

NE43 News



The Newsletter of Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council - Issue 40 - Festival 2011

www.stocksfield.org

Festival is back - Saturday 10th September 2011



Don't miss it! The Festival will once again offer musical entertainment by choirs, instrumental groups, and even a Ukulele band. Together with the traditional village show, scarecrow competitions, activities for all ages, stalls, magicians, sideshows galore and a wide variety of refreshments, everyone should find a good reason for celebrating life in Stocksfield.

We can only hope that the weather is as beautiful as it was in 2009! But in case not, we are providing a tent where you can simply sit and enjoy a chat with friends over lunch or tea

Many of you will have already bought a programme and also picked up a schedule of the Show classes; more details and any last minute changes are on the website. Do remember that the programme is

your admission ticket, and also has an individual lucky number with a chance of winning £50, so bring it on the day or at least keep it safe!

The Sportsfield will be open from 11.00 a.m., and the music starts at 11.30. The Show entries can be seen from 1.30 p.m., as they have to be judged and the winning entries labelled. Parking at the Sportsfield will be very limited, especially if the previous week's weather has been wet and the ground is soft, so please come on foot if possible.

The Festival concludes with a Ceilidh at Stocksfield Community Centre at 7.30 p.m., with our local band 'Border Crossing'. Tickets are available from the Centre, **01661 842346**, from 1st September at £8.00 each, children £5.

New Parish Office

From **Monday 5th September** the Clerk to the Parish Council will be established in the new Parish Office in the Community Centre. The new office has been created by dividing the Mary Clayton Room and the entrance is down the side of the Community Centre. The Clerk will be available most weekday mornings between 9.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.

The new contact details are:
Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council, at Stocksfield Community Centre, Mount View Terrace, Stocksfield, NE43 7HL.

01661 844667

admin@baspc.plus.com

Get winter flu protection

The local NHS is already planning the annual flu campaign to make sure that as many 'at risk' patients as possible are immunised and protected from what is a very nasty illness.



Dr Alan Maguire explains: "For most healthy people, getting flu is something you'll recover from after a few days in bed, plenty of rest, fluids and paracetamol and some TLC from your family. But for some 'at risk' groups such as older people, pregnant women and people with long term health conditions like asthma, diabetes and heart problems, getting flu can lead to serious complications and could even prove fatal in some cases."

Stocks of vaccines will be arriving at Branch End Surgery towards the end of September so if you fall into one of the 'at risk' categories please make sure you book your appointment or respond to your invitation. "If anyone has any questions about flu don't hesitate to contact the surgery where one of the team will be happy to explain why it's important if you are an 'at risk' patient to be immunised," continued Dr Maguire. "But please if you are not in an 'at risk' group, I urge you not to ask the surgery for a vaccination; if you want, you can usually get one from the larger pharmacies." The practice staff are under great pressure at this time of year.

Stocksfield Volunteers at Alnwick Royal Garden Party



Some of the volunteers and carers from Stocksfield who attended the Alnwick Garden Party in June held in the presence of The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh to acknowledge and celebrate the role of carers and volunteers in Northumberland.

Councillor Norman Hooks

Norman is resigning from the Parish Council in September in order to concentrate on his work with the Community Centre and the proposed Stocksfield Development Trust. Norman joined the Parish Council in May 2007 and since then has been closely involved with the Footpaths & Environment Group, the development of the Station Car Park, and certain aspects of planning. His contribution to the work of the Parish Council has been invaluable and he will be missed as a councillor. We wish him well for the future.



So we need a new Councillor!

With Norman's departure, we need to find a new Parish Councillor. The Parish Council works hard to ensure that Stocksfield remains a great place to live and work, and we need your help with that. If you are interested in taking on this exciting and rewarding task, please contact the Clerk to find out more. Call Margaret Williams on 01661 844667 or email admin@baspc.plus.com

Stocksfield Players present Annie - the Musical!



Stocksfield Players are looking forward to a totally new venture, when they present **Annie - the Musical** from Wednesday 23rd to Saturday 26th November at SCA. So many talented youngsters are eager to take part they have divided them into two separate casts - each performing on two different evenings. These young players - more than thirty of them - are not all local; some come from as far afield as Newcastle and Hexham. They will be busy rehearsing every Sunday afternoon from September, while the adults will rehearse mid-week. They would still welcome a few more men singers and helpers, either on stage or behind the scenes; whatever your age or gender, take the plunge and contact Joy on **01434 682547** or joy@pusey.entadsl.com. Ticket details will be available soon, but please mark the performance dates on your calendar now - and don't miss it!



Stocksfield River Watch Group won first prize in one of 6 categories of the LOVE Northumberland Awards. Their prize, £250 and 50 trees, was presented by the Duchess of Northumberland at an Awards Ceremony at Alnwick Gardens on 13th July. The prize money will go to the Tyne Rivers Trust, who run the River Watch scheme, to purchase additional equipment. The trees will be planted within the parish at sites yet to be identified. Congratulations to all those involved. Photo © Trevor Walker Photography.

New Collection days for waste and re-cycling bins

From Monday 12th September, the waste collection day for most of Stocksfield will change from Fridays to Wednesdays; some outlying properties may have their bins emptied on Tuesdays. All residents should have already received notification of the changes direct from the County Council.

You are asked to put your bins out by 7 a.m. on the collection day. These changes will help the County Council use less diesel and give them flexibility to work on Fridays to catch up in emergencies or maintain the vehicles. If you do not receive notification of the changes, go to the NCC website northumberland.gov.uk and put your post code in to check your new regular bin day.

Late Summer holiday club

Mission Rescue: Stocksfield Children's Holiday Club 30th August - 2nd September 10-12.30 p.m. at Stocksfield Baptist Church. The theme this year combines the story of God's rescue of his people from Egypt under Moses' leadership, with spies and secret agents! The fast moving programme comprises games, crafts, music, drama, teaching and lots of fun. More information - **01661 843710**.

Grant Aid

The Parish Council will be setting its budgets for 2012/13 in November/December. Organisations wishing to apply for grant aid for 2012/13 should write to the Parish Council explaining the need for funding and including a copy of their most recent accounts. Applications should reach Mrs. Margaret Williams, Clerk to the Parish Council, at Stocksfield Community Centre, Stocksfield, NE43 7HL, by 15th October 2011.

Keeping Stocksfield Tidy

The litter picking group has now started regular patrols and has already met three times. This is a small team of five people; if you can help, contact Councillor Alan Verheyden.

Sometimes when residents take bottles to the bottle bank they leave plastic bags and boxes behind. These items are not picked up when the bottle banks are emptied, so please take all plastic bags and boxes away to be disposed of at home.

Opencast mining at Whittonstall

Residents should be aware that the County Council is currently considering an application by UK Coal to opencast a large area of land, known as Hoodsclouse, between Whittonstall and Hedley. A leaflet with this newsletter gives further information. If this application is successful UK Coal could apply to operate 3 further sites adjoining Hoodsclouse, and we might have opencast mining in the area for the next 25 years.

Quaker Week

Stocksfield Society of Friends (Quakers) invite you to Stocksfield Meeting House at Branch End, NE43 7NA, on Saturday 1st October, at 10.00 a.m. for a 10.30 a.m. start. All are welcome to this Quaker Week event where for 2 hours they will explore "Why I am a Quaker, How I am a Quaker". The aim is to make themselves known, and to make connections with people of other faiths or none.

Retirement of Sheila Coulson



It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Sheila Coulson on her retirement as headteacher of Broomley for the past five years. Sheila has been an excellent head and the school has achieved an 'Outstanding' Ofsted report under her leadership. The school held a Garden Party at the

end of term where pupils, old and new, were able to say their fond goodbyes.

We welcome Jacqui Lorimer as the Acting Executive Headteacher from September. Jacqui has been a member of the Senior Management Team at Broomley for the past four years and has recently gained her National Professional Qualification for Headteachers. - Anne Dale, Chair of Governors.

Focus on Young People

Following the Annual Parish Meeting in April, Parish Councillors have been working to arrange some of the additional activities requested by the young people. You will see from the enclosed leaflet what has been achieved so far.

A public meeting for all those interested in forming a Cycle Club will be held at the Baptist Church Hall on the Main Road at 7.00 p.m. on Friday 23rd September. A cycle club must include adults so if teenagers are interested in this activity they will need the active support and help of their parents.

Stocksfield Scouts

The Group Scout Leader, Paddy Gascoigne will continue to run Beavers, as two individuals have offered their services as regular helpers. This means that all the sections in the Group - scouts, cubs and beavers - will continue to run. The future of the Group is therefore very promising with over 50 young members.

To build on the strong demand for places the Group wishes to re-establish an executive committee in September. Its role will be to support the leaders, carry out simple administrative duties, and raise funds. Anyone interested should contact Paddy Gascoigne stocksfieldscouts@gmail.com or call **01661 843405**.

1st Stocksfield Guides

Do you know that Girl Guides LOVE chocolate? Fiona Forsythe and Cathy Parker discovered that when they re-started Stocksfield Guides this Spring. Guiding has changed a lot over the last few decades. Guides - girls 10 to 14 - take many of the decisions about what to do. Small groups, called Patrols, choose which 'Go For It' to work through, and which challenges to pursue. There are over 20 different 'Go For It' themes covering everything from fashion to the environment to, well, chocolate. Traditional aspects such as badges, camping and trips are still on the agenda too. The Guides meet every Thursday evening from 6.30 to 8 p.m. at Stocksfield Baptist Church. If you would like to come along and give it a try, e-mail: cathy.parker2@virgin.net

Stocksfield Community Garden - five years on

It is now five years since the initial idea for a sensory garden was considered. After a slow start the garden is beginning to look established and the themed raised planters have been much admired. The birch den at the bottom of the field, beside the play area, is particularly gorgeous in springtime, and the snowdrops, which were planted two years ago, looked fabulous.

This year chionodoxa bulbs were planted around the edges of the dogwood bank, together with more primroses on the bank between the fence and the willow tunnel. The tunnel is well used and with a few repairs continues to provide an enchanting area for the younger children.

The next stage involves the local Guides, who are going to begin planting up the slope below the roadside hedge as a wildflower bank as one of their projects. After some research, and a good look round at some damp, shady, roadside verges, they hope to be able to establish some attractive native plants amongst the grasses and thistles. It's wonderful to see the area being used so well and appreciated.

On a recent visit, early in the summer holidays, we counted around 50 people using the playground, picnic area and garden. This more than justifies the contributions, in effort and finance, of all who have supported the project and continue to do so, particularly the Parish Council who have been extremely generous and helpful at every stage of the development.



Kate's Plain

During July a large branch fell from a tree and caused considerable damage to the fence at Kate's Plain. The fence was repaired to make it livestock proof, and hopefully by the time you read this a permanent repair will have been effected. One of the seats was also damaged but can be repaired. Thankfully no-one was hurt by the falling branch.

Meals on Wheels - a new beginning?

'Home-cooked' Meals on Wheels have been prepared by WRVS volunteers working at Stocksfield Community Centre for over 40 years, but the subsidy for these meals is being withdrawn and the service will be discontinued after March 2012. WRVS are seeing this as an opportunity to reach more residents, rather than a sad closure. Many of the existing volunteer cooks and driver/deliverers plus representatives of Churches Together, the WI, and County and Parish Councillors, met in July to discuss plans set out by Roz Tinlin (WRVS) and Norman Hooks (Stocksfield Community Association) to create a Social Centre, open to all, every Tuesday at the Community Centre.

The proposal is to offer a meeting place between 10 a.m. and possibly 3 p.m., with a meal served at about 12.30 p.m. and transport available for those without access to their own vehicle. Activities - entirely optional - are being considered, and we hope that those who attend regularly would become involved in deciding what those activities might be. For those not interested in activities, the Centre would, at the very least, be somewhere to meet other residents for a chat. Users could come along at any time during the session and leave when they wished.

The WRVS and SCA are looking for grants to meet start-up costs, and we hope the charge for attendance including a meal would be no more than £5 per person. If there is sufficient interest and enough volunteers can be found in time, we hope to open the Centre on Tuesday 1st November. Initially it would run alongside the delivery of hot meals to those already receiving them, though Northumberland Social Services will take over responsibility for this service from April next year. However, transport could be available to any of the current users of the Meals on Wheels service who prefer to come and eat their meal with others at the Social Centre. Two further open meetings are planned for Tuesday 20th September, one at 9.30 a.m. and the other at 7.00 p.m.; both in the Richardson Room at the Community Centre. So if this sounds at all interesting to you as either a volunteer or a user of this service, do come to one of these meetings and find out if this could be for you.



Cricketing Girls Just Miss Out

Having won their U13 Northumberland League and then beating Ponteland in a close fought County play-off, Stocksfield CC girls team travelled down to Northern CC in Liverpool on 4th August to play in the North Regional play-off. The competition run and funded by the Lady Taverners attracts teams from all over the country. The girls gave a really good account of themselves, finishing joint second and narrowly missed a place in the National finals. Despite not winning, the young team can hold their heads high on the back of some good performances. They are pictured above with Danielle Hazell (England), coach Chris Catnach and young mascot Josh Ward.

Twenty20 Tournament held

Stocksfield's two cricket pitches were in superb condition as they hosted four county teams in the National Women's Twenty20 Competition. Northumberland, Gloucestershire, Durham and Cumbria competed against each other in the two day tournament at the start of August.

The Stocksfield club, who currently top the Northumberland Women's League, had seven players representing the county. Despite the County team playing well in all their games they only recorded one victory against Cumbria. Our local girls did well though, with captain Nicola Hawes taking 3 for 9 against Gloucestershire and scoring 30 against Durham. Amy Nicholson took two wickets against Cumbria and followed that up with a half century, and Kelly Withycombe also took 3 wickets.

The cricket was of high quality and entertaining and all the visiting teams were complimentary about the facilities and the location.

Congratulations:

To Jane Oxnard (13) who has been selected to join a group of musicians working with Katherine Tickell in preparation for the 2012 Olympics Cultural Festival.

Stocksfield FC

Saturday seniors took part in a Coast to Coast ride for the second year running to raise funds for the club. Ten players and two coaches completed the 150 mile cycle in two days and raised £1,200.

Pre-season training started in mid July for both senior teams, and saw more than forty players take part in fitness training to prepare for the season which began on 13th August. Saturday soccer for ages 4 to 8 has also re-started. Sessions are from 10.00 until 11.00. Price is £2 and anybody is welcome to join. Five coaches from Stocksfield completed their eight week long FA level 1 coaching badge in June and July - congratulations to Chris Hill, Dave Wilson, Steve Robson, Mark Hudspith and Mike Parkes. The club continues to grow with an expected 175 players registering to train or play with Stocksfield FC. Many thanks to local businesses and people for their continued support in both kind and money. Club or team sponsors as well as volunteers to help with coaching, are needed. Contact Phil Murray on **07866 508639**, email: philmuz@hotmail.com.

New Name for playgroup!

To identify more with the whole community the SICA playgroup will now be known as Stocksfield Playgroup.

The playgroup offers a caring environment where children are encouraged to learn and make friends whilst having lots of fun. It is open to children from the age of 2, until they are eligible to attend pre-school. Opening hours are 9.15 to 12.15 Monday - Thursday during term time. Places are still available from September.

For more information call Diane on **01661 842346** or **07857 894313**.

Northumberland News

Copies of the County Council's magazine are available at SCA, libraries and leisure centres, or sign up for a digital version at: www.northumberland.gov.uk/extra

What's on

At the Community Centre

Saturday 24th September 10-Noon.

Community Association Coffee Morning, Bywell St Peter's Jumble Sale 2.00 p.m.

Thursday 29th September 10 a.m.

Coffee morning with a display of Photographs by Gill Jones, a very talented photographer from Bywell.

Friday 30th September 10-Noon.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Sunday 2nd October 7.30 p.m.

Highlights Community Touring Scheme presents 'Juliet Kelly', an exceptional singer and songwriter who will be performing songs from Nina Simone, Ella Fitzgerald, and Billie Holliday along with her own compositions. Described by the Guardian as 'soulful, dignified and somewhat Cleo Lane like'. Tickets Adults £8, Children £5, Family £25.

Friday 14th October

Community Centre Quiz in aid of Vision 21
admin@sica.org.uk - **01661 842346**

Barnardos Annual Coffee Morning

Wednesday 21st September

9.30 a.m. to 12 noon at Stocksfield Community Centre. There will be a Home Produce & Cakes stall (supported by Barclays Bank plc), a tombola and a raffle.

Lifespan

Lifespan brings ease and support to people with any serious and life-threatening illness and to the family and friends who care for them.

Monday 5th September

Cookery demonstration and lunch with Rhian Cradock at the Feathers Inn, Hedley on the Hill. 1100 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.. Tickets £20.00

Saturday 24th September

Hoe down at Wheelbirks Parlour 7 p.m. - Midnight. Food. Live entertainment from the Kentucky Cow Tippers. Tickets £20.00 From **Sarah: 01434 676843**.

Next Parish Council Meetings

Monday 5th September

Monday 3rd October

Monday 7th November

All meetings are held at SCA and start at 7.30 p.m. Members of the public are always welcome to attend.

Stocksfield Health Walks

Meet at Stocksfield Station Car Park on Monday mornings at 10 a.m. More information from 01434 613227