

Notes from the Vicarage

The Easter story continues to intrigue me deeply, which, given my job and responsibilities is probably rather a good thing; but there is so much about it which seems to slide just out of reach. Even the most enthusiastic near-contemporary accounts of the risen Jesus are tantalising. He walks through doors like ghost and yet he was able to eat grilled fish. His friends often fail to recognise him even when they've been with him for hours. The penny drops only when he does something significant like calling them gently by name, or breaking a loaf of bread with them at the start of a meal. What seems even harder to explain is the apparently abrupt and near miraculous transformation of his friends, especially big-mouthed, cowardly Peter.

However you interpret all this, whether it makes sense to you or not, the persistence of that transformative potential released at Easter is remarkable.

For me, Easter remains an invitation to re-imagine what's possible and to delight in the sheer wonder of life and love. It enables us to trust in truth and hope in a world where cynicism and false news seems to have gained the upper hand. Easter is truly amazing.

St Mary's, Slaley Coffee Mornings

Our next coffee morning will be on Saturday 7 April. We much look forward to seeing you. This will be a special Easter edition with a chocolate tombola. Not to be missed!

Ecumenical Study Group

We begin again after Easter on Friday 13 April at 10.30am to 12 noon in the Vicarage and then on Friday 27 April. We've so much enjoyed our discussions based on the book of BCC Radio 4: Lent Talks, that we've decided to look at more of them. Please come and join us.

Services at St Mary's: Anglicans and Methodists Together

Saturday 31 March	7.30pm	Easter Vigil and Bonfire at Hunstanworth
Easter Day 1 April	11.00	Family Service
	6pm	Easter Communion
Sunday 8 April	11.00	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 April	11.00	Service of the Word (David)
Sunday 22 April	11.00	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 April	11.00	Songs of Praise for Spring

Please note that morning services now begin at 11am!

Further details of services and other events throughout the Moorland Group of Churches can be found on our website www.moorland-group.org.uk Services at St Mary's will be led by Helen unless otherwise stated.

Easter Services at Minsteracres

Easter Sunday (1 April)
8.30 am Mass & 10.30 am (Both masses Church)
Easter Monday (2 April)
10.00 am Mass (Chapel)
Sunday Masses - 8.30am & 10.30am
Weekday & Saturday Mass 8.30am (Chapel)



SLALEY NEWS APRIL 2018



Hopefully, when you read this, you will be celebrating Easter, the last of the snow and, hopefully, signs of spring. It is perhaps a time to reflect on the efforts of all and sundry who kept the village ticking over during the bad weather. Praise should go to the volunteers who kept the newspapers arriving and those who kept the Shop and Rose and Crown open to customers. Also a big thank you to the unknown person who spent a couple of days clearing our footpaths.

SLALEY & HEXHAMSHIRE OIL BUYING GROUP.

Our April order deadlines are orders to me by Tuesday 10th April for delivery week commencing April 16th.

For full details of membership contact me on 01434 676949 Neil Whatmough

Badminton Club. Badminton continues on Wednesdays 9.30 am in the Commemoration Hall. New players are welcome to join us, come and have exercise and fun.

Please note that the badminton equipment is for everyone to use and we would encourage people to book the hall and play with their friends or families. For information contact Fran Pugh on 673429.



SLALEY FILM CLUB



April 20th. 2018

"The Eagle Huntress" (UY)

Supper provided- please pre-order vegetarian option. byo drinks

Slaley Commemoration Hall. All performances start at 7.30pm

This film follows Aisholpan, a 13-year-old girl, as she trains to become the first female in twelve generations of her Kazakh family to become an eagle hunter. While many old eagle hunters reject the idea of any female taking part in their ancient tradition, Aisholpan never doubts her ability to be as strong or brave as any boy.

Contributions for May edition by Saturday April 21st. please.

Editors: Jim Bailey 673352 baileyjim128@gmail.com
Fiona McKendrick: 673281 fionamckendrick@googlemail.com

Published by Slaley Community Trust

Exercise to Music. Support is growing, classes continue on Monday mornings in Slaley Commemoration Hall. There will be no Class on Easter Monday (2nd April) but they will then run all other Mondays in April. If you feel like joining us, give me a call! Carol Ferguson(673585)

Dilston College Coffee Mornings

Every Tuesday in the Commemoration Hall 10.30 – 11.15. Please come and support us.

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“The Arts Society Hexham”

On Tuesday 10th. April 2018 at 7.30pm in the function room at Hexham Mart.
Lee Miller: Witnessing Women at War by Antony Penrose
From Vogue to Land Girls Lee Miller’s photographs portray the social upheaval in women’s lives during World War 11 and are set against the backdrop of her own fascinating life story. Himself a photographer Antony Penrose is Lee Miller’s son and director of the Lee Miller Archive

Craft Group. Meetings on Thursdays April 5th. and April 19th. 2.00pm – 4.00pm in the Commemoration Hall. New “crafters” will always find a warm welcome, cup of tea and chat as well as encouragement to help finish any projects you may have. Further details from Brenda (673269)



Slaley Red Squirrels

It is survey time again (March to end of May). We will be putting up our feed box and camera again as soon as the snow goes and we can access the usual site safely. The camera survey is carried out over a 2 week period so we hope to see a Red. Last year we had no squirrels on camera and hope for a better result this time. I had a red sighting from Pow Hill last week, the first one this year. If you see one or need a trap for a grey please let me know.

Contact 01434673461 or Mob 077525228115 or m_bates4@sky.com

Slaley Parish Council. Notes From March 2018 Meeting

Following approval at the next meeting full minutes will be available at www.slaley.org.uk or a printed copy can be seen by appointment with Pat Wilson, Parish Clerk Tel:673388.

Public Participation: A representation from Slaley school attended and presented “ The Role of Slaley First School and its response to the consultation on education.” See the minutes of the meeting for more information on this.

Matters for Discussion with County Councillor: No reply regarding tree pruning on the Wooley road. It was suggested another approach to Highways.

Mobile Post Office: Community Shop received a telephone call on February 12th to report that there would be no Post Office on February 12th, 13th or 14th due to illness. If the shop receives a message like that again they will call the Parish Clerk.

Car Parking: All night parking on the public footpath in the village has been brought to the attention of the PC, could we please remind everyone that pedestrians need to be able to use the footpath, the offending vehicle had this totally blocked.

EVENTS AT Minsteracres Retreat Centre

Details from: info@minsteracres.org or call 01434 673248

Events in April include

Faith and Wellness 14/04/2018 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

A workshop which explores in a gentle way how faith is the response we make to the Father’s gift of life — the covenant of God’s relationship with us which alone can bring true health in body, mind and spirit. The workshop will be led by Andrew Whiteley and Maria Whiteley.

Day of prayer 18/04/2018 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Led by **Rosarie Spence RSM**, this day enables you to experience different ways of praying in a beautiful setting and gives you time for quiet personal prayer. Lunch, tea and coffee are provided. £25

Walking Retreat 21/04/2018 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Enjoy a walk of seven to ten miles through the beautiful countryside around Minsteracres, with time for prayer, reflection and sharing of the beauty of creation. You will need suitable walking boots and warm, weatherproof clothing. Please bring a packed lunch.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

1915 FOR 100 YEARS 2015

Slaley W.I.
March 14th 7.30pm.
Visit to I Pots. Hexham



Flower Arrangements at Slaley Hall
 Flowers for Wedding Venues
 Bouquets for the Bride
 Buttonholes for the Groom
 Flowers for Birthdays
 Floral Displays for Christmas
 Single Blooms to make a Statement of Love
 Colour co-ordinated Anniversary Arrangements
 Floral Art in Slaley Show
 Flower Festivals
 Funeral Wreaths and Memorial Tributes

Gwen Foster has done them all and for one day only Gwen returns to demonstrate her skill

Commemoration Hall, Slaley Sunday April 8th 3.30 p.m.
 Tickets £9 to include Sunday afternoon tea from Pat Wilson 01434 673388

Ladycross Nature Reserve

Claiming date:-

Back by popular demand. Please put this date in your diaries.

Saturday 14th July – Art and Craft Café – to raise funds for Ladycross Nature Reserve.



Nearer the time, I will be looking for helpers and bakers. I will also give you more details. Joan Jewitt - 01434 673245

Carpet Bowls Club

The final matches of the season have now been played and ended with a loss at the cheery Snods, a victory over Corbridge and a win over Haydon Bridge. During the really enjoyable year of bowls we won 10 matches and lost 7. There was always a good number of players at club nights and the club continues to thrive and provide a wonderful social night out for all ages and all abilities.

We'll be back in September and hope to welcome some new bowlers.

The Slaley churchyard is emerging from the snow and frost and those brave little snowdrops are showing no signs of being defeated. The crocuses and daffodils will soon gather their courage to flower and the churchyard will be a beautiful burst of spring colours.

These joyous events will be accompanied by the inevitable growing of grass and we'll need to keep the graveyard and wild flower garden looking tidy.

In recent years a cheerful band of volunteers have cut the grass, tidied up branches and generally looked after the place.

If you can spare a few hours every other month to join a rota of volunteers who mow and strim, using the church equipment, then please contact Brian Wilson on 673043.

Slaley Show's Eggsecutive Search !

We would like to say thanks to Vicky Pepys, our long-serving Egg and Poultry Secretary, who has retired from the Show, after many years running this section.



This leaves a vacancy, for what is now just an Egg Section, due to restrictions on showing poultry. There were 96 entries last year, so we would really like to continue this tradition, and are looking for someone to take over Vicky's role. This involves a little bit of time on the Friday before the Show, and then your presence on the day, up until the judging has finished, around midday. Any entry forms go to another member of the committee, so it is really only a couple of days' time involved.

We are also looking for a steward to assist with the Floral Art section – again, a similar amount of time is involved. If you would like to find out more about either of these roles, please let me know.

By the time you read this, Whitley Chapel Young Farmers' Club will have given us a performance of "Treasure Island", by way of a fundraiser for both them and the Show. Thanks to them for their support.

Catherine Lincoln
 Secretary – Slaley Show 0791 812 0125, email catherine@reaston.plus.com



Rose and Crown Slaley

**A friendly and welcoming country pub
 April Events**

April 21st St. George's Day Celebrations

Medieval banquet with a glass of mead with a St. George's theme quiz with our amazing quiz master.

Bookings are being taken for a fun filled evening. 01434 673996

Steak Night is – Every Thursday!

Rump steak, fries and salad with a pint of Foster's, Strongbow or John Smith's or medium glass house wine for £12.95.

Two rump steaks, fries and salad with a bottle of house wine for £27.95.



Every Sunday 8pm is Quiz Night

A very entertaining evening. Entry £1 per person, light supper provided.



We are pleased to announce that the Play Area is now open for our younger visitors aged 10 and under.

Notes from Slaley First School

As you may be aware, Slaley First School hit the press this month! The school remained open whilst the 'Beast from the East' tried its hardest to close our doors. Undeterred, Mrs Brett lodged in the village and together with two other members of staff was able to provide education for those who could safely make it to school. Those younger pupils who attended, enjoyed a few days of searching for Jack Frost's fingers, the results of which can be found on our school website. Older pupils took the opportunity to be taught in a small group and forged ahead with their learning.

Many thanks to all those who helped the school remain accessible for the children and to the parents who cleared the school yard and surrounding paths.

We have been perfecting notes and timings in choir and are ready to perform some lovely songs in our Easter coffee morning. Please come along and share in our Easter Celebrations and hopefully welcome in the Spring! Doors open at 9:15am on Thursday 29th March (our last day of term).

Our PE curriculum has extended to golf and cricket coaching this month which the children have really enjoyed. The Year 3 & 4 children will be taking part in a Tri-Golf tournament at Close House on Friday, 23rd March. This is a fabulous opportunity for them to compete with children from over 15 other schools. The range of sporting experiences we offer is growing as we purchase further new equipment and buy in specialist coaching with our Sports Premium Funding.

The Key Stage 2 children will soon be packing their suitcases and waving goodbye to Mums and Dads for a few nights as they attend Dukeshouse Wood for a residential stay in April. They will be taking parts in lots of exciting activities and no doubt enjoying marshmallows toasted on a camp fire. Hopefully, some milder weather is on its way, so they can enjoy taking part in night time activities. This trip is a particular favourite of the children as they team up with children from Whitley Chapel and make new friends.

We wish you a very happy Easter!

Mrs Hay is retiring

Some of you may have first come across Mrs Hay, when you took your little child into Slaley First School's nursery class, probably with some trepidation. For 17 years, Mrs Hay has been an amazing nursery teacher, providing many children with a great start in school, and always calm and reassuring with parents. There is a card in the shop (with an optional collection) if anyone would like to say thanks.

Catherine Lincoln, Governor, Slaley First School

Slaley Community Shop Update

Our volunteers are fantastic! The Beast from East and then the Mini Beast blew their worst but everyone rose to the challenge splendidly. Thank you to those who fetched papers from Prudhoe, trudged up and down in the snow to deliver them, manned the shop, brought in emergency supplies of bread, fetched the pies up and boosted our sales exponentially – especially beer, wine and sweets!

Talking of money, we're delighted that results for the first nine months of operation are extremely encouraging. The shop is currently generating a trading profit of more than £1,000 per month and is on target to meet our year one budget predictions. Encouraged by this, the Board has recently approved a timetable which includes a planning application to make the most of the space available to us and a share offer - later in the year (we'll keep you informed). We hope you'll agree that these are very positive steps towards our goal of securing the freehold of the shop land and buildings.

Another piece of good news is that we have now found a tenant for the flat above the shop.

And so to Spring and hopes of somewhat warmer weather, a hike in sales of ice-cream, coffee sitting out in the sun and an even wider selection of tempting locally produced goodies. One thing's for sure – Slaley Shop won't stand still.

Wine of the Month

Our newest line in Slaley Village shop is a great discovery: Jackson Estate, Merlot 2014, which comes from one of the most remarkable plots of vineyard land in the Southern Hemisphere, the Gimblett Gravels of Hawkes Bay, New Zealand. This blessed spot has a similar potential for greatness as the top sites in Bordeaux and the claret -like wine made by Jackson Estate is correspondingly exciting. And we sell it for just £14.95. Snap it up and serve it with the finest Easter lamb.

Slaley Show Membership

In previous years the List of Members in the Schedule has been the List from the year before to allow time for the printing of the Schedule.

To keep details more up to date the List of Members will this year be the current list of 'paid up' members and if you want your name to appear in the Schedule you will need to have renewed your Membership before 1st May to allow for editing/ printing of the Schedule Should you not have received or lost your Membership Renewal Form ,please contact Mervyn Savage (Membership Secretary) via Tel: 01434 563564 or email : mhs@mervynsavage.plus.com



USEFUL NUMBERS AND CONTACTS

Badminton Group	Fran Pugh	673429
Carpet Bowls	Jason & Jeannie Abdelnoor	673651
St Mary's Parish Church	Reverend Helen Savage	676852
Slaley Methodist Church	Reverend David Goodall	603139
St Elizabeth's Catholic Church	Father Jeroen Hoogland	673248
Commemoration Hall	Chairman Ros Doonan	673173
	Bookings Ann Wright	673366
Community Trust	Chairman Norman Watson	673914
County Councillor	Colin Horncastle	618259
Craft Group	Brenda Hutchinson	673269
Dial –A-Ride	A.D.A.P.T	600599
Film Club	Jean and Michael Elphick	673443
Friends of Slaley School	Emma Turnbull	673317
Hexham Hospital	0344 811 8111	
Ladycross Nature Reserve	Joan Jewitt	673245
Leek Club	Malcolm Goodwin	673408
Local History Group	Pat Wilson	673388
	Ian Hancock	673502
Mobile Hairdresser	Linda Johnston	673196
Northumberland CC	Report faulty Streetlights/Potholes	03456006400
Parish Council	Chairman Robbie Hutchinson	673107
	Clerk Pat Wilson	673388
Police PC Sue Cockburn	For non emergency calls please ring 101	
Post Office Van	Martin Nichol	01661
	Stocksfield Post Office	842110
Rose & Crown Pub		673996
Slaley Shop		673201
Slaley First School	Head, Mrs Debbie Brett	673220
Slaley Notes in Hexham Courant	Stella Douglas	673001
	Helen Savage	676852
Slaley Parish Website	www.slaley.org.uk	
Slaley Show Society	Chairman, Marge Rastall	673547
	Secretary, Catherine Lincoln	676855
Slaley Red Squirrel Group	Margaret Bates	673461
Travellers Rest Pub	Ian and Darren	673231
Women's Institute	President Margaret Rowell	673589
	Secretary Dorothy Bell	676962

Slaley, Healey & Minsteracres Local History Club

Slaley Commemoration Hall from 7.30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
admission £2 per adult or 50p for anyone in full time education

Monday April 23rd

Northumberland National Park Mountain Rescue Team

Its work and history. By David Waters

David will present the work and history of the NNP MRT – a wonderful group of people who give their time to help those in need.

This is the rescheduled January 2017 talk. Since then the Hexham Courant and the Newcastle Journal have kept the public informed of the NNP MRT call-outs and training.

January 2017: record year of call-outs for mountain rescue team with a photograph of team members who passed their Mountain Rescue Casualty Care exams.

February 2017: Stranded walkers spark major rescue operation & Farmer helped rescuers.

March 2017: The NNP MRT advised walkers to register their phones for a text service which could save lives.

May 2017: Textbook rescue led to miraculous recovery for mum.

June 2017: Rescue team needs new radio.

July 2017: Team welcomes new members.

August 2017: Mountain bike team helped by rescuers.

September 2017: Teams test drones in rescue drills.

October 2017: Search on for river bellwethers.

January 2018: Busy month for mountain rescue – busiest January on record.

February/March 2018: District hit by worst snowfall in a generation - Mountain rescue teams save stranded motorists.

For more information contact Pat Wilson 673388, email:

pat.wilson28@outlook.com

Or Ian Hancock 673502, email: hancock@glenlodge.free-online.co.uk

The editors always welcome contributions, feedback and comment. They cannot guarantee inclusion but there are often spaces such as this to fill which cause a headache. This month we only have a single centre page so please keep it handy as sometimes we are tempted to leave the contacts page out in order to release extra space.