

YOUR GRIMSARGH FIELD DAY SATURDAY 24TH JUNE, 2017.



FIELD DAY 2017 promises to be bigger and better than ever. We have more attractions and activities than ever before, including: The Camdens, Donkey Rides, The Fair Ground, Lancashire Hawks and Owls, Dog Agility Show, Grimsargh Dog Show, Bolton Brass Band, Fancy Dress, Junior Football Tournament, Children's and Adults' races, WI Tea Tent, BBQ and much much more.

Once again this year we will be running **"THE GREAT GRIMSARGH BAKE-OFF"**, for both Children's and adults' cakes. Enthusiastic Bakers wishing to take part, should bring their offering to the field prior to 12.30pm on the day. Once the cakes have been judged, they will be passed over to the WI refreshment tent, so members of the public can purchase a slice of these delicious cakes.

THE PROCESSION will gather at Grimsargh Village Hall at 12.30pm, ready to make its' way to the field. Floats and vintage cars should assemble at Alston Lane School at 12.15 pm. This year we are hoping to persuade as many groups, organisations and businesses to be part of the procession. **Anyone wishing to take part should contact Keith Middlebrough on 01772 705383**

SCARECROWS

This year we want to see 100 Scarecrows on display around the village. The theme for 2017 is Comic Book Characters, and Heroes. We would encourage you to get building, and display your wonderful creations, during the week prior to Field Day. The scarecrows will be judged prior to Field Day, with the winner announced on the day.





GRIMSARGH WETLANDS

THE TRUST IS TAKING SHAPE

We are most delighted to advise you that we have had eight wonderful people who have come forward volunteering to be trustees of the soon to be established charitable trust, to run and maintain Grimsargh Wetlands.

In alphabetical order:

Phil Atkinson - retired teacher with building skills and a keen interest in wildlife; Geoff Carefoot - Longridge resident, birdwatcher and amateur naturalist, very interested in biodiversity & concerned about the landscape becoming progressively sterile; David Hindle - keen naturalist/conservationist with good contacts with local media; Paul Locker - chartered accountant (already earmarked for Treasurer); Ken Maylor - keen naturalist with bid-writing experience; Andy Small - keen naturalist, known to many of you for his fund-raising activities; Steve Whittam - Fulwood resident with 30+ years at the Environment Agency and experience in contracts management and Health & Safety regimes; Jayne Woollam - retired teacher with excellent communication and administration skills.

The team have met a number of times now and are working their way through the requirements for establishing a new charity, together with starting to develop proposals for the initial works. Nothing too significant can be done before September, when the bird nesting season is over, but is hoped that some initial minor clearing and remedial work can begin soon. They (and we) have put out appeals for volunteers to help with the hands on work and a good number of people have put themselves forward. You will all be contacted shortly (if not already) to discuss

getting started on this exciting project. More will be welcome! It is not the intention to do the primary "heavy" works using volunteers - discussions are underway with potential commercial contactors for these activities.

The easiest way to contact the group currently is via their Facebook Page - it's easy to find, just enter "Grimsargh Wetlands" in the search bar on Facebook. A website is being developed and we will publish this on our own website and Facebook Page, once established.

In the meantime, until the trust is fully up & running, the Parish Council continue to be responsible for the site, so do let us know if you have any concerns or suggestions.



SIGNS AND BANNERS

KNOW THE REGULATIONS!

You may have noticed the appearance and, in some cases disappearance of various pavement signs and banners around the village. This is something that has been noted and discussed among ourselves and other village residents for a couple of years - and culminated in a complaint being brought to us earlier this year.

We know that many/most of these signs are not compliant with planning law. They are outside the rules for "deemed consent" and therefore require planning permission.

We acted on the complaint and contacted those who were advertising their services via the signs, at the time. In the case of two tradesfolk, they were very understanding, were not aware of the regulations and removed their signs promptly.

There is a downloadable document available, which explains the regulations and lists what signs are allowed without planning permission, under "deemed consent" see:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/outdoor-advertisements-and-signs-a-guide-for-advertisers

The document is also available via our website - see a recent "Latest News" article.

This document makes it clear that there are actually a very limited set of outdoor advertisement signs that are "legal" without planning permission and size restrictions on those that are.

The complainant held with our view that signs by commercial organisations advertising their trades, properties and services are an eyesore and not to be encouraged. In addition to being aesthetically unappealing but those at ground level, chained to posts can be a hazard for the partially sighted and the larger ones distracting for drivers.

One particular extremely large sign that appeared in relation to a new housing development, and not in close proximity to that development, has caused particular concern, and we are doing our best to have that addressed at this time.

Please make yourselves aware of the regulations pertaining to outdoor advertising - do not infringe these rules yourselves and also help us by complaining to the relevant bodies (in the main, Preston City Council Planning Enforcement or, alternatively, the perpetrator) when these signs appear.

BOYLTON, HOUGHTON AND FARRINGTON CHARITY

The objective of the charity is to support groups, who are not a registered charity themselves, or individuals who require help to fund specific projects or equipment.

The applicants can be from any age group but must reside in the Grimsargh/Elston boundary.

Applications must include details of the applicant or group including date of birth, address, position held if applying for a group and full details of what the money will be used for and how much is required. The grants will not cover substantial bids so you must show how money will be raised if the grant is not sufficient for your needs.

If there is any doubt about the suitability of your application you will be informed very quickly. Final decisions will be made by the executive committee

Applications should be forwarded to

The Boylton, Houghton and Farrington Trust
c/o Mr Ron Woollam, 204 Preston Road,
Grimsargh, Preston. PR2 5JS.

YOUR VILLAGE, YOUR FUTURE - GET INVOLVED!

It's absolutely essential that the Neighbourhood Plan is driven by the Village and not just by the Parish Council. It has to be about your views, and not just those of a small minority. So when the Questionnaire does go out, PLEASE ensure that you return it - there will be a wide range of venues to help you do so.

For more information on the Grimsargh Neighbourhood Plan go to the dedicated website:

www.grimsarghneighbourhoodplan.org

Leave us a message on our Facebook Page :

www.facebook.com/grimsarghneighbourhoodplan

Or come and see us on Field Day - we will be on the Village Green, ready to answer any questions.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Grimsargh Field Day Ball - Saturday 24/09/17

Once again the Ball will be held at the Newdrop Inn, and after last year's sensational event, tickets are guaranteed to sell out very quickly. To avoid disappointment, ring 01772 705383, and book your tickets today.

SHINY NEW TOILETS FOR OUR THRIVING VILLAGE HALL

By Eileen Murray – Trustee, Grimsargh Village Community Association

Anyone who has visited the “facilities” in Grimsargh Village Hall recently will not have been able to avoid being impressed. After a complete overhaul they are now looking rather superb.

The work was carried out by Hall Building Contractors Limited, owned by Matt Hall, who lives just a few doors up from the Village Hall. Matt was also responsible for the extension work on the hall back in 2010, and we have an excellent working relationship with him and his team.

The hall has gone from strength to strength over the past decade or so, gaining a level of financial robustness not previously enjoyed. We have a highly dedicated Committee and additional supporting volunteers, who work incredibly well together as a slick team. The impact of our efforts is a fabulous, well-appointed hall, enjoyed by a great number of our residents and those from further afield. It is very well used – as anyone will know who has tried to book an evening slot with us! Weekend use is also good, though we have scope to increase that further – so do spread the word that we’re an excellent venue for parties, weddings and conferences.

Our success isn’t down to any one thing, but a mixture of different factors including:

- Carefully targeted efforts on improving our marketing (Website and Facebook).
- Ensuring we are contactable – email and a dedicated mobile phone.
- Friendly “user-interface”....you all know Sian Middlebrough!
- Keeping costs down, where possible – the solar panel project was a huge success – worth over £3,000 to us each year.
- The monthly Farmers’ Markets – while these require a significant level of commitment they bring in a valuable level of income and exposure.
- Running our own bar – which we have done for a decade now – also bringing in valuable income – and giving a better deal for our hirers, as our prices are much lower than under the previous regime – and the “Bar Profit Share” scheme can give the hirer money off the hire fee.
- And last, but my no means least... that excellent team, referred to earlier...



We would really welcome some additional help, though. We know not everyone wants to join a Committee – but perhaps you could help with an hour or two on assisting with admin, or helping in a Farmers’ Market café once or twice a year, assisting with looking for interesting new food stalls for the Farmers’ Market or giving some assistance on marketing – whatever is your bag, we’re sure we could use your skills! We also have useful skills to share, so for any teenagers or others looking for meaningful work experience to improve a CV, we have a voluntary role for you. Get in touch – email info@gvca.co.uk.

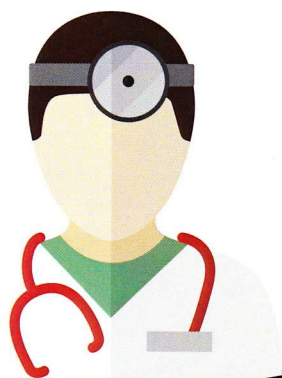
As these photos show, the new loos are a credit to us and our supporters – but don’t take our word for it – come along to the next Farmers’ Market (third Saturday in the month, 9am – 1pm) and see for yourselves.

Check out our website for further information: www.gvca.co.uk.

PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS

Did you know that Grimsargh Parish Council gives small grants to support worthy causes in the Parish? We are always pleased to hear from local groups that benefit the residents of Grimsargh and we will try and help where we can. If you would like to apply for a grant you can either write or e mail the Clerk, Sue Whittam, or alternatively you can download our small grants guidelines and the application form direct from our website at

www.grimsarghparishcouncil.org.



NHS HEALTH CHECK

Did you know that if you are aged between 40 and 74 you are entitled to a free Health Check from the NHS?

The check is part of a national scheme to help prevent the onset of health problems such as type 2 diabetes, stroke, heart disease, or kidney disease. It takes about 20 – 30 minutes.

You should be invited for a check once every 5 years, but if you are concerned about any of these problems then contact your GP.

To find out more go to www.nhs.uk/nhshealthcheck

GRIMSARGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Our first Neighbourhood Forum was held at the Village Hall on the 18th January. Together with meetings and communications with various local groups, we have gathered initial views on what matters to you; what you like about the Village, what you want to see more/less of, and any ideas for improvement.

From this initial steer we have worked with volunteers from the community to begin to formulate a questionnaire which we hope will go out (and back!) this Autumn. From this we will develop the initial draft plan. We have appointed a Planning Consultant to assist with this process, and are applying for a grant to cover this cost and help with the other administrative costs.

If we succeed in the development and achieve adoption of our Neighbourhood Plan, it will become part of the Local Planning Policy documentation. It will help in decision making both for future planning processes and help to steer the future actions of your Parish Council.



GREENSPACE MAINTENANCE



In January Preston City Council (PCC) began a Review of Greenspace Maintenance within the City. This includes not just all public parks, but even the smallest areas of 'green' that are owned and maintained by PCC. Reductions in Local Government funding mean they may have to reduce maintenance to a 'health and safety minimum'. This could see 'reductions to grass cutting, removal of sports pitch maintenance and the potential closure of play areas'.

They have contacted all the Parish Councils in Preston to discuss options for us to fund an 'enhanced level of maintenance' moving forward into 2018.

We met with Council Officers on 8th February and asked them to provide us with more information. In order to consider this properly, we need to know exactly which green spaces they are talking about in the village, their current maintenance schedule, present costs and what exactly they will continue to undertake. A lot of voluntary work is already done in the village - for example, by Friends of Grimsargh Green (FOGG), and by those who maintain planters. Our lengthsman also undertakes some 'top up' routine work. We need to look at the bigger picture.

As yet, we have received no response, but we will keep you informed of progress.



SPOTLIGHT ON

GRIMSARGH CRICKET CLUB A BRIEF HISTORY



In 1949, Herbert Mallott along with Jack Wild, Ted Melling and Arthur Barnforth were anxious to put Grimsargh on the cricket map and formed Grimsargh Cricket Club. The home games were played on the Grimsargh playing fields and the club enjoyed its best season in 1952 when it reached the final of the Makinson cup playing in front of 3,000 spectators. Sadly, the club was disbanded in 1957, due to a lack of players but was reformed in 1977.

The emblem is very similar to Preston's Coat of Arms, a white lamb in front of wickets and the club's more mature members will remember a time when a live lamb was presented in The Plough to the Player of the Year

In the early days, changing and tea facilities consisted of a tent on the green. Seven years of fund raising and help from the Harold Bridge's Foundation, from the Foundation of Sport and the Preston Harris Charity, with an enormous amount of fundraising by the Club itself, culminated in the opening of a brand new cricket pavilion in 1995. In the years that have past, the club has remained focused on improving the ground and its facilities through various forms of fundraising including Charity Dinners, Sponsored Walks and even the production of a raunchy calendar in 2002. The ground has won Lancashire Villages Best Kept Cricket Ground on a number of occasions and this is mainly down to the hard work of the club groundsmen Bob Wallbank and Chris Billington.

In 2011, Harris Park merged with Grimsargh Cricket Club due to their ground at the Harris Orphanage in Fulwood being sold. The club now has two Saturday teams and a Sunday team that play in the Palace Shield. There is also a Wednesday night team that play in the Boddingtons Village Cricket League. There are over 40 club members and there is always room for more volunteers, be it groundsmen, tea ladies, umpires, players or scorers. Like many amateur Cricket Clubs, Grimsargh would not be able to survive without the help and support from its committee members and also the local community. This includes the club's main sponsor, The White Bull at Alston who provide our teas and offer post match refreshment.

Situated on a green in the midst of an expanding village, Grimsargh Cricket Club will continue to offer the opportunity for local people to get involved in the sport and meet new friends.

BE SAFE AND SECURE IN GRIMSARGH

Our local police are PC Chris Banks and PCSO David Reid and they look after all the rural areas in Preston. We are lucky that crime is relatively low in Grimsargh but there is always room for improvement! Vehicles and property that is left unlocked and insecure is still a problem in our village. There have been 68 crimes in Grimsargh during the last year (May 2016 - May 2017), this is 5 more crimes than the previous year. The majority of crimes in our village are burglaries (17) and vehicle crime (16). **Please remember to use the non urgent number to contact the police on 101 or ring 999 if it is an emergency.**

DOG OWNERS



We are still receiving complaints about dog poo in the village especially around the Old Railway Walk area. We have spoken to the Dog Warden at Preston City Council and some additional signs have been placed in the village. We have replaced two bins on Old Railway Walk and we will be replacing another two shortly. All these bins are for litter and also dog poo. To encourage people to be responsible and clean up after their dogs we are also trialling a doggy poo bag dispenser which will be put in place soon on Old Railway Walk. So please use the bags and clean up after your dogs.

We live in a beautiful village so let's respect it and keep it clean from dog poo.

GRIMSARGH ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH NEWS

A NEW WINDOW FOR GRIMSARGH ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

A new window is being dedicated on July 4th at 7.30pm by the Bishop of Lancaster, Bishop Geoff. It is in memory of Nicholas James Cowell, 1970-2010, and it is also to celebrate three hundred years of worship at Grimsargh church. Everyone is very welcome to attend the dedication.



REVD. CHRIS HALLIWELL'S RETIREMENT

The Rev. C. Halliwell has been the vicar of Grimsargh St. Michael's Church for five years. He announced his retirement at the recent APCM. He retires officially on August the 1st and his final service will take place on Sunday 16th July at 10am. PCC member, Mrs N. Cowell, thanked Chris for his hard work and ministry over the last five years, and for, "leading us forward in a lot of ways". Chris has initiated change, encouraged technological innovation, ministered in a compassionate and thought provoking way, and supported his parishioners pastorally throughout his ministry. His passionate concern for the environment has frequently informed his sermons, while his considerable musical talents have enhanced many a service. Chris and his wife Jenny are retiring to Lancaster, where they will have the opportunity to pursue their many interests. They will be sorely missed by the people of Grimsargh.



A TASTE OF ITALY FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF GRIMSARGH ST. MICHAEL'S

On Saturday 29th April, over 50 parishioners enjoyed a fabulous meal at "The Italian Orchard", Broughton. The event, proved to be a time of friendship and fun, as young and old joined together to share an afternoon of fellowship. Last year, during The Tricentenary celebrations, the Parish Meal had been one of the highlights; it was unanimously agreed that the event should be repeated. This year, blue skies and warm Spring sunshine added to the occasion, as friends and families chatted happily over a glass of wine and a delicious two course lunch. The newly initiated group, "FAF", "Fundraising and Fun", had organised the meal in order to raise funds for the general maintenance of the church, particularly the church windows. The raffle raised over £90. The group is now planning a special memorial window, organised by Ruth Buckley, also in aid of the restoration of the church windows, as well as the production of an original recipe book, including the parishioners favourite tried and trusted recipes. The recipe book, collated by Susan Lees, will be available for purchase at The Church Garden Party on Saturday, 17th June.

LANCASHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2017

We have again entered the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition. We were very pleased to achieve third place in the Large Village category in 2016 - let's see if we can beat this!

People are often confused about this Competition. It's not about being 'pretty' or full of floral arrangements (although these certainly help) but about how well we keep our environment. Litter, weeds, dog poo, cigarette ends and run down areas are a big no-no so please help us keep on top of them. Our lengthsman does do some of this work but we rely on everyone to do their bit.



YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

CONTACT DETAILS

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