

## USEFUL NUMBERS AND CONTACTS

Badminton Group	Fran Pugh	673429
Carpet Bowls	Jason & Jeannie Abdehnoor	673651
St Mary's Parish Church	Reverend Helen Savage	676852
Staley Methodist Church	Reverend David Goodall	603139
St Elizabeth's Catholic Church	Father Jeroen Hoogland	673248
Commemoration Hall	Chairman Ros Doonan Bookings Ann Wright	673173 673366
Community Trust	Chairman Norman Watson	673914
County Councillor	Collin 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 Staley 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 Streelights/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
Staley Shop		673201
Staley First School	Head, Mrs Debbie Brett	673220
Staley Notes in Hexham Courant	Stella Douglas Helen Savage	673001 676852
Staley Parish Website	<a href="http://www.staley.org.uk">www.staley.org.uk</a>	
Staley Show Society	Chairman, Marge Rastall Secretary Fiona Pattinson	673547 07766 467 455
Staley 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 SEPTEMBER 2019



As you read this the disappointment of having to cancel this year's show is slowly fading. The weather ruled the day despite all the hard work and planning over the last year that came to nothing with exhibitors and helpers alike being more interested in wellies and umbrellas than in winning rosettes.

Thanks to the hard work of our new secretary, Fiona Pattinson, the day was not completely lost as a social get together with games, teas and a bar took place in the Commemoration Hall to thank all our supporters and helpers.

The village school children's work has not been forgotten with Sue Allen our Children's secretary putting on a wonderful display of their entries as part of the film club Sunday event held on the last Sunday of August to raise funds for the hall. Jean Elphick judged the entries of paintings and handwriting and commented on the high standard on display. The paintings of the highland cattle are wonderful. Prizes and rosettes will be presented in the school on Monday 9 September as part of the school assembly and parents and friends will be very welcome to attend.

Never fear, our next show will have glorious sunshine so make sure you put the date in your diaries – 8<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Between now and then the committee will continue to plan and organise another full programme for you all to enjoy. Watch out too for various events in the coming months to help raise some much needed funds after our cancellation this year.

Marge Rastall Show Chair

### St Mary's, Slaley Coffee Mornings

Our next coffee morning in church is on Saturday 7th September from 10.30am to noon and then on Saturday 5th October (if your leaks are as bad as Helen's and Olwen's you'll need a good strong coffee to prepare for the Leek Show). All are welcome.

**Contributions for October edition by Wednesday September 25<sup>th</sup> please.**

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Fiona Mckendrick: [673281\\_fionamckendrick@googlemail.com](mailto:673281_fionamckendrick@googlemail.com)

## Slaley Parish Council – Notes from August Meeting

Prior to the August Meeting, Councillors viewed Townfoot Caravan Park site from its gateway. The current planning application for this site was withdrawn at the request of the applicants (see planning applications at northumberland.gov.uk).

One of the issues raised in the subsequent PC meeting was that of Emergency First Aid Training. The PC will offer a subsidised course at £50 per candidate. Interested people should contact the Parish Clerk.

Methods of curbing dog fouling and parking on footpaths were discussed and several strategies are being put in place. See the Parish website for more detail.

Two accidents on Slaley roads were noted and two places where vegetation restricted the safe use of junctions were discussed. Where letters to villagers whose vegetation restricted views of highway signs had been sent in the recent past, villagers quickly responded and cut back shrubs.

The wet weather of August created several problems on the roads especially where drains across the Parish lacked the capacity to deal with exceptional weather. These issues have been reported to Highways and it is hoped that work to clear drains will proceed.

It was noted that there was a two-foot deep, forty-yard long flood at Pissingdown Syke: which suggests there has been a problem just there for generations.

## First Aid Training

Since purchasing the parish Defibrillator in July 2015 and the initial training in Emergency Life Support on July 27<sup>th</sup> 2015 there has only been intermittent First Aid training. The Parish Council has been in talks with the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) and NEAS are prepared for one of their course instructors to come to the Commemoration Hall this Autumn to train 12 candidates in a 6-hour (1 day) Emergency First Aid approved course. The course has an exam at the end and if passed the candidates will receive a certificate valid for 3 years.

The Parish Council will subsidise the cost of the course and pay for the hire of the Hall. Anyone interested in taking part at a **reduced price of £50** should contact the Parish Clerk with their email address and telephone number. (The cost of attending NEAS courses at West Denton is £105 per person.) Please contact the Slaley Parish Clerk: 01434 673388 or pat.wilson28@outlook.com

## Rose & Crown

Nothing definite but I am advised we should be on the lookout for a forthcoming live music extravaganza



## Working with People for Nature – Working with Nature for People

### Moths and Bats

Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> 2019

Starts at Ladycross Quarry gates at 7.30 p.m.

An evening event – see what Autumn moths the moth trap attracts, watch out for bats with the help of the electronic bat-detector. We might take a stroll around the paths to see what other animals are doing in the dark!

Please bring a torch, warm clothing, sound footwear. We will provide warm drinks. **£5 per person – accompanied children under 12 years free.** Sorry no dogs at this event. Ladycross lies on the 980 contour line therefore in dangerous conditions the walks will be cancelled. All proceeds towards new facilities at the Nature Reserve



### Fungus Foray Walk

Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> 2019

Starts at Ladycross Quarry gates at 2 p.m.

**£5 per person – accompanied children under 12 years free.**

The Fungus Foray is outside the nature reserve so well-behaved dogs are allowed on this walk

You will need appropriate footwear and clothing. At the moment the route is not pushchair or wheelchair friendly

## Thoughts from the Vicarage

I'm writing this at our cottage in France. As you can imagine, much of the conversation in these parts is about Brexit. Many of the local French folk are scared that Brexit, assuming it happens in some form or other, will mean that the Brits who have bought and restored a lot of older properties in the area might feel that they have little choice but to sell up to leave.

So far at least, their concerns seem to be unfounded. Rather than preparing to back their bags, all of the UK nationals in our hamlet (there are now eight families) have made it clear that Brexit will not shift them. Some, who have not until now been terribly good at trying to speak French have signed up for extra lessons and overall, the sense of community purpose and unity seems far stronger than at any time since we first paid the deposit on our own place in 1990 - the first Brits to arrive in Fonsoumagne.

We've been moved by this trend and hope that whatever happens, the new-found spirit of mutual dependence and affection will become even more deeply embedded. I also hope that whatever Brexit may bring, a

similar openness to one another in all our communities here in Britain will also prevail.

Of course, in our village, we all like to think, with some good reason, that community is already strong. It's one of the reasons many of us value living here, but the divisions in our country over Brexit run deep and will not evaporate on October 31. We have to find new ways of healing the rift that we have so far seemed so powerless to address and to try to understand why it has arisen in the way that it has. Healing can be hard work and the old adage that time is the greatest healer is not nearly as true as we might like to believe.

The Christian story suggests that peace is a gift that flows from the ultimate expression of self-giving love revealed by Jesus. If we wish to accept that gift, we too must learn to love and to accept that everyone else, whoever they are and however much we may dislike them (or worse) is also loved, just as much as we are by God. The acceptance of this gift of peace will not dissolve our differences, but it places them in a wholly different context.

The Christian vision, so apparently simple in essence, is in practice, hugely demanding. Our pride and sense of self-importance always gets in the way; but the little lesson I've learnt here in Fonsoumagne is that people can discover that it is more important to stick together and learn to relate to one another better, even when common sense seems to suggest otherwise, or when it suddenly becomes rather more difficult to do so.

I will be honest with you. The prospect of Brexit scares me for all sorts of reasons. If it goes ahead I am worried about how we will cope and what effect it will have on our local economy and way of life, but I am equally sure that we must come together, learn afresh the delight that friendship can bring, despite any differences we may have, or how deep they may be, and then try to build a refreshed sense of community in our village, in our country - and with our fellow human beings in Europe and beyond.

### **Services at St Mary's in September**

Sunday 1 September	11am	Family Service
Sunday 8 September	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 September	11am	Service of the Word
Sunday 22 September	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 September	11am	Songs of Praise with Bishop Mark
Sunday 6 October	11am	Family Service
	6pm	Evensong

### **Special Songs of Praise**

As you'll see, we have a special Songs of Praise service on the last Sunday this month when we'll also welcome Mark, the Bishop of Jarrow. David and Helen will also be taking part. We hope lots of folk will come and welcome Bishop Mark on his first visits to Staley. Also, we invite you to please let us

know which favourite hymn you'd like to sing (we've already asked the Bishop!). Please let Helen know your choice.

### **Harvest 2019 – and Harvest Supper**

Harvest Sunday will be on 13 October when we'll have a special service of thanksgiving in St Mary's. We've also booked the Commemoration Hall for Harvest Supper on the same day at 7pm – we'll tell you more next month. For now, please put the date in your diary.

### **Further details of services** and other events throughout the Moorland

Group of Churches can be found on our website [www.moorland-group.org.uk](http://www.moorland-group.org.uk)

### **Ecumenical Study Group**

We'll begin again on Friday 27 September in the Vearage at 10.30am to noon. It's an informal but lively and very friendly group with a completely open membership. Everyone is very welcome. Sometimes we study a book, other times we'll concentrate on a Bible passage. We would love to see you. If you'd like to know more, please have a word with Helen.

### **Staley Shop – Only two months to go, please keep the money coming in!**

Our vital share offer closes at the end of October. Please invest now if you haven't already done so and thus help to keep the shop open. We mustn't let the shop close - it's such an essential part of village life. There are plenty of share prospectuses available in the shop and on the website.

Special thanks this month must go to Paul, Barbara and David (Allsop) who performed wonders of patience and devoted more hours than they dare count, all in order to get the new Epos till system working and all our volunteers properly trained. The new system was necessary, indeed essential, to enable us to conform to new government regulations on VAT returns. One happy added extra is that it also enables us to have a much tighter control of stock.

Our volunteers, one and all, are a wonderful bunch. We have been delighted to welcome a few new faces to the team over the last few weeks. Why not come and join us too?

Finally, our AGM is coming soon. David Innes, our secretary will be writing to invite all our members.

**Craft Group.** Our new season will start on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September and then Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September Further details from Brenda (673269)

**Badminton.** We will start again on September 11<sup>th</sup>. All welcome, for more details please contact Fran Pugh 01434

## Oil group

Our membership is now 167 households spread through post code areas NE43,44,45,46,47 and DH8. The deadlines for the September will be orders to me by Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> of September for delivery during week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> of September. From September through to May 2020 we will go out to tender every month.

If you wish to join the group please contact me , Neil Whatmough at [nbwhatmough@btinternet.com](mailto:nbwhatmough@btinternet.com) or on 01434 676949

Regards and thanks for your support - Neil Whatmough.

### Exercise to music – New times

Exercise to Music, (sponsored by Age UK) is held in the Commemoration Hall Slaley. The Aerobic session for those with good mobility starts at 9.45am and the second class for those wanting a sitting/standing session begins at 11am. PLEASE NOTE NEW TIMES. Both sessions last 1 hour and each session costs £3/head. New members very welcome! For more information contact Carol Ferguson 673585

## Events at Minsteracres Retreat Centre.

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

**11 September:** *Day of Prayer, Rosarie Spence.* This day enables you to experience different ways of praying in a beautiful setting and gives you time for quiet, personal prayer. Lunch, tea and coffee provided.

**16-20 September:** *Love and Suffering – exploring the Memory of the Passion.* A theological seminar exploring the heart of the Passionist Charism from several perspectives with a variety of presenters. Residential or day attendance.

**27-29 September:** *The way of the Embodied Contemplative, Terry Doyle.* Exploring how the practice of meditation can also be encountered through the language of the body using breathing exercises, gentle stretching and slow Tai Chi movements to complement the seated meditation periods. For all ages and abilities. Please wear loose clothing.

For more information and bookings visit: [www.minsteracres.org](http://www.minsteracres.org), email [info@minsteracres.org](mailto:info@minsteracres.org), or call 01434 673248

## St Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church, Minsteracres

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

### Commemoration Hall £100,000 for 100 years

Slaley Carpet Bowls will be hosting the village hall fund raising monthly tea at the Commemoration Hall on Sunday 29th September from 2:30 till 5 pm and we will have the carpet and bowls out for you to have a go while you enjoy the tea.

#### Craft fair,

Slaley Commemoration Hall,  
Sunday 27th October, 11am-4pm  
Refreshments by slaley W.I.

17stalls with a wide variety of quality gifts and ideas to get you ready for Christmas,

Soup, sandwiches, cakes, scones , teas and coffee available to enjoy,  
Look out for posters going up soon  
Part of the halls 100k for 100 years project



The Commemoration Hall 100k for 100 years Appeal inspired Laura Hall and Linda Johnson to take on a formidable Challenge, to attempt to walk 100 kilometres from Creswell to Holy Island in just two days. They decided that Sunday, the day after Slaley Show Saturday, would be an ideal first day! It seemed not a bad choice when they left Creswell at 6.00 but they were soon in water up to their shins and a brief stop at Amble to change footwear was the first of several. The rain grew heavier and heavier. Parts of the route were impassable requiring significant detours, but Laura and Linda are a determined pair and pressed on.

There were brief moments of relief; a half of lager at Craster and a bag of chips at Alnmouth, but by Seahouses they were ready for a good if rather brief sleep.

It was still raining when the set off at 6.00 on Monday morning, but by Bamburgh it had stopped and it was water underfoot rather than from above which was the problem for day two. This slowed progress but they pushed on and reached the causeway to Holy Island soon after it was due to open at 4.30. Despite a few aches and pains, morale was boosted as they were joined by their families for the final stretch and a fully justified celebration together on a lovely evening on the Island.

Laura and Linda are very grateful to all those who generously sponsored their walk and added to the Hall Appeal

A big thanks to Laura and Linda for their sponsored walk. They were amazing, and have raised over £2,000 pounds for the Commemoration hall appeal. Once again thank you to everyone involved in making their challenge a success. They are still looking for sponsorship either by logging on to [www.gofundme.com/SlaleyVillagehall](http://www.gofundme.com/SlaleyVillagehall) or using the forms from last month's News.



## **SLALEY FILM CLUB**

**September 20th, 2019**

**"Hidden Figures" (PG)**



The story of a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program. It's an old-fashioned inspirational tale about overcoming gender & racial prejudice.

Supper provided- please pre-order vegetarian option. byo drinks  
Slaley Commemoration Hall. All performances start at 7.30pm

We are also hoping that some of you may be willing to do one evening's supper, for November 2019, February, March or April 2020. All expenses paid ...

### **THE CANCELLED SHOW**

Our Slaley Show was cancelled  
The rain came pouring down  
The furniture wagon sat in the field  
Leaving ruts all deep and brown.

It was a tough decision  
not one easily made  
No horses, dogs or ferrets  
No Industrial or Trade.

With non existent global warming  
August is no longer fine  
We need some better weather  
We need a different time.

So, God, I do implore you  
Do this, without delay  
Make our flowers and veg bloom early, then  
We can have our Show in May!

Anonymous 2019

## **Slaley, Healey & Minsteracres Local History Group**

**Monday September 23rd**  
**Wheelbirks – a century of development**  
**By Hugh Richardson**

The Richardson family have farmed Wheelbirks Farm at Stocksfield for five generations and they first started keeping Jersey cows in 1925.

Wheelbirks has the only Jersey herd in Northumberland and after the foot-and-mouth outbreak brothers Tom & Hugh Richardson decided to do something different with their milk. Their flock of sheep was sold and the money invested in ice cream machines. The Ice Cream Parlour opened in 2009, complete with indoor and outdoor play areas. Beginning with just three members of staff by December 2014 the ice-cream parlour employed 40 people in full and part-time roles and won a national rural enterprise award.

Six months later (June 2015) there was 1,100 visitors to the farm during Open Farm Sunday, three-months after that in September 2015 the Richardson family held its second "harvest event" which was a celebration of everything the family did at Wheelbirks. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. there was half-hourly tractor and trailer rides, a chance to sit in the combine harvester and to have a go in a JCB digger and at 2 p.m. see the cows being milked.

Moving on to July 2019 and Events 85 organised the inaugural Scoop Music Festival at Wheelbirks Farm – the first family music festival in Northumberland. Held between Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>. The event included children's entertainment, a fun fair, yoga, arts and craft workshops, food stalls and a camping area for families.

This talk should be very interesting and Hugh will, as the title indicates, talk us through changes on the farm and farming practices over 100 years.

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

For more information contact Pat Wilson 6733388, email: [pat.wilson28@outlook.com](mailto:pat.wilson28@outlook.com)

The next Whist Drive will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 pm in the Commemoration Hall

## Slaley Carpet Bowls

The Slaley Carpet Bowls Club was formed some 36 years ago in 1983. In May of that year the idea was considered and after three successful bowling sessions, using carpets and bowls borrowed from the Northumberland Carpet Bowling Association the decision was taken to go ahead and form a club in September 1983.

A carpet and bowls were acquired thanks to a grant from Slaley and Tyndale Parish councils and also a loan was provided. Members paid a joining fee of £10 (a pint cost about 60p in those days!) and the loan was soon repaid.

The carpets and bowls were borrowed and then bought second hand. In those early days there were large numbers of members and club nights would see 20-30 people attending to have a good nights 'craic' and bowling.

Many of the well known village families had someone who played and some of the founding members still play to this day.

The club has always welcomed anyone who wants to join in, current memories are of 6 young ones aged about 14 coming in one night and asking if they could have a go. Over the following years these youngsters became stars and team skippers and all the local villages, asked how we had managed to do it? If only we knew!! Except to say we are a very friendly bunch, don't have too many rules and fuss, and welcome everyone, no matter what age or ability.

The club has embraced modern technology replacing a chalked up game scoreboard with a number flipper!!! Even better we appear on [Slaley.org](http://Slaley.org) the village website and last year had a new player who had 'found us on the internet'...swish or what!

So a new bowls year is about to start and we hope to welcome more new bowlers, its a great way to socialise and meet other folk from the village.

The club meets every Tuesday at 7:30pm until about 9:30pm, there is always a break for a cup of tea. If we have a match on a Tuesday then the club night is not on. We publish match nights in the Slaley News or you can ring Jason to find out if club night is on.

The season starts on the 'Glorious 17th' of September.

Looking forward to seeing you!!

In September there is a club night on Tuesday 17/9/19, 24.9/19 and in October 1/10/19, 8/10/19,15/10/19. There are matches on 22/10/19 and 29/10/19 so no club night on those days.

If you want to talk to us, call Jason on 673651

## Pilates

Advance notice of a new Pilates class starting in the Autumn.

Sara Mather will be running a physiotherapy led Pilates class in the hall starting at 10 am, 4th October for 6 weeks. Please contact Sara on 07833 494268 or [Info@insynctherapy.co.uk](mailto:Info@insynctherapy.co.uk) for more details and to book a place. All abilities and age groups welcome.

## Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning

Friday 27 September 10.00 - 12.00  
Commemoration Hall, Slaley

Please come and join us for delicious coffee, cake and chat! If you would like to make a donation or provide a cake or raffle prize please contact:-  
Christine Milligan [cmilligan@talk21.com](mailto:cmilligan@talk21.com) 01434 673592 07766174376  
We look forward to seeing you there.

**The Arts Society Hexham** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Function Room at Hexham Mart.

### The Paintings and Wit of Winston Churchill and Noel Coward

Both Churchill and Coward were keen amateur artists who painted the places they lived and visited throughout their lives. Both were noted wits. This talk shows their range of output both artistic and witty.

**Nicholas Reed**

## Diary Dates

Saturday	07/09/2019	Church Coffee Morning
Sunday	08/09/2019	Ladycross Moths & Bats
Monday	09/09/2019	Exercise to Music
Tuesday	10/09/2019	Oil orders due / Arts Society
Wednesday	11/09/2019	Badminton Club
Thursday	12/09/2019	Craft Group / Whist drive
Monday	16/09/2019	Exercise to Music
Tuesday	17/09/2019	Bowls Club Night
Wednesday	18/09/2019	Badminton Club
Friday	20/09/2019	Film Club
Monday	23/09/2019	Exercise to Music / History Club
Tuesday	24/09/2019	Bowls Club Night
Wednesday	25/09/2019	Badminton Club
Thursday	26/09/2019	Craft Group
Friday	27/09/2019	Ecumenical Study Group
Saturday	28/09/2019	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Sunday	29/09/2019	Ladycross Fungus Foray
Monday	30/09/2019	Bowls Tea Experience
		Exercise to Music