

# Menston News

MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 120

February 2018

## BEFORE AND AFTER



## A FEW WORDS FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

By the time you read these notes 2017 will be well behind us and all of us I am sure will be looking forward to 2018 and all that it promises.

Looking at the front page and continuing the theme 'before and after', you cannot fail to notice how much the old part of the village has changed, or has it? A track has become a road, a cart has become a car or van but the buildings have not changed that much. Likewise St John's church sits up on the hill looking down just as it was over 100 years ago and how wonderful it was last November to see the church's involvement in the First World War commemorations. These were truly memorable.

Notable community achievements were the reopening of the Library and the continued progress of Asset Transfer of Kirklands Community Centre. Keep your eye on the village website [www.menston.org](http://www.menston.org) for updates on probably the most important event to shape the community for years.

The loss of the roundabout on Main Street and Bingley Road has stimulated some debate but the bigger debate still rages on over the proposed development on Bingley Road. Bellway Homes are pursuing this and who knows where they will be during 2018 with their application. It is now over eight years since we were targeted by the developers, preventing what is perceived by the residents as inappropriate development has to be a major achievement by this community.

Finally I would like to thank the local Co-op for their continued community support through whose funding has enabled the local primary school children to build thirty bird and bat boxes. You will be hearing and reading more about this initiative as the year moves forward. A new nature trail round the village has been suggested using the siting of the boxes as a map and I look forward to suggestions as to how this can be achieved.

Very best wishes to all.

*Dr Steve Ellams,  
Chairman Menston Community Association*





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## NEWSLETTER ADVERTS

If you would like to include an advert in the newsletter, please contact Alison Manson on 878556 or email: [alisondavidmanson@gmail.com](mailto:alisondavidmanson@gmail.com)

Prices are:  
quarter page – £25,  
half page – £50,  
full page – £100.

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## The Bestselling Agent in MENSTON by far!



If you are thinking of moving, please call us on **01943 660 494** to arrange a valuation of your property.

It may just be that you want a bit of advice about downsizing or works to complete before selling your property, or are unsure whether to move at all – just ask!

*Our aim is to be as helpful as possible, but don't just take our word for it:*

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## MENSTON PARISH COUNCIL

The work on refurbishing the Public toilets at Kirklands is nearing completion.

The Library reopened in September and user numbers have steadily increased, however, we continue to monitor numbers. Jill Cooke our Library manager leads the group of enthusiastic volunteers. She is more than happy to provide information to potential volunteers.

In November, the Charity Commissioners accepted the registration of the Kirklands (Menston) Trust. It is hoped that the Community Asset Transfer of the whole of the Kirklands Estate (including the Children's Centre, The Main Building, The Community led Library and the Bowling Club) will be completed in the very near future. The trustees will be seeking nominations for further trustees in the near future.

*Peter Finlay, Chairman*

## YOUR VILLAGE STILL NEEDS YOU

To continue raising funds to pay for specialist legal and technical advice, your contributions are welcome. Please help to save our village by writing a cheque to "Menston Action Group"

These can be delivered to Small Print, Main Street, Menston;  
3 Albany Row, Main Street, 4 West Winds, Moor Lane,  
39 Hawksworth Drive or 2 Red House Gardens.

## MENSTON PARISH CHURCH

### **Future dates for your diary:**

13 February – Shrove Tuesday; 14 February – Ash Wednesday;  
11 March – Mothering Sunday; 25 March – Palm Sunday;  
30 March – Good Friday; 1 April – Easter Day

Further details will be available in the Parish Magazine, in the weekly Parish Notes and via the website at [www.stjohnmenston.org.uk](http://www.stjohnmenston.org.uk)

## MENSTON EVENING TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Our Brass Band Charity Concert in November raised £1,500 for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. We would like to thank everybody who came to the concert and helped us to raise such a large sum. We hope that you enjoyed the evening's entertainment and that we will see you there again in November.

Our guild has had a very successful year. We have welcomed several new members and have had a good variety of enjoyable activities. These included a trip to Newby Hall in the summer and one to Boundary Mills for Christmas shopping. Some of our members went to Ripon Cathedral for a carol service which was attended by over 700 women from guilds all over the north of England. There have been interesting speakers at our guild meetings and a lunch out has been arranged each month. The reading group has proved so popular that a second one is being set up.

We usually meet in Kirklands at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of the month but in February our meeting has been changed to the third Wednesday, February 21, to make way for the Thespian's pantomime. New members are welcome at any time so if you think that you might be interested just ring Margaret on 872677 or come to one of our meetings.

## MENSTON RETIRED MENS FORUM

We are a social group formed, in 1972, by retired men from Menston village.

The group meet in the local community centre between 10.00am and 12.00 noon every first and third Wednesday of the month (excluding summer break). At these meetings members hear talks and presentations by visiting guest speakers on a wide range of diverse topics.

We are always keen to welcome new members. For further information please use the contact us form on the website [menstonrmf.wordpress.com](http://menstonrmf.wordpress.com) or contact Mike Hughes (Chairman) 875999 or Mike Ripley (Secretary) 876485.

## MENSTON THESPIANS

### **Menston Thespians are proud to present their 2018 pantomime '*Beauty and the Beast*'.**

We'd love to welcome you all to this wonderful pantomime at Kirklands Community Centre, starting Thursday 15 to Saturday 17 February at 7.15pm with an additional 2pm matinee on Saturday 17. Adults £12 and Children (U16) £9.

Join us and get ready to boo, hiss and cheer your way through this wonderful fairy-tale story, including your usual favourites and a big cast of local children.

Tickets are available by calling Peter on 872016 or online at <https://menstonthespians.eventcube.io>

Menston Thespians welcomes new members. For more information call Rob on 07425177568 or email [menstonthespians@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:menstonthespians@hotmail.co.uk)

## MENSTON FIRST WORLD WAR COMMEMORATION GROUP

### **VISIT TO FLANDERS/FRANCE**

#### **Sunday 20 May to Thursday 24 May inclusive.**

As our previous visit to Flanders/France in September 2015 proved so poignant and humbling, we are arranging a further tour of the War Graves and Battlefields of World War One during May 2018. Ken Hartsholme of Dalesman Coaches, Guiseley has booked the ferry and hotel accommodation for the above dates.

We intend to do as before and leave Menston early Sunday afternoon for the overnight ferry from Hull to Zeebrugge. Monday will be spent in Ypres with overnight accommodation where we will attend the Menin Gate Ceremony in the evening. Tuesday we travel to Arras where we will spend Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Thursday we return to Zeebrugge for the overnight ferry back to Hull returning to Menston on Friday morning.

Although a full and more detailed itinerary will be issued as soon as possible, we hope to re-visit the Passchendaele Museum, Tyne-Cot Memorial, Vimy

Ridge and the Thiepval Memorial. We also intend to see the NEW Bradford Pals Monument at Serre, the Ulster Tower and visit the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (to see how the stones are carved) and various other sites, depending on the time schedule. It is also hoped to trace a few more of the memorials/graves of our Menston men en route.

We now have over 20 definite participants for the tour and should you be interested in joining us please telephone either Dale Smith (07801 669780) or Judith Knaggs on 879290 for further details and prices.

## MENSTON IN BLOOM

After a busy and successful 2017, MIB is now planning for 2018.

We will continue to maintain all 'our' planters and beds to provide colourful seasonal displays and there are some exciting projects being planned too. The beds outside the entrance to the library have been cleared to create two new 'Peace' beds. White roses have been planted and additional planting will be completed in the spring. We have received contributions towards this project, for which we are grateful. If you would like to donate towards this, or any of our other projects, please get in touch.

Over the last few years we have planted 14 new trees in the park. We are currently looking at how we can continue planting trees for the future. We would like your feedback on our plans, so please look out for further details on *menston.org*, on our Facebook page and in the library.

Our Great Menston Bulb Plant campaign in the autumn was a success, thank you! Look out for all the new bulbs in the park (planted with the help of the Scouts) and elsewhere in the village this spring!

The annual Strawberry Tea and Plant Sale will be held on June 2 at 2-4pm at 23 Park Road

Keep up to date with our regular weekday work parties and Saturday sessions, as well as information about our special projects. Details can be found on the village website, *menston.org*, on our Facebook page and in the library.

If you would like more information, or can offer help in any way, please contact Gemma Kelmanson at *menstoninbloom@gmail.com* or 879031.

Menston Scouts and Guides wish to thank the residents of Menston for your recent support.

1. The Big Sing in Menston Park on Saturday 16 December. This was organised by Menston Parish Church and the Scout and Guide Group, accompanied by Otley Town Brass Band and supported by many of you. New to the event this year, was the elevated stage, courtesy of Chris Wright (Baildon) Ltd., and freshly made bacon butties, served by the Scouts and Guides. £500 was raised at this event towards the ongoing development of Menston Scouts and Guides.
2. Santa's Sleigh visit to Menston! Thank you for welcoming Santa and his "elf" helpers who, on two cold but fine evenings in the week leading up to Christmas, brought a little bit of Christmas magic to the village! Apologies to those of you who didn't get much warning of Santa's arrival! Next year, leaflets will be delivered through your door prior to the event, so you can enjoy the anticipation of Santa's visit. This year the financial "red bucket" contributions reached just over £1,000. The funds will be shared between Martin House Hospice and Menston Scouts and Guides.

Currently we have 11 active Scout/Guide units, containing over 150 young people all doing a huge variety of activities week by week. The units are run by fully committed and enthusiastic adult volunteers who give willingly of their free time to give children in our village fun, friends, challenges and adventures which they will never forget! We have children on a waiting list wanting to join us but, as ever, we need more volunteers to help.

Have you recently moved into the village? Do you want to make new friends? Are you newly retired? Have you some time and energy to spare? Do you need to improve your C.V? Do you want to join the adventure? Then look no further!

Information about us and full training is available. Contact Cath (Group Secretary) or Peter (Group Treasurer) or Roger (Group Scout Leader), if you want to know more!

*sec@menstonscoutsandguides.uk, gsl@menstonscoutsandguides.uk, treasurer@menstonscoutsandguides.uk*

### **Get into cricket!**

It was a very busy year for the village's cricket club in 2017 and this year promises to be even busier!

Last year, Menston Cricket Club was successful on the field, with our under 11s winning their junior league and our senior 2nd XI getting promoted. The club also welcomed Yorkshire Diamonds, the county's women's team, for a fun evening for budding cricket stars! And the cricket club's Fun Day saw many of you from the community enjoy the club's facilities and ground, with many stalls and games providing the entertainment.

### **Fun Day, Golf Day & Cup Final**

This year, the cricket club is planning to hold the Fun Day on Sunday 27 May. We will also hold a Golf Day in June at Bradford Golf Club – usually a fantastic day for all involved. And we are absolutely delighted to have been selected to host a Cup Final on Monday 27 August. Everyone is welcome to all these events – please get in touch via [menstoncc@btinternet.com](mailto:menstoncc@btinternet.com) for more details.

### **Christmas & New Year's Raffle**

A big thank you to all within the village who supported the club's Christmas & New Year's Raffle, kindly sponsored by Ribston Pippin. As well as enabling the club to get off to a good start for the year, a donation to St Gemma's Hospice has been made from proceeds.

### **Want to play cricket?**

New players of all ages and abilities are always welcome at Menston Cricket Club. We run 3 senior teams (playing on Saturday and Sunday afternoons) and junior teams from under 9s through to under 15s. In addition, we have a promising girls team and we also take part in the national 'All Stars Cricket' programme for 5 to 8 year olds, which runs from May to July.

If you are keen to give cricket a go, then get in touch via [menstoncc@btinternet.com](mailto:menstoncc@btinternet.com) – all age groups have now started training indoors and you'd be very welcome to join us.

*Paul Smith, Chairman & Club Secretary, Menston Cricket Club*  
*@MenstonCricket on twitter.com* <http://menston.play-cricket.com/>

## MENSTON CARES

### **A date for your diary**

Colin Alderson will be the guest speaker at our short AGM on Thursday 14 June at 1.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall.

He will give an illustrated talk about the five years he spent as Chef to the Royal Household. Come and join us – refreshments provided!

Please keep an eye on your elderly neighbours, particularly during the cold, icy weather.

Strolling for Health – when it's not bad underfoot, this Menston Cares group meets every first and third Tuesday in the month, outside Menston Co-op at 10am, for about an hour's stroll around the village (less in the winter!), finishing at Cornerstone Cafe for refreshments.

New members welcome!

## PYJAMA DRAMA – A WORLD OF IMAGINARY ADVENTURES

If you've got a young child who would enjoy singing, games and pretending – then why not come along to our fun Pyjama Drama sessions? We go on imaginary adventures which are different each time as they allow for the children to input their ideas. Want to fly to the moon? Rescue caterpillars from the witch in the wood? Wave to the Queen from a chocolate train? Help a frog find his mummy and daddy? Well in our sessions that's just some of the adventures we have. And our baby sessions include puppet stories too, so we're developing imagination right from an early age.

We hold sessions (for babies and for under 5's) and parties (for 1-7 year olds) in the Wharfe valley and beyond – including Menston of course! Just go to our website [www.pyjamadrama.com](http://www.pyjamadrama.com), pop in your postcode and you can find out what we're up to.

What do people say? "Ella loves every session and can't wait to find out what we're doing each week" "We had such a wonderful time, thank you! Arabella has been giddy and chatting ever since we came" "Thanks so

much for all your energy and enthusiasm at Milena's party on Saturday. She and her friends had a great time. You made it really fun and relaxed – thank you! Pyjama Drama is such an imaginative and fun way for all the children to interact.”

We've got a Facebook page too with all our latest news – Pyjama Drama Yorkshire Wharfe and Aire. Email me for more details at [elizabeth@pyjamadrama.com](mailto:elizabeth@pyjamadrama.com).

“Dance, sing, pretend, play – where will our imagination take us today?”

## ECHOES OF WAR ~ SEPTEMBER 2017

A huge thank you from St John's and the Menston World War 1 group for the wonderful support from the village community over the 'Echoes of War' weekend. Comments received at the time and in the following weeks showed that it meant a great deal to many, especially those with close family memories of WW1.

The weekend raised a wonderful £4,476.25 which was split between St John's and the Royal British Legion. A cheque for £1,342.88 was sent to the Legion following a presentation to Judith Knaggs at the Remembrance Day service at Kirklands. It will help to run their new Personnel Recovery Centres, assisting servicemen and women returning from Afghanistan to return to duty, learn a new skill or retrain for a successful future outside the Armed Forces.

Community involvement was important and the amazing trench provided a very moving and graphic introduction to the theme of the weekend as people arrived via the main church path. The knitted poppies were a major attraction and a great tribute to the ladies of the village who had taken so much care to produce around 2,100 poppies of all shades of red. The large net of poppies was displayed at Kirklands during the November Remembrance weekend and is being stored for the 2018 celebrations.

Photographs of the weekend are displayed in the photo gallery on St John's website [www.stjohnmenston.org.uk/photos](http://www.stjohnmenston.org.uk/photos) and a book to mark Menston's celebrations of 1914-18 is being planned.

## MENSTON – LEEDS BRADFORD ARGENTINE TANGO CLUB

Our new guest teachers are **2015 World Championship Finalists**

Barbara Ferreyra and Exequiel Relmuan, and can be seen performing their championship dance on YouTube at [https://youtu.be/lzIJm\\_r4B94](https://youtu.be/lzIJm_r4B94)

Argentine Tango dancing is physically, mentally and socially rewarding, appealing to both single people and couples. There is social dancing after each class session, and once a month at a Saturday night dance (Argentine Milonga).

The club provides authentic professional tuition for both absolute beginners and the more experienced, from 7pm every Thursday, at the High Royds Sports and Social Club.

If you'd like to discover the enjoyment and vitality that dancing adds to life – call or text LBA Tango on 07718 782999.

## MENSTON ARTS CLUB

**Menston Arts Club Exhibition – Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 May 2018**

Menston Arts Club is very happy to report a brisk start to the 2017-2018 activities. September saw the beginning of an excellent syllabus with capacity attendance.

The Autumn exhibition, held on 18-19 November was a display of both artistic and practical talents. High visitor numbers from both our faithful Menston village supporters and further afield supported our efforts handsomely.

This year the raffle did particularly well, we suspect this was partly due to the generous chocolate boost promoting Shipley Glen Tramway. The favourite picture section of the exhibition, won by Tom (Robert) Thomson for his powerful watercolour of Sheffield, elicited very helpful suggestions from the public. As a club we welcome this feedback from our visitors and we hope that they enjoy the extra challenge choosing a favourite picture gives them.

Members are now busy working hard to produce pictures for our next exhibition in May (Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th). As always the exhibition will be held at Kirklands Community Centre and we look forward to welcoming Menston residents and serving them with tea and cake and thanking them for their support.

## **MENSTON METHODIST CHURCH**

Our Annual Covenant Service at which we re-affirm our faith was held on 7 January. We were delighted to welcome our friends from St John's together with their new vicar, Rev Steve Proudlove.

We are looking forward to Easter and the beginning of Lent which starts on Wednesday 14 February. Our Easter Sunday service will be at 10.30am on Sunday 1 April.

Mothering Sunday is on 11 March. At our 10.30am service all ladies in the congregation are presented with a small bunch of daffodils.

We will be holding a Coffee Morning in the Church hall on Saturday 10 February from 10am to 12 noon. Details of our Easter Coffee Morning will be displayed around the village.

Menston Methodist Tennis Club will be holding a Jumble Sale in the Church hall on Saturday 17 February at 2pm. Donations of jumble may be brought to the church hall on the morning of the Jumble.

On Saturday 24 February at 2.30pm our Drama Group and Vivace Youth Choir will be presenting '*A Stag Hunt*'. An afternoon of singing, food and fun for all.

The Friday Friendship Group continues to meeting fortnightly on a Friday afternoon and the Wednesday Group (for ladies) fortnightly on Wednesday evenings.

Details of all our activities are advertised on the Church noticeboard and website: [www.menstonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.menstonmethodist.org.uk)

## EGGS2iPADS

Volunteers are required for new sessions of Eggs2ipads teaching with the MCA. DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) Certification if required will be funded by the MCA. The sessions will take place in the Library.

These sessions have previously been used for the teachers to gain accreditation towards their Duke of Edinburgh award.

Apply to [www.menston.org](http://www.menston.org) website or  
3 Albany Row, Main Street, Menston LS29 6HA with contact details and we will reply to discuss future commitments etc.

*Dr S D Ellams, Chairman Menston Community Association*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### January

25 Thu 19.00 **Parish Council Meeting** Room 17, Kirklands

### February

8 Thu 14.00 **Wellbeing and Crime Prevention Roadshow** Kirklands

10 Sat 12.00 **Coffee Morning** Methodist Church Hall

15-17 19.15 **Menston Thespians Pantomime** Kirklands

17 Sat 14.00 **'Beauty and the Beast'**

17 Sat 14.00 **Tennis Club Jumble Sale** Methodist Church Hall

12 Sat 14.30 **'A Stag Hunt' Entertainment** Methodist Church Hall

22 Thu 19.00 **Parish Council Meeting** Room 17, Kirklands

28 Wed 10-12 **Coffee Morning** Abbeyfield

### March

11 Sun 10.30 **Mothering Sunday Service** Methodist Church

22 Thu 19.00 **Parish Council Meeting** Room 17, Kirklands

28 Wed 10-12 **Coffee Morning** Abbeyfield

## April

1 Sun	10.30	<b>Easter Service</b>	<i>Methodist Church</i>
25 Wed	10-12	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	<i>Abbeyfield</i>
26 Thu	19.00	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	Room 17, <i>Kirklands</i>

## May

12-13 Sat-Sun		<b>Menston Arts Club Exhibition</b>	<i>Kirklands</i>
20-24		<b>First World War Commemoration Visit to France</b>	
27 Sun		<b>Cricket Club Fun Day</b>	<i>Menston Cricket Club</i>
30 Wed	10-12	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	<i>Abbeyfield</i>
31 Thu	19.00	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	Room 17, <i>Kirklands</i>

## June

2 Sat	14-16	<b>Menston in Bloom Tea and Plant Sale</b>	<i>23 Park Road</i>
14 Thu	13.30	<b>Menston Cares AGM</b>	<i>Methodist Church Hall</i>
27 Wed	10-12	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	<i>Abbeyfield</i>
28 Thu	19.00	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	Room 17, <i>Kirklands</i>

## July

25 Wed	10-12	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	<i>Abbeyfield</i>
26 Thu	19.00	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	Room 17, <i>Kirklands</i>

## August

29 Wed	10-12	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	<i>Abbeyfield</i>
30 Thu	19.00	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	Room 17, <i>Kirklands</i>

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***Thank you to our small and dedicated team of deliverers. If you can help, please contact Alison Manson.***

If you would like to include details about your club, or contribution to the Menston community, please send items for the next newsletter to Alison at [alisondavidmanson@gmail.com](mailto:alisondavidmanson@gmail.com) (878556) by Aug 31. Also contact Alison If you'd like to be added to our mailing list, to receive a reminder of the next newsletter copy deadline.

**Thursday 8 February 2–4pm**  
**Kirklands Community Centre**

Bradford Council, Menston Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Policing Team invite you to a Wellbeing and Community Safety afternoon. Tea and cakes will be available.

Meet your local Ward Councillors, Parish Councillors, Police Officers and Council Staff.

**Stalls will include:**

**Guidance on home security**

**Information on cybercrime from the Safer Project – Trading Standards**

**Police Officers will be available to fix anti-theft screws to vehicle number plates**

**Find out how to set up a Neighbourhood Watch**

**Menston Cares** – Find out about support available in the village

**Carers' Resource** – Information for Carers

**Menston Parish Council** – An opportunity to meet the Council and raise any issues

**Menston Community Association**

**Information on Home Fire Safety Checks**

**Credit Union** – Help with budgeting

**Incommunities Housing**

**Volunteering Opportunities** – Have you any spare time on your hands?

For more information contact: [paula.truman@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:paula.truman@bradford.gov.uk) or telephone 01274 437146.

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***Thank you to the Parish Council for its payment for production of the Menston Newsletter. Also thanks to our advertisers for their support.***

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