

CONONLEY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

March 2009

A packed issue this month including an invitation to all Local Government Electors for the Parish (see below), the retirement of a well-known couple who provided a much appreciated service to Cononley, lots of events going on to involve all ages, a sad event in Moorfoot Lane and improvements to a local footpath.

You are invited to the

Annual Parish Meeting

To be held at

The Village Institute, Main Street, on Tuesday 10th March 2009 at 8.00 p.m.

Agenda

- Welcome by Lois Brown, Chairman of the Parish Council.**
- Minutes of the 2008 Annual Parish Meeting.*
- Chairman of the Parish Council's Report.**
- District & County Councillor's Reports:**
Cllrs. Mark Wheeler & Pat Fairbank
- Guests invited to give information and answer questions.** *This year we hope to have with us several people who support our community with particularly valuable & visible services:*
Nicky Bunting (North Yorkshire Area Rights of Way)
PC Jason Perkins (Cross Hills Police)
John Sutcliffe ((Craven District Council Waste & Recycling)
- Playing Field Trust: Playing Field Development Project**
Report of Parish Council's Trust Committee including a new project to develop and improve the playing field.
- Village Institute Trust:**
Report of Parish Council's Trust Committee.
- Reports by other Village Organisations.**
Please feel free to report on your organisation's activities.
- Open discussions, questions and answers.**
This is your meeting and any matter directly concerning the residents of Cononley may be brought up. If you seek detailed information on a specific topic please inform the Clerk to the Parish Council well before the day of the meeting.

It is anticipated that the meeting will finish before 10.00 p.m.

'Persons entitled to attend are those who are registered as Local Government Electors for the Parish'.

Anyone is welcome to observe but only persons who are registered as Local Government Electors for the Parish may take part in, or vote on, any formal business brought to the meeting.

Signed: L. Brown (Chairman of the Parish Council)

Improvements to local footpaths

In a previous newsletter mention was made of the redefinition of the footpath from West Lane, through the Delph, to Stockshott Lane. Not far away, at the other end of Skipton Road, the access to another footpath heading up to Stockshott Lane has been greatly improved with the installation of a rail alongside the steps in the wall. Incidentally, the approach to the top end of this footpath from Stockshott Lane is via the drive of a former farmhouse called Scarcliffé. At the entrance, on Stockshott Lane, there are new locked wooden double gates but the pedestrian route starts through a small gate to the left after which its exit into the fields is way marked.

The most impressive improvement in the last three months is the replacement of broken stiles by small gates on the footpath from Moorfoot Lane to Shady Lane. In fact one of these gates opens up the original route through a wall which had been blocked up for many years. As a consequence of earlier improvements there is now a continuous route across the fields from the River Aire Bridge to Moorfoot Lane and then on to the bottom of Shady Lane. One of the remaining difficulties on this route is that one has almost to scramble over the steep bank of the flood scheme. Although the Environment Agency has so far been unhelpful the Parish Council is looking to see if there is any way in which this part of the footpath can be improved. We are indebted to Nicky Bunting the NYCC Area Rights of Way Officer for arranging all the recent improvements. We are hoping that Nicky will be joining us at the Annual Parish Meeting on 10th March.

Savaging of sheep by walker's dogs.

Most local farmers have now been involved in assisting the footpath improvements. It is therefore sad that this help is occasionally abused. In mid December a sheep was savaged and killed by a dog near the previously mentioned Moorfoot Lane path. The remains of the animal, which I saw, were a sad sight. Worse still there was a strong suspicion that someone had been with the dog at the time of the incident.

David Gulliver



Drystone Radio

Drystone Radio can now be heard in the South Craven area and Skipton on 106.9 fm. Broadcasts are every day all day and include a mixture of live and recorded programmes.

Listen in to Martin Green`s **Dales Live Show** at 12pm lunch time and Sundays, Ben Tierney`s **Haggis for Lunch** during the week. Saturday has a **Live Sports Show** covering local sport from 3pm to 5.30 pm. Late night **theatre and jazz** from 10 pm each week day and a host of other shows. Log on to www.drystoneradio.co.uk for full details.

Also worth listening to is Kevin Reid Griffiths the **Town Crier of Skipton** in the morning from 8 am till 9 am

CONONLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Governors organised a Race Night at the Village Institute on 28th February to raise funds for the new extension and managed to raise a staggering £1,400! Our heartfelt thanks go to all our sponsors and those who so generously supported the event.

Cononley School currently has 4 classrooms and the number of pupils in each class has become larger over the years. A decision had to be made this year to move to 5 classes which made class sizes smaller and greatly benefits both pupils and staff.

We are currently using the school hall as a fifth classroom and, whilst this has enabled us to have the 5 classes, it is a situation that is far from ideal. The new extension will provide the much needed 5th classroom. The building work will also enable us to add a school kitchen which is something that the school does not have at present. School dinners are currently supplied from another North Yorkshire school and arrive in warming ovens. Having our own kitchen will enable us to cook our own dinners on the premises ensuring that fresh and healthy meals can be provided for our children.

Contrary to popular belief, North Yorkshire County Council do not provide the whole of the funding for the building work. However, the Governing Body strongly believe that the new classroom is vital to the success of our village school and its pupils and made the decision to go ahead with the work and to find a way to meet the full cost of the work. By exercising responsible stewardship within budgets and with some fund raising we will be able to achieve this and the children of Cononley will soon be able to enjoy the benefits that the new building will bring.

The plans have been passed and work is due to start on the building on 6th April 2009. The work should be completed in readiness for the start of the autumn term. We apologise in advance to residents in the vicinity of the school for any inconvenience that the building work causes but remain confident that you will appreciate the need for this work.

Everyone is very welcome to come and inspect out new extension once the work is completed and we look forward to welcoming you into your village school.

Ruth Parker

Vice Chair of Governors

Cononley Community Primary School

Festival of Scarecrows

*This year we are celebrating the **Centenary of our Village Institute** and to mark the occasion we have a packed programme of events for 2009. We have already enjoyed a successful Spring Fayre and are now turning our attention to the 'Festival of Scarecrows' which will take place during the first Bank Holiday weekend in May, 2nd - 4th. With your help we would like to step back in time and recreate 'Victorian Cononley' by inviting everyone to make a Victorian themed Scarecrow to display outside their house. Prizes will be awarded for the best Scarecrows. There will also be a chance to win a prize in the Duck Race down the beck. Also on the Bank Holiday Monday at the Institute there will be an opportunity to play Victorian games, shop in a market place of stalls and enjoy some refreshments. Don't worry if you feel you currently lack the skills required to make an award-winning Scarecrow as we will be holding a Scarecrow building workshop before the festival to provide you with some inspiration and some of the core materials. Watch this space for more details and keep a look out for scarecrows in the village.*

Get more involved by contacting either Julian Brown on 01535 637176 or via email julianbrown133@btinternet.com or Simon Percival on 01535 635416 or via email spercival@talktalk.net.

Heroes and Villains!

The theme of **Cononley Gala 2009** is **Heroes and Villains** and we are starting our preparation and planning early this year... therefore we need some real life **Heroes and Villains** to help **save the day** on Gala day.

If you feel you could spare an hour or even half an hour on Gala day to man a stall, serve in the Tea Room or help with the set-up or tidy-up please contact either **Lois Brown (637176)** or **Richard Mansell (637526)**.

Go on... be a Superhero!

Are you the next **Alan Titchmarsh**?

Do your **painting** and **DIY skills** put **Handy Andy** to shame?

Or are you a dab hand with a **broom**?

If you answered **yes** to any of the above, **your village needs you!**

On both **Saturday, 25th** and **Sunday, 26th April** between **9am – 12 noon** the Playing Fields Committee is holding a **Spring Park Tidy Up**.

Therefore we are inviting anyone and everyone to come down to the Playing Fields on those days and help out in any way they can, whether it be painting, varnishing, weeding, digging or even making cups of tea!

Any time you can give, no matter how small, would be very much appreciated.

As most of you already know, Saturday 28 February was the last day on the milk round for us. We would like to thank everyone for their custom over the 35 years we have had the round and also 35 years before that when my father and grandfather before him had the round. One customer has had milk from my family for almost 65 years and several for over 50 years. Over the years just about every member of the family spanning 5 generations has been called in to help. It is you the customers who have made this round so special and enjoyable!

On Monday 2nd March, Angela Leeming will take over. She will have all the same milk including organic, orange juice, free range eggs, cream and yoghurts. Delivery service will be 6 days a week. Angela can be contacted on 631548.

We hope that you will continue your support, otherwise another village service could be lost.

Thank you all –

Mary and Maurice Drake

**Cononley Village Playing Field Committee
is looking for
YOUNG PEOPLE!**

Between the ages of 13 and 18 years to help with publicity. This could be just up your street if you're....

Doing Duke of Edinburgh
Studying marketing / journalism / media
Keen to volunteer in the community

This year we're busy raising funds for new play equipment, as well as planning a football tournament and organising the annual summer Gala.

By helping us out, you'll gain some great experience as well as having your say in the future of Cononley park!

Please contact Kath Clark if you think you can help – tel. 01535 637337

Cononley Sports Club



*Secretary: Mr D Mason
Weaste Green Farm House
Moorside
Cononley
Keighley
BD20 8ED*

President: Mr B Nelson

*Chairman: Mr D Bell
Norbreck House
Baxterwood
Cross Hills
BD20 8BB*

*Treasurer: Mr M Watson
8, Skipton Road
Cononley
BD20 8NH*

Junior football

The sports club committee are pleased to support our very first junior football team, this under 7's team play on the park ground on a Sunday morning by kind permission of the playing fields committee. Anyone interested in playing or helping should contact Dale Mason on 0783738004

Junior Cricket

This coming cricket season we are also running an under 17's cricket team, these games will be played on a Monday evening during the spring / summer on the sports club cricket field. Anyone wishing to play or help should contact James Wade on 07767887444

Weed control

During the early spring and through the summer, work will be carried out to control the spread of nettles and brambles around the football field, the car park and the track down to the club, this control will be done by spraying weed killer in these areas.

Please do not exercise your dog or allow your children to play on the Sports Club land.

Function Room

The Sports Clubs function Room is available for private hire for parties / meetings etc The room holds around 70 /80 people and includes the games room, kitchen and bar.

*To enquire about the hire of the room or request a viewing please contact Don Bell
01535 635197*

Cononley Village Newsletter is financed by Cononley Parish Council. The views expressed in the newsletter are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the Parish Council. Any contributions for June 2009 edition should be submitted by 26 May 2009 to: Sue Whitehead. Prospect House, Crosshills Road, Cononley BD20 8JZ. Tel 01535 633150 or email susan.whitehead@talktalk.net