

# Wilpshire Parish Council

## Newsletter 2020



**Wilpshire Methodist Church**

### **QUESTION**

The site of Wilpshire Methodist Church is 484 feet above sea level. The highest point in Wilpshire is on Wilpshire Moor above the Golf Course at 771 feet and the lowest near the A59 at Langho Colony. According to the Ordnance Survey what is the difference in height in feet above sea level from the lowest to highest point in Wilpshire (to the nearest 10 feet).

### **ANSWERS**

To Leslie Lund, Clerk to the Council.

One Prize Winner of £10 for the correct answer if selected.

David Briffett BSc Hons MRICS  
Parish Councillor

## WILPSHIRE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 2020 edition of the Wilpshire Parish Council Newsletter. Our Parish Council Newsletters seem to be appreciated by residents, which is pleasing. We hope that you will find this edition useful and informative.

Our Newsletter is published annually and contains information about local organisations, public transport, useful contacts etc., as well as articles relating to the local area.

As ever, the breadth and accuracy of the information is only as good as that supplied to us by the groups and individuals concerned. We have invited as many organisations as we know of to submit information and have included all which has been submitted. Our thanks go to those who have responded.

Residents too have been invited to submit articles be they recollections of by-gone Wilpshire, poems, commentaries on modern Wilpshire, Wilpshire connections etc. So if you feel the urge to contribute to next year's edition then please send articles to our Parish Clerk, Mrs. Lesley Lund, 5 Hollowhead Close or by email to: [wilpshireparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:wilpshireparishcouncil@gmail.com) by the end of January 2021 . Letters must contain an address.

Further information about the work of the Parish Council can be found on the Parish Noticeboard outside the Right At Home office (former Post Office) and on our website at: [www.wilpshireparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.wilpshireparishcouncil.org.uk) The Parish Council is always interested to hear the views and suggestions of residents and has a fifteen minute public participation session before each meeting for this purpose or, if you prefer, you can write to the Parish Clerk. The Annual Meeting of Electors will be held on Wednesday, April 22nd at 19.30 at Wilpshire Methodist Church Hall ( Wesley Lounge on Ribchester Road). You are invited to attend.

Finally, can we extend a warm welcome to new residents of Wilpshire Parish and hope that they enjoy living here in this pleasant part of Lancashire.

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**PLEASE HELP THE ENVIRONMENT BY RECYLING THIS NEWSLETTER**

## Chairman's Message

Writing this Message on a dreary February day with unceasing rain falling and a strong wind blowing it is difficult to conjure up thoughts of the warm, sunny days which lie ahead. The snowdrops and crocuses are in bloom and, hopefully, by the time you read this spring will have arrived with all its many pleasant aspects and we can enjoy the fine countryside which Wilpshire has on its doorstep.

Looking back on the past year I can report that it has been a busy one for your parish councillors who dealt with the numerous problems and positive developments which affect our area at a very local level. These ranged from meeting the police to discuss issues of concern such as speeding and theft from vehicles to trying to get action taken to tackle blocked drains and at the same time working to improve local amenities within our limited budget.

During the past year we have continued our programme of public footpath improvement with an emphasis on upgrading the urban network. Our past efforts were further enhanced when the Peak & Northern Footpath Society paid for the erection of two of their distinctive metal direction signs near Little Snodworth and we thank them for this initiative. At the request of the parish council Wilpshire Golf Club refurbished the public footpath marker posts across their estate for which we are appreciative. All in all I believe our public footpath network has never been in a better condition than it is at the present time. Now, I urge residents to use it. Why not join our Parish Council Walk on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>!

During the year we lost the services of two of our councillors – Julie Foote and Amy Lund due to increased work commitments and I take this opportunity to thank them for their support during their membership of the council. As a result, we welcomed a new council member, Lewis Hunter and we currently have a vacancy to fill. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the parish council for their work which is always undertaken in a spirit of co-operation and community endeavour. As ever, we work closely with our county councillor, Alan Schofield as well as our borough councillors, Stuart Hirst and Sue Bibby to resolve issues or highlight problems affecting the Wilpshire area. I should also like to thank Lesley Lund, our clerk, for her support and advice and to Chris Walton, our parish lengthsman for his work in keeping our local area looking tidy. Thanks also goes to those individuals and organisations who have submitted articles for this newsletter.

Looking forward to the coming year, your parish councillors are hoping to carry out a refurbishment and enhancement of the Durham Road Play Area, to improve the garden at the traffic lights and to complete the public footpath enhancement programme.

## Wilpshire Parish Council

### **Clerk:**

Lesley Lund  
5 Hollowhead Close  
Wilpshire

Contact by email : [wilpshireparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:wilpshireparishcouncil@gmail.com)

### **Members:**

Cllr C Ward (Chair)  
19 Hollowhead Avenue  
Wilpshire  
Tel: 01254 240526

Cllr J Bremner (Vice Chair)  
90 Whalley Rd  
Wilpshire  
Tel: 01254 248045

Cllr T Gaffney  
16 Vicarage Lane  
Wilpshire  
Tel: 01254 246462

Cllr M Williams  
Holly Bank  
8 Whalley Rd  
Wilpshire  
Tel: 07973 163204

Cllr D Briffett  
94 Whalley Rd  
Wilpshire  
Tel: 01254 240499

Cllr James Foote  
45 The Hazels  
Wilpshire  
Tel: 01254 246343

Cllr L Hunter  
22 Somerset Ave  
Wilpshire  
Tel: 01254 247429

Vacancy

### **Borough Councillors:**

Cllr S Bibby  
34 Beaver Close,  
Wilpshire

Cllr S Hirst  
29 The Hazels  
Wilpshire

### **County Councillor:**

Cllr A Schofield  
Tel: 07876 844262

### **Parish Council Meetings 2020/21**

Apr 22<sup>nd</sup> (Annual Meeting of Electors), May 27<sup>th</sup> (AGM), June 24<sup>th</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup>, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>,  
Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 2021, Mar 17<sup>th</sup>, Apr 21<sup>st</sup> (Annual Meeting of Electors), May  
26<sup>th</sup>(AGM)

## What is a Parish Council?

Parish Councils in England are the first tier of local government and are responsible for areas known as civil parishes i.e. **not connected with a church parish**. They can deliver a wide range of services at local level depending upon the type of locality and budget. As first tier councils they try to respond to the needs of the communities they represent – delivering the services or representation they most need. Parish Councils are statutory bodies and members are elected for a term of four years. They are funded by an annual precept which is added to Council Tax. They do not receive funding from central government.

## What Your Parish Council Did in 2019

### Your Parish Council.....

- met on eleven occasions
- attended meetings with other local bodies to represent the area
- maintained the Parish Council website
- acted as a forum for residents to air concerns with councillors
- reported numerous problems on the local highway and public footpath networks to the relevant authority
- joined the LCC Parish Paths' Partnership to enable the Parish Council to be more proactive in improving and maintaining the local footpath network. Used L.C.C. grant for path maintenance
- paid for the improvement of the public footpaths leading from Woodcrest to Ribchester Road, from Whalley Road towards the golf course, from The Hazels to Salesbury Common and near Tippings Farm
- maintained the Durham Road Play Area and garden at the traffic lights
- organised a joint initiative with local shopkeepers to provide illuminated Christmas trees outside their premises. Funding came from the Parish Council and shopkeepers
- provided funding and a volunteer to maintain the floral planters at Ramsgreave & Wilpshire Station
- provided a wreath and Parish Councillors laid it on behalf of residents at the Remembrance Sunday Service at Wilpshire Methodist Church and provided the poppy display at the traffic lights
- provided funding for our Parish Lengthsman who maintains the tidiness of the Wilpshire Parish area
- funded and produced the Parish Council Newsletter which is distributed to all households in the Wilpshire Parish Council area
- organised a Parish Walk
- scrutinised local planning applications as received from RVBC and commented where appropriate
- made donations to The Samaritans £80, Air Ambulance £100, Citizens' Advice £100, Little Green Bus £150, Bowland Mountain Rescue £100, Homewise £100 and Wilpshire Methodist Church £350(room hire)
- applied for and received grants: LCC Public Footpaths Partnership £250
- grants received: RVBC Concurrent Function 2017/18 £2055, 18/19 £1779. Donation towards Newsletter from Mrs. Whalley £10
- set a Precept of £18415 to cover its planned expenditure

## USEFUL NUMBERS

### AGE UK

Ribble Valley Insurance and Information Office: 18A Castlegate, Clitheroe  
Tel: 0300 300 1234 or 01200 442273

Information available on; Insurance, Benefits, Sheltered Accommodation, Home Care, Aids for Easier Living.

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9.00 a.m.– 12.30 p.m.& 1.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

### PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION & DELIVERY

An excellent service for the sick and housebound.

Brownhill Pharmacy, 782 Whalley New Road, Brownhill, Blackburn  
Tel: 01254 249016

Langho Pharmacy, 1a East View Terrace, Whalley Road, Langho  
Tel: 01254 247750

### CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU CLITHEROE

Admin: 0300 330 1182

### SAMARITANS

Tel: 01254 662424

Free call 116 123

### MENTAL HEALTH HELPLINE

0500 639 000

### ELECTRICITY NORTH WEST

0800 195 4141

### UNITED UTILITIES (WATER)

0845 746 2200 or 01925 714810

### TRAVEL INFORMATION

Northern Rail 0845 600 1159. Transdev (Buses) 0845 2 72 72 72

Little Green Bus (Community Transport Door to Door for those with restricted mobility) 01200 444484

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL Tel: 01200 425111 E-mail: [www.ribblevalley.gov.uk](http://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk)

## 'Report it-Lancashire County Council'

Online reporting facility:

Report a pothole, highway faults, broken streetlight, flooding on the highway, blocked drain, broken stile, blocked public footpath etc.

Simply type in the postcode nearest to the fault, zoom in or out or move the map to the problem area. Then click/choose from the problem menu, click on the map at the location of the problem and briefly describe it on the drop down fault details facility and make a note of the reference number issued.

## Wilpshire Shops and Businesses

The following is a list of shops and businesses open to the public.

### Wilpshire Hotel

Along with cask ales and tapas, there is the opportunity to enjoy playing darts and snooker (small table) in the bar. There is also Sky Sports and BT Sport. Free WiFi is available.

David and Sharon Halstead host special events details of which are on their notice board. Small parties can be catered for.

Additionally, they provide outside catering for parties.

#### *Opening Times*

Monday	3pm - 10.30pm
Tuesday	3pm - 11pm
Wed & Thurs.	3pm - 12.30am
Friday	2pm - 1am
Saturday	Noon - 1am
Sunday	Noon - 11pm

### Guys n Dolls, 5 Ribchester Road BB1 9JH

Vicky has moved to this salon and offers a personal service in all aspects of hairstyling.

#### *Opening Hours*

Monday	Closed
Tues	9.15am - 7pm
Wed	9.15am - 5.30pm
Thurs	9.15am - 7pm
Fri	9.15am - 5.30pm
Saturday	9am - 5pm
Sunday	Closed

Tel. 01254 248143

@guysndollshairsalonblackburn

Deephaus Sarah Newton Designs 9 Whalley Road BB1 9LQ (former Get Fresh premises)

Interior and exterior design service. Specialist in Kitchen, Bedroom and Bathroom design. Sarah offers either a design only service or a full service package, which includes design, project management and installation.

*Opening Hours*

Monday-Friday 8.30am - 5pm  
Saturday 9am - 5pm  
Sunday By appointment

Tel 01254 243841 E-mail: [info@deephaus.co.uk](mailto:info@deephaus.co.uk)  
website [www.deephaus.co.uk](http://www.deephaus.co.uk)

Beech's Butchers, 11 Whalley Road, BB1 9LQ

Local butchers, distributors of meat, poultry and vegetables. A wide range of new dishes, ready meals and home-made pies is now available.

*Opening Hours*

Monday to Friday 7.30am - 6pm  
Saturday 8am - 4.30pm  
Sunday 10am - 4pm

Tel. 01254 246612 [www.beechs.co.uk](http://www.beechs.co.uk)

Right at Home, 15 Whalley Road, BB1 9LQ

Domiciliary care in the comfort of your own home.  
All levels of support from personal care and assistance with day to day tasks, through to complex conditions and care needs. A 24/7 live in service is also available.

*Office Opening Hours*

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm

Tel. 01254 658899 office hours 24/7 out of hours mobile: 07715446095

Email: [Julie.foote@rightathomeuk.com](mailto:Julie.foote@rightathomeuk.com)

[www.rightathomeeastlincs.com](http://www.rightathomeeastlincs.com)

Post Office Services: The nearest counters are at Swindlehurst's Newsagents, Whalley New Road and Spar, Portland Road, Langho.



## Public Transport Update

The past year has seen the travails of Northern Trains continue with further cancellations and late running on our local lines. This is reflected in the continued reduction in passengers using Ramsgreave & Wilpshire Station to 94 584 in 2018-19 (96 980 in 2017/18). Not all the problems were its fault but it was decided in late January that the franchise would be taken from Arriva and, in effect, nationalised by the government putting in a 'Company of Last Resort' to run Northern for the foreseeable future. This won't solve all the problems immediately but may help, especially if the necessary strategic investments in infrastructure are made.

On a more positive note, our local rail network is beginning to see increasing numbers of refurbished trains, brand new trains operating between Blackburn, Leeds, York and Blackpool North and the withdrawal of the unloved Pacers will finally take place. Increasing numbers of more comfortable trains are being used on the Ribble Valley Line. These were formally used on long distance services. The platforms at Ramsgreave & Wilpshire are to be extended, yet again, in order to accommodate longer trains and there have been discussions around increasing the service to half hourly.

Although a ticket vending machine has been installed on the Blackburn bound platform at our local station many passengers find it difficult to use and it doesn't provide a full range of tickets e.g. Duo Tickets. If you can't obtain the correct ticket you are advised to get the machine to provide a 'Promise to Pay' voucher to prove that you have tried to purchase a ticket before travel. On the subject of tickets, Advance Tickets aren't available from Ramsgreave & Wilpshire but are from Blackburn to many other stations served by Northern Trains. A considerable amount of money can be saved by doing some research on-line e.g. on National Rail or Northern's websites before making your journey to see if Advance Fares are available. Sometimes, splitting your journey and buying two separate tickets for it makes sense. If all this sounds complicated it can be and reflects the current complex state of rail fares generally but, there are bargains to be had. Sadly, with the closure of the booking office at Clitheroe Interchange, due to budget cutbacks at Lancashire County Council, the only manned booking office for personal enquiries is at Blackburn Station.

Much remains unchanged on our local bus network. However there was one positive development in 2019 - the extension of the Longridge service to/from Preston with the route number 45. This now gives our area a through route to /from Preston albeit a rather circuitous one. The 280 Preston-Skipton service was saved by an L.C.C. subsidy after Preston Bus decided to withdraw it. The reduced service is now run by Stagecoach.

### Local Bus & Rail Timetables

Timetables for Transdev buses are available on their website and app. Printed timetables are available at bus stations, Clitheroe Library and Blackburn Tourist Information Centre which is located in Blackburn Market. The website: [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk) will enable you to plan a journey by public transport, including sections on foot, from Wilpshire to any destination in the UK.

Northern Rail timetables are available on Northern's website or from Blackburn Station. Other useful information about the local rail network can be found at: [www.communityraillancashire.co.uk](http://www.communityraillancashire.co.uk) For rail journeys to the rest of Europe, or further afield, visit the excellent [www.seat61.com](http://www.seat61.com) or [www.raileurope.co.uk](http://www.raileurope.co.uk)

### DalesRail

This summer the DalesRail train will run each Sunday from May 17<sup>th</sup> until September 13<sup>th</sup>. It will call at Ramsgreave & Wilpshire Station then continue via Clitheroe to Hellifield and call at stations on the Settle to Carlisle Line to Carlisle. From the train passengers can join free guided walks ranging from an easy stroll to something more demanding or just spend the day doing their own thing.

This year there will be connecting bus services each Sunday from Settle Station to the Malham area and from Kirkby Stephen Station to Richmond in Swaledale plus the usual monthly coach links to places further afield such as Barnard Castle and Wensleydale. The train is also scheduled to return one hour earlier from Carlisle than in previous years. So, if you would like a scenic rail journey and a pleasant walk visit [www.dalesrail.com](http://www.dalesrail.com) for more details.

## Public Artwork at Ramsgreave & Wilpshire Station

Community artist, Kate Allerton, has been working with students at Ribblesdale High School and Blackburn College to produce pieces of artwork to enhance the appearance of our local railway station. This initiative is supported by the East Lancashire Community Rail Partnership and the Parish Council have also been asked for help and advice.

The Ribblesdale students have been keen to promote positive messages and to create something which will engage smaller children. They have gone down the line of creating a woodland design based on silver birch trees, which offers hope for the future, and includes birds that hold positive messages. This artwork will be located on the platforms.

Blackburn College are to create three pieces for the brick wall at the rear of the station car park. These will feature archive photographs of the local area from the Talbot Collection together with modern images of the same location. Other photographs of the Ribble Valley will feature elsewhere on the platform approaches.

The artwork should be installed in the next few months.

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## Public Notice

### Salesbury Memorial Hall Tennis Courts

Due to a lack of use by the local community the committee of Salesbury Memorial Hall has decided to close the tennis courts in 2020

The cost and work required to upkeep the courts cannot be justified for the small number of paying members.

Thank you to all past members of the courts.

We will be looking at other uses for the space over the coming months

For information please contact Marguerite Webb on 01254 240804

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## Dog Fouling

This matter regularly features on our local social media sites and many residents are concerned about the problem. The Parish Council has posted numerous warning notices around the area and is currently trying to encourage Ribble Valley Borough Council to provide an additional litter bin in the Knowsley Road area where there is currently no provision. Local Borough Councillors have been approached to add their support. Here is what the Ribble Valley Borough Council's own website has to say regarding dog fouling:

'Dog faeces (poo) may contain worms which can cause serious eye disorders in children and adults. Regular worming can help reduce the likelihood of worms in faeces. Dog fouling is probably the most unacceptable and offensive type of litter on our streets. Where a dog owner does not pick up and dispose of their dog's faeces the Council will consider prosecuting them. In some cases the Council may offer a Fixed Penalty Notice to the offender. This requires a payment of a fine. Failure to pay the penalty will result in the Council bringing a prosecution and the offender may be fined up to £1,000 in Court.'

Please note: The RVBC's Dog Wardens can be contacted between 08.45 and 17.00 on 01200 425111

## News from Ribble Valley

Luncheon Clubs: RVBC made available a grant of £200 to each Luncheon Club in RV to go towards a Christmas Party.

A pilot of a new scheme "Meet and Eat" is running in Whalley engaging a local business and working with Age UK and Dementia Action Alliance. The pilot has been successful and the Partnership Officer at RVBC requests ideas for new venues to expand the scheme. Another new community initiative is hosted by Ebenezers in the old chapel in Billington.

Dinckley Bridge: The new bridge is now open although remedial work to the surrounding area is still ongoing. When work is complete there may be an official opening.

NHS East Lancs. Care Commissioning Group is reviewing the overall provision of services for a long term plan to get best care from the budget. They have been working with GPs to assess local health needs. They are looking to improve links between hospitals, GPs and general Primary Care. They also want to link Health and Social care to improve well being, incl. Mental Health Services. It is envisaged GPs may work on more complex care. There is a particular difficulty in recruiting staff in this area of the country; there is to be emphasis on training local youngsters .

BT Review of Payphones: These have been retained where locals have seen a need and some parishes are taking over the boxes for other uses. Councillors are aware that in cities the phone boxes had wifi facilities and that this was another service lacking in rural communities.

Substance misuse. There are increased concerns about this within the Ribble Valley and action is being taken to address the issue. It is important that information is passed to police and/or councillors. No immediate action might be seen but it will be like a piece in a jigsaw contributing to the bigger picture.

Potholes and Blocked Drains: These are the responsibility of LCC and problems should be reported on the LCC website using the 'Report It' section. **Please be aware that drain cleaning is no longer done as routine, only on request.**

Homewise is still active although LCC funding ceases after March 2020 so the service in the longer term is uncertain. They can give advice to anyone and for the over 65s and others qualifying there is also a free or subsidised service on small household jobs including security measures. Recycled disability aids are available from them for a small charge.

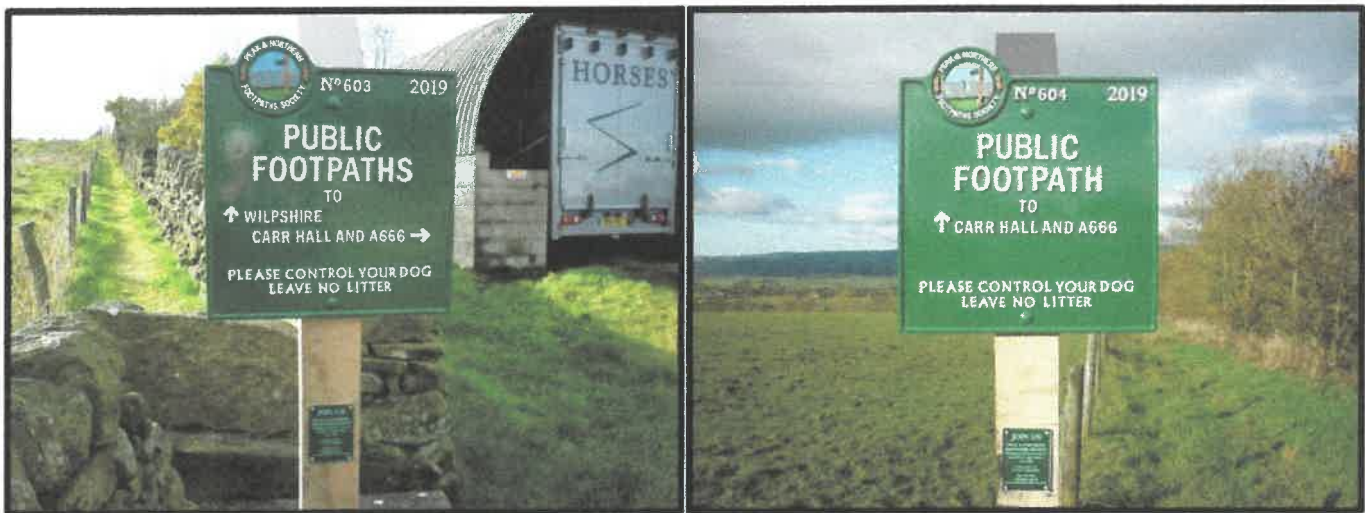
Bus Services: Parish Councils requested that the Chief Executive send a letter to Government requesting protection for rural transport including school services.

## Walking Wilpshire

Walking in and around Wilpshire has never been easier or better as improvement works carried out on behalf of Wilpshire Parish Council have made a significant difference on sections of the public footpath network which were once difficult to negotiate and a barrier to use. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the network is being used more as a result of the improvement works.

In the past year the Parish Council has had further work undertaken to improve the public footpath network including the laying of a hard surface on the urban path between Woodcrest and Ribchester Road and between The Hazels and Salesbury Common. Also, it uses a small grant from Lancashire County Council to have some local paths cleared of vegetation each summer.

Another pleasing development last year resulted from contact with the footpath charity, The Peak & Northern Footpath Society\*. One of their officers contacted us to ask if there were any locations in Wilpshire at which they might erect some of their distinctive footpath direction signs. As a result two signs were erected near Little Snodworth Farm pointing the way to Carr Hall, the A666 and Wilpshire. A further sign was erected near Ashes Farm, Salesbury. These signs costing around £700 each were paid for by Peak & Northern.



Peak and Northern Footpath Society Signposts near Little Snodworth Farm

For those who want to explore the local footpath network but are unsure of routes it would be worthwhile buying a copy of the excellent Ordnance Survey's Explorer Map 287 – West Pennine Moors which shows all the public footpaths in Wilpshire and a wide area around it. Alternatively visit the Wilpshire Parish Council's website where we are slowly adding descriptions of local walking routes and you can always join the Parish Council Walk on Sunday, May 3rd to get started. If you want to explore places further afield then why not join one of Salesbury Exploration Group's monthly walks (see advert) or catch the Summer Sundays' Dalesrail train.

\*The Peak & Northern Footpath Society can trace its Manchester roots back to 1826 but was officially founded in 1894 and is the oldest regional footpath society in the UK. Over the past 100 years or more it has paid for the erection and maintenance of over 600 metal signposts. In addition, it has ninety volunteer footpath inspectors who try to ensure that the public footpath network is unobstructed and open for use. Whilst in the past it concentrated its efforts in the area around Manchester and in the Peak District it now erects signposts in the Ribble Valley, Bowland and in South and West Yorkshire. It welcomes financial donations and bequests. It also invites suggestions of locations for new signposts. To find out more visit: [www.peakandnorthern.org.uk](http://www.peakandnorthern.org.uk)

## Parish Council Walk 2019



The photograph gives a clue to the objective of last year's Parish Council Walk. Can you identify the location? Yes, it is the grave of Fred Kempster, the so-called Blackburn Giant, who died in Queen's Park Hospital after becoming ill whilst visiting the town in 1918 as part of a fairground sideshow. His grave in Blackburn Old Cemetery is quite distinctive because of its length. It is well cared for by the volunteers of The Friends of Blackburn Cemetery.

Our party of twenty local residents left Wilpshire on a pleasant Sunday afternoon in April and headed up Hollowhead Lane then across to Grange Farm and up below Parnage Reservoir Dam to Middle Mickle Hey Farm with distant views to Bowland and the coast. From there they followed fieldpaths to the ancient 16<sup>th</sup> century house called Eddy Holes with its associations with The Knights Templars. Then by the avenues and ginnels of Sunnybower the party passed another ancient homestead called Miles Wife Hey. Crossing the Arterial Road took the party to Blackburn Cemetery which is now a large, peaceful open space and nature reserve. The 'Giant's Grave' was just down from the entrance and after paying respects, and learning about his life, the party returned to Wilpshire via Bank Hey Lane North and footpaths to Parsonage Road, Wilpshire Glen and up to Hollowhead Avenue. Five miles of easy walking along our local public footpaths and taking in some historic locations on our doorsteps.

If you would like to discover more of our local countryside then why not join this year's Parish Council Walk to be held on **Sunday, May 3rd** when we shall head to Little Blackpool. See advert for details.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN

**THE WILPSHIRE PARISH WALK**

**TO LITTLE BLACKPOOL**

**SUNDAY, MAY 3rd**

A moderately easy five miles' walk

**MEET OUTSIDE WILPSHIRE METHODIST CHURCH AT 1.30P.M.**

On our walk we will:

- head to Longsight Road through Clayton le Dale
- visit Little Blackpool
- walk through Copster Green
- return to Wilpshire via fieldpaths
- learn some more about the local area

All of this using the local public footpath network

Come and meet some of your fellow residents and parish councillors

WEAR BOOTS, WELLINGTONS OR STOUT SHOES – the route may be wet  
and muddy in places

**BRING A WATERPROOF, DRINKS AND A SNACK**

## Wiltshire Footpath Improvements

During 2019 four Wiltshire footpaths have been improved using a contractor and 40 Tonnes of stone; encouraging their use with safer conditions underfoot.



Woodcrest Path to Ribchester Road



Hazels to Salisbury Common



A666 to Golf Course Path



Bridlepath near Tippings



## New and Renovated Benches

To complement the enhancement work carried out by Ribble Valley Borough Council on the public open space behind Hollowhead Close and Hollowhead Avenue last year, the Parish Council has paid for the installation of a new bench at the highest point of this area. This location enjoys distant views towards Blackpool Tower and the Bowland Fells. It gives both local walkers and those using the adjacent public footpath, which is part of the 291 mile long distance path – The Lancashire Way – the opportunity to have a comfortable rest and admire the view. The bench was made by Accrington based company, Ark Plastics, using recycled plastic.



**Bench with a view**

Nearby, on Hollowhead Lane, is another bench. This was provided many years ago by a donation from a local charity. Over the years it had become rather neglected and overgrown by the hedgerow. It now looks much improved thanks to the efforts of some parish council members who gave it a lick of paint and tidy up.



**Looking as good as new**

## Doorstep Cold Calling

This can take many forms some examples of which are genuine traders, rogue traders, meter readers (and utilities' impersonators), genuine charity collectors, canvassers in elections, religious groups and the hawking of, often overpriced and inferior, goods purporting to be in the name of a worthy cause.

### **What is the law on doorstep cold calling?**

The law is very simple:

- **It is not illegal to cold call on the doorstep**
- **Councils have absolutely no powers to stop cold callers**

### **So what can we as a community do about it?**

#### **Trading Standards recommends:-**

- **Education** –discourage people from buying goods or services on the doorstep. This reduces the risk of people getting ripped off. The less people buy at the door the less profitable it becomes and so hopefully the whole concept dies out.
- **Door stickers** – door stickers that say things like 'No Cold Callers' can be provided to householders. The purpose of these is to empower the householder to simply point at the sticker and say 'no' to the cold caller. A possible downside is that they may help identify a household as being vulnerable. They do not have any legal standing and a cold caller is not breaking any laws by ignoring the sticker.
- **No Cold Calling Zones** – these are roads or areas where (most) residents have agreed they do not wish to be cold called. It is not illegal to cold call in a No Cold Calling Zone. The idea is that every household (or most) will display a sticker **and collectively refuse to engage with cold callers** and that should act as a deterrent to cold callers.

Locally, in the last year there have been numerous complaints about the hawking of goods purporting to be supporting charitable work. In some instances it has gone beyond just being a nuisance. A few callers have been aggressive and residents have felt threatened. In response a No Cold Calling Zone is being set up in the Ribchester Road area.

## Remembrance Sunday 2019



Wilpshire Parish Council members, WPC Clerk and County Councillor Alan Schofield were amongst the congregation at Wilpshire Methodist Church for Remembrance Sunday 2019. Wreaths and Remembrance poppies were laid at the foot of the Memorial Stone in memory of the fallen of Wilpshire.

Wilpshire PC this year also purchased some 'Event Poppies' from British Legion and were loaned a privately owned 'Soldier Silhouette', which were displayed at the 'Triangle' at the traffic lights.



## Wilpshire Methodist Church Report 2019-2020

This past year Wilpshire Methodists have continued to worship at Wilpshire Methodist Church on Sunday mornings at 10.30. Most weeks a local preacher from the West Pennine Moors Circuit leads the service. We have communion once a month and a local arrangement once every three months which involves discussion and activities as well as a message, hymns and prayers. Everyone is welcome to join us.

During the week the Guides meet every week on Tuesdays and we also have the A Cappella choir, Pilates classes, Maths for adults and Chantelle's Dance Academy which use the hall every weekday. On the first Thursday of the month there is a lunch club which is run by Right at Home and volunteers. At weekends we have social events including coffee mornings and an annual Christmas wreath making. We joined with St Peter's church for the Roaming Nativity on December 18<sup>th</sup> with over 100 people taking part. The building is also used as a polling station and a meeting place for Wilpshire Parish council.

Our building is being maintained and improved with the help of Simon Huggill the West Pennine Moors Circuit Property Steward. The downstairs room – now known as the Wilpshire Room has been refurbished and has new heating. The hall, now called the Community Hall has also been insulated with plaster board and redecorated which has made it warmer and brighter. We are hoping to build a new accessible toilet near the Wilpshire Room so that we can welcome a wider group of people. This will depend on whether we get a grant from the Local Waste Management Fund.

We are happy to be contacted to discuss further lettings or events. The lettings steward is Mary Jeffries who can be contacted at [jjmj@btinternet.com](mailto:jjmj@btinternet.com) or on 07833 738260

Up-to-date contact information is as follows:

Sunday worship 10.30 am every Sunday. We are part of the West Pennine Moors Methodist Circuit

**Pilates classes in Wilpshire Room** Monday and Wednesday

Contact: Helen Carter 07954 363106 or [helencarterpilates@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helencarterpilates@yahoo.co.uk). Please phone Helen before attending a class.

**Dance classes for Children with Chantelle's Dance Academy** in the Community Room and Wesley Lounge. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Contact Chantelle Leyland-Dewhurst phone 07851 919802 [chantellesdanceacademy@outlook.com](mailto:chantellesdanceacademy@outlook.com)

**Girl Guides** Tuesday evenings in the Wesley Lounge.

Contact: [a\\_hunt1@sky.com](mailto:a_hunt1@sky.com)

**A Capella Singers** Wednesdays in 7.30-9.30

Contact: Email [info@acapellasingers.co.uk](mailto:info@acapellasingers.co.uk) or ring 01254 249280

**Lunch Club** First Thursday of the month organised by Right at Home and volunteers.

Contact: Right At Home on 01254 658899

**Maths classes for adults** who want to be able to help their children Thursdays 7.30 – 8.30 – (low or no cost). Contact: Paul Slater 07812957698 [prjlat@googlemail.com](mailto:prjlat@googlemail.com)

The information on the website in the section Facilities is out of date. It would help us if you could update it with the above information.



## Wilpshire Lunch Club

**“ Food, friendship and  
good company ”**

**Our next meetings are on the following dates**

Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> January    Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> February    Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> March

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April    Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> May    Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> June

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> July    Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> August    Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> October    Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> November    Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> December

**Cost: £3.50**

**Location: Wilphire Methodist Church, Ribchester Road**

*To book your place and discuss help with transport, if needed*

**Contact Right at Home**

**on 01254 658899**

# SALESBURY MEMORIAL HALL

## ACTIVITIES

			Main Hall	Upstairs
Monday	Let's Dance Ribble Valley	Latin /Ballroom	10:15am	
		Sequence Dancing	11:30am	
	Giutar Group Metafit Kettlercise Clubbercise		From 6:00pm	6:30pm
Tuesday	Ladies Badminton		10:00am	
	Metafit Kettlercise Clubbercise		1:30pm From 5:45pm	
Wednesday	Sweaty Mama		10:00am	
	Zen Yoga			1:30pm
	Zumba		6:05pm	
	Senior Badminton (18+)	ex. 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. in month	7:30pm	
	St Peters Mothers Union	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed in month	7:45pm	
Thursday	Pilates			From 6:00pm
	Metafit Kettlercise		From 6:00pm	
Friday	Pat Eakets School of Dance & Drama		4:00pm	
	Ribble Creative Stitchers	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri in month	7:30pm	
Saturday	Ribble Creative Stitchers	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat in month	10:30am	

Parish Council Meetings

## ROOMS AVAIABLE FOR HIRE

ALL ENQUIRIES      MRS B CRAVEN

TEL:01254 249425

1<sup>st</sup> January 2020



# SALESBURY CRICKET CLUB

Salesbury CC was founded in 1906 and first played in the Blackburn Sunday School League. Today we run three senior teams in The Green Thumb Ribblesdale Cricket League. The season starts mid April and concludes early September and the club host a match on most Saturdays during the season.

We also have a thriving junior section with teams at age groups U9, U11, U13, and U15. Salesbury have been credited with E.C.B. Clubmark status, showing that we reach the highest standards of junior infrastructure and child safety. In 2019 the U11s, U13s and U15s all finished top of their respective leagues. We are one of the few clubs in the area that run a competitive girls team.

For the last few years the club has employed the services of a professional to strengthen the team and run coaching sessions for juniors as well as seniors. The club looks to support players of all ages and abilities, male and female.

The club holds an annual Golf Day in April at Wilpshire Golf Club and holds a fund raising game during the season for St. Peter's Church which proves hugely popular and of great benefit to both the Church and the Club..

We welcome any new members, both playing and non-playing, who are keen to join an ambitious, progressive but family orientated cricket club. We welcome any players that wish to play only the occasional game.

While we welcome all to the club, we ask that no cars are parked on the common land or track behind the clubhouse.

For further details please email Andrew Green (Chairman): [quarryside@btinternet.com](mailto:quarryside@btinternet.com)

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## Salesbury Explorers' Group

[www.segs.org.uk](http://www.segs.org.uk)

Salesbury's walking group - monthly walks of about 7 miles in the company of mostly local people.

Please follow the above link for the current walking programme

New programme of walks each September

All welcome!!

# Pendle Hill-Landscape Partnership Improvement

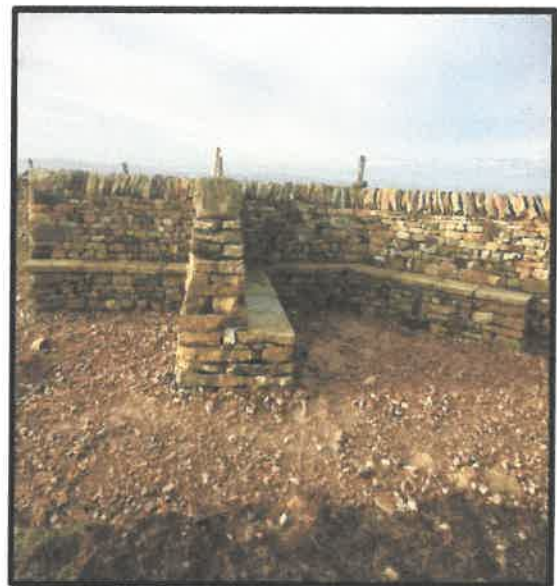
Heritage Lottery funding has been the primary reason that Pendle Hill LPS has been able to restore stone walls, peat bogs and footpaths on Pendle Hill during the last year or so; and if you have taken a walk up to the trig point of the hill recently, you may have noticed that many of the paths have been improved with stone, together with the welcome addition of a very pleasing, dry-stone seating area for walkers on the north side of the hill, close to the top of the steps on the Big End, Barley side.

Built into this seating shelter and facing directly East is a stone inscribed with the Russian word '**Красота**', meaning '**Beauty**' and pronounced 'Krasota'.

So why is the stone inscribed with a Russian word?-

The Pendle Hill LPS refer to it as 'A creative interpretive feature-describing the panorama seen' and remain enigmatic.

The answer is that it can only be a nod to the surprising fact that on top of Pendle Hill at 1,827 feet (557 metres) and, when facing directly to the East, there is nothing higher until you get to the Ural Mountains in Russia over 3000 miles away. Perhaps something to ponder whilst admiring the view and eating your sandwiches!





Looking to the East from this Pendle Hill seating area, one of the highest hills in the distance is Withins Height at 1499 feet (457 metres); of which it is boasted, that on a clear day, with a north wind and perhaps armed with a pair of binoculars; it is a vantage point from which it is possible to see both the West and East coasts. It is said from here that you may see Blackpool Tower and also the Humber Bridge and York Minster.

Similarly to Pendle Hill, the next highest point directly East of Withins Height is the Ural Mountains.

Withins Height is perched on the Lancashire-Yorkshire County Boundary, just above and south-west of the 'Top Withins' farmhouse ruins on the Yorkshire, leeward side of the hill. Thought by many to be the location in Emily Bronte's mind when she wrote her dark, enigmatic and brooding novel 'Wuthering Heights'; not too far across the boundary from us in Haworth, on the windswept Yorkshire Moors.



'Top Withins' and 'Withins Height'.



## Ribble Rivers Trust

Ribble Rivers Trust works across the Ribble catchment from Ribblehead to Lytham and includes all the main tributaries: the Darwen, the Calder and the Hodder. The catchment covers over 700 square miles and contains more than 3,114 miles of watercourses. The work of the Trust includes capital projects such as weir removals, education, working with farmers, monitoring populations, organising events and activities and practical conservation tasks such as tree planting.

Ribble Rivers Trust are currently setting 15 circular River Walks, one of which features Copster Green, Salesbury and Ramsgreave (the Park Brook route). With a variety of walk lengths and locations, there is something for everyone. The walk guides can be downloaded as a PDF from: [ribblelifetogether.org/enjoy/circular-walks](http://ribblelifetogether.org/enjoy/circular-walks)



If you are interested in finding out more about the work of Ribble Rivers Trust or would like to get involved in volunteer activities, please visit: [ribbletrust.org.uk](http://ribbletrust.org.uk)



## Memories of a Lost Settlement

If former generations of local residents could return the first thing they would probably notice would be the large number of houses built in the past sixty years and yet there is one local area where a settlement has almost completely disappeared from the map.

Some of you will be familiar with a location known as Chinatown. It sounds exotic but it is the name given to a settlement of some twenty or thirty wooden bungalows, built mainly in the 1920s, in the fields below Ramsgreave Hall where a farm track drops down the steep slope into the valley between Ramsgreave and Salesbury. Its correct name is Haggs Hall, the name 'Haggs' in Old English meaning a bog or boggy land which is an accurate description of the terrain down there.

In the years after World War 1 it was common practice for farmers to allow people to erect small wooden bungalows on their land in return for a small ground rent. Such bungalows were often built in the countryside on the periphery of towns and within reach of the tram network or a railway station. In our area such bungalows were constructed on Parsonage Road and York Road just over the Blackburn Borough Boundary where the rates were lower and planning rules less strict. Today most of these wooden dwellings have been demolished and replaced with more substantial detached houses or bungalows, but almost all those at Haggs Hall have disappeared.

At Haggs Hall each bungalow was individually built in the fields and had extensive gardens. There was no mains water, gas, electricity or sewers. Water was carried from nearby springs or wells or collected from the gutters. Tub toilets were the order of the day as in most rural communities. In the early years paraffin lamps and stoves were used though some owners built fireplaces with cooking ranges. As most owners in those years before WW2 didn't have cars they had to walk a couple of miles along tracks and through the fields to the tram stop at Brownhill or to buy provisions at the Co-op. At one point in the 1940's one bungalow owner opened a little shop selling sweets and other basic items.

During the 1930's and war years this area was a popular destination for weekend daytrippers coming out of Blackburn on the trams. Family groups would walk up Ramsgreave Road and down through the fields to fish for tiddlers in Showley Brook and picnic on its banks whilst others made for Little Blackpool at Copster Green.

In this period the bungalows often changed hands but in WW2 several evacuee families lived in them permanently with the children walking through the fields to Salesbury School. After WW2, during the years of austerity and housing shortages, many bungalows were lived in on a permanent basis. It was, by all accounts, a happy community of respectable families who were proud of their properties and gardens. The residents weren't affluent and living was cheap and the rates were low. Residents in the 1940's included an accountant, a local hairdresser who even employed an 'au pair', rather unusual for those times, a wagon driver, railway employee and millworkers from Roe Lee Mill. One colourful resident was a freelance entertainer who managed a troop of dancing girls called 'Frankies Dancing Diamonds'. One young couple by the name of Sargent certainly had an eventful life. The husband, Frank, took a commerce degree at Cambridge, joined the diplomatic service and travelled the world rising to High Commissioner in Dacca. They eventually retired to the south of France.

One of the nicest bungalows was Ravenswing which was built for the Cronshaw family in the 1920's at a cost of £500. It was built in the style of an old Australian 'Queenslander' on stilts to allow air to circulate and with a wide veranda. It had panoramic views over the Ribble Valley. A member of the Cronshaw family, Harold, became a well-known milkman in the Wilshire area for many years. He lived at Ravenswing until his death in 1996. The bungalow has since been demolished and replaced by a modern house.



**Ravenswing 1960s**

Back in the 1940's and 1950's although the pace of life was much slower life itself was harder than today especially for the womenfolk, with few amenities and all water having to be boiled on the stove. At least Calor Gas began to replace paraffin. Bedding was taken to be washed at Ramsgreave Laundry at Brownhill. Before the advent of electricity and transistors, people used radios with valves which were powered by relatively large accumulator batteries. These were collected weekly to be recharged at the local electrical store on Whalley New Road. Wintertime could be particularly harsh and residents could be marooned for days when the track up to Ramsgreave Road was impassable. Coal and other supplies had to be taken down by sledge. Windows were frozen on the inside as only one small fireplace supplied the heating. In contrast, summers were idyllic with the children playing in the fields and woods and helping local farmers with haymaking.

As the 1950's passed into the 60's the community began to disperse. Council housing was built at Mellor and families began to move out and by the late 1950's many of the bungalows had disappeared. The most accessible bungalows at the bottom of the hill reverted to weekend holiday homes and remained so until the late 1980's and early 1990's though the author knows of one lady – a retired teacher and now in her 80's - who lived in one for some years at the very end of the bungalow's life paying £200 in annual rent to the local farmer.

Now all that remains of Chinatown is a couple of derelict properties, a couple of chimney stacks, brick foundations and some overgrown gardens – reminders of what was for over thirty years a thriving community.

*Editor:* The above article is based on information in a much longer account entitled 'Memories of Haggs Hall Fields, Higher Ramsgreave in the 1940's and 50's' by DM Eddleston, compiled in 2000. If any reader knows of this person could they please contact our Parish Clerk, Lesley Lund, as we would like to re-publish the complete version.



**Derelict Bungalow - Chinatown**