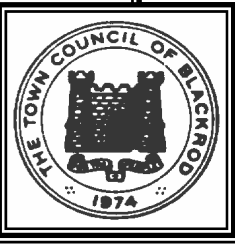


Blackrod Town Council



NEWSLETTER

Issue 7
Winter
2007

Welcome to the seventh quarterly Newsletter to be published by Blackrod Town Council



Blackrod Civic Award

As the first recipient of Blackrod's Civic Award, Mrs Hilda Foster was invited to unveil the Board of Honour located in the foyer of the Library just outside the Council Chamber.

Bolton at Home Garden Award

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs John Settle of Hill Lane who won the Bolton at Home Award for Best Garden Overall. Keep up the good work! The photograph shows Mr & Mrs Settle receiving the Award from the Mayor and Mayoress of Bolton & Councillor Noel Spencer



Celebrating 100 years

Three Mayors and a card from the queen helped Mrs Angela Morris of Flockton Court to celebrate her 100th Birthday. Mrs Morris is part of the famous Feretti family of Horwich and has clear early memories of pushing the ice cream cart up Tanners Brow to sell her wares round the streets in Blackrod.

Picture shows the Mayors of Bolton, Horwich & Blackrod on a visit to Mrs Morris at her home.



Locking up of the Chain Gang



When four Mayors were taken on a tour at the official opening of the new Bolton Divisional Headquarters they didn't expect to find themselves behind bars.

From the left they are Cllr. Bernard Mc Cartin (Horwich), Cllr. George Penny (Westhoughton), Cllr. Isabel Seddon (Blackrod) and Cllr. Walter Hall (Bolton).

Picture by Chris Oldham

Blackrod Civic Award 2007

Some people will already be aware that Blackrod Councillors unanimously selected Mrs Ethel Warburton as this year's recipient of Civic Award. The award recognises many years of voluntary service that benefited many organisations and individuals both in and around the village.

Unfortunately Mrs Warburton passed away before the Civic Award could be presented to her. However the Council still wishes to honour her achievements and will make the presentation posthumously to her family at a special Award ceremony.

For the first time in years the Christmas Tree opposite the Council Chambers in Blackrod was lit by the Town Mayor during a carol service conducted by Reverend Carol McCabe, accompanied by the Rivington & Blackrod Band and attended by a substantial number of local families. Seasonal refreshments were provided in the Council Chamber. The Town Council intends to repeat and build on this tradition in the future.



We are pleased to welcome PC Keith Seal to Blackrod who took up duties at the beginning of December last year. Again crime remains relatively low in the area and following previous advice from the Police regarding valuables being left on display in vehicles, the number of thefts from vehicles has decreased. Only a very small number of break-ins have been reported. Police Surgeries have now commenced, initially one per month, being held from 6.00 to 7.00 pm in the Blackrod Library. Notices of the date of the Surgeries will be posted in the Library.

Blackrod Winners

Congratulations to Blackrod Library/Area Office for winning the award for the best 'Christmas Displays 2006' a competition open to all departments at Bolton Council.



Bus Service No 315 (Blue Bus) – Unfortunately several incidents have been reported where passengers carrying Bus Passes (over 60's, Disabled, etc) have been charged for journeys from Blackrod to Chorley. It should be noted that **NO CHARGE** should be made for this journey and Bus Operators have all been made fully aware of this. Any incidents of drivers requesting passengers to pay should be reported to the Town Clerk.

Take Care!! Don't Be a Victim of Rogue Workmen

People who have had their roofs/property damaged by recent storms are warned not to fall victim to dodgy rogues offering to carry out repairs.

If your property has been damaged by storms you should check your home insurance and contact your insurer for advice.

If you live in rented property you should contact your landlord.

If you need to have work done use a reputable builder: someone that has been recommended to you or who has done work for you before. Beware of adverts through the door or people knocking at your door. Remember anyone can say that they that they are a builder or decorator. You may end up paying too much or for work that did not need to be done. If you are concerned about a doorstep caller phone Trading Standards on 08464 04 05 06



Where has the Osteopath Gone?

Local Osteopath Phillippe Raffit has had to relocate and is now based in Blackrod Methodist Church. Just open the main doors, press the intercom and follow the signs.

A Host of Yellow Daffodils !!

Many of you will now have noticed the 'spring bulbs' peeping through in various parts of the village.



Thanks to the donations from a great number of people that purchased the bulbs, and the willing volunteers who planted them in various locations, we can now look forward to the first of many years 'spring displays'.

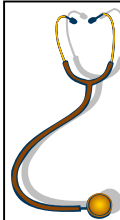
Blackrod in Bloom 2007

As a reminder, to the keen gardeners of Blackrod, we will once again be holding our 'Blackrod in Bloom' Competition this year. more details in the next Newsletter.



Blackrod Surgery Booking System

The new system allows patients to pre-book a small percentage of appointments up to three working days ahead. All other appointments must be booked on the day. It is not possible to pre-book for a Monday appointment.



North Ward is represented by :-

- Cllr. Mike Hollick, 62 Nightingale Rd. Blackrod. BL65EA Tel: 01204 697933
- Cllr. John Seddon 8 Hillside Ave. Blackrod. BL65BS Tel: 01204 692597
- Cllr. Marlene Winward. 44Chorley Rd. Blackrod BL6 5JT Tel: 01204 694646

Central Ward is represented by:-

- Cllr. Keith Bowes 10 Lion Lane Blackrod BL6 5HH Tel: Mob. 07905435584
- Cllr. Ian Hamilton 52 Lymbridge Drive Blackrod BL6 5TJ Tel: 01204 699703
- Cllr Isabel Seddon. 8 Hillside Ave. Blackrod BL6 5BS Tel: 01204 692597

South Ward is represented by :-

- Cllr. Pat Barrow 44 Eskdale Av. Blackrod BL6 5SE Tel: 01942 831461
- Cllr. Andrew Bower 46 St. John's Road, Aspull, Wigan, WN2 1SR Tel: 01942 830707
- Cllr. Beryl Monaghan. 20 The Cheethams Blackrod BL65RR Tel: 01942 831766

Cllr. Hamilton & Cllr. Hollick are also Ward Councillors

Blackrod Lunch & Leisure Club Update



The official launch on January 15th took the form of an "Open taster day." Interested parties tasted and gave their opinions on a range of food and had a chance to find out more about how the club will operate.

At this early stage the number of members will be limited but as expertise grows the number that can be catered for will increase. The club operates from 12 noon till about 2pm every Monday in the Methodist Hall. A two course lunch and a cup of tea will cost £2. Transport from Ring & Ride can be arranged. For further information contact Margaret Jones on 01204 468427

The Town Clerk Christine Pearson can be contacted during office hours at the Council Office in Blackrod Library or by Phone on 01204 696362 or e-mail : blackrodtc@tiscali.co.uk

Office hours

Monday 9am-12noon & 1pm-4pm
Wednesday 9am-12noon&1pm-4pm
Thursday 9am-12noon&1pm-4pm



Blackrod Mayor's Spring Ball

Blackrod Mayor is holding a Spring Ball at Portofino's Function Suite on Saturday 28th April. With Paul Dee as Compere, and a spot by local singer songwriter Howard Broadbent we can guarantee an evening of good music, dancing and excellent food.



All proceeds from this event will go to a small charity called Odyssey that draws on the environment, art and music to help people with cancer combat the emotional and psychological devastation caused by the illness. The residential experiences that they offer are provided free
Tickets available from the Town Clerk on 01204 696362

Mayor's Charity Event

Don't miss out on a treat. The Rod Stewart Tribute Night at Rivington Hall Barn on Friday 23rd March promises to be a



great night of entertainment. With **Rock Stewart** performing as **Rod Stewart**, Paul Dee as Compere and DJ, and a substantial supper it has all the ingredients for a fun night out.

Tickets are £15 and are available from Dorothy Bentham 01204 696820 & from the Town Clerk on 01204 696362.

Make a Positive Start to the New Year

Blackrod Residents who are over fifty can benefit from Age Concern Bolton's new Aromatherapy and Reflexology Services available at the Blackrod Clinic. Aromatherapy and Reflexology can relieve stress, ease tension or simply make you feel pampered. Older people experiencing aches and pains, poor circulation or stress related illnesses may find it beneficial. Treatments are private from fully qualified therapists who volunteer their time, so prices are a fraction of what you would normally expect to pay. To book on appointment or for further information contact Alpa Raja ActiveAging/Healthy Lifestyles co-ordinator on 01204 382411



Blackrod Primary school held an Art Exhibition in late November at which work from every child in school was professionally catalogued and displayed. The older children worked in the style of artists Kandinsky, Lowry and Klint whilst the younger children followed a range of themes. It was a very successful event with many proud pupils and families and friends enjoying the exhibits and accompanying entertainment.



“The Mayor’s Choice”

Brothers Adam & Daniel Southworth were proud to show the Mayor their pictures.

Free Mid Term Treat for Blackrod Youth

Year four pupil Chloe Darlington presented the Mayor with her beautiful picture. The Mayor had chosen it from all those displayed at the Exhibition.

The Blackrod street dance Project will take place in the Blackrod Community Centre from Monday 19th February until Friday 23rd February inclusive from 2.30pm till 4.30pm. There will be two one hour sessions each day. One will be aimed at 8 –10 year olds and the other for 11-15 year olds. The sessions are exclusively for young people living in the Blackrod Area. They will be hosted by Momentum Dance Productions who will explore all aspects of contemporary dance including “Hip Hop”, “Breakdance” & “Streetdance”

Fun and Festivities for Blackrod Senior Citizens

On December 15th Blackrod Primary School year six Enterprise Group planned and hosted a pre- Christmas afternoon of entertainment and refreshments for a group of forty local Senior Citizens. Everyone had a wonderful time. Congratulations and thanks to all concerned.



Free Activities in Blackrod Youth Club

Activities including sports, games and art & craft will be offered at the Blackrod Youth Club during mid-term. Sessions will run from 10.00am– 11.45am on Tuesday 20th February and Wednesday 21st February for children aged between four and thirteen years. The activities are free however all children must be registered by a parent or adult guardian.

Blackrod Welfare Over 70’s Christmas Party

After a lovely meal prepared and presented by willing helpers, enjoyable entertainment was provided by Blackrod Church School Choir and by a group of young Irish dancers who astounded and delighted the audience with their skill and charm. The event was a great success. Well done to all who worked so hard to make it happen.



Christmas Parcels



Blackrod Welfare Committee distributed 430 Christmas parcels to residents over 70 years of age. Anyone who did not get one or anyone turning 70 this year should let the Town Clerk Mrs Pearson know Tel. 01204 696362. Thanks to all those who provided grants or supported the fund raising events.