

Planning the future of Broomley and Stocksfield

# NE43 news

## Chair's Annual Report May 2020 - April 2021

The year since May 2020 has been characterised by uncertainty, anxiety, and isolation for all of us, and for some the Covid-19 global pandemic has had devastating consequences. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to extend my sincere sympathy to all those residents who are suffering from bereavement or ill-health, or who have otherwise been adversely affected by this extraordinary turn of events.



The Parish Council was unable to meet in April and May, but, thanks to the ingenuity and expertise of our Clerk, Nick Spencer, and our Vice Chair, Paul Vickers, meetings resumed via video conferencing in June, and we have done our best since then to carry out business as close to usual as possible. We have been pleased to see that a number of residents have watched and listened to the meetings on the Council's Facebook page, and hope that you have found them interesting.



Despite the considerable difficulties posed by the pandemic, I am delighted to report that our plan to install eight additional potentially life-saving Public Access Defibrillators (PADs) across the area covered by the Council has come to fruition. There is at present no other comparable location within the region where a Council has systematically planned a network of PADs that provides such wide coverage to its residents. Around 97% of the 1,335 houses in Stocksfield Council's almost seven square miles are now within 500m of a PAD, each of which is available permanently for

deployment by the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) 24 hours a day. The additional PADs installed here have raised the number of PADs available across the NEAS area to over 900. No training is needed to operate a PAD, but we plan to organise community familiarisation sessions locally when Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. The total cost of the project is £22,000, most of which has been covered by Parish Council funds, but we are very grateful



for local resident Lucy Booth's efforts in raising almost £5,000 through a co-ordinated fund-raising drive in the Painshawfield Estate, and for donations of £2,000 and £200 respectively from



Northumberland County Council Members Local Improvement Scheme and Essity Ltd, Prudhoe. This ambitious project would have been a logistical challenge in any event without the complexities of Covid-19 restrictions, and I would like to pass on my sincere thanks to the Clerk for his persistence, resilience and determination in making it happen.

The surge in the infection rate in Autumn 2020 led to Covid-19 restrictions being strengthened from 5 November, thus putting paid to our plans for a small Remembrance Service at St John's Church with a restricted number of community representatives. Fortunately, thanks to the monumental efforts of Rev. Pat Moran and



our Clerk, arrangements were swiftly made to film the laying of the wreaths at the war memorial and the playing of the Last Post and the Rouse by the bugler at St John's Church, and these films were then incorporated into one video with recordings of the readings and the service by Rev Pat Moran and her husband, Julio. The completed video was streamed at 10.54am on Sunday 8 November 2020 as Stocksfield's contribution to remembering the fallen. I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the Remembrance Service in such difficult circumstances.



Our ambitious plans for developing the sports fields unfortunately stalled during the year due to Covid-19 restrictions, which meant that many of the experts whose advice we needed were unavailable. We have undertaken as much of the exploratory work as possible, and hope to be in a position to make some progress with design and fundraising during the Autumn of this year.

On a more positive note, the Council received £20,000 from Central Government due to Covid-19, and decided to make this available to local groups for projects that would have a lasting benefit for local residents. The funding has now been allocated to St John's Church Garden Group, Dr Syntax Leek Club, Hindley St Margaret's Burial Board, Tyne Rivers Trust and Broomley First School, Singing Mamas Community Interest Company, Tanga Club, Stocksfield

...continued on page 2

Cricket Club, Stocksfield Golf Club, Stocksfield Tennis Club and Stocksfield Community Association Trading Arm (SCATA) for a wide range of developments, the impact of which will become evident during the next few months. In addition to this, Business Support Grants have been available to compensate the Multi-Use Games Area for loss of income during the periods of lockdown.

Local and County-wide groups and organisations such as 1st Stocksfield Guides, The Miner's Lamp Community Cafe and Hub, West Northumberland Food Bank, Citizens Advice Northumberland and the Great North Air Ambulance have also benefitted from over £2,000 in grants and donations from the Parish Council's regular budget. The funding is for specific projects, including the provision of school holiday meals for local children and support and advice for people in need. We once again made a financial contribution to the Parochial Church Council's Burial Board to support the upkeep of Hindley St Margaret's cemetery.

In the Autumn of 2020, Helen Rae, Julia Robson and Ray Thompson left the Council. I should like to pass on my thanks to them all for the contribution they made to our work, and to wish them well for the future. Their places were subsequently filled by the co-option of Tim Hills, Lindsey Joy and Kath Pollock, who were warmly welcomed, in Kath's case, for the second time.

Although this has been a very unusual year, I am pleased and proud to say that the Council's day-to-day work has continued throughout, thanks to the dedication and commitment of Nick Spencer, the Clerk, and of Martin Stewart, the Grounds Services contractor. Our village has remained clean, safe and cared for, a beautiful place which many of us have appreciated even more than usual during this worrying time. Grateful thanks also to those local volunteers who have supported other members of our community by delivering essential supplies to those who have been shielding or self-isolating, and to those who have continued to monitor the health of the river and maintain the planted areas at Stocksfield station. Our local shops also deserve to be mentioned here for their versatility and prompt action in providing extra services to vulnerable residents. Finally, I should like to give sincere thanks to my fellow Councillors for their support and commitment at a very challenging time. Let's hope that the next year will see a gradual move to something we can recognise as normal.

*Maggi Hunt April 2021*

## New Council Assembles

On Wednesday 19 March 2021 the new Council, formed as a result of the recent local elections, met for the first time at its annual meeting. The Council's first job was to elect a Chair and Maggi Hunt was re-elected with Paul Vickers appointed as Vice Chair. The meeting was unusual in that it was held in the hall at the Community Centre to enable councillors to maintain social distancing and it was the first physical meeting of the Council since March 2020.

It is difficult to predict how long the Council will need to meet in the hall and there are certainly logistical challenges to councillors being spread across half of the hall. Depending on the answer to that question, there may be some disruption to the normal schedule of meetings to fit in with existing bookings of the hall but

each meeting will be advertised in advance on the Council's website and Facebook page, as well as the Hexham Courant wherever that is possible.

Full details of the Council's membership and how to contact councillors can be found on the Council's website but the following are the Council's current members:

*Ms Maggi Hunt (Chair)*

*Dr Paul Vickers (Vice Chair)*

*Mr Colin Chance*

*Mrs Anne Dale*

*Mr Tim Hills*

*Mrs Lindsey Joy*

*Mr Chris Liddle*

*Mr Mike Parker*

*Mrs Kath Pollock*

## Grant Applications Invited

Each year the Parish Council sets aside funds for local groups and organisations and grants of up to £500 are available for community purposes. The Council's Grant Award Policy can be found on its website together with application forms. Where a grant of more than £500 is sought, the organisation needs to make application to the Council before October of the year prior to the financial year the grant is needed. This obviously requires advanced planning but it allows the Council to take account of larger sums in its budget and precept setting.

As mentioned in the Chair's annual report, a number of local groups have benefited from grants made from the Covid-19 funding provided by Central

Government. The Council will be bringing you news of how some of the funds have been used in future editions, once the groups' plans come to fruition. A couple of grants have been used very quickly. Stocksfield Golf Club purchased a marquee for the side of the clubhouse to enable greater use of their space (below right). Dr Syntax Leek Club has purchased covered seating which is hosted by the pub on its car park, with a contribution from the Council (below left). The seating is not restricted to users of the pub and is available for use by the community to take a break and enjoy the view when out walking. See elsewhere in this edition for an article from the Tanga Club about how it has used the grant funding.





# Got any photos for the website?

Earlier this year, CPRE Northumberland called on all those with a keen eye for capturing Northumberland's diverse natural landscape, to take part in a lockdown photography competition entitled **#ViewFromTheDoorstep**.

The events of the last year have highlighted just how precious our local green spaces are for everyone. Whether for their beauty, tranquillity, or just a place to escape, they are key to ensuring our mental and physical wellbeing, and we have come to appreciate them, now more than ever.

CPRE Northumberland set out to capture this heightened sense of awareness and connection, whilst under Covid restrictions, by encouraging people to submit photographs that showcased their relationship with nature and landscape in their own locality.

The organisers were amazed by the diversity and quality of the images that flooded in, making judging an enormously difficult task. However, in April, three worthy winners were duly announced with first prize going to the timeless shot below, entitled 'Alnwick Moor':



In second place was the superbly evocative 'Sunset, Morpeth stepping stones.'



If you have any photos of Stocksfield that you are proud of and would like to see feature on the Parish Council's website, please send them to the Clerk. They will be added to the image sequencing at the top of many of the Council's webpages.

# Update from the...



## NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

The East Tynedale neighbourhood team has recently been bolstered with two additional members of staff, PC Harbottle joins us having transferred from North Tyneside. He brings a considerable amount of experience. PCSO Lamb has recently joined the organisation and is settling in well.

The team have undertaken visits to the licensed premises across East Tynedale, liaising with licensees to offer them support as our pubs and bars have reopened following the Covid restrictions. We will continue to support the bars as we emerge from the restrictions. Many businesses have struggled during the pandemic with the hospitality sector being particularly badly hit.



Speeding drivers continue to cause significant concern to numerous communities across East Tynedale and we conduct regular speed enforcement activity throughout East Tynedale linking in with the Camera Enforcement Unit who will deploy the vans at problem sites we identify. We would like to remind drivers of their responsibilities, travelling at speeds above the limits result in higher energy collisions should they occur and the potential for injury significantly increases.

There have been isolated incidents of youth disorder across the area and we ask that these incidents continue to be reported. We will continue to target areas where problems are identified. Part of our role as a neighbourhood team is to have strong links into the schools in our area.

These remain in place, however Covid restrictions have severely restricted our ability to attend schools and deliver talks in assemblies.

Off-road motorcycle complaints are still being reported across Tynedale; this issue is particularly challenging. Work undertaken by both East & West Tynedale neighbourhood policing teams has identified that legally used off-roaders often travel along lawful routes. These can be identified via the Northumberland County Council website and are known as green-lanes or BOATs (Byways Open to All Traffic). Motorcycles need to be MOT'd, insured and fully road legal with riders licensed to ride them. Where off-road motorcyclists are stopped and found not to be legally correct, the owner and rider risk their bikes being seized and potentially an appearance at court.

Please follow the Northumbria Police Social Media accounts, relevant and current information is released providing our community with key messages on what is happening in our area and advice on how to keep yourself safe.

Please keep reporting issues to us, there are facilities on our website to allow you to report incidents and provide us with information to deal with problems and keep everyone safe. The web-submission facility is very easy to use and can be done from smartphones or web enabled devices. In an emergency always ring 999, alternatively for non-emergency calls please use 101.





## Community Transport Northumberland

The Royal Voluntary Service's (RVS) community transport is back to full operation and open for referrals to the service. RVS has volunteers ready to support those over 50 year olds who seek support to reduce isolation, loneliness and reconnect with their local communities across the county, including in Stocksfield. In providing a helping hand to rebuild confidence, our volunteers will support clients to their favourite club, shopping, to attend medical appointments, personal care appointments and many more opportunities, to enable them to remain independent and connected. Referrals can be made by local organisations or individuals who need the support. Although focused on the over 50s, anyone over 30 who is isolated and lacking social connections, for example because of physical or mental ill health, is eligible for help.

Is there a cost? Our drivers are volunteers and we do ask that the client covers their fuel and running costs. Just let us know about the journey and we'll give you an idea of the cost. With friendly help, freely given, our Royal Voluntary Service volunteers enjoy sharing their time and



give support and companionship. They undergo the proper checks and carry ID so you can be sure they're genuine and trustworthy.

Our volunteers are different kinds of people from many walks of life, who are all trained in Safeguarding, Dementia Awareness and Confidentiality. They all agree that volunteering is hugely rewarding. We also want to encourage more people to step forward and join our team of volunteers. The first steps of expressing an interest can be accessed through this link

[www.volunteering.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/volunteer-search](http://www.volunteering.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/volunteer-search)

**There is an annual membership fee of £20 (£30 for joint membership) and costs work out at about 60 pence per mile. If you want to make a referral or need more information, please phone the Northumberland Hub on 01668 260248.**

## The **Edwardian Excavators**

Between 1906 and 1914, excavations at Corbridge uncovered the impressive remains of the most northerly town in Roman Britain. The names of the 'archaeologists' in charge are well known, however the actual hard labour was done by a team of anonymous men, some of whom are pictured shovels in hand. We presume they are all local labourers drafted in, but would love to find out. Can you help us put names to the faces?

All the photographs are available to view and comment on at the web page below, or you can email Frances McIntosh, English Heritage's Curator of Hadrian's Wall and the North East, at

[frances.mcintosh@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:frances.mcintosh@english-heritage.org.uk)

[www.crowdsourced.micropasts.org/project/corbridge-excavators](http://www.crowdsourced.micropasts.org/project/corbridge-excavators)



## STEAMING ahead!

In what may have been the most exciting event to take place in the village for a year (at least for some of us!), LNER Thompson's 2-6-0 K1 62005 Peppercorn steam locomotive – Lord of the Isles - made an appearance at Stocksfield station on 19 April. Starting at the North Yorkshire Moors Railway in Grosmont, the engine was on its way to Carlisle, and thence to Fort William in Scotland for the summer season.

A select group of enthusiasts of all ages gathered at the station to greet the steam engine and they were rewarded with a satisfying blast of the whistle as the train puffed on its way. A few moments of magic for everyone, a little touch of nostalgia for those over a certain age, and a welcome opportunity, on a beautiful sunny day, to catch up with people we hadn't seen for a long time!



## Broomley First goes more outdoors

The Parish Council is delighted to be able to support the work at Broomley First School by extending the availability of outside space at the sports fields. Two areas have been set aside to enable more outdoor education and 'forest school' activities. All at a location right on its doorstep. The school's lead on outdoor learning, Suzanne Richardson, said, 'The whole School is excited at the opportunity and we all look forward to maximising the use of the land'.



# The Tanga Club



The Tanga Club would like to personally thank Stocksfield Parish Council for awarding us £2000 towards our Specialist Books, Toys & Equipment Library. This funding has gone a long way to provide specialist equipment that families can borrow, so enabling them to 'try before they buy'. The Library was launched at the beginning of May and, since then, families have been able to borrow and return items every Thursday (term time) between 11.30am and 2pm from our Tanga hub within Hexham community centre. Already the library has proved to be a huge success.

If you haven't already heard about Tanga Club, a few words about us. The name Tanga was taken from the Maori word Takiwatanga which means "in his own time or space" which we thought was really fitting for our charity. We offer support to families who have children with additional needs (both physical and learning needs) and who may have siblings with no additional needs at all. We provide age and ability appropriate play and social opportunities for all children within the family and address the problem of social isolation that is often found when parenting a child with special needs. It is also very important to us that we provide much needed support networks for all families in a similar position.

We run a Friday evening youth group at the TORCH centre in Hexham between 5.30pm and 7pm with a small charge of only £2.50 per child. At the club there are four different areas of play for the children, with a dedicated sensory room, a games area with consoles and VR headsets, a quiet room and a large area where the children take part in arts and craft, messy play, train sets, lego and sports. The parents and carers stay at the group and chat over a cup of coffee while we share our skills and experiences to help each other along in areas such as finance, education and disability services. We also provide snacks and drinks for everyone too. I encourage you to take a look at our Facebook page 'Tanga Hexham' to see all the wonderful work we're doing within our local community

and browse through our pictures to see lots of happy little faces. Give us a 'like' too.

Stocksfield Parish Council has played an important role in providing much needed equipment for Tanga's Specialist Library that will have a positive impact on children in the Stocksfield local community and beyond. The funding has gone towards providing two PECS IPADS (picture exchange communication system) to help children with communication difficulties. This is an alternative communication aid that uses visual symbols to teach the learner to communicate with parents, carers, teachers and their peers. The IPAD and PECS app together can be quite expensive for a family to pay out initially only to find the app is not suitable for their child, so having this in the library for our families to try before purchasing is a fantastic opportunity.

These IPADS are amazing but the funding awarded by Stocksfield Parish Council has provided so much more for the Tanga Specialised Library. Here are a few examples...

*- A gross motor skills backpack filled with items that encourage large muscle movements, such as independent sitting, crawling, walking, or running.*

*- A communication backpack filled with items such as Pixels, Voice changer, Flip Flap Ball, Opposite Cards, a Feelings Game and Sound Bank - all these items aid communication in a fun way.*

*- A socialisation backpack which will help initiate skills for understanding social situations - with proper socialisation a child can learn how to interact in the world and enjoy social situations.*

*- Wooden sensory specialist toys/equipment such as a Chime Tree, Fluorescent Turner and a Flip finger specialist toy - all of this specialist equipment helps aid aspects of the body's sensory system and also helps with how the child interacts in their environment.*

*- Huge wooden click clack train which is a pleasure for the hands, eyes and ears of our little ones - trains dashing down the track is a fantastic visual stimulation toy.*

*- Switch adapted toys which will help the child recognise cause and effect - they will also help the user to gain strength in their hands especially if the user has physical weaknesses.*

These are just a few amazing items that have been funded through Stocksfield Parish Council. Tanga really appreciates the opportunity to purchase these items for our library. Please visit our online library catalogue of items and feel free to contact us if you would like to borrow anything.

With the support of our local community we have some fantastic things happening within Tanga and we have some exciting projects ahead. For more information about our events and activities, check out our website [www.tangaclub.slls.online](http://www.tangaclub.slls.online) or our Facebook page (Tanga Hexham).

Our staff also provide support and advice with Disability Living Allowance, Education and Healthcare Plans, funding applications and much more - we have a support contact number (07526604476) for anyone who is struggling and might need a listening ear. Please contact us if you would like to become a member.

Thank you once again to Stocksfield Parish Council for their amazing ongoing support and encouragement towards the work of our Charity.

**Amy Kirsopp Committee member.**



# THE BLEND @ Stocksfield Cricket Club

*A Local Festival of Music, Food and Ale*

## ANNUAL BEER FESTIVAL

**Friday 9th July – 6pm to 11.30pm**

Tickets £10 Includes entry, glass and tokens - Over 18's only

Large marquee, 12 Cask Ales, Food outlets, Wine/Prosecco Bar, Gin Bar.

Music from Blistered Molly featuring the brilliant local singer Ash Humble



**SATURDAY 10TH JULY**

## FOOD FESTIVAL

**10am-3pm**

Stalls selling a variety of local and international food – Cheeses, meats, cakes, etc. In addition, entertainment for children and open mic slots playing during the day for your entertainment

Free Entry & Free parking



## FOLK & BLUES NIGHT

**6.30pm to 10.30pm – Tickets £7**

**Gareth Davies-Jones** A singer songwriter who has toured extensively around Britain and Ireland. With 10 solo albums and many Festival appearances his music has been described as 'Intelligent and gentle songs – deliciously inviting, roots infused sound that avoids any folk clichés', 'maintains a breezy pop hue that is sure to appeal far beyond any genre boundaries'.

*Well worth listening to!*

**The Tom Killner Band** The band hail from Rotherham. Formed in 2012 their musical talents and dynamic stage shows captured a loyal, growing fan base. With early interest from the music industry, on the release of their first album "Hard Road" in 2015 and the follow up "Live" this turned into enthusiastic, worldwide critical acclaim.

Tom's searing vocals and guitar virtuosity, have captivated audiences in venues and festivals, all over the U.K and Europe. 'Soulful blues guitar, mixed with rocking funk'. 'If you see Killner listed as playing in your town anytime soon, go see him' *Exclusive Magazine*. Blues guitarist Danny Bryant introduced Tom as "One of the greatest, guitar/vocalists, on the scene today."

*The band appears the following night at the Newcastle Blues Festival (Sunday 11th July).*

**TO BOOK TICKETS FOR EITHER OR BOTH EVENTS:**

Visit our page: **THE BLEND WEEKEND** on Facebook

or contact [stocksfieldcc@outlook.com](mailto:stocksfieldcc@outlook.com)

## Does **Stocksfield** need its own **Community Transport Service**?

Stocksfield Community Association's Trading Arm, SCATA, has been planning a 'Dial-a-ride' transport service for 3 years. Those benefitting from this on-demand, door to door service would mainly be older residents, people with limited mobility and anyone without access to a vehicle. It will be particularly important for those living in areas of the parish not served by public transport.

Over two years have now elapsed since a well-attended public meeting seemed to confirm considerable support for this scheme with the subsequent delay almost entirely due to the Covid-19 pandemic. With significant support from Stocksfield Parish Council and Karbon Homes, plus its own funds, SCATA is in a position to purchase a suitable vehicle, tax and insure it and acquire the necessary operating licences. SCATA has recruited several experienced volunteer drivers and is in a position to arrange their training. There would be a charge of £4 return for local journeys i.e. around Stocksfield and Mickley - with an annual membership fee of £12. If required, transport for longer journeys could be provided.

SCATA is a not-for-profit community organisation and lacks the financial resources to operate this service for a very small number of users so before making a final commitment SCATA has sought to confirm there would be sufficient demand for this service to make it financially viable. Requests for 'expressions of interest' posted on Stocksfield Matters; within the Hexham Courant; and in both SCAN (Stocksfield Community Association's Newsletter) and the Parish magazine have produced no response.

SCATA understands that at present there are few opportunities for this service to be of use but assuming a return to something like normal life by September SCATA needs an indication as to the likely level of use of this service. Sadly unless a clear need for this service can be confirmed it is likely that the project will be abandoned.

Please phone Norman Hooks on (01661) 844863 if you would be interested in using this service.

## Update from County Councillor - Anne Dale

The last year has been hard for everyone and I would like to thank you for all your help and support during those difficult times. I am privileged to have been re-elected again in May to serve you as your County Councillor for the next four years and I am looking forward to working with you for the benefit of everyone in the village. My County Council ward includes not only Stocksfield but Riding Mill and Mickley too. I know that we are all hoping that life will become more normal and hopefully the summer will be full of fine weather and good news.

Over the last year so many of you have come forward with new ideas and thoughts on improving life in the village for everyone and I hope working with you all that we can take forward these initiatives. My 2020/21 village update was delivered to you in March this year but the following information below is still relevant at this present time.

### Full Fibre broadband

FACTCO is set to begin works to install the fully funded gigabit-capable broadband connection to residents and businesses in the Stocksfield area in June of this year. This is a Community Fibre Project, meaning that those who join will receive a fully-funded install, bringing fibre right into your building and enabling you to benefit from up to 1000 Mbps in upload and download speeds. Please may I remind you that if you have not already signed up please do consider doing so as soon as possible. If you would like further information the FACTCO team member for this area is Ian Finlay and his email address is: [ian@factco.co.uk](mailto:ian@factco.co.uk) and he will answer any questions you may have. Further information can also be obtained on their website [www.factco.co.uk/Stocksfield](http://www.factco.co.uk/Stocksfield) including information for residents who are coming to the end of a contract or in a contract.

### Local bus services

Just a reminder that the Tuesday morning bus service from New Ridley Village to Hexham and back is still in place. Please do try to use it as it is subsidised by the County Council and it is important that we don't lose this service.

### Highways Matters

Further remedial work will be undertaken on New Ridley Road in late July and I will work with the County Council and the contractor Colas to ensure that the work is undertaken to a satisfactory standard.

### Broomley First School

The road safety and speed reduction work on the A695 and outside the school is nearly finished. This is a County Council policy which was first introduced in 2016 and hopefully this will make a difference to the speeding in this area. Speeding traffic is still one of the major concerns of residents in the village and I receive regular complaints.

I am very grateful to everyone who has helped me over the last year, the workload has been quite extensive and far ranging and I do try to respond to all residents as quickly as possible. My thanks also to the officers of the County Council. Please do contact me if you have anything you would like to discuss on either 01434 673326 or at [Anne.Dale@Northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Anne.Dale@Northumberland.gov.uk)

## Hedgerows and Grass clippings

Each year the Council receives complaints about overgrown hedges reducing the width of footpaths or even blocking them. Complaints are also made about grass clippings (and sometimes worse) being dumped on verges around the village. Together let's try to keep the village looking its best – please keep hedges cut back to the boundary of properties and remember that dumping grass clippings in a public place (from wherever they have been cut) is a criminal offence.



# Stocksfield Plants & Gardens Society

[www.stocksfieldplantsandgardens.co.uk](http://www.stocksfieldplantsandgardens.co.uk)

## POP-UP PLANT SALES

Chair of the society, Elizabeth Eaton, says: *"You can expect the usual quality and variety of plants (if perhaps not the quantity we have at our usual annual sale in the Community Centre), and all grown by members of the society in the local area, so you know they'll work in your garden."*

Please note the following:

- Plants will be priced from 50p to £5, depending on the type, size and maturity, and will be colour coded for easy identification
- Please bring CASH – no cheques or cards, sorry – and lots of change!
- Bring your own bags and boxes
- Outdoor Covid rules apply
- For further information, call Cathy Carter on 01661 842126

### Saturday 5 June, 10am-12noon

**51 New Ridley Road, Stocksfield, NE43 7EY**, opposite the entrance to Painshawfield Road (c/o Val Brown). Parking is limited on New Ridley Road; if you're Stocksfield-based, please walk if possible.

### Saturday 19 June, 10am-12noon

**Holeyn House, Main Road, Stocksfield, NE43 7JR**, opposite the children's play area on the main road through Stocksfield (hosted by Val Guy). Parking is available at the Baptist Church on the corner.

## AUTUMN TALKS (on Zoom)

All open to non-member guests, cost £3.00  
(contact Sue Sinclair on [stocksfieldpg@gmail.com](mailto:stocksfieldpg@gmail.com))

### Tuesday 19 October, 7.15pm for 7.30pm

#### Stella Exley – 'Camassia, Chris, Chelsea & Chaos'

Stella is an independent hardy plant nurserywoman based in Alne in the Hambleton District of North Yorkshire. From a very early age, she was smitten by the beauty of plants, and these days, she regularly exhibits at all the major shows and is the proud holder of two National Collections – Camassia and Sidalcea and is an RHS Gold Medal winner. Her nursery is called Hare Spring Cottage Plants and specialises in growing Camassia, Sidalcea, Uvularia and a wide range of other hardy perennials. Purchases can be made online via her website here.

### Tuesday 16 November, 7.15pm for 7.30pm

#### Sean Murray – 'The Chelsea Garden Challenge'

Sean is a local self-taught garden designer, horticulturist and trained NAFAS floral demonstrator with over 35 years of gardening and design experience. In 2015, he won the BBC / RHS 'Great Chelsea Garden Challenge' television competition and designed and built a garden on Main Avenue at Chelsea Flower Show 2015. Since then he has featured on national and local radio in relation to his design work and now runs Garden Narratives, a design service creating everything from small city courtyard gardens to country estates. Sean supports The People's Kitchen in Newcastle, and his fee for this talk will go to the charity, helping to fund their work in making life better for vulnerable people.

### Tuesday 14 December, 7.15pm for 7.30pm

#### Richard Barnes – 'It's Not All About Plants'

Richard's talk is about the consideration of all the other things that go to make a successful and interesting garden – the often-overlooked bits like boundaries, paths, entrance ways, etc. The things that need to look good even when the plants are not at their best. He will also include a few ideas on how to achieve the all-round / all-year garden.

## Visit the Beacon

Open from 1.30pm to 5pm on Sunday 25 July 2021, Patricia Hodgson invites you to visit the gardens at 'The Beacon' at 10 Crabtree Road as part of the National Garden Scheme ([www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)). The entry fee of £5 (children are free) goes to health charities such as the Marie Curie Hospice and MacMillan nurses while the proceeds from teas and cakes are donated to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The gardens can be booked for groups by appointment and Patricia is also available for after dinner speeches, comedic talks or stand-up. Contact her on 01661 842518 or [patandderek@btinternet.com](mailto:patandderek@btinternet.com)

## Stocksfield Local History Society

Like many organisations, The History Society has not met for many months and at present is considering the way forward. The Society is anticipating that it will hold its first meeting in September and the Committee is meeting to discuss the way forward. In the meantime, please keep 8th September free for our first meeting. Details of the speaker will be sent to all existing members and notices will be posted nearer the time with full details.

*We look forward to welcoming you back to our meetings.*

## Stocksfield Parish Council

At the time of publishing this newsletter, the schedule of future meetings of the Council was not clear due to the difficulties in holding physical meetings during the period of Covid-19 restrictions. As soon as the situation becomes clear, information will be posted on the Council's website where minutes of previous meetings can also be found.

Contact the Parish Council at:

Stocksfield Parish Council, at  
Stocksfield Community Centre,  
Mount View Terrace, Stocksfield  
NE43 7HL.

Mobile: 07908 601619

Office: 01661 844667

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