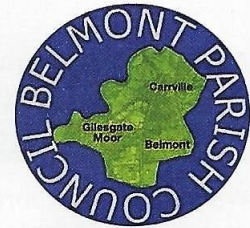


# NEWSLETTER

Belmont Parish Council



SPRING 2019

## WELL DONE AND MANY THANKS TO BELMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL



On behalf of all who attended the senior citizens' Christmas Party and excellent production of Sleeping Beauty, Belmont Parish Council would like to say a huge thank you to Belmont Community School! Once again we were treated to a very enjoyable afternoon with first class, talented entertainment, and superb party refreshments. Guests were full of praise for the care, politeness and efficiency of students who helped serve the refreshments and were a credit to the school. The Parish Council would also like to thank TM Travel for their generosity in waiving their charge on this occasion for transporting the senior citizens.

### **NO INCREASE IN PARISH PRECEPT FOR THE YEAR 2019/20**

Once again Durham County Council has applied the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme in line with the overall formula made available to Durham County Council from Central Government. This year Belmont Parish Council will not receive any benefit from a Grant to assist the Precept of £3,413.00 as it has been immediately clawed back by the same amount being reduced from our Precept income. The Parish Council has no control over these circumstances. However, again the Parish Council has been prudent and agreed that there should be no increase in the Precept this year.

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Council Office : Belmont Community Centre, Sunderland Road, Gilesgate Moor, DURHAM, DH1 2LL  
Open 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Monday to Friday. Tel 0191 386 0664 Email [belmontpc@btconnect.com](mailto:belmontpc@btconnect.com)

## OUR PARISH IN BLOOM

Again this year Belmont Parish Council is entering the Northumbria in Bloom and Beautiful Durham competitions. Last year in Northumbria in Bloom we did very well with all of our Special Entries for Belmont Allotments, Belmont Cemetery, Belmont Scrambles and Ramside Hall. We retained our overall Silver Gilt for an Urban Community, which was the Best in Category.

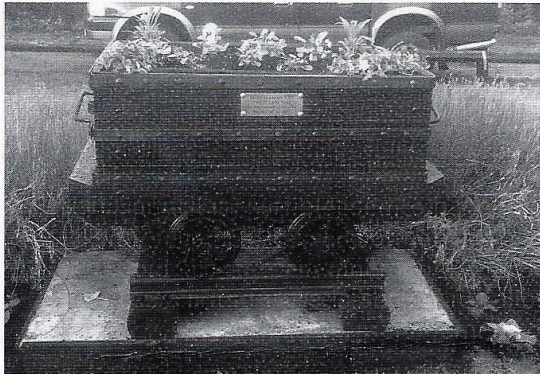
We very much appreciate the efforts of all who work in many ways to improve our environment and make our parish such a pleasant place to live. As well as visiting the 'Specials' the judges tour the whole area of Belmont, Carrville and Gilesgate Moor in Spring and Summer. They look at all flowerbeds and verges and always commend the fine work of residents in maintaining such attractive and varied gardens. They are particularly keen to see neighbours working together to improve the local environment so if you know of any group coming together in this way do please let us know.

May we also encourage you to enter the Beautiful Durham Competition. This local event is judged in the summer. Entry is free and details regarding the 2019 competition will become available on the DCC website ([www.durham.gov.uk](http://www.durham.gov.uk)) or you can contact the County Council on 03000 261000. The Parish Clerk is always willing to answer your questions.

In relation to Northumbria in Bloom, pictures from the Parish Council's Annual Children's Art Competition are converted into calendars by students at Belmont Community School. Donations for these have raised £65 for the Great North Air Ambulance – well done to all of the pupils involved and all who contributed.

## SECOND COAL TUB ON BROOMSIDE LANE

As with most of County Durham during the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Belmont area was home to a number of coal mines. A few years ago we were able to recognise that mining heritage when local resident and owner of the Grange Iron Company, Graham Robson, donated a coal tub which he had restored using the original axles and wheels he'd salvaged from the River Wear in Kepier Woods. This was sited near the Shell Petrol Station at the bottom of Carrville High Street. It is the last remaining example of tubs used at the Kepier Grange Colliery and is an important piece of our local history which we are very lucky to have.



We are now pleased to say we have a second coal tub, a replica, made by Mr Robson, which he has installed on a piece of Parish Council land at Broomside Lane. This coal tub is dedicated to the memory of those who died in the nearby Broomside Colliery between 1840 -1890. It sits within a large lavender bed and is planted up with spring flowers making a very attractive focal point in the area.

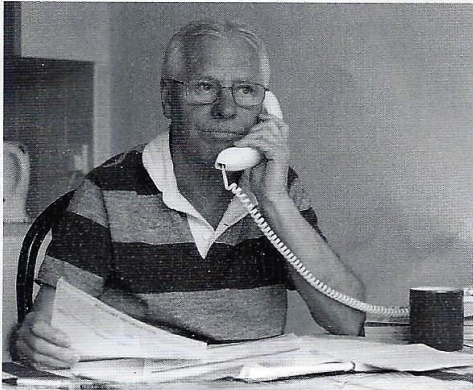
## TALL SHIPS

Twenty pupils from Belmont Community School are set to embark on their first tall ships voyage in March 2019. They will be representing the school and experience life on board one of the challenger yachts as they undergo the tall ships adventure. Following an excellent presentation to the Parish Council from three of the pupils, Belmont Parish Council has agreed to support with funding towards this. We wish them well in their adventure.

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## BE SCAM AWARE AND PROTECT YOURSELF



If you think you have been scammed seek help from the Police on 101. Older people can contact Age UK County Durham's Beat the Scammers project on 0191 386 3856 or [bts@ageukcountydurham.org.uk](mailto:bts@ageukcountydurham.org.uk)

Scams are frauds designed to cheat people out of their money or commit identity theft. Methods include cold calling on the doorstep, telephone, post or email.

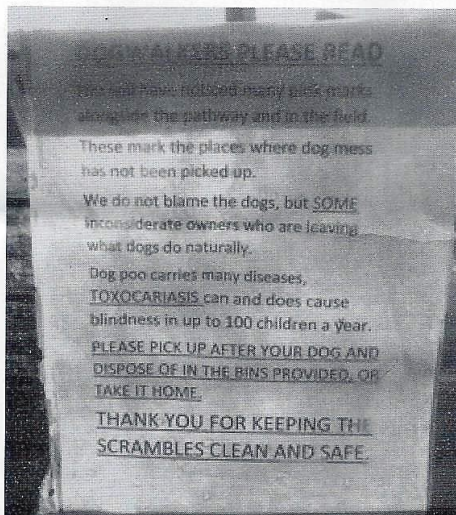
Follow these simple steps to protect yourself from crime or purchasing an item or service you did not want or need.

1. Do not talk to cold callers on the phone or at the door.
2. Do not give out passwords, financial details or personal details to any cold caller on the doorstep or telephone.
3. If you think an organisation might genuinely want to speak to you, call them directly using a publically available number from a bill or website.
4. Do not buy services or goods on the doorstep. They are often poor quality and you have no way to get a refund if you are not happy.

## CONSULTATION ON NEW SEATING IN THE PARISH

The Parish Council is looking at the provision of public seating around the parish with a view to replacing some of the existing seats and identifying new areas that might benefit from having a seat in place. We think it is important that residents have the opportunity to be part of this so would welcome any ideas and suggestions from residents as to where they would like to see new seating in place. Contact details for the Parish Council can be found at the bottom of the newsletter pages.

## FRIENDS OF BELMONT SCRAMBLES



Encouraged by another Northumbria in Bloom 'Gold' award last year, the Friends of Belmont Scrambles are keen to keep developing and improving this local wild-life area.

Last year some 1,400 bulbs – snowdrops, bluebells and others – were planted in various locations, and these should begin flowering as the weather warms up. Through the liaison with the National Trust, in the coming months 20 students from Belmont Community School will be doing voluntary work on the Scrambles as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Dog-fouling remains a serious problem, as highlighted by a notice which was briefly attached to the gate at the main entrance on Cheveley Walk. We will continue to draw attention to dog mess by spraying it with non-toxic pink paint.

<b>Belmont Area</b>		<b>Carrville Area</b>		<b>Gilesgate Moor Area</b>	
Eric Mavin	386 9031	Barbara Howarth	384 2224	Sydney Inglis	384 6023
Eileen Finlay	374 1733	Lesley Mavin	386 9031	Dennis Southwell	386 4838
Tracy Lemmon	07952289986	John Appleby	07960241526	Christine Fletcher	375 0125
Rosemary Murphy	07747077690	Paul Finley	07793547613		
Sandra Lowes	07745988634	Jennifer Wildheart	384 1960		

### COUNTY DURHAM PLAN – LOCAL DROP-IN EVENT

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March between 4.00pm and 7.00pm a County Plan Drop-in will be held in Belmont Community Centre, room 1. The format of the event will mean residents have the opportunity to come along at any time to view the displays and ask questions regarding the County Durham Plan, Housing Strategy and proposed Relief Roads. Officers will be on hand to guide residents on how to make their comments as part of the consultation which will then be submitted alongside the Plan for an Examination in Public later this year.

### PACT MEETINGS

There will be a PACT (Police And Communities Together) meeting on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Lynn Jordison House Broomside Lane at 7.00pm

<b>Dates for Parish Council Meetings</b>	<b>USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS</b>
held in Belmont Community Centre at 6.30 p.m. (first Thursday of the month)	<i>Durham County Council</i> <i>General enquiries</i> 03000 260 000
7 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	<i>Highways, Lighting and Streetscene</i> 03000 261 000
4 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	<i>County Council Help Desk</i> 03000 123 7070
2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2019	<b>Community Police Officer</b> Can be contacted on the police non-emergency number 0345 606 0365
Members of the public are welcome to attend.	

**Parish Clerk Mrs S. Overton 0191 386 0664**



## CITY INTERIORS

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 [cityinteriors2017@yahoo.com](mailto:cityinteriors2017@yahoo.com)



# INVITATIONS

## STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE

Bespoke invitations for your special events.

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