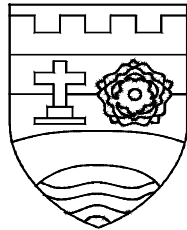


# Croston Parish Council Newsletter



September 2019

## Meadow Lane Bridge

Following suggestions raised at the public meeting in June, Network Rail has looked into the possibility of cladding the bridge in the same manner as a similar bridge in Brinkworth, Wiltshire. Network Rail has advised that, in comparison, Meadow Lane bridge's span is bowed while Brinkworth's has a straight profile and retrofitting cladding on a rounded span is much more difficult than if the sides were flat. It would also mean drilling holes into the safety barriers behind the bowed span which would invalidate the bridge's warranty and would compromise its safety.

The cladding could turn into shrapnel if vehicles hit the side of the bridge which could potentially cause harm to pedestrians or other road users and, for these reasons, Network Rail cannot pursue this option.



The bridge at Brinkworth following the cladding

To allow the structure to better blend with its surroundings, Network Rail has offered options of either painting the bridge parapets or fitting mesh barriers on the approaches to the bridge.

Following the success of local action groups such as the Flood Action Group and Croston Together in obtaining successful conclusions to local issues, Parish Councillor Kath Almond is leading an action group to try to reach some sort of acceptable conclusion in the case of the bridge and residents are invited to join the group.

If you are interested, contact Kath on 01772 600368

# Chairman's Message

Sadly during the summer weeks there have been many reports of vandalism and anti-social behaviour by a small group of young people. The police have responded and dealt with individuals when reported to them. If you see or are made aware of any such incidents it is important that you call 101 and report it as the police can only deal incidence they are made aware of. We should also remember that this very small group is NOT representative of our younger residents.

On a more positive note, the newly refurbished Recreation Park has been a huge success. Neville Norcross and his team must be congratulated on their achievement. The park is now a place for fun and relaxation for all. At the end of July the natural play area was dedicated to the memory of Mary Driver who, as a member of the team was instrumental in ensuring that this area was part of the new park.



Tim Blythe and his volunteers working on the Croft Field must also be thanked for their work to refurbish the nature Reserve and the arboretum. New footpaths, a ring of standing stones and an amazing Gruffalo carved from stone are just some of the works and improvements which have been undertaken. As a village we are so lucky to have such open spaces.

After a break the Parish Council meets on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the hall at Croston Old School.

*Anne Peet*

## Friends of Ecclestone Library

The recently formed Friends of Ecclestone Library has had an excellent start with the first event, a book sale and coffee morning raising £167.20.

Forthcoming events include a Coffee Morning on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September (10:0 - 12:30) in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Support. On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October (10:00 - 2:00) a Fun Palace will be held with interesting and hands-on activities for youngsters.

In November it is planned to have a wildlife event and a special event in December for the festive season. All activities will be at the Library.

To obtain further information about the Friends and their events please ask at the Library.

Or contact the Secretary at [friends.ecclestone.library@gmail.com](mailto:friends.ecclestone.library@gmail.com)

## Computer Problems? Slow Broadband?

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  - Video to DVD transfers
- \* speed increase depends on home phone line set up and router configuration



Contact Technohow:

Ansaphone: 01704 822874 Mobile: 07777 631689

Email: [neil@technohow.co.uk](mailto:neil@technohow.co.uk)

Website: [www.technohow.co.uk](http://www.technohow.co.uk)

## Remembrance Sunday

Subject to approval for road closures, this year's Parade should take place on Sunday 10 November. Please look out for information on the Parish Council's notice boards and social media nearer the time.



The Parade will leave Croston Old School at 1:00pm and walk along Town Road to the War Memorial for a short service. There will then be Service of Remembrance at 1:30pm at St Michaels and All Angels Church. Following the Service everyone is invited back to The Old School for refreshments.

If you can spare time between 28 October and 11 November for door-to-door collecting, or you have a business and would be willing to have a poppy tray and collection box please contact Alan Platt, the Poppy Appeal Organiser for the Croston District, on 01257 234003 or via email at [crostonpc@btinternet.com](mailto:crostonpc@btinternet.com)

# CROSTON IN BLOOM

## Judging Day

This year's judging day for the RHS Northwest in Bloom competition was on Tuesday 16 July. Judges Bill Blackledge and Jim Leek toured the village visiting Croston Sports Club, Croston Station and Croston Recreation Park before taking a stroll from the Village green through to the Croft Field.



For Jim it was his first visit to Croston whilst Bill was last here 5 years ago. They were both very impressed by the work of all the different volunteer groups across the village and seemed genuinely astonished at the standard and the diversity of all the projects they visited.



Whilst we will not know the results until the beginning of November we have been assured by the judges that we have done very well! Fingers are crossed!

## Sponsors

We would like to thank the following local businesses who have sponsored our projects:

- G McGavock Limited, Back Drinkhouse Lane, Croston
- John McDougal Electrical Services, Ltd, Drinkhouse Road
- Hair 21, Town Road, Croston
- Feather & Twig, Town Road, Croston
- Nicholson Solicitors, Town Road, Croston
- Quantills Ltd, Lathom, Ormskirk

## Doorstep Challenge 2019

We toured the village in the week before Coffee Day looking for the best doorsteps to judge in this year's competition. There were many beautiful displays and choosing a winner for the Residential Category was very difficult but after much debate we awarded 1st prize to Mr Reader on Moor Road.



We also awarded Gold Medal certificates to all houses who had reached the final round.



Croston Parish Council accepts no responsibility for items provided by third party contributors.

In the Commercial Category the winner was 'Favourites' on Town Road where owner Fiona was commended for her efforts despite have no access to water in her shop!



Gold Certificates were also awarded to Croston Sports Club, The Grapes, The Wheatsheaf and Marie B Evans.



We would also like to thank Croston Together who worked with shops and businesses to encourage the use of planters by providing perennial plants for year long interest.



Another highlight of this year has been 'Mr McGregor's Garden' lovingly re-created by the ladies 'Croston Knit-Wits' on the Village Green

Thank you Ladies!



of

Although judging is over for this year our work still continues.

We will be filling the planter reservoirs every Monday at 7.00pm so that the flowers continue to flourish until autumn .

We are continuing our project on the Out Lane car park and will be planting fruit trees in the autumn to create a community orchard as well as continuing to improve the shrubbery and improve the general appearance of the site.



We will be working with the Parish Council to improve the 'Croston Together' garden on the village and create a more permanent garden .

We would like to thank everyone who has supported our work this summer - offering tea/coffee to our volunteers, donating plants, putting up hanging baskets etc, giving words of encouragement, saying 'thank you' - it all helps !

If you would like to join us, email: [crostoninbloom@gmail.com](mailto:crostoninbloom@gmail.com)

Croston Parish Council does not endorse or recommend any of the advertisers contained in this publication.

# Croston Recreation Park

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018, the 'pop up garden' featured in Croston Open Gardens. This enabled Croston Together to share their ambitious plans for the future development of the Recreation Ground. At this stage they had applied for funding from several sources but hadn't yet been successful in securing any funds.



Fast forward 12 months to Croston Open Gardens 2019 and on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, the Potting Shed's work was complete. After just 6 months on the Rec, the site was transformed into Croston Recreation Park with picnic benches, mounds, a new natural play area, outdoor gym, a 5 a side football pitch, landscaping and a new drainage scheme. The transformation of this boggy site was something to shout about and Gez Clark, a local Town Crier, was on hand to ensure everybody knew about the grand re-opening.



During the opening ceremony Mr and Mrs Ellison, and two young children from Trinity and St. Michael's cut the ribbon symbolising the re-opening and signifying how the Rec is now a space for all ages to use.



The Rec is now a fantastic community asset, enjoyed by families, individuals and community groups alike from within the village and surrounding areas.

Croston Together's work does not stop here and if you would like to get involved with future developments on the Park, please contact us on our facebook page 'Croston Together' or email [wearecrostontgether@gmail.com](mailto:wearecrostontgether@gmail.com)



Our aim is to maintain the Park to a high standard and make sure that it becomes a central focus for many village activities.

This transformation was made possible and funded by Croston Parish Council, Lancashire Environmental Fund, Postcode Lottery, Awards for All, Co-op, Croston Together and donations from numerous members of the village.



**NATIONAL  
LOTTERY FUNDED**

Thank you to all.

*Hannah Rooke  
(Croston Together)*



**LANCASHIRE  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
FUND**



# Have your say on your roads

You can have your say on your roads and transport locally by completing a short survey. As part of a new campaign to promote the work of their highways



service, Lancashire County Council is encouraging people to complete the National Highways and Transport (NHT) survey, which measures public satisfaction with services across different local authorities.

The campaign will also focus on their work fixing around 40,000 potholes a year, and ask people to report potholes on their website. This year, the council will spend £24m to maintain Lancashire's 4,600 miles of highways and 5,300 miles of footways. Continued investment has improved the condition of the county's roads, and helped to reduce the number of potholes by 38% in the last two years.

Find out more about how Lancashire's roads are improving and complete the survey at [lancashire.gov.uk/roads](http://lancashire.gov.uk/roads)

## Mawdesley, Bretherton, Croston Churches Together In Celebration

Sunday 20th October

At 10 30am

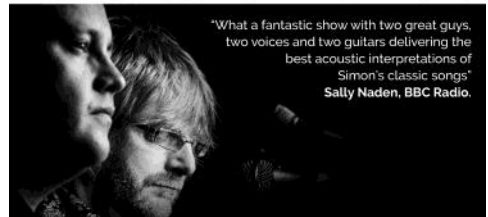
In Bretherton Congregational  
Church

Collection for Topical Appeal  
Everyone welcome

Refreshments  
to follow



## 2019 DATE A CELEBRATION OF **SIMON & GARFUNKEL** AS HEARD ON BBC RADIO



"What a fantastic show with two great guys,  
two voices and two guitars delivering the  
best acoustic interpretations of  
Simon's classic songs"  
Sally Naden, BBC Radio.

PERFORMED LIVE BY TIM CHU & IAN BAILEY

## SAVE THE DATE

Friday 11th October

Croston Old School  
Church Street • Croston • PR26 9HA

[www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg](http://www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg)

The hall was bought by the villagers after World War I as a meeting/social place for veterans and the village, later run by the Royal British Legion members, then taken over by the Over 60's and about 10yrs ago a group of volunteers took it over.

Over the years it's seen weddings, social events, jumble sales (who remembers them?), over 60's, pre-school & much more.

Today it is a meeting place for the Over 60's, Scouts (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers) Tots, Dance classes, Jujitsu, Table-Tennis, Pop Up - Café, Family Bingo, Annual Produce and Craft show, Christmas Fair, Lego sessions, and private Birthday parties.

We are always looking to expand on the range of events that we can put on.

The centre has a fantastic hall with a stage, a modern kitchen well stocked with crockery, glassware and cutlery, with extra seating area (which is available for hire separately - ideal for meetings etc)

A recent addition has been WiFi.

Our future aims are to install a separate disabled toilet facility, a new store room along with doors out onto the great garden area, which at present, has limited access so isn't used to full potential!

The centre is run solely by volunteers at present 5 of us! This is where you could come in??? We are looking for 'fresh and innovative ideas' along with new volunteers to help run your Community Centre.

Disabled access is available, via the Courtyard.

If you feel that you can give some time to us please contact -

Susan 01772 601321 or  
John 01772 601216



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## Councillor Vacancy

Interested in joining the Parish Council and serving your village?

We still have a vacancy which the Council will fill by co-option.

To qualify, you must be a British subject, aged over 18 years old and an elector, and must reside in, or within 3 miles of, the Croston Parish boundary or occupy as owner or tenant any land or premises therein, or have your principal place of work there.

For details of how to apply or, if you require further information on what is involved, please contact the Clerk to the Council: Alan Platt on 01257 234003 or email: [crostonpc@btinternet.com](mailto:crostonpc@btinternet.com)



**Artisan Market**

Free Admission

**Croston Old School**  
Church Street, Croston.

**Saturday 19 October**  
11.00 am - 4.00pm  
Serving Light Refreshments

To book at stall email:  
[crostonoldschool@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:crostonoldschool@tiscali.co.uk)

Support Local Artisans

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Croston Old School, Church Street, Croston 01772 603600  
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**heritage open days**

### HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2019

An exhibition commemorating 75 years since the start of WWI, will be held in the Old School, Church Street on Saturday and Sunday, September 14th & 15th from 1pm to 5pm. Also on display will be information regarding the large number of listed properties and monuments within the village, 43 at the last count, together with photographs.

Entry is free, and refreshments are available.

**Croston WI  
&  
Murder Incorporated Ltd  
present**

**‘The Final Curtain’  
a 1920’s Murder Mystery  
& Dinner evening**

**at**

**Croston Sports Club on  
Friday 4th October 7:00 pm  
(doors open 6:30pm)**

**Delicious two course meal  
included**

**Tables bookable.**

**Tickets only £15 available from  
0781 772 3015 or any  
Croston WI Committee Member**



# Croston Pre-School Nursery

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**All staff qualified to Level 3 or higher -**

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Croston Old School, Church St, Croston

Tel: 01772 601241

Email: [crostonpre-school@fiscali.co.uk](mailto:crostonpre-school@fiscali.co.uk)

[www.crostonpreschool.org](http://www.crostonpreschool.org)

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Visit our website

**[www.clearcareltd.co.uk](http://www.clearcareltd.co.uk)**

We are regulated by the Care Quality Commission

Croston has had some recent criminal damage that the Police are taking very seriously and are investigating. Three of the Church windows were broken, the newly carved Gruffalo feature on the Croft and sports equipment at the Sports Club were damaged. Names for all the offenders have been passed on to the Police. Please be vigilant and report anything suspicious to 101.



**Lancashire  
Constabulary**

police and communities together

It's time for another reminder to make sure you lock and secure your doors and cars overnight. In recent months we had a huge increase in burglaries and thefts from homes and cars. Your insurance is invalidated if you leave items insecure or doors unlocked, plus you are making it easy for criminals to target you.

*PCSO 7932 Maria Fetherstone*

**Tots Group....** Thursday's Tots are adding Tuesday (Tuesday's from 10th September) to their meeting mornings. We look forwards to seeing friends 'old' and 'new'.

We meet from 9:00 - 11:30am in the Community Centre on Castle Walks in a warm & safe environment. Toddlers & babies welcome but please bring an adult with you from mum/dad/childminders/grandparents/carers.

Activities provided, also refreshments. Cost £2.00

It's a great opportunity to meet up and have a chat and make new friends.

## Local Clubs and Organisations

As you will see elsewhere in this issue, the Parish Council is happy to include articles and notices of local events in the newsletter free of charge (subject to availability of space).

If you have an event or want to publicise your organisation in the quarterly newsletter (March, June, September and December) please contact the Clerk, Alan Platt (details overleaf).

Eccleston Office 01257 451 673  
Coppull Office 01257 794 588



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# Contact Details

Councillors	Tel
Anne Peet (Chairman)	600012
Kath Almond	600368
Mark Cowley	07545 976151
Peter Fenemore	600572
Keith Iddon	07787 005663
Sam Myers	07966 674392
Bruno Paillusson	603427
Gill Stubbs	07905 452160
Vacancy	

**Alan Platt** (Clerk to the Council)  
can be contacted at:

**9 Ambleside Avenue  
Euxton  
Chorley  
PR7 6NX**

**Tel: 01257 234003**

**e-mail:  
crostonpc@btinternet.com**

**website:**

**[www.crostonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.crostonparishcouncil.org.uk)**

Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except August), commencing at 7:30pm, in The Old School, Church Street, Croston. Details of the meetings are placed in the notice boards prior to the meetings.

Residents are always welcome to attend and part of each meeting is set aside specifically for residents to air their views on local issues.

# Useful Telephone Numbers

Police (non-emergency): 101

Coppull Police Station  
01257 246103

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Lancashire County Council  
(roads and pavements, including street lighting): 0300 123 6780

County Councillor  
Keith Iddon 07787 005663

Chorley Borough Council  
01257 515151

Borough Councillors  
John Dalton 01772 622597  
Paul Sloan 01257 515151

British Transport Police (Station and car park): 0800 405040

National Grid (gas leaks)  
0800 111999

United Utilities (Water)  
Leakline 0800 330033

Environment Agency Floodline  
0845 988 1188

## Notice boards

Keep up to date with Parish Council activities and details of meetings etc. The notice boards are located on the Village Green, outside the Co-op and by the Surgery on Brookfield.

Local non-for-profit organisations wishing to include A4 sized posters to publicise events etc should contact the Clerk.