

Informer

Todwick Parish Council

Issue 103 July 2014

Welcome to your latest edition of the Parish Council Informer. By the time you read this, we will have held all our summer events for 2014. I hope you have been able to attend some, if not all of them. I'd like to say a huge 'thank you' to everyone who has helped to make the events such a success, particularly Sheila Pantry for all her organisation skills. I'm sure you'll agree they help to make Todwick a wonderful place to live.

Stephen Hill, Chairman.

Sports Pavilion

Work will start on the extension and refurbishment mid-September, it is hoped to have it complete before the end of this year. Whilst we have secured the funds to build we still have to furnish and complete the overall project. Fund raising is still a challenge, therefore we ask for any contributions from villagers to enable us to open with everything required. Contributions can be made through David Gregory on 01909 771307 or email: DG54@sky.com. David is happy to speak with anyone about the project. The inclusion of a community/meeting room will take the facility beyond a sports pavilion. The Parish Council view this as a long lasting legacy for the village.

Allotments

If you would like to add your name to the waiting list please contact Bryan Ferris on 01909 773853 or email: bryan.ferris@btopenworld.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Burglaries in Todwick had the highest number of reported incidents in the last 12 months. So please make sure you close all windows and lock all the doors when you leave the house, even when you are in the garden. Put gardening tools away after use as these are often used by burglars to force entry. If you are going away on holiday consider asking a neighbour to keep an eye on the house for you whilst you are away.

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Upcoming Events

Todwick Play Camp

The next Play Camp will be from 21st to 25th July at the recreation ground. The Play Camp will start at 10.00am and finish at 3.00pm. The cost is £5.00 per day or £2.50 per half day. The camps are suitable for children from 5 to 14 years and consist of outdoor activities designed for the children to come along and have fun. You can register your child by ringing the Sports Development Team on 01709 363355 or email: sportsdevelopment@rotherham.gov.uk it's ok to just turn up too!

Latest News

Village Contractor

Todwick now has the benefit of Mark Archer, who will undertake the tasks necessary to ensure that the village looks as good as it can. In conjunction with the limited and reducing support we receive from RMBC Mark will provide a valuable service.

There will be a litter pick on Saturday August 9th, meeting at 10.00am outside the newsagents. Hopefully this will be the last time such action is needed. All are welcome and our actions will ensure that Mark gets a good base to build upon. As usual gloves, bags, safety vests and pickers will be provided.

A Message from the Rev. Vicky Camber

As you know, 2014 marks the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, and over the next four years significant events of that conflict will be commemorated. Everyone is warmly invited to a special service on Monday 4th August to mark 100 years since the start of that conflict – in Todwick Church at 7.30pm. The service will offer a spiritual context in which to begin our reflections on a long and epoch-making conflict, in which not just the countries of Europe but most of the world, were embroiled.

Lights out Campaign

The Royal British Legion and Poppy Scotland are running a 'lights out Campaign' inviting people to join together in a national moment of reflection and hope. People are being encouraged to turn off their lights between 10.00pm and 11.00pm on Monday 4th August – leaving only a single candle or light burning in the window in remembrance of more than a million British and Commonwealth personnel who lost their lives in the Great War.

A candle will be lit at Todwick War Memorial at 10.00pm. There will be no service or vigil – just a moment's pause for reflection. Anyone wishing to come to the War Memorial to light their own candle will be most welcome to do so. Tea lights or small candles in jars only please.

Car Parking

When parking your car half on the road and half on the footpath please consider the obstruction you create. It is understood that there is a genuine intention to leave as much road as possible for others to pass, but, the knock on impact often forces pedestrians into the road to pass. Thank you for your consideration

A Spotlight on: Stephen Hill Chairman of Todwick Parish Council

I was born in the Parish of Wentworth, lived in Thorpe Hesley and then Broom. Father was an estate agent in Rotherham in the days when one was also a surveyor, valuer and auctioneer. From 11 years of age I helped at Auctions in school holidays and weekends and quickly developed a keen interest in the world of antiques. I learned a huge amount from the founders of the firm. I worked hard for the necessary qualifications, being articled to one of the partners and becoming a student member of the landed professional bodies. Most of my life involved property management in its many forms. My early career involved spending a year on a 6000 acre estate as the resident agent's assistant then a year as a management surveyor to the largest property owning retailer in the country. I came back to the family firm and private practice in Rotherham in 1972 when my father suffered ill health. It was straight in at the deep end as the practice was large and varied and included the management of a large cemetery under a burial board, valuers to the local authority and the occasional 'Big House' contents auction – my first love. I was also the Halifax Building Society's Agent in Swallownest for 30 years.

My wife Josephine and I were married in 1967. We have two sons who are both farmers – Tim in South Wales and Paul in Gloucestershire. They have given us three grandchildren. I can say that work is my hobby – just as well as for many years it was as they say – 365 and 24/7. If you didn't love it you couldn't do it. My other hobby is shooting. We have a syndicate of all the farmers on the estate where my father in law farmed. We enjoy the countryside and respect the wildlife, protecting and caring for it year round. Only from September to February do we take the surplus and then only game species.

In 1980 we came to live at Kiveton Hall and spent 25 years restoring it. We moved to Mill Close in 2007 (the late Mr Birtles house and builders yard) and spent two years rebuilding and extending. It was in our last year at Kiveton Hall and as a last resort that I tried Todwick Parish Council to see if they could help in making Kiveton Lane 40mph for the 600 yards that was unrestricted. Within a short time it was done and my faith in Parish Councils was kindled. Clive Pantry was Chairman and asked me to stay and observe the proceedings and later to join, which I duly did. For some reason after several Chairmen left or moved away, no one wanted the job so I tentatively offered and was elected so quickly I didn't realise it had happened! I can say that what seemed an onerous task at the beginning soon became interesting and rewarding. I find it a pleasure to chair meetings and I hope my 50 years of practical experience of Law and the many facets of Land Management brings a useful and beneficial contribution to our Council.