

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Summer 2006.

Reminiscences of Oxspring

As one of Oxspring's older habitants I have witnessed many changes here since my young days. Though I lived in the next parish of Hunslet for half a century I am now pleased to be back to the place where I started. During the 1930's I walked up and down Bower Hill seven times a week. On Sundays we attended morning school then trekked uphill home for dinner, then it was back again for the afternoon session. Oxspring Sunday School flourished at that time under the splendid supervision of Mr Joel Marsh who organised an annual concert and prize-giving for children with good attendances. In summer we had a sing in the village, then, led by the band, we trudged up Bower Hill to sing again at Four Lane Ends. I remember one very hot day when some of the young ones were quite exhausted on reaching the crossroads, but that kind lady Mrs Wray, who kept the shop opposite, had thoughtfully made huge quantities of lemonade from the crystals she kept in her shop. These revived us all before we continued our sing. A tea and sports day event was also organised by the Sunday School at that time.

In the village the Post Office was kept by the Crawshaw family and the Toll Bar shop by Mrs Bower. Across the road from the Toll Bar was Mr Jim Wood's wooden garage. Here we could buy a 'pennorth' or even a 'harporth' of sweets from little bags which Mr Wood twisted up himself. When we acquired a wireless set at home we took the batteries to his garage to be recharged on our way to school. Most of Oxspring's newer residents will remember his son Gordon who kept the newer garage – now also gone to be replaced by housing. Gordon was truly a real gentleman who, no matter how busy he was, would have a cheery greeting for everyone.

Whilst more houses have been built over the years to accommodate a growing population, I still recall some seventeenth-century, whitewashed cottages that were still occupied during my early years. Two of these, inhabited by the Marsh families, were at the top of Manor Lane. A similar old building opposite Travellers Inn was where old Mr Wright lived. Then, part way down Bower Hill was the old, whitewashed 'Dame School'. Of course, by the 'thirties' it had ceased to be a school and wasn't even inhabited. I was assured by my father, however, that it was the place in which his father had received infant education in the early 1860's, before having to walk to Thurgoland when he was older.

Kindly written by Phyllis Crossland.

An interesting insight into Oxspring's past. (More to come in the next newsletter.)

Handyman required

There is a real shortage of people willing to tender for small ad-hoc jobs and it is due to this that Oxspring Parish Council would really like to hear from anyone who would like to be considered to tender for small jobs which are required now and then around the parish. Skills necessary would be woodwork, stonework, gardening etc. If anyone wishes to be considered for this please contact the Clerk. (see contact details below)

Roadside Planters Competition.

Don't Forget!

A prize is to be awarded for the best planter. The judging will be done at some point over the summer and a 1st prize of £50 and a 2nd prize of £25 are up for grabs. Mr Stuart Jackson from Radio Sheffield will judge the competition.

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THE NORTH'S LEADING STATIONERY AND OFFICE FURNITURE SUPPLIER
Unit b Zenith Park Whaley Rd. BARNLEY. S75 1HT. 01226 733383. steve@osi.com.uk

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meetings Calendar.

Monday 4th September - Meetings held at 7.00pm Oxspring School
Monday 2nd October with a public participation adjournment
Monday 6th November included early in the agenda at every
Monday 4th December meeting.

Diary Dates

- Sunday 6th August - **Open Gardens** in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support
2pm to 5pm at least 10 gardens open.
Entrance fee of £2.50 payable at 32 Fields End.
Selection of refreshments (including cream teas) available,
tombola, book and cake stalls and surprises in each garden.
- Sunday 17th September - **Car boot sale** from 7 am onwards at the playing field. £5 per car.
Refreshments and car parking available. Contact 763076 for details.
- Saturday 30th September - **Trans-Pennine Trail 5 mile** race starts 11 a.m. at Oxspring
Playingfield. Your support would be greatly appreciated.
- Saturday 7th October - **Charity Bonanza** held at St Johns Community Centre. Any
donations for the tombola would be greatly appreciated. Contact
01226 766362 for further details.

Church Services at St.Aidan's Church in Oxspring

Eucharist – 9am the first Sunday of each month.
Morning Prayers – 9am the third Sunday of each month.

Useful Contact Numbers

Central Police – 0114 202020

Golden Line Police Local Partnership information automated service – **736395**

Discarded Needles Collection – **775656** (OUT OF HOURS **07909 930363**)

Dog Fouling – **772540** (Public Land) **775627** (Private Land)

Fly Tipping – **772540** (Public Land) **775627** (Private Land)

Neighbourhood Pride Enquiries – **775656**

Highways – Road Potholes! **773555** and street lighting **772200**

. Dog Fouling

Dog Fouling is still a big problem in the village. 'No Dog Fouling' stencils have now been painted onto pavements around the village so please be responsible dog owners and clean up after your dog.

Remember that failure to do so can result in a Fixed Penalty Notice fine of £25 and failure to pay that can result in prosecution and fines of up to £1000. Any offenders can be reported to BMBC

Environmental Health on telephone no. 770770.

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive

A travel advisor working for South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive has offered to arrange a meeting to show the community some of the transport services which are on offer and also listen to and discuss any concerns regarding transport in our area. If anyone would be interested in attending such a meeting then please contact the Clerk.(see contact details below).

Newsletter Contributions

Should anyone wish to contribute any articles for the Newsletters or Diary Dates please do forward them to the Clerk they would be greatly appreciated.

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