



# Parish Newsletter & Christmas Plans 2023



*Dear Resident*

Please find below news from your parish council and an early plan for Christmas 2023. We hope to see you at one of the events and you are always welcome to attend parish council meetings.

**Best wishes for a happy Christmas and prosperous 2024  
from the Chair and members of Simonstone Parish Council.**

## Remembrance Sunday 12 November

Please join us in paying respect at both or either events below:

10 am **St John's Read** for Remembrance Sunday service

12 noon **St Peter's Simonstone** wreath laying ceremony



## Christmas Tree Switch On

In collaboration with Simonstone St Peter's primary school we will be holding a joint event this year when we switch on our Christmas Tree lights. We will start in the parish garden for a switch on at 4pm and then move across to the school for their light switch on, followed by refreshments being provided. We hope everyone will take the opportunity to socialise among friends and have a natter.

*The Parish Council is supporting the event with a token gift for each child at the school which Santa will help hand out at the switch on.*

**Friday 1 December  
3.50pm onwards**



**Christmas Tree  
4pm Switch On  
in Parish Garden**

## Pensioner Christmas Party

We will again be joining with Read Parish Council for our Seniors Party (70 years and above). We are requesting a £10 per person payment (non-refundable), reduced from last year, towards the cost of the two-course meal with entertainment.

Tickets will be on sale from both weekly café groups:

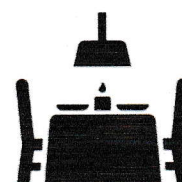
**Wednesday 10-12 noon Read & Simonstone Village Hall**

**Friday 10-12 noon Read Con Club**

Or phone **Maureen 07711 865023** or Marie on 01282 778270.

Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

**Thursday 7  
December  
12 noon**



**Higher Trapp,  
Simonstone**

## Annual Delegation from Santa's Helpers

The local Rotary clubs are delighted to announce the annual visit from Santa's helpers will be going ahead. Keep your eyes and ears open for our merry festive visitors.



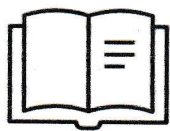
**STOP PRESS – FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR HOUSEHOLDS  
& COMMUNITY GROUPS - TURN OVER FOR MORE DETAILS**



**[www.simonstone.org.uk](http://www.simonstone.org.uk) and [www.facebook.com/simonstone.pc](https://www.facebook.com/simonstone.pc)**

For contact details of all councillors and parish clerk, and to stay up to date with your parish council.





### MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library visits on a regular basis and parks in the Car Park adjacent to Read Cricket Ground every third Friday at 10:50 – 11:10. Upcoming dates 10 Nov, 1 Dec, 22 Dec and 12 Jan 2024



### CORONATION COMMEMORATIVE BENCH

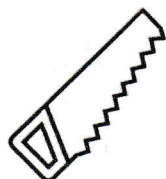
The Parish Council is looking at the feasibility of installing a bench along the river way. Permission to use land at Fort Vale is being sought.



### WEEKLY COFFEE MORNINGS

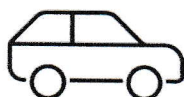
Friendly volunteers run two coffee mornings each week serving tea, coffee, toast and homemade cakes. A warm welcome and good chat is assured to all. Offers of help to bake goods or staff the cafes are welcome too.

**Wednesday 10-12 noon Read & Simonstone Village Hall, East View**  
**Friday 10-12 noon Read Con Club**



### AUTUMN PRUNING

The Parish Council regularly receives complaints about trees, bushes and plants reaching out across pavements, footpaths and roads. The reduction in space available makes it difficult for pedestrians, prams and wheelchairs to safely pass. Please make sure your foliage is not causing a problem to members of the public.



### ROAD SAFETY IN SIMONSTONE

We continue to talk to Lancashire County Council (LCC) about traffic and road safety problems. We are also participating in a joint parish council initiative about speed reduction in residential areas which goes to LCC.

As the nights draw in we encourage you to wear high visibility jackets and when there is no pavement to walk facing the traffic.



#### Households

Ribble Valley Borough Council have a range of grants available, including routes to government funding, for a range of households and housing challenges.

RVBC have also appointed a Debt & Cost of Living Advisor to advise residents of help available to them and how to access funds.

There is also support for residents living with dementia or disabilities.

#### Community Groups & Clubs

As part of the Government's Levelling Up plans Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) has received funding of £433,680 from the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) to boost rural communities and help drive local economic growth. If you have an idea that could benefit from funding check out the information for **UK SHARED PROSPERITY CAPITAL GRANTS** on RVBC's website. *If you apply let us know at the Parish Council so we can add our support.*

More details for funding opportunities are available via <https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk>

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# Simonstone Parish Council



**All residents are welcome to attend parish council meetings.** The Parish Council is also committed to supporting all our local clubs, societies and venues, and welcomes their attendance at our meetings.

Public participation is also encouraged, you can speak briefly on any topic, or introduce an item for discussion at the beginning of our meetings.

We meet monthly on **the first Thursday of the month** (except August and December) at **Simonstone St Peter's School Hall**, School Lane, Simonstone at **7.00pm**. Our next meeting is **Thursday 4 January 2024**.

On the occasions where our meeting dates clash with either RVBC's Parish Council Liaison meeting or a school's requirement

for the building we meet at either the Read & Simonstone Village Hall (East View, Read) or at the Higher Trapp, Simonstone. Notification of the change of venue and/or date will be posted on the noticeboards, Facebook page and website.

We anticipate a change of date for the 1 February meeting so please keep an eye out for a notification regarding it.

Alternatively, you are welcome to contact the parish clerk or any of the councillors for an update nearer the time.

Agendas and minutes are displayed via:

- Parish Council website
- Facebook page
- Outdoor notice boards (side of the Stork and School Lane parish garden)

## Councillor Contact Details

Cllr David Peat (Chair)	davidpeat1@yahoo.co.uk	07538 674420
Cllr Stephen Finn (Vice Chair)	finnst1@gmail.com	07792 528860
Cllr Alan Duckworth	alanv.d@btinternet.com	07745 379880
Cllr Clifton Pollard	cpollard773@gmail.com	07436 273427
Cllr Greera Norse	greeranorse@gmail.com	07540 150504
Cllr Jacqueline Hampson	CllrJHampson@gmail.com	07768 596356
Cllr Maureen Vaughton	m.vaughton@btinternet.com	07711 865023
Cllr Robert McKelvey	robertejmckelvey@gmail.com	01282 771922

## Clerk to the Council – Karen Farnhill

simonstoneparishcouncilclerk@gmail.com 07376 878351

*A good place to start if you're not sure who to approach on parish council*

**[www.simonstone.org.uk](http://www.simonstone.org.uk) and [www.facebook.com/simonstone.pc](https://www.facebook.com/simonstone.pc)**