



# **SHADWELL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**



# **2013**

**Shadwell Parish Council wishes all residents a**

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New  
Year!**



# Letter from the Chairman

Congratulations to Shadwell in Bloom for another outstanding achievement. Once again, the village received a Gold Award and won the Large Village category in the Yorkshire in Bloom competition – 3<sup>rd</sup> time so far! The work carried out by the volunteers is greatly appreciated, not only by the Councillors but by all the residents. Thank you to all concerned. Although the group was asked to go forward to next year's Britain in Bloom competition, the invitation has been declined due to the vast increase in work required and the lack of additional volunteers.

As mentioned previously, the War Memorial has been renovated and a commemoration of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War and rededication of the Memorial will be arranged for next year. We are anxious to include any former members of the Shadwell branch of the Royal British Legion. If you were member, or know of any former members, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Bin Collections – the new rotas have just started. We hope that by the time you receive this newsletter, everything will be running smoothly. If you have any problems, please let the clerk know. If there is a general pattern of missed collections, we can work on your behalf.

The first set of plans for redevelopment of the former Social Club were rejected by Leeds City Council on several grounds, not least overdevelopment of the site. The revised plans have not yet been submitted.

Parking in the vicinity of the school continues to be a major problem, and local residents believe it has become worse this school year. Parish Councillors and Ward Councillors will be meeting with the school to discuss possible ways forward. It may be that Yellow Lines are the only solution.

The Neighbourhood Plan continues to rumble along. It has become clear that professional help is required move this along more rapidly. The Group has managed to procure a Grant via Locality for £7,000. This will go towards any paid help we engage.

The Parish Council was pleased to award a grant toward the Shadwell Firework evening in November. Applications for grants, which are awarded every 3 months, can be made via the website or directly to the clerk.

The installation of heating at the Library has been hampered by the lack of a gas supply to the building. The Library Committee is endeavouring to have this remedied in the near future, and then the heating will be installed. Once the heating has been completed, refurbishment of the building can go ahead. Most of the funding is now in place. If you would like to become involved by acting as a volunteer librarian, please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

We are pleased with the ongoing work of the recently formed Shadwell Local History Society. Further dates are being added to their programme for talks and walks next year. As part of the Heritage Project, courses will be available for members/residents to trace their family history. Numbers on the courses will be very limited. If you are interested in joining a course, please contact Grahame Matthews on [grahamemattthews@yahoo.com](mailto:grahamemattthews@yahoo.com) or 273 5481.

Many thanks to our Ward Councillors for a grant towards the drainage work in Holywell Park. This has made a huge improvement to the viability of the grassed playing area.

Don't forget that our Post Office needs our help if we are going to keep it alive. How about getting your Christmas postage stamps there? Please use the Post Office whenever you can.

The Council surgery in the library is on the first Saturday of the month. We are always pleased to see you and answer any questions you may have.

*Debbie Potter*  
Chairman

### **Close up of a Councillor – Keith Pickford**

I am Keith Pickford and I was born at 25 Milan Road in Harehills on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1929. My father, Clifford, was a shop-floor manager for a local engineering firm and my mother, Irene was a housewife. I have a brother, Stuart is five years older than me and is a retired London architect. We were educated at Harehills Council School and later Roundhay School.

In 1938 we moved to a new house in Roman Drive, Roundhay. When WWII started, we were evacuated to my grandfather's house in Bridle Path Road, Shadwell, where I still live. The anomaly is that Bridle Path is in Harewood parish.

In the 1940s, I played with a school friend, who had a horse which was stabled in her father's farm, Brandon Grange in Shadwell. I became interested in the farming, particularly the machinery, such as it was. I was taught to ride, milk the cows & drive the Standard Fordson tractor - & to plough, in order to help feed the nation when we were losing the Battle of the Atlantic!

In 1946, at 16 years old, I started work on a large arable farm at Compton, Collingham. The farmer had recently moved from a 22 acre farm to a 400 acre farm at Compton Grove, another Elizabeth Hastings Trust Farm. The farmer, Billy Langrick taught me all about large scale farming and I still work for his family to this day, doing contract work.

In 1956 I was headhunted by Clifford Gough from Gough's of Hunsigore, a main tractor dealer, to look after his sales area west of the A1. Although a challenge, I was quite successful but too young to be accepted by the farming fraternity, who did a lot of business in the pub on market day. This was not my scene.

I went to King's College, Newcastle to study agriculture and in 1959, started in my own Agricultural Contracting. After 54 years, I am still working, albeit a one-man business now.

In 1955 I was best man to my friend Frank Nichols, from the neighbouring farm. His bride was Audrey Williams and her chief bridesmaid was Margaret Midgley. After the ceremony at St Margaret's Church, I escorted her down the aisle and never let her go! We were married on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1959 and honeymooned in Paris. We celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1959 but sadly, Margaret died on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009.

Our married life started at Alban Villa, where the house had been extended and we looked after my aunt, who had lived in the house built by my grandfather, Harry Brayshaw in 1922. The property ran to five acres and I was able to create a garden of approximately one acre with a wood, orchard and large ornamental pond surrounded by lawns. Our daughter Sarah was born in 1964, followed by Frances in 1968. They were educated at Shadwell Primary School, Wigton Moor and Granby High School, Harrogate.

Sarah helped me with the contracting work and it was through this that she met Richard Ford, son of John and Gloria. They "clicked" and married in 1988. Sarah now works for McNicholas, the opticians in Shadwell Lane and Richard is farming in Walshford. Our first granddaughter, Eleanor was born in 1999 and now attends Wetherby High School.

Frances, having a degree in finance from De Montford University in Leicester, works as a department manager at the Halifax Building Society in Leeds. She was married in Las Vegas in 2009 and has a son, William born in June this year.

I was an early member of the Shadwell Residents' Association and so became a Parish Councillor, serving on the Planning Committee.

My hobby is restoring vintage tractors and I am honoured to be President of the National Vintage Tractor & Engine Club of Great Britain; Honorary President of the West Yorkshire Group of the NVTEC; President of the Scarcroft & District Ploughing Society, which I re-established in 2004 and past President of Probus. I am a Trustee of Murton Park, the home of the Yorkshire Museum of Farming and Derwent Valley Light Railway. I sit on the Committee of the Yorkshire Vintage Association, which holds an Annual Vintage weekend at Newby Hall near Ripon in June.

(Not bad for an octogenarian!).

### **Planning Application for the site of the former Social Club**

Shadwell Parish Council received plans for a small development of detached houses on the former social club site on Main Street. Following a site visit by members of the Planning Committee, the proposal was discussed in length and all agreed it would be an improvement to this part of the village. Some concerns were raised regarding access for maintenance to the library, which were relayed to Leeds Planning Dept, along with five other provisos. Planning was refused on the grounds - cramped style, closeness of the road and library would detract from area. Distance re windows, gardens and close proximity of No3 and 4 to library and overbearing to two houses west of site.

