

Whaley Bridge Town Council

Community Newsletter
Spring 2006

Working for Bridgemont, Fernilee, Furness Vale,
Horwich End, Taxal and Whaley Bridge

Welcome to your local Community Newsletter, produced by Whaley Bridge Town Council to keep you informed about what we are doing. We would welcome any comments, feedback or suggestions for future copies. Large print version available on request.

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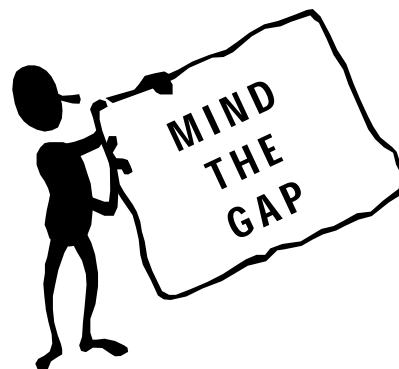
**Are you
sitting
comfortably?**

Two new traditional style bench seats have been provided in front of the Mechanics Institute. One has been kindly donated by a local resident and the other purchased by the Town Council. An old photo of Whaley Bridge, dated 1907, shows seats either

WHALEY BRIDGE STATION PLATFORM

The Town Council is campaigning for a reduction in the gap between the platforms and the trains. The Chair of the Council, Cllr Mrs Anne Winter, measured the gaps and the diagonal stepping distance is approximately 20 inches. This is totally unacceptable and very dangerous. Many people, especially those with young children, disabilities or even lots of shopping, find using the train service from Whaley Bridge almost impossible!

As we are all being encouraged to be environmentally aware and use public transport whenever possible, obstacles such as this should be removed. The Council has lobbied Tom Levitt MP, the Strategic Rail Authority, Network Rail and the Health & Safety Executive to do something.



The Friends of Whaley Bridge Station are doing a great job trying to make the station more attractive - but what is the point if people cannot get on the trains. Network Rail has recently invested £2 million making improvements to the track but this is a waste of time if people feel unsafe using the trains; surely safety must come first!

Goyt River Bridge

Work to secure funding for the access bridge to the Bingswood Industrial Estate continues. A planning brief will be drawn up to agree what development mix will be acceptable for new land released once the bridge is built. There is still a lot of work to be done but all parties involved have a strong commitment to getting the bridge built.

Come and have your say.....?

The Annual Town Meeting will take place in the Mechanics Institute on Friday, 28th April 2006, starting at 7.30pm. Come along and meet your Town Councillors and tell us your concerns. This is your opportunity to let us know what you would like to see happening in Whaley Bridge. The meeting is open to everyone.

Hope to see you there.

Friends of.....updates

Friends of Memorial Park.....formed summer 2005, a group working to improve, promote and care for the park, to make it safe, welcoming and fun. So far we have litter picked and planted trees and bulbs. Hopes for future events include Skate board/BMX displays and band mornings. All events will be publicised on the display boards within the park. We meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday at the Mechanics Institute and anyone is welcome to attend. On Sunday 21st May, we will hold a Teddy Bears' Picnic, in the park. Every one is welcome to join in the games and competitions, bring picnic and Teddy Bear.

Friends of Whaley Bridge Station.....is a new group which aims to encourage travel by train, to make the Station more welcoming, cleaner, safer, greener, and to encourage community involvement. We have the support of our MP, Network Rail, Northern Rail, High Peak Community Arts and Hope Valley & High Peak Transport Partnership. Planned activities include: launch of the Friends (see Community Rail Day below), timetable inserts, gardening and planting, artwork, re-laying of unsafe setts in the car park, participation in the Adopt-a-Station scheme (to report problems to Northern Rail), litter picking.

Friends of Whaley Water Weekend (W3)....set up January 2006, to support the organisation of W3 and raise funds. We would welcome new members. This year's event will take place on Saturday & Sunday 17th/18th June at the Canal Basin with all the usual activities and more. Full details in programmes available soon.



For further details of any of the Friends Groups
Contact Town Councillors Anne Winter and John Pritchard.

COMMUNITY RAIL DAY

Community Rail Day will take place on Saturday, 20th May 2006. A folk train will arrive at Whaley Bridge Station at 12.45pm with "Tap the Barrel" who will perform traditional folk songs aboard the train and then at the Jodrell Arms. The train will return to Manchester at 2.30pm.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Mechanics Institute on the second Thursday of each month (except August). The meetings start at 7.30pm and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Dates for your diary

Mechanics Institute Coffee Mornings

April

- 8 Ladies Guild
- 15 First Responders
- 22 Volunteer Bureau
- 29 Amenity Society

May

- 6 Footsteps
- 13 Garden Society
- 20 Twinning Assoc.
- 27 WB Band

June

- 3 Horwich End W.I.
- 10 British Legion
- 17 W3
- 24 Station Friends

Annual Town Meeting
Friday 28th April 2006

Community Rail Day
Saturday 20th May 2006

Farmers Market
Saturday 10th June 2006

Whaley Water Weekend
Sat/Sun 17th/18th June

Rose Queen Carnival
Saturday 24th June 2006

Well Dressing Blessing
Sunday 25th June 2006

Contact your Local Councillor

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** Chair

whaleybridge.com

The Town Council manages the community website so you can keep in touch with local news and information. If you have any local news, events or other items to include, then please send them to:
admin@whaleybridge.com

