

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	Andrea Foster	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 Anne Livesey Clerk Pat Wilson	673787 673388
Police	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 NOVEMBER 2020



I think the highlight of recent weeks was to read in the Courant that the village had a full schedule of interesting events planned for November both in the Commemoration Hall, the Church, the shop and the village. Unfortunately my euphoria only lasted a moment before déjà vu set in and I realised I had seen it all before. The perpetrator of this heinous crime has apologised so we should now consign it to history.

The next edition will include Christmas so we would happily receive uplifting and cheerful contributions from all and sundry. Just email your efforts to either of the editors.

Freddie Hedgehog and Slaley News.



Here is a picture of Freddie (Freddie, on the right, with his friend Harlow!.) Unfortunately Sandra was hospitalised with complications following her recovery from the dreaded virus but was pleased to report that all hedgehogs under her care were successfully rehomed and continue to thrive.

Oil group

The October oil went to Carrs Billington
The price achieved was 27.9 pence per litre, Certas Energy quoted 29.76ppl and Boiler juice were at 30.30ppl
Deadlines for the November order are orders to be with me by Friday the 13th of November for delivery during week commencing 16th of November

If you wish to join the group contact me Neil Whatmough either by email at nbwhatmough@btinternet.com or by telephone on 01434 676949

There will be no meetings of the W.I. until further notice.



Contributions for December edition by Wednesday November 25th please.

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

Slaley Parish Council

OCTOBER PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Three issues were amongst the many discussed this month.

There are moves afoot to improve the broadband at the Glen. Contact Cllr Storey if you need details.

The heavy rain in early October caused several highway problems which were reported to the Council and further discussion is being undertaken to find a solution to the Glen Corner junction. If you have had an accident or near miss at Glen Corner, please report it to the Parish Clerk who is logging incidents.

Finally, the Environment Group has met to begin work on Slaley Community Orchard. This will be a three-phase project which will start at Park View, move (hopefully) to the School and end in a larger plantation if some land can be made available. If you have some land which you would be happy to become an orchard, please contact the Parish Clerk

Slaley & Healey Community Environmental Group (S&HCEG)

The Group resumed meeting this month after a long pause. If you are interested in joining, please contact Pat Wilson. There was a great deal to consider, perhaps the most important issue was to move forward with the Community Orchard (see Parish Notes) For further details see the Parish website.



Working with People for Nature – Working with Nature for People

Ladycross Nature reserve

Ladycross Nature Reserve remains closed but we have tried to keep people interested by asking them to observe nature during the year. What a year it has been for fungi – I have never seen as much. I asked members and friends to report what they had seen. As with the butterfly feedback, I have had a tremendous response. Ian has put some of the photos on our website – www.ladycrossnature.org.uk He has included a letter from a member which illustrates just how important our gardens and nature has been to us all.

We would be interested in hearing about anything you have seen or heard whilst out in your gardens or on your walks.

Contact jjewitt245@btinternet.com Stay safe everyone.



Badminton.

Due to restrictions under Tier 2, we are now unable to play badminton indoors. So, unfortunately, until further notice we will not be playing on Wednesdays.

Exercise to music

I will let all people who have expressed an interest in classes when I have clearer information as to how we can continue classes. Carol Ferguson

A View from the Vicarage

Our marking of Remembrance in Slaley this year can't and won't be quite the same as normal. For example, we'll not be able to gather in the same way around St Mary's Lych Gate; but we'll still hold a Service of Remembrance in Church at 10.30am on Remembrance Sunday (please wear a mask if you intend to come!) and hope that we'll be able to accommodate a good number of people in the building safely (we're getting quite good at it!).

It remains important to remember and to give thanks for all those who gave their lives for others in war, and not just the two World Wars, but this year we are also well aware that self-sacrificial heroism has also been shown by members of our NHS and by those who care in a multitude of other settings. We want to thank God for them too.

The Bible reading we'll hear in church on Remembrance Sunday (and in the online service on our Facebook page) is a story in Matthew's Gospel told by Jesus to drill home the point that we need to keep awake and alert to be able to respond to God.

If this seems a bit hard to relate to, Matthew goes on to spell out that God is to be found when we perform ordinary, everyday, essential care for one another by providing food, shelter and company. It reminds us that the amazing insistence by Marcus Rashford and others that all children should receive proper meals is an example of the same spirit of generous care that's shown by the folk of our wonderful health service – and everyone else who cares for our security and well-being.

Keeping awake is not, however, just a call to be ready to recognise and respond to the needs of people in need, it can also serve to call us to be ready to see what's good in the world around us, which is something that we need just as much in these difficult days. When good things happen, let's make a bit of a fuss about them!

In Slaley, for example, just look no further than the hard work done by the building team in all weathers last month at the shop. Community action like this shows that our life now is not all doom and gloom.

Remembrance in this broader sense is about always being ready to say thank you. We must give special thanks, of course, to all those who gave all that they had in the service of others, but we need to make time to say and thank you to all those who do so much in apparently little ways to make life better, because the little things add up and really matter. Thank you!

Helen

Church services and news

Sunday 1 November 10am Morning Service
Sunday 8 November **10.30am** Morning Service and Act of Remembrance
18.00 Evening Prayer
Sunday 15 November 10am Morning Service
Sunday 22 November 10am Morning Service
Tuesday 24 November 11am Holy Communion (Commem. Hall)
Sunday 29 November 10am Morning Service
Sunday 6 December 10am Morning Service

We continue to stream our weekly Sunday services on Facebook. They go live at 9am each Sunday and there's a weekly 'thought for the day' each Wednesday, also usually 'live' by 9am.

To find them please just click on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/moorlandgroup/>
You don't need to join Facebook and you can listen to them all at any time of your choice.

Our weekly ecumenical study group on Friday's at 11am via Zoom continues. The sessions have been very worthwhile and thought-provoking. If you'd like Helen to send you a Zoom invitation, please let her know.

St Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting

This took place on October 25, delayed by the pandemic for six months. We're delighted to report that Hilary Hamps and Phil Harvey were elected as churchwardens to serve for the coming year. Despite not being able to worship in quite the way we'd like, there's a real spirit of hope around St Mary's – a church in which we also hope that everyone can find a welcome.

Let's Support West Northumberland Food Bank!

The box will be out at the back of church from the middle of the month (there's also one in the shop) for gifts of food for those really struggling at the moment – together we can make a real difference.

St Mary's Church Zoom Coffee Morning Wednesday 25 November 11am

You'll have to make your own coffee, but we'll help you find friends to chat to and even provide a goody bag of tasty nibbles. We'd be ever so pleased if you feel able in return to give us a donation which we'll use to help those churches in our group that are really struggling to pay their way. Please email Helen (helensavage1@gmail.com) or Olwen (olwensavage@gmail.com) if you'd like an invitation.



Commemoration Hall £100,000 for 100 years

The main hall has now been painted and early next week we will put up the curtains and pictures large and small. Phase one of the hall refurbishment will then be complete. If you would like a look at the inside please go to the hall website and take a look at a video we had to do for the Lottery Fund. We will do another one when all the pictures and curtains are back.

Sadly at the moment we are unable to open the hall for normal activities, only educational and religious activities can go ahead.

At the end of November we are hoping to have an exhibition of cribs from around the world.

Please look at the web site to keep up to date with current Covid restrictions and how they effect the hall.

Rosaleen Doonan

Slaley Commemoration Hall Monthly Lottery SCH 200 Club

Have you got your numbers yet?

£60 covers 12 draws

In September No 37 won & we gave out £61.25 In October No 31 won & we gave out £71.25 The November draw will be a prize of £76.25

Taking money now to begin with the December draw

Not only does the draw give out a wonderful first prize a percentage goes towards running costs and a percentage towards fund raising for Phase-Two Improvements. What better way to support the Commemoration Hall!

Details are on the village web site (www.slaley.org.uk) or contact Pat Wilson for more information. (673388). Don't forget: By taking part, not only are you in with a chance to win, but you are also helping raise funds for the village hall's renovation programme. Thank you!

Slaley Community Shop Update

Our shop continues to thrive, with sales still above pre-Covid levels. Thanks are due to all those who have worked hard to keep the shop running in these difficult times.

You may have noticed foundations being laid for a replacement newspaper shed, which will be going up at the beginning of November, thanks to the sterling efforts of Philip Cain and his team of volunteers.

We are always delighted to welcome new volunteers so if you would like to join our team please get in touch on slaleyshop@gmail.com or 01434 673845. In particular we have an urgent need for a Finance Director.

Slaley Shop Christmas Wine Boxes

Helen has agreed to put together some Christmas wine boxes of (six) special (and specially-priced) wines that you can order in good time for Christmas. Details will be in the shop by the middle of the month and the wines themselves will be available around the start of December. If you'd like any further information, please ask Helen (helensavage1@gmail.com).

It's wine tasting time yet again on Zoom!

Helen Savage has agreed to host another wine another tasting on **Thursday 26 November** via Zoom – with two wines specially ordered through Slaley Shop. The idea is simple and already tried and very successfully tested – 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. This month with the festive season on the horizon we'll be tasing fizz!

If you think it sounds like fun, please contact her on helensavage1@gmail.com and she'll send you full details. As usual we have two 'sittings' at 5pm (fairly quiet) and 8pm (anything but).

Helen has also been asked to do a festive Zoom tasting of port and sherry. Does this appeal? If you're up for it and would like to be kept in touch, please contact her and we'll go ahead if we have enough takers (as few as five enthusiasts will make it possible).

Post Office van service times

Monday - 4.15 – 5.30 pm
Tuesday – No service
Wednesday – 8.30 – 9.45 am
Thursday - 4.15 – 5.30 pm
Friday - 4.15 – 5.30 pm
Saturday – 8.30 – 9.45 am

Nov gardening column- Karen Melvin

I've been thinking of colour as the green of chlorophyll is sucked out of the leaves, revealing the reds, oranges, yellows of underlying pigments anthocyanin, carotene and xanthophyll. I wake up to the view of the deep red purple of Smokebush, which surprisingly turns to a bright orange red. I have two new Spindlewoods which turn so dramatically magenta pink in the autumn. I am hoping the local hare which has a taste for the leaves doesn't find them again. The first hint of colour this season was on the top branches of the Half Moon Maple after a very early cold snap which left the lime green leaves touched with bright pink. The golden Cappadocian maple and its by



now very large seedling in the back garden are beacons of yellow from both ends of our road. The first bright red maple this autumn was grown from a seed packet of maples for bonsai, all with small dainty leaves, that I tried many years ago. As I'm not too good with pot plants, out it went into the garden.

Cotinus coggygira Royal Purple, smokebush and Euonymus alatus, spindlewood

A restful contrast to all the beautiful red orange and yellow are the silver leaves of Artemisia Powys Castle, which I have propagated all over the garden. It is vigorous but easily pruned to suit the space. Amongst the maple trees the leaves of Cornus kousa and Cornus kousa White Fountain droop down and curl along the edges in a very symmetrical fashion, just like the flowers and large bracts in the spring that sit all along the branches so regularly.



The Osakazuki acer is the most reliable for intense colour no matter what the weather is like. The last tree to colour is Acer griseum with its delicate long pointed leaves and peeling bark.

Acer Shirasawam aureum seedling

The visual beauty of autumn colour is wonderful but there is also a deeper significance; the cycle of the life of plants might teach us something. Through their chlorophyll plants connect all organic activity on earth to the sun, as they use photosynthesis to capture the sun's energy to grow, taking in carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere. This



oxygen changed the climate to allow animals to evolve. The plant cycle that goes with changing day length and temperature plays out towards the dormancy of growth. And if we are in touch with the cycles of nature we might tend to a different mode of thought and a quieter energy, maybe to absorb what has been happening. It might be helpful this year

Acer palmatum heptalobum Osakazuki

FoSS News

With the continuing pandemic, fundraising is rather tricky and planning events for this Autumn/ Winter could be difficult! However, we were thrilled that we were able to go ahead with the Sponsored walk in the summer, not as a large group but in family units, and we managed to raise a brilliant total of £795 (plus Gift Aid) for the school. A huge thank you to all those families who completed the walk and all the incredibly generous donations we received; we are very grateful!

We also recently hosted a very successful Halloween Pumpkin Carving competition and parade for the children at school! We had so many creatively designed pumpkins! Mrs English very kindly judged the competition; she had a hard job picking winners from each year group! We ended the event with a super prize-giving, with wonderful prizes donated by Tesco and a socially distanced pumpkin parade around the school grounds! We were very pleased that we managed to raise a grand total of £255 for the school. Thank you so much to everyone who donated and took part!

We have a Bag 2 School collection organised on Thursday 19th November 2020, the more we collect, the more money we will raise for our school! Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the recycling of good quality second-hand clothing; FoSS are asking parents for donations of any men's, ladies and children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts and accessories. Furthermore, as last year's Wreath-making evening was such a big success, we are planning to host a virtual Wreath-making event on Tuesday 1st December 2020! We are also starting to think about planning our annual Christmas hampers and we hope to organise more festive fun for the children too!

As always thank you so much for your continued support, it is very much appreciated!



SLALEY FILM CLUB

Unfortunately we were unable to proceed with a show in October. We have now decided to wait until covid rules are relaxed before we try again.



The Director of the Hexham Book Festival has invited us to participate in an online event. This is a talk being held in Hexham Abbey at **7.30pm on Thursday 19th November**, and local author Dan Jackson will talk about "The Northumbrians", his recent book about the History of the people of the North East.

Here's a bit about Dan and the book: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-50034542>

The organisers would help set up the live relay from the Abbey to the Commemoration Hall, and the audience would have the opportunity to ask questions (live) at the end of the event. There would be a token cost for entry and donations for the Festival would be appreciated. Numbers would have to be restricted, but an audience of about 20 people would be a viable proposition.

If you are interested please contact Michael Elphick (01434 673443, michael@elphicks.myzen.co.uk) ASAP so that viable numbers could be confirmed.

Michael Elphick

Car Clue Decoding Hunt Sunday October 25th 2020

From the people who part on Sunday it appears that Ian & Katie Stevens got the most correct answers, so they will be given a special number for the Christmas SCH 200 draw. However, people are talking about the route and what they saw and that is much more important in these dark depressing days of Covid restrictions. The answers for those who have not completed the Hunt yet are on the web site.



Rose and Crown Slaley

A friendly and welcoming country pub



We are open and Covid friendly and safe.
Our opening hours are on our web site or outside the pub.

During November we will be offering a Steak night and a Curry evening, watch our Facebook page for more details.

Finally from the middle of November we will be making pizza's for takeaway.

Our usual takeaway menu is available during our food opening hours, deliveries available on request depending on location.
Our team are looking forward to seeing you.