



## **SLALEY NEWS JULY & AUGUST 2025**



This double issue starts with the first report from the new Parish Council, and also includes news from the First School, a look forward to the 163<sup>rd</sup> Slaley Show on Saturday the 9th of August, and two articles for gardeners, as well as the latest report from the WI.

### **Slaley Village News & Views**

Many readers of these printed newsletters will already be be users of various social platforms, such as Facebook. Are you aware of “Village News & Views”?

Why not subscribe to this private Facebook group? Created and administered by Nicole Dean, you can hear about upcoming events and add your own stories. Just search for the name and ask to “Join Group”!

However, those who write for this Newsletter can provide more lengthy articles, as you will see below . . .

### **Updating the Parish Website**

The parish website is now being managed by Councillor Nicole Dean, and each organisation included there should check their pages and send a request to Nicole with updates. Many of these pages are very outdated, and users of the website could be misled.

Select “Local Groups” and “Local Organisations” and see if your group has an entry. If you have updated information to replace that, just send an email to Nicole at: [ncjarman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ncjarman@hotmail.co.uk)

*Contributions for the September edition are due by Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> of August or earlier, please!*

*Send by email to [slaleynews@icloud.com](mailto:slaleynews@icloud.com), or to [michael@elphicks.myzen.co.uk](mailto:michael@elphicks.myzen.co.uk)*

## Slaley Parish Council Report

We're happy to let parishioners know that the Parish Council is once again up and running after almost a one year gap.

Our first proper meeting had a long agenda, adopting policies, discussing and agreeing the budget and spending for the coming year, plus setting the risk register. Also attending were members of the public, Michael Elphick and Pat Wilson, whose contributions and knowledge were invaluable in discussing the community participation in relation to our community groups and internet presence. We can now all get on with the business of supporting our parishioners in any way we can, operating particularly as a link to the County Council and a wide range of local issues.

Councillor Michael Ogle is the Link Councillor for the Commemoration Hall, and Councillor Nicole Dean is the Link Councillor with Slaley First School. Councillor Julie Cole is Vice Chair and responsible for the defibrillator and Councillor Anne Livesey will be the Chair of the Parish Council. All four bring a wealth of experience across a variety of business sectors, both private and public, and all have a very keen interest in all aspects the Parish.

We also have two new prospective Councillors hopefully joining the Council very soon.

*If any parishioner would like to draw attention to any issues in the Parish, please contact the Parish Clerk, Sam Dalglish via email on [slaleypc@gmail.com](mailto:slaleypc@gmail.com) or speak to Councillor Anne Livesey on 07803 610077*

## Slaley First School

**'Nurturing Ambitious Individuals'**

*'This is a small school where staff know the pupils well and everyone feels valued. Pupils enjoy being part of such a close and caring community. Staff and pupils abide by the school's values. All have a positive approach to work.'*  
**OFSTED**

Today we had our first Sports Day Practice which was impacted by the weather but not in our usual way—today it was too hot! We are hoping to be lucky and manage to have our sports day without a drop of rain but with a rather cooler breeze than today. The children will be enjoying a range of events including the traditional sack, and egg and spoon races. They have been increasing their fitness by taking part in lots of sporting events with other schools, which has been enjoyed by all.

Mrs. English is enjoying using the polytunnel and has been making daily visits with our budding gardeners to water and tend to our tomato plants. The children have taken leeks from Mrs Lincoln and are working hard to look after them, ready to show at the Leek Show later in the year. Our school guinea pigs are keeping a watchful eye over all the plants and vegetables the children have planted. They are well loved by the children and provide opportunities for children to relax and take time out to stroke and pet them as well as feed and look after them.

The children from Key Stage One have been on a visit to Hollybush, where they had a fabulous time planting planters for their parents. Our parents loved the beautiful pots of flowers the children made and during our visit the children developed their understanding of growing plants on a larger scale. The EYFS have visited our local milk supplier, 'Moo to You'. They had a lovely visit and now understand where their milk comes from. Key Stage 2 had a slightly more challenging visit. They went to the Sill and completed a walk on Hadrian's Wall.

The children had taken part in a Cultural Capital Project, which has resulted in them writing their own song. They have been lucky enough to visit Sunderland Fire Station and investigate behind the scenes and find out what happens before, during and after a performance. Their song has now been recorded, and the children have been involved in playing the drums and ukulele to accompany the song.

We still have so much to do to prepare for the end of the school year. We will be holding our leavers assembly, in which the children will share their memories of Slaley First School. This is always an emotional assembly with a mixture of feelings, a sadness to be saying goodbye to our fabulous year 4 children but also a time to celebrate their achievements and to share how proud we are of them.

We hold a 'stay and play' session for those children who are pre-school age and would like to come along and spend an afternoon of fun in our school garden. This has been received very well and we are hoping these children and parents will experience how wonderful our school is and perhaps attend the school when they become school age. The more the merrier, so if you know of anyone who would enjoy 'stay and play' please encourage them to contact school and come along.

We are always delighted to show people around our school and if you know of any families looking for a school for their children, please give us a mention and we will be only too happy to welcome them in to have a chat and see all the lovely learning taking place.

Look out for the children's exhibits at the Slaley and Blanchland Shows. The children really enjoy producing their entries. They love to hear how much our

local community appreciate their work and try really hard to produce some outstanding entries. The judges have a tough job!

We are all looking forward to our School Fair which is going to be a wonderful event. We have a great selection of stalls and are delighted to say we are offering Yoga sessions this year. The school council have worked hard to plan the event and are excited to be organising a sweetie stall. So come along to school on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June (10am-1pm), and enjoy all the fun of the fair!

On behalf of everyone at Slaley First School, we hope you have a wonderful summer and look forward to sharing all our news with you in September!

## **Slaley Show day: Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August!**

### ***Membership launch day: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July.***

As regular readers will know, we have had a couple of unavoidable delays with the printing of the official schedule this year but there is good news, by the time this Slaley News arrives on your doorstep - and if you read it quickly! - we will be in time to give you enough notice that our official coffee morning launch is on:-

*Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 10.00am until midday at the Commemoration Hall.*

Members pick up their badges and printed schedules at this event. Anyone who hasn't signed up and would like to join, is very much welcome too. These early funds are incredibly useful for 'incidentals' before the show. So, looking forward to seeing you there.

The website [www.slaleyshow.org.uk](http://www.slaleyshow.org.uk) will have also had a major overhaul. Schedules are available to download with entry forms and details of each individual secretary should you want further info. Advance tickets are also available online; it makes sense if you hate queues!

We are also asking for donated tombola prizes too please. Committee member Ann Holmes asks if donations could be dropped off at the Village Shop which she will collect on a regular basis. Ann will be running the good old-fashioned tombola on the show field and hopes that with a good show of prizes it will be 'irresistible' to visitors, another good little earner for much needed funds.

You'll see several new Honorary Lifetime Memberships within the schedule this year: - Vicky and David Jewitt, Margaret and Nigel Pickering, Hilary and Neils Kristensen, Janet and Philip Cain and Linda and Mal Johnston for their involvement, hard work and dedication in past and present shows. Our thanks to them, it's a small token of our appreciation.

As usual volunteers are needed in the set-up of the field from Wednesday night 6<sup>th</sup> August onwards and on the 9<sup>th</sup>, the day itself. At this stage we

know our dependable regular helpers but if you are new to us, we must rely on the village noticeboard and Facebook to give you specific details. Drop by at the launch coffee morning and let us know your availability?

***And the final piece of our show and committee member profile jigsaw is:  
Richard Ferguson***

**Richard is secretary, sponsor and creator of the specialist Stick Dressing, Wood Turning and Wood Carving section which has been known to literally stop visitors in their tracks within the Industrial Tent on show day.**

Richard began his interest in hardwoods when he and his wife, Carol, moved to Slaley in the late 70's. In making renovations to their house Richard found many established softwood suppliers locally but no hardwoods for flooring, beams, lintels and tables. He had a lightbulb moment and thought "Why not do it ourselves?" and set up his early business at the Townhead end of the village behind the former petrol station building a specialist dryer unit. In time a site became available for rent at Whitley Chapel, and eventually the surrounding 12-acre wood was for sale. Hexhamshire Hardwoods was born. "It's a bespoke business; nothing is standard issue" explains Richard. The quantity and variety of unusual timbers on offer these days is outstanding. We've heard of Lime, and Pear and obviously Oak but Camel Thorn, Thuya Burn or Zebrano?



Graeme & Richard    © PappasBland

Richard and son Graeme who joined the business after university, are at heart, environmentalists. The woodland surrounding the work site is occasionally thinned out but only 'windblows' are harvested. A long-term replanting scheme has always been in place.

And his involvement with the show? “That all started in 1979” says Richard. The first shows attracted skilled cabinet maker entries, “We had a memorable ornate fireplace surround arriving from Darlington and a reproduction Georgian cabinet from South Shields!”

These days the Woodturning, Wood Carving and Sculpture and Dressed sticks entries are much more physically portable, yet with the sheer amount of them, they are something of a ‘showstopper’ and take up a fair share of space in the show tent.

And Hexhamshire Hardwoods responded to the interest by also specialising in the rare hardwoods for these skills. There is abundance of prepared blanks for woodturning bowls, spindles, and even small blanks for pens. Small hardwood blocks too for woodprints and natural unusual shapes for carving.

“Over time we’ve built up a tremendous ‘bank’ of exhibitors who are often former skilled engineers from the shipyards, mines and Consett Steel Works and there are many specialist organisations” says Richard. His knowledge and reputation in running this kind of event has meant he is able to attract very well-regarded judges in these skills, this year Kevin Purdey for Woodturning, Brian Tuckey for the Carving and Tom Keers from the Stick Dressing Association. We look forward to seeing yet another impressive display.

*Deadlines for entries are at the very beginning of August. Prizes and accolades to be won! Visit [slaleyshow.org.uk](http://slaleyshow.org.uk), follow on Facebook and check at the village noticeboard for regular updates.*

## **Beer Festival**

The beer festival and raffle raised a phenomenal £7687.99 which will be shared between our 3 worthy causes!! A huge thanks to all of you who bought raffle tickets and came to the event.

Due to popular demand the beer festival will be back and Boys of Brass are already booked!

*SAVE THE DATE: Slaley Beer Festival 9th May 2026. If you would like to get involved email me at [lucykbrain@gmail.com](mailto:lucykbrain@gmail.com).*

## **Wednesday Afternoon in Slaley:**

Wander down Slaley’s Main Street on a Wednesday afternoon and you’d be forgiven for thinking you’d stumbled into a picture postcard. Trees in full leaf,

birds singing their little hearts out, the occasional tractor lumbering by with somewhere important to be. An occasional dog walker. Idyllic. Peaceful. Practically poetic you might think.

But you'd be wrong!

Because inside the village shop, great activity is stirring. Literally. Bowls, spoons, and a frankly irresponsible amount of flour. A crack team of retired villagers—armed with solid opinions, variable measuring skills, and not a single 'O' level certificate in Home Economics in sight — have donned their aprons and reassembled for what may be the most unpredictable "Bake-Off" north of the Tyne.

They have no qualifications, but plenty of confidence. And while their sponges may be hit or miss, their views on the state of the nation are always fully baked.



There is no topic too big for this lot to solve between batches of cookies. NHS waiting lists, the state of the railways, solar panels, potholes, interest rates—you name it. If it can't be resolved between the preparation a carrot cake and the lemon drizzle, then frankly, it's beyond saving.

In fact, Sir Keir Starmer would do well to ditch Prime Ministers Question Time and head to Slaley instead. Don an apron, prepare a bakewell tart, and he'll leave with both his policies sorted for the country and probably a 'goodwill' packet of Chocolate Chip Cookies.

Our unofficial leader (identifiable by his laminated hygiene certificates) hands out recipes with military precision. "Carrot cake for you, lemon drizzle for you, oatmeal cookies for you. Bakewell tart—no, you did that last week. You're on brownies.."

The recipes are laminated now, not for glamour, but because we refer to them so often the originals began to disintegrate. There was a brief period where memory alone was trusted. It did not go well.

The kitchen? Best described as “economical.” It comfortably fits two people, with a lot of ‘Excuse me’ when another masterpiece is ready for the oven. You see there’s only one oven. Three shelves. A cooling rack that wobbles like a pensioner’s hip replacement. But amazingly somehow, it all works.

Occasionally, the fair sex join us. Which causes mild panic among the men. They arrive with confidence and know-how and instantly spot the flaws in our system (there are many). But the girls are gracious (or is it tolerant), they join in, and the banter goes up a notch—along with the standard of the baking.

Timing in the oven is a lesson in supreme organisation. The moment the timer pings, our ‘man-in-charge’ does a sort of interpretive dance while trying to remember which tray was due out. Lemon drizzle? Brownies? Nobody is quite sure.

The whole system of tray rotation and shelf allocation has become a masterclass in precision logistics. Honestly, if Greggs HQ witnessed the choreography required to get a sponge in before the brownies collapse, they’d take over our little unit and make us a Research and Development site.

The ups and downs of Newcastle Football Club are quickly resolved , - if Eddie Howe cared to come along. Even Monty Don would be fascinated—and possibly a little intimidated—by the show leek growing knowledge casually exchanged over a cooling tray of carrot cake. It’s edge-of-the-seat stuff.

But—miraculously—the end result is always something beautiful. Cakes cool. Brownies set. Cookies emerge golden (or slightly darker, depending on how lively the political chat got). Then it’s onto slicing, bagging, labelling, and pricing for the next day’s shop. And by Friday lunchtime? Not a crumb remains.

It’s a joy, really. Watching people pick up a slice of sponge or a packet of cookies made in a kitchen where the coffee machine shares preparation space with the surface covered in flour. Knowing we are all supporting our village shop. Supporting each other. And that somewhere, someone is enjoying a cuppa and a cookie we made with questionable accuracy and a whole lot of good humour.

So, if you’re free next Wednesday afternoon, come along. Bring an apron. We’ll laminate you a recipe. No experience needed—just a sense of humour, a willingness to stir things (politically and literally), and a love of a tasty delicacy made for the good people of Slaley.

See you next Wednesday afternoon.

PS. We’ll be the ones covered in flour and solving the energy crisis over a piece of lemon drizzle.



## 🎄 Christmas Day at The Rose & Crown, Slaley! 🎄

We're thrilled to announce that The Rose & Crown will be serving a special Christmas Day Lunch this year!

Join us for a festive feast filled with delicious food, cosy cheer, and a warm Slaley welcome — the perfect way to celebrate with loved ones.

More details coming soon, so watch this space!

📞 Give us a call on **01434 673996** or email to [info@roseandcrownsaley.co.uk](mailto:info@roseandcrownsaley.co.uk) to express your interest and be among the first to secure your spot.

*Just fancy a festive tippie? The bar will be open from 12-3pm for those who'd like to pop in for a Christmas Day drink!* 🍺 🍷

We can't wait to share the day with you at The Rose & Crown!

## **Garden Opening on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2025** *In aid of funds for Slaley Commemoration Hall*

**Where** O'Dunain, Front street, Slaley NE470AD

**When:** 10am -4pm

Harp and Fiddle recitals at 12 noon and 2 pm. Tea, coffee, and cakes.

Donation of £5 per person appreciated.



## **Messy Church**

Our next Messy Church is on Saturday 27th September, 09:30-11:00 at Slaley Commemoration Hall. As usual there will be fun crafts, games and some food. Children of all ages are welcome with their parents/ carers. More info to follow in the September News.

## **Commemoration Hall AGM!**

The Annual General Meeting of Slaley Commemoration Hall Management Committee will be held in the Hall on Wednesday 16th July 2025 at 7.15 p.m. A warm welcome awaits.

The Hall, a registered charity, is provided for the benefit of the community. Please come along to hear what the management committee has been doing in the last year and to discuss ideas and plans for the future as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

### ***Latest news from the Travellers Rest***

First and foremost, Lucy would like to thank all the well wishers for their kind words and flowers, over what is continuing to be quite a trying time regarding her health.

As a consequence we are still serving food in the evenings but with a smaller menu and reduced times. Lunch service is as usual 11 till 3, and evening meals are served 5 till 8

One new addition to the kitchen is a pizza oven, so we can now do your favourite stone baked pizzas to eat in or take away (evenings only).

And Friday evenings we still have a street food vendor serving from the car park which you can take away or eat in the pub.

Over the next few months we have - Tyne Thai, WHM, Cal's Braai Box, Parm-O-Rama and Habibi Shawarma.

And again, thank you all for your love and support.

### **Gardening for Health and Well-being**

For the last 14 years, Let's Get Growing has worked with a wide range of groups and individuals to create a beautiful therapeutic garden, namely the Peace Garden, in the grounds of Minsteracres Retreat Centre. Walking in through the metal gates, people often say it is like leaving the world behind. The garden is used as a place to find stillness and as a place of reflection by people visiting the retreat centre, though it hosts all sorts of other visitors and groups.

Importantly, the garden is where we run our therapeutic horticulture project. We are a registered charity whose aim is to help people harness the benefits of spending time in nature as part of a supportive and accepting group. We are not ourselves a religious organisation and welcome people of all faiths or none. We work with people who are experiencing mental health issues, who have early onset dementia and people with mild learning difficulties. We



have a beautiful timber-framed building called the Sanctuary, with a woodstove. This provides a cosy indoor space to shelter from adverse weather and have a cup of tea on colder days, enabling us to run all year round. Our experience has shown us that sometimes the simple things in life like gardening, companionship, being creative, laughing and having a sense of belonging are the most meaningful, therapeutic and healing. Indeed,

there is now a whole body of evidence showing just how beneficial therapeutic horticulture can be, suggesting that it can offer an effective

alternative to medication for all sorts of mental health and physical health issues.

At a recent garden open day several people told us that they weren't aware of the garden or our project, so we decided we would write a short article to spread the word. The therapeutic sessions run on Tuesdays and Thursdays and we welcome a group of up to 12 people. We have some fantastic and very skilled volunteers who help support those who attend.

We are a mixed need group of all ages (18 – 80+ yrs) and we aim to value each person for their unique gifts and contribution, whatever their needs. We have a minibus service (provided by ADAPT) which collects people from Hexham, Corbridge and Riding Mill. Some people also attend from the Consett direction. Our day runs from 10:30am to 4:30pm, and as we offer full support to participants, it also means that carers get a full day of respite knowing their loved one is being well cared for and is doing something meaningful.

On our garden days we enjoy a wide range of activities: growing fruit, veg and ornamentals; harvesting the produce we grow; cooking; nature-based arts and crafts; chatting; laughing; going for gentle walks; enjoying the wildlife and much more.

Participants often comment that they love the non-institutional, informal and friendly feel of the project and that the group quickly becomes a second family for them, where they feel safe to be themselves and share their ups and downs.

If you would like to see the garden or know anyone whom you think may benefit from attending, then please do get in touch. We would be happy to arrange a visit and to show you around. Most people who attend are able to access funding via a personal budget or direct payment. A GP, social worker



or care manager can help with this and we can also offer support to help see if this is possible.

To find out more you can visit our website: <https://www.letsgetgrowing.co.uk/>

*If you know someone who might benefit from attending then please get in touch.*

*You can call Ross on 07762 244381*

## July 2025 gardening column

**Karen Melvin**

A major garden design idea is the threshold where there is a change of aspect, often a surprise. Two gardens immediately spring to mind, the first being Drummond Gardens in Perthshire. The approach appears straightforward. We follow a stone terrace around a corner of the castle to a high viewpoint where there is a breath-taking surprise; the whole landscape drops away revealing a tree-sized parterre from the 1600s laid out in front of you and dramatically leading to a rising undulating grass ride through the trees on the hillside opposite, all huge. Walking in the parterre below the sense of the whole is lost while wandering through high hedges, beneath statues, through textural plantings, and under coloured maples. A stunning garden.



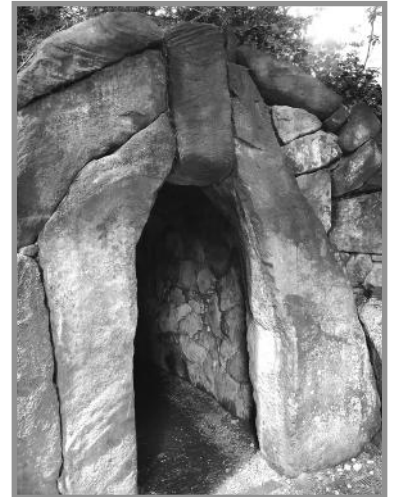
A more local garden has this feeling of a threshold crossed each time I visit. As we approach Thornton Hall we see a building much adapted with Tudor, Elizabethan and Georgian features including ancient blocked up windows. There is an ancient door through a high garden wall entering the very modern informal garden in its walled garden settings. Walking through the doorway we are met by a mass of colour, contrasts in every border around sweeping

lawns. There are ponds with reflective water, and enclosures of medieval stonework shielding hidden spaces. The garden has collections of showy irises, bright lupins and hostas in beautiful imaginative plantings. It is a joyful place with lots of sculptural places to sit and enjoy the flowers and trees. The classic threshold idea came from gardens like Hidcote, with transitions that give a change of atmospheric feel. You might be in a traditional walled border then, emerge, in a moment, through an arched hedge to a steep winding path leading down a valley. The biggest surprise, is entering a deep enclosed dark pond garden with high sides after the experience of bright open flowery spaces. Hidcote is masterful in its movement through 'rooms'. The most theatrical garden I've visited is East Ruston in Norfolk, which has as many as 20 different enclosed spaces with dramatic changes between



one and another. The ideas shift from stark simple shaped hedges to sweeping dry gravel, from sculptural structures of climbing plants and rosy arbours to towering tree ferns, a top garden for its imaginative planting, splendid sculptural features and surprise thresholds between various habitats.

Biddulph Grange, Staffordshire, has a series of walled garden enclosures descending from a high terrace. Partway down one terrace a cave-like portal invites entry. Through the tunnel the way winds to the hidden Chinese garden



with waterfalls cascading down the valley. Chinese architectural features provide viewpoints and resting places overlooking the tropical planting and stream with little pools in charming hidden places. Further along a pair of sphinxes frame a dark doorway which leads to a stumpery, all a playful engineering feat.

## WI report for July & August

Our July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting welcomes Melanie Foster Lozinski, the Colour Me Beautiful consultant covering the Tyneside Area and Slaley! The Colour Me Beautiful concept was created in the 80's and if anyone remembers the seasonal colour system, you used to be advised that you were either an 'Autumn' or 'Spring' etc with just 4 complementary collections of colourways to choose from.

"It's been severely updated" Melanie tells us, there are now 24 colour categories. She's noticed a real shift in dressing styles, 'old lady dressing' has been turned on its head, particularly when we reach what is laughably described as the 'invisible' stage and feel we still want to 'be something'. Maybe it's because the liberated 60's, 70's and 80's women have reached that stage and are rebelling, we tell her!

We can expect a presentation and practical demonstration from Melanie where she'll show us the power of colour, the psychological benefits of getting it right as well as advice on creating an



enviable and timesaving concise wardrobe.

The 'invisible' stage was something touched on at the first online WI General Meeting at the beginning of June. Special guest Emma Bridgewater, spoke of the usefulness of 'being under the radar' allowed her to not only develop her ceramics brand quietly but also to establish and buy outright, one of the last remaining potteries in Stoke which is now a thriving business. The downside was that not pacing herself and too much hard work meant that when she looks back at early pictures, she feels she wishes one of the best investments she could have made was building a relationship with a great hairdresser! She's just designed an exclusive WI mug inspired by the Suffragists and founding members of the WI.

On a more serious note, and the main business of the day was to vote 'FOR' the new resolution this year 'Bystanders Can Be Lifesavers' – a partnership developed with the British Heart Foundation. We are now encouraged to watch and learn from the online video **RevivR** how to react when we witness either a cardiac arrest or heart attack and we will encourage at least 6 members, friends and family, to also watch and learn. This will result they predict, in 2 years' time, a million new people who can save lives.

**DefibFinder** is another useful website.

Many of our members are helping at Sleaford Show on August 9 so as usual we forgo our usual meeting date but will meet later on 27 August with Todburn Soaps from Longhorsley the specialist in goat milk products. We'll also have news of the last extra trip in late June to Thornton Hall Gardens. Someone who has never been and will never be invisible was our speaker at the June meeting Emily Payne. Emily is a former worker 'in the oldest profession in the world' and has recently written a book on sale on Amazon telling us of her 'career' path, taken up after many dead-end jobs with low pay. At 33 yrs old she thought 'I'll try it' and 17 years later, now also a gym instructor and singer, she is developing a stage show about her life. She was not only an amusing and entertaining speaker, a little shocking at times but someone with their feet firmly on the ground and incredibly ambitious. We wish her much luck and success with her Arts Council funding application.

Members who visited the Farne Islands at the end of last month were not disappointed by the lack of orcas; "the dolphins made up for it" says President Catherine Myers who, with others, was repeatedly pecked on the head by the terns after setting foot on land "Even though we stayed on the designated paths, we were within arm's reach of the nesting birds". The weather remained fine and overall, it was 'exhilarating'.

**Congratulations to member Karen Melvin who had devised a peck free hat. She wore two hats layered in between with a paper plate! A true original.**



**The Ukrainian evening, a Moorland Group organised event at Whitley Chapel was spectacular. The hall was filled to capacity, and we were thoroughly entertained with singing, dancing, music, a wonderful spread of traditional foods to share and speakers who told of the tremendous community that has built up locally and the kindness and support they have encountered. You might have seen the new 'Stage Fright' shop at the top of Battle Hill in Hexham? It's part of this community. One of their ribbon bedecked poppies, a dance accessory traditionally worn on the wrist, will join our poppy display in the autumn.**



**If there are any spare moments during the summer, we hope to get a few more poppies knitted. The Poppy box within the Slaley Shop has been re-filled and you'll see how many different individual styles have already been created. We've got a long way to go and hope that everyone in the village will have a go...or if any red wool can be donated? Yes please.**

**To any non-members - if you're interested in coming along to a meeting, with no obligation to join, then do! Just let us know. Contact numbers on the back page as usual.**

## USEFUL CONTACTS

<b>Badminton Group</b>	<b>Fran Pugh</b>	<b>673429</b>
<b>Carpet Bowls</b>	<b>Karl Beckett</b>	<b>07914 693199</b>
<b>St Mary's Parish Church</b>	<b>Rev. Diana Johnson</b>	<b>682768</b>
<b>St Elizabeth's Catholic Church</b>	<b>Father Emmanuel Kabinga</b>	<b>673248</b>
<b>Commemoration Hall</b>	<b>Chairman: Christine Johnston</b>	<b>682270</b>
<b>Bookings</b>	<b>slaleych@gmail.com</b>	
<b>County Councillor</b>	<b>Colin Horncastle</b>	<b>618259</b>
<b>Dial-A-Ride</b>	<b>A.D.A.P.T.</b>	<b>600599</b>
<b>Film Club</b>	<b>Michael Elphick</b>	<b>673443</b>
<b>Friends of Slaley School</b>	<b>Andrea Foster</b>	<b>634865</b>
<b>Hexham Hospital</b>		<b>0344 811 8111</b>
<b>Ladycross Nature Reserve</b>	<b>Joan Jewitt</b>	<b>673245</b>
<b>Leek Club</b>	<b>Catherine Lincoln</b>	<b>07918 120125</b>
<b>Local History Group</b>	<b>Pat Wilson</b>	<b>673388</b>
<b>Mobile Hairdresser</b>	<b>Linda Johnston</b>	<b>673196</b>
<b>Northumberland CC</b>	<b>Report faulty Streetlights/ Potholes</b>	<b>0345 6006400</b>
<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>slaleypc@gmail.com</b>	
<b>Post Office Van</b>	<b>Martin Nichol, Stocksfield Post Office</b>	<b>01661 842110</b>
<b>Police</b>	<b>For non-emergency calls</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>Rose &amp; Crown Pub</b>	<b>David &amp; Sam</b>	<b>673996</b>
<b>Slaley Community Shop</b>	<b>Shop enquiries</b>	<b>673201</b>
	<b>Sandra Innes (Chair)</b>	<b>673845</b>
<b>Slaley First School</b>	<b>Head: Mrs. Hayward</b>	<b>673220</b>
<b>Slaley Parish Website</b>	<b>www.slaley.org.uk</b>	
<b>Slaley Show</b>	<b>Chairman: Dale Holden</b>	
<b>Secretary: Fiona Pattinson</b>	<b>secretary.slaleyshow@hotmail.com</b>	
<b>The Travellers Rest</b>	<b>Lucy &amp; Jed</b>	<b>673231</b>
<b>Women's Institute</b>	<b>President: Catherine Myers</b>	<b>673023</b>
	<b>Secretary: Vicky Pepys</b>	<b>07802 572326</b>