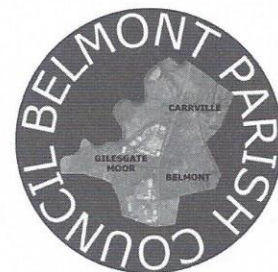


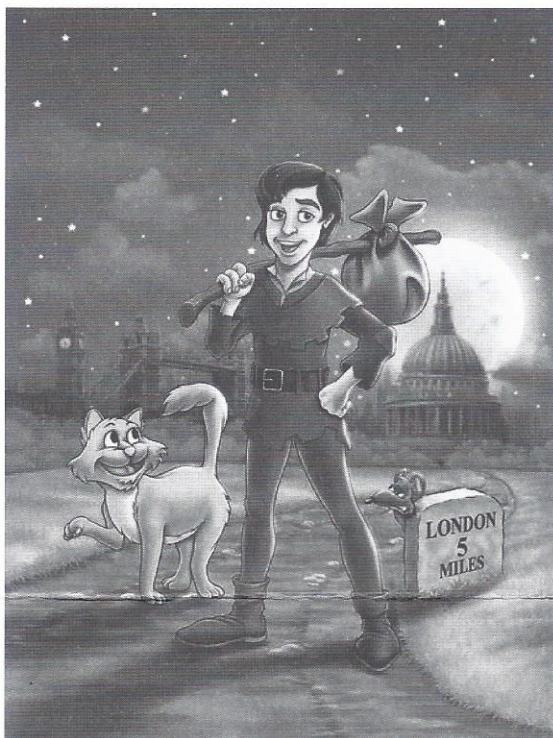
NEWSLETTER

Belmont Parish Council



AUTUMN 2017

SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY AND PANTOMIME



The Senior Citizens' Christmas Party will be held on
Thursday 14th December 2017
at Belmont Community School.

Guests will be received from **12:30 p.m.**
for a performance at **1.00 p.m.** of
"Dick, the Cat and the Rat"

Once again the school has kindly offered to provide a
buffet tea - a real treat for all.

Everyone welcome

If you would like to attend, please telephone
the Parish Office on 0191 386 0664.

At the time of booking please notify of any special
dietary requirements; the school needs to know these no
later than 30th November.

Transport is available on request to the Parish Office.

Buses to pick up from 12.00 noon.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICES 2017

Act of Remembrance 11th November

There will be a short Public Service of Remembrance leading up the 11 O'Clock silence.
This will be conducted by Mr Patrick Holroyd, Reader of St. Mary Magdalene Church.

Remembrance Sunday 12th November

A Remembrance Day Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. at St Mary Magdalene Church.
An Act of Remembrance will commence at 10:40 a.m. at Belmont War Memorial.

Everyone welcome

Light refreshments will be available in Belmont Parish Hall following the Act of Remembrance.
Remembrance tags will be presented in memory of those who died in 1917.

Please do join us.

Monday 13th November

There will be a Schools' Service to include an 11 O'Clock silence, conducted by the Minister of
Carrville Methodist Church, Rev. Andy Longe. Please meet at the memorial at 10.45 a.m.

Members of the public are very welcome.

NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM AWARDS

We are delighted to announce that at the NIB Awards Ceremony held on the 13th September at the Lancastrian Suite in Gateshead, the Belmont Parish entries collected four gold awards, three best in category and a silver gilt.

Results are as follows:

- Belmont Allotments** – Gold Award and Award for best in Category
- Belmont Scrambles** – Gold Award and Award for Best in Category
- Belmont Cemetery** – Gold Award
- Belmont Parish** – Silver Gilt and Award for Best in Category
- Ramside Hall Hotel** – Gold Award



Some of the Winning Entries in this year's Northumbria in Bloom Competition

These have been our best results so far and are testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of all those involved – Congratulations to everyone who took part!

We would also like to thank the following businesses and residents for their kind donations towards the upkeep of the parish flowerbeds:

- Bainbridges Fruit and Veg
- Belmont Post Office
- Belmont Super News
- Blue Bow Bridal
- Clarks Chemist
- Paul Bowden Hairdressers
- The Beauty Centre
- Residents of Moor End Terrace

A special thank you also, to Mr Eddie Malarkey whose dedication to the job of looking after the Cemetery and flowerbeds around the parish ensures that they are always in pristine condition and much admired.

SCRAMBLES AWARD

In this year's Northumbria in Bloom competition, Belmont Scrambles has been given a Gold award and voted the Best Conservation Project ahead of at least another dozen sites. The judges were evidently impressed by the general tidiness of the site and the involvement of the community. The award includes a framed certificate and engraved glass plaque, which will be displayed in Belmont Library. Here is an extract from the judges' comments:

"This nature and wildlife conservation area is a gem. With undulating hillsides, gorges, vast wild flower meadows, woodlands and boggy areas, it offers a truly exhilarating, fascinating walking experience, commendably litter free and cared-for, with flower meadows displaying a wonderful variety, including orchids, as well as many insects, butterflies and moths."

Much credit for this should go to members of the public who pick up litter, to Eddie Malarkey, for regularly keeping the pathways tidily strimmed, and to Jodie Peachy and the National Trust, for their liaison with pupils from Belmont Community School. The pupils have already cleared an extensive area of bracken, and this autumn it is planned to plant additional trees, clear unwanted scrub, and spread wild flower seeds in woodland and grassy areas.

Anyone interested in being involved on the Scrambles is invited to contact Ken Neat, Chairman of the Friends of Belmont Scrambles (kp.neat@gmail.com).

PLANNING MATTERS

Here is brief information on some of the planning applications with which the Parish Council has been involved in recent months. These included:

STUDIOS, STUDENT ACCOMMODATION, ERNEST PLACE, RENNY'S LANE

Signage

Application DM/17/02355/AD

The Parish Council strongly objected to 2 large illuminated roof signs which were thought entirely inappropriate but accepted plans for wall and entrance signs. The roof signs have now been REFUSED and 1 wall and 1 entrance sign APPROVED.

Also with particular regard to the above property, we sent letters of enquiry to the Head of Planning Services and the Leader of Durham County Council, expressing concern about cladding and fire emergency facilities in view of the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy. Replies have been received addressing our concerns. We also asked the Head of Highways Development about the collapsibility of traffic bollards in Renny's Lane to allow access of emergency vehicles and again received reassurance that they are suitable for the purpose.

MAGDALENE GARDENS, WILLOWTREE AVENUE, GILESGATE MOOR

Retaining Wall

Application DM/17/01827/FPA

The Chairman of Belmont Parish Council Planning spoke at the Durham County Council Planning Committee Meeting to reiterate concerns already expressed in writing about the wall and Public Right of Way 5 beside it. Members remain concerned and disappointed that the PROW has steep steps, hampering accessibility. We expressed particular concern that the application for this major construction was retrospective and the construction conditions attached, largely irrelevant as the wall had already been built. Application APPROVED.

DURHAM CENTRE, BELMONT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Change of use and refurbishment of additional unit to extend conference facilities and expand parking provision

Application DM/17/02035/FPA

We expressed concern about potential loss of trees. Application WITHDRAWN and new submission is awaited.

GRANGE FOUNDRY SITE, KEPIER CRESCENT, GILESGATE MOOR

8 two bedroom residential apartments

Resubmission: DM/17/02883/FPA

Changes to access and parking considered but no objection thought necessary.

20 MILE PER HOUR SPEEDING RESTRICTIONS

Work is in progress on the 20mph speed limits and 20mph speed zones in all residential areas within the Parish and will be completed in the near future. The County Council has designed and is now installing the signage and road markings. There will also be 30mph speed indicators on the High Street in Carrville, one on Broomside Lane, Belmont and also on Sunderland Road in Gilesgate Moor. The scheme has been supported by the Police and Police Crime Commissioner.

PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION

To find out more about what's going on in the parish, read the minutes of our monthly meetings & see the agendas for upcoming ones then visit our website at

parishes.durham.gov.uk/Belmont



CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE PARISH

Local parish councillors and volunteers have been working very hard, and we are delighted to announce that there will be a Christmas tree in the grounds of Mary Magdalene church this year!

There will be a Christmas fair at Belmont club on Sunday 12th November 3.00 to 6.00pm to raise funds for the upkeep of the Christmas tree, memorial baubles can also be purchased at £2 each from the club. There will be a switching on of the lights on Friday 1st December at 6.00pm with mince pies and mulled wine, all residents are welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS TO NOTE AND ENJOY

BELMONT PARISH HALL

Saturday 25th November

Christmas Fayre, 10am - 1pm

Saturday 9th December

Bad Apple Theatre Company present a family comedy, with puppets, songs and fun.

The Elves and The Carpenter 2017

6pm (Running time 2hr 55 minutes with a 20 minute interval)

Tickets £8.50 all adults, £4 u/16s and £20 family ticket (2+2)

Wine, soft drinks, tea, coffee and ice creams available.

FRIENDS OF BELMONT LIBRARY CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 9th December

10.00a.m.to 12.00 noon

Festive Activities for all in your local friendly library

CARRVILLE METHODIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 2nd December

10.00am to 1.00pm

Admission free to enjoy stalls, activities and café.

Dates for Parish Council Meetings	USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
held in Belmont Community Centre at 6.30 p.m.	<i>Durham County Council</i> 03000 260 000 <i>General enquiries</i>
(first Thursday of the month, excluding August)	<i>Highways, Lighting</i> 03000 261 000 <i>and Streetscene</i>
2 nd November 2017	<i>County Council Help Desk</i> 0300 123 7070
7 th December 2017	<u>Community Police Officer</u> Can be contacted on the police non-emergency number 0345 606 0365
4 th January 2018	
Members of the public are welcome to attend.	

SAD DEATH OF MR JOE GLANCEY

We are very sorry to report the sad passing of Mr Joe Glancey who was Parish Council Clerk in the early 1990s. Our sincere sympathy has been expressed to Mrs Glancey and family.

Parish Clerk Mrs S. Overton 0191 386 0664