



The ERYC is considered to be one of the best councils in the country. Here the workmen are seen replacing cherry blossom trees which were felled because of disease.

The replacement trees produce a slightly different coloured blossom having been carefully chosen because of their resistance to disease.

We always honour those who gave their lives on active service. The Parish Councillors place a wreath on West Ella memorial and after attending the Church service on Remembrance Sunday, place a second one on the Kirk Ella memorial.

Seen here are Councillors John Bailey (left) and David Robinson, who both served time in the forces and the Chairman, Margaret Raymond holding the poppy wreath.



Anyone with ideas as to how the residents of the two villages can celebrate our Queen's Platinum Wedding Anniversary in November, please contact our Clerk.

SNIPPETS

1. The Police and your neighbourhood watch co-ordinator frequently remind you of precautions you must take to keep yourself and your property safe.
2. Work has now been completed altering the pavement and parking arrangements at the junction of Church Lane and School Lane.
3. Another blue heritage plaque, purchased by the house owner, has been added to enhance the historical West Ella village.
4. Our grateful thanks go to Mr Church, the Head of Kirk Ella School, for allowing the Parish Councillors to have their meetings at the school each month.
5. The Chairman continues to decline the Chairman's allowance and none of the Parish Councillors claim expenses as our Parish Councillors are all volunteers.

— The Parish Website is: www.kirkella-westella-pc.info —

Councillor Doreen Kaye contacting Kirk Ella Primary School then Wolfreton School to arrange the official switch on of the village lights which included the new lights on the buildings and the additional lights on the Christmas tree. Having gained the co-operation of both schools, a junior choir was sent from the Primary School and the Head Boy and Girl from Wolfreton School came to do the honour.



Olivia Young – Head Girl and Joshua Whittingham – Head Boy



Members of Kirk Ella Junior School Choir



Looking forward to Spring – our thanks go to Councillor Elizabeth Robinson who has ordered extra daffodil bulbs each year.

We are indebted to Mandy Pickering, our knowledgeable and most efficient Parish Clerk, for her continued dedication to her work.

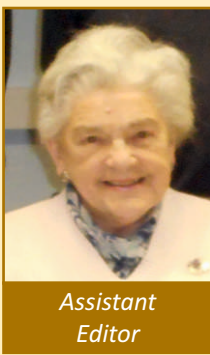
The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held in Kirk Ella Primary School on Tuesday, 23rd May at 7.00 p.m. All residents of Kirk Ella and West Ella will be welcome.

Annual Report written and compiled by Councillors Margaret Raymond and Doreen Kaye



Editor and Photographer

Kirk Ella & West Ella PARISH COUNCIL



Assistant Editor

CONGRATULATIONS and CELEBRATIONS

H.M. The Queen's 90th Birthday

On April 21st 2016 our Queen celebrated her 90th birthday. The Parish Councillors recognised this memorable occasion by sending a unique birthday card on behalf of the residents of Kirk Ella and West Ella. The card was a hand embroidered capital E in gold thread on a royal purple background. Designed and produced by Councillor Marion Jackson, it was sent to H.M. Queen Elizabeth with our best wishes.

Councillor Marion Jackson displaying the completed birthday card.

Inset The embroidered E in gold thread on the royal purple cloth.



To make it a special day, an exhibition of items in daily use and memorabilia from the 20th Century was organised. Mr Church, Head of Kirk Ella Junior School, allowed us to use the school library for this event.

Fitting in with the school History Curriculum, classes came one by one to visit this exhibition and councillors were on hand to answer questions. To enter into the spirit of the time, Mr Church dressed as St. George, a knight in medieval chain mail armour and organised a school playground birthday party attended by our local M.P. Parents and local residents were able to visit the exhibition after school hours.

Mr Church, Head of Kirk Ella Junior School as St. George, with Cllr. Margaret Raymond, Chairman Kirk Ella & West Ella Parish Council and Rt. Hon. David Davis our local M.P.



~ A DAY TO REMEMBER ~



KIRK ELLA and WEST ELLA HERITAGE TRAIL

The Heritage Trail continues to be extremely popular for both villagers and visitors. This interesting window display showing maps, pictures and the route of the trail was produced by Kirk Ella Newsagents, where the book is on sale.

It explains fully, the route and also many interesting facts about the historic buildings you will pass. Councillor David Robinson designed way markers that have been erected in various positions to enhance the route.

These were deliberately produced in brown, the colour used nationally for points of interest. Fortunately, the Parish Council was able to obtain a grant for this project thus saving parish funds. Individual A3 size route maps can also be bought.



Councillor David Robinson with one of the new Heritage Trail signs



BE PREPARED

Being mindful of the possible bad weather in winter and consequently bad road conditions, Councillors Elizabeth Robinson and John Bailey check the Parish Council grit bins regularly. Here you can see Councillor John Bailey with the bin that he personally emptied, re-sited then refilled to be in a more user friendly position at the corner of Elveley Drive.



Councillor John Bailey having completed the task

1. Cllr. Marion Jackson demonstrating the art of lace making.
2. Cllr. John Bailey with the historic coin collection.
3. Rt. Hon. David Davis being instructed in the ancient craft of spinning.
4. Cllr. Elizabeth Robinson with school children's needlecraft from the 1950's.
5. Cllr. Stan Raymond engrossed in Cllr. David Robinson's display of photos and maps of our villages.
6. Cllrs. Shaun Horton and Stan Raymond ready to answer questions about objects that were in daily use in times past.

7. Straight from the Beamish Museum – the W.W.I. motorcycle and stretcher.
8. Children gather to hear about the medics of 100 years ago.
- 9 & 10. H.M. Queen Elizabeth II 90th party at the school.
11. Golden laminated paper crowns made by the pupils adorn the school railings.