



## We Remembered

Burscough Town came to a standstill in November as people remembered those who gave their lives and who have served our country. Two memorial services were held in November 2022. The Ringtail Memorial Service was held on Friday 11th November 2022 at the Memorial near Booths Supermarket. The service was led by Reverend Banbury. Dignitaries, school children, local people and ex-service personnel attended and laid wreaths at the memorial.

On Sunday 13th November 2022 Burscough came to a standstill. A memorial parade started at Lord Street and processed through the Town centre to the Memorial Gardens. It was moving to see so many people from Burscough Town join the parade or watch.

Burscough Town Council had to step in to allow the Services to go ahead. The Civic Events Team, made up of Councillors, managed to put together one of the best Remembrance Services Burscough has held. A lot of thought, time, work, and preparation went into making this event a success.



### Quotes from some of the people who attended the remembrance services

“It is an extraordinary privilege to play a part, along with other church representatives, in leading the Remembrance activities in Burscough. Each year it is profoundly humbling to see the respect that is shown by the community of Burscough towards the fallen, veterans and serving personnel in our local area.

This year it was extremely encouraging to see the number of young people actively involved in the act of remembrance.”

*Revd Canon David Banbury  
Vicar of St John the Baptist, Burscough*

“RAF Woodvale is proud of its historic links to HMS Ringtail and it was clear from the Armistice Day ceremony that the people of Burscough are too; it was a fantastic turnout and especially pleasing to see so many school children there. It was a privilege to take part.”

*RAF Woodvale Station Commander,  
Wing Commander David Hooton*

“It was an honour to represent the RAF in the parade to Burscough’s Memorial Garden on Remembrance Sunday. It was humbling to see so many veterans and children in particular amongst the townsfolk who came to pay their respects.”

*Squadron Leader Lee Rimmer of 611  
Squadron based at RAF Woodvale*

“As the Neighbourhood Sergeant for West Lancashire, it was an honour and privilege to organise the police deployments for the Remembrance services across the Borough of West Lancashire. My officers were proud to attend this service and remember those who have sacrificed their lives in many wars since 1918, so the rest of us may exercise freedom. We will remember them.”

*Sergeant 1251 David Butcher -  
NPT - West Lancashire*

“I would just like to say how proud and privileged I was to have been invited to represent the Council and I felt very humbled laying a wreath. I was also delighted at how many attended to pay their respects to honour all the fallen soldiers of both World Wars.”

*Deputy Mayor for West Lancashire  
Cllr Kate Mitchell - OWL (Knowsley Ward)*

“I thought it was a wonderful act of remembrance. Well organised, it allowed for young people, veterans and representatives of the armed forces and other services to pay their respects along with the whole community. The time at the memorial was traditional, but really well thought out and meant there was no need for an almost identical service immediately afterwards. My thanks go to all involved in organising the event.”

*Brian Cox, Cub Leader 29th Ormskirk  
(Burscough, St John's)*





# Chairman's News & Views

## Dear Residents

I trust that you are all well and had a good Christmas and New Year, despite the fact that we are all struggling with the effects of the rising cost of living, particularly the cost of gas and electricity.

My fellow Town Councillors and I, would like to wish everyone a "Happy New Year" and hope that the health and financial outlook will improve for everyone during the coming year.

The Town Council has limited financial resources but I would like say to all our residents that if you or anyone you know finds themselves in financial hardship and needs advice or help please speak to any Town Councillor or contact our Clerk (see members' contact details below) to see if we can help you.

Also, the Council has been working with a local primary school and a national mental health charity to provide funds to deal with mental health issues and the wellbeing of our residents. Again, if you feel you could benefit from such help, please contact our Clerk.

On a happier note I can now confirm that after a lot of hard work and negotiation, particularly by our Clerk, the Town Council has now successfully concluded an agreement with Lancashire County Council and Network Rail to lease the existing Burscough Bridge Interchange building and we will be moving into the refurbished building in the near future. The building will provide

office space for our Clerk and Deputy but more importantly will provide a much-needed community space for use by local organisations and charity groups. More information will be made available regarding booking procedures for these rooms once the Town Council moves into the building.

In my capacity as Town Council Chairman I have a small amount of money available each financial year known as the "Chairman's Allowance". I can donate this money to any good cause that I feel is deserving and this year my allowance has helped to replace the water feature that was vandalised at the Methodist Church garden and also helped Burscough Litter Pickers to purchase insurance to cover volunteers when they are out on the streets picking up litter.

Finally for your information the Town Council has had to pass the distribution of this Newsletter to a local private firm due to the demise of the Champion newspaper which previously carried out this function. This will be the first edition to be distributed by this means and we would welcome your feedback over the coming months about the coverage and reliability of this new service.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and please STAY SAFE.

**Brian Kennedy**

Burscough Town Council Chairman.



## BURSCOUGH TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS' CONTACT DETAILS

**Chairman:**  
**Vice Chair:**

**Brian Kennedy**  
**Derick Moss**



**Councillor**

**Address**

**Telephone**

### BURSCOUGH TOWN WARD (BWD1/BWD2)

Cynthia Dereli 10 Meadowbrook, L40 7XA 895247  
John Crawford 201 Liverpool Road South, L40 7RE 895297

### ELLERBROOK WARD (BEB/BEC)

Neil Pollington 11 Windsor Close, L40 7RH 07545 776408  
Stephen Teeling 18 Chancel Way, L40 7AS 07563 287419

### VACANCY

### NEW LANE WARD (SBE)

Mike Price 98 New Lane, L40 0RY 07748 621533

### RED CAT LANE WARD (BWA)

John Horsley Curlew Cottage, 82 Moss Nook, L40 0RQ 07518 967517

### RICHMOND PARK WARD (BWC)

Ezra Ouko 1 Higgins Lane, L40 7AZ 07912 945351

### ST JOHN'S WARD (BEA)

Brian Kennedy 37 Weaver Avenue, L40 4LE 895374  
Sara Burns 40 Orrell Lane, L40 0SQ 07716 579506

### VACANCY

### STANLEY WARD (BWB)

Derick Moss 4 Abbey Fold, L40 7UX 07860 735025  
Brian Bailey 60 Hesketh Road, L40 7SQ 07518 757059  
Gary Sargent 2 Stanley Court, L40 4LA

### CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Jackie Maguire (Clerk) Office 17, Martland Mill, Mart Lane, L40 0SD  
Jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk or 894914  
Sheila Gill (Deputy Clerk/RFO) Sheila.gill@burscoughtc.org.uk

## Burscough Town Council vacancies

Are you interested in making a difference in your community? Come along and join our welcoming Town Council. We currently have two vacancies which are open to anyone over the age of 18 who either live or works in Burscough and has done for a minimum of 12 months. Contact the Town Clerk

Jackie.maguire@burscoughtc.org.uk for an informal discussion, she will support you through the process. Town Council meetings are always organised on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and start at 7pm. There are also a number of working groups you could be involved in, these are:-

- Street Scene
- Finance
- Newsletter and Publicity
- Personnel
- Capital Projects
- Station Building
- Flooding
- Climate Change
- Neighbourhood Planning

Additionally, there is also a Planning and Footpaths Committee which meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month where all planning applications for the Burscough area are discussed and where necessary comments to West Lancashire Council are provided.

If you would like to get involved contact the Clerk or the office 01704 894914.

Articles and stories by: Clerk – Jackie Maguire, Cllr Derick Moss, Cllr Cynthia Dereli, Cllr Gary Sargent and Cllr Mike Price. Pictures by Michael Dawson



# Burscough has the first blue plaques in West Lancashire



**B**urscough has become the first area in West Lancashire to have Blue Plaques, and not just one but four. Edward Bridge MM BEM, Harriett Emma Mahood, Emma Vickers and Ernest John Rosbottom now have Blue Plaques situated at Burscough Wharf, for all to see. There are also information boards below giving some interesting facts on them and their deeds.

Families, friends, and representatives of Burscough Town Council were present for the unveiling in September 2022.

Local historian Michael Dawson was contacted by former Cllr Andrew Pritchard regarding Harriett Emma Mahood and thoughts on arranging a coveted Blue Plaque for her.

A couple of years prior to this Michael had discussed with a few others about how Edward Bridge MM, BEM could be best remembered and the possibility of having a Blue Plaque installed in Burscough for him, too.

Funding for this, the first part of the project, was successfully made via the National Lottery Heritage Fund through a local voluntary community group 'Images of Burscough and Surrounding Areas' which met all the criteria set out to apply for grants to fund such projects.

Due to the Covid pandemic in 2020, the project was delayed resulting in the first two plaques and interpretation boards

being installed at Burscough Wharf in September 2020, with an unveiling ceremony postponed.

This gave the team time to plan the second part of the project with a further two Blue Plaques and boards to be installed, this time recognising Emma Vickers and Ernest Rosbottom.

This part of the project was generously funded by Burscough Town Council, and in August the plaques and boards were installed again at Burscough Wharf, who from day one have been fully supportive of the project.

With restrictions lifted, an official unveiling ceremony with friends and relatives of all four invited to attend along with many of those involved in the project could be organised.

This took place on Sunday 11th November 2022, with Lawrence Critchley giving a short introduction before relatives unveiled the blue plaques and boards.

This has been a great team effort by the following: (Former Cllr) Andrew Pritchard, Jocelyn Bridge, Lawrence Critchley, Cllr Chris Ryley, Burscough Town Council, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Michael Dawson, Debra Baldwin, Julie & Gary Mitchell, Nigel & Shirley Guy / Burscough Wharf, Angela Frampton and Daniel Frampton / Acumen Financial Partnership, Stuart & Lynne Gray, Alan Vickers and family, Ronwin Hurst (nee Mahood), Marc Mahood, Neil MacFarlane, Richard Houghton, Kenneth Lees, David Abrutat, John Unwin, Photocast (who made the blue plaques), Nature Sign Designs (who made the interpretation boards), Domino Drama Group and Images of Burscough and Surrounding Areas (apologies if we have missed anyone).

A special thank you to Trevor Bridge (Edward's great nephew) who designed the plaques, boards and also the two booklets which tell the stories of all four blue plaque recipients.

Trevor travelled over from France to be at the unveiling ceremony, with members of Emma Vickers family travelling from all over the country to be here.

These are the first Blue Plaques in West Lancashire and this has been a very worthwhile project.

The booklets are free to collect from Burscough Wharf.





# Annual Remembrance Services







# Defibrillator – READY FOR ACTION HELP SAVE A LIFE

**B**urscough Town Council are passionate about the health and wellbeing of all the residents in Burscough. To this end two new defibrillators have been purchased and placed in refurbished telephone kiosks on Manor Road and Richmond Avenue.

These are further additions to the defibrillator already in position on the A59 outside Purely Pizza.

The defibrillators have been registered on The Circuit, which is connected to North West Ambulance Service. To help save a life ring 999, the emergency telephone number, and they will give you the unique code which will enable access to the equipment.

The defibrillators are easy to use, to start you press the on button and then the device will talk you through all the steps.

If the casualty has a pulse, the defibrillator will not work as it would not be required and therefore cannot harm the casualty.

Defibrillators are small machines which can ‘shock’ a person’s heart into restarting after a cardiac arrest. If this can be done in the first few minutes, patients have a 60-70 per cent chance of making a full recovery. They are easy to use, easy to carry and they won’t deliver a shock unless it is required. There is no clinical training required to be able to use the machine.

In the 2023, we hope to provide some training sessions for anyone who would like further information on how they are used. For information contact the Town Council office.



## PHOTO COMPETITION

**L**ooking at many of the local forums and specialist pages on social media, it isn’t hard to notice the increase in amateur photographers. All happily snapping and sharing our wonderful local countryside, wildlife,

heritage, and culture, either with their DSLR or phone camera.

My favourite seasons, Spring!

So, to highlight some of the fantastic images you share, we are going to run a quarterly photography competition.

The first prize will be £50, with the runner-up receiving £25.

Also, both winning images will be displayed as our cover image on Facebook, for two months and one month respectively, between competitions.

Each competition will have a different theme, based on the season, where you’ll be asked to snap something that means

something to you about the season, in Burscough.

You can only submit one photo, so choose your best!

This quarter’s theme will be Spring.

So, think about what Spring in Burscough means to you and get snapping.

Email your entry to [burscoughtowncouncil@gmail.com](mailto:burscoughtowncouncil@gmail.com) no later than 1st March 2023

Entries received after this will not be included.

Tell us what you used to take the picture, was it a phone or DSLR?

Let us know the make and model of your phone/camera, if you use a camera, please also let us know what lens was used.

The winner will be announced on our Facebook page and also in the next newsletter.

The judges’ decision will be final.



# CLIMATE ISSUES AND GREEN NEWS

## SHARING A SPECIAL 'CUPPA' AT THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING IN DECEMBER

Liz Hawksby, a leading light of Fairtrade activity at St John The Baptist Church, joined Town Cllr Cynthia Dereli to serve up tea/coffee and scrumptious Fairtrade biscuits at the Town Council before Christmas – and to remind everyone that since 2007 Burscough has been a Fairtrade Town with the support of the Town Council, schools and churches in Burscough as well as many shops and businesses.



Now however, the group of activists has shrunk and as the population of Burscough has grown the task of reaching out to everyone to create the momentum for the general support that will earn us that title again is looking unlikely.

So although we hope that you will want to buy Fairtrade whenever you can and the Town Council will continue its support, the certificate might have to be put away as a reminder of things past.

## A new year report from the local food bank

The food banks around West Lancs have all been experiencing increased demand during the last few months of 2022, but the report from the Burscough Food Bank notes that they were also experiencing increased donations. They now also have a clothes bank which is very popular, especially with young mums and in the run-up to Christmas they have had toys and Christmas hampers on offer too.

Jackie Moore, one of four coordinators, who head up the Burscough Food Bank commented: 'The generosity of local people is just amazing. Thank you to all who have helped.' She also noted that the Village schools are great supporters of the Food Bank, spreading the word via parents and children about the need to build community support.

Jackie noted 'Our next venture is to provide expert benefit, debt and well-being support via a partnership with Compassion Acts, starting January.'

## 'Warm Spaces' in Burscough

As well as hosting the Food Bank in Burscough, the Methodist church also provide a 'Warm Space' twice a week. More info can be found on their website <https://www.burscoughmethodistchurch.org.uk/>

Another location in our local area is The Library, Mill Lane, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L40 5TJ

Their website notes: 'We are a Lancashire warm space where you can keep warm, access information and advice or spend time with others.'

Tel: 03001236703

Email: [burscough.library@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:burscough.library@lancashire.gov.uk)

## Businesses can now go solar, with no penalty

If you are starting to investigate solar energy you might want to have a look at the array on the Town Council's new office space, the former Burscough Bridge Interchange building.

Cllr Cynthia Dereli admits to having had a long-held desire to see solar panels on the Interchange roof.

"Around 2010, I was chairing a small voluntary organization committed to spreading the word on green issues. The station roof seemed to me to be crying out for solar panels given its position – south facing and not overlooked, but the Burscough Renewable Energy Companies remit limited it to supporting the installation of solar on public/community buildings. Sadly the station didn't fit the bill" said Cllr Dereli.

So why have we not seen solar panels appearing on other buildings since then?

Well, the first failure of government in relation to renewable energy has been to fail to support a growing industry and the second, a failure to encourage householders to invest in renewables with even the smallest of carrots.

But from the point of view of businesses who want to help save the planet there is a glimmer of hope!

Up until 2022 adding solar panels to an industrial building also added to the rates bill. But now the UK government have had a change of heart and scrapped that penalty.

There is still no payment for any electricity you feed back into the grid, but businesses are likely to use most of their electricity usage in the daytime and less after dark. This would mean less need for a battery for storage or less 'waste' of energy generated - at last an opportunity for businesses to contribute to saving the planet.

For local businesses, therefore, it looks as though this might be a great time to install solar on your building.

This change needs to be publicised. And ... if local businesses go electric can we all look forward to more electric cars gliding passed us and cleaner air for pedestrians? This should be a win-win for everyone.



# Xmas illuminations

Roasted chestnuts, turkey and all the trimmings, glimmering lights reflecting off colourful ornaments, and a visit from old Saint Nick... As often said, Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year and decorating for Christmas is one of the most joy-inducing parts of the holiday season.

With new shimmering lights illuminating the traditional 25ft Memorial Gardens Christmas tree Burscough's countdown to Christmas 2022 got under way on the last Friday in November. And it was certainly a case of 'out with the old and in with the new' as 22 brand new festive lamppost lighting motifs made their debut appearance above the main village road to provide a winter wonderland of lighting.

With the previous motifs looking tired and dim after several years of use, planning for the new village lights started as early as February as the Town Council's Street Scene Working Group worked closely with new contractors, Ormskirk-based IllumiDex UK Ltd, to design and manufacture the new brightly coloured festive motifs for the village lampposts. And using more up to date and economical super energy efficient LED string and rope lights will greatly reduce costs by using almost 90% less energy than traditional light bulbs.

The Christmassy makeover theme continued with the re-positioning of an all white light 12ft cone tree next to the entrance of St John the Baptist Church, with two new red and green cone



trees taking up a prominent position on the corner of Mill Lane in front of the Burscough granite stone. And for the fourth successive Christmas, 50 solar powered hanging Christmas trees provided a twinkling display from one end of the village to the other.

Snow at Christmas tends to be a rare sight, and for 2022 there was as usual no sign of a winter wonderland of snow, or indeed the three wise men. Notwithstanding, the Town Council hope that the new lighting features brought some yuletide spirit to the town's residents and visitors alike, and would like to thank all those who took time out to post comments on social media or email the Town Council office.

# Best Christmas Window display Winner 2022

Since 2005 the Town Council has been running an annual Christmas Window Competition, which is open to all businesses with a shop front in the town. All the business has to do is dress their shop window with a festive display in December to be in with a chance of winning the trophy and a prize. In previous years we have only presented one prize but this year we decided to give two, for first and runner-up.

Over the years the competition has produced some fabulous festive scenes, with some of the businesses getting very competitive. You know who you are!

For December 2022 we are delighted to announce the first prize winner of the trophy and £150 as Key Financial Associates of School Lane with runner-up and £75 prize going to Profile Hair Studio of Liverpool Road North.

Congratulations and thank you for taking part.

The prizes were awarded by Town Clerk Jackie Maguire and Town Councillor, Gary Sargent. Hearing that Jon at Key Financial Associates had decided to donate his prize to one of the Burscough Dynamo Football Teams was heartening.

Many thanks to the judges, who were the children at Burscough Village Primary School led by Deidre Sadgrove, and thank you also to all the businesses who participated.

We look forward to seeing them again in December 2023.

