

# BURSCOUGH

PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2013 / ISSUE 31

*Burscough Parish Councillors  
and staff wish all residents  
a Happy Christmas and a  
Prosperous New Year!*



## inside

Christmas In Burscough 2013 -  
Calling All Shops In Burscough  
Fed Up With Potholes in  
The Road?

WLBC Spruce Up War Memorials  
Parachute Jump for Alfie  
Lund Fund

Keeping Pavements Clear of  
Snow and Ice

Organic Veg Club to Get  
Communities Growing Together  
Images of Burscough Old  
and New

Burscough Heritage Group  
Appeal for Local Artefacts

Canal Boat Restoration

Remembrance Day Ceremony at  
HMS Ringtail

Fun Mornings for Primary  
Children at St John the Baptist  
Church

Burscough Methodist Church  
Players Pantomime 2014  
and much more...

## Burscough Parish Council

Martland Mill, Mart Lane

Burscough, Lancashire L40 0SD

Telephone: 01704 894914

[burscoughparishcouncil.co.uk](http://burscoughparishcouncil.co.uk)

## WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL MASTERPLAN FOR YEW TREE FARM SITE

Following the adoption of the new Local Plan, West Lancashire Borough Council has started to prepare the Yew Tree Farm Masterplan in partnership with the local community. In a recent press release WLBC explained that the masterplan is intended to act as a guide for developers as to how the site will be brought forward to create a well-planned and vibrant development that will contribute to the Burscough community and economy. More information can be found on the WLBC website [www.westlancs.gov.uk/YTF](http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/YTF)

To help shape the masterplan, WLBC has set up a stakeholder group involving some local residents, businesses, landowners, infrastructure providers, ward and parish councillors and other organisations including the West Lancashire Council for Voluntary Service and the Environment Agency. The stakeholder group will help guide the preparation of the masterplan and give feedback at every step of the process. In addition, WLBC will be carrying out two stages of formal consultation, when local people will be invited to give their views. These are likely to take place in early spring and summer 2014 and each will last for six weeks.

The plan will identify where housing and employment development should go, along with drainage, highways improvements, open space and education provision. All these should, if required, be delivered along with the site to ensure that the final development becomes a sustainable part of Burscough. The masterplan will be developed over the next six to twelve months and will eventually be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document which will form part of the planning decision-making framework.

WLBC will post regular updates on their website and will publicise details of the consultation events in due course.



Yewtree Farm

# Christmas Window Competition - Calling All Shops In Burscough

Are you helping to brighten up Burscough for the festive season with an extra-special Christmas window display?

If so you could be the winner of a prize of £100 and a trophy being offered by the Parish Council for the best shop window display in Burscough for Christmas 2013. The competition was won last year by Profile Hair Studio, who very generously donated their prize to The Alfie Lund Fund ([www.thealfielundfund.co.uk](http://www.thealfielundfund.co.uk)).



3rd Burscough Brownies and Guides

The Judges this year will be the 3rd Burscough Brownies & Guides who make the final decision. Judging will take place during the week prior to Christmas. You do not have to do anything to enter the competition: just decorate your windows!

For further information, please call the Parish Council office on 01704 894914.

*The decision of the judges is final. The prize for the best shop window display will be £100 cash and a shield which the winner may display for one year, after which it must be returned to the Parish Council for the next year's competition. The shield will be engraved with the name of each year's winner.*

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## CANNABIS FACTORY SHUT DOWN BY POLICE

Police Constable Iann Skillander, in conjunction with intelligence led policing, recently closed down a cannabis factory on the Ringtail industrial estate. The cannabis found had an estimated £20,000 street value. Two males were arrested in connection with intent to supply controlled drugs and they are currently under investigation pending forensic analysis.

## Management of Highway Advertising Banners

Have you noticed that many of the banners and signs along the A59 have disappeared?

Although some businesses do continue to flout the law, we would like to thank all those who are now respecting the rules. Please remember, there is no automatic right to display banners or posters on highway property and if you display signs on the highway without permission, they are likely to be removed without notice by Lancashire County Council and in some cases prosecutions can follow.

That doesn't mean that there can be no advertising banners on the highway; as with all things to do with local government there are rules and there is a procedure to follow. Some banners or signs are permitted, such as those advertising community events, but remember, you must get permission first or you risk your sign being removed.

For more information email [highways@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@lancashire.gov.uk) or call the Parish Council office on 01704 894914.

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## FED UP WITH POTHOLES IN YOUR ROAD?



There seem to be more potholes than ever on Burscough's roads, and they can be made worse by frosty weather. Potholes are not only very unsightly but also represent a considerable safety hazards for all road users. Did you know that it's quick and easy to report potholes in the road and other highway faults using Lancashire County Council's online fault reporting form at <http://bitly.com/IUDlof>.

Alternatively, you may call Lancashire Highways Customer Services Centre on Tel: 0845 053 0011 about potholes and all highway maintenance issues.

# WLBC Spruce Up War Memorials

Local war memorials were spruced up by West Lancashire Borough Council ahead of Remembrance Sunday services on 10th November.

The Council has carried out works on memorials it is responsible for including the one in Burscough. The project has involved repairing any damaged stone, re-pointing the memorials, cleaning the stonework. Letters and inscriptions have also been repainted and repaired. Looking ahead to 2014, the Council wants to work with other organisations responsible for memorials to ensure the monuments are in the best possible condition for the year that will mark the 100th anniversary of the start of World War One.

Councillor Martin Forshaw, portfolio holder for Planning and Development, said: *“Organisations that have responsibility for looking after war memorials may be eligible for a grant to carry out necessary works on the memorials. I would encourage groups to contact the Council and see if we can help them ensure their memorial looks its best for the poignant events of next year.”*

**If any owners of war memorials want to discuss undertaking works and the possibility of receiving a grant please contact Ian Bond, Heritage and Environment Manager, on 01695 585167.**

## Work starts on new Booth's store



*Artist's Impression of proposed new Booth's Store*

Work has started on the long awaited Ringtail Retail Park which is located off the A59, Pippin Street Burscough. The work will include major road improvements to a very busy junction in the form of a new roundabout that will also serve as the entrance to the new retail park. The park has been named after its location on the site of the former Royal Naval air station Burscough.

A new Booth's store is being built on the site, and it is believed that the store may have been designed to resemble a WW2 hangar as can be seen in the artist's impression. There are plans also to recognise the history of the location with links to HMS Ringtail. The HMS Ringtail monument will have to be moved a short distance to accommodate a new access road, but this will be done in a sensitive way and discussions are on-going about this.

The Booths store is phase 1 of the project with other retail units to follow.

## PARACHUTE JUMP RAISES £4856 FOR ALFIE LUND FUND

A parachute jump took place on 8th June 2013 to raise money for The Alfie Lund Fund. The jump was organised by Julie Woods. The venue was the Black Knights Parachute Centre in Cumbria, and the following people jumped on the day: Michael Thompson, Paul Shepherd, Rebecca Williams, Nicola Smith, Geoff Carl and Lee Stinchcombe, Stephen Tabarn, Jonathan Doherty, Scott Moorcroft, Brian Owens and Gary Frost. Between them, they raised an amazing £4856 for Alfie's fund!

Alfie suffers from a rare chromosome disorder called MECP2 Duplication syndrome; he is one of only a handful of children in the UK with this disorder. Julie explained that the aim of the jump was not only to raise money for the fund, but also to increase awareness of this rare condition.

[www.thealfielundfund.co.uk](http://www.thealfielundfund.co.uk)



*Tony Marland*



*Michael Thompson, Gary Frost, Paul Shepherd*



*Geoff, Carl and Lee Stinchcombe and Jonathan Docherty*



*Rebecca Williams*

*Photographs courtesy of Michael Dawson.*

# Keeping Pavements Clear of Snow and Ice



Burscough in the Snow.

## Some tips for clearing snow and ice

- When shovelling snow, take care not to block other people's paths or drains.
- Clear a path down the middle of the area first so you can walk easily and move snow from the centre of the path to the sides.
- Start early – it's easier to move fresh snow than hard snow that has been packed together by people walking on it.
- Use grit sparingly - sprinkle grit on the area needed to give a fine coating. About one tablespoon is enough for one square metre of ice.

In severe weather conditions LCC will continue to treat priority footways which lead to main employment areas, hospitals and those that provide access to public transport interchanges, although not all bus routes are treated.

For up to date information about winter services including gritting and road closures visit [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk) and type 'Winter' in the search box.

## CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE - PROTECT YOURSELF FROM BOGUS OFFICIALS

The Local Police have given us the following advice about how to spot bogus officials if they should call at your home, and what action to take:

- Bogus officials can work alone or in groups.
- Always be very cautious when anyone calls at your door who you do not know.
- **DO NOT** be pressurised into letting them into your home – no matter what excuse they give. A criminal may claim it is an emergency (e.g. water pipe has burst and they need to check your taps) in order to gain access.
- **DO NOT** be tempted by a caller who offers to do work (e.g. "has noticed a few slates loose on the roof"). If you need work doing, call a reputable company. Ask a relative, friend or neighbour for recommendations. If you need advice on who to call, you can ring Help Direct and they will assist you to select a reputable company.
- Criminals can be dressed in smart suits or what appears to be a uniform. Do not be deceived.
- If you do answer the door, remember to (1) make sure your other door is locked (2) put the door-chain (or door bar) on before opening the door.
- Genuine callers will always be happy to make an appointment to call back.
- If you are in any doubt – **DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR.**
- If you are suspicious – then call the Police immediately.

For more information and advice see the Neighbourhood Watch Factsheet on the parish website: <http://www.burscoughparishcouncil.co.uk/files/NNWABogusFlye.pdf>



# Organic Veg Club to Get Communities Growing Together

A new and innovative food growing project is being launched to get local people pooling resources to grow fruit and vegetables. The new project called The Organic Veg Club is being set up by Neil and Jane Hickson on a piece of prime agricultural land between Burscough and Rufford.

Jane says: "People are becoming increasingly concerned about where their food comes from, how far it needs to be transported and the chemicals involved in growing it." Neil agrees: "By aiming to produce our food locally, we cut down on transport costs, and by using sustainable methods such as no-dig systems and organic growing, we hope to dramatically reduce the amount of fuel that would be needed in growing food with the bonus of encouraging wildlife." There is a shortage of allotments in the area and this essentially acts like one big allotment where people can get their hands dirty if they want or simply buy the produce. "We want people to re-connect with the land," says Neil.

The Organic Veg Club is going to be modelled on 'Community Supported Agriculture' schemes popular in Europe and the U.S. There are currently about 100 CSAs set up in Britain, but there appears to be a 'hole' in West Lancashire. It works by people buying a 'share' in the crop in the form of a weekly, monthly or even annual fee and/or a small contribution of labour. In return they get a weekly supply of vegetables and fruit.

Jane says: "We have the field and we have the idea, now all we need is the people to get involved and make it happen. This may be either in helping in the start-up stage, forming a steering group or as future customers."

Neil and Jane recently held a public meeting at The Grove to explain to the community how the project works and hopefully recruit some members.



**Organic Veg Club**

- Want to grow your own food but can't get an allotment or don't have time?
- Want to eat locally grown food?
- Want to eat 'organic' but think it's too expensive?
- Concerned about the environment?

Organic Veg Club is starting on a 7 acre field, one mile from Burscough and will be a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project.

To find out more, please come along to a public meeting on:

**Thursday 21st November 2013 at 7pm at The Grove Youth and Community Centre, Station Approach, Burscough, L40 0RZ**

or go to [www.organicvegclub.co.uk](http://www.organicvegclub.co.uk)

More information can be found at [www.organicvegclub.co.uk](http://www.organicvegclub.co.uk)

## Images of Burscough Old and New



*Burscough Village Scene, c1950. Photograph courtesy of Mike Dawson*

Local Photographer Michael Dawson has started a Facebook group called 'Images of Burscough and Surrounding Areas', which contains over 2,000 photos, old and new. The address is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/142406402473095/> (it may require you to join the group to view the photos).

Michael aims to make a large collection of old and new photos of the local area for all to enjoy, and everyone who joins the Facebook group is welcome to add images of their own. He is always on the lookout for old photos of the

Burscough area, so if you have any and would be willing to let him take copies, please contact him through the Facebook page.

Michael has also recently had some old Cine film from the 1950's digitised, the film shows Walking Days in Burscough village. Why not take a look, it's a great piece of social history and you might even recognise yourself or someone you know!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLSGnwwhNho>

# BURSCOUGH HERITAGE GROUP APPEAL FOR LOCAL ARTEFACTS

Recently Burscough Heritage Group were very happy to receive a donation of a number of framed photographs of old scenes around Burscough. They had previously hung in The Railway Tavern at Hoscar. The pub has now been turned into a house and the new owners contacted the group to ask if they wanted the pictures. If you know of any similar items that are being disposed of please let them know.

BHG would like to create a database of resources and information they own that would be available for public viewing. If anyone could assist them with this, it would be of great help.

If you haven't joined the Burscough Heritage group yet, please have a think about doing so and contact membership secretary John Webster on 078011272179. The subscription is £5 a year, but you will save £2 entrance fee to the regular history meetings held by the club when they have a guest speaker. Their next meeting is on the theme of Family History Research at the Ring o Bell's on Tuesday 14th January 2014 at 7.00pm.

## Contacts:

Chairman Mike Allen: [mallenpost@live.co.uk](mailto:mallenpost@live.co.uk), 0750 212 0453

BHG Communications officer Colin Wareing, 07931 356204

General enquiries: [burscoughvch@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:burscoughvch@yahoo.co.uk)

[www.burscoughheritage.ukcanals.net](http://www.burscoughheritage.ukcanals.net)

Follow 'Burscough Heritage Group' on Facebook



The Motorboat Ambush at Appley Bridge

## New Society Formed to Restore Canal Boats

In days gone by, barges were built for the millers who built the mills at Burscough and Parbold alongside the Leeds and Liverpool canal. These boats were used to move imported grain from Liverpool docks to the mills, two of them are still in the area, the motorboat "Ambush" and the 'dumb' boat "Viktoria". Both are based at Crooke and owned by Derek Bent. There is a society being established to help preserve and restore these two boats.

The Burscough Heritage group is supporting the society with these aims, as the plans are that once restored Viktoria could be turned into a mobile exhibition and class room area, which would fit in with one of the group's main aims in having an exhibition and learning resource in Burscough if a suitable mooring could be found in the village.

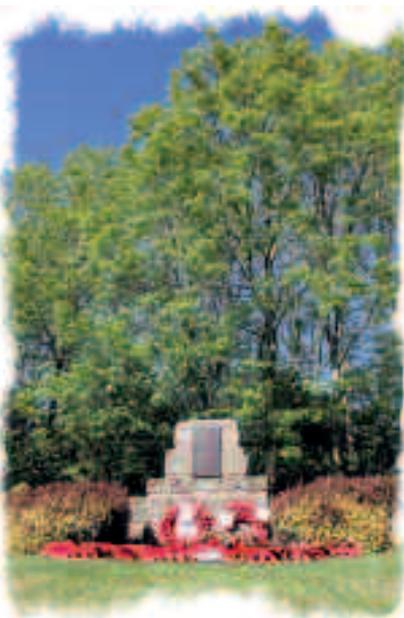
If you would like to know more about the project ring 07966 439701.

## Remembrance Day Ceremony at HMS Ringtail

The Right Reverend Richard Jones, Vicar of St John The Baptist Church (Burscough) led the service of commemoration at HMS Ringtail on 11th November 2013. CPO John Campbell, Commander Gary Duffield Royal Navy (Air) Branch (Yeovilton) made the journey from Somerset & Cornwall to attend.

The White Ensign flew over HMS Ringtail during the ceremony, not since 1947 has the immortal symbol of the 'Senior Service' been raised for a traditional event. A new Ringtail flag has been kindly bought by Thomas Guys Ltd, and in the near future it will be flying permanently over the Ringtail Memorial.

'Ringtail Monument' Photograph courtesy of Michael Dawson Photography



## LATHOM AND BURSCOUGH MILITARY HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWS

LBMHS is almost two years old, and this Armistice Day was their second.

During armistice fortnight, LBMHS Secretary and Military Historian Richard Houghton has visited our local primary schools to explain to the children the purpose of the poppy and the reasons why poppies are still worn today. Richard was made very welcome and, on behalf of LBMHS, he would like to sincerely thank the head teachers and staff of all the schools visited.

Richard commented:

*"The reasons why we should never forget what the 11th day of 11th Month means should be explained to every child in the land, in the hope that by learning and appreciation one day history will be the making of a world without conflict or war."*

*The rise in interest in family history can't be addressed without a military association in many cases. When you open a door of history for anyone it is most satisfying. This has been achieved by time devoted on Saturdays at Military / Family History mornings at local libraries in the district with some considerable success, it is hoped to continue this work in the future".*

To find out more about LBMHS activities and future events visit <http://www.lbmhs.co.uk/>

# Fun Mornings for Primary Children at St John the Baptist Church

Thanks to a grant from Burscough Parish Council, St John the Baptist Church have recently put on several fun mornings for primary age children in the area.

Since receiving the grant they have held three fun mornings; two towards the end of the summer holidays and one in October half term. The themes have been 'Under the Sea', 'Space' and 'Sticky Treat'. They have all been a great success and were very well attended.



*Sticky Treats' fun morning'*

Another fun morning is planned for February half term 2014. Please call Christine Spencer, Youth and Children's worker on 897852 for further information.

## Christmas Services at St. John the Baptist Church

Sunday 1st December : 9am Advent Holy Communion

Sunday 8th December :

- 11.00am All-Age Communion & Toy Service (All donated toys will benefit the Rock FM Mission Christmas appeal)
- 3.00pm Christmas Communion at St. Cyprian's, Hoscar
- 6.30pm Carols at St. Andrew's, Crabtree
- 7.00pm Bishop Cyril Ashton speaking on "Angels"

Wednesday 11th December :

- 1.30pm Tots & Toddlers Nativity
- 6.00pm Carol Singing in care homes around Burscough

Sunday 15th December : 7.00pm Carol Service

Tuesday 17th December : 10.30am Christmas Service

Sunday 22nd December : 11.00am All-Age Nativity Service

Christmas Eve:

- 4.00pm Christingle Service,
- 11.00pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day:

- 9.00am Holy Communion,
- 10.30am All-Age Worship

Sunday 29th December : 10.30am Joint All-Age Communion Service

All events at St. John the Baptist Church unless otherwise stated. [www.stjohns-burscough.org](http://www.stjohns-burscough.org)

## Burscough Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Michael C.Tindsley. B.A. BD. MLitt. -  
Tel 01704 893230

### Burscough Methodist Church - Open for Prayer

When you need a little peace, quiet and a time to pray then come along to Burscough Methodist Church, which is open every Thursday evening 7.00pm -8.00pm. You can stay as little or as long as you like, and there is always someone there to speak to if you need help.

**Café Church** - A new way to worship in a relaxed atmosphere - all ages welcome.

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of every month

### Christmas Services - Everyone Welcome

Thursday 12th December - 7.00pm

- Christmas Remembrance Service in the Church

Sunday 22nd December - 4.30pm

- Carol Service in the Church

Tuesday 24th December - 11.15pm

- Christmas Eve Service in the Church

Wednesday 25th December - 10.30am

- Family Worship on Christmas Day

### Burscough Methodist Church Players Pantomime 2014

This year the Players are putting on an all new production of Cinderella 2014 which is bound to be fun for all ages! The venue is the Church Hall Orrell Lane, Burscough.

**Evening Performances:** Friday 24th & Saturday 25th January, and Thursday 30th January to Saturday 1st February. **Matinee Performances:** Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th January, and Saturday 1st February.

**To buy tickets, contact Frank on 01704 894098 or Norman 01704 897226.**

Find & like the players on Facebook - search 'Burscough Panto'.

## Participatory Budgeting

Are you seeking funding for a new and innovative project that will happen in Burscough? Last year, the Grove and Burscough Outreach Trust shared £10,000:

**Contact the Parish Council to find out about this year's funding round.**

## Visit the BPC Website for Local News

Want to find out about your Parish Council? Visit [www.burscoughparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.burscoughparishcouncil.co.uk)

You can read parish newsletters, meeting minutes and agendas and look up councillor's contact details. The site is regularly updated with local news. If there is a 'not for profit' community interest event or news item that you would like to be considered for inclusion, please email details to: [burscoughpc@btconnect.com](mailto:burscoughpc@btconnect.com)

# PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Grove at 7pm on the second Wednesday of each month except for August, and residents are welcome to attend. Find out more about parish meetings via our website and notice boards across the parish. The parish office is open between 9.00am and 2.00pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. At other times a phone message can be left on: 01704 894914 or by email.

*Please note that photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of a meeting by any means is not permitted without the Council's prior consent.*

# Would you like to be a Parish Councillor?

Town and Parish councils are the first tier of government, elected by you to represent your community. Parish Councillors are not employees, they are elected representatives who volunteer their time for free to work on behalf of their communities.

The four year term of office will end in May 2014. Being a councillor is a big commitment but is very worthwhile. There is lots of support and training available and you can find out more about becoming a local councillor at <http://www.cpalc.org.uk/becoming-a-parish-councillor> or contact the Clerk on 01704 894914.

## BURSCOUGH PARISH COUNCIL - MEMBERS' CONTACT DETAILS

**Chairman** Alan Bullen  
**Vice Chairman** Brian Kennedy

### **BURSCOUGH TOWN WARD**

**Alan Bullen**

1A Mill Dam Lane, L40 7TG  
Telephone: 896032

**Patrick Mackrell**

52 Langdale Drive, L40 5SF  
Telephone: 07809 098439

### **ELLERBROOK WARD**

**Angela Felton**

10 Mill Dam Lane, L40 7TQ  
Telephone: 893353

**John Taylor**

14 Christine's Crescent, L40 7SJ  
Telephone: 892557

**Ronnie Sutherland**

2 Lathom Close, L40 5XW  
Telephone: 897466

### **NEW LANE WARD**

**Joan Craft**

9 Canal Bank,  
New Lane, L40 ORR  
Telephone: 895679

### **RED CAT LANE WARD**

**Shirley Ashton**

16 Alexander Close  
L40 5SR  
Telephone: 895949

### **RICHMOND PARK WARD**

**Cynthia Dereli**

10 Meadowbrook, L40 7XA  
Telephone: 895247

### **ST JOHN'S WARD**

**Brian Bailey**

60 Trevor Road, L40 7RY  
Telephone: 894557

**Roger Bell**

Haydock Farm,  
School Lane, L40 4AE  
Telephone: 897491

**Brian Kennedy**

37 Weaver Avenue, L40 4LE  
Telephone: 894914

### **STANLEY WARD**

**Dawn Crolla**

4 Truscott Road, L40 7SF  
Telephone: 891608

**Tom Dawson**

18 Alexandra Road, L40 7RT  
Telephone: 895508

**John Stanley**

30 Higgins Lane, L40 7SD  
Telephone: 894600

### **CLERK TO THE COUNCIL**

**Tess Reddington**

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*Burscough*  
PARISH COUNCIL