

Planning the future of Broomley and Stocksfield

NE43news

Issue 63 December 2017

Best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful & Prosperous 2018-Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council

Heard of Banchory?

Rowlands Gill residents David and Margaret Raw, who have family links to the Irish artist, Pauline Bewick, are trying to identify a house in Stocksfield that was once known by the name 'Banchory'. It was occupied by Corbett Bewick before he purchased Bat Cottage in 1935. If you have any information, then they would be pleased to hear from you on 01297 543450.

How to stop nuisance telephone calls

Have you or a friend or relative been bothered by nuisance calls? Worse still, do you know someone who has been persuaded to give their debit or credit card details to one of these nuisance callers for a service they either don't need or that doesn't exist? If so, getting help may be easier than you think.

Northumberland Trading Standards now has a small number of call blocking units which can be loaned to Northumberland residents suffering from unwanted phone calls. These TrueCall systems check every caller's number and intercept or block the numbers that are not recognised as "trusted". Trading Standards will send you a regular log of all calls made or received, which is particularly helpful if you are supporting an elderly or vulnerable person.

For more information about the TrueCall systems and how to borrow one, contact Northumberland Trading Standards at Business Compliance and Public Safety Unit, Fire and Rescue Service, West Hartford Business Park, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 3JP Tel. 01670 623777, or on www.northumberland.gov.uk

We **will** remember them

On a cold but clear morning, the young and the not so young residents of Stocksfield joined officers from 3rd Regiment of the Royal Horse Artillery in a service led by lay minister Robert Peers to remember those who have lost their lives serving their country in conflicts

around the world. As usual the traffic was briefly stopped to enable the two minute silence to be observed and the Council is grateful for the patience of drivers. Fiona Forsyth and her team of Guides provided teas and coffees after the service and raised £80 for the Royal British Legion.



National Hill Climb Cycling Time Trial

Organised by north east club GS Metro, the National Time Trial saw 221 cyclists heading up the 1.1 mile climb with 128 metre height gain from Stocksfield to Hedley. Setting off at one minute intervals, the quickest overall was Dan Evans in a time of 3 minutes and 54 seconds.



Pictured above is Julian MacBride of Blaydon waiting at the start. Also pictured is Andrew Bolton of Otley, just after having been caught by Joe Agnew of Edinburgh.

VOLUNTEER



New Year, New Challenge

- make a difference by volunteering

Volunteering for Citizens Advice has been described as 'the most rewarding experience of my life' by one of our current volunteers. Citizens Advice is a registered charity and we rely on volunteers to provide the invaluable service which helps so many people within your local community.

Last year, the Citizens Advice offices across Northumberland helped over 13,700 people on a wide range of subjects. The problems we are most often asked about concern benefits, employment, debt, housing or relationships but we will help people who come to us with any enquiry including consumer rights, legal matters, and immigration.

Citizens Advice Northumberland is currently looking for more volunteer advisers, to join our teams across our offices in Ashington, Berwick, Morpeth and Hexham. Training is given to help you develop the skills and knowledge you need to help our clients and we are able to cover expenses such as travel costs.

People volunteer with us for lots of different reasons, but one thing that our volunteers tell us is that volunteering with their local Citizens Advice is enjoyable, rewarding, challenging and varied. For many volunteers, the best thing is getting to meet a variety of new people, whilst for others it's learning new skills and gaining confidence.

There's a real team spirit and we provide a supportive environment to make sure that you get the most from your time with us.

Whatever your reason for volunteering, this is your chance to make a real difference to the lives of other people. You can read about volunteering opportunities at

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/support-us/volunteering

For more information, please contact Michelle Turnbull by: telephone on 01670 522008 or by e mail: michelleturnbull@citizensadvicenorthumberland.org.uk

"That Was Quaker Week, That Was!"

— Michael Long reports

Stocksfield Quakers came together in early October to celebrate national Quaker Week 2017 at their New Ridley Road Branch End Meeting House. The aim was to shine a light on what they do as a Quaker community within the village and how they can help people find out more about Quaker beliefs and Quaker worship.

The Quakers, or Friends as they call themselves, opened their Meeting House through the week from 10.00am to 4.00pm and offered tea, biscuits and cake to visitors who called. Several Friends were available to speak to visitors, guide them through the Meeting House and introduce them to the "Quaker Way". Others offered an added attraction of talking informally to visitors on a range of Quaker-related interests.

This included hearing Michael Richardson of Wheelbirks Farm and Ice Cream Parlour tell the story of his family's 300 years as Quakers in Great Ayton, Newcastle upon Tyne and Stocksfield. Michael produced an enormous and up-to date family tree dating back to 1600 and many other family records and photographs. His story was also told in the "Hexham Courant" published a few days before Quaker Week. Michael's relatives include Robert Spence Watson, Lewis Fry Richardson, the pioneer meteorologist and the eminent actor Sir Ralph Richardson.

One of the organisers of the highly regarded and successful "Hexham Debates", Caroline Westgate, mounted an exhibition in the entrance hall. It told the story of the Quaker Peace Testimony since its first declaration to Charles II in 1660, through opposition to conscription in two World Wars, to the present day challenges of increasing militarism and witnessing against devastating modern weaponry such as Trident and the deployment of armed drones.

From Newcastle Meeting, Faith Goodfellow was on hand to talk about Northumbria Quakers making a commitment to Tyne & Wear Citizens, a social activist organisation and a chapter of Citizens UK. The Quakers are now members of Tyne & Wear Citizens and are influencing its policy and actions through Northumbria Conflict Resolution Network, part of Northumbria Quakers.

Ruth Thompson, a sculptor in willow, has featured recently in several editions of the "Hexham Courant" and its community magazines. She spoke of her Quaker faith whilst leading Friends and visitors in some basic and easily mastered techniques of

creating shapes and objects with a few twists of the pliable willow. Tim Thompson, Ruth's husband, is also much gifted in craft work and has almost single handedly remodelled the interior of Stocksfield Quaker Meeting House to its current comfortable, warm and inviting atmosphere.

The final day saw three Quakers sit down to speak about their faith journeys, their experience of finding Quakers and their life as Quakers today. The conversation engaged other Quakers that day and led to a deep and moving, low-key and worshipful gathering which has remained with those Friends. So, did the plans for Quaker Week work as hoped for by Stocksfield Quakers? Well they sort of did. But perhaps in an unexpected way.

This was the first time the Meeting had tried to have a full week of welcome for visitors. And visitors did come through the week to share in the set-piece conversations. But not in any great numbers. Even though cakes, scones and biscuits were at the ready in the kitchen. And visitors were made very welcome, provided with leaflets and, we hope, inspiration by learning about the Quaker story over its 365 years.

The week was planned as Quaker outreach. And we enjoyed the company of our fourteen visitors. But what also happened was Quaker in-reach. That is, we were able to have time together in twos, threes, fours and more. And to talk to each other about ourselves in a way that is less easy at Sunday's Meeting for Worship. We got to know each other in the Spirit. A much valued Quaker experience. As a lay community without church, liturgy or clergy, Quakers rely on each other and being Quaker, doing Quaker. And this is at its best when we know each other as friends as well as Friends.

Our small Quaker Meeting in Stocksfield is already looking forward to **Quaker Week 2018** and planning how we can once again engage people in Stocksfield with the Quaker messages of peace, simplicity and sustainability, equality and justice, truth and integrity. And sharing our Quaker belief of that of God in everyone.

**Stocksfield Quaker Meeting House,
Branch End, Stocksfield, NE43 7NA**

**Sunday Meeting at 11.00 am Children's
meeting 2nd and 4th Sundays**

**Clerk, Caroline Westgate
caroline@quatrebbras.co.uk**

northumbriaquakers.org.uk/stocksfield/

For an Information Pack about Quakers:

**www.quaker.org.uk or
enquiries@quaker.org.uk**

Dementia Friendly Stocksfield

A small steering group has organised four Dementia Friends talks in Stocksfield in the past year. These are part of Alzheimer's Society's plans to raise awareness of the needs of those with dementia and to help them continue to do the things they want to do for as long as possible. Countrywide, two million people have signed up to be a Dementia Friend with a target of 4 million by 2020. By registering to become a Dementia Friendly Community we hope that organisations, societies, services, businesses and churches will become more aware of the small changes they can introduce to make life easier for those with dementia. SICA, the Tuesday Club, the churches, Boots pharmacy, Branch End Surgery, the Tennis Club and CK Design hairdresser are already considering what they can do and the Golf Club and Cricket Club have hosted meetings, which were well attended. As over 80 people have now attended the talks, it is obvious that this cause is close to people's hearts.

We are currently working on producing a leaflet informing people of all the coffee mornings available each week, where people can come along and chat and socialise-very important for everyone's mental health.

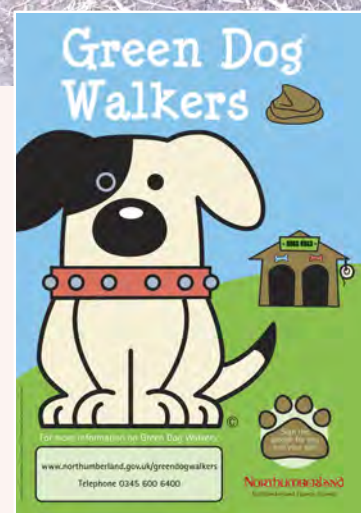
If you would like to know more or want your organisation to join the project please contact e.leeson@talktalk.net or look up dementia friends on the web. www.dementiafriends.org.uk

It's bin going to happen

The Parish Council has reviewed its existing stock of waste bins, prompted by capacity issues with a number of dog bins. Residents may have seen wrapped dog waste adorning the tops of the bins and the surrounding ground (see photo). Wrapped dog waste can be deposited in general waste bins and, in line with Northumberland County Council's (NCC) policy, over the winter months every dog waste bin will be removed and replaced with a larger general waste bin. An exception is where a general waste bin is already very close to a dog bin and in those circumstances the dog waste bin will not be replaced. If you see a bin that is overflowing and needs emptying, please telephone NCC (who empty bins for the Parish Council) on 0345 600 6400 or report it online. Please don't pile up rubbish on top of or around full bins!

NCC has adopted a 'Green Dog Walker Initiative' which relies on volunteers for its delivery and uses a non-confrontational 'keep it friendly' approach to encourage responsible dog ownership. Green Dog Walkers talk to other dog walkers, offer free poop bags, distribute leaflets and encourage other dog walkers to sign up to the green dog walker pledge.

For more information go online at: <http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Protection/Animals.aspx#thegreengogwalkers-responsible-dog-ownership>



NO COLD CALLING!

- We do not buy goods or services at the door.
- Uninvited callers are not welcome.
- Callers who persist will be reported to the police.
- Please respect my wishes and leave.



Business Approval Register.com

Need Help with COLD CALLERS?

If you have unwanted visitors who, amongst other things, may try to sell you items or claim that your house needs building work, you don't need to let them in. Remember it is your house and you decide who you answer the door to. Always ask for identification if someone claims to be from a public organisation or a utility service and don't open the door if you have any doubts.

Please cut out and display on the window at your front door.

Let's put things into perspective – we live in a relatively safe village where crime is unusual but don't be complacent and don't give anyone an opportunity to make you a victim.

FREE SMOKE ALARMS!

Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service provide free home fire safety checks and smoke alarms to members of the public who live in Northumberland.

Protect yourself from the devastating effects of a fire by applying for your home fire safety check and smoke alarms by calling Prudhoe Fire Station on Monday evenings between 6.30 and 9pm for more information.

Prudhoe Fire Station: 01661 834598

Alternatively, phone **Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service** anytime on the following number: **0800 731 1351**

A695 Update from County Cllr Dale

As you will be aware from the meetings I had earlier this year at the school and the minutes from the Parish Council meetings the County Council is to introduce a 20 mph speed limit on the A695 around the school area. Following the accident at the Ford Rise bend many residents have asked if I could give a brief report on how the road safety plans are developing.

At the present time the County Council is collating all traffic incidents in the area between the Ford Rise bend and the west of the school to build up evidence based on the real issues in that area. They will also be erecting a traffic monitoring video camera for a short period of time to monitor the traffic in that area. I am aware of everyone's concerns and I am working hard to ensure that every single issue is addressed and included in the project.

The project will then be designed taking into account all the evidence gathered including police statistics and all road safety options will be considered for further discussion. A drop in event for all the residents of Stocksfield will take place early in the new year so that you can view the road safety measures to be considered and discuss any issues you may have with officers from County Council Highways team.

Please do contact me if you would like any further information by e.mailing me at Anne.Dale@Northumberland.gov.uk

New Priest announced

The Bishop of Newcastle is delighted to announce that the Revd Pat Moran has been



appointed to be the priest in charge of the Benefice of Bywell (which includes Stocksfield) and Mickley. Pat is currently an assistant curate at St Mary's Monkseaton and also works with both the Open University and at Newcastle University as a linguist. Pat is married to Julio and they both look forward very much to joining our community. Pat will be licensed by the Bishop on Monday 8 January at 7.30pm in St Peter's Church Bywell.

The appointment of a priest in charge signals that the Bishop is actively considering long-term reorganisation of responsibilities in an area, which for legal reasons is easier to achieve when there is a priest in charge. When a vicar is appointed to a post, the person appointed has the right to stay in that post until he or she resigns or retires. This was the universal way it used to be and many of us remember vicars staying in a parish for several years. The terms and conditions of a priest in charge are such that it is easier for their role description to be changed.

So to all intents and purposes, nobody will notice any difference! However, whilst having the same pastoral and leadership responsibilities as Revd Bill Rigby had as vicar, Pat has been appointed with everyone knowing that future reorganisation is expected. She will bring her own gifts and experiences to her time in the village and we are delighted that she will become part of the Stocksfield family.

Would you like to join us?

If you are new to the village, looking to make new friends, meet up with old ones or would just like some company, why don't you try one of the following activities to be found here in Stocksfield?

Stocksfield Community Centre:

Mount View Terrace

Every Tuesday is the Tuesday Club from **10am-2pm** with a wide variety of activities and lunch (if you book it - tel 844040 or 844863)

Methodist Church: Mount View Terrace

Mondays weekly **10.30-12.30**

Drop in for coffee and a chat.

Craft Club 1-3pm fortnightly

Wednesdays (Weeks 1,3,5) **Coffee Club 10-noon**, often with a speaker.

Fridays (last in the month) **7.00pm**

Film Night

Saturdays (1st in the month)

Charity Coffee Morning 10-noon.

St John's Church: Meadowfield Road

Wednesdays (Weeks 1 and 2)

Coffee Morning 10.30-noon

Baptist Church: Main Road

Thursdays (Weeks 2,4) noon onwards

Lunch Club – ring Sheena to book a lunch. (01661 843162)

Useful websites

www.stocksfieldmethodists.org.uk

www.bmscofe.org.uk

(Church of England)

www.stocksfieldbaptistchurch.net

www.stocksfieldca.org.uk

If you need a lift or someone to keep you company ring 844040 or 843081 to find out more.



STOCKSFIELD JUNIOR PLAYERS PRESENT:

A JOURNEY TO MAGICAL LANDS

January 26th and 27th 2018

At Stocksfield Community Centre

Starting at 6:00pm

Featuring "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" and "Alice in Wonderland"

Tickets: £6 adult / £3 children

Tickets available from

Joy - 01661 682547

Karen - 01661 844119

AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT ON YOUR DOORSTEP!

citizens advice

Latest information and opening times:

Northumberland Adviceline Monday to Friday **9.00am to 4.30pm** 03444 111 444

Pre-booked appointments only at **The Spetchells Centre, Prudhoe.**

Hexham Wednesday and Friday drop in or appointments **9.30am to 3.30pm.**

Debt advice **Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm** 01670 339960 or text 'debt' to 81400 for a call back within 2 working days.

STOP - Check your front and back doors are locked.

LOOK - Use your window or door viewer.

IF IN DOUBT - KEEP THEM OUT

To report a cold caller contact
Citizens Advice on 0345 404 0506 or the Police on 101

In an emergency always call 999

Need help finding a business you can trust? Call 0333 920 2128 or visit www.businessapprovalregister.com

Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

Working together to help you find quality local businesses

TRADING STANDARDS APPROVED
Business Approval Register.com



Stocksfield Festival 2017

Despite the threat of heavy showers, and several duly arrived during the afternoon, some 400 - 500 people attended this year's Stocksfield Festival. The entertainments marquee was well-filled all afternoon following the official opening at 12 noon by BBC Look North's Carol Malia. The variety and quality of the musical entertainment was again outstanding – and all presided over so very professionally by Chris Pentney.

It was good to see so many families there this year with children enjoying the attractions - climbing wall, archery, bouncy slide, tea cup ride, fire engine etc - and the veteran cars, popular with older visitors. The food vendors seemed to be doing a brisk business and WI teas again proved very popular - perhaps because it was possible to take a break and sit down at a table - and the offerings inside the vendors' marquee attracted lots of interest particularly during heavy showers!

So the Festival Committee's efforts to produce a wide variety of attractions were very successful though the Committee may have to consider some changes ready for the next Festival. For example some of the less supported activities of the Festival which are no longer attracting much interest may well not appear in 2019. At particular risk of 'disappearing' will be some, or perhaps all, of the competitions. If this were to happen it would create an opportunity to put on something else.



The Festival Committee is grateful to Carol Malia for coming along again (Carol opened the 2013 Festival); to Thompsons of Prudhoe for re-surfacing the entrance to the sports fields and the car park field; to Chris Pentney and all the musicians who freely provided such outstanding entertainment and the many volunteers who helped on the day. Finally the present Festival Committee would love to hear from anyone who would like to be involved in the next Festival.

Stocksfield Plants and Gardens Society

Meetings are at 7.30pm in Stocksfield Community Centre

Tuesday 16 January 2018

Trevor Jones

'The Alnwick Poison Garden'

Trevor, the Head Gardener at Alnwick Garden, will be coming to talk about the poison garden which was created in February 2005. He will be describing how it features intoxicating and poisonous plants and has a mission to provide drug education.

Tuesday 20 February

Gary McDermott

'Plants for Winter Interest'

Gary McDermott, will be making a return visit from Harperley Hall nurseries, just outside Durham. Harperley Hall is an award winning specialist plant Nursery, which sells a wide range of rare and specialist specimen plants to both the public and wholesale. Gary will be bringing spring potted bulbs and plants.

Saturday 3rd March

Matthew Biggs

Inter-Society Garden lecture

The annual Inter-Society Garden lecture will be held in Corbridge Middle School at 2.30 pm. It will be given by Matthew Biggs, who is best known for his appearances on the long running BBC Radio 4 programme Gardeners' Question Time and has been a professional gardener for over 20 years. The talk is entitled 'Lessons from Great Gardeners'. Tickets price £7, including refreshments.

Tuesday 21st March

Alistair Baldwin

'The Design and Planting of Wynyard Hall Rose Garden'

Alistair is an award winning garden designer, based in North Yorkshire. He was commissioned in 2005 to create the new rose garden at Wynyard Hall in its restored wall garden which has 3000 roses.

Tuesday 15th May

Martin Fish

'Gardening on the Menu'

Martin has over 35 years experience of horticulture. He and his wife, Gill, will be providing a joint talk, which covers fruit and veg growing and also what to do with your harvest, called 'Gardening on the Menu'. It will look at about 12 different veg/fruit with lots of hints and tips for growing and cooking, and they will provide 3 tastings at the end of the talk with recipe sheets.

Stocksfield Retired Men's Association

Meets at 10.30am at Stocksfield Baptist Church. For more information contact

David Guy 01661 843390

(† indicates ladies' days).

18 Jan **Ancient Medical language & Practice**
Prof. Peter Jones

1 Feb **Are your fillings killing you?**
Mr. John McCabe

15 Feb **SS Goolistan**
Mr. John Patterson

1 Mar † **Past, Present and Future of Beamish**
Mr. Julian Harrop

15 Mar **Hen Harrier Project**
Aimee Nicholson

5 April **Blood Bikes Northumberland**
Mr. Nigel Barlow

19 April **Peter Sellers: Family, Films and Fortune**
Prof. Neville Harris

3 May **To be confirmed**
Mr. Malcolm Smith

17 May Acoustic Music and Musicians
Steve and Carol Robson

7 June **Bee Talk**
Rev. Tom Jamieson

Exercise to Music with Mary Huggin

Stocksfield Community Centre

For more information 01661 842346

Mondays 6.30 - 7.45pm
Low Impact Aerobics /Body Toning

Tuesdays 6.00 - 7.00pm
Step Aerobics

Thursdays 6.45 - 7.45pm
Pilates using Stability Balls

Fridays 9.30 - 10.30am
Low Impact Aerobics/Legs, Bums & Tums

NE43 Deliveries

The Parish Council is grateful to members of the various churches in the village for delivering the December edition, and to the one or two of the regulars who still do the outlying areas. As always, if you have an item of interest that you would like to see in print, please contact the Clerk.

News from Stocksfield Golf Club

Widely acknowledged as one of the most scenic courses in Northumberland, your local club is always happy to welcome visitors or new members. Our new catering manager would love you to pop in for a snack, lunch or just a coffee.

This year, we have introduced several new starters through the 'Get into Golf' initiative and this will run again in the Spring, when 5 lessons cost only £25. For those who already play, full membership from now until March 31st 2019 is only £495, while Flexible membership (Monday-Friday) is £378. There's never been a better time to join the club that's on your doorstep!

If you fancy a preview, why not come to the monthly quiz night – always a good evening with lots of friendly banter! Bring a team of four or more; last Sunday of the month starting at 8pm.

Full details available from any member or by calling the club 01661 843041.

Quaker Meeting for Worship will be held in the Quaker Meeting House, Branch End, NE43 7NA at 11.00am - 12.00noon on Sunday 24th December.

No Meeting will be held on Christmas Day.

Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council

The Parish Council meets in the Community Centre at 7.30pm. The agenda and minutes of the meetings are posted on the notice boards and on the website (www.stocksfieldpc.org.uk).

Next Parish Council Meetings in 2018:

Monday 8th January

Monday 5th February

Monday 5th March

Monday 9th April

Members of the public are welcome to attend any meeting of the Parish Council. Residents always have the opportunity to raise issues of concern during a public participation section at the start of the meeting.

Contact the Parish Council at:

Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council,
at Stocksfield Community Centre,
Mount View Terrace, Stocksfield
NE43 7HL. Telephone: 01661 844667
email: clerk@stocksfieldpc.org.uk
Website: www.stocksfieldpc.org.uk

www.stocksfieldpc.org.uk