

## USEFUL NUMBERS & CONTACTS

Badminton Group	Fran Pugh	673429
Carpet Bowls	Karl Beckett	07914693199
St Mary's Parish Church	Reverend Helen Savage	676852
St Elizabeth's Catholic Church	Father Jenish	673248
Commemoration Hall	Chairman: Ros Doonan Bookings: Stella Douglas	673173 673001
Community Trust		
County Councillor	Colin Horncastle	618259
Dial-A-Ride	A.D.A.P.T.	600599
Film Club		
Friends of Slaley School	Andrea Foster	634865
Hexham Hospital		0344 811 8111
Ladycross Nature Reserve	Joan Jewitt	673245
Leek Club	David Innes	673845
Local History Group	Pat Wilson	673388
	Ian Hancock	673502
Mobile Hairdresser	Linda Johnston	673196
Northumberland CC	Report faulty Streetlights/Potholes	0345 6006400
Parish Council	Clerk: Pat Wilson	673388
Post Office Van	Martin Nichol, Stocksfield Post Office	01661 842110
Police	For non-emergency calls	please call 101
Rose & Crown Pub		673996
Slaley Shop	Shop	673201
	Sandra Innes	673845
Slaley First School	Head: Mrs. Hayward	673220
Slaley Notes in the Hexham Courant	Stella Douglas Helen Savage	673001 676852
Slaley Parish Website	www.slaley.org.uk	
Slaley Show Society	Chairman: Marge Rastall	673547
Travellers Rest Pub	Ian and Darren	673231
Women's Institute	President: Margaret Rowell	673589
	Secretary: Hilary Porteus	673637



# SLALEY NEWS

## June 2022

Slaley Parish Platinum Jubilee

4<sup>th</sup> June 2022 – 10 a.m to 5.30 p.m.



**How to get involved before the day:**

**Yarn-Bomb a corgi with the WI**  
(contact Hillary for details  
07803268947)



**Build a scarecrow (with a patriotic theme) to display on 4<sup>th</sup> June**



**Take part in the Shop's Platinum Portrait Competition.**  
Closing date 28<sup>th</sup> May

(Details from the shop)



**Prepare a picnic to take to the Rose and Crown**

**Get the pick 'n' mix ready for a special Slaley Film Club offering**



**How to get involved on the day:**

**Visit the shop and look out for those corgi's and local portraits of the queen**

**Put your scarecrow on display and take a stroll through the village (and parish) to see how others compare and don't forget to call in and see the Slaley First School stones**

**Enjoy your picnic at the Rose and Crown between 12 noon and 3 p.m. Come patriotically dressed and receive 10% off any drinks order at the bar**



**Head to the Commemoration Hall for 4 p.m. and enjoy a 'Royal Night Out' (12A), followed by tea and cake**



**We are now open from 3-5pm on a Friday afternoon.**

### **Platinum Jubilee Portrait Competition**

Please get in your entries for the Slaley Platinum Portrait Competition. You can work in any medium and your portrait will be displayed in the shop over the Jubilee weekend. There will be prizes!

### **The second Slaley Seedling Swap**

Following the success of the seedling swap last year we are going to hold another swap on the day of the Slaley Wander, Sunday 12th June. Please bring your seedlings along on the day or in the week before and come along on the day and see what treasures you might find!

### **Bread and Baking**

We now have a great range of home baked bread, biscuits and scones, all produced locally so why not come in and give yourself a treat!

Over the Winter we have been working on the damp proof course around the outside of the shop. We are now in a position to repair the render. We have taken advice and decided that in the long term the best plan is to replace the render on the whole of the shop. We hope that this work will start in the next couple of months. There will be scaffolding but we will try and keep disruption to a minimum and hope that everyone will appreciate the 'facelift'.

Slaley and  
Hexhamshire  
Welcome  
[slaleywelcomes@gmail.com](mailto:slaleywelcomes@gmail.com)



### **The search continues...**

Following on from our good news last month that Northumberland County Council has approved our project (which shows that we have provided evidence of our commitment and supportive community); and with enough funds in place to officially register our

application, we will soon be able to receive a refugee family/couple/individual into our community, with full support, for a 2yr period.

There's a sticking point of course. Accommodation. We are still on the search. Group members Lynn and Robb Allanson are following up every lead in the catchment area and are keen to emphasise that a vacant property or rental just about to become vacant, a holiday home or an Airbnb would be considered with added advantages to the owner "There will be 2 years of guaranteed income

and we will pay the market rent" Lynn says "and when the 2 years are up, the property would be left in a really good condition".

"We know how much everyone wants to help" she says, "and this is the final piece of the jigsaw. It would be great if we could find something even if it were only for one person – it would be one person in a better place with security and safety."

"We are really hopeful we can make this happen and would ask if you have somewhere – or know of somewhere, that you get in touch."

Project Lead, Mark Jennings Tel: 07449 879487

Plans to hold a high summer fund raiser are underway in conjunction with the Slaley WI who have made the project their official charity of the year.

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/slaley-and-the-shire-welcomes](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/slaley-and-the-shire-welcomes)



Knitters of Slaley! ... Its time to put down your needles and assemble your Corgis!

Slaley WI have been thrilled by the amount of interest shown in helping with the planned Corgi Yarn Bomb in the Slaley Shop Garden for Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>'s Jubilee celebrations in the village...did everyone spot the deliberate mistake on the printed pattern from the shops pattern dispenser? It said Corgis had to be ready for July 4<sup>th</sup>, not June 4<sup>th</sup>! Human error of course. Apologies for any confusion.

By all accounts it's not the easiest of patterns but it is well known that there are many accomplished knitters in our midst and look forward to welcoming them over the course of this week. Secretary Hilary Porteus can help with any queries on Tel: 01434 673637.

We will be assembling the 'Bomb' very very early on Saturday (June 4<sup>th</sup>!!!) but the shop has kindly offered to collect them for us in the week prior, if your four-legged friend is already finished. If you want your corgi returned, please attach your name. We've heard that Slaley Show has a class for knitted corgis so you may want to enter yours? If any remain, we would like to be able to sell them to support our chosen charity the Slaley and Hexhamshire Welcomes project.

The decision to combine the display with a mini competition of 'Hunt the Corgi' or 'Guess How Many Corgis are here' will be decided on the day depending on how many there are!

Thanking everyone in anticipation.

## Church News

Weekly Sunday services at Slaley (every week) are at 10.45am. Holy Communion usually celebrated on the first Sunday of every month, but because of the special Jubilee Thanksgiving Service on 5 June, Holy Communion this month will be on Sunday 12 June. All are welcome – as always!

The next Evensong at Healey will be on Sunday 26 June at 5pm.

Sunday services continue to be streamed on Facebook and You Tube as well as Helen's weekly 'thought for the day' each Wednesday. To find them please just click on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/moorlandgroup/> and via You Tube via our website: [www.moorland-group.org.uk](http://www.moorland-group.org.uk)

### Special Services of Thanksgiving to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

**Sunday 5 June at 10.45am at St Mary's Slaley**, with words and music for the whole community – all welcome! This will include a performance of the special anthem written to celebrate the Jubilee: 'In our Service', by Thomas Hewitt Jones.

And then also on **Sunday 5 June at 7.30pm at St James's Hunstanworth**, a service for the whole Moorland Group of Parishes (of which Slaley and Healey are part) followed by a bonfire, fizz and food.

### Ecumenical Study Group

We look to begin again in June -on Friday 24 June – a series of three special Bible studies inspired by some of our recent conversations: *Christ is Risen! So What?* We'll be exploring the abiding meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus through key New Testament passages.

### Vicarage Garden Coffee Mornings

Weather permitting, we plan to hold a number of outdoor coffee mornings. We can fit more people outdoors than in the still-cramped back of church and the staff to serve you are captive on hand! The first, this year will be on **Tuesday 28 June**, but please keep an eye on the church notice board and our regular email updates if it looks like rain and we have to re-arrange.

### Helen's thought for the month.

I commented last month about our Queen's remarkable life of duty and service. Over the Jubilee weekend, we'll say thank you for this, not least in our special service in church, but in lots of fun ways too, with puddings, portraits and quite possibly, hundreds of corgis.

The word 'service' really is central to all this. Whilst of course, the Jubilee Weekend will be a chance to have fun in lots of different ways, if it doesn't give us pause for thought about the quality of service that has marked our Queen's life, our celebrations will surely ring hollow.

It's good to remember how that extraordinary dedication to service was set out by the then Princess Elizabeth in 1947, well before she acceded to the throne,:

**"I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service... But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it."**

I hope therefore that this weekends' celebrations will offer an opportunity for us, not just to say thank you to Her Majesty, but also to those, who in this community, have indeed proved willing to share with her in such a dedication to serve others – and that's rather a lot of folk. Our Queen has richly fulfilled her vow and given us a wonderful example to follow.

### Slaley weather report

I'm writing this on May 23rd and the sky is grey. We had 1mm of overnight rain, but at least the wind has dropped for now.

So far this month, our weather has been changeable. We've had nine completely dry and largely sunny days, but light winds and a real feeling of warmth have been rare. We've been promised warm, dry, and sunny weather when high pressure has been building from the south, but if it has reached us, it hasn't been here to stay. We've been more dominated by Atlantic depressions, though the heaviest rain from these has been dropped further west.

May 16th was our wettest day with 14.5mm in 24 hours. The total so far is 36.3mm, so this month will be our wettest since February. The Daily Star has promised a heatwave for the Jubilee holiday so that probably scuppers any chance of fine weather for our knitted corgis and they'll be left shivering in the shop hedge.

*Olwen Savage*



## Ladycross Nature Reserve

*Working with People for Nature – Working with Nature for People*

**RARE PLANTS FIELD TRIP** – looking for rare plants around the nature reserve and possibly the surrounding forest.

**Monday July 4<sup>th</sup> 2022** meet at 6.30pm.

Lead by Chris Metherell, a well known botanist and county recorder for North Northumberland.

Details and booking with Joan on 01434 673245 or jjewitt245@btinternet.com  
Booking is essential as numbers are limited.

**NIGHTJAR WALK**- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July – details from Joan

**NIGHTJAR WALK**\_ Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July – details from Joan



### Slaley Commemoration Hall – New trustees needed!

The hall is flourishing!

It is our centenary year, the new extension is about to be built and the hall is busier than ever. We therefore are looking for some new faces to join our jolly, committed band of trustees and help shape the future of the hall and its operations. Can you help?

Please contact Debra (07932 450874) or Stella (07838 866976) if you would like to find out more.

***Volunteers are required throughout our community to help make the parish the wonderful place it is to live. Go on, take the plunge, and get involved at the hall or any of the other organisations who need your support!***

### Fire & Dough Pizza Van Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

The Commemoration Hall Car park from 5 p.m. – 7.00pm

# SLALEY PARISH WANDER

## SUNDAY JUNE 12 2022

### 11am-5pm



*Visit gardens, a robotic milking parlour,  
see art and flowers, tour a nature reserve*

**Start at the Commemoration Hall, Slaley, NE47 0BQ**



TICKETS £5 ON THE DAY FROM THE COMMEMORATION HALL  
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE PHASE TWO APPEAL FOR THE HALL  
CALL 01434 673388 / 673173 FOR MORE INFORMATION



*Elm and bluebells*

Looking back over past garden notes, this year has been cold, no early lettuce or spinach, seedlings all languishing in the cold greenhouse. The garden is polka-dotted with fallen cherry blossom and there was a moment in the garden when it fell like gentle snow. We are enjoying the pale lemony flowers of elm trees, noticed for the first time since before lockdown. Many are from new strong trunks growing from the stools of older trees that succumbed to the disease. There is also a beautiful large elm tree here in Sleafy; I hope they all survive.

Looking around the gardens that will be open for the 'Sleafy Wander' on June 12th, I noticed that four of them have silver weeping pear trees, *Pyrus salicifolia pendula*. They stand out in early spring, the cool silvery leaves on the tree providing a contrast to the warmer greens at this time of year. They can be left to grow, or trimmed to a mounded half round. I cut our 30 year old weeping pear off at hedge height three years ago and it is now, thankfully, a lovely rounded shape again. Thinking of early spring colour, *Rhododendron Wine and Roses* has been flowering for over a month, a rich clear deep cerise backed by leaves with a dark red underside, setting off the flowers nicely. It is followed by the *Malus floribunda* and the unfurling leaves of the scented balsam poplar. This honey like fragrance pervades the whole garden. Also spectacular is the large bulb, Crown Imperial.

*Fritillaria Lutea Imperialis*



Spring is a delicate palate of pale green bursting leaves before they develop their summer deep green. Each leaf spreads itself to make chlorophyll from sunlight. I wondered if anyone had calculated the entire leaf surface of a single tree as if it were one unbroken surface. It seems there is a whole science about "leaf area index", which measures the growth of forests, crops and green land cover globally to chart the progress of crops and of climate change and habitat decline. LAI (leaf area index) is the

amount of canopy for a given area (thought of as the shadow of the tree or plant on the ground). You can use a laser or Lidar scanner or alternatively a destructive sampling method where leaves are measured and counted. I found that they pollard ancient oaks in the Zagros forest in Kurdistan, 1/4 of the tree each year, so researchers could count and measure leaves not quite so destructively. There are computer programs that trace and measure individual leaves, determine an average and then extrapolate total leaf area. It was hard to find an answer to my original thought. No poetic comparisons. But on one chart a temperate zone tree 9.5m tall, with a crown of 6 square metres, had a leaf area of 63 square metres and a rainforest tree of 13m tall, with a crown of 15 square metres, had a leaf area of 226.7 square metres. I keep this in mind when I look at the mass of fallen pink petals under a cherry or a magnolia. And how important the rain forests are.



## SLALEY FILM CLUB

Commemoration Hall 6.30-7.30pm

**WILL WE CARRY ON FOR A 19<sup>TH</sup> SEASON?**



Come to the meeting or simply drop in to give us your views. Bring film suggestions with you as this is the first stage in organising a season of film shows.

Most important – Is someone willing to take on the role of coordinator?

**Please step forward if this is you**

## Sleafy Film Club

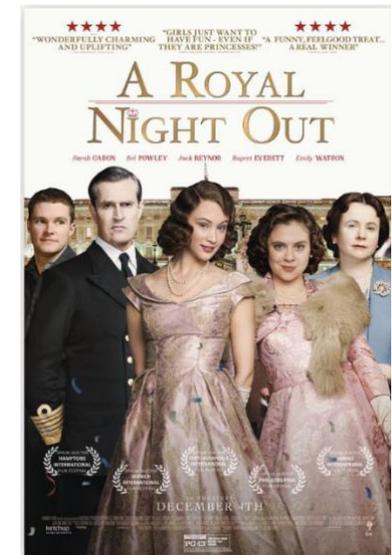
June 4<sup>th</sup>

**A Royal Night Out (12A)**

**Commemoration Hall 4.00 p.m.**

In association with Sleafy Parish Council, Sleafy Film Club, to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee are screening *A Royal Night Out*. Inspired by true events, the film follows the antics of Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret on the evening of V.E. Day, 1945, when the King allows them to take part in the celebrations on the streets of London. Each girl, [incognito](#), is chaperoned by an army officer with an itinerary to be back at Buckingham Palace by 1 a.m. Soon realising the planned itinerary does not fulfil their expectations of fun and meeting the ordinary people, Margaret is the first to slip away from her escort, followed by Elizabeth.

The film is free to all comers and tea and cake will be served following the screening



## Slaley Parish Council

The Parish Council held its annual meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May, followed by its regular meeting. At the former Ian Stevens was elected as Chairman, Jon Storey, Vice-Chairman and Deborah Taylor the councils representative on the Commemoration Hall Committee.

At the councils regular meeting the issues of the Glen Crossroads (safety concerns) and the 20 mph speed restriction through the village remained high on the agenda. County Councillor, Colin Horncastle advised that both were due for action this year. More immediately he advised of the increasing number of Land Rovers that were being stolen in the area together with diesel. He requested extra vigilance and advised that the police were stepping up patrols in an attempt to reduce this criminal activity.

Full details of the councils meetings can be found by visiting <https://www.slaley.org.uk/page/parish-council/>.

Two vacancies remain on the Parish Council after the annual meeting. If you would like to fill one please visit <https://www.slaley.org.uk/page/parish-council/> to find out more. One meeting a month of roughly two hours is all it takes to ensure democracy prevails in Slaley parish.

### ***Our community space***



In recent weeks we have had reports of inappropriate use of the school grounds outside educational hours, when it becomes a public space for us all to enjoy. The most recent events involve destruction of both basketball nets (now removed) and the use of paintballs/gunge pellets on the tarmacadam play surface. This space remains open to us all through the goodwill of a number of organisations

including the school itself and Slaley Parish Council. To ensure our continued enjoyment of it we have been asked as a community to take greater collective care of it.



## The Rose and Crown

Our new partnership with LWC Drinks Ltd. on 10<sup>th</sup> May, went wonderfully well, despite a few last minute hiccups. The car park seems busier than normal since the introduction of our new beers and ciders. Our Stella lager remains ever popular, but our new Staropramen offering is proving a great hit. What we hadn't expected though was how popular Guinness would be. According to Tracey (our landlady) it's "Walking out of the door."

The Board met on 17<sup>th</sup> May under the chairmanship of Barry Warman. The agenda was dominated by the impact of inflation on the hospitality sector and the rising cost of energy. At that meeting it was also agreed that the pub would open early at 11 a.m. on 12<sup>th</sup> June to offer drinks and food to those taking part in the Slaley Parish Wander. Sunday lunch will be available, but booking is essential, as will a new roast sandwich for those just looking for a quick pitstop. Don't forget to visit our website at <http://www.roseandcrownsalaley.co.uk/> to keep abreast of all things Rose and Crown and for our shareholders additional information is regularly sent out via Mailchimp.



## Slaley Parish Picnic at the Rose and Crown – 4<sup>th</sup> June



To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the Rose and Crown will host the Slaley Parish Picnic, from 12 noon in the beer garden. Just bring a picnic and meet up with friends or enjoy the company of others on this special day.



Those dressed in patriotic attire can expect to receive 10% off any drinks order placed.

Fingers crossed for a fine day

**Contributions for July edition by Friday June 24<sup>th</sup> or earlier please.**

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