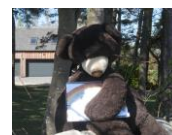


Useful Numbers & Contacts

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 Bookings Stella Douglas	673173 673001
Community Trust	Chairman Norman Watson	673914
County Councillor	Colin Horncastle	618259
Craft Group		
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 Ian Hancock	673388 673502
Mobile Hairdresser	Linda Johnston	673196
Northumberland CC	Report faulty Streetlights/Potholes	03456006400
Parish Council	Chairman Robbie Hutchinson Clerk Pat Wilson	673107 673388
Police PC Sue Cockburn	For non emergency calls please ring 101	
Post Office Van	Martin Nichol Stocksfield Post Office	01661 842110
Rose & Crown Pub		673996
Slaley Shop		673201
Slaley First School	Head, Mrs Debbie Brett	673220
Slaley Notes in Hexham Courant	Stella Douglas Helen Savage	673001 676852
Slaley Parish Website	www.slaley.org.uk	
Slaley Show Society	Chairman, Marge Rastall Secretary Fiona Pattinson	673547 07766 467 455
Slaley Red Squirrel Group	Margaret Bates	673461
Travellers Rest Pub	Ian and Darren	673231
Women's Institute	President Margaret Rowell Secretary Hilary Porteus	673589 673637



SLALEY NEWS

MAY 2020



Update from Slaley First School

On behalf of all the staff at Slaley First School, we hope that you are all safe and well. We find ourselves, as do we all, in very unusual times. However, it has always been a priority of Slaley First School to provide a safe learning environment for our children and therefore, in order that we do that and protect our NHS, we find ourselves closed at this present time. We would ask that everyone adheres to our request of NOT using the school grounds (as stated on the public notice attached to our gates) as we do have staff accessing the building and outdoor play area to clean and prepare for our return. Thank you.

All staff continue to work from home and are adding weekly learning packages to our 'Home Study' section of the school website. We have received some lovely emails and photographs of the fabulous things the children have been doing at home as they continue in their learning. This communication has proved a source of great pleasure for staff during these difficult times and has helped to keep our school community feeling connected. It has also been heartening to hear about shared 'virtual' events between our parents and children which remind us all that we are part of something quite special here at Slaley.

You will have noticed all the beautiful rainbows in the windows around Slaley which have been created by the children. These are a mark of appreciation for all key workers. This is a time when we can teach our children to respect and value the work of all members of society and appreciate how each and every one of them has an important role to play. We know that our parents are currently juggling their own work from home whilst also 'home schooling' their children. This continued effort and commitment is greatly appreciated by us all; they are doing a wonderful job!

With regards to the school reopening, we continue to be guided by the Government and specifically the Department for Education who have made it clear that schools remain closed for the foreseeable future. Risk factors need to be continually reassessed to ensure that, when we do reopen, it is in a way that is safe for our children, parents and staff.

I am sure that, for many of us, this has been a time for personal reflection. We hope that, as a society, we will come to understand what is truly important and appreciate how lucky we are to have what we have. At Slaley First School, we have always known that we have something that is both special and unique, and we look forward to the day we can reopen and welcome everybody back together again.

We send this with best wishes from all the staff at Slaley First School.

Contributions for the June edition by Monday 25th May please.

Editors: Jim Bailey 673352 baileyjim128@gmail.com

Fiona McKendrick: 673281 fionamckendrick@googlemail.com

Slaley and Hexhamshire Oil Buying Group

The April order volume was 68,000 litres over 73 drops, and achieved a price of 25.25 ppl +5% vat

The May order will be last of the regular season and deadlines will be :-
Orders with me by Friday 8th of May for delivery during w/c Monday 18th of May

There will be a Summer top up in July, Deadlines will be orders to be with me by Friday 10th of July for delivery during w/c Monday 20th of July

Thanks for your continued support and keep safe everyone
Neil Whatmough.

Northumberland Quiz

1. With which two other counties of England does Northumberland share a border?
2. Which town changed hands between the English and the Scots thirteen times in three hundred years?
3. In Northumberland what are Little Harcar, Brownsman and Staple?
4. If you cross the border to Scotland at Carter Bar on which main road would you be travelling?
5. A famous reservoir was built near the Carter Bar pass. What is it called?
6. In which town in Northumberland is there a huge second-hand bookshop built inside an old railway station?
7. Which country house in Northumberland was built by the 1st Lord Armstrong and was reported to be the first house in the world to be lit by electricity?
8. Which famous landscape gardener went to the local village school on the Wallington estate?
9. In which town in Northumberland is there the remains of a Vicar's Pele?
10. Who are the two paintings of which hang in Slaley Commemoration Hall?
11. Which Northumberland Castle was specifically built on the orders of Thomas of Lancaster, the cousin and worst enemy of King Edward II?
12. Which northern maid was involved in a dramatic rescue near Longstone Lighthouse?
13. On which state is a herd of white cattle to be found that is unique to Northumberland?
14. What was the name of the designated "new town" that was set up in Northumberland in the 1960s partly to deal with overspill population from Newcastle?
15. What is unusual about the football team of Berwick Rangers?

Answers can be found further on

Answers to quiz

1. Durham and Cumbria
2. Berwick-upon-Tweed
3. Names of islands in the Farne Island group
4. A68
5. Catcleugh Reservoir
6. Alnwick
7. Cragside
8. Lancelot "Capability" Brown
9. Corbridge
10. Charles and Agnes Mona Hunting
11. Dunstanburgh Castle
12. Grace Darling
13. Chillingham
14. Bedlington
15. Though based in England, they play in the Scottish league

Notes from the Parish and other matters

The Parish Council met in cyberspace on 6th April. It was a new venture and not everyone was able to access the meeting so formal minutes are not on the website, but some notes are available. Much of the business related to the COVID-19 outbreak and many other things which we might have discussed had become irrelevant.

One item for these notes is for us to be vigilant: there have been some incidents of which the police are aware. If you see a car which is unknown to you, please take the registration number please and if you are worried call the police. A police car will be driving through the village most nights.

STAMPS for DOGS TRUST CHARITY

I would be grateful if you could continue to save your stamps, but could you please hold on to them as I am not collecting them at the moment. As soon as we are able to resume our lives I will collect the stamps from the various drop off locations. Thank you for your continued support.

Marion 673482

Slaley's Pyramid of Care – we're here for you

Slaley's Pyramid of Care is working well. Here's a reminder of how it works: We've divided the parish into clusters, based on the way you receive Slaley News. Each cluster has an area rep. who made contact with every household last month.

If you are self-isolating or unable to go out for any reason and need help with shopping, especially from Slaley Community Shop, posting (necessary) mail and collecting other urgent supplies; or if you'd just welcome a friendly chat on the phone, please let your area rep know.

If you **can't** find the card with details of who your area rep. is and how to contact them, please contact Olwen Savage on 01434 676852. She will arrange for someone to attend to your needs.

We won't, of course, be able to do everything; for example, we won't be able to offer you nursing care, but we'll do our utmost to help.

Slaley garden column May 2020 - Karen Melvin

Well, everything is different now. Here we are in lockdown. What to do? The garden has been very well tended. The house has not been cleaned. The spring has been magnificent, like a paradise, so far. Small pleasures, so much better to take our pleasures more significantly, paying attention to all the small things. Confinement brings a different vantage point. Our cottage garden is open to the road, so I am happy to see people walking by, often with a chat. I can't imagine being in a flat. The woods, the moors and the village shop with all its volunteers have all been magnificent.

This is the time of year that I set the garden out with the seedlings grown in pots in the greenhouse and other seeds which can go straight into the ground like beetroot, peas, lettuce, rocket, herbs. We are two weeks later than Hexham or Corbridge, so I like the head-start of these early plants protected by plastic stretched over wires or hoops of 15mm alkathene water pipe cut to size and shoved in the ground to make a cloche. I cover early salads, french beans, courgettes and sweet corn. In fact, spinach seems to like perforated

plastic laid flat on top of it, weighed down around the edges, to keep the moisture in. The new growth pushes the plastic cover up. For a succession of peas and sugar peas, I pre-germinate some and plant some straight in the ground in small batches up until mid May, no later or they won't make it at this altitude (700').

The leaves are so fresh this time of year, especially on my half moon maple in front of my window, with its pale yellow fan shaped leaves. Tulips and alliums are underneath and nearby the oriental poppies are making very fat buds. By the time the tulips are out in my garden they are almost over at Howick, where the famous tulips meadows are performing their magic, if we are allowed to visit at all this year. A legacy was given to the garden by Joyce Grenfell to replant and replenish the hundreds of tall lollipop coloured tulips in the meadows around the hall. Some survive each year but the display is assured by the replanting.

Prescriptions from Corbridge Medical Centre Pharmacy

Please don't forget that if you would like your regular prescription to be delivered to you from Corbridge Health Centre, we can arrange this through the Pyramid of Care. Prescriptions are collected and delivered every Friday.

If you would like to join the scheme please phone the Medical Centre on 01434 632011 and ask for the dispensary – after 2pm and ideally by the Wednesday of any week –and they will arrange for your prescription to be added to the Slaley Box.

FOSS News

We really hope everyone is keeping safe and well during the current lock down. FOSS were very thankful that we were able to host our Pop-up Fashion event in February, before the school closed, and it was a great success! We managed to raise £298.68 for the school and recycle and reuse at the same time! Unfortunately, due to the pandemic all FOSS events are cancelled until when it is safe to host events again. In the meantime, we are enjoying seeing photographs on the school website and seeing what the children of Slaley First school are up to whilst at home. We really hope that we will be able to get back to normality soon.

Slaley Community Shop News

We're doing our utmost to keep the shop open and our new, daily, restricted opening hours from 9am to 12 noon are working well.

We're managing to keep the shop stocked with most essentials, but please bear with us if there's sometimes a small gap in our complex supply chain. You might like to note that Thursday morning is especially busy (Courant day).

Wherever possible please try to avoid using cash – card payments, even for small purchases are safer for everyone. But please ask if you have any problems with how best to pay – we have lots of solutions!

Two thankyou's are in order: first to you, our village customers, especially for the way in which you have respected social distancing and have taken to queuing with such good humour.

The second is to all our volunteers, some of whom have been beavering away with enormous dedication behind the scenes to keep the shop open. You are wonderful!

A note from a member of our community.

On behalf of all the senior members of the community can I say how much we appreciate the help we are having in our time of isolation. To all who shop, collect medicines, deliver newspapers, mind the shop and help in any other way. To Helen and Olwen for the services at Easter and beyond to keep us going till we all get back to Church.

A BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL

Ladycross Nature Reserve All walks and talks and the AGM (for this year) organised by Ladycross Nature Reserve are cancelled until further notice. We will keep reviewing the situation and will keep you informed of any changes. I wish you all a safe passage through all this upset. Best wishes, Joan

Notes from the Vicarage

When all this is over, as it will be, one day, I'm sure we'll see it as a turning point in our lives. Some things we'll remember with deep sadness, especially the lives lost and families torn apart by grief. Worries about jobs and mental health will not evaporate as soon as we begin to emerge. Some scars will heal only slowly, if at all. But I also think that we'll see that some seeds were sown at this time that will stand us in good stead. As so many people say, life really won't be quite the same and maybe it'll change for the better?

For a start, we'll have all learnt to bake. That flour can't have all disappeared to feed the birds, can it? I foresee a great re-birth of recipe columns in publications like this. I have also found that I have more time to say my prayers now that I'm not dashing around like a mad thing, often to doubtful purpose. Those colleagues I've spoken to all agree.

Flour and prayers have become curiously mixed too. Just when I'd all but run out of yeast, the set readings for the day, as part of the daily office, made much of the transformative power of yeast. It was hard at that point to be holy and keep one's mind on higher things. I just wanted to know how I was going to make another batch of hot cross buns. And then, it all got much better. We were invited to ponder for a week or so on a stern but Godly injunction to the people of Israel to put all yeast out of the house and just eat unleavened bread. I could do that, no problem.

And of course, we're all going to be so much fitter. If you've eaten shed-loads of pie and cake, a good brisk walk not only makes you feel virtuous it allows you speak to all your neighbours who are doing much the same thing, albeit a careful, arm's length, broom handle apart.

To be a little more serious, I don't think I've ever been more aware of village news (quite different from gossip) in the five years I've been here – and the list of people I try to remember in my prayers twice a day has never been longer. When all this stops, we'll need to continue to make time for one another; and very probably because we won't be able to dash around the world like we used to do, will we? I do hope so.

And of course we're all much more tech savvy. It's not just Sunday services for me, but my meetings take less time and far less fossil fuel. Just think, did you have any idea four weeks ago precisely what it might mean to 'mute yourself'?

So I'll take a hint and try to look on the bright side amidst all the gloom. Heaven knows there's quite enough of that to go round. I hope that the Covid-19 generation will be remembered for our generosity, our humour, our rejection of materialism and for the way in which we built up community apparently against all the odds, and even how we managed to go green too.

Here's a prayer for our times:

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength

to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love. Help us to smile through our tears and look to the future with hope. **Amen.**

Our church is still open- sort of!

We have been required to close all our buildings, which makes us very sad, but you can join any of our weekly Sunday services (they go live at 10.30am each Sunday) and access Helen's weekly 'thoughts for the day' by clicking on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/moorlandgroup/> You don't need to join Facebook! To hear the sound please click on the little icon in the bottom right-hand corner of each video. You can listen to them all at any time of your choice.

If you know of anyone who needs a call or would like Helen to pray specially for someone, please phone her on 01434 676852.

Helen

Join a wine tasting – at home!

Helen will host a wine tasting this month (May) via Zoom – with two wines specially ordered through Slaley Shop. The idea is simple – buy the wine, join the meeting at a set time and Helen will guide you through the wines as we taste them together and she'll suggest food pairings too. If you think it sounds like fun, please contact her on helensavage1@gmail.com and she'll send you full details.



Slaley Rose & Crown

From May 1st we will again be offering our take out meal service. We look forward to people supporting this community offering. Unfortunately due to government instructions the bar will remain closed. Be safe and take care

Please look for our menu on our web and facebook pages. Wine and Bottled Beers are also available to take out. Please request when ordering where possible so we can have them ready for you.

Opening times will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 5:00 - 7:30 pm

For orders please contact: **Telephone 01434 673 996** – Delivery may be possible depending on your location.

Please tell a member of staff if you have any dietary requirements or allergies and we will be happy to accommodate.