

## Mellor Parish Council Newsletter



### Message from the Parish Council Chairman

As we wave goodbye to 2019, your Parish Council is reminded of winters gone by, helped by the fantastic photos we have had sent in (a selection included above, with more on the website). Thank you to everyone who contributed, we hope you all enjoy them as much as we did!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the volunteers who help distribute the newsletters and flyers across the village, your support is invaluable. Thank you as well to everyone who has joined us for Parish Council meetings, or for our parish meeting (report on page 2), either to highlight issues and concerns or to bring forward your new ideas.

We look forward to working closely with you all in 2020, when we'll be moving forward with some of the ideas and on behalf of your Parish Council, we wish all in Mellor and Mellor Brook a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Best wishes  
Bernard

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*Let us know if there's anything else you'd like to hear about from us.*

### Stop Press

This winter Ribble Valley Borough Council will deliver a bag of grit free of charge to residents aged over 70.

To order a bag simply call RVBC on 01200 425111.

Keep your paths ice free this winter and don't forget to keep an eye out for less able neighbours.

## Report it! Crime and Suspicious Incidents

At this time of year many people are away visiting friends and family. That, coupled with the dark evenings means it's more important than ever to be vigilant; both for your own and your neighbour's property.

Anything suspicious you see should be made known to the police. You can do this any one of the following ways:

**Dial 999** - to report any genuine emergency. However - only an emergency - we must all do our bit not to waste the time of the emergency services by mis-using the 999 service.

**Dial 101** and report it that way

Or, use the online system to report incidents. For many this is the most convenient. The address for online reporting is <https://reportitonline.lancashire.police.uk>

You can also contact our designated Police Officer, PC 3798 Duncan Park by calling 01772 209583 or email [duncan.park@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:duncan.park@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

See page 5 for useful tips on keeping safe and well this winter

## Notes from our Parish Meeting



A huge thank you to everyone who joined us, on what started off as a very wet Saturday morning in September for our Parish meeting.

Over cups of tea at the Village Hall, we spent the morning discussing a variety of issues and ideas, key themes were:

### **Road safety**

Perhaps unsurprisingly, road safety was one of the biggest causes for concern. We discussed concerns with the chicane on Mellor Lane and speeding on Mellor Lane, Barker Lane and Mellor Brow. As a Highways matter, these sit with Lancashire County Council and were raised with Councillor Alan Schofield at the Parish Council meeting in October.

### **The environment**

We discussed a number of ways we could all help to keep the Parish green – from reducing plastic use and making recycling easier, to encouraging healthier decisions through cycling or walking more.

Those at the meeting also suggested we could organise a volunteer litter picking group, Councillors Murtagh and Venables are looking into this so please get in touch if you'd like to volunteer!

### **Activities for young people & children**

There was lots of great feedback on the investment to the park and we also touched on what we could do for the slightly older children. We were reminded of the clubs and activities at the village hall (such as Judo or the Brass Band) but promised to look into this further, if you have any ideas or want to volunteer to run an activity do get in touch.

Do you have any ideas or suggestions for the Parish Council? If you attended, do you have any feedback on the format or style of the village meeting? If so, please use the feedback form on the back page or get in touch with us via email [clerk@mellorparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@mellorparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Councillor Contact Details:**

Cllr Mr Bernard Murtagh Chair	68 St Mary's Gardens	813663	Please note that the position of MP for Ribble Valley is unknown at time of going to press pending result of General Election
Cllr Mr Nick Marsden Vice Chair	8 Glendale Drive	814215	
Cllr Mrs Stella Brunskill	Oulton, Myerscough Rd, Mellor Brook	812694	<b>Ribble Valley Borough Councillors</b> Cllr Noel Walsh
Cllr Mrs Dot Crooks	59 Mellor Brow	812021	email: <a href="mailto:cllr.walsh@ribblevalley.gov.uk">cllr.walsh@ribblevalley.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Mr John Hymas	34 Mellor Lane	07928 939228	tel: 813365
Cllr Mrs Margaret Johnson	14 Mellor Brow	813638	Cllr Stella Brunskill
Cllr Ms Dani Murtagh	68 St Mary's Gardens	07833 444253	email: <a href="mailto:cllr.brunskill@ribblevalley.gov.uk">cllr.brunskill@ribblevalley.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Mr Mick Venables	46 St Mary's Gardens	813562	tel: 812694
Cllr Mr Noel Walsh	Bench Mark Barn, Elswick Lodge	813365	<b>Lancashire County Councillor</b> Cllr Alan Schofield
Vacancy*			email: <a href="mailto:alan.schofield@lancashire.gov.uk">alan.schofield@lancashire.gov.uk</a>
Mrs. Teresa Taylor (Clerk)	6 Chatburn Avenue, Clitheroe, BB7 2AU	01200 422607	tel: 07876 844262

Ian Moss has decided to step down from the Parish Council, Ian has always been very active around the village and the Parish Council would like to thank him for his involvement and wish him well for the future.

\* If you would be interested in joining the Parish Council information is available on the Village Notice Boards, or on our website <https://www.mellorparishcouncil.org.uk/news.php?page=1>. Alternatively contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

**Key local services:**

**Mellor Doctors' Surgery tel: 01254 617101**

**Highway/Potholes (LCC) tel: 0300 123 6789 or email [highways@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@lancashire.gov.uk)**

**Highways Flooding [lancashire.gov.uk/flooding](http://lancashire.gov.uk/flooding)**

**Sewerage/Mains Water Leaks United Utilities tel: 0345 672 3723**

**Waste/Hedgerows/General (RVBC) tel: 01200 425111**

**Street Lighting tel: 0845 053 0011 (when reporting street lighting fault please provide location and,**

**where possible, the lamp number)**

For a fuller list of useful contacts see page 5

**Dates for future Parish Council meetings (there is no Parish Council Meeting in January);**

- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March (this is preceded by the annual Parish Meeting)
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

You can also contact us by email at; [clerk@mellorparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@mellorparishcouncil.org.uk)

or visit the Parish Council website at; [www.mellorparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.mellorparishcouncil.org.uk)



<p><b>Councillor Spotlight; Cllr Mrs Dot Crooks</b></p> <p>Lancashire is the adoptive home of Doritta (or Dot) having moved from Northumberland for her husband's work 40 years ago.</p> <p>She has lived in Mellor for 35 years. Now retired, she previously worked for Social Services and at a local high school.</p> <p>Over the years she has been an active member of many organisations in and around Mellor, including Mellor Village Show.</p> <p>Dot became a Parish Councillor over 3 years ago having wanted to 'give something back' to her adopted village.</p> <p>She is very interested in the countryside having in the past done a lot of long distance backpacking and cycle touring. (Now the walks are of a more gentle nature!)</p> <p><b>Calling all budding musicians!</b></p> <p>Balderstone Brass Band incorporating New Generation Junior Band practices on Monday evenings at Mellor Village Hall.</p> <p>If you're an experienced musician or would like to give it a try, new players are always welcome.</p> <p>For more information contact Alastair Greenhalgh on 07761 307291.</p>	<p><b>Reduce, re-use, recycle</b></p> <p>We all lead busy lives and ways to save time and increase convenience are important. But the environment is also important, for us and for future generations.</p> <p>That's why we must all do everything we can to reduce the amount of waste we generate, and whenever possible re-use or recycle materials such as glass, metals and plastics.</p> <p>Ribble Valley Borough Council has recently improved it's waste recycling capability and since October 1<sup>st</sup> we can recycle all clean plastic pots, tubs and trays with the grades 1, 2 and 5 recycling triangles on the packaging. This covers the vast majority of plastic packaging for food and drinks but please always check before putting in your blue bin.</p> <p>For full details of what can and cannot be put into our bins go to <a href="http://ribblevalley.gov.uk">ribblevalley.gov.uk</a> and click the "Recycle" link</p> <p>There are many websites with easy ways to cut down on the amount of plastic we use. For example;</p> <p><a href="https://myplasticfreelife.com/plasticfreeguide/">https://myplasticfreelife.com/plasticfreeguide/</a></p> <p><a href="https://friendsoftheearth.uk/plastics/living-without-plastic">https://friendsoftheearth.uk/plastics/living-without-plastic</a></p>	<p><b>Balderstone and District WI Centenary Year</b></p> <p>As the second oldest Women's Institute in Lancashire Balderstone and District WI celebrated it's centenary year in style.</p> <p>The year was launched at our "birthday party" meal, at which members were presented with a specially designed brooch and entertained by the Mellor Brook Ukulele band.</p> <p>In summer 19 members spent the weekend at Waddow Hall with archery, zip wiring and a variety of walks.</p> <p>Members were also treated to a special visit to the new Thwaites brewery where a commemorative "Centenary Ale" was created for us.</p> <p>We currently have 41 active members (including two who have been in the WI for over 50 years). We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm, at Mellor Brook Community Centre.</p> <p>We have presentations on a range of topics and also have a craft and natter group, a walking group and a social group which organises a variety of outings and events.</p> <p>It has been a special year and we look forward to the future. Visitors are always welcome and for more information contact Carlyne on 813282.</p>
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## Anti-Social Behaviour

We have recently received reports of anti-social behaviour involving children and young people congregating in areas around Mellor. These include the garage site off Mellor Lane, the Doctor's Surgery and Library surrounds, and in and around the play area on St Mary's Gardens with residents complaining they are witnessing bad language, shouting, abuse of play area equipment, aggressively kicked footballs and are experiencing verbal abuse from children they believe to be local. With some of this involving older children using the play area, we wanted to reiterate that the play area is designed for younger children (up to 12 years) to enjoy,

Parishioners will know that over £40,000 has recently been spent on the play area. Funded by grants and the Parish precept we have improved the facility, drainage and surrounds. Disappointingly some equipment has already been damaged - we believe due to it being over-loaded (i.e. groups of children climbing on the equipment).

The Parish Council asks that residents report all incidents to our PC Duncan Park (see page 2 for contact details) and, that parents/guardians please remind older children that the play area equipment is only for those children 12 and under. There are a number of organisations in and around Mellor for younger people and both Mellor Village Hall and the Mellor Brook Community Centre have facilities for all residents although if anyone is interested in setting up new groups that might engage young people please do let us know.

**Together, for everyone's benefit, we can prevent anti-social behaviour escalating out of control.**

## Parish Information

### Sunday Church Services (See below for seasonal specific services):

**St Mary's C of E Parish Church**, Church Lane at 09.30am

**Mellor Methodist**, Mellor Lane at 10.30am

**St Mary's RC Parish Church**, Osbaldeston at 11.00am

**St Leonard's C of E Parish Church**, Balderstone at 8.30am & 10.30am

**St Leonard the Less C of E Parish Church**, Samlesbury at 11.00am

**Mellor Library** tel: 0300 123 6703

**Mellor Doctors' Surgery** tel: 617101

**Local Services: Potholes (LCC)** tel: 0300 123 6789 or email: [highways@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Waste/Hedgerows/General (RVBC)** tel: 01200 425111

**Street lighting** tel: 0845 053 0011 (when reporting street lighting fault please provide location and, where possible, the lamp number)

**Council Tax (RVBC)** tel: 01200 414450 or email: [ctax@ribblevalley.gov.uk](mailto:ctax@ribblevalley.gov.uk)

**Dog Warden** tel: 01200 414464

### Bus Timetables website

[www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport.aspx](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport.aspx)

### Highways Flooding

[www.lancashire.gov.uk/flooding](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/flooding)

**Sewerage/Water Leaks** United Utilities tel: 0345 672 3723

**Ribble Valley Planning Applications** updates online at: [ribblevalley.gov.uk/planningApplication/search](http://ribblevalley.gov.uk/planningApplication/search)

### Groups and Organisations:

**Mellor Babies and Toddlers** (term-time only): Thur 1-3pm at Mellor Methodist  
Helen Bottle E: [kelvinandhelen@gmail.com](mailto:kelvinandhelen@gmail.com)

**Little Angels:** Rita Gorman 812566 / Margaret Baldwin 812360

**Beavers / Cubs / Scouts:** Susan Middlemass 812642

**Rainbows:** Lynn Fish 813591

**Brownies:** Michelle Venn 812711

**Guides:** Helen email: [helendentith@btinternet.com](mailto:helendentith@btinternet.com)

**Mellor Juniors Football Club:** Christine Taylor or Richard Lucas 01254 580658

**Singing For Fun** Every Tuesday 7pm to 8.30pm at Mellor Village Hall

**Balderstone Brass Band** Monday evenings at Mellor Village Hall. Contact Alastair on 07761 307291

**Mellor Allotments:** Meryl Rishton 245460

**Mellor Bowling Club:** Gordon Livesey 812140

**Mellor Connections:** Carolyne Hymas 813282

**Mellor Village Show:** Marjorie Nicholson 814121 / Dot Crooks 812021

**Mellor Village Hall:** Janine Foster 07561 538314 or email: [mellorvh@gmail.com](mailto:mellorvh@gmail.com)

**Luncheon Club:** Judith Marr 812741

**Mellor St. Mary CE Primary School :** 812581  
Headteacher Ms. J. Embley-Peers

**Women's Institute:** Meets the second Tuesday each month at Mellor Brook Community Centre. Contact Carolyne Hymas on 813282

### Christmas Services

#### Methodist

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 7pm - Carol Service with the Village Choir  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm - Communion

#### St Mary's Mellor

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 9.30am – Family worship  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 9.30am - Parish Communion  
4pm - Candlelit Nine Lessons and Carols  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 4pm Christingle Service  
11.30pm - Midnight Mass  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> 9.30am - Parish Communion

#### St Mary's RC Church Osbaldeston

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 4pm Mass  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> 11am Mass

# Mellor Village Show 2019

The committee would like to say a big thank you to all who visited, exhibited or helped in any way.

It was great to see so many visitors to the show, most also enjoying the tea and cakes available in the cafe.

A special thank you to Frank Littler from Littler's Butchers in Mellor, who presented the trophies and Balderstone Brass Band for providing some delightful musical entertainment.

## Trophy and Prize Winners were

Best in Show	John Chadwick
Best in Flowers/Plants	Louise Day
Best Foliage/Flower Arrangement	Janet Weisters
Best in Fruit & Veg	Susan Middlemass
Best Home Produce	Marjorie Nicholson
Best Photography	John Vause
Best Craft	John Chadwick
Best in Children's Section	Oliver Hobkirk
Most Enthusiastic Entrant	Marjorie Nicholson
<b>Children's Prizes</b>	
Age 4-6 years	Lauren Redwood
Age 7-9 years	Millie Eckershall
Age 10-12 years	Oliver Hobkirk

## Date for your diary

The next show will be on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020. For the photographers, one of the classes will be 'A Winter Scene'. A snowy winter is forecast so there may be lots of photo opportunities!

If you would like to help next year, please contact D Crooks on 812021 or M Nicholson on 814121.

## Top tips for keeping safe this winter

On cold mornings, **don't leave your car running, unattended** – As well as causing pollution, if anything happens to it, your insurance will likely be void

**Heat your home well** & if you feel cold at night, use a hot water bottle to keep the costs down

**Stock up on salt/grit** – it's also useful to have a snow shovel, torch, batteries & a first aid kit handy

**Eat well and have plenty of fluids**, they are vital sources of energy and help to keep your body warm

**Keep an eye on friends, relatives and older neighbours** who may be vulnerable to the cold weather

**Never use a hot water bottle and electric blanket** in the same bed together. Check what sort of electric blanket you have as not all are designed to be left on overnight.

**Get a free flu jab** if you are over 65, pregnant or have a long term health condition

See page 2 for information on how to report suspicious activity.

## 2020/21 Parish Council Budget and Precept

Following meetings of the Parish Council Finance Working Party it has been agreed that the precept for 2020/21 will be set at £24000.

This equates to an amount per household of £24.46 (Band D equivalent) and will enable the Parish Council to support activities for the benefit of residents while maintaining a prudent level of reserve contingency funds.

## Councillor Spotlight – Cllr Nick Marsden

I spent my formative years growing up on the edge of the Ribble Valley and have worked in the area ever since. Most of my free time was taken up playing sport at club, town and county level. I became Chairman of Blackburn Northern in 2002 and President 11 years later.

I moved to Mellor with my wife, Julie, in 1986, joining the Parish Council in 2014. I bring a wealth of commercial and managerial experience to the Council.



As Vice Chairman, I am committed to getting the best possible outcomes for work undertaken within the parish. I am conscious that Councillors have to listen carefully to the views of our residents to ensure that the precept is used to enhance both the parish and the lives of those living within it.

During my time on the Council we have seen the introduction of 20 mph speed limits, traffic calming measures; closer liaison between MCA and MPC; security cameras and improved lighting at the hall, a £40k redevelopment of the Play Area; investment at the War Memorial; successful campaigns to retain both the Doctor's Surgery and the Library and closer links with RVBC and Lancashire County Council.

The Finance Working Party, under my Chairmanship, has identified key areas of investment in the parish over the next 12-24 months. I hope to update you in future issues of the newsletter.

## Christmas family fun

### Can you spot the 10 differences?

(Taken from [www.shepherdsfriendly.co.uk](http://www.shepherdsfriendly.co.uk))



### Quick Christmas Quiz

1. From which country does the drink Eggnog originate?
2. The Christmas movie 'Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street' is set in which city?
3. How many reindeers are named in 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'?
4. St Stephen's Day is also known as?
5. Which UK monarch delivered the first Christmas broadcast to the BBC in 1932?
6. What was the first name of the main character in the Christmas film 'Home Alone'?
7. In the song 'Twelve Days of Christmas', how many ladies were dancing?
8. What is a Buche de Noel better known as in the UK?
9. How many Christmas number ones did Cliff Richard have?
10. Nadolig Llawen is Happy Christmas in which language?

How many of these Festive words can you find?

Y	L	R	L	R	L	S	C	R	O	O	G	E	J
G	I	K	M	E	R	R	Y	S	A	S	E	S	I
R	S	T	L	A	G	R	I	N	C	H	A	N	N
M	S	J	O	M	A	N	G	E	R	Y	R	S	G
S	S	R	O	C	M	E	E	R	T	L	E	A	L
N	A	S	I	L	R	N	S	Y	P	I	L	N	E
A	M	E	T	A	L	L	R	A	R	M	F	T	B
T	T	T	G	F	L	Y	E	N	E	A	R	A	E
I	S	L	R	R	I	L	K	G	S	F	I	C	L
V	I	O	R	G	T	G	C	E	E	Y	E	L	L
I	R	L	E	G	L	L	A	L	N	M	N	A	S
T	H	R	A	P	R	M	R	L	T	G	D	U	T
Y	C	I	R	G	Y	L	C	R	S	R	S	S	Y
E	J	E	L	R	A	L	R	N	S	Y	A	M	N

- CHRISTMAS
- CRACKERS
- TREE
- FAMILY
- FRIENDS
- GIFTS
- MANGER
- NATIVITY
- MERRY
- SANTA CLAUS
- JINGLE BELLS
- SCROOGE
- PRESENTS
- ANGEL

Answers will be on the Parish Council website in the New Year.

To see how you did go to [www.mellorparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.mellorparishcouncil.org.uk)



## Remembrance Day 2019



A huge well done to all who were involved in the annual Remembrance Day Service in November. Readers may know that our Parish and Borough Councillor Stella Brunskill is also this year's Mayor of the Ribble Valley. In honour of this role, we were privileged to be joined by Deputy Lieutenant Mrs Amanda Barker JP and a variety of other local dignitaries.

Starting the morning with a service at St Mary's Mellor, the congregation processed to the War Memorial for a shared service with Mellor Methodist where we enjoyed music from the Youth Orchestra and a beautiful performance, despite the cold, of *The Last Post* and *The Rouse* from Robert Lee. We were pleased to be joined for both services by local author John Ibbotson, who recited the names of the local men who had fallen during World Wars I and II.

Following the service, everyone was able to partake of refreshments and fellowship, which was kindly provided at St Mary's Mellor.

### Get Involved:

If you would like to get involved in helping to make our shared community an even better place to live we would love to hear from you – litter picking, helping to deliver the newsletter, or if you have thoughts and suggestions about the village let us know.

If you'd prefer not to give us your contact details that's fine but if you do we will keep them securely and only use them to contact you in reference to the issues you raise.

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Details (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your issue/suggestion

Return to any Councillor (addresses on page 3), or alternatively email the Clerk at [clerk@mellorparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@mellorparishcouncil.org.uk)