

Community News

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The Community is News Printed by Sprint Print, Bamber Bridge & Published by Barrie Yates, 10 Bannister Close, Higher Walton. The Community News is a free and nonpolitical newsletter that is delivered to over 15,000 homes in Higher Walton, Walton le Dale, Coupe Green, Gregson Lane, Samlesbury, Bamber Bridge, Lostock Hall & Holland House. To advertise in the Community News please contact Barrie. Yates.

Merry Christmas

**Merry Christmas &
A happy
New year
To all our readers
From everyone
At the
Community News.**

County Councillor Barrie Yates, Arranges Primary Schools Children's Visit To County Hall.

Lancashire County Councillor Barrie Yates arranged a visit to County Hall for forty pupils, from St Patricks Primary School, Coupe Green Primary School, All Saint Primary School and Samlesbury Primary School.

The visit was arranged for the 30th of September and the day started with teachers & pupils all travelling to County Hall together on a coach funded by a grant provided by County Councillor Barrie Yates. On arrival at County Hall, Josh Mynott, Democratic and Member Services manager warmly welcomed everyone along with County Councillor Barrie Yates and Chairman Tim Ashton. Orange juice and biscuits were offered before moving into the Council chamber, where Josh talked to the pupils about local democracy and the County Council's roles & responsibilities. The children also took part in a quiz and were allowed to sit in the seats on the dais. This is where the Chairman & Cabinet members sit during full Council meetings. This was much to their enjoyment and enthusiasm! After eating their packed lunches, we all walked across the road to the Archives Department, where several artefacts local to our community were on display for everyone to see.

The Archives staff also talked to us about the history of Bamber Bridge, Hoghton & Walton-le Dale.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the day, which had given them a great insight into local Democracy and its Archives. County Councillor Barrie Yates invited the schools to visit again next year.

Hopefully along with other schools in his division of South Ribble East. Councillor Yates, thanked the Chairman for attending the event and the Democratic and Member Services manager Josh Mynott for hosting such a wonderful day.

Community News Reporter, County Councillor, Jeff Cowperthwaite.

Lancashire County Councillor, Barrie Yates Warmly Welcomes all the School Teachers and Children to County Hall.

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County Councillor, Barrie Yates reopening Bamber bridge Library that Labour Councillors Closed.

Our Fantastic Bamber Bridge and Lostock Hall Libraries.

County Councillor Jeff Couperthwaite spoke out at last week's full County Council meeting to defend our fantastic Bamber Bridge and Lostock Hall libraries. 'Both busy, and both closed by the Labour Councillors in 2016, with thousands of books destroyed and burnt.

The libraries were reopened and the books replaced by Conservatives / Community News Councillors when they took back control in 2017!

Jeff and County Councillor Barrie Yates also point out that Libraries have also been a key part of providing Educational Support and Warm Safe Spaces in Winter, and will do so again.



17 Oct 16:11 Lancashire County Council
Cllr Jeff Couperthwaite

With Labour taking away many pensioners' winter fuel allowance, our Libraries could well be much needed this winter too. They also form a much-needed social hub, home to many local groups.' They said, " as Community News Councillors we will all ways vote to keep our Libraries open unlike Labour Councillors that voted to close them all".

Trades Hall 'Pub of the Season'.

Congratulations to one of our oldest clubs, The Trades Hall in Bamber Bridge. awarded 'Pub of the Season' by local Camra group, due to the quality of their beer. County Councillor Jeff Couperthwaite was happy to support Sofia and the team in accepting their award. Jeff commented ' The Trades Hall was my Dad & his mates' old local, together with many Horsley Smith workers back in the day, so I was proud to see the team recognised.' [Community News Reporter, Councillor, Barrie Yates.](#)



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Higher Walton Bowling Club
Higher Walton Bowling Club is a thriving organisation in the heart of the village.

It is situated behind the Community Centre and Playground. At present it has approximately forty members, both men and ladies of all ages from 13 to 90. Most compete in at least one of the five teams (and soon to be seven teams) that the Club supports in the Preston, Chorley and Leyland Leagues whilst others prefer to play socially throughout the year with friends and family or participate in the fun events and competitions that are run from Easter until mid-September. We also run events such as meals out and quizzes during the colder and darker months of the year.

We would like as many people as possible to enjoy the game of bowls. Membership is inexpensive and can provide all year-round enjoyment for everyone.

Membership forms are available from the Club and can be accessed when there is anyone present at the Green.

(This is most afternoons when it is dry weather.) Or we would love to see you at the Club AGM at the Community Centre 6.30pm, on 10th December. You will be able to hear what is planned for the next year, talk to present members and express your interest in joining the club. For further information please contact Carol on 07734319402.

[Community News Reporter, Barrie Yates.](#)



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German's Christmas Eve Doodlebug Bomb Destroyed Cottages & Hen House in Hoghton.

CHRISTMAS Eve 1944 would be a day that residents living around Gregson Lane would never forget and not for the usual reasons of festive cheer and goodwill to all men.

At 5.28 am, sleeping villagers were awoken by a massive explosion in a field behind two cottages near Hewn Gate Farm. A deadly German V1 flying bomb 'doodlebug' left a 40-foot crater after

scoring a direct hit on a hen house. The direct hit on a hen cabin containing some 30 hens, the detonation obliterating the wooden cabin and no trace of the hens could be found other than a few feathers. Such was the force of the blast that the two cottages were lifted from their foundations. The upper floor collapsed, trapping the occupants among the debris, but no one was seriously injured. The cottages were later demolished. The present owner of the farm recalls that all the windows facing the blast were blown in and the internal doors to those rooms were torn off their hinges.

Also, the roof was badly damaged and several out-building had their roofs blown off.

Another resident recalled a signal box at the nearby railway crossing and at the instant the V1 exploded, the occupant had popped around the back to answer a call of nature, had he been at his post he would have been killed, as the glass front was blown in. Considering that it was a single rocket-propelled bomb which had landed, the collateral damage was extensive. Over 100 homes, two mills, two pubs and a railway signal box were damaged with one of the mills having around 500 panes of glass blown out by the force of the nearby explosion. Although much of the crater has been filled in over time, it is still possible to spot a small depression in the field where the VI landed all those years ago.

Military historians have two theories as to why Hoghton had suddenly become a target of one of Hitler's deadliest weapons. One was that the Germans were targeting Manchester but the bomb went astray. The other was that the target was much closer to home, namely the Royal Ordnance Factory at Chorley. At the crater, several letters marked V1 POW Post were also found. This was a common trick used by the Nazis to tempt unwary folk to write to the fake prisoners revealing where the bomb had fallen. East Lancashire was relatively unscathed from Luftwaffe attacks during the Second World War. The considerable damage caused by just one bomb demonstrates how devastating a concerted bombing raid could have been. [Community News Reporter, Graham Dixon.](#)



Ian Milne

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Bamber Bridge Accident on Zebra Crossing.
County Councillor Jeff Couperthwaite praised local resident Alan Hudson for reporting the state of the Zebra on which the fatal accident occurred the other week at Longbrook Ave in Bamber Bridge.
He praised LCC Highways too, for swift action in response.
This was the LCC response 'Good afternoon county Councillor Couperthwaite, Thank you for your email dated 21 October 2024, on behalf of Mr Alan Hudson, regarding the faded zebra



New Road Marking For Holand House Estate, Walton le Dale. After a few residents complained to County Councillor Barrie Yates about the speeding and that some vehicles do not give way at the estate speed restriction/passing points, he asked the highways safety officer for the road lines at the six sets of restriction/passing points for the areas to be

relined. Barrie said, " I hope that once the new lines are in place, drivers will give way and that it will help to reduce the speeding on the estate, if the speeding continues would residents please report any speeding concerns to the police and also contact me". Lancashire County Highways sets the speed limits on our roads but it is for the police to enforce them. **Community News Reporter, Councillor, Jeff Cowperthwaite.**



crossing on Station Road, near to Longbrook Avenue, Bamber Bridge I am aware of the terrible incident Mr Hudson refers to. Incidents such as this can be very upsetting for all concerned. The police do share injury collision data with us, which helps us to identify locations where we can have the greatest measurable impact.
It would not be appropriate for us to comment on this particular incident, or its likely causes In light of your email, our officers inspected the site and agreed that both the Zebra crossing and the mini roundabout would benefit from being refreshed.
We carried out these works on 27 October 2024 County Councillor Cowperthwaite commented 'No Excuses now.. this crossing is clearly marked!! NB. Please take care when stepping out on any crossing though.. there will always be halfwits around who think it is okay to speed through junctions/crossings with no consideration for life..
YOU can play your part reporting any incidents you see online to the Police.. ' link below:
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Community News Reporter, Councillor Barrie Yates



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Footpaths Resurfacing Completed in Councillor Barrie Yates's Division of South Ribble East. On Knowsley Close,

Knowsley Drive, Mintholme Avenue, Arrowsmith Close, Brookhouse Close, Brookhouse Drive and Arrowsmith Drive. Barrie said, "I have asked for more roads and footpaths in my division to be repaired or resurfaced and they will be, but they have to be done in priority order. A big thank you to Lancashire Council Highways Team for a job well done". **Community News Reporter, Cllr, Jeff Couperthwaite**

Taking a taxi home?

Attention all you young Party people out there, top tip for your safety over Christmas and New Year's, when getting into a taxi instead of taking a selfie start a new trend, take a photo of the taxi driver / plate / badge that is displayed in the cab and send it to your Mum or friend, GENUINE drivers will understand & Bogus taxi drivers will not pounce if they know you have sent a photo to some one.




Have fun but PLEASE Stay safe



Enjoy Christmas and the New Year but please take care when getting a Taxi. Best Wishes From Your Community News.

Your Community News, Action Groups, Lancashire County Councillors, South Ribble Councillors Actively Working For You. Together They Get Things Done In Your Community's.

Lancashire County Councillor. Barrie Yates, South Ribbel East
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Coupe Green and Gregson Lane
mathew.forshaw@south



Brindle Road Resident Action Group.
 Peter Carter 07977 136661
 Martin Topping




Samlesbury Residents Forum.
 William Street : 7973 664331



Holland House Residents Forum Chairman
 Chris Bilsborough
 07811 211449



Useful Contact Numbers.
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 Environment Agency Flood Line: **0800807060.**
 United Utilities, Water Wastewater / Drains: **08457462200.**
 South Ribble Council, all Enquiries including Flooding: **01772 625625.**
 Royal Preston Hospital **01772 716565.**



For more local news and views, why not visit the bamberbridgebulletin.co.uk You won't be disappointed!

South Ribble Residents Pensioners Association.
 Meet the team & group at Bamber Bridge, South Ribble Pensioners Association. They are great bunch & very welcoming to any newcomers or returning friends. They are keen to see you for a chat, days out & Bingo! They meet Mondays & Thursdays 10am -12pm. Come and Join them, you will be glad you did. **Community News Reporter, Lancashire County Councillor Barrie Yates.**

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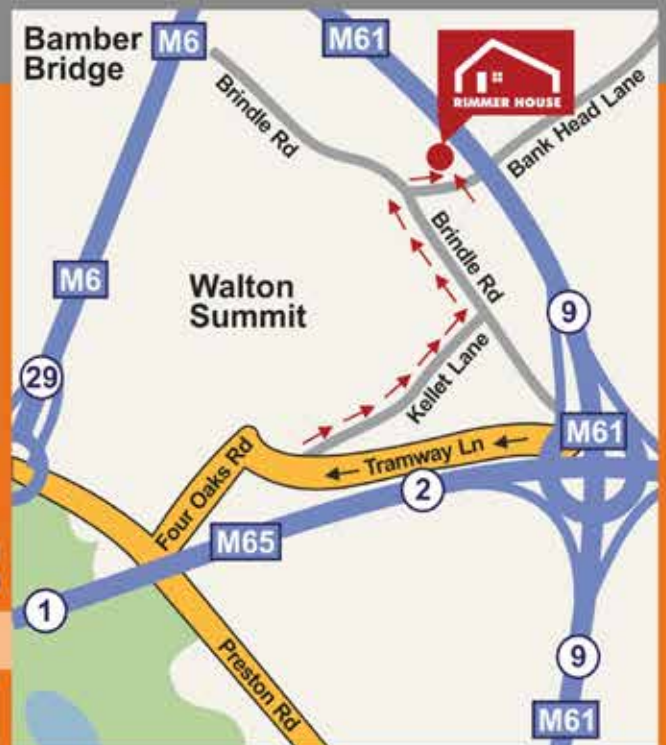
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