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# WARLEY LANTERN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WARLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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ISSUE 25

## Community Projects & Activities

### Paradise Lane - Now for the good news!

In the last edition of the Lantern our feature article highlighted the poor state of repair of the lower part of Paradise Lane from Dark Lane up to the main school entrance. We are delighted to report that since then, we have made great progress towards finding a long term solution to this problem.

Plans are now well advanced to have that section levelled and resurfaced, including protecting the foundations of the adjoining wall which have been further eroded over the summer by a couple of torrential downpours. The new surface will be finished in tarmac interspersed with strings of stone setts to provide a finish suitable for Prams and disabled access whilst introducing a heritage 'feel' to complement the adjoining cobbled Dark Lane. A traditional cast iron bollard will replace the existing concrete bollards which currently prevent through traffic from using the lane whilst still retaining vehicular access to the school and allotments.

The work will be jointly funded by the Council, Warley Trust and the Community Association (the latter using monies raised at Association events, donations and the sale of calendars) and is expected to be completed over the next few months.

### Have we reached a watershed?

As we publish our milestone 25th edition of the Warley Lantern, we reflect on where we have come as a Community Association in the six years since it was formed. With events like the Country Show, activities such as our thriving History Group and projects to improve our unique village, it is quite surprising to realise how much has happened in that time and how much this has changed how we think about our community. Most people tell us that this is all generally for the better although, of course, everyone also wants to see much more being done.

Despite the successes and the odd disappointment, one thing we have always struggled with is to attract enough volunteers to lead the wide range of activities and projects that people are so enthusiastic about. So much so, that with a number of committee members not seeking re-election this year, a sub group has started looking at what can be achieved with what may turn out to be a much smaller committee than we have enjoyed in the past. They report:- "Current thinking is to look at how the Association's activities can be reduced to enable it to continue. It may be necessary to not produce a Warley Lantern at the regular intervals we have become accustomed to and there may not be the expertise to maintain the website and blog. We consider that it will still be possible to organise some social events and one or two other activities subject to the availability of volunteers from time to time but certainly not with the breadth and diversity that has been the case over the last few years"

We are already seeing signs of a decline in our ambitions and in 2014 we had to reluctantly accept that we did not have the resources to organise a major summer event or to develop a village plan of improvement projects as was our stated intention at last year's AGM. In addition, of course, we also always need Officers to lead the Association itself if it is to continue as a constitutional entity. As many will recall, the Association was only formally established in the first place to allow the community to take advantage of funding opportunities, the first of which resulted in the successful restoration of the lantern and fountain in the centre of the village and the latest of which is reported on in Page 2 of this edition.

However, it's never too late to re-ignite the Association, so if you are interested in helping to do just that, then please either stand for election at the AGM (the details and date are in the notice on Page 4), or contact our Chairman on 07786 967184 for an informal chat without commitment

### The Warley Trust - Notice

Applications for assistance from the above trust are invited from inhabitants of Warley and District, (including Mount Tabor and Wainstalls), for grants for the general benefit of the community.

Applications should be submitted in writing to Debra Barton of Ramsdens Solicitors, 6-8 Harrison Road, Halifax, HX1 2AQ before 21st November next for consideration at the Trustees meeting to be held on the 28th November 2014

**Watch Out - There's a Thief About!** Don't be afraid to report suspicious behaviour—it could prevent a crime. **Just dial 101**

### And maybe there's even more around the corner?

People have often been concerned by the apparent lack of respect from the council and utility companies when it comes to maintaining the heritage aspects of the village. Many feel that this is in stark contrast to their own efforts in diligently following the rules and obligations imposed by our conservation status when improving and maintaining their own properties.

A good example is the beautifully cobbled Dark Lane which was dug up some years ago and 'temporarily' patched with tarmac. Our former councillor Jennifer Pearson got a commitment from the council to restore this area but sadly they never fulfilled that obligation. We are pleased to report, however, that recent renewed pressure from her successor, Councillor Baker has secured the following commitment from the Highways department: "This Authority is fully committed to preserving heritage materials wherever possible and the maintenance work you refer to will be considered for works next financial year 2015/16 along with other similar works".

We will hold the Council to this promise, trust that this will result in Dark Lane being pushed up the priority list and use these positive statements to renew our efforts to campaign for further improvements.

### The Hills are alive....

**...with the sound of music!** What a summer we've had, although the heavens did open for once on the day of the village summer dance, a 1940's themed night accompanied by the fantastic Calderdale Big Band. Over 120 revellers enjoyed a great night dancing and dining on the best war time fodder that rationing would allow! Thankfully the rain held off all evening to the enormous relief of those in the packed marquee plugged onto the side of the Vandals clubhouse! The event is sure to be repeated in 2015, so don't miss out!

**...with songs they have sung!** Kevin and Sharon have wasted no time in introducing live music since taking over at the Winterburn this summer. Over the last couple of months they have held 2 acoustic nights, the latest featuring The Everley Drinkers, a spin off from the ever popular local band, Belt of the Celts. Keep your eyes peeled for future great (and free!) nights out down at your buzzing Local

# From the Archives

## An M62 of long-ago

Over the years, locals and visitors alike have walked along Newlands Road and will have paused to admire the delightful view of the Pennine hills spread out before them. In the far distance one can sometimes see the tiny sparkle of vehicle roofs catching the sun as they speed on their way across the M62. But how many people know that where they are standing - right there on Newlands Road - was the equivalent of the M62 over a thousand years ago?

Traders, moving between Europe and Ireland have passed through Warley for centuries. Not that they wanted to call into Warley Town itself... far from it. They wanted to keep to the higher ground where it was firm and safe for their packhorses. The ancient route across the Pennines can be easily traced from Halifax to Highroad Well, Newlands, Luddenden, Midgley and beyond. Look on a map and you will see it's almost a straight line. It makes an interesting walk and we can imagine the packhorse trains struggling up Roils Head Road or the monks from Whalley Abbey in Lancashire driving their sheep back home down Abbey Lane to Luddenden.

There are interesting houses along this ancient route and we have covered many of these before. Here we highlight some previously unexplored, ones. First though, how many of us know where the milestone in this picture is?



Although its carved letters are barely legible now it indicates the main route from Halifax to the West, via Luddenden. So old - and yet, with cars passing only inches from it - so vulnerable!

Facing this stone on the packhorse trail is Well Royd - a building mentioned in 'The Warley Story', CH Tordoff's book of 1979 (Yes, we are at the top of Stock Lane!). Tordoff writes: "The earliest mention of Well Royd is in the Greave List for 1624 when it was known then as 'Hill Top'. It was rebuilt in 1813 and up to the rebuilding, part of the farm consisted of three thatched cottages, long since demolished, that were probably the last thatched roofs in the township".

In further evidence of ancient settlements on the packhorse route Tordoff writes of Roiles Head: "The Wakefield Court Rolls for 1306 record a William de Roildesete who was charged with stealing an ox and was hanged" and quoting the Greave List of 1624 he notes "Henry Greenwood paid 1s. 8d for a messuage on Royles Head and Richard Cromblebroke paid 4s. 2d. for a messuage and cottage there". The high ground of Roiles Head has clearly been a popular place for many centuries.

However, buildings aside, it is fascinating to imagine the exchange of trade which this important packhorse route brought to the area so long ago, perhaps unusual objects or foods? Different languages may have been heard, wealth would undoubtedly have been created. All factors which perhaps laid the foundation in later years for the entrepreneurial zeal of our Victorian forefathers. Next time you look across to the busy M62, think of the original route (and be thankful that it's now over there!)

## Ceilidh success

Following on from the hugely popular 1940s summer dance, the Community Association decided to carry on with the dance theme and, in conjunction with Warley St John's, organised a Ceilidh on Saturday October 11th. Over 50 enjoyed a fun packed evening jiggling around to the Rob Thorn Band and in the process raised over £100 for community projects

## What's On?

Mon 27th October	WCA Committee Meeting - 7pm Followed by History Group at 8pm - Maypole Inn
Sun 9th November	Outdoor Remembrance Service 10.15am - Maypole
Sat 15th November	St John's Autumn Fayre - 11am-2pm St John's Sunday School
Mon 24th November	WCA Annual General Meeting 7pm - Maypole Inn
Sat 6th December	Christmas themed Table Top Sale 10.30-1pm - St John's Sunday School
Sat 6th December	Warley Victorian Christmas - 1.30pm - Warley Town School
Wed 24th December	Friendly Brass and Carols - congregate from 11pm-Maypole

### Warley St John's - Services up to Christmas

Sunday services will be, as usual, Said Holy Communion at 9am and All Age Family Service at 10.15am every week. Thursday 30th October, 'Shine a Light', an alternative event for children aged 5 to 11, 9am-1pm - contact Angela Ashton on 353539. Sunday 21st December at 10.15am, Uniformed Organisations Christmas Carol Service. Wednesday 24th December at 6.30pm, Christmas Eve Family Carol Service. Christmas Day—9am Said Holy Communion, 10.15am All Age Family Communion

## Calendar now on sale!

The 2015 Warley calendar is now on sale. Same price as last year at just £5, with all profits being re-invested back into our community. Order by phone (833824) or pick one up in the Winterburn where the bar staff are in competition to achieve the most sales!

**2015 WARLEY CALENDAR** **OUT NOW**

2015 Warley in all its glory

The 2015 edition a great gift for any occasion

**STILL ONLY £5**

To get your copy call **01422 833824**  
or email [mail@warleyca.co.uk](mailto:mail@warleyca.co.uk)

Hand delivered for free within 2 miles of Warley or £1.50 p&p by post.

Warley Community Association [www.warleyca.co.uk](http://www.warleyca.co.uk)

## Warley Community Association - Notice of AGM

Notice is hereby given that the 6th Annual General Meeting of the Association will take place in the Maypole Inn, Warley at 7pm on Monday 24th November 2014. Everyone welcome.

There are vacancies for committee members along with the Officer Positions of Chairperson and Secretary. Applications are invited from all residents of Warley and its environs. For further information or to apply, please contact the Association's Secretary on 01422 833036 or via email at [mail@warleyca.co.uk](mailto:mail@warleyca.co.uk)

## Remembrance Sunday

For the second year running there will be an outdoor service on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 10 15am in front of the Maypole in Warley village. Including reading of the role of honour of those from the parish who gave their lives in the two World Wars, there will then be a procession to St John's, lead by the Uniformed Organisations, to lay poppy wreaths at the War memorial in the church followed by refreshments

## From under t'lantern

**Seth:** "I bought some of that new fangled rocket salad

**Fred:** " were it all reight?"

**Seth:** "I don't know, it went off before I could eat it!"

**Contact us:** [mail@warleyca.co.uk](mailto:mail@warleyca.co.uk) or: 01422 833036

Totally Independent: The Warley Community Association is run for and by the residents of Warley and is not affiliated to, nor in any way controlled or influenced by any other group, society or organisation

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

