



AUTUMN 2014

Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

The Senior Citizens' Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday 10th December 2014 at Belmont Community School receiving guests at 12:45 p.m. for a performance of 'Cinderella' at 1:00 p.m.

Everyone welcome

If you would like to attend, please telephone the Parish Office on 0191 386 0664.

Transport is available on request from the Parish Office.

Please note the slightly earlier start time than previous years.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICES AT BELMONT WAR MEMORIAL

Remembrance Sunday 9th November 2014

A Remembrance Day Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. at St Mary Magdalene Church. An Act of Remembrance will commence at 10:40 a.m. at Belmont War Memorial.

Everyone welcome

Light refreshments will be available in Belmont Parish Hall following the Act of Remembrance – Please do join us.

There will also be a short schools service prior to the 11 o'clock silence on Tuesday 11th November

BELMONT BOWLING CLUB

SUNDERLAND ROAD, MOORFIELD, GILESGATE MOOR.

The Lawn Green Bowling season has just finished but Belmont Bowling Club are already looking forward to the 2015 season with Inter-club and League Competitions. We are looking for new members to join us in social or competitive league bowling. Come and enjoy a summer's evening social bowling in pleasant surroundings or for the more competitive, hone your skills for keen competition with clubs in the Durham and District areas.

Come and join us in the New Year, our season starts in April-through to Mid-September.

Please contact Mrs C. Atkinson on 0191 3860664. Parish office hours 9.30 a.m.to 11.30 a.m.

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

Planning Matters

B&Q/Morrisons Development - on Durham City Retail Park, Gilesgate Moor.

A Lawful Development Certificate has been issued to allow the store to operate with unrestricted sale of all types of goods, including food.

As many of you have read, the intention is for Morrisons Plc to take over part of the store and a reduced B&Q Plc to continue to operate without the need for any further approval for change of use.

An application for alterations to some parts of the store and car park has been submitted and is to go to DCC Planning Committee. Belmont Parish Council has not objected to these alterations but has expressed concern about additional traffic which we hope will be given careful attention.

Hilltopfarm Housing Development – Ramside Hall

An application for 13 houses, associated garages and landscaping, was submitted in December 2013. It was granted approval after several amendments and the revision of plans in July 2014.

There are a number of conditions attached to the approval of development on this site. These cover landscaping, preservation of trees, building design and materials but also findings during construction, such as water courses, ecological, environmental, archaeological and past mining issues.

Consecration of Cemetery Burial Ground



CEMETERY CONSECRATION: The Bishop of Jarrow leading a walk around the new burial ground during the consecration at Belmont Cemetery. (Photo Northern Echo)

Burial ground in the cemetery extension was blessed by the Right Reverend Mark Bryant, Bishop of Jarrow. The occasion was organised by the Belmont Parish Council and was well attended.

The Parish Council would like to thank St Mary Magdalene Café Church for the refreshments served in the Parish Hall after the ceremony, which were very much appreciated.

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Belmont Scrambles

Twice a year the Friends of Belmont Scrambles organise a communal litter-pick to clean up the wildlife area, and this year's autumn event will take place on Sunday 16th November.

If you are able to contribute an hour or so of your time, please meet at the Cheveley Walk entrance at 2.30 p.m. Bags and litter-picking sticks will be provided, but please bring your own gloves and wear suitable footwear and clothing.

The Scrambles is an attractive area which walkers and responsible dog-walkers should be able to enjoy, without the annoyance and danger posed by motor cycles and quad bikes, and so to prevent unauthorised vehicular access the Parish Council is currently installing gates and other barriers at the various entrances to the meadows. The Friends of Belmont Scrambles carry out regular maintenance work on the site and are always looking for new volunteers, young and old. No particular skills are required, just honest effort and enthusiasm.

If you would like to get involved, please phone Ken Neat on 0191-3864795.



Beautiful Durham Successes

We would like to congratulate our parish award winners in this year's Beautiful Durham Competition.

We were particularly delighted when Durham Gilesgate Primary School won Best School in Durham City. Children, staff,

parents and many other volunteers have worked hard to convert barren, stony ground into a flourishing allotment that yielded its first produce this year and is set to continue to the credit of all concerned. We are equally pleased to congratulate local residents who received Awards of Merit for their gardens and allotments; these went to Mr Paul Atkinson (Belmont) for his garden and Mr Alan Rowell (Belmont) who won awards in three categories. We thank them for their praiseworthy efforts and for entering the competition.

The Parish Council really appreciates the work of residents to bring floral colour to our neighbourhood or grow their own produce. Maybe next year you would like to have a go in the Beautiful Durham or Northumbria in Bloom Competitions and we will give details of how to enter nearer the time or you can ring the parish office on the number below.

Belmont Parish Wins Silver

Belmont Parish won a Silver Award in the 2014 Northumbria in Bloom competition with an increase in the total points awarded in comparison with last year. The judges were particularly impressed with the colourful planting in the cemetery and they commented on the main areas in the Parish being tidy, well maintained and litter free. As in previous years they are advising us to encourage local residents to become involved to help move our entry to the next award level of Silver Gilt.

Ramside Hall Hotel and Golf Club was awarded Gold in their category with an absolutely stunning display of flowers in hanging basket and beds.

Once again, on behalf of Belmont Parish Council, Belmont Community School will be producing 2015 calendars based on children's paintings and drawings produced for the Primary Schools Art Competition. All proceeds will be donated to the North East Air Ambulance.

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Co-operation with Cemetery Plots

The Parish Council respectfully asks that compost is not put on grave or ashes plots. This is in our Cemetery Rules and Regulations for a very practical reason – over time it causes the plots to sink. We fully appreciate that relatives want to do their best to maintain the appearance of graves of loved ones but planting in compost can have a detrimental effect. Belmont Cemetery is frequently praised and our cemetery attendant works hard in caring for it, so we do seek your co-operation in this matter. Thank you.

Tree saplings available free of charge.

One of our residents has several tree saplings to give free and will even deliver locally if necessary. There are several species including oak and silver birch – all enquiries to Brian Chambers on 0191 386 8491. Our thanks to Brian for his generous offer.

Dates for Parish Council Meetings

held in

Belmont Community Centre

at 6.30 p.m.

(first Thursday of the month, excluding August)

6th November 2014 / 4th December 2014 /

8th January 2015

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Highways Action Line 0191 370 6000

Neighbourhood Warden 030000 26 1000

(Streetscene)

Community Police Officer

PC Nicola Quarmby

can be contacted on the police non-emergency number

0345 606 0365

County Council Help Desk

0300 123 7070

Parish Councillors

Belmont Area

Eric Mavin 386 9031
Beatrijs Muylaert 375 7844
Arthur Walker 384 6282
Rosemary Murphy 07747077690
Graham Robinson-Lundy 375 0895

Carrville Area

Barbara Howarth 384 2224
Katy Corrigan 0300 268 700
Tom Charlton 386 8557
Joe Knight 386 2902
Lesley Mavin 386 9031

Gilesgate Moor Area

Sydney Inglis 384 6023
Dennis Southwell 386 4838
Patrick Conway 0300 268 698
June Corrigan 659 1014
Diane Waggott 386 3701

Parish Clerk Mrs C. Atkinson 0191 386 0664

Belmont Parish Council now has its own website. Visit us at: parishes.durham.gov.uk/belmont where you'll find dates of our upcoming meetings, agendas and minutes, local information and much more.

STOP PRESS WINTER / CHRISTMAS FAIRS to note and enjoy:

Belmont Comm. Assoc. at Belmont Comm. Centre, Winter craft and gift fair – Saturday 15th November 11.00a.m. to 2.00p.m.

Belmont Community School – Saturday 22nd November 11.00a.m. to 2.00p.m.

Belmont Parish Hall – Saturday 29th November 10.30a.m. to 2.00p.m.

Carrville Methodist Church – Saturday 6th December 10.00a.m. to 1.00p.m.