

Notes from the Vicarage

Organisations come unstuck when they lack a common purpose. As do countries. As we have seen, again and again recently, one of the greatest challenges of politicians is to find such a purpose – and sell it; but if we don't agree about the problems that confront us, as indeed we don't over Brexit, the task of finding a common solution is a non-starter.

No-one in the glass house of the Church can afford to throw stones and pretend we've above this kind of debate. The church, as a human institution has often also failed to be clear what it's really about. We too have been obsessed by red lines that need not be red lines at times: the role of women in the church has been one of the clearest examples of this and there are many others.

The more fundamental challenge for the church, I think, is how we may hang onto a common vision of how God's love can transform lives - and then live as though we believe that even when faith is hard or when life kicks us in the teeth.

One of the images we've been given and can offer to the wider world is that of belonging to a body. The point about this body imagery is that it's concrete, practical and wonderfully inclusive. You can see when it works. It recognises that we are all different and all have different things to offer.

Sometimes I feel that people are daunted by such talk, and think something on the lines of, 'well that's all well and good, but I haven't got much to offer compared to him or to her. And they seem to have no trouble believing whereas I struggle and am not even sure what I'm doing here.'

Fair point, but if we insist that all that really matters is to trust the transforming power of love, we can have all the doubts in world, be tongue tied and slow on the uptake, fail to understand how to use a smart phone and still make a contribution that makes all the difference in the world. It doesn't matter who we are.

The starting point for such a way forward is right here and in the relationships we already value in this place: different as we are and yet united just by being here in the hope that drives us keep the shop, the Community Hall and the pub going – as well as the churches.

This is not an escapist response to political problems facing our country but a blueprint for how things really could be different.

Ecumenical Study Group

We'll meet on Fridays 8 and 22 February at 10.30am to noon at the Vicarage. There's no need to read anything in advance. Helen will prepare something topical to kick off our discussions. New members are always welcome.



SLALEY NEWS

February 2019



Thank you!

To everyone who supported St Mary's Christmas Fair, which raised £689. This was a little disappointing, but the day itself was great fun.

The wreath night in December was a great success with a record 23 in attendance and it was a lovely way to start off the festive season. We made a £240 donation to the The People's Kitchen and they wanted me to pass on their thanks. Book early for next year! Fiona.

Christmas Eve Carol Singers. This year a fantastic £405 was raised for Action for Children (actionforchildren.org) a charity who at their premises at Monksfield in Hexham provide accommodation and support services for disabled and disadvantaged children.



SLALEY FILM CLUB



February 15th 2019

"I Wish" (PG)

Two young brothers, 12-year-old Koichi and younger Ryunosuke, have been separated by their parents' divorce and Koichi's only wish is for his family to be reunited. When he learns that a new bullet train line will soon open, linking the two towns, he starts to believe that a miracle will take place the moment these new trains first pass each other at top speed.

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

Slaley Commemoration Hall. All performances start at 7.30pm

Contributions for March edition by Wednesday February 20th. please.

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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

February Monday 25th Lieutenant of the Queen's Bodyguard By Major Charles Enderby

Charles Enderby was accepted as a cadet at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst in 1957. He was commissioned in the 12 Lancers, serving with the 9/12 Lancers until 1985. Duty to the Queen has played a major role in his life - he remained a member of the Queen's bodyguard, known as the Yeomen of the Guard, for 22 years after his retirement.

Between 1991 and 2009 Mr. Enderby was Chairman of the bench at Tynedale Magistrates Court where he was a Justice of the Peace and presided over his final case at Hexham in September 2009.

Charles's great-grandfather, Charles William Chipchase Henderson reinstated horse racing at Hexham under National Hunt rules in 1890. Henderson died in 1914 and ownership of the racecourse passed to his son, Captain Stephen Henderson, who in 1926 turned the racecourse into a private limited company. Between 1945 and 1990 the racecourse was under the stewardship of Kit Patterson. Charles Enderby became Hexham Racecourse's chief executive on his return to the North-east.

Natural History is an interest and he is remembered for rerouting a steeplechase course because a skylark was sitting on its eggs in front of a fence.

For more information contact Pat Wilson 673388,
email: pat.wilson28@outlook.com

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

Craft Group. Meetings on Thursdays February 14th and February 28th 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)

Badminton Club. We continue throughout February at 9.30 on Wednesdays in the Commemoration Hall and new players are very welcome to join us for exercise and fun.
For people who are unable to play badminton during the daytime, it has been suggested that an evening club could be set up. If anyone is interested please contact Fran Pugh. For information contact Fran Pugh on 673429.

Exercise to Music. Exercise to Music classes continue on Monday mornings in Slaley Commemoration Hall. Meeting on 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th February. Fancy coming along – contact Carol Ferguson (673588) for more information

Pilates Classes Please come and give it a try - **Please note classes are on Wednesdays** 6.00pm. New members are always welcome. ring Jacqui on 07960484198

Slaley Parish Council: - Next meeting Monday February 11th. Minutes of previous meetings can be viewed on www.slaley.org.uk

SLALEY & HEXHAMSHIRE OIL BUYING GROUP

Over November, December and January we ordered 125,500 litres saving our members £5,020

We are also on course for our Group to buy its 2 millionth Litre of oil in the next 2 months (probably March). The person who orders the 2 millionth litre will be presented with a bottle of Champagne. The deadlines for orders for February and March are:-

February Orders to me by Tuesday 12th for delivery week commencing Monday 18th of February

March Orders to me by Tuesday 12th for delivery week commencing Monday 18th of March (yes it is the same as February days)

Thank you all for your continued support Neil Whatmough at nbwhatmough@btinternet.com or on (01434) 676949

Slaley Carpet Bowls

There was only one match in January before the news cut off date. It was against Riding Mill. This was the eagerly anticipated return fixture with Slaley hoping to reverse the defeat of the 2018 fixture. An extremely close match went to the final games before being decided by a small margin victory for Slaley.

February matches are against the Shire 7/2, Newbrough 13/2, Catton 19/2 and Wall 26/2. A very busy month for matches. There will be club nights on Tuesday 5/2 and 12/2.

The WI bowling night and the Open Weekend where bowls for fun featured were well received and unearthed some promising bowls talent!

Slaley W.I. Wednesday February 13th.

Birthday Party

Commemoration Hall 7.30 pm

Please bring a plate of food.

Many thanks to the members of Slaley Carpet Bowls for coming to our last meeting and guiding us with their expertise and patience. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the night and we appreciated their efforts



The Arts Society Hexham

On Tuesday 12th. February 2019 at 2.00pm in the Function Room at Hexham Mart.

Rock of Ages – Medieval Stonemasons Architects of Europe. –James Wright
Learn about the men who shaped the architectural appearance of the medieval period, their techniques and their influence in the history of architecture

Rose and Crown Slaley A friendly and welcoming country pub

Friday 8th February we have a fund raising event for Slaley Leek Club. We have our annual Slaley versus Shire Leek Club Dominoes and Darts challenge. Everyone welcome and it's a fun entertaining evening. Light supper available. Starting from 7pm.

Monday 14th February, For all you romantics out there Valentine's Day, why not bring your loved one out for a romantic meal?

The Sunday night quiz is up and running, starts at 8pm and includes a light supper. Come along and challenge your friends and neighbours.

Look forward to seeing you all and supporting your community pub.
please call in or telephone 01434 673996

Saturday 23rd February. Wine Tasting at the Rose and Crown

3.30pm Includes a generous early buffet supper. £25

A seasonal tasting if ever there was one, Helen will contrive a very generous collection of outrageously flavoursome love-themed wines (and not just pink ones) from around the world, including of course, some excellent Saint-Amour from Beaujolais. Lots of fun, lots of great tastes.

Please book by emailing olwen@helensavage.com or phone 01434 676852 (don't phone the pub please!).

Slaley Community Shop Update

You'll have seen that Philip Cain, Simon Band and others have been absolute stars working hard transforming the old garage space into a splendid extension of the shop. This will enable us to stock an even better range of goods and avoid the horrible over-heating problem we had last summer. All this comes back of a fabulous trading period in the run up to Christmas. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked so hard. The eagle-eyed of you will notice that the flat is once again let, which is more good news.

We'll be circulating a special newsletter next month to bring everyone right up to date and to give you news of our incredibly important share offer which we plan to launch in March. Spring is coming!



Leek Club Darts and Dominoes Night Friday 8th of February from 7.00pm onwards at the Rose and Crown

Slaley will be taking on a team from the Shire. Last year's event was a cracking night and this year promises to be equally entertaining. Buffet supper available. A raffle will be held with some quality prizes, the proceeds of which will go towards putting on the Slaley Leek Club Show in October. You don't have to play Darts or Dominoes to enjoy the evening and you don't have to be a Leek Club member. All welcome.

Come along and have some fun. More details from Tracey at the Rose and Crown or Malcolm Goodwin on 673408.



Ladycross Nature Reserve

Working with People for Nature – Working with Nature for People
Winter Guided Walks



- February 10th – walk around the reserve to feed the birds and look out for footprints in the mud/snow. Meet at quarry gates at 1pm. Charge of £5 per head, children free – to cover costs of feed and to support the reserve. Stout footwear essential.
- March 10th – Spring walk – as for February walk. Also hoping to spot some bugs/insects. Contact Joan 01434 673245.

EVENTS AT Minsteracres Retreat Centre – March & April

Walking Retreat: Enjoy a walk of seven to ten miles through beautiful countryside: Saturday 9 March and Wednesday 10 April 10am – 5pm

Quiet Days: Listen to God in scripture enjoying the peace and tranquillity of the countryside. Wednesday 13 (with Kathryn Turner), 20 (with Sr. Sheila McNamara RSCJ) and 27 March (with Sr. Anne McCarthy RSCJ). All from 10am – 4pm with lunch.

God is Ripening: Spirituality of "The Book of Hours" by Rainer Maria Rilke, Patrick Woodhouse. Wednesday 3 April 10am – 4 pm. (The spiritual life of the Poet Rainer Maria Rilke is explored in "The Book of Hours", influential in the writings of Jewish diarist Etty Hillesum in her understanding of God, whilst facing the horrors of the Holocaust.)

Holy Week Retreat: Time for reflection and the opportunity to take part in the ceremonies of Holy Week. Thursday 18 (6.30pm) – 21 April (2pm)

For more information about Minsteracres and our full programme visit www.minsteracres.org or call us on 01434 673248.

Friends of Slaley School

'It has been another busy Term of FoSS events with a Slaley bowls taster session, a Halloween disco and an evening of Christmas Carol singing together raising over £300.

The Slaley Bowls club taster session in September was a revelation. This proved to be a really technical sport but really good fun. Everyone who tried it, enjoyed it and the club found a couple of new members to boot. Over 50 monsters and ghouls came to the Halloween Disco in October and the Commemoration Hall was dressed accordingly with giant spiders, bats, grim reapers and a dead body as the kids danced the afternoon away with prizes for best costume and best dancer. Our latest event was our annual carol singing and hamper raffle at the Rose and Crown. Despite freezing rain and dangerous road conditions, the pub was packed and a power cut and Alan Ogles' special reindeer simply added to the festive atmosphere! These events continue to be successful thanks only to the parents and wider community that support us through donations and giving their time and efforts, thank you as always.

Commemoration Hall

Thank you to everyone who came or contributed to the Open Weekend at the hall, It was a great success. Our 100k for 100 years project is now launched - watch out for new activities in the hall.



If you need to park a car in the Commemoration car park, could you please inform Ann Wright on 673366 as it could be an insurance problem.

Please remember that the bins at the hall are for users of the hall only.

Services at St Mary's: Anglicans and Methodists Together

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Sunday 3 February | 11.00 | Family Service |
| | 18.00 | Evensong |
| Sunday 10 February | 11.00 | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 17 February | 11.00 | Service of the Word |
| Sunday 24 February | 11.00 | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 3 March | 11.00 | Family Service |
| | 18.00 | Evensong |

Further details of services and other events throughout the Moorland Group of Churches can be found on our website www.moorland-group.org.uk

St Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church, Minsteracres

Sunday Masses - 8.30am & 10.30am
Weekday & Saturday Mass 8.30am (Chapel)

Floral Art Section. We are looking for a new Floral Art Section Secretary. This is a great way to get involved in the show, it is open to anyone - you don't need to have any flower arranging experience. The Floral Art section is a small section, so is not too onerous.

There is an extremely long tradition of flower arranging in the village, in the earlier days it was more often the men that did it, and they went off with their chrysanthemums as far as the Southport Flower Show, and brought back plenty of medals. If you'd like to find out more, please contact any of the committee or Catherine Lincoln on 0791 812 0125.



Horticulture Section As I will be taking over as horticultural secretary at Slaley Show this year and as it is our 160th year, I would like to put up some photographs of previous competitors and their entries in the horticultural section. If you have any pictures photos or memorabilia, could you please let me know? Many thanks Catherine Lincoln, tel 0791 812 0125, email catherine@reaston.plus.com."

Whist Drive Thursday February 21st. 7.30 pm Commemoration Hall
A fun whist drive to test Slaley rules and assess the possibility of running further "drives" in the future. Entrance £2 refreshments £1

Whitley Chapel
Young Farmers Club

- Open Male
- Open Female
- Mixed team of 5 (min 2 females)

Maximum of 25 entries per competition
£3 entry fee per player

6pm - Late
Saturday 16th February
2019
Whitley Chapel Village
Hall

Walk down music optional

**Ally Pally
comes to
Whitley Chapel**

Bar Pie and Peas supper Raffle Charity Auction

£7.50 Supper and entry (Served 7pm)
£5.00 entry on the door

Please order food tickets and competition entries by Friday 8th February -
Contact Robbie - 07975 938 152 or Anna - 07568 196 501

Everyone welcome!

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 Shirley Hall | 673255 |

Diary Dates

| | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Mondays | Exercise Classes |
| Tuesdays | Bowls Club |
| Wednesdays | Badminton |
| | Pilates |
| Alternate | |
| Thursdays | Craft Club |
| | |
| Feb 5th | Bowls club night |
| Feb 7th | Bowls match v Shire |
| Feb 8th | Ecumenical Study Group |
| Feb 10th | Ladycross walk |
| Feb 11th | Parish Council meeting |
| Feb 12th | Oil orders due. |
| | Arts Society, Hexham |
| | Bowls club night |
| Feb 13th | W.I. Birthday Party |
| | Bowls Club v. Newbrough (away) |
| Feb 14th | Craft Club |
| | Valentines night - Rose & Crown |
| Feb 15th | Film Club |
| Feb 16th | Whitley Chapel darts night |
| Feb 19th | Bowls match v. Catton (Home) |
| Feb 21 st | Whist Drive |
| Feb 22nd | Ecumenical Study Group |
| Feb 23rd | Wine tasting |
| Feb 26th | Bowls match v. Wall (away) |
| Feb 28th | Craft Club |

Please check articles to confirm dates and details. The editor takes no responsibility for mistakes.