



LUDDENDEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019

LAST MEETING

There was a speaker at the last meeting in October, Mr. Noel Coates, who gave an absolutely fascinating talk on the history of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway and the Calder Valley Line. The original line did not go into Halifax, but straight on down the Calder valley through Brighouse, Dewsbury and Wakefield until it connected with the line from London into Leeds at Normanton. Times for the journey into Manchester are now little different from 100 years ago. It was also possible in the 1930s on a Saturday evening for the local lads to catch a train into Blackpool at 5.45pm, go dancing in the Tower Ballroom, and return on the 12.30am train, to reach Luddendenfoot around 4.30am.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There is one planning application, at 2 St Mary's School, High Street, Luddenden *number 19/01275/HSE for Installation of metal balustrade and door formed in existing roof to allow access on to flat roof for use as balcony*. This will be in the south and east walls (i.e. facing the road and facing up High Street towards New Road). Any comments submitted to Calderdale Town Planning must reach them by 4th December.

An application which we mentioned last month to build a house on the site of the old Booth Chapel has now been withdrawn. However, the applicant can still resubmit another plan for up to 12 months from the date it was withdrawn.

BLOOM GROUP INFORMATION

The Bloom Group held a meeting in the Lord Nelson at the beginning of November to make plans for 2020 and in particular to clear up the gardens in the car park. Five new people have offered their help, and a programme of working is being set up. Any further offers of help will still be gladly accepted - if you feel that you can help, please get in touch with Trevor Oaten (phone 883417). This is a fantastic way to put something back into the village, so again, many thanks to all the Bloomers.

SANTA DAY

As usual, the Conservation Society will be providing a Christmas tree in the centre of the village, and Santa Claus will be stopping off his travels in Luddenden at 5pm on **Saturday 7th December** to switch on the Christmas lights. Afterwards, he will be going round to St. Mary's Church where youngsters will be able to go and have a word with him. There will be punch or fruit juice and mince pies, and all the children will be given a small Advent calendar or selection box. Midgley School young people will again come and sing carols round the tree in the village for 15 minutes or so before Santa arrives, and then again in the Church for a similar period. We are very grateful to the staff at the school who every year give up their time in this way, and to all the children, who add so much to the occasion. There is no charge for this, but we have a collecting box for any donations which people may care to make. All the money collected is given to the Forget-Me-Not children's hospice in Huddersfield. We would also like to thank Santa for stopping off here every year as he does.

BIRD & BAT BOXES FOR CHILDREN

In St. Mary's Church when Father Christmas will be visiting, we will also have a representative from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. The Trust have kindly agreed to provide the village with Bird and Bat boxes, some of these will be ready for children to take home and build with their parents. Once these have been returned to the Bloom Group they will be put up along the river side and in the Cemetery in the form of a trail for the children to monitor.

CHRISTMAS TREASURE HUNT WALK

This year, the Christmas Walk will take place on **Monday 30th December**, starting as usual from outside the Lord Nelson at 11a.m. For newcomers the walk will be between 2 and 3 miles in length and is suitable for pushchairs. There will be about 30 questions to find the answers to on the way round, and afterwards, refreshments are available in St. Mary's Church - pie and peas, home-made pasties and cakes along with hot drinks. There are always in the region of 100 people if the weather is fine, and it is a great way of walking off some of the Christmas food. The cost of the walk is £2 for adults, children free.

SEWAGE PUMP BOX

Recently, a small group from the Society and St. Mary's Church met with a representative of Yorkshire Water, who wished to erect a box enclosing a sewage pump for two of the nearby houses just outside the gate to the Church. The picture on the right, though not very clear, was given us to show what it would look like. We pointed out that this was a totally inappropriate position being next to the War Memorial and 'Tommy' statue, and suggested that it would be better either next to the houses it was serving or alternately at the beginning of the bridleway onto Booth, above the top entrance into the Church. The Yorkshire Water man thought that the suggested place could be a possibility, and agreed to go away and see if this position would be suitable technically. We were promised they would come back to us.



NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 28th November** at 7.30pm in the Lord Nelson. **Everybody welcome.**

LUDDENDEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY, CHARITY NUMBER 504387

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Catherine Elgar (Secretary) Nigel Peterson-White (Vice Chair) Tony Hillyard (Treasurer)

The Luddenden Conservation Society would like to thank the following businesses for supporting this newsletter

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