



# NE43 News

The Newsletter for Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council

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

Issue 25 - Christmas 2007

## Branch End Play Area - Phase two nearly ready



**Construction work is now nearing completion** on the second phase of the regeneration of the Branch End Play Area. Thanks to funding from the Big Lottery, and the hard work put in by the Branch End Play Area regeneration group, we will soon have a new play area for 8-16 year olds.

A massive £50,000 was received from the Big Lottery Fund, part of the National Lottery, and additional funding came from Northumberland County Council, Waitrose Supermarket and Tynedale Council, who also helped with the application for Big Lottery funding. The remainder of the money came from generous donations and from fundraising events.

The Grand Opening of the new play equipment will take place in early January, possibly on Saturday 5th, but the exact date, when known, will be announced on the website, and in the Hexham Courant. The Parish Council hopes that the newly installed equipment will be enjoyed and looked after by all.

The next stage of the regeneration of the play area, is the construction of the new access ramp and footpaths. Once that is complete the Sensory Garden will be made and by early summer 2008 the regeneration of Branch End Play Area will be complete.

Once again we extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone who has been involved in or made a contribution to this enormous project.

## Stocksfield Scout Post

Last year, the Stocksfield Scout Post proved once again to be very popular. Now in its sixth year, Scout Post is again available to deliver your local Christmas cards, to addresses within the NE43 area only, from 3th December. Last collection is at 5 pm on 18th December.

The Scouts are asking for a donation, minimum 12p, for each card posted and would like to thank the two **Stocksfield Post Offices** who have generously agreed to accept a Post Box.

When posting, if you are a tax payer, please complete the green envelopes, the Scouts get an additional 28p for every pound donated. All profits go to the Scout Hut rebuilding fund. Any queries please to Philippa Harpin, 01661 842302.



## Making the walk to school safer

**The Parish Council** is working to make the walk to school safer and more pleasant for children and parents.

We have written to several haulage companies, asking them to consider implementing measures to reduce the risk of accidents. This includes routing vehicles away from Stocksfield, and avoiding driving through the village at the start and end of the school day.

The Parish Council is considering introducing two **Vehicle Activated Calming Signs**, the flashing signs triggered by cars that are exceeding the speed limit. We have identified locations where these signs will have maximum effect, and have budgeted for these signs. If you wish to comment on this proposal, please contact the clerk, or any Parish Councillor.

Plans for a new route for heavy vehicles from Prudhoe to the A69 will not now be implemented for at least twenty years.



With best wishes for a very  
Happy Christmas and a peaceful  
and prosperous year in 2008, from  
Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council.



# Multi Use Games Area

## Football Foundation

As you may be aware by now the Football Foundation have made a grant of £73,000 towards the cost of the improvements to the Multi Use Games Area. This is in addition to the £50,000 already granted by SITA. Great news! The old games area has been demolished, and work to construct the new games area has already started.

## Regeneration

Congratulations are due to the members of the Regeneration Group who have worked so hard to prepare the documentation which has resulted in the successful outcome of these bids.

## Training facility

This improved multi-use games area will provide a modern five-a-side football pitch and opportunities for various other games. It will be used as a training facility by our Football, Cricket and Rugby Clubs, and will also be available to Broomley First School.

**A modern  
five-a-side  
pitch**

## Bookings

Work is currently under way to set up the booking system for the new Games Area, which will be available for both one-off and block bookings. Details of the charges and conditions of use will be put on the website as soon as possible, and will also be available from the Parish Clerk.

## Car Parking

During construction it is likely that the car parking space at the Sportsfield will be much reduced. We hope it will not be necessary to remove the recycling skips from the site, but if this becomes unavoidable please remember the alternative facilities at the Co-op in Prudhoe, the Wellington in Riding Mill and of course the public amenity tips at West Wylam and Hexham.

## Launch

We look forward to announcing the grand launch of the new Multi-Use Games Area (**MUGA**) in early spring. Details will be on the website.

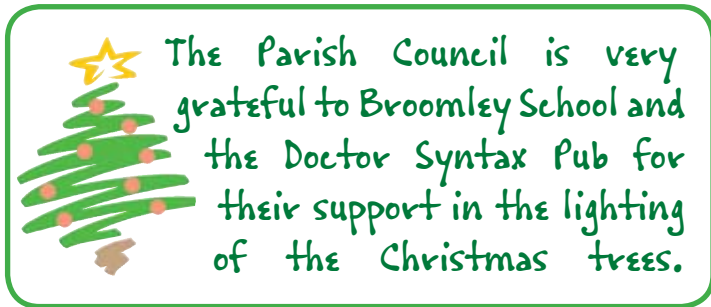
## - Let's go for a walk in Stocksfield -

This walk starts at Apperley Dene where ample car-parking facilities are available on the eastern side of the cross-roads. The first part of the walk is along the B6309 to Kipperlynn Farm. Join the footpath through a field gate east of the farm entrance. This path climbs steadily to the top of Apperley Bank and at this point it is well worth pausing to admire the surrounding countryside. From here there is a bird's eye view of Kipperlynn Farm and Apperley Dene with Castle Hill, site of a Roman fortlet, in the middle distance. The rest of the walk is downhill, finishing at the Lead Road. Turn left on the road to regain Apperley Dene. This is a splendid walk of about 2 miles and although some sections are rather steep it is well worth the effort. The above walk is taken from the first edition of the leaflet 'Let's go for a walk in Stocksfield'. A few copies of the original leaflet are still available, as are copies of the second edition. If you would like a copy or would like to know more about the work of the Footpaths Group, please get in touch with the Clerk.

## INFORMATION CARD

Unfortunately there are a couple of errors in the recently delivered Information Card. Our apologies to anyone who has been inconvenienced by these errors. The amendments, and any updates, will be included on the Stocksfield website.

**Prudhoe Fire Station . . . . . 01661 834598**  
**Rosina Brown Bridesmaids . 01661 844774**



### Local Government Reorganisation

The Parish Council has been consulted by the various authorities concerned with the re-organisation of local government and the creation of a new unitary authority for Northumberland, and is making representations, primarily about the parish's place in a 'Belonging Community'.

If you have any views on this matter which you would like the Parish Council to put forward on your behalf, please contact the Clerk, the Chairman or any Parish Councillor as a matter of urgency.

## Possible new footpaths along the south bank of the Tyne

The Parish Footpaths Group has recently agreed to extend its brief to include environmental issues and is now renamed as the Rights of Way & Environment Group. It has a major project on which to direct its efforts in the establishment of a new footpath along the south bank of the Tyne from Eltringham to Bywell Bridge. This will also include developing the ponds formed on the site of Merryshields Quarry as a conservation area.

Anyone who is interested in becoming involved with an environmental project in Stocksfield would be most welcome to join the 'Rights of Way & Environment Group' please contact the Parish Clerk or Norman Hooks, the Parish Councillor responsible for Environmental matters.

The Group or the Parish Council would very much welcome ideas for debate, suggestions for projects on matters involving environmental issues, development of footpaths etc. which you might like to put forward.



## Father Tom Emmett retires.

After twenty years service to Bywell St. Peter's Parish and St. George's, Mickley, Father Tom's last service here was on Sunday 25th November. He preached to a packed congregation and was later joined by many parishioners in St. John's Hall for a finger buffet and a farewell presentation, including the gift of a teak garden chair. Tom, and his wife Jennifer, are now looking forward to a long and happy retirement, but they aren't going far. They are swapping the Vicarage, for a house on Castlefields in Prudhoe.

## RECYCLING FACILITY

The wheelie bins at the recycling area at the sports-field, which have been provided for plastic bags etc, will soon be removed. This is because on too many occasions these are being used for inappropriate waste and for fly tipping.

As in other areas where there are re-cycling skips for glass, paper, etc. no additional bins for waste will be provided.

Despite the expectation that the non-urgent emergency number 101 service would be rolled out nationwide, funding is to be withdrawn from the successful scheme. The Northumbria area 101 service will be discontinued in February 2008.



## STOCKSFIELD BURN

Concern was raised at a recent meeting of the Rights of Way & Environment Group of the Parish Council regarding the tipping of garden waste onto the bank of Stocksfield Burn along the footpath behind Mount View Terrace and Guessburn.

The bank is very steep at some points and the garden waste is falling into the water. When the burn is in flood this waste will be carried away down stream. At other points the garden waste is encroaching on the newly created footpath. Residents are respectfully asked not to tip their garden waste onto the footpath or into the burn.



## Hanging baskets

Earlier this year the Parish Council purchased ten hanging baskets to supplement the twenty given us by Tynedale.

We have now collected in all the hanging baskets and replanted and distributed the ten we own. We are very grateful to those organisations who are continuing to look after hanging baskets through the winter. We are sure they are much appreciated.

Hopefully we will have more hanging baskets next summer to distribute around the village.

## Parish Council Contracts 2008-2011

The Parish Council is looking for individuals or organisations to submit tenders for the contracts for Parish Handyman and for grass cutting for a three year period, starting on 1st April 2008. Full details can be obtained from the Clerk. Tenders are needed by 15th February 2008.

## It's Yours!

The stocksfield.org website is there for your use. It contains plenty of information and news of what is happening in Stocksfield, and has contact details for local shops and services - try it!



# www.stocksfield.org

## Future Parish Council Meetings:

Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month in the Community Centre starting at 7.30 p.m.

Monday 7th January 2008    Monday 4th February 2008

Monday 3rd March 2008    Monday 7th April 2008

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on Monday 21st April. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend Parish Council meetings and Public Participation is always included on the agenda. The full Minutes of Parish Council Meetings are posted on the notice boards and on the website - [www.stocksfield.org](http://www.stocksfield.org).

## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:

Julia Sayce . . . . .01661 843523

Vice Chairman:

Ian Hall . . . . .01661 843049

Councillors:

Peter Barrass . . . . .07730 686944

Lizzie Clark . . . . .01661 844278

John Davison . . . . .01661 842470

Barbara Gravenor . . . . .01661 843864

Steve Gleadhill . . . . .01661 842531

Diane Hinchcliffe . . . . .01661 843991

Norman Hooks . . . . .01661 844863

Melna Martin . . . . .01661 844040

Dave Porter . . . . .01661 844855

Tracy Warhurst-Walker 01661 844066

District Councillors:

Colin Argent . . . . .01661 842284

Anne Dale . . . . .01434 673326

Eileen Drew . . . . .01661 842159

County Councillor:

Prof. Ray Thompson . .01661 843332

## 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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