

From the editor



Breaking new ground

A magazine about Hensall for the people of Hensall

Michael Wright

Have you ever had the feeling we're out on a limb in Hensall? I have and here's why. The eastern part of the village marks the southern boundary of North Yorkshire. But our postal address is defined by the East Yorkshire town of Goole. Our post code falls under the South Yorkshire town of Doncaster. But our telephone directory is associated with the West Yorkshire town of Wakefield. Factor the implications of these, and other territorial limits, into the daily round of accessing services, organising child care to cope with different school holiday patterns, or getting to the doctors without private transport, and life isn't so simple. Little wonder that we remind people we're here: that we want to protect our post office and important facilities like the mobile library service.

So who are we, the people of Hensall? A mixed bunch, that's for sure. Around 1000 folk in 330 properties. Some have lived here all their lives. Others for just a short time. Drawn perhaps by the nature of the village. Or its proximity to a place of work. Maybe both. Such differences add to the character of the place. Here, local perspectives, sometimes with the benefit of historic links to the past, are blended with alternative views based on different ways of life both in the UK and across the globe.

Such breadth is an asset. So are the organisations that add colour to our village life: the school and playgroup, the sports teams, church communities and parish council. We're enriched by our post office, La Anchor restaurant and the Railway Tavern. By the presence of local businesses and, importantly, the voluntary support from generous people who strive to 'be there' for family and others in their time of need. There's much to be thankful for here in Hensall.

This new, free magazine aims to reflect our way of life. It will focus unashamedly on Hensall and the issues that interest the different sections of our community. It will provide information, record the stepping-stones of our life and history, celebrate our successes, highlight how new political measures could affect our residents, give a voice to our people, and raise awareness of who we are. Every household in the village of Hensall will have the magazine delivered to the door three times a year. Extra copies, if required, are available from the post office (£1). I hope you find it interesting.