

Freckleton Parish Council



Newsletter

Issue No. 35 – November 2012

In a year when so much has happened perhaps the most poignant is the very sad loss of Harry Latham. Harry was involved in so many aspects of this village and will be very sadly missed. Condolences go to all his family at this sad time. Later in this newsletter we have included an obituary for Harry.

It was only a couple of days after Harry's Funeral that the Annual Horticultural show was held in the Memorial Hall. A fitting tribute to Harry as he was a big organiser/exhibitor at the show. It was a very good turnout and thanks go to his family for carrying on with the show in difficult times.

I would like to congratulate the Cricket club First 11 for winning the Palace Shield Cup Final match, this is a big victory as the Cup is played for over a wide area of the Northwest up as far as Lancaster. Very well done.

There was a group of lads who were desperate to play football on the all weather surface but were not sure how to go about it. Nicola Nye has started a Community Session football night on a Monday to accommodate them, so if there are any more village youngsters who would like to play, do pop down to the Bush Lane AWS and see for yourself. There is no charge. Thank you Nicola for that.

While we are on that subject there is a very good All Weather Surface on the Bush Lane Playing fields that is underused at present. So if there are any volunteers to start a club (Tennis, Netball for instance) please contact the Clerk of the Council. For the Tennis in particular there is money put aside for a new net system if a viable club is formed.

The Village in Bloom Committee have been awarded 2nd place in the Lancashire Best Kept Village (Large Village section). There will be more news, hopefully good, when the Newsletter goes out. Thank you to the Committee for all the hard work and dedication that is needed to keep these awards coming.

As I said in the last news letter the Parish Council gave all the school children a commemorative mug for the Queens Diamond Jubilee. The children from the schools said thank you by way of letters, photos and a plaque. These are on display in the Village library for everyone to see. Well done children your thank you's were well received.

Councillor Liz Willis Chairman

Obituary
Robert Henry Latham (Harry)
22nd September 1934-30th August 2012
“Freckleton’s Adopted Son”

Harry was born in Salford in 1934 and evacuated to Freckleton in 1939 at the outbreak of the 2nd World War. He was adopted by Miss Annie Mason of Quernmore Naze Lane and became a pupil at Holy Trinity school. It was here on the 23rd August 1944 that life changed for Harry and everybody in Freckleton. The terrible loss of so many young children and the sparing of others, when the American bomber landed on the school, profoundly shaped his life. After completing his primary education at Lawrence House he went on to King Edward School St. Annes.

He started his working life as a farm worker and it was here that he met Doris Edna Sudell who he married in 1956 after completing his National Service. They were blessed with three daughters Patricia, Susan and Dianne and family was completed with the birth of their granddaughter Megan. They started their married life in Kirkham road and Harry became a pig farmer until the death of Aunt Annie when they moved to Quernmore. Harry adapted the redundant army buildings left behind after the war, to become the Quernmore Trading Estate which also acted as the store for countless pieces of equipment essential for the smooth running of Freckleton Club Day.

Harry’s involvement in Club Day is legendary from the driving of the tractor in the Procession in the morning, the marshalling stewards for the children’s sports, to pillow fight on the Greasy Pole and then on the following day organised the national recognised Tug of War competitions. His commitment was complete and all members of the family were enrolled from an early age and they are still following their father’s example of devotion to the village.

The commitment to his adopted village was demonstrated continuously by his involvement in the setting up of the Village Hall and became its founder and to date its only chairman. He was chairman of the Freckleton Charitable Trust and was responsible for the re drafting of its constitution with the Charity Commission in 2000 to broaden its membership and scope. Resulting from his chairmanship of the Village hall he was instrumental in establishing with Harry Robinson the Freckleton Horticultural Show and the encouragement of young people to do their best entries for the show. His interest in and development of young people was demonstrated in his work as junior badminton coach at Kirkham Road and by his work as a school governor at Strike Lane and Carr Hill High schools.

One of the consequences of the crash on the school was the setting up of the liaison group between the village and the American forces called BAD 2 in which Harry was deeply involved and visited the memorial to the children in the States. He ensured that flowers are placed on the children’s grave on club day and on the anniversary.

Music was a source of great joy to him and he enjoyed singing hymns in chapel and was especially proud of his connection with Keighley Choir who sing our MESSIAH and he used everybody’s skills to ensure they were well fed and watered. In later years his greatest joy was being very actively involved with Freckleton Brass Band and was very supportive in arranging concerts and travelling with them to Band contests up and down the country.

Harry was a keen golfer and very competitive, especially if it involved his brother in law Richard Sudell. His tours abroad with the Freckleton Golf Society (Ponky's) have created many tall stories which are sure to be embellished and enhanced as the legend of Harry Latham grows over the years

A special day for Harry was to be present at the Belfry to witness Europe take the Ryder Cup from the Americans and was complete when Concorde flew over the 18th fairway and dipped its wings to Tony Jacklin and his team.

His other great sporting interest was cricket, both as a player with Freckleton CC and passionate supporter of Lancashire Cricket club. The annual pilgrimage to Lords for the Gillette cup Final in September was the only time that Harry was to lose his trencherman status when a poor performance by Lancashire would render him incapable of eating and bring on a state of deep melancholy which could only be cured by the consumption of another glass of wine.

We all miss Harry and wonder who will fill the great empty space in our village, the truth is nobody can take his place, but we can all honour his memory by doing that little bit extra to maintain the way of life to which Harry devoted so much of his time

With Grateful thanks to Bernard Whittle OBE.

November Remembrance Service

This year's Remembrance Service will follow the same format as in previous Years, except that the procession will start from the Guide Hut in the Park.

Seasonal Greetings

The next newsletter will be published in February 2013, so the Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New year.

Forthcoming events

November '12

05/11/12 – Full Council - starting 7:00pm

11/11/12 – Remembrance Sunday

12/11/12 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm

19/11/12 – Finance Committee – starting 6:30pm

26/11/12 – Rawstorne Trust fund – starting 7:30pm

December '12

03/12/12 – Full Council - starting 7:00pm

04/12/12 – Christmas Tree lighting and Carol service

10/12/12 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm

January '13

07/01/13 - Full Council - starting 7:00pm

14/01/13 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm

14/01/13 – Communications group – starting directly after planning meeting

The list of Councillors and telephone numbers are:-

Freckleton East Ward

Councillor Mrs. S Delany		01772 632349
Councillor Mrs. M Whitehead	Vice Chairman	01772 686436
Councillor T. Threlfall		01772 633964
Councillor St. J Greenhough		01772 634638

Co-opted Members

Councillor D Chambers	01772635655
Councillor K McKay	01772634345

Freckleton West Ward

Councillor Mrs M.E. Foster		01772 631184
Councillor T.J. Fiddler		01772 634889
Councillor L. Rigby		01772 634111
Councillor C. Robb	Text Direct	1800201772635814
Councillor Mrs E Willis	Chairman	01772 632777

Co-opted Members

Councillor P Walton	01772632110
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Contact point

The Clerk to the Council is Mr. K. M. Armistead

Please note new number. Tel: 01253 731258

The office is open between 9:00am & noon, Monday to Friday

Email: clerk@freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk

Communication

Advance notice of all Parish Council meetings are published on the Council's web-site and the Council notice board situated on the footpath in front of the Coach & Horses car park..

The minutes of all the Parish Council meetings are published on the Council's web-site and are held in a folder in the Library.

The Parish Council website is:-

www.freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk

Please visit this web site to keep up to date with the Council's business. All minutes of meetings, Agendas, Newsletters and contact points are available.