



Your Community Freehouse News - May 2017

Welcome to the 7th edition of the Dog's Life. In this issue we present exciting news about the restaurant, and highlight some of the musical events we have featured over the past few months..



The Dog Inn played host to the annual May Day celebrations again this year, with a number of the village children dancing around the May Pole throughout Belthorn.

The parade finished at The Dog Inn, with party games & food for the children. We would like to thank our May King (Lennon Griffiths) and May Queen (Ruby Baker) as well as all the other children who took part in this tradition. We would also like to thank Jennie Cook, who always decorates the pub so beautifully for our events.

THE "TAIL" SO FAR

It is now over two years since we embarked on the adventure of saving the Dog Inn. Looking back at those first Community meetings in the school, we have come a long way.

Not only did we manage to raise enough money to purchase the pub from the developer, but we have undertaken extensive refurbishment of most of the pub (a few upstairs areas still remain to be sorted). We re-opened the bar, and opened a new Coffee Shop, which is proving to be popular with parents on the school run.

We also opened an "essentials" shop, where villagers can buy items that they may need. We have also created a Community room

upstairs, which regularly hosts History Society meetings, plus a monthly Church service, as well as occasional family games nights and other arts events.

The restaurant is well on the way to being re-opened (more about this on page 2). The final piece of the puzzle is the land at the back, which has been levelled in preparation for the creation of Community gardens and maybe a beer garden. All in all, although some things may have taken longer than we planned, and while some mistakes will have undoubtedly been made, it has been a steep learning curve for all involved, and we are incredibly proud of the achievements so far.



Open Hours:

Mon: 2pm - 6pm
Tues - Sun: 12pm - 11pm
Open until 11.30pm on
Thursdays for Quiz Night

Coffee Shop

Mon to Fri: 2pm - 5pm

Coming Soon!

OUR POP UP RESTAURANT

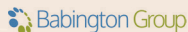
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



**THE EAGLE + CHILD,
RAMSBOTTOM**



eat pennines



BABINGTON GROUP, BOLTON



As you may be aware, we have been doing extensive refurbishment work on the restaurant, which is now nearing completion. The Board of Directors decided that we would franchise out the restaurant side of the business, as none of the current board members have enough expertise in running a restaurant.

We are pleased to announce that we have come to a temporary arrangement with Glen Duckett from the Eagle and Child (Ramsbottom) and Eat Pennines. Glen is well-known in the food business, and also for his work with socially disadvantaged young adults.

In the plan that we have agreed with Glen, he will be using the kitchen at The Dog Inn for some training for his next cohort of students. He recruits his students from a range of disadvantaged situation; youngsters who are coming out of prison, those who have caring responsibilities, or those who have been in care or are otherwise on the margins of society.

He has an excellent record, with around 80% of his students finishing the course, and many of them going on to obtain full-time employment afterwards. Funding and in-kind support has been provided by Contour Homes and Hyndburn Homes, with EAT Pennines working with Babington College to support students with English & Maths.

Under the programme, which is for young adults (age 16-24), students will spend Monday and Tuesday classroom based in Accrington at Hyndburn Homes and will be training in the kitchen at the Dog Inn for 2-3 days per week. They will also be given training in the coffee shop and will help to develop the service.

The training will start on 2nd May 2015, and students will be hoping to obtain level 1 functional skills in maths and IT, as well as

- Level 1 food safety
 - Level 1 First aid at work
- and other vocational training such as COSHH

EAT Pennines are looking to recruit around 15 young people to participate in this 14-week work experience and training programme. It is hoped that during the training, the trainees will be able to offer a day-time menu, available from 12 - 5pm to help develop their skills.

This will probably operate on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. At the end of the training, there will be 3 "Pop-up" restaurant nights, held in the Dog Inn, where the students will be able to showcase their skills in hospitality and training.

We are very excited to be part of this programme with EAT Pennines, as we welcome the chance to help disadvantaged youngsters from the local community.

Whilst EAT Pennines will use our facilities for the training programme and Pop-Up restaurant nights, we will also be looking for a permanent franchisee to take over the restaurant from the middle of the summer.

Award Nominations Galore!

As you may remember, back in November last year, the Dog Inn reached the finals of the Community-Owned Business awards, and two Board members, Yvonne Brown and Jason Slack, went down to London for the awards ceremony. Although we did not win, we were immensely proud to have got as far as the finals.

Following on from this, we are proud to announce that we were short-listed as a finalist for the "Start-Up Social Enterprise of the Year" with SELNET – the Social Enterprise Lancashire Network. This award recognises the new business that has achieved the most since inception.

The judges were looking for businesses that had been established in 2015/16 and considered what these businesses have achieved in this short space of time. They



also considered the business' potential to grow and/or replicate in other communities.

In addition, we were recently informed that The Dog Inn (Belthorn) Ltd, is the category

winner in the North West region for the Community Award in the Federation of Small Businesses and Worldpay UK Business Awards. "

Tai Chi Comes to The Dog Inn

On the 26th April we held a tai chi demonstration in the pub and it proved to be very popular. Around 24 people attended and everyone signed up to join a class.

As a result we will be holding two Tai Chi sessions every Wednesday evening 5pm – 6pm then 6pm -7pm. Tai Chi combines deep breathing and relaxation with flowing movements. Originally developed as a martial art in 13th-century China, tai chi is today practised around the



world as a health-promoting exercise. Doctors and researchers both in China and in the Western world have documented many health benefits from tai chi, including improvements in balance, flexibility, stamina, blood pressure, general heart health,

mental health and symptoms associated with stroke, fibromyalgia, Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease. The tai chi lessons will be starting on the 24th May and will cost £5 for 1 hour lesson.

Sessions are run on a pay as you go basis. Please book in advance with Bill by email: dragonflytaichi@btinternet.com or call 07720 375620.

Further info:
www.dragonflytaichi.com

Live from the Dog Inn

One of the first events introduced when the Dog Inn reopened were the Open Mic sessions, which take place on the 2nd Sunday of every month, from 2-6pm.

As an offspin from these, we now have our very own "house band" - "Inn The Dog House" who regularly perform live sessions on Friday or Saturday nights, covering a wide range of musical styles. In addition, we hold regular "acoustic" sessions. The first of these was Shoestring (Ross Whittaker), an acoustic guitarist, who was incredibly popular - and talented.

The second artist to feature in 'Acoustic Sessions', was David Metcalfe, a singer/songwriter from Blackburn, who has appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for the last 3 years. He was again very popular.

Following on from Howard Haigh - who was our first "Spot-on" performer, we have hosted

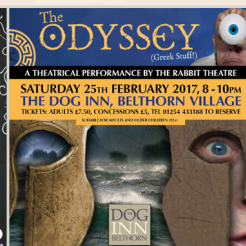
two more events. These are touring arts events, organised by Spot-On Lancashire, which aims to take arts events to more rural areas and make them accessible for all. Firstly, the Rabbit Theatre, with the one-man performance of the Odyssey. This was an excellent performance, thoroughly enjoyed by all those who watched it. Some of the feedback received said: "a brilliant one man show with humour drama and great sound effects"; "amazing that one person managed to perform all of the odyssey"; "...a fun way to hear about Greek mythology".

The other act has been "Churchfitters" - a folk-band like no other - with a double bass made out of a saucepan and heart-wrenching vocals accompanied by a musical saw. This was a fabulous night, and we hope to bring you more Spot-On events in the future.

In addition, on 18th March,

we welcomed some young musicians in the form of guitar students from Clitheroe Guitar Studio. Here's what the owner / teacher Nick Mackey had to say about the event:

"We had a tremendous evening, a selection of my pupils played to an audience of parents and friends. They were all amazed at the warm welcome that we got from the staff, and how friendly the place was. The staff did a great job of setting up the upstairs for us where the 'bands' were playing. The event gave the players the experience of playing a real 'gig', and parents of course were delighted to be in a comfortable place and to be able to buy grown up drinks, instead of being in a draughty Church hall! The acoustic players were even invited downstairs to play for the regulars. Everyone really enjoyed the evening, and we will hold another event there very soon. Thanks again to you all, and we'll be back !"



Our Year so Far

This year has been a busy one for the Dog Inn so far. March was much busier than last year, mainly due to a number of events that took place.

April has also been busy, and featured a very successful Easter Church service in the Community Room, as well as a hugely popular Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Monday. We also had our St George's Day celebrations, including a Dog Show and live music from "Inn the Dog House".

We also held a free Tai Chi taster session, which was well attended, and we hope that these will become regular events.

Finally, we would like to invite you to our second AGM, which will be held on Wednesday 24th May, 7pm. Please join us to hear more about what has been happening in the Dog Inn in the last year, and to help shape the next 12 months.



CALLING POTENTIAL ADVERTISERS

Do you have anything to sell, or would you like to advertise your business in the Dog's Life.

Produced three to four times per year, Dog's Life goes out to all Dog Inn shareholders, as well as all village residents.

Please contact us for further details regarding prices etc

tel 01254 433188

admin@thedoginnatbelthorn.net



The Dog Inn at Belthorn Community Freehouse

Invitation to our 2nd Annual General Meeting

We would like to invite all shareholders / members to attend our second AGM, which will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 24th May.

This is your opportunity to see the developments over the past 12 months, as well as to provide your input for the next year.

We plan to provide a brief introduction to what has been achieved over the past year, including feedback on actions taken as a result of members' ideas last year. There will then be table discussions around topics such as:

Have we fulfilled your vision?

What have we done well?

What have we done badly?

We will also present the annual accounts, and there will be the opportunity to ask questions about these. There will then be further table discussions about any ideas for the future.

Finally, we will declare the results of the elections to the Board, and then people will be free to celebrate our first successful full year of trading!

Brews and Babies



We are planning a "Brews and Babies" session in the coffee shop, on Friday afternoons, from 2pm.

Parents / carers are welcome, with their young ones, for a brew and a

chat. Unfortunately, we don't have any toys or anything yet, so you may want to bring a few things for your little one to play with. The first session will be on Friday 19th May, 2 - 3.30pm. All are welcome.



Patrick's

VILLAGE & COFFEE SHOP



- VOUCHER -

10% OFF
ALL HOT DRINKS

UNTIL END OF MAY 2017
ON PRODUCTION OF THIS VOUCHER



Community Notice Board



don't forget to use it to advertise your unwanted items.

Thanks to Emma



You may by now have heard that our Bar Manager, Emma, has decided to move on. We are extremely grateful to Emma for her commitment and dedication to the Dog Inn during her many months as manager, and we wish her all the best for her future. The process of recruiting a replacement manager has begun, and we hope to have a new manager in place as soon as possible.

Coffee Shop Volunteers



We are always looking for more volunteers to help out in the coffee shop, either on a regular or an ad-hoc basis. If you would like to be part of the team that serve in the coffee shop, please get in touch. Full training on the tills and on the coffee machine will be provided. Teenagers over the age of 14 are also most welcome to volunteer in the coffee shop - and those under 16 who complete their induction in the coffee shop will receive a certificate of achievement to add to their CVs.

Mobile Library



The mobile library comes into Belthorn on Thursday afternoons every three weeks. It stops opposite Lower Fold at around 2.30pm, and again on Rydal Mount at around 2.45pm. It's next scheduled visit is Thursday 25th May.



Dates for the Diary

Sunday 14th May, 2 - 6pm:

Open Mic: all welcome

Sunday 21st May, 2.30pm:

Church Service in the Community Room upstairs: all welcome

Wednesday 24th May, 7pm:

Annual General Meeting. All shareholders / members welcome.

Saturday 27th May, 9 - 11pm:

Inn The Dog House Band

Sunday 11th June, 2 - 6pm:

Open Mic: all welcome

Tuesday 13th June, 7 - 8pm:

Members' Surgery: Your chance to meet Board members with your ideas, suggestions and comments.

Sunday 18th June, 2.30pm:

Church Service in the Community Room upstairs: all welcome

Friday 30th June, 8.30 - 11pm:

"Acoustic Session": Live Acoustic session - artist to be announced.

Tuesday July 11th, 7 - 8pm

Members' Surgery: Your chance to meet Board members with your ideas, suggestions and comments.

Quiz Nights: Every Thurs night, 8pm. Come along and join in the fun!

Knit & Knatter: Every Tues, 2-4pm

The History Society

3rd Monday of the month, 7.30pm

Football: Village footballers play 6-a-side at DW sports every Tues 7-8pm & enjoy drinks afterwards. Contact 07411 054389

Tai Chi: Every Wednesday starting 24th May, 5-6pm and 6-7pm

Keep up to date

Don't forget to check out the website www.thedoginnatbelthorn.net for all the latest information on events, opening hours, and other developments. We also have a facebook page, [dogcommunityactiongroup](https://www.facebook.com/dogcommunityactiongroup) which is also regularly updated.

Patrick's VILLAGE SHOP



When the last remaining shop in the village sadly closed many years ago, the ability to grab those small forgotten items has meant an out of village car or bus journey, not always easy in winter or indeed convenient at any time of the year. As part of the commitment to provide community services, our village shop is located inside The Dog Inn pub and our bar staff or coffee shop volunteers will be happy to serve you. It offers a range of convenience provisions, goods & gifts and the fresh dairy products are produced from Belthorn's very own animals!

OPENING HOURS:

Monday: 2 - 6pm, Tues - Sunday: 12 noon - 11pm

Anchor Butter (from Belthorn cows*)	£2.25	Tin of Bachelors Peas	60p
Anchor Cheese (from Belthorn cows*)	£2	Tin of Spaghetti / Spaghetti hoops	from 25p
Fresh Milk (local)	60p/pint	Tin of sweetcorn	75p
Fresh Free Range Eggs (local)	£1.50 - ½ doz	Tin of Tomatoes	40p
Carrots (locally grown)	45p/lb	Tin of Tomato Soup	79p
Onions (locally grown)	10p each	UHT Squirty Cream	£1.50
Potatoes (locally grown)	60p/lb	Carnation Evaporated Milk	99p
Broth Mix	£1	Sticky Chocolate Puddings	£1.50
Bisto Gravy Granules	£1.39	Packets of Oreo Biscuits	80p
Oxo Cubes	£1.35	Tea Bags (Tetley/Twinings)	from £1.79
Colemans Sauces	£1.49	Cadburys Cocoa Powder	£2.15
Hp Sauce	£1.50	Kenco Coffee Smooth/Decaf	£3.15
Hellman's Mayonnaise	£2.39	Small Cartons Apple/Orange Juice	60p
Heinz Tomato Ketchup	£1.20	Cans of Pop	60p
Kingsmill Bread	£1	Bottle of Water	40p
Selection of Hot or Cold Pies	£1.25 each	Cartons of Cranberry juice (1 litre)	60p
Fresh T-cakes (packet of 4)	£1.10	Lancashire Evening Telegraph	65p
Kitchen Rolls	75p each	Yoghurt treats for dogs	£1
Toilet Rolls	25p each	Wide range of Children's Sweets	5p-10p
McDougall's plain flour 1.5kg	£1.50	Ice Lollies Selection	from 25p
Tilda Rice (egg fried/brown/white)	£1.20	Holden's Ice Cream	from £1.75
Marmalade and Jam	£1.60	Bars of Chocolate	50p
Dried Pasta	from 75p	Pringles (small)	60p
Tin of Tuna (John west)	£1.20	Various Crisps	from 50p
Tin of Heinz Baked Beans	75p	Stamps - singles/books of 1st/2nd class	
		Elspeth Thomson	
		Locally Crafted Cards	£3.00

* Our local dairy farmer is part of a cooperative and contributes towards production of these products

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