

# NE43 News

The Newsletter for Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council

[www.stocksfield.org](http://www.stocksfield.org)

Issue 21 - Winter 2006



## Branch End Play Area Regeneration

**Can you help us provide a recreation facility for all residents of Broomley & Stocksfield to use and enjoy.**

On 21<sup>st</sup> October, the new toddler area at Branch End was officially opened. Thanks are due to Anne Davison and her Regeneration Group. Without their sterling efforts over the past months, this project would not have been completed. Thanks are also due to all those funders and individuals who have contributed to the £50,000 required to achieve this new play area. Photos of the new toddler area are included throughout this issue.

This super new Toddler Area is Phase I of the redevelopment of Branch End Play Area, and we now need to look at providing exciting equipment for slightly older children, 8-14 years old, but this will cost in the region of £50,000.

- **Are you a Stocksfield parent/grand parent/resident?**
- **Do you have children in the 8-14 age group?**
- **Could you help the Regeneration Group fund raise and apply for grants?**

The sooner we raise the money, the sooner more up-to-date equipment and facilities for older children can be purchased and installed.

In addition to the new equipment, the Parish Council will be looking into the possibility of providing an additional entrance to the Play Area, the costs of which will be outside the regeneration project. Also planned is a Sensory Garden and again the costs of this will be outside the regeneration project.

If you can help with fund raising or would be interested in joining the Regeneration Group or the Sensory Garden Group and help with the planning and fund raising for the second phase of the renewal of this popular play area, please don't wait to be asked. contact the Clerk to the Parish Council 01661 843114 in the first instance.

### Parking outside Branch End Play Area

At the recent Parish Council meeting, concern was expressed for the safety of children leaving the Play Area. It was reported that cars were being parked on the pavement adjacent to the traffic island and the play area gate blocking the access to the Play Area and posing a safety hazard to both pedestrians walking past the play area and children leaving the area.

**When visiting the Play Area please do not park on the pavement near the gate.**

With best wishes for a very  
Happy Christmas and a Peaceful  
and Prosperous year in 2007 from  
Broomley & Stocksfield Parish  
Council

Are you interested in influencing what goes on in our Parish?  
Could you be a Parish Councillor?  
Have you time to give for the benefit of the Community?

See page 2 for further information



### Stocksfield's Scout Post celebrates its 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Following the positive response last year, **Scout Post** is again available to deliver your local Christmas cards to addresses within the NE43 area only - from 6<sup>th</sup> December. Last collection 5 p.m. 18<sup>th</sup> December. The Scouts are asking for a donation (minimum 10p) for each card posted and would like to acknowledge with gratitude, the help of the two **Post Offices** who have generously agreed to accept a Post Box. The Scouts hope you will be pleased with the service they are offering and equally pleased to support the young people as they endeavour to raise funds for their new Scout Hut.

If there are any queries, please phone Philippa Harpin, Stocksfield 842 302

### Website News

[www.stocksfield.org](http://www.stocksfield.org)

If you would like items about your organisation included in our website please contact the Webmaster (see the website for contact details). If you do not tell us what is going on, we cannot include anything about you - sadly we are not clairvoyant! So do contact us.

### Healthy Walks

- new day

The Saturday Healthy Walk has been replaced by a walk on **Mondays**. Meet at the Station Car Park at 10.00 a.m. Coffee will be available at the Methodist Church between 11 and noon -you don't have to have done the walk, so do pop in for coffee.

### Kate's Plain

At its recent meeting the Parish Council was disappointed that once again it was necessary to spend money repairing the fence at Kate's Plain. This is the third time that this fence has been repaired since it was installed in 2004.

# NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS WANTED FROM MAY 2007

**Would you like to be a Parish Councillor?  
Are you interested in influencing what goes on in our Parish?  
Have you time to give for the benefit of the Community?**

It seems a long way ahead, but in May 2007 the entire Parish Council will come to the end of its term of office, and several of the current Councillors will not be standing for re-election. Some of these councillors have served the Parish for very many years and feel that it is time to move on. Their colleagues and the residents of Stocksfield are very grateful for the time and effort that they have put into the role.

### So how does this affect you?

It means that you need to find some new councillors! In the interests of democracy, it would be good to have an actual election, so more than 12 nominations would be welcome. Would YOU help your community in this way? Can you suggest someone who would, with a bit of encouragement?

### What does a Parish Councillor do?

The Parish Council meets each month except August, on a Monday evening; we also have several advisory groups made up of councillors and residents with particular interests, and they meet in between the monthly meetings.

In the current year, these groups are responsible for:

- **Footpaths & Environment:** the maintenance of footpaths (not street pavements) and gardens, verges, planted areas etc; consideration of wider environmental issues.
- **Leisure Facilities:** management and maintenance of the Sportsfields, and policy for other leisure facilities.
- **Play Facilities:** management and maintenance of Branch End and Guessburn (Kate's Plain) Play Areas
- **Planning & Highways:** making recommendations on planning applications, monitoring the condition of highways and pavements, and commenting on various consultative documents issued by the planning authorities

Councillors are also involved with the production of a new Parish Plan, a new walks leaflet, and Information Card; the development of a new footpath on the South Bank of the River; the regeneration of Branch End Play Area (phase 2) and the development of a Sensory Garden at Branch End Play Area; the regeneration of the Multi Use Games Area, and the Stocksfield in Bloom Project.

### How much time does being a Parish Councillor take?

Two or three meetings a month, plus some paperwork, and phone calls from people who want your help! As a councillor takes on more responsibility, leading one of the advisory groups for example, obviously this time increases.

### Do I have to live in the Parish? How old do I have to be?

Parish Councillors have to live within 3 miles of the Parish. The minimum age is 21.

### What Next?

If you are at all interested, do come to a Council Meeting during the next few months to see what goes on and what we are currently involved in. Talk to one of the Councillors about what they do, or ask the Clerk for further information. If the Clerk knows by the middle of March that you have decided to put yourself forward as a Parish Councillor, she will ensure that you receive the necessary paperwork, which comes from the Returning Officer at Tynedale Council when the election is announced. Alternatively, anyone can of course respond to the official notice of election which will appear in the Hexham Courant and be displayed on Notice Boards in the Parish.

### Litter and Fly Tipping

Recently concerns have been raised about the amount of litter in our hedgerows. There are also concerns about Fly Tipping. Of particular concern are the verges between New Ridley and Apperley Dene, the roads around Broomley and the A695. If you are out walking please do not drop litter, there are plenty of litter bins about the parish. Fly Tipping can be reported to Tynedale Council (01434 652200) who will arrange for the offending items to be removed.

### Contact details for Scouts & Beavers

**Scout Leader** is  
Graham Patton  
01661 843843  
**Beaver Leader** is  
Paddy Gascoigne  
01661 843405

### YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman** Julia Sayce  
01661 843523

**Vice Chairman** Ian Hall  
01661 843049

### Councillors

Jodie Barwick-Bell  
01661 844872

Malcolm Chainey  
01661 842956

Anne Davison  
01661 843400

Eileen Drew  
01661 842159

Marcia Hedley  
01661 842321

Darren Levitt

Melna Martin  
01661 844040

Lorraine Wade  
01661 842457

Tracy Warhurst-Walker  
01661 844066

### District Councillors

Anne Dale  
01434 673326

Mike Collins  
01661 842234

Eileen Drew  
01661 842159

### County Councillor

Ray Thompson  
01661 843332



### Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council

The Parish Council meets on the first Monday of the month in the Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the public are always welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. Public Participation is always included on the agenda.

You can contact the Clerk, Margaret Williams, Tuesday and Fridays on 01661 843114.

The next meeting of the Council will be:

**8th Jan 2007**



# Parish Plan

## Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Plan 2006—2016

As reported in the last issue of NE43 News the work on the Parish Plan slowed down during the summer, partly due to holidays and partly due to the ill-health of one of the councillors leading the project.



**Housing and  
Property  
Work  
Highways  
Education  
Footpaths  
Environment  
Transport  
Leisure  
Sport  
Play  
Health**

The full working group has yet to meet, but at the time of writing we can report that plans for a circular walk along the south bank of the river are being developed and talks are being held with the land owners, tenant farmers and the County Council to progress this project, which has now become a project outside the Parish Plan remit. Suggestions are also being considered to develop a nature reserve/conservation area around the new ponds at Merryshields and again discussions with interested parties are underway. If you would like to be involved with these projects, do contact the Clerk to the Parish Council in the first instance.

Members of the Parish Plan Group have met with representative students from Prudhoe Community High School and together will formulate a questionnaire to attempt to identify the needs and aspirations of the young people of our Parish.

Similarly our older residents have been asked for their views on the Parish and what we need to be looking at in the future.

It is hoped that by the time you read this the Parish Plan Working Group will have met again to consider the results of their initial enquiries and to take the project forward in order that we may draw up a document which the Parish Council will be able to work with in future years.

If you would like to be involved with the drawing up of the Parish Plan, or if you have views which you would like to air, please do not wait to be asked. Contact the Clerk to the Parish Council in the first instance and she will be happy to put you in touch with the Group.

### Broomley Woods Footpaths

A representative of Allendale Estates met with the Footpaths Group of the Parish Council recently. The Group was advised that the Estate was aware of the use of a site near the railway bridge adjacent to the Broomley Road by cyclists. There had been some vandalism elsewhere in the woods and fires had been seen. Concern was also expressed about dogs at times being out of control and leaving the boundaries of the community woodland to the danger of sheep and other livestock. The Group was also advised of the Estate's concern that the unauthorised felling of trees had left branches and tree trunks impeding the footpaths. The representative warned that the Estate is to start felling in parts of the woods in the next few months.

### Traffic Speed on the A695

At the recent Parish Council meeting, it was reported that following a meeting between Parish Councillors and a County Council officer, Northumbria Police had carried out a survey of the speed of traffic travelling past Broomley School. Northumbria Police have advised that the results of the survey indicate that "the camera unit deploy within specific criteria based upon the percentage of vehicles speeding and the results show that 85% of the vehicles travelling this route are doing 33 mph or under".

### Anne Davison

Councillor Anne Davison has advised the Parish Council that due to pressure of work she is resigning from the Council in December. Anne joined the Parish Council in May 2002 and since that time has worked tirelessly to bring our two play areas up to 21<sup>st</sup> century standards. Without her efforts, drive and enthusiasm, the new toddler equipment at Branch End Play Area in particular would not have been installed. Many people will be unaware that Anne has been involved with the regeneration of Branch End Play Area several times and the equipment that was installed there many years ago was done so as a result of her contribution to that project. The Parish Council will miss Anne's dedication and enthusiasm and takes this opportunity to thank her for her contribution over the past four years, and to wish her well in the future.

It has been agreed to co-opt a new parish councillor for the remainder of the term. The Council is now actively seeking new candidates for the next session. Please see a separate article on the forth-coming council elections on page 2

### Message from Northumbria Police

#### DELIVERY SERVICE SCAM

A RECENT SCAM HAS OCCURRED IN BERWICK WHERE A CARD HAS BEEN PUT THROUGH HOUSEHOLDER'S DOOR FROM A COMPANY CALLED

PDS (PARCEL DELIVERY SERVICE)

THE CARD SUGGESTS THAT THE COMPANY COULD NOT DELIVER A PARCEL AND THAT THE OCCUPIER SHOULD RING 0906 6611911 (A PREMIUM RATE NUMBER). IF YOU RING THIS NUMBER AND HEAR A RECORDED MESSAGE YOUR CALL HAS COST YOU £15.00.

THIS SCAM ORIGINATES IN BELIZE. IF YOU DO RECEIVE SUCH A CARD YOU SHOULD IGNORE IT AND RING ROYAL MAIL FRAUD ON 0207 239 6655 OR CONTACT ICSTIS (PREMIUM RATE SERVICE REGULATOR) AT [www.icstis.org.uk](http://www.icstis.org.uk)

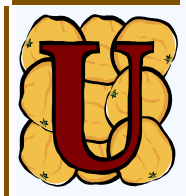


The Parish Council is very grateful to Allendale Estates for the provision of Christmas Trees. We are also grateful to Broomley School and the Doctor Syntax for their support in the lighting of these trees. We are sure that they are much appreciated by residents.



## Multi-Use Games Area, Stocksfield Sportsfields.

For the past few years, the Parish Council has been increasingly concerned about the condition and safety of the MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area [5-a-side pitch]) at the Sportsfield. This facility is now more than 20 years old and badly in need of improvement.



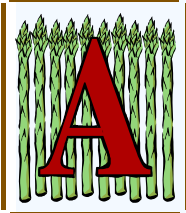
The Parish Council and users of the Sportsfield have, together, formed the MUGA Regeneration Group which has the aim of providing a new pitch with a synthetic turf games area that can be used by several sports both as a training facility and a pitch. Such a facility will serve the residents of Stocksfield for many years to come BUT the cost will be over £148,000. In order to attract grants from major funders the Regeneration Group has to provide evidence that it has the support of the whole community, and to demonstrate this support the Community needs to raise a share of the costs. Anything that you as individuals can do to help would be much appreciated.



Firstly however to kick the fund raising drive off the Regeneration Group is organising a **RUN-RAFFLE**.

### Do you need to work off all that Turkey, Christmas Pudding and those Mince Pies!?

The MUGA Regeneration Group is inviting everyone to take part in the **MUGA RUN-RAFFLE** on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.



#### How does it work?

There will be three different running courses

**The Toddle/Doddle    The Family Relay    The "FUN" run –**  
and you can bring the kids to push (them and you) round or even join in!

**There will also be organised walks – for those without running shoes.**

There will be an entry charge (and you can get your friends and family to sponsor you – sponsorship forms are available). Each entrant will be allocated a raffle number which will be entered in the draw for a host of excellent prizes (hence the 'run-raffle') to be drawn in the evening at the Cricket Club (at 8 p.m.). Entry forms are available from the Cricket Club and all the local shops (or e-mail Chris Catnach (chris.catnach@ecb.co.uk) or telephone the Parish Clerk)

Even if you feel that you cannot run we still need other help. Sponsors, prizes, marshals and helpers are all required. So if you would like to spend a fun morning watching others work off their energy and Christmas dinners, or could donate a raffle prize, do contact Chris Catnach

### Are you arranging a Jumble Sale? What do you do with what is left at the end?

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Stocksfield Scout Group  
is seeking to provide a service to the community  
& at the same time to raise funds for the new Scout Hut.**

At the end of your jumble sale, to avoid the need to take the unsold items to the local tip, the Scouts will collect selected goods if they are bagged & left at a pre-arranged point with easy car access – & we will supply bags for this purpose.

It is important that *only* the following goods are included:

- clothes including ties & belts;
- shoes (but not roller blades);
- handbags;
- household linen i.e. towels, tablecloths & tea towels;
- soft furnishings i.e. curtains, bedspreads & cushion covers;
- bedding including blankets, sheets, pillow cases & pillows + duvets (but not mattresses)
- soft toys.

We are *not able to accept:*

- bric-a-brac;
- books;
- children's games or toys (except soft toys).

**If you would like us to arrange collection, please contact  
Philippa Harpin before the day of your jumble sale  
Tel: 01661 842 302. e-mail: harpin@talktalk.net**

**Blood Donor Sessions  
Next Session Community Centre 16th February  
14.30—19.00**



## NE43 News

We hope that you have found NE43 News of interest. The views of contributors to NE43 News are not necessarily the view of the Parish Council. Please let us have your comments and contributions for future issues.

**Larger print versions of this newsletter  
are available from the Clerk on request**

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