

Samlesbury Young Farmers. Contact James Neary, 07949 772466.

6th June: BBQ: Near the War Memorial Hall.

Samlesbury Higher Hall: 01254 812010: See website for details:

www.samlesburyhall.co.uk

Sat. & Sun: 6th & 7th June: Food & Drink Festival: 11.00.am - 4.00.pm

Fri. 26th June: *The Intruders*: 7.00pm.

Sun. 28th June: *Wedfest*: 12.00.noon - 3.00.pm

Wed. 15th July: *Secret Samlesbury*: Guided Tour: 7.30.- 8.30.pm

Sat. & Sun. 1st & 2nd August: *Skirmish* – a 14th century living history weekend.

Wed. 19th August: *Secret Samlesbury*: Guided Tour: 7.30.- 8.30.pm

The Nab's Head

Every Wednesday: Quiz at 7.30 pm

Communita, Coffee and Craft:

Fri. 19th June: }

“ 17th July } 10.00 am. – 12.00 noon: £4.

“ 21st Aug: }

Sat. 27th June: Children's Movie Night: 7.00.pm.

World Cup England Games: Featuring a Match, Drink, & Pizza deal: £13.

Sun. 12th July: *Stomp and Scoff*: Guided Walk & Sunday Lunch:

10.30 am: £15: Booking Essential.

23rd July: Cheese & Wine evening: 7.00 pm.- 9.00.pm

15th Aug: Family Bingo Night: 7.30 pm

Sat. 29th Aug: A Village Mock Wedding: refreshments: time to be confirmed.

Sun. 30th “ Family Fun Day:

Mill Barn, Samlesbury Bottoms

Open Garden – ‘unique and quirky, developed on the site of old mills’:

Sat. 6th June }

Sun. 7th “ } 11.00.am - 5.00.pm

Also visits by arrangement for groups of 5 to 30 people.

Date of Next Meeting
Thursday 30th July in the War Memorial Hall at 7.30pm

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United Utilities

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Samlesbury & Cuerdale Parish Council

SAMLESBURY AND CUERDALE PARISH COUNCIL
June 2026

AGM on 21st May

Graham Young and Stephen Fawcett have been voted our Chairman and Vice-chairman respectively for the next twelve months, and Mike Graham was formally accepted as our new clerk.

• Notes from the Chairman:

The ongoing work to replace the mains water supply on Preston New Road, Spring Lane and Nab Lane caused some anxiety, with traffic controls and road closures resulting in cars using the side roads as rat-runs. It is very disturbing when drivers who don't know the lanes, travel at the national speed limit. Sixty mph. on a country lane is a limit – not a target, and speeding has continued on all roads in the parish. Measures will be put in place shortly and hopefully there will also be more Speed Vans positioned along the A677 and A59.

• Unfortunately there are still problems with the wall on Spring Lane and both residents and United Utilities are very frustrated by lack of progress. There will be another meeting soon and we will keep pursuing this and see that work is finished and the area verges are reclaimed properly. It has been quite a saga.

• The hedge near the mini roundabout on Myerscough Smithy Road has been removed and the housing development on Branch Road has begun. Samlesbury and Cuerdale Parish Council has been trying to get a meeting with the developers for some time, but have not yet been successful. We do understand however, that the development will be undertaken in phases with – hopefully – as little disruption to residents as possible.

• At last Lancashire County Council has dealt with some of the pot holes on Preston New Road. Let's hope that all the roads around the parish can now be kept to the standard required.

• *Lancashire Engineering and Manufacturing* of Sheffield have applied for planning permission for a new innovation hub on the Enterprise Zone (behind AMRC), and McDonalds have started work opposite the Tickled Trout for their drive-thru fast food establishment.

- **Cuerdale Garden Village and Logik.**

A special planning meeting was held to consider the above application on 7th May, and parishioners filled all the available seating. Unfortunately there were over a hundred people not allowed into the room because it only held 78, (including the Borough Councillors), but we do know that over 400 watched the proceedings live on YouTube.

We would also like to thank the Samlesbury Action Group and Samlesbury Civic Society who added their very significant contributions to our efforts. It was a privilege to work with both them and the Parish Council as we all pulled together to prepare our case.

We filled the eight speaking slots and a representative for the brewery also spoke against the two proposed developments. Each speaker was allowed four minutes to present objections for our farmers, the green belt, the Young Farmers, the brewery, the Local Plan, the important gas pipe infrastructure (which could be dangerous if these plans went ahead), other infrastructure, ecology etc. Our case was very well presented and afterwards our speakers were also interviewed by *Blog Preston*, when they had the opportunity to give their opinions about the night's proceedings. Each of the Applicants had a representative to present their proposals, but South Ribble Borough Council places great value on Samlesbury's green belt and to our relief voted unanimously against the proposed developments. That is as it should be, because the need to protect the countryside between Preston and Blackburn was recognised as long ago as 1930. (See *Looking Back* below.)

- Further good news had also come to us the day before (6th May), when we learnt that the proposed **Harleyford Aggregate's plans for sand and gravel extraction** at Lower Hall Farm had been withdrawn.
- These are fantastic results, but it is sad that our late councillor, Kath Wright did not live to hear the result of her hard work and endless campaigning.
- The telephone number for Mike Graham, our Parish Clerk is 07464 953203 and his e-mail address is clerk@samlesburyandcuerdaleparishcouncil.gov.uk
- The e-mail address for the parish council is:-
www.samlesburyandcuerdaleparishcouncil.gov.uk

Charity Coffee Morning:

The organisers would like to thank all who supported their April event, which raised £5,245 for *Guide Dogs* and *Breast Cancer Now*.

Samlesbury Young Farmers.

The club held a very successful re-union at Blackburn Rovers for their 90th Anniversary. £16,000 was raised and a cheque for £10,000 was handed over to the *Papyrus* charity at a big event at Wilsons' Agricultural Contractors on 27th May, when members of other clubs also came to hear about the work of *Papyrus*.

The Chairman also got through to the Northern Area Finals from the County Rally in the Butchers Lambs competition.

Looking Back: Samlesbury Aerodrome.

In 1930 when Lancashire County Council began searching for possible sites for municipal airports, Preston and Blackburn immediately recognised the possibilities. They envisaged a grass airfield at Samlesbury centred on the 47¾ acre Manor Farm. LCC wanted a site close to the north/south route that could also serve Blackburn and East Lancashire, and Samlesbury fitted the bill – it was equally convenient for both towns, road communications were good and the area was expected to be **'scheduled for restriction of building development and to form a rural belt between Preston and Blackburn.'** This proposed building restriction also worked in their favour and a site of 124 acres near Samlesbury Old Hall was reserved in LCC's plans for a grass aerodrome in 1931. (The Joint Committee of the two towns however, did make doubly certain that there would be no development on the higher ground to the east, by compulsory purchasing Lower Intack Farm, which Blackburn still own.)

But events overtook them, and as war with Nazi Germany became inevitable the Air Ministry took Samlesbury over for the assembly of military aircraft (1938). Military requirements extend further than civil ones however, and the site was expanded northwards into Balderstone by bypassing the old Myerscough Smithy Road with a new Whalley Road. The grass runways were also replaced with two tarmaced 1,600 yard all-weather runways to support heavy bombers. *The English Electric Co. Ltd.* received their first aircraft order from the Air Ministry in August 1938, for 75 Handley Page *Hampden* twin-engined bombers.

Today few people remember the important contribution that *English Electric* workers made to the war effort at Samlesbury, yet approximately 1,100 personnel supplied the country with nearly 3000 medium and heavy bombers, in addition to carrying out never-ending repairs to planes damaged in combat.

Many are also unaware that three of the Bristol *Beaufighters* rebuilt at *Burnley Aircraft Products*, (a factory once situated adjacent to Samlesbury Hall) were the first aircraft to be fitted with experimental airborne radar.

What's On

St. Leonard-the-Less Parish Church

Fri. 5th June: Luncheon Club: War Memorial Hall: 12.30pm

Sat. 27th June: Garden Party: 12.00 noon: War Memorial Hall:
Crowning of the Rose Queen, BBQ.

Sat. 25th July: *Music in the Garden*: Cream Tea: Woodnook Farm.

St. Mary and St. John Southworth's Chapel

The next charity coffee morning will be held after the 9.15.am. Mass on Sunday 28th June.