Harry Horrocks
Harry was born in Nelson in 1933. He attended Colne Grammar School, and on leaving, joined the Royal Air Force as a radar technician. He was a lovely man, much-admired and respected by all who met him.
After his RAF service, he returned and lived at Ralph Latch Farm in Higflerd, and then farmed for many years at Spout Farm in Blacko, but had left the farm in 1974, although remained living in the house, with Marjorie, who he married in 1954, and his children, Michael and Janet. During his years at the farm, he was able to indulge his passion for driving, not only tractors, but anything mechanical, teaching family and friends to drive. After coming off the farm, he kept himself busy working for a newspaper wholesaler, delivering to newssellers, working as a LCC groundman and as a property caretaker, where his skills on the farm had stood him in good stead. In fact, along with his late father, Harry Senior, he built up a reputation for his ability to turn his hand to all things agricultural.

Harry had many interests in his lifetime. One was being a regular exhibitor at Blacko Show, cooking and walking his dog, Amber, before she did in 2014. Harry was very well known in Blacko Luncheon Club before its closure, cooking and walking his dog, Amber, before she did in 2014. Harry was known for his passion for driving, not only from a young age, but also throughout his life. He always wanted to be a driver, and this became his life until he retired. He had a long and successful career as a driver, driving for the Chief Constable around the village.

Harry was a member of the Blacko Cycle Club, which has contributed towards many of the village’s activities.

Harry’s children, Michael and Janet, have fond memories of their father. Michael remembers his father as a very kind and generous person, who was always willing to help others. Janet remembers her father as a very supportive figure in her life, always there for her when she needed him.

Harry was also very proud of his career as a radar technician. He always felt privileged to live in the village, where he was able to contribute to the community in many ways.

Harry’s family and friends will greatly miss him. He is remembered as a kind and generous person, always willing to help others. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

OBITUARIES
Since the last edition of Blacko News, we have lost three much-loved residents, who will be missed greatly.

AILEEN BALDWIN
Aileen Baldwin (73) of Willaston Avenue died on 23 November. She was born in Blackburn, and came to Blacko when she was three months old. After ten years living in Brierfield she moved to Blacko, where she lived for many years at Spout Farm.

Aileen was a much-loved daughter, sister, aunt, and grandmother, always known for her kind and supportive nature. She was a devoted member of the Blacko Luncheon Club before its closure, and was known for her love of cooking. She was also a member of the Blacko Cycle Club, which has contributed towards many of the village’s activities.

Aileen’s family and friends are greatly missing her. She is remembered as a kind and supportive person, always willing to help others. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

STEPHEN HALSTEAD
Stephen (Steve) passed away peacefully at the Blackbushe Hospital on Monday, 14th November, 2019 following a long illness. Steve, the son of Jean and the late Peter Halstead of Highfield, shunter manufacturers. He was educated at St Thomas’s, Burnley, and then at Nelson Grammar School. On retiring after 18 years, Steve took over the Lancashire Constabulary as a cadet. Then began his 32 year police career, firstly working in Barnoldswick, and then in Colne and Nelson. Steve always wanted to remain local, taking over a rural beat. However, knowing driving passion was his passion, he soon applied to Traffic, and became Lancashire Constabulary Driver of the Year at 21, the youngest ever. This became his life until moving to CID (Stolen Vehicle Squad). He then transferred to Blackburn, driving in the Estates Beat, covering Blackburn and Feniscroft. For his last five years Steve was “head- hunted”, and had the privilege to drive the Chief Constable around the country, which is where Blacko residents perhaps best remember him, leaving for work in the early hours, with a modified exhaust silence.

When he retired from the Lancashire Constabulary he got a job delivering drugs for local pharmacies. Steve is survived by his wife, Lynn, sons, Matthew and Richard, and his mother, Joan.

Lynn would like to thank everyone for the messages of condolence. She feels privileged to live in the supportive community of Blacko.

A big welcome to NICKI CRISP. Now of “FELSE” in the village, she is a hairdresser of over 20 years experience, having trained in Manchester with Andy Collins. She went on to work there, and in Liverpool, and is now happily settled in Blacko. She thanks all her existing and new clients for their support.

All Change With the Scissors!

A FIST FULL OF CERTIFICATES! (BUT NO PLAQUE AGAIN)

NO FEWER than six certificates were picked up by Blacko in the Lancashire Best Kept Village and Britain Bloom North West Competitions.

The village was runner-up in the Champion Village class of BKV (pipped at the post by Highham), and winner of the best war memorial and children’s play area. Staying with BKV, the village was runner-up in the best shop category, sheltered accommodation (Hall View) and no-board. In Britain in Bloom, North West Blacko won a Silver Gilt in the village class. Disappointingly, and despite being in the finals, the Best Kept Village in Lancashire crown is not to be won again for another year. A wonderful effort was put in, and the village, as always, was a beauty to behold. The BBBN report can be viewed at the village notice boards. Well done everyone!

So, do you love living in Blacko? Have you heard of our Adopt-a-Spot volunteers, who keep an eye on parts of the village? The Parish Council is taking this ethos further by organising working parties on Tuesday mornings, and setting projects and addressing issues of interest to you. The Adopt-a-Spot Project offers you love living in Blacko? Have you heard of our Adopt-a-Spot volunteers, who keep an eye on parts of the village? The Parish Council is taking this ethos further by organising working parties on Tuesday mornings, and setting projects and addressing issues of interest to you. The Adopt-a-Spot Project offers you would like more information (and find out more about the Best Kept Village in Britain and Bloom in North West competitions), please ring 616562.

I’D HAD TO HAPPEN………
……… sooner or later. Despite repeated requests for drivers not to fully park on pavements, a single car driver ignored a request to move on, and was spotted by the police investigating. Also, brought to the attention of the editor, that there has been a series of incidents where vehicles parked as described have been “coined”. Needless to say this is not acceptable in Blacko.
The THE BEATING THE BOUNDS walkers ready for the off. In this edition of Blacko News, it would have reported on the village show and family fun day, and for the first time in many years, this did not occur, due to retirements of Evangelists Committee members. The next reference for anyone to come forward and fill the void. However, I can report on one extremely successful event organised by the Parish Council and the Evangelists Committee. The first was the presentation evening and get-together, a bonfire night over the last term. Our newly licensed Parish Council that any garden fence would have to be the full market value. The award was for all her hard work on the front page of the Autumn, 2009, edition of Blacko Parish magazine announcing that it had been decided to make the project viable. Therefore, we will not proceed. Thank you to those people who submitted a response. At the event, it was agreed to accept the proposal for the raising of the footpath and garden area, and the exercise track in place as detailed in the report. The November meeting was the last of the calendar year, and New Year is now upon us in a few weeks, so I wish you all well for 2020.

BLACKO SCHOOL NEWS – HEAD, KATE RICHARDS, UPDATES

IT IS WUNDERFUL! I’m asked to tell you about our Blacko Primary School news for the Parish magazine, and we hope you enjoy hearing what we have been up to. It has been great seeing our children grow in their learning over the last year. Our newly formed early childhood, after school and homework clubs, and a sports partnership with local football teams, have grown in popularity. All in all, our school has had a fantastic year. We would like to thank the parents and the children for their support.

In Blacko, we have been busier than ever with our work! Our work has included writing stories, creating posters, and doing a variety of other activities. We are always looking for new ways to keep our community engaged and excited about our school. We have received so many positive feedback from the parents and the children, and we are grateful for their support.

The school is looking forward to a very exciting year ahead. We are planning some fun activities and events for the children, and we hope to see everyone at these events. In the meantime, we would like to thank everyone for their support and hard work.


New faces at the Cross Gaits! Peter Godwin (left) and Adam Marshall have taken over, having come from the Punch Bowl at Earby.