, we were immediately stopped again, by a couple who directed our car to one side. Pip and Peter drove past and pulled in, absolutely certain by now that we had been rumbled. In fact the couple were from the local paper, which had been told by a Norwegian member of the MG Owners Club that the tour was passing through.

Our first day's trip was about a hundred and forty miles and took us through the most magnificent countryside, along the inland shores of fjords and over hills and passes with hairpin bends that, frankly, made the Lake District

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passes seem small beer. We quickly adjusted to driving on the 'wrong side', with headlights on (compulsory), and to the fairly slow speed of traffic, which was light. We did not convoy and often deviated to see Stave churches - the ancient timber churches with magnificent carvings both external (e.g. gargoyles) and internal. We spent the night at Lofthus, watching a marvellous very late sunset from the hotel garden, and next day set off on the hundred-and-eighty mile drive to Skei. The weather in Norway seems to change even more rapidly than in south Lakeland - it was pouring down and we had to drive with the hood up. While queuing for our first ferry, at Brimnes, numerous Classic British motorbikes began to gather. I love them as much as I love MG's and I had some fascinating conversations with the Norwegian riders, who all spoke very good English.

It was still raining heavily when we arrived at Skei, and again next morning. Fortunately it got better during our day's journey to Molde. On the way to the ferry from Ande to Lote we were held up by a herd of goats, and we saw that the farm nearby had a circular slurry tank manufactured by Malgar at Holme. The hotel in Molde looked from a distance like a glass sail. The town was clearly prosperous, with first-class sporting facilities, a magnificent town hall, and views across its bays which certainly outshine those across Morecambe Bay. The vista across the water took in two hundred snow-capped mountain peaks, all of which we could see from our bedroom. This was our base for a couple of nights.

The next day we travelled the hundred and forty miles of the Atlantic Circular Road, in reasonable weather with the hood down. The highlight of the journey was the eight bridges that hop from island to island. At first we thought

that the many large patches of lupins on the roadside verges were a mere oddity but they are not. They seem to be the Norwegian equivalent of nettles and pop up everywhere.

After passing through a 4-kilometre tunnel beneath a fjord and crossing a suspension bridge with a 1200-metre span, we stopped, to photograph the bridge, in a car park beside a Stave church. To one side was a timber structure holding letterboxes for the houses nearby. It had a pitched roof waterproofed by sod over timber, a type we had noted on quite a few houses along our route. At this point Peter was attacked on the ankles by a very noisy oyster catcher, which he could only shake off by walking well away. It dawned on us that it was probably protecting its nest, and there it was, on the sod roof, containing three eggs.

That evening we wandered into town and looked in one or two estate agents' office windows. House prices were far cheaper than in our part of the world but eating out was a different story. Pizzas were typically £15 to £20, the cheapest bottle of house wine was the equivalent of £34, and lager the equivalent of £8 a pint. It was just as well that we had brought our own supplies!

Continued next month...

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HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE by Roger Bingham

GATHERING WINTER FUEL

Keeping warm in winter no longer has the same priority as it did only a generation or so ago. Indeed, it was not until the 1980's that central heating for new houses ceased to be 'an optional extra'. When my sister and brother-in-law bought a brand new bungalow on Vicarage Drive in 1966 the coal fired 'background heating' from the lounge fire cost an extra £300 - about 10% of the house price, a higher proportion than it would cost today.

Further back we need only to count the number of chimney pots on pre-1950 houses to see the importance of open fires - not that they were always lit as those of us with memories of icy bedrooms and freezing back kitchens will recall. Earlier, in the hearth tax returns of 1669, 40 out of the 52 houses listed in Burton had only one fireplace. Around 1790 the local need for Wigan coal was a major incentive for building the canal. When it opened in 1819 there was a coal wharf at Burton whose 'wharfinger' (a new word for me) in 1829 was Fergus Alexander. In the 1860's Burton's Gas Works were situated at the west end of the village near to both the coal wharf and the railway station's coal yard. In 1909 David Gillespie, lessee of the Burton Gas, Coal and Coke Company also supplied household fuel.

Though some coal might have come from ancient pits at Ingleton, before c.1820 the main fuels in South Westmorland were peat and wood. Locally, peat was called turf and the license to cut it was called a 'turbary right'. Although peat was obtained from Burton and Hilderstone mosses there are few references to turbary

rights in Burton documents. Hence wood was important.

Traditionally villagers could collect dead wood by 'hook or by crook'. The right to cut timber for building was called 'housebote'. Rights to fodder and pasture were called 'heybote'. Our modern word 'booty' probably derives from these terms. 'Botes' were restricted to a lord of the manor or his feudal (fee-paying) tenant. Hence, in 1228 William son of Henry de Preese, in return for a fine of 2s 6d, obtained 'for he and his men of Burton housebote and heybote in Dalton.'

The right to cut wood for fuel and for minor repairs was called 'estovers'. Thus, in a legal dispute in 1288 Roger de Burton complained that Roger de Croft and Ralph de Dalton had deprived him of estovers in 100 acres of Dalton. Often a wife's claims to estovers were included in a marriage settlement. In 1292 Roger de Burton again went to law when he claimed housebote from 600 acres in Dalton belonging to Roger de Croft. The jury dug back to a domestic dispute of a century earlier and found that 'about the time of King Richard (1189-1199) the lord of Dalton married his daughter to the lord of Burton, who afterwards had several children. The lord of Dalton once went to Burton and found his daughter and her children without any fire because she said she had nothing to burn whereupon, he allowed the estovers sought.' On this finding Roger de Burton withdrew his case but Roger de Croft 'allowed him and his heirs to take 15 loads of dry wood yearly'.

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The Vicar Writes...

Aren't all Christians hypocrites?

One reason that many people put forward for refusing to accept Christianity is the presence of hypocrites in the church: "Why should I become a Christian? The worst hypocrites are in the church!" Let's consider if this really is a valid reason for dismissing Christianity.

The word hypocrite comes from the Greek word for actor and refers to someone who pretends to be someone or something they are not – someone who puts on a false face. They say one thing but do another.

No doubt there are some people who just pretend to be followers of Jesus Christ. However, just because the church contains hypocrites does not mean that all Christians are hypocrites. There are one and a half billion professing Christians in the world! It's a bit unfair to denounce them all as hypocrites without meeting them. I know many people who are genuinely seeking to live life Jesus' way.

Moreover, it is important that we don't confuse falsehood with failure. Imperfection does not make someone a phoney. There is a common misconception that a Christian is someone who claims that they are good. The truth is, a Christian is someone who knows they are bad and admits to it. This is the reason Jesus Christ is so important to Christians. The Bible calls him the Saviour. He came to save us from our badness and its results.

Jesus spoke of himself as a doctor: "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)

Christians are sinners who have responded to this invitation. We are absolutely committed to going Jesus' way, but we keep making mistakes. That's not hypocrisy. It's simply admitting that we are far from perfect. That's why Jesus died for us. It is precisely because we know our own shortcomings that we have gone to the one person who can help us – Jesus, the Great Physician.

Ultimately, Christianity does not stand or fall on the way an individual Christian (or someone who claims to be a Christian) behaves. Christianity stands or falls on the person of Jesus Christ. He was not a hypocrite. He consistently and constantly practiced what he preached. Neither his friends nor his enemies could point to any hypocrisy in him.

Since Christianity depends on Jesus it is not possible to invalidate the Christian faith by pointing to the failings of Christians. The moral imperfection of people in the church is not a valid excuse or reason for rejecting Jesus.

Paul

St James' Church Online
<http://www.saintjamesburton.org>

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Sunday 11 February

08.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Burton
09.30am Family Service Burton
11.00am Family Service Holme
06.30pm Evening Church Burton

Sunday 18 February

09.30am Holy Communion Burton
11.00am Holy Communion Holme
06.30pm Evening Church Burton

Wednesday 21 February

10.00am Holy Communion Holme

Sunday 25 February

09.30am Morning Prayer (BCP) Burton
09.30am Memorial Hall Service Burton
11.00am Morning Prayer Holme
06.30pm Evening Church Burton

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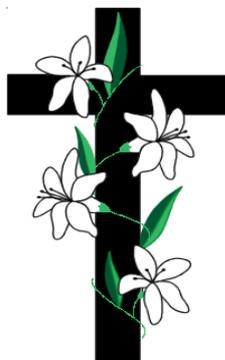
If you would like to request prayer for yourself or for anyone else, please contact Paul on 781391



From the registers:

Funeral and burial
21 December 2006
Audrey Hargrave (73)

Funeral
22 December 2006
Kathleen Frances Fearnside (90)



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Burton Memorial Hall

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Pre-School Manager: Nicola Braithwaite



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Thur	9.10-11.40am	9.10-11.40am
Fri	9.10-11.40am	9.10-11.40am & 11.40am-3pm

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Focus on...

Burton Clubs and Societies

Tuesday Club

Last month there was an announcement of the closure of the Tuesday Club. This cannot be allowed to pass without some words about one of the longest running societies in the village. The first minutes of a meeting of the OAP Club date back to 1951 and the origins of the club may well go back to those years of austerity after the end of WWII. In its heyday there were as many as 80 members and even in the 1980's there would be around 40 regular attendees.

Meetings involved games of whist and dominoes and, more importantly, discussions on the 'next outing'. For these outings a coach and driver would be ordered and the venues were many and varied. Regular trips were made to the Lakes: including Windermere, Grasmere and Keswick. Miss Alice Olive, a member for almost 30 years and one of our most senior villagers, and still extremely active for her years, told me of visits to Bowes Museum in County Durham and to the woollen mills at Moffat in the Borders. There would be stops for lunch on the way and tea on the return. Then there were the very popular visits to the theatres in Kendal and Lancaster, including a memorable 'Hello Dolly' and an excellent 'Kiss Me Kate' at the Kendal Leisure Centre.

Special birthdays were celebrated with cakes and cards and Kath Proctor remembers that when she was widowed a note of invitation pushed through the door was a lifeline

at a very difficult time. Around the late 1990's the name of the club was changed to the Tuesday Club. It was hoped that this would attract new and younger OAPs but, with 60 being the new 40, the hoped-for increase in membership did not occur. As the numbers dwindled the coach now became a mini bus, but the outings were just as much looked-forward to and enjoyable.

The last meeting was held on December 5th 2006 and the final outing was a Christmas Lunch on the 19th December at the Smithy Inn in Holme. The nine remaining members present on that occasion were Lucy Dixon, May Dodge, Joan Foster, Kath Hindson, Carrie Kelly, Alice Olive, Kath Proctor, Merial Reese and Doreen Simm. Sadly, missing from the occasion was Kath Fearnside who passed away on December 13th.

Every club needs a committee to organise events and many of these ladies over the years took on those official duties: keeping of accounts, finding fresh venues for outings, taking minutes, chairing meetings, arranging raffles etc. These all require a degree of organisation which would defeat a lot of us. So how totally admirable for these ladies in their late 70s and 80s to handle it all so competently, or is such a statement these days seen as politically incorrect?

There was always a charitable side to the OAP (Tuesday) Club with regular donations to the Memorial Hall and Age Concern and with closure, the club accounts had to be wound up. Legacies had been received from Mrs Hoggarth and Miss Perkins and £550 remaining from Nanny Perkins legacy was donated to the St John's Hospice in Lancaster in January this year.

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BURTON PRE SCHOOL NEWS

A Happy New Year to everyone!



Last year ended on a high note for Pre-School, with two highly successful fundraising events. Firstly, the Christmas Bingo which was very well attended and which everyone seemed to enjoy. A big thank you to all who attended, as well as to all those who helped out on the night and/or donated prizes. The second event was the Christmas Fair the following morning. This was also very well-attended and the raffle was especially popular. We were fortunate enough to have some very generous prizes donated, including ones from the King's Arms, Holgates in Silverdale, and Burton Butchers - apologies if I have not mentioned you by name, but all the donations were hugely appreciated. The Pre-School children gave a delightful performance of Christmas songs and carols - quite priceless.

The new term having started well with a few changes among the staff, Ruth having departed on maternity leave,

the post of acting Manager is now in the capable hands of Nicola Braithwaite while the post of acting Deputy Manager, has been taken up by Jane Mitchell. We wish them both well in their new roles.

There has also been a change on the committee, as the Chair has had to stand down for personal reasons. The Vice Chair, Fenella Macmillan-Clare is at present standing in as acting Chair until a new one can be appointed, but if anyone out there feels they could bring something to the position, we would love to hear from you!

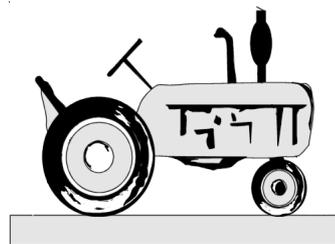
On an entirely different note, keyrings from the official Pre-School photos taken in October are currently on sale at the bargain price of £2.25! Please see Nicola B. if you have not yet purchased your ones - don't miss out! Also on sale at the moment, the recipe books put together using recipes donated by last year's Pre-Schoolers. They cost £3.00 each and are a fun item to have in your kitchen. Again, see a member of staff if you are interested.

Finally, the dates for half term are as follows: Monday 14th February - Friday 23rd February.

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Lunesdale Decorative and Fine Arts Society

Organ Casings in Architecture

The talk on 19 December, on "Organ Casings in Architecture", given by Mrs. Ann Bond was both entertaining and extremely challenging. She gave a brief resumé of the workings of the organ explaining that there could be between several hundred or several thousand pipes and these were housed originally in a shallow box-like case. In the middle ages organs were the largest mechanical devices in existence.

The oldest church organ in existence was built in the 1300s in Switzerland, and situated high up on the west wall of the church in what is called a crows nest. It has painted shutters (rather like a mediaeval diptych). We heard an example of the music from this venerable survivor, producing ghostly and delicate sounds. In the nineteenth century, with the Oxford Movement bringing the importance of church choirs, organs were relegated to cupboards in large churches and their casings sadly became irrelevant. With all this wealth of detailed information we also heard recordings of some of the church organs shown. Altogether a feast of knowledge and entertainment!

The Use of Roman Architecture to Project Images

Professor David Shotton, of Lancaster University, gave the January talk about those Roman buildings which many of us had heard of but never seen.

When Augustus became emperor of Rome there had been a hundred years of civil war and the city was shabby and run-down, so he built forums and basilicas (both used as market places and suites of offices) and generally spruced-up the city, making it a place worthy to be the centre of a great empire. He built temples to Venus because he was the adopted son of Julius Caesar, whose family was deemed to have been founded by that goddess. He left the city greatly improved.

Vespasian undertook to create that enormous building, the Coliseum, to give work to as many people as possible and then to entertain the populace. It took eight years, from 72 AD to 80 AD. Many building projects came from money gained by great military victories. Many emperors built triumphal arches, and Trajan built himself a column which was surrounded by a forum and temple complex. Many buildings, of which only ruins survive, are graphically illustrated on Roman coins.

An illustrated talk on Ruskin by the well-known Ruskin scholar, Professor Michael Wheeler will be open to non-members at a cost of £5. It will take place on Tuesday 20 February at Borwick Memorial Hall, starting promptly at 2.30 pm.

Fanny Leech
Telephone 015242 72009

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County Library Van Times



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Arnside & District Natural History Society

Birdwatching in the Local Area
Fred Gould



Thursday 8th February at 7.30 pm
All meetings in the
W.I. Hall, Orchard Road, Arnside

Holme & District Photographic Society

Holme Village Hall at 8.00 pm

February Meetings

- Fri 2 Landscape Photographs
Speaker: Trevor Brown. Raffle
- Fri 9 No Meeting
- Fri 16 What's New? (Wilkinsons Cameras)
Speaker: Andrew Coomber. Raffle
- Fri 23 L&CPU Documentary Prints
Entries for "Close Ups" Competition

March Meetings

- Fri 2 Members Evening.
Entries for Garstang Battle

Visitors welcome at all meetings

Further info: Paul Weatherill 01524 784905

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Library Coffee Morning



Burton Memorial Hall
First Monday of every Month



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Burton Art Group

Mondays 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Burton Memorial Hall

For more details tel. 782749

Holme & District Flower Club



Preston Patrick Memorial Hall

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Ken Watson

Monday 5th February at 7.30 pm

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Linda Hopkins 01539621455*

New members and visitors always welcome

Editorial...

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Do you use the services of advertisers in *Burton News*, and if so do you tell them that's where you found their phone number? It's a truism of all business that only half of their advertising works, but trying to find out which half works is very difficult! *BN* does its bit for your local businesses by yet again freezing our advertising rates but it would be a great help if you mentioned that you found them in here.

When the bough breaks.....

Not just the cradle falling this time, but the whole tree came crashing down and demolished a stone wall in the Main Street in the process! A spectacular final act in the life of a tree for which the recent high winds proved just too much to bear. It does bring home the sobering thought that part of Burton's beauty is the large old trees dotted about so when the wind begins to blow strongly it's worth bearing in mind that such seemingly sturdy icons of nature can give way without much (or any!) warning.

Boon Town Planning Scheme

Finally the Parish Council has come out against the proposed development at Boon Town. It has taken them a long time, with many impassioned pleas from residents along the way. Let's hope that it's not too late. These things have a way of careering out of control once set in motion and stopping them is just as difficult as stopping a runaway truck! Halt

ing the plans for Boon Town is only the first problem. There is still a need for affordable housing in Burton, so having determined where it shouldn't go, the next job will be to find somewhere it can go. Meanwhile, the Royal stands empty and forlorn in the middle of the village... perhaps that should be used for affordable housing instead if the brewery cannot find anyone to run it as a business?

Moving the Memorial Hall?

BN has heard that there has been a suggestion to relocate the Memorial Hall from land currently owned by the Hall trustees, to a new spot on leased land behind the Recreation Ground. What do readers think about the Hall being moved? Or should it stay where it is? Does it need enlarging or modernising? Tell us what YOU think.

AN & BJM



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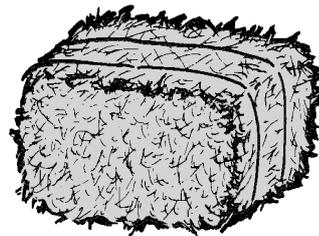
Annual Gift Subscriptions

If you know of anyone who may like to receive *BN* regularly each month, why not buy them an Annual Gift Subscription?

For £10 within the UK or £20 overseas they will receive a copy of *BN* each month (11 copies per year). A great way for family, friends and former residents to keep in touch with what's happening here in Burton. Anyone interested should contact *BN* at the address on back page alongside.

**Don't forget to visit the updated
Burton News Website
www.burtonnews.org.uk**

Hay for sale, small square
this seasons, barn stored
excellent quality, can deliver locally



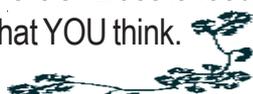
£2 per bale
phone
Graeme on
07887 623580

Burton Tech Support

For all your computer needs

- * upgrades
- * training
- * networking
- * internet (including broadband)
- * repairs
- * security
- * virus removal

Call Barry on 01524 781306
E-Mail bts@yobunny.co.uk



COMMUNITY INFO

CHILDLINE
FREEPHONE 0800 1111
KIDSCAPE 020 7730 3300

Community Transport **South Lakeland**

If you need transport to hospital, doctor, dentist, optician, etc., please contact Mrs. Lynn Herd 01524 781905.

If you could spare some time as a volunteer driver you would be most welcome.

Enquiries to above or 01539 735598.

SURGERY TIMES

Dr JH Gorrigan

Monday 8.30am - 10.30am @ BMH

By appointment only. To make appointments please telephone 015395 63553

Child Health Clinic

1st Wednesday of each month
10.00 -11.00 am

No appointment necessary

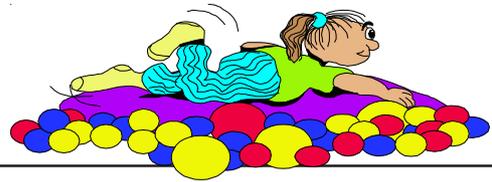
Health Visitor: Shirley Bennett 015395 64887

Useful Phone Numbers

Burton News Editors	01524 781306
Burton Post Office	01524 781828
Burton Morewood School	01524 781627
Dallam School	015395 63224
QES, Kirkby Lonsdale	015242 71275
CrimeStoppers	0800 555 111
Police non-emergency	0845 33 00 247
Kendal Library	01539 732815
Kendal Hospital	01539 732288
Lancaster Hospital	01524 65944

Council Switchboards

Cumbria County Council	01539 773000
SLDC	01539 733333



NSPCC Child Protection
HELPLINE
0808 800 5000

Civil Registration Services **Births, Marriages, Deaths**

Registration of Births and Deaths is overseen by the Kendal Registrar's Office, based in County Hall, Kendal. Telephone 01539 773566 or send an e-mail to kendal.registeroffice@cumbriacc.gov.uk

Registrations may also be undertaken at Milnthorpe and Kirkby Lonsdale Libraries by appointment only, contact the Kendal Office to arrange an appointment.

To arrange a marriage contact the Kendal Registrar.

BURTON-IN-KENDAL **PARISH COUNCIL**

The **Parish Council** meets every month on the third Thursday in the month at 7.30 pm in the Burton Memorial Hall. Members of the public are always welcome to observe the proceedings. At each meeting there will be an opportunity for members of the public to voice their concerns, under agenda item **OPEN FORUM**. The Parish Council hopes that parishioners will take advantage of this. **Planning applications:** Parishioners are asked to ensure they notify the PC as well as the planning authority of any comments or objections they have about any planning application within the parish. **The Agenda of the next meeting and Minutes of the last meeting** are always available on the Parish Council notice board outside the Burton Memorial Hall or on the Parish Council website. On the website parishioners may also vote on the current **HOT TOPIC**, leave comments or suggestions on the **FEEDBACK** board, find contact details for the Clerk & Councillors, and access the archive of PC agendas, minutes & reports.

www.burton-in-kendal-pc.gov.uk

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT
THE CLERK - Charles Dale
01524 781145



What's On?



See page 21 for more Events Meetings and Activities



Holme & District Photographic Society

Exhibition and Print Sale

**Sat 10 March 12.00 noon - 4.00 pm
& Sun 11 March 10.00 am - 2.00 pm**

Reception Room, Burton Memorial Hall

All welcome

Refreshments & society information available

Further details from the Hon Sec. on Burton 784905



Burton W.I.

Meeting at 7.30pm in the
Burton Memorial Hall

The Meaning of Surnames

Julia Beedon

Thursday 8th February

Competition: An animal ornament

Hostesses: Mrs A Gott & Mrs W Marrison

*Guests and new members welcome
For further information tel. 781506*



Holme & District Local History Society

Bloomeries in south east Cumbria

Mike Davis-Shiel

Monday 19th February

Burton Memorial Hall

New members always welcome



Burton-in-Kendal Art & Craft Society

Monday 26th February

7.30pm in Burton Memorial Hall

“Watercolour Demonstration”

with

Louis Morton



BURTON FELLWALKING SOCIETY

February Walks

Sunday 4th - 12.00 noon

Lupton

Leader: N Pullen, 732873

Monday 5th - 7.30 pm

AGM & Speaker, BMH

Contact: J Chennells, 782204

Saturday 17th - 9.30 am

Giant Cave & Burney

Leader: C Horsford, 782493

*** Wednesday 28th - 1.00 pm**

Haweswater/Silverdale

Leader: K Unsworth, 781376

All walks: Meet in the Memorial Hall car park to
arrange lifts & share transport to the starting point.
(* less than 5 miles at a gentle pace)

Visitors £1.00 Membership £4 from Jan 1st yearly

Coming soon....

Burton News Annual Meeting

Monday 2 April at 7pm in BMH

BMH = Burton Memorial Hall

BURTON NEWS

Please send us your letters - articles - events
news - stories - recipes etc for publication

Drop them into The Newsagents, Main St., Burton
or post to BN, PO Box 86, Carnforth. LA6 1WY
or by e-mail to editor@burtonnews.org.uk

LAST DATE FOR COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

20 February for March issue

Next Meeting (open to all readers)

Monday 12 February at 6.00 pm in BMH