

Friends of Burton Latimer Library

The group was set up in 2008 with the aim of sustaining and improving the library service in the local area. There is a committee of local people who quickly set up a regular second-hand book stall at the monthly Farmers Market (donated books - not library stock) and occasional stalls at the Christmas Fair and Great Garage Sale. We have monthly coffee mornings at the library and also entertain visiting authors. Friends also organised a book drop in the town to raise awareness of the library.

We have received grants from our local councillors. These, added to our own efforts, resulted in a substantial sum to be spent on our 'wish list'. The funds we raise do not replace the money allocated to the library from the County Council, it provides non-essential items which will enhance the

experience at Burton library. Our first major purchases were furniture and equipment for the children's library and we are still shopping for items for other library users.

However, its not all about raising money - our MP Philip Hollobone has already facilitated one fascinating tour of the Houses of Parliament for the Friends and a second group are to visit shortly.

We were the first library in this area to have its own Friends Committee and we are very proud of the contribution we have been able to make. If you are interested in joining in with the future plans of the Friends of Burton Latimer Library you can visit the library or email sjbissett@hotmail.com

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Burton Latimer *sounding* board

Burton Latimer Town and Borough Councillors Newsletter

Autumn Edition - September 2009

Welcome to the Autumn Newsletter. The summer seems to have passed away all too quickly and we now have Christmas to look forward to.

We have some spring bulbs coming (donated by KBC) to brighten up Burton Latimer! We are looking for volunteers to help plant them and also suggestions as to where to put them. Although the entrances seem the obvious place there may well be other places. Please let any Town Councillor have your suggestions.

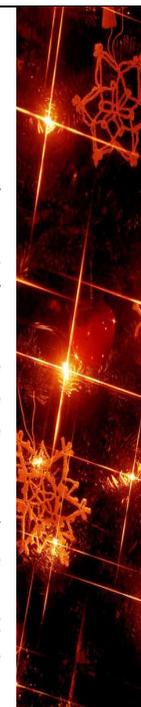
Christmas Lights Switch-on

This year, on Friday 27th November, the Christmas light switch-on will be themed around a Victorian Christmas with prizes for the best Victorian costume. Entertainment will be provided, and as an extra dimension to the evening, local artists will be in residence, not only exhibiting their work, but also explaining their techniques, from painting to clay pot throwing, to silk weaving and jewellery making, with some hands on fun!

We hope you will revel in celebrating tradition within your community, enjoying your local shops, appreciating the skills our town has to offer, and feel the true sense of belonging to a caring community. There will be various

charity stalls, wonderful mulled wine and homemade pies, together with other fine food served by the marvellous restaurants around our town.

Various events will be announced closer to the switch on, including the much anticipated participation from our school children, and one lucky child will win the chance to turn the lights on at 7, as their name is drawn out of the submissions, on the night!



Old Traditions

As we approached the end of Summer, and for some the hectic school holidays, I found it quite enthralling to return from holiday and be greeted by the sight of straw cut and bound in the field near my home, as I have only seen it cut this way in old paintings. I marvelled at the skill and care it took to harvest this, which is to be used to thatch roofs, on some of the wonderful buildings we sometimes see on our travels. This sight turned my thoughts to thinking how many years does it take to learn such a trade, would our children, who have just received various exam results, be interested or motivated to learn such a trade? Would they or indeed other adults be interested in such an apprenticeship, or are there far more interesting and more lucrative courses, to entice them?



I think therein lies the answer - whatever we do in life, you have to be motivated and for me, my biggest motivation is that I care very much about people and their lives. Much of my work involves a great deal of listening and succinct action. We all need money to live, but a far greater gift is to give freely of our time, (being mindful of our busy 24/7 work/life balance) and to help others, acting with honesty and integrity, having respect for others, valuing their work and input.

In the coming weeks I hope to meet and share more ideas about Burton, with residents, and in particular, hear about volunteer work undertaken in Burton, as well as Charitable organisations and the work they undertake in the area. I can be contacted by phone on 01536 721261 or email at Dolphin246@btinternet.com

Jan Smith, Town Mayor

Highways

There are two major roads planned in Burton Latimer over the next two months. Firstly the redesign of the Morrisons roundabout will commence on the 12th October and last for an anticipated two weeks. As a result there could be delays due to three way traffic lights at the roundabout. We would recommend that people use the bypass when going to Kettering or the A14.

Secondly the repairs to the eastern side on Junction 10 roundabout will again result in the closure of the eastern side of the roundabout for about two weeks during the night.

We have had extensive discussions with NCC concerning a number of outstanding issues in the town and hope to have these resolved in the near future including the servicing of road gulleys and the cutting of weeds on the footpaths.



**be informed
get involved
give your views**

Have you visited Burton Latimer's community website yet? If so, then you are one of almost 80 people who currently log on each day - a number that has grown steadily since the website was launched on 1st October 2008.

The website has been sponsored by Burton Latimer Town Council, and has a wealth of useful information about the town. For instance, by visiting the website you can:

- Keep up-to-date about what's happening in the town, through diary and news pages that are updated every week.
- Find out who's who on the town council by reading a profile of each councillor.
- Contact the town council (and individual councillors) by email, to voice any concerns or comments. The council's email address is council@burtonlatimer.org
- Check out where to eat and drink in Burton Latimer.
- Download the results of the recent shopping survey.
- Get the local weather forecast through a direct link to the BBC website.
- Look up train and bus timetables.
- Link to the Heritage Society website - www.burtonlatimer.info

If you can think of any ways in which the website could be developed further to support the local community, please send your ideas or suggestions to Warwick (who built the website and now maintains it) at admin@burtonlatimer.org

Don't delay - visit today!

www.burtonlatimer.org