

# THE WILSDENER

Brought to you by Wilsden Village Hall (Reg. Charity No. 511626) & Wilsden Parish Council  
~ Also covers Harecroft & Hallas Bridge ~



ISSUE 19  
OCTOBER 2008



## INSIDE: Latest news from around the village, PLUS Wilsden Parish Council Newsletter (PAGES 3 & 4)

### Wilsden Old and New

Something for Wilsdeners old and new! If you have recently chosen Wilsden as the place to live, come and find out about the past that has shaped this village. If your family has been here forever and you just want to reminisce, you may be surprised at some of what you discover at the exhibition in **St Matthew's Church** in Main Street.

There will be photos, maps, plans, scrapbooks etc., many never previously displayed.

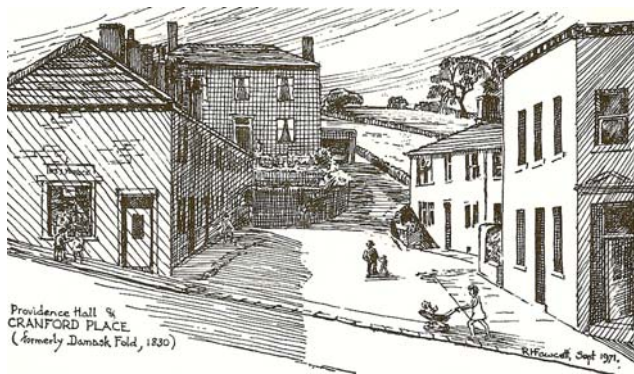
*The Aethelbert Binns book featured in the last issue of Wilsdener will be on show with other examples of his work.*

Wilsden School is providing display material and some classes will be coming to see the exhibition.

Open		
Friday	March 20 <sup>th</sup>	2pm - 4.30pm
Saturday	March 21 <sup>st</sup>	10am - 12.30pm & 2pm - 4.30pm
Sunday	March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	2pm - 4.30pm
Monday	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10am - 12.30pm

(includes visits by school classes)

Admission to exhibition free.



*The house where the Binns family lived in 1891 was Providence House, which is still here today.*

On Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm there will be an illustrated talk by Astrid Hansen:

#### 'Wilsden in more words and pictures'

Tickets £3 (inc. refreshments) at the door or from Wilsden Post Office. Proceeds are for the Leprosy Mission.

### Annual Parish Meeting to be combined with the Neighbourhood Forum

Bradford Council and Wilsden Parish Council have agreed to hold these two meetings on the same evening, Wednesday May 6th, at the Village Hall. The Annual Parish Meeting, which will start at 7pm, will include a short report of Parish Council activities and an opportunity for you to raise any issues that you wish. This meeting will last 45 minutes and be immediately followed by the Neighbourhood Forum.

### Police Update

Bingley Neighbourhood Policing Team report that crime levels in Wilsden still remain very low. However there has been an increase in reports of incidents of anti-social behaviour.

The area that seems to be affected is in and around Wilsden Village Hall. Police have taken positive action in relation to this and log sheets have been posted to residents in the area so that any anti-social behaviour can be logged and passed to the Police. These log sheets are treated in the strictest of confidence and are used in conjunction with Police evidence to ensure that individuals engaging in this sort of behaviour are brought to the attention of the anti-social behaviour panel for their assessment and then warning letters are issued. The warning letter procedure is designed to allow individuals to be aware of effects of their behaviour and gives them the opportunity to rectify it. The letters are very successful however, if individuals ignore them they are progressed to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC) or even Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO).

We currently have four individuals on ABC's with numerous individuals' part of the warning letter system.

Your NPT team is also out and about in Wilsden on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March doing a meet and greet. The team (including the Inspector) will be available at the Village Hall from 9am. The idea of the day is for residents to meet their local team and discuss local priorities. Advice will be available on any issues such as crime prevention, specials recruitment, and those issues that you would like to bring to the team's attention.

Bradford Council Safer Communities officers will also be on hand and they will be doing a litter pick on the local footpaths. The Parish Councillors will also be available for a chat.

Please come and join us. Even if it's just to have a coffee, we will be pleased to see you.

#### Thanks

**Di Collins Police Sergeant 5850**

### Senior Youth Club

We are currently in negotiations with the Youth Service as to the reopening of Senior Club.

This unfortunately closed due to a couple of rather nasty incidents involving Hall staff and a certain minority group of young people. It is unfortunate for young people who do wish to be involved in positive group activities that this came about, and they lose a place to go just because a small number think it is funny to disrupt other groups and damage property. The Hall is a charity and only survives because it is well used by groups who enjoy their time here. If these groups begin to feel threatened and are constantly disturbed, then eventually they will leave and the village is in danger of losing a valuable service catering for everyone.

**Julie Petty, Manager.**  
**Wilsden Village Hall**

## YOUR BOWLING CLUB

### ROYD HOUSE WILSDEN B.C.

Opened in the 1920's your local bowling club has been very successful over the years. Last year the village bowling team won the top veterans Bradford League and the Second team were runners-up and promoted from Division 3.

Unfortunately, this does not tell the full story. Less than half the team players are from the village.

If your local club is to survive we really need local members, not only to play in the teams if they wish, but also to use the facilities on a social basis.



Bradford Council are due to provide a new bowls pavilion after much pressure and assistance provided by the Parish Council, to whom the Bowls Club are much indebted.

So please come and join your local club and play on a social basis or, if you prefer we have vacancies in all our teams. We play on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons and also on Monday evenings.

Costs are minimal, i.e., juniors play for free and all other members currently pay £6 per annum. This covers bowling from April until September inclusive. The Club will also provide bowls for interested parties and coaching, if required, will be available for beginners.

The Club is financially sound so it is not your money we are after but people to keep your village amenity going. So please do support your local village amenity which will also keep you fit and healthy hopefully.

Please contact Cliff or Pat White on 01535 273587 who will be looking forward to hearing from you.

## Village Hall News

February has seen a number of changes at the Hall; the first was the departure of Assistant Manager Mark Driver. Mark will be missed by both staff and customers alike at the Hall, and I would like this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and support over the last few years. His friendship and conscientiousness will be missed especially by me, and I wish him all the very best for his future. Don't forget us Mark, the kettle is always on!

### Wilsden Gardening Association.

Yet again I would like to thank the Gardening Association for another generous donation towards the cause of the hall, in the shape of our new portable disabled ramp. This will make life much easier for wheelchair users visiting the Hall. Over the last few years the Gardening Association has been a constant source of valuable help with the purchases of tables and gazebos. One member has now even joined our staff, as maintenance crew ( odd jobs etc) we are pleased to welcome Roger Galton on board, and I am sure he will be a familiar face to many, to add to this list, one very talented lady, Mrs Catherine Bartle has kindly built the Hall its very own web site. To access this and find out what's on, go to [www.wilsdenvillagehall.com](http://www.wilsdenvillagehall.com)

A very big thank you to our Gardening Association for all their help, friendship and support it is so much appreciated.

**Julie Petty, Manager.**  
**Wilsden Village Hall**

## More than 350 Yorkshire walks to download and print FREE!

There's no doubt about it, walking is good for you. It's good for your heart, it's good for your lungs, it's good for the muscle and bone growth of your children and it's good for your feeling of well-being! Strong scientific evidence now supports the many benefits to health of regular walking – it is recommended that we take at least 10,000 steps a day.

Studies show that walking can:

- Reduce the risk of coronary heart disease and stroke
- Lower blood pressure
- Reduce high cholesterol
- Reduce body fat
- Enhance mental well being

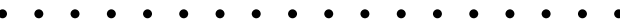
Walking offers a great way to help kids get the active habit. If parents express excitement about the prospect of a walk in the countryside, they are more likely to transmit this feeling to their children. It's important to treat the walk as an exploration or adventure and to go at the child's pace, no matter how often they want to stop and look at things; take treats to eat and plenty to drink; and head for some landmark that will appeal to them such as a castle, a playground, an ice cream van or a boating pond. If children experience walking as part of a fun activity they are more likely to want to go again.

So, how do you find out what is on offer? John Harris, a keen walker, got fed up with the lack of information on walks in the County. So, he decided that if he couldn't find what he was looking for – he had better create it! So [www.walkinginyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.walkinginyorkshire.co.uk) came into being.

[www.walkinginyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.walkinginyorkshire.co.uk) gives you all the information you need for the best walking in the County:

Details of more than 350 walks to download and print free, details of all the Yorkshire walking groups, maps and walk books – plus loads more information.

So check out the website and get walking!



### Holiday Club.

The first Holiday Club opened on the 16<sup>th</sup> February, and started well although quiet. The children who attended enjoyed the activities on offer, in the now refurbished lower hall. We have been extremely lucky with the amount of support and funding given to us by the Early Years and Childcare Services at Bradford. This has allowed for the refurbishments and many new resources purchased.

The next Holiday Club will obviously be open during April half term. Dates are Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April. Please note there is a Bank Holiday closure during this Holiday. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt taking place for children attending the club on the 8<sup>th</sup> April, one of the many activities on offer.

If you wish to book a place or require further information regarding Holiday Club or Care Scheme, please call Claire Gaunt on 07717 250433.

### Village Diary

**Wilsden in more words and pictures...**

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm, St Matthews Church

**Wilsden Parish Council meeting...**

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm, Library Room, Village Hall

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm, Village Hall

(Annual Parish Meeting with Neighbour hood Forum)

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm, Library Room, Village Hall

**Wilsden Neighbourhood Forum...**

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm, Village Hall

**Wilsden Cricket Club Race Night...**

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm, Conservative Club

(in association with Royd House Bowling Club)

**Wilsden Garden Association Spring Fayre...**

Sun 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2pm, Village Hall

# Wilsden Parish Council Newsletter



## Chairman's Message

Welcome to a new edition of the Wilsdener. You will see on the front page an article from Sgt Di Collins about some of the anti-social behavior problems that have been experienced recently and one thing she raises is the issue of recording incidents. Although members of the Neighbourhood Policing Team are in the village regularly they cannot be here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is therefore a need for all of us to let the police know of any incidents that have taken place. In many cases it is not a single incident that is the problem but the cumulative effect of many small incidents. As Sgt Collins explains this can be used as a trigger for police action, but only if they have the records. One of the frustrations we have as parish councillors is that people complain about problems but when they are given log sheets fail to either complete them or return them to the Police.



I appreciate that people are often fearful that if they report incidents they may lay themselves open to being targets of the anti-social behavior. Any information given on these log sheets is completely confidential and will never result in you being identified as the source, unless you wish to be. Completed log sheets do not have to be given direct to the Police but can be delivered to the Contact Point at the Village Hall. If you not wish to visit the Contact Point, please give completed log sheets to me or one of your other parish councillors and we will ensure it is delivered to the correct place. I cannot repeat often enough that the Police are working hard to eliminate this type of problem but they cannot work alone - we have a shared duty to give the Police all the help we can

As you will see elsewhere Caroline Tear has resigned from the Parish Council for personal reasons and I would publically like to express my thanks for all the work she has done whilst she has been a councillor.

In the last edition of the Wilsdener I indicated that we would include a separate advertising supplement with the next edition. This has not happened because, in the current economic climate sufficient local business were unwilling to commit to placing an advert. This will be kept under review and hopefully be included later this year. If you are interested in details please contact Cllr Les Mosely, or any of your other parish councillors and we will give you details.

*Peter Allison*

## Royd House Car Park

The short stay shopper's car park at Wilsden became Pay and Display in December 2007, with no charge for the first 30 minutes. This measure was introduced to protect local shops who were losing business because drivers did not respect the long established short stay part of this car park, with the result that people who wished to use the village shops had nowhere to park. For drivers who want to stay for up to 1 hour the charge is 30p and for up to 2 hours it is 60p. No car is allowed to stay for more than 2 hours between 9am and 6pm in this part of the Car Park, although this does not affect the long stay part of the car park.

When the Pay and Display machine was installed it was not programmed correctly and it would not deliver a free ticket for up to 30 minutes, making it more difficult to check how long a car had been in place. This has now been remedied and the machine has been operating correctly for a number of months. This means anyone who parks on the north side of the Royd House car park MUST obtain a ticket and display it in their vehicle. Failure to do so risks a £50 fine, as does staying longer than the time allowed on the ticket.

## Dog Fouling

Regular readers of the Wilsdener will know that dog fouling is an issue that concerns a large number of residents in the village. The Parish Council receives regular complaints about this issue and we pass these on to the Dog Warden service of Bradford Council. Recently the number of complaints we have received has increased considerably and the Parish Council has decided to investigate whether there is anything further that can be done to alleviate this problem. Dog fouling is not only offensive and anti-social; it represents a health hazard for anyone who comes into contact with it, particularly children.

Two recent examples of the negative impact of dog fouling show that the costs and consequences are greater than is first apparent. Elsewhere in the Wilsdener there is an update on redevelopment of the Play Area on Townfield and as this report indicates it has been necessary to fence the area, largely as a result of the dog fouling that is taking place around the existing Play Area. This has meant that money that could and should have been spent on additional play equipment has had to be spent on reducing the problems of dog fouling. We also know that a number of parents who would walk their children to school do not do so because the footpaths on their most direct route are so badly contaminated with dog faeces that it is almost impossible to get to or from school without standing in it. It is unclear how much additional car traffic is generated at the start and the end of the school day as a result of this problem, but it certainly is not helping the situation.

## Parish Council Precept remains the same

At the Parish Council meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup> the budget was agreed for the financial year from April 2009. The main income to fund Parish Council activities comes from an additional charge paid by all Council Tax payers in the parish council area, referred to as a Parish Council precept. The parish council precept for Wilsden and Harecroft will remain at the same level as for the year from April 2008. The additional Council Tax paid to support the work of the Parish Council is less than 1% of the total council tax bill and for many households is less £1 per month. When setting the budget Councillors were conscious of the current difficult economic situation nationally and decided that rather than putting money into a reserve fund for one-off projects, this year money would be taken from reserves if required. The annual amount paid depends upon the Council Tax band of your property as detailed below -

<b>Council Tax for Band A house</b>	<b>£6.65</b>
<b>Council Tax for Band B house</b>	<b>£7.76</b>
<b>Council Tax for Band C house</b>	<b>£8.87</b>
<b>Council Tax for Band D house</b>	<b>£9.98</b>
<b>Council Tax for Band E house</b>	<b>£12.20</b>
<b>Council Tax for Band F house</b>	<b>£14.41</b>
<b>Council Tax for Band G house</b>	<b>£16.63</b>
<b>Council Tax for Band H house</b>	<b>£19.96</b>

In addition to receiving income from the precept the Parish Council has also been successful over recent years in obtaining grants for special projects such as the Community Contact Point and the volunteer car scheme. The Council has also been putting aside £1,000 per year for the last four years for the work on the Play Area and as a result this project will have an impact on the 2009/10 Budget.

*How can Wilsden's community be strengthened?*

*What issues and concerns need to be tackled?*

*Let us know what you think.*



## Play Area update

The refurbishment of the Play Area on Townfield has been an important project for the Parish Council for a number of years and although this seems to have taken an age to complete significant progress has been made in recent months. Following extensive consultation, in conjunction with Bradford Council's Leisure Services, a detailed plan was finally approved last November and was put out to tender by Bradford. The tendering process has now been completed and the agreed work will mean that just under £80,000 will be spent to refurbish the Play Area.



The approved scheme has a large fenced area on the Townfield side of the footpath and will include new equipment for all ages. The equipment for the younger children will be at the end nearest Royd St and for the older children will be closest to the Village Hall. The fencing is intended to improve children's safety and particularly to reduce the likelihood of dog fouling taking place in the Play Area.

Just over £50,000 of the required funds is immediately available and the balance will come from grants. This £50,000 is partly a grant of £4,000 from the Parish Council with the balance being contributions from developers who have received planning permission for schemes that involve the building of more than 10 houses. Two alternative sources for the additional money have been identified, in conjunction with Bradford Council's Leisure Services, and both have a high chance of success, based upon past experience. In order to increase the probability of success, applications are being made in parallel by the Parish Council. The successful application that allows work to start soonest will be accepted and the other application will be withdrawn. At the present time we are hopeful that it will be possible for work to start in the early summer of this year and be completed before the school summer holidays.

## Volunteer Car Scheme

Many regular readers of the Wilsdener will have heard about the Volunteer Car Scheme that the Parish Council has established to assist people who do not have access to their own transport to get to the Medical Centre, Hospital or to events at the Village Hall. This scheme, which received start-up funding from the W Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, has now been operating successfully for a year now. At least 53 people have benefited from the scheme, many on a regular basis to come to things like the Luncheon Club and the Thursday afternoon group at the Village Hall. We now have 9 drivers, some of whom are able collect people more regularly than others, and we are keen to recruit additional drivers.

The only requirements to be a volunteer driver are that you have a full driving license and that you have full comprehensive insurance for your car. Volunteer drivers receive a contribution towards the operating costs of their car to cover the cost of petrol and general wear and tear on their vehicle. This set at a level that ensures that drivers do not jeopardise their insurance by making a profit and thus being considered to be working as a taxi driver. The Association of British Insurers has confirmed that all standard policies cover this type of activity but, if in doubt it is advisable to check with your insurance company. Drivers are asked to do as much or as little as they wish. Obviously it is a help when organising lifts if particular drivers are known to be normally available at certain times but we understand if this is not always possible.

After running the scheme for the first year and getting everything off the ground Caroline Tear has given up for personal reasons, we are extremely grateful to her for all the work she has done. We are very pleased that Margaret Harrison has now taken over the scheme and she can be contacted on 01535 272305. In addition to the scheme running in Wilsden it is now covering the whole area served by the Wilsden Medical Centre, including Harden, Cullingworth and parts of Denholme with the parish councils in these villages actively recruiting drivers.

## Wilsden Primary School needs you!

The whole village community is aware of the parking and traffic issues on the roads around school at the beginning and end of the school day. One of the ways in which this problem could be eased is the creation of a 'walking bus' scheme. The initiative has been considered before and was shelved owing a lack of volunteers. With the good weather on the way and the desperate need to reduce traffic on Tweedy Street please consider helping the school and wider community.

A 'walking Bus' scheme would begin at a set point eg the village hall, and lead by at least two adults walk a defined route to school. The route would be the same each day and pick up points along the route would allow children to 'catch' the bus on a regular basis. This will reduce traffic around school and make it much safer for all!

In order to assess the viability of such a scheme school needs to establish a list of volunteers prepared to supervise a 'walking bus'. Training will be provided and potential volunteers should decide the level of commitment they wish to make – can they commit to mornings or afternoons (or both!), how many days a week etc.

If you wish to volunteer or discuss the project further please contact school on 01535272263



## Ireland Bridge - Update

This bridge, which is the main route for most Wilsden residents into Bingley, has been limited to single file traffic for over a year, because of weight restrictions. In November 2008 Bradford Council approved the funding for strengthening the bridge so that there can be unrestricted two way traffic flow, whilst maintaining the historic integrity of the bridge. This work will take place this year and the scheme, developed by the Highways Structures Unit from Bradford Council, involves shutting the bridge to all vehicles for 20 weeks from early July.

This closure has significant implications for Wilsden (and Harden and Cullingworth) because emergency services such as Fire and Police are based in Bingley. Bus routes will also be affected. All the local Parish Councils are being consulted on this and Bradford Council has arranged that the Neighbourhood Forum at Harden Primary School on March 17th, 7.30pm will have a special session on the subject. This will be attended by representatives from the emergency services, Bradford Council technical experts and transport providers. This meeting is open for anyone to attend.



## Contacting your Parish Council

There are a number of ways you can contact the Parish Council:

- All our meetings are open to the public and full Council meetings include a 20 minute session at the beginning where residents can raise any issue they wish.
- The Contact Point at the Village Hall is not only for raising police issues. If you have anything you wish to raise with the Council please call in on either Saturday 10.30am to 12 or Thursday 1.45pm to 4pm. Particularly on a Saturday morning, a parish councillor will normally be on duty.
- Contact details for councillors are given on our website.
- A general contact to the Parish Council should be through the Parish Clerk, details below:



**Barbara Thompson (Parish Clerk)**  
Wilsden Parish Council,  
Wilsden Village Hall, Townfield, Wilsden, BD15 0HT  
(Tel: 07875 635203)  
barbara.thompson@wilsdenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Visit the Parish Council website at:  
[www.wilsdenparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.wilsdenparishcouncil.gov.uk)