



The Holywell Community Pub Ltd.

The Holywell News



Volume 1 Issue 7

December 2013

Welcome to our monthly newsletter

- News
- Events
- Competition news

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Things are getting serious!



As the weather turns and we receive warnings that snow could fall later this week - what could be better than sitting in here with a nice pint!

With some good music playing and groups of friends in all manner of discussions.

And a glance at the menu - but you already know it has to be the Steak and Ale pie on a night like this!

So a quick look at the newspaper . . .

And then back into the bar after dinner. It's going to be a great night - there's already a 'buzz' in the pub.

Upstairs in the Holywell function-room there's another live music event. We can here a saxophone and percussion warming up (you can guess who's playing!).

And will there be another rip-roaring chorus of 'Sheila won't be coming home' belting out to bring this fantastic night to a close?



And then we can think about next summer.

Warm balmy evenings sat out in this beautiful courtyard - with a nice chilled glass of wine or continental lager.

The hanging baskets will be in full bloom - remember how well the outside used to look!

Welcome to the 'New' Holywell - this really can happen.



brewster bye ARCHITECTS

All these artist impression are courtesy of Brewster Bye Architects in Leeds and we extend our thanks to Keith and his team for all their help.

Our week at Bradley Hall



Pictured at Bradley Hall Golf-club
From the left Dave Williams, Philippa Atkin,
Michael & Francine Buckley

Well it all started on Thursday night (21st November) with another brain-teasing quiz set by Scott Graham. The atmosphere was tense with anticipation - each team wary of the others - and off we went.

Questions came thick and fast - and most people were glad of the break that the delicious supper provided - but we were soon back in the thick of it. Eventually 'The old contemptibles' a team from Huddersfield were crowned worthy winners - and donated their cash prize back to the campaign funds.

This was another really enjoyable evening - well attended as always and we thank Bruce and his colleagues at Bradley Hall for looking after us.

Obviously following the last newsletter you'll be anxious to know how Chris & John fared in the quiz - well it was all Chris's fault! As an example, to the question 'What is situated at the end of the Royal mile in Edinburgh?' Chris answered 'Pizza Hut!' Incredible!

But then on Sunday we were down to the real serious stuff!

This was our first ever opportunity to hold a presentation day - to bring the whole area up to speed with exactly what we've been doing, and to ask for pledges to support the campaign.

This was a chance to explain in detail all the work that has been done over the last twelve months - and an opportunity for local residents to ask questions.

The artist impressions created by Keith Brewster immediately captured peoples attention on arrival! (Not surprising really - they are superb!). And the action group were out in force, with a vast amount of information on display and committee members on hand to discuss any aspects of the venture.

At 3 pm chairman John Walsh gave a passionate speech about the campaign and then Peter Lassey followed with an impressive audio-visual presentation.

Then followed a question and answer session - which continued for almost an hour!

And the questions were both forthright and well researched. From the committee's point of view, we think we got our planning exactly right and were able to give detailed responses to all the suggestions and points put forward.

We published a ten-page document covering the campaign and this was issued to all who attended. A pledge 'request' letter was included with it.

We are delighted to announce that we have already had a tremendous response to these pledge requests!

If you wish to obtain a pledge document please contact any member or visit our website www.holywellinn.co.uk or find us on Facebook 'Save the Holywell Inn' - and from Beverley the glass engraver or from the Mark at the Fish & Chip shop.



Pictured at the presentation day at
Bradley Hall Golf Club
From Left: Heather Stead, John Walsh,
Chris Judd, Eileen McAlonan, David Humphreys,
Scott Graham and Martyn Foulds

We need to raise substantial funds to carry out the first phase of this project - the purchase and early stage refurbishment of the premises.

Please obtain a copy of the pledge document and read it for yourself. It's a fascinating insight as to the work we've done - and it clearly explains just how we propose to carry out all the procedures required to bring this whole campaign to fruition.

At Bradley Hall we were delighted to welcome Charlotte Foster from the Plunkett Foundation - a national organisation that assist communities trying to set up such ventures as we're proposing.

Charlotte also spoke passionately about our campaign - clearly expressing her belief in what we're doing.

Remember this is for everyone - and forever!

The Share-Issue explained



As stated everyone who attended the meeting at Bradley Hall was given this ten page booklet, which explains in detail just exactly how we intend to progress this campaign.

We're at the critical stage where we need to gauge the support people from the area are prepared to give.

This is of course primarily about raising funds - and following the example of other community owned ventures we need to raise a share-issue.

Each share-holder will have a say in how the business will be run. This will be on a one member - one vote basis.

In a nutshell - this essentially means that anybody who buys the minimum share-holding of £250 - will become a member of the society.

We are registered as an *Industrial & Provident Society*, which means we can legally issue shares in the venture.

We are registered with the *Financial Conduct Authority* and by law must make an annual return to them.

The maximum amount of shares any one individual can hold is £20,000 but remember each share-holder only has one vote - no matter how much their financial holding.

The benefit of buying more shares - which we are obviously encouraging - is that we intend to pay interest on your investment once the business is established. We envisage this to be a period of at least three years.

However the rate we intend paying will be 2.0% above the Co-Operative bank base rate - so a real incentive for potential gains.

But we would really urge you to read the whole document!

Everything is explained in detail and of course - as we have stated many times - come along to our meetings. These are held in the Duke of York in Stainland every second Tuesday at 7.30 pm. The December meetings are on the 3rd & 17th.

We are just a steering committee - formed to get the whole process 'rolling' - we will all resign at the first AGM (due to be held in July 2014) and any member of the society (aged over 18) can stand for election as a member of the management committee.

The presentation day at Bradley Hall has created a real 'buzz' around Holywell Green - the venture is really getting some support right now.

So join and be part of something special - something unique!

We need people from all walks of life to be involved - we're always planning something!

You'll be amazed by how fascinating it is to work as part of this 'team' - and the rewards will be spectacular.

For all of us - forever!

Our festive thanks . . .

Well first of all we want to thank everybody for their support and encouragement throughout the last twelve months.

We started out with a real battle on our hands - and is it really a whole year since we went to the planning meeting - trying to stop the pub conversion?

And of course it is. Since then many things have happened - and most importantly many new friendships have been formed - locally and internationally!

We extend our best wishes to our American friends Tom Fagus, Marc Macisso and Kenny Herrera - and send them belated 'Happy Thanksgiving' messages. We extend the same greetings to

Dave Nachmanoff and the wonderful Al Stewart. (The share-issue price is approx \$410 by the way!)

Also we must thank our 'good mate' in Holland - the very generous Steve Miller. Steve brought a huge selection of Dutch produce with him when he came over for the Al Stewart show.

As some of you know - we used a lot of these items as raffle prizes at the Bradley Hall quiz night (but not the cheese and sausages - John ate them!).

Thanks Steve!

And of course Bernard Lee - our guitar playing, font of all pub knowledge friend.

We don't have enough space to list all the people, businesses, national organisations and local supporters here.

But just to say that as a committee we sincerely wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

We look forward with passion to 2014 - this will be 'our' year when we finally get the Holywell into its most appropriate ownership - ours!

And finally - we cannot forget James and Maria at the Duke of York. We wish them a hectic - busy - successful festive season!

But to one and all -

Merry Christmas!



The Holywell Community Pub Ltd.

WHO WE ARE

Committee members:

**John Walsh (Chair)
Chris Judd (Vice-Chair)
Eileen McAlonan (Secretary)
Beverley Smith-Walsh (Treas.)**

**Peter Lassey
Martyn Foulds
Mark Stead
Heather Stead
Graham Gent
Geoff Marsh
Ian Whiteley
Linda Whiteley
Scott Graham
David Humphreys
Julian Bond
Linda Kingsnorth**

**Sub-committee (Funding)
John, Chris, Peter, Martyn,
Mark & Julian**

**Sub-Committee - Events
Beverley, Eileen, Heather,
Graham, Ian & Linda**

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And how about this?

Following a campaign by the local liberal-democrats we have been given some fantastic news!

This could radically change how Calderdale Council now assess planning applications for change of use from pubs to residential.

Well done to all involved!



This is how the story was published in the Huddersfield Examiner:

A call for council bosses to investigate boosting pubs by linking them with other services, such as the library service, was supported by councillors.

It assesses viability of pubs when councils receive an application to change the use of a pub to residential. They urged fellow members to ensure there was greater community awareness of the advantages that can come from listing pubs as Assets of Community Value.

And they called on the government to consider amending the tax system to remove any disincentives to moderate drinking in the more controlled setting of public houses.

Residents in Holywell Green have already shown the way.

They have formed an action group to save the Holywell Inn and have had it listed as community asset by Calderdale Council. Now they are trying to raise funds in order to buy the pub and secure it for community use.

Clr James Baker said: "Pubs face numerous pressures, such as high taxes on beer. It costs a packet to buy a round at the bar these days, and that means people drink at home instead.

"If we don't act, we risk losing our community pubs, the jobs that go with them, and a tradition." The call for action comes as CAMRA warned that the rate of pubs closing has risen to 14 a week as higher taxes and supermarkets damage the trade.

Lib Dem leader, Clr Janet Battye, added: "Local pubs are hubs of the community and are vitally important, especially in villages that have already lost their shop and post office." She spoke of the value of employment pubs provided and added: "Our motion also calls for work to investigate other ways which we could develop pubs into community hubs.

"For instance why couldn't you pick up a library book from your local?"

Calderdale Liberal Democrats are asking anyone who supports their campaign to sign their petition online at www.savecalderdalepubs.com .

Thanks to everyone that signed the petition - please keep up the good work!

WATCH THIS SPACE!

In January we plan to hold the first ever Holywell Green 'TABLE-TOP SALE'

Arrangements are being made to secure the church hall for another Saturday afternoon event - which will of course include our now famous Tea Coffee & Cakes stand!

And then we will follow this with another COMMUNITY PRESENTATION DAY

also to be held in the Church-Hall.

Information available soon!

