



Colwich Parish Council

INCORPORATING WOLSELEY BRIDGE, COLWICH, GREAT HAYWOOD & LITTLE HAYWOOD

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2017

No. 92

COPS 30 MILER

Ever fancied lugging over 30lbs of kit across 30 miles of unforgiving cross-country terrain, in terrible weather and against the clock? You have?! Well read on...

If you're into endurance events and fancy something a bit different, the COPS 30 Miler is the nearest thing to the infamous 30-mile yomp that Royal Marines recruits undertake as their final test before being awarded their coveted green berets. Co-founded by local lad Simon Guilfoyle and organised by the Royal Marines (Tyne Detachment RMR), the first of what is hoped will become a high profile annual event took place at the end of August 2016 in the Cheviot Hills, Northumberland.

Participants 'yomped' alongside Royal

Marines commandos across the Cheviots, from Kirknewton in the north to Alwinton in the south, raising over £5000 for the two nominated charities, Care of Police Survivors (COPS) and the Royal Marines Charitable Trust Fund (RMCTF).

Following the 30 miler there was a social event for participants, families and supporters, with a barbecue being laid on by Royal Marines chefs. It was a memorable day and everyone is looking forward to the 2017 event.

The date for the 2017 COPS 30 Miler will be Saturday 2nd September. Due



to the extreme nature of the challenge, numbers are strictly limited to 50 places and conditions will apply. If you are interested in taking part, please see the official website <https://cops30miler.org/> for more details, or contact Alison Sutton at Alison.Sutton@UKcops.org

Simon Guilfoyle

CHOIR HITS ALL THE RIGHT NOTES!



The Choir from Anson CE (A) Primary School have been busy performing at a wide range of events over the last few months, giving pupils the opportunity to express themselves through music and the arts. Arts leader, Aimee Plimmer explained how important the Arts is at Anson. "The Arts allow pupils' imagination and creativity to be expressed and develop. We believe this has a positive effect in all aspects of the curriculum as it can raise self-esteem and confidence, leading to pupils achieving more."

After receiving a prestigious Silver award for their commitment to and provision of Music in and around school, the Choir were personally invited by the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Music Education Hub to sing at this year's Christmas Festival at the County Showground. The children

and their families thoroughly enjoyed the evening and added their own touch of sparkle to the event! A member of the audience commented on the quality of the children's performance, announcing: **"They really did themselves justice tonight amongst many older groups!"**

The next chance to perform came just a few weeks later at the famous 'Young Voices' event at Birmingham's NEC Arena. The children had been preparing for this event since September and they truly excelled themselves in their singing and dance moves alongside 6,500 other children from all across the region. It was a chance for our pupils to join other schools and recognise that even a small school such as ours can make a significant contribution when everybody gets together. One child

commented **"This is the best night ever- why can't every Friday be like this!"**

In February, the oldest children in school were also fortunate to receive a visit from the famous Manchester Camerata Orchestra. After taking part in a lively workshop helping to compose their own music to Shakespeare's 'Macbeth', they took part in a stellar performance alongside other local primary schools at the Stafford Gatehouse theatre. Miss Humphries, who leads class 4, said **"It was amazing- the children did so well and it was incredible to be part of - our children are so lucky to have these opportunities!"**

The choir's latest chance to shine was at the Stafford Gatehouse theatre for the 'Schools Gotta Sing' concert on 2/3/2017. The pupils had a wonderful time showing off their prodigious talents!

Mr E Howard, Headteacher
WELL DONE ANSON!

Editor – The Council would love to hear from all our local schools about what their pupils have been up to so we can share their achievements with the Parish. This can be academic achievements, sporting successes or any other extra-curriculum activity.

DRIVING IN THE HAYWOODS

THANK YOU to the overwhelming majority of motorists who drive through the villages with care and respect for other road users and pedestrians. Unfortunately, some drivers persist in driving through our villages as if they own the road: speeding well over the 30 mph limit even outside our primary schools when children are around, not giving way to oncoming traffic, not indicating when turning and overtaking on the blind summit across The Butts.

A little thought goes a long, long way towards making our villages a safe and happy place for our children to grow up in!

Cllr Anne Clendon

COLWICH PARISH COMMUNITY CHOIR

Happiness is singing in a choir! A new Parish Community Choir is being formed for beginners and experienced singers alike. The first meeting will be in Great Haywood Memorial Hall at 8.00 p.m. on Friday 3 February and then every subsequent Friday at the same time. The cost towards the hire of the Hall and the Leader is £3.00 per session. If you are interested, please contact Louise Cannon on 07513 466186 or email loucannon19@gmail.com.

Cllr Alan Doehren



COMMUNITY LUNCH

Great Haywood Memorial Hall hosted a community lunch for a group of local senior citizens on Friday 20 January. The gourmet 3 course meal was prepared by volunteers in the Hall's new kitchen which was installed recently. Afterwards, everyone was entertained by Anson School Choir.

Cllr Alan Doehren

DEFIBRILLATORS



There are now two defibrillators in the Parish. One is located on the side of the Sports and Social Club in Great Haywood and the other by the front door of the Parish Centre on St Marys Road, Little Haywood. The Council is considering purchasing additional Defibrillators in order to cover as much of the parish as possible. Please let us know if you are happy to host a box. We are looking for one box in Colwich and a further box in Great Haywood.

If you suspect someone is having a cardiac arrest then you must call 999. The ambulance service will dispatch a First Responder; Paramedic or an ambulance. If you are within 500 metres of a defibrillator they will also ask you to collect it and to start resuscitation. The box has a recorded message which talks you through the process. Working with qualified local volunteers, we are looking to arrange free training in the use of the defibrillators

It is important that you only collect the defibrillator when instructed to do so by the ambulance service. Once it is taken out there are various checks that need to be undertaken, to ensure it is ready for the next incident, before it is returned to the box and put back online. Consequently, to avoid unauthorised removal, both boxes have a keypad code – which the ambulance service will provide during the 999 call.

WEBSITE

At the start of 2017, Colwich Parish Council relaunched its website using some very interesting pictures provided by Dawn Lockett, a local resident. The new website was launched with the purpose of (a) complying with the latest rules governing parish councils, and (b) to allow it to include much more information for residents.

When you enter the site, you will see that it provides two types of information: on or about the Parish Council and for and about the Local Community.

The Council section includes copies of the minutes; policies and procedures; job vacancies as well as information on Councillors and how to contact them.

The Community area, on the other hand, contains information on planning applications, news affecting the parish, and upcoming events in the brand-new Parish Events Calendar. We would encourage you to use the Events Calendar to publish information on things your group or church or organisation are organising. We intend this to be the go to place to find out what is happening in the villages. It is therefore important that as many organisations as possible provide us with information to populate this Calendar.

If you run a local charity or community group, let us know and we can include your details on the website.

Enter www.colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk into your search box to find our website.



By the time you receive this Newsletter, winter will be all but over and we will be heading into springtime – which is always a wonderful sight in our Parish. Whether it's flowers - wild or cultivated, or the new lambs in the fields, we have a truly beautiful area in which we live.

If you are one of the many who really appreciate how our villages look, then why not get involved with our Best Kept Village and Heart of England team? Much of the local beauty doesn't just happen, and without their efforts, the beauty in our Parish would be much diminished. Even if it's just an hour or so every now and then, it all helps.

Those who walk around the public **footpaths** in our Parish will have seen the start of some improvements as part of the ongoing programme of renovation and better access. Please remember, that if on your travels you identify an area which may want some attention, then let the Clerk know, and we can look into it to determine the best way forward.

As I suggested in the previous Newsletter, the Parish Council is looking to employ '**Lengthsmen**' to help with basic maintenance around the Parish. To that end, at the time of writing we are advertising for two part time positions. This will not only benefit our Parish appearance etc., but underpin the Parish Councils objective of supporting local employment where possible.

We now have a couple of **defibrillators** around the Parish – one located on the side of the Sports & Social Club in Great Haywood and the other on the side of the Parish Centre on St Mary's Road in Little Haywood. These devices can be lifesavers in the right circumstances and are very easy to use – even by somebody with no training or experience! **However – the first action for anyone who finds themselves in an emergency situation is to call 999.** This will ensure that the emergency services are on their way as soon as possible. If the symptoms described to the 999 service suggest that a defibrillator may be of use, the caller will be given the location of the nearest unit and the code to release the lock (designed to prevent misuse and vandalism). The units have a built in recording advising the user what to do, and will actually test the patient to see if its use would be beneficial. We hope that further devices will be installed at other suitable locations in the future.

At long last, the **Memorial Hall car park** has been resurfaced and is now considerably easier to use – especially in poor weather. Much of the work organising the project has been carried out by our hardworking and dedicated GHMH Committee, and the Parish Council was more than happy to contribute a substantial grant towards this key village asset. Work on assessing the practicality and

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

viability of linking the GHMH car park with the Surgery car park is being investigated. In the meantime, the BKV team have volunteered to look after the car park flowerbeds.

We continue to work with local landowners and CURB in our efforts to establish additional **burial space** within the Parish. As you may know, our churchyards are reaching capacity and therefore to ensure that there is opportunity to have the option of a local 'resting place' we are negotiating the purchase of land from local landowners. I'm sure you will understand that any negotiation regarding land purchase has a degree of confidentiality about it, and hopefully we will be able to advise you regarding a more detailed position on the matter in the not too far distant future. At the time of writing we are currently awaiting land assessments from the Borough Council and valuations from the District Valuations Office.

Since the last Newsletter, we have been advised that the Secretary of State has turned down the appeal over the Moore Family Trust development which would have joined Little Haywood with Great Haywood, causing a loss of individual identity between the two residential areas. The refusal was based on several items, but a key issue was that it didn't support our local **Neighbourhood Plan!**

In this report, I'd also like to publically welcome our new co-opted councillor **Wendy Wells** from Little Haywood filling the recent



Councillor Andy Cooper

casual vacancy prompted by the resignation of Cllr John Coates. I'm sure she will enjoy a rewarding time serving our Parish with the rest of the team and I look forward to her contribution to the work of your Council. At the same time, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank **John Coates** for his many years of service to the Parish as Councillor, Vice Chair and Chairman. John was a very active member of the Council supporting the work of CURB, BKV and many other village activities. On behalf of the rest of the Council and the staff, I wish you all the best for the future John.

Finally, let me wish you all a Happy Easter and an uplifting springtime.

Cllr Andy Cooper



Members of Colwich Parish Council and Great Haywood Memorial Hall Committee on the new car park at the back of the Memorial Hall.

MEMORIAL HALL CAR PARK

Colwich Parish Council was delighted to be able to provide a substantial grant towards the re-surfacing of the memorial hall carpark. The Council has received very positive feedback from residents who agree that it is another valuable asset for the community.

The Best Kept Village team have agreed to look after the flowerbed at the far side and the Hall is looking at getting the whole car park lined out properly.

We are continuing to investigate the feasibility of linking the car park with the Health Centre to provide relief from the car park congestion there.

The Council will continue to invest in our Parish by continuing to make the villages places to be proud of and provide services that support the community.

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

As we are well into the lambing season and the Council has been asked, by local landowners, to remind walkers that they should keep to the designated public footpaths. Furthermore, dog walkers are reminded that, apart from it being unlawful to allow dogs to worry any sort of livestock, it is also a legal requirement that dogs are kept on a short lead when crossing any fields in which there are sheep. Your cooperation would be gratefully received.



PICTURES ON THE WEBSITE

As announced in the Winter 2016 Newsletter, the Parish Council's new website is up and running at:

www.colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk with photographs of the village provided by Dawn Lockett. The Council has received lots of new photographs to be included on the website and would love to receive lots more. Photographs can be of anything to do with life in the parish e.g. a building, a view of our wonderful countryside, a snowman, a person. Anything that you are happy to share on social media can be considered for inclusion on the website to represent Our Villages. New photographs will be added to the website each season with a 'Photo of the Year' being announced during the Annual Parish Meeting to be held at Colwich & Little Haywood Village Hall in May 2017. Please send any photographs to the Parish Clerk.

LOST & FOUND → → →

The statue (opposite) has been found in a local garden. Please contact the clerk with your details if this is your statue and they will pass them on to the property owner.



THE HAYWOODS BEST-KEPT VILLAGE

Please be aware that we are only entering the Heart of England in Bloom Competitions this year.

YOUR HELP is needed join the Village Volunteers and wear our VEST - only a small amount of time and effort is needed.

Further information from Anne Clendon. 01889 808214 - arclendon@gmail.com



IRONMAN 70.3

IRONMAN 70.3 Staffordshire will take place on Sunday 18 June 2017. There will be a number of temporary road closures in place on race day to ensure the safety of the athletes and the wider public.

The organisers aim is to provide useful and localised information to residents that will: inform them of road closure times; advise them of alternative routes; and help to minimise any inconvenience to their travel plans for race day. To do this, they will be sending out over 80,000 Road Access Leaflets in May 2017 to the residencies and businesses of the affected postcodes.

ROGATION WALKS

The Rogation Walk or Beating the Bounds on Rogation Sunday each year has been neglected of late but we are pleased to announce that this event will be held again in May this year. This is a religious as well as a civil occasion and although we do not intend to walk the complete parish boundary, the walk will nevertheless cover approximately 3-4 miles with a shortened version if required. Refreshments will be available at the end of the walk together with a short service. Full details will be announced shortly.

Cllr Alan Doehren

TREVOR FIELD-WILLIAMS

As a friend and neighbour of Trevor I should like to pay tribute to this remarkable man.

I first met him in 1962 when he was always to be found tolling the bell at St. Stephens Church, Great Haywood for the Morning and Evening Services; he also played the Church Organ occasionally, when the late Mrs Shaw was ill, and was a great help mowing the Vicarage lawns, but Trevor will always be remembered for his life-time commitment to St. Mary the Virgin Church at Ingestre, where he was Church Warden until 2016, and he also played the Organ there until he was too ill to climb up the steps to the keyboard. He was a wonderful Church Guide, and knew everything about the Christopher Wren Church.

Trevor was an avid Collector - of Books, Pictures, Candelabra, antique Mirrors, Porcelain, Magazines and especially Antique furniture, and his House was like an Aladdin's Cave, and once you were in conversation with him time stood still! He was a very kind, understanding and private man and a great helpful friend. I for one will miss him.

Anne Clendon. B.E.M.



Chairman:

Cllr. Andy Cooper

E: andy.cooper@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk:

Michael Lennon

E: clerk@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Office:

St Mary's Road, Little Haywood, ST18 0TX

T: 01889 882665

facebook www.facebook.com/colwich.clerk

www.colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk