

Planning the future of Broomley and Stocksfeld

NE43 news

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The Tour of Britain "SPEEDS" through Stocksfeld



'It was super exciting because they went so fast'. 'Brilliant – they zoomed past and the police motorbikes thundered through'

- two quotes from young students
Charlie Huddleston and Harry Mainwaring from Broomley First School.

What a wonderful occasion for the village, and especially the children, to be part of such an exciting event and to see such famous cyclists as Sir Bradley Wiggins and Mark Cavendish speeding past. Some of the children are pictured waiting excitedly outside the school, which was adorned in bunting, red and yellow bicycles and over 80 red and yellow vests, all knitted by Dorothy Richardson and Kate Agar. Not to be outdone, the children exhibited their sweatshirt bicycle artwork on the sports field as flags, bunting and painted bicycles popped up along the route through the village. The enthusiasm of everyone made this a true community event and the media are full of praise.

Some of the older children were able to be part of the festivities on the start line in Prudhoe. Jonty Cope and Seb Glover wrote, 'We were lucky to be given this opportunity to see the start at Prudhoe and were amazed how all the villages made such an effort with all the decorations and the number of people that came out to watch.'

And finally one last quote from Mitchell Robson of Year 7: 'I have the best Mum in the world, she came home from Prudhoe with a cap signed by Bradley Wiggins, she is wonderful'.

Thank you everyone who helped to make Stocksfeld so bright and welcoming.



Rain fails to dampen spirits at Stocksfeld Festival

For the first time since Stocksfeld Festival began in 2009, rain, very heavy at times, threatened to ruin this year's Festival. However, despite a reduction in numbers, those who came along were determined to enjoy themselves and made full use of a varied programme.

The audience in the entertainment tent gave tremendous support all afternoon to local choirs, bands and individual performers - even when the rain stopped they stayed to enjoy some outstanding music. Pictured performing are local band Open Doors and children from Broomley First School. The evening concert and ceilidh at the Community Centre were also well supported, as was Stocksfeld Cricket Club's 'Rockin' in the Festival' concert on the Friday night.

So - despite the rain - this year's Festival proved a great success and the Festival Committee would like to thank the many volunteers who helped over the weekend, especially those from Stocksfeld Cricket Club who, as always, gave tremendous support.



Watch Your Neighbourhood

There has been much debate over the past 12 months about the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and there is a clear desire from many residents to be part of a NHW scheme where they live. Unfortunately the key ingredient to NHW - the co-ordinator - has been and remains an elusive character. Despite appeals at meetings, in this newsletter and on the website, there has been no contact from any resident willing to act as a NHW co-ordinator. As a consequence, the Parish Council has decided not to organise any further NHW meetings. The absence of a formal NHW scheme in Stocksfeld does not affect the ability of the community to act as the eyes and ears of the police. Please remember that whenever you see anything suspicious or out of the ordinary, don't assume that someone else will ring the police - do it yourself. And don't forget the basic crime prevention advice - lock your doors even if you are in, don't leave ground floor windows open and keep ladders locked away.

If you do want more information about being a NHW co-ordinator, the information is available online at www.ourwatch.org.uk or from the Clerk.

Stocksfeld's affordable homes project wins National Housing Award



The development of seven affordable homes - six in Guessburn and one at Branch End - has won national acclaim after picking up a National Housing Award in London.



At a high profile ceremony in front of 600 invited guests at the London Lancaster Hotel, representatives from SCATA (Stocksfeld Community Association Trading Arm) and Isos Housing were thrilled and surprised to be announced as the winners of the 'Best Partnership Award'. Five directors of SCATA, together with Vince Walsh, development manager at Isos Housing, are pictured after receiving the award from comedian and TV personality Marcus Brigstocke.

The National Housing Awards are run by the National Housing Federation and celebrate excellence in affordable housing. The citation from the judges was particularly pleasing, describing the project as '... a good example of local positive control to meet local housing needs' and '... a structure that could be replicated elsewhere as a way of meeting changing demand in smaller communities'.

Meanwhile, back in the village, Mr and Mrs Wilson, the new tenants of Branch End Cottage on New Ridley Road, have quickly turned the front garden into a glorious display of colourful plants and flowers. They are pictured with Pete Duncan, Chair of SCATA. Commenting on the completion, Pete said 'It's quite an improvement on the old derelict toilets'.

On behalf of the Parish Council, Chair Maggi Hunt congratulated SCATA and Isos Housing on winning the Award, and said "We are pleased that we were able to support this development from the outset, with help from the County Council."



SAVED - the 613

Over the last five years the future of the Tuesday 613 weekly bus from Whittonstall to Hexham via New Ridley Road has been under close scrutiny by the County Council because of the high subsidy due to low use. A further review began last year. As you may have seen, the service will now definitely continue.

County Councillor Anne Dale thanks everyone who has supported the service. She said, 'In particular a big thank you must go to Vicky Jeffcock who for the past year has not only promoted the use of the bus but also kept a weekly record of the number of people using the bus. This has helped the Council's Working Group in their deliberations'. Anne is pictured with Vicky and other New Ridley residents boarding the bus.

The service is now being delivered by PCL travel from Prudhoe and is very popular. If in future there is an identified need for an additional service on another day of the week, which must also be sustainable, this would be considered by the Council.

Councillor Dale also reminds residents of the A.D.A.P.T. bus service which runs from New Ridley to Prudhoe on a Friday morning. For further information on this particular service please contact A.D.A.P.T. on 01434 606156.

Tyre Dumping and Garden Rubbish

As the darker nights draw near, the potential for unscrupulous traders to dump waste, particularly tyres, in the quiet country lanes around the village increases. The Parish Council asks all residents to be additionally vigilant. If you see vehicles in suspicious circumstances, please record as much detailed information as you can and contact either the police (if it is happening at the time) or the County Council. If you come across rubbish that has been tipped, please report it to the County Council who will remove it.

There have been incidents of garden and other waste being dumped within the village on verges, hedgerows and the banks of the burn, at least some of which must have been by residents. If you see this unlawful activity occurring, please report it and together let's keep Stocksfield a clean and pleasant place in which to live, work and visit.

Internet for beginners

Do you want to learn how to use a computer? Are you curious about the Internet? Why not book a one-to-one session at Ponteland Library with one of Northumberland County Council's Digital Champions? The sessions are free of charge and you can attend as a one-off or for a few weeks.

Whether you have a goal in mind or just want to find out more about computers, the Digital Champion can help. Learn what you can do on the Internet – how you can save money and time online, find useful information, research your family history, keep in touch with your friends and much more. Sessions are tailored to what you want to learn. To book a session contact the library on 01661 823594.

Who's Your Doctor?

Residents may be aware that from April of this year all surgeries are required to provide their patients with a named General Practitioner (GP). This doctor will have overall responsibility for the care and support that the surgery provides to individuals but this will not prevent a person from seeing any GP at the practice.

The surgery works as a team and wants patients to see the doctor of their choice, which may vary depending on a person's condition or personal preference. Allocating specific patients to individual GPs was considered, but an arbitrary way of allocating names was preferable as it really does not affect which GP a person can see.

GPs have been allocated according to the first letter of a resident's surname as follows:

Dr L Corbett:
surnames commencing **A - C**

Dr A Maguire:
surnames commencing **S - Z**

Dr L Dornan:
surnames commencing **D - G** and **L**

Dr S Gupta:
surnames commencing **N - R, J** and **I**

Dr F Kamali:
surnames commencing **H, M** and **K**

Flood Plan Revisited

It is easy to become complacent. Memories fade, and for many the sight of Stocksfield Burn in rage is one either never seen or just plain forgotten. The Parish Council has reviewed its flood plan and made some minor alterations. Importantly the main telephone number to ring in the event of a flood has changed – you should now ring Northumberland County Council on 0345 6006400. Remember there are things you can do to reduce the risk of damage or loss from flood. The revised plan and general flood protection advice is available on the Parish Council's website.

Senior football returns to Stocksfield

Whilst the village was disappointed to lose its own senior team last year, we are delighted that Prudhoe Youth Club FC are playing at Stocksfield Sports Fields in their first season as a Northern Alliance team, and for the opportunity to support their journey into senior football. If any players aged over 16 in the Stocksfield area are interested in playing for the team, please contact Duncan Graham on 07795 627002.

Applications Granted!

This year the Parish Council has already made a number of grants and donations amounting to over £3,000. If you are considering applying for a grant, time is running out. All grant applications for this financial year must be received by the Parish Council by 30 September and cannot be for more than £500.

If you are considering making a grant application in excess of £500 for the financial year commencing in April 2016, the application must be received by 30 September 2015 to allow the application to be considered in tandem with the budget and precept setting process.

Full details of the grant application process can be found on the Parish Council's website, together with the application forms.

Season's News from the 'SCG'

Stocksfield's Cricket teams have once again had a good season albeit silverware has escaped most of the sides. After being promoted to the Northumberland Tyneside Senior League, a tough season was expected for the 1st and 3rd teams but both performed well to finish in the top six. The second team stayed in the top 4 throughout in the West Tyne League 1st Division, and the 4th XI continued to develop the younger players. The development of the juniors (who regularly played in the senior sides) was pleasing to see, with some fine performances which bodes well for next year. The U18 team won the West Tyne League and were beaten finalists in the county wide Lingarde Cup. New players joined the women's teams this year and the two teams played well, the 1st team being runners-up in the Northumberland League. Junior sides at U15, U13 and U11 played in the Northumberland Junior League and recorded some notable victories, though form varied due to availability of players and poor weather most Sundays! Once again a number of boys and girls represented the club in the County teams from U17 down to U11 and did well.

An awards evening for the senior sides is on Saturday 10th October when the best performances during the season are recognised.

Off the field, the club are planning to develop the clubhouse and fundraising starts in earnest this autumn. Particular thanks go to all the volunteers who support the club in so many ways. Like any similar club more are always welcome and if anyone out there would like to help with gardening, painting, groundwork, administration, planning, legislation, catering etc and has time to spare, please contact the club.

During the winter, as well as regular events, the increasingly popular domino drives start again, so if you have a team of 12 and want to challenge others let the club know at stockscc@talktalk.net

Hadrian's Wall Challenge

£2,980 and there is still more to collect!

It was a wet and windy weekend in July when Claire Collinson set off from Wallsend on her three day walk across the width of England. The first day saw her reach Chollerford and with a further overnight break at Banks, she strolled into Bowness on Solway on day 3. Claire, pictured during her adventure, had been joined by Rachel Rees and Ian Welch who each walked a day, and her two 'scouting' sons, Jack and Will, for part of the way too.



A number of scouting families have also enjoyed walking part of the walk to raise money over the summer. All funds raised are for the new Scout Hut and donations can still be made online at

www.uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HadriansWallChallenge

or by cheque payable to First Stocksfield Scouts. The grand total raised will be announced towards the end of September.



Trying to sort out a problem?

The Citizens Advice service provides free, confidential information and advice on a wide range of subjects including debt, benefits, housing, and employment problems.

You can get help in a number of ways:

- By telephoning Northumberland Adviceline on 03444 111 444 open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm
- By calling into one of the drop-in sessions at:

Hexham office

Community Centre - Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am to 2pm

Gilesgate, Hexham NE46 3NP

Prudhoe office

Spetchells Centre - Tuesday & Thursday, 10am to 2pm

Prudhoe NE42 5AA

Haltwhistle office

Masonic Hall - Thursdays 10am to 2pm

Greenholme Road, Haltwhistle NE49 9DL

There are specialist debt and welfare benefits advisers to help you.

Sam hits the big time

Nine year old Sam Storey has just signed his first contract for Newcastle United and will be playing for their elite Under 10's first team from September. Looking at his fixtures he will be playing against Manchester United, Manchester City, Leeds and Sunderland in the coming season.

Sam spent three years at Stocksfield Football Club coached by his dad, Graham, and Hugh Richardson and helped his Stocksfield Scorpions team to seven trophies over the period. He is now the proud owner of new NUFC kit for the coming season.

Sam has attended Broomley First School since the age of five, and started at Ovingham Middle School in September.

Stocksfield FC

The club is delighted to announce that their Saturday Soccer sessions for u8s restarted in August in partnership with the Newcastle United Foundation and their mini maggies coaches. This will mean two training sessions each Saturday for those boys and girls not in teams. For more information please contact Phil Murray on 07889170567.



The annual kit collection saw over 50 pairs of football boots and a further 50 football kits gathered together for children in Malawi. The club wants to thank everyone who donated, as this makes a huge difference to many kids in Africa.

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Information Card – Your Views Needed

Have you seen the Parish Council's most recent Local Information Card? Last time it was produced (in 2013) it was printed on green card and was dropped through letterboxes with NE43 News. If you have seen it, what did you do with it? Did you throw it straight in the bin for recycling? Have you put it somewhere for safe keeping but have not used it since? Is it beside your phone and the first port of call for any local services? Or have you done something else with it? In this increasingly digital world, the usefulness of printed material is ever decreasing – it is only current on the day it is printed. Whatever your views, the Parish Council wants to know what you think of the card. If you've not seen it, a copy is available under the 'Local Information' tab on the Council's website. In any event, please let the Clerk know what you think – the contact details are at the bottom of the last page.

Anne takes off one hat

Until September's meeting, County Councillor Anne Dale has been wearing two hats at Parish Council meetings, having been co-opted onto the Council when numbers of councillors were very low. Anne has decided to stand down from the Parish Council but will continue to attend meetings as a County Councillor. Her dual role always gave potential for conflict and this move allows her to concentrate on her county role. Maggi Hunt, Chair of the Parish Council, said 'We'd like to thank Anne for volunteering herself for co-option at a time when the Council ran the real risk of not being able to make decisions because of vacancies. Whilst we still have nine councillors, we need to fill the three vacancies.' If anyone is interested in the role, please contact the Chair, the Clerk or any of the councillors – all their contact details can be found on the website.

Council's clean bill of health

For those who are interested in the minutiae of local government – the Parish Council is subject to two types of audit each year. First an internal audit is undertaken by a local auditor who inspects the Council's accounts and accounting practices in depth. Second an auditor appointed by the Government carries out an external audit at the end of the financial year, based upon an annual return submitted by the Council. The external auditor, a company called BDO LLP, has completed the audit for the financial year 2014/15 and has concluded that no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern. That's not it though, because the Council ensures it continues to comply with its own financial regulations and the internal auditor soon begins the inspection of the accounts for 2015-16.

Blooming Stocksfield

The Parish Council would like to thank those local businesses who have sponsored one or more of the hanging baskets that adorn some of the buildings in the village. The baskets have been kindly prepared by volunteer members of the local Plants and Garden Society, ably co-ordinated by Mike Cummings. Some observant residents have also noticed an increase in flowering verges earlier in the year and the Parish Council extends their thanks to the anonymous benefactor.



Police Phone Scam Warning

Police are continuing to warn people to be alert to a phone scam after further incidents have been reported.

Fraudsters, pretending to be police officers, are targeting people over the phone and trying to con them out of their life savings.

Officers are currently investigating eight incidents which have been reported from the Tynedale area.

The con involves a member of the public receiving a call from a person pretending to be a police officer. This fake officer tells the victim that their bank account is at risk of being hacked and they face having their money stolen.

They are told to contact their bank and withdraw all of the money from their account as soon as possible and that a police officer will come to their house, collect it and take statements.

They then arrange a date and time for an 'officer' or courier to come and pick the cash up and take a statement.

Police are urging people to be on their guard and to take steps to avoid becoming a victim:

- Be aware that fraudsters often use techniques to hold your phone line open, so that when you try to dial out to verify the caller, they intercept and re-answer the call, claiming to be the bank or law enforcement.
- To ensure that your phone has not been compromised, use a different phone line to verify the caller. Where a second phone line is not available, try calling a family or friend first, as the fraudster will find it difficult to impersonate a person you know.
- Never disclose your PIN or online / telephone banking log-in information or card reader codes to anyone, even if the caller claims to be from the bank or police. Remember, banks and the police NEVER call and ask you to disclose these security details.
- If you receive a call requesting your PIN, card details or online / telephone banking log-in information, end the call immediately.
- If you receive a suspicious or unexpected call, always verify the caller by taking their phone number and getting it checked independently.
- Ensure elderly relatives and neighbours are aware of the fraud and crime prevention advice.

Report any suspicious phone calls to police straight away on 101 ext 69191.

NEW Baptist Pastor

Stocksfield Baptist Church will welcome their new pastor Peter Jorysz & his wife Steph on Saturday 26 September at 11.00am. This induction and ordination service will be followed by a 'bring and share' lunch. Pete & Steph are moving up from Leeds and this will be Pete's first position as a Baptist Minister. The church looks forward to welcoming them and is excited about the new phase in the spiritual life of the church and community.

Exercise to Music with Mary Huggin

Stocksfield Community Centre

For more information ring
Community Centre 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*

Stocksfield Retired Men's Association

Meets in the Baptist Hall at 10.30am

1 October

Hexham Racecourse - Mr Charles Enderby

15 October

Tea Boy to Tea Boy - Rev Eric Lewis

5 November

Music of the 20s - Mr Brian Burr

19 November

Richard Branson's Balloon Flight across the Atlantic - Mr David Morris

3 December

AGM, Carol Service and Christmas Lunch

Stocksfield Local History Society

Meetings are held at the Methodist Chapel, Mount View Terrace, Stocksfield on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.

Next meeting:

14 October

AGM

The History of Stocksfield Community Association and Centre 1902 to present

11th November

Laraine Judd

The Stocksfield War Memorial Project - update

December

No meeting

The Stocksfield Players



Will be performing George Bernard Shaw's "PYGMALION"

On: Thursday 26th November
Friday 27th November
& Saturday 28th November

At: Stocksfield Community Centre
Starting at: 7:30pm

Tickets: £9 each, available from:

Stocksfield Community Centre 01661 842346

Karen on 01661 844119

Joy on 01434 682547

An evening of entertainment not to be missed and on your doorstep!

Stocksfield Junior Players Production



The Stocksfield Junior Players will be performing an

"Evening of Christmas Entertainment"

On: Friday 18th December
& Saturday 19th December

At: Stocksfield Community Centre

Starting at: 6:30pm

Tickets: £5 - adult / £2 - child

Tickets available from: Karen on 01661 844119

Joy on 01434 682547

Come along and see what the talented Juniors have been up to!

Churches Together in Stocksfield and Mickley

Coffee and Christmas Card Sale

- Saturday 7th November, 10am-12 noon, to be held in the Community Centre. Anyone wanting to book a table to sell their charity cards should contact Anne Davison on 01661 843400.

Big Sing

- Sunday 6th December, 2.30pm in the Community Centre - a chance to reflect on the season and to sing some favourite seasonal music. This will be followed by light refreshments.

NEWS from the Hill

Feathers Inn Leek Club

The Feathers Inn Leek Club Autumn Domino Competition starts again in September and takes place at 8.30pm on the last Monday of the month; everyone is welcome.

Other Leek Club events will include Xmas quiz and raffle. Please contact Jeff Douglas, Chairman, for further information on 0771 890 1715.

Feathers Inn Pub

Please contact the pub for details of the twice monthly Knit and Natter evenings, Folk Music on the 1st Sunday evening each month and Stargazing events.

Hedley WI

Hedley WI holds regular events at Stocksfield Community Centre and all are welcome.

9th Sept - Bernadette Dunn is speaking about Mindfulness and the monthly competition is 'A Holiday Souvenir'.

14th Oct - Speaker's subject is 'SOS for Honeybee', Jilly Halliday will be making beeswax candles and the competition is 'a recipe using honey'.

11th Nov - Jane Penny will be demonstrating Christmas crafts and the competition is 'a Christmas Poem'.

Stocksfield Plants and Gardens Society 2015 Programme

Meetings are at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. Guests welcome.

20th October:

Mark Robson - 'Bide a Wee Cottage Garden'
Mark is the creator of Bide-a-Wee Cottage Garden near Morpeth. He will describe how the beautiful gardens at Bide-A-Wee Cottage have been crafted out of a former sandstone quarry over the last 25 years. The garden has hundreds of varieties of ferns, shrubs, perennials and grasses including The National Collection of Centaurea. The Bide-A-Wee Gardens are open annually to the public between April and August.

17th November:

Gary McDermott

- 'Preparing a Garden for Chelsea'

Gary from Harperley Hall Farm Nurseries, near Durham, will describe how they were successful in achieving two Gold Medals at Chelsea Flower Show in the last two years. There will be plants for sale.

8th December:

AGM and Members' Evening

- **Bruce Ferguson** - 'The Folklore of Plants'

Bruce has worked as a professional naturalist since 1985. He is a regular columnist for The Northumbrian magazine and will be providing a seasonal slant on the folklore attached to familiar plants in the countryside.

19th January 2016

- **Karen Phillips** - 'Banishing the Winter Blues'

How to organise your planting for winter interest.

Remembrance Day Service

The Service will be held at 10.45am on Sunday 8th November at the War Memorial. After the Service, all are invited to the Community centre for refreshments.



Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council

The Parish Council meets in the Community Centre at 7.30 pm. 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 2015:

Parish Council Meeting 5th October

Parish Council Meeting 2nd November

Parish Council Meeting 7th December

Members of the public are welcome to attend any meeting of the Parish Council.

Public participation is always included as an item on the agenda where residents have the opportunity to raise issues of concern.

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