

## USEFUL NUMBERS & CONTACTS

<b>Badminton Group</b>	<b>Fran Pugh</b>	<b>673429</b>
<b>Carpet Bowls</b>	<b>Karl Beckett</b>	<b>07914693199</b>
<b>St Mary's Parish Church</b>	<b>Reverend Helen Savage</b>	<b>676852</b>
<b>St Elizabeth's Catholic Church</b>	<b>Father Jenish</b>	<b>673248</b>
<b>Commemoration Hall</b>	<b>Chairman: Ros Doonan</b>	<b>673173</b>
	<b>Bookings: Stella Douglas</b>	<b>673001</b>
<b>Community Trust</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>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>David Innes</b>	<b>673845</b>
<b>Local History Group</b>	<b>Pat Wilson</b>	<b>673388</b>
	<b>Ian Hancock</b>	<b>673502</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>Clerk: Pat Wilson</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>please call 101</b>
<b>Rose &amp; Crown Pub</b>		<b>673996</b>
<b>Slaley Shop</b>	<b>Shop</b>	<b>673201</b>
	<b>Sandra Innes</b>	<b>673845</b>
<b>Slaley First School</b>	<b>Head: Mrs. Hayward</b>	<b>673220</b>
<b>Slaley Notes in the Hexham Courant</b>	<b>Stella Douglas</b>	<b>673001</b>
<b>Slaley Parish Website</b>	<b>www.slaley.org.uk</b>	
<b>Slaley Show Society</b>	<b>Chairman: Marge Rastall</b>	<b>673517</b>
	<b>Secretary: Sarah Ridley</b>	
<b>Travellers Rest Pub</b>	<b>Ian and Darren</b>	<b>673231</b>
<b>Women's Institute</b>	<b>President: Margaret Rowell</b>	<b>673589</b>
	<b>Secretary: Hilary Porteus</b>	<b>673637</b>



# SLALEY NEWS

## July/August 2022



I enjoyed seeing the scarecrows in the village during the Jubilee, particularly Spiderman at my Dentist's house and of course as you can see, the scarecrow outside the corner of the Church.

I took this photo of Margaret Ward next the the Scarecrow as they were wearing similar colours and it was fun to see her standing there.

Best wishes

May-Ann

What a wonderful 2 weeks of celebrations we have shared in the village over the Queens Jubilee and the Parish Wander!

Thank you to all the organisers and organisations that participated and not least the supporters who turned out in their droves to happily join together after 2 years of covid restrictions.

From flags, flowers, portraits & scarecrows to singing the special anthem in St Mary's church, so many wonderful things happened over the Jubilee!

Then on to the Open Gardens which were a delight, the contrasts were amazing and all wonderful in their own right! From manicured to relaxing (I even saw a signpost allowing me to dream about Reykjavik..did anyone else spot it?)

Of course, no effort spared, there were the very entertaining musicians featuring Baroque to the Beatles, both of which not to be missed!

Then nearer to my home, I could have had a sneaky 40 winks in Albert's garden as I sank back to times gone by but no, onwards and upwards to my last call, another amazing garden which supplied us with very welcoming tea and cake. For sure, being brave enough to open your garden to the public is an energetic thought, a chance to attend to all those 'jobs' you'd been meaning to do for years and to work tirelessly to welcome us all....but it was surely worth it ..a marvellous day! Thank you!

Celia Bridges



Iris Silicon  
Prairie  
Some irises that I planted two years ago failed to bloom and, having totally forgotten what I ordered, I am waiting expectantly to see what they look like. I was mainly after something pinkish with fancy curls, but during lockdown there was a run on plants, so not too many colours were left to choose. Two of the irises had buds that appeared to be waiting for some warmth - like the rest of us in early June - but these buds rotted even though it hasn't been particularly wet. They were in a prime position in front of the border; I guess the climate up north is too much for them. Our survivor, lovely short *Iris Langport Storm*, is clustered with blooms that you look down on, mauves and violets coming together with textured tufty beards. My favourite, called *Silicon Prairie*, is strong, tall, and blousy, a bloom of delicate pale yellow and pale mauve. It is happily positioned in front of creeping yellow leaved, blue flowering *Viola cornuta* and the simple yellow day lily trumpets of *Hemerocallis flava*.

Carolside House, up in the Scottish Borders, has a magnificent collection of irises some of which came from France, tall blooms with petals that ripple in the breeze, some pale soft romantic colours, others dark and velvety. They make mounds of colour one flowing into the other, creating a feeling of lush floweriness. In early June the classic rose collection should have been out in the grand oval walled garden, but the cold spring delay meant we got to see the irises instead. Carolside is a romantic place; every view through the garden is considered, all relate to the landscape around and to the spaces within the enclosures. Passing through each gate or doorway presents new drama and contrast, with different textures of planting and combinations of colour and form. There are seats that welcome a pause to contemplate the immediate surroundings. Then, right at the garden's edge, there is a long walk between tall hornbeam hedging, a peaceful walk, stroked by green, the stuff of life. At the end of the green walk an oval window pierces the hedge to frame a wider landscape of hills, ancient trees, and grazing sheep.



Newby Cornus Kousa

Elsewhere, Newby Hall gardens house the national collection of Cornus. I love these trees where the flowering bracts sit like butterflies along the branches and catch the light in large flat blooms. My two Cornus trees are developing their bracts right now but were not quite fully open for our open garden Wander.



**In June** we had a very enjoyable evening at Helens with a tour of her amazing garden followed by supper and a glass of fizz. We discovered we were not very good at quits! Thank you Helen.

At the suggestion of a few new members some of us went to the Forum to see Top Gun with a drink afterwards. Great film, good company and an enjoyable night had by all.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July – Committee Meeting** at Helen's house (Burnside Cottage) – 7:30pm.

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Trip to Eggleston Hall** – Gardens, lunch at the café, and shopping in the garden centre. We will be leaving Slaley at 10am – let me know if you'd like to come so we can arrange transport, please. (The gardens cost £2.50.)

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Meeting in the Hall** – learning to knit and designing a logo for Slaley WI's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 2023!

### Moorland group of WIs

A trip is planned to go to the Harrogate Autumn Flower Show on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September leaving Snods at 8.30 am. Cost will be £35.00 for entry and the bus fare. Names and money to Margaret by the end of July but preferably at the July meeting. WI members will be given priority.

Margaret Rowell.

### Slaley Leek Club

**Our annual show will** take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September in the Commemoration Hall. Due to Coronavirus we have only been able to have a very much reduced show over the past two years for members' leeks and junior leeks only. This year we intend to introduce about twenty simple flower, fruit and vegetable classes open to everyone in the village. So please support our local show which has been a feature of our village life for over sixty years. We have kept the classes simple so that anyone who has a garden can enter. Schedules will be available on line at [slaley.org](http://slaley.org) and in the village shop from the end of July.

## News from your Community Environmental Group (CEG)

Who isn't concerned at the impact that we have on our environment – just by living – and then we feel powerless to do anything about it? The words springing to mind are "climate change" and "waste plastic". With the latter we have a chance to join a concerted effort to make a difference.

Plastic Free July is with us - you are invited to think about how much single use plastic passes through your hands and to commit to reducing or eliminating at least one part of it for the month and maybe permanently. That could be through not buying plastic bottles of pop or water, choosing loose veg at the supermarket rather than pre-wrapped bags (and reduce food waste at the same time) or cutting out the use of cling film.

## Slaley Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 13 June. For part of that meeting they were joined by councillors from Healey Parish to allow representations to be made to the leader of Northumberland County Council, Councillor Glen Sanderson, about matters of concern within their respective parishes. Healey councillors spoke of issues around activities at School House Farm, whilst Slaley councillors expressed their concerns around traffic safety at Glen Crossroads. Councillor Sanderson acted positively after the meeting, giving some hope that additional weight might be added to resolving these long running issues.



## Rural Crime

Sadly, crime seems to be on the increase in our community. Several vehicles have been stolen in recent weeks and there are instances of theft in relation to personal possessions too. Remaining vigilant and reporting persons or things of suspicion to the police on 999 (in an emergency) or 101 (non-emergency) can help keep us all safer and thieves at bay.

Owners of 4X4s and those who store diesel on their premises are encouraged to ensure they are secured at all times, especially overnight.

## Dog poo

A number of parishioners have recently raised concerns about the apparent increase in dog faeces not picked up by owners in and around the village. As we all know, dog poo can be unsightly and cause a health risk not only to humans but livestock too. Those with dogs are encouraged to clean up after them, not only in the village but in the surrounding fields and woodlands. The parish council are also looking to do their bit by installing two new dog waste bins to make the disposal of collected poo that bit easier.



**Become a Councillor** There are two vacancies on Slaley Parish Council at the moment and for the sake of democracy we would love them to be filled. Tempted, the following may give you a little insight into the role of parish councils and the part you could play. Further details can be obtained by contacting Ian Stevens at [iancstevensmbpc@gmail.com](mailto:iancstevensmbpc@gmail.com)

### What is a Parish Council?

A parish council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish. It is the level of government closest to the community, with the county authority above it in the hierarchy. As the authority closest to the people, parish councils are invariably the first port of call people go to with their concerns or ideas. For this reason, they are a vital part of any community.

### Why become a Parish Councillor?

As a parish councillor, you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support, a community leader who can influence decisions for the benefit of others within your community. Seeing your community change for the better as a result of decisions you have helped make, is something that is likely to give you a sense of achievement and pride.



## Ladycross Nature Reserve

*Working with People for Nature – Working with Nature for People*

We are running the following walks in July

- **Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup>** – afternoon – Butterfly and dragonfly walk. A walk around the reserve including spotting butterflies and dragonflies. Charge £10
- **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July** – evening- nightjar walk. 2 options – option one - a tour of the reserve and then the walk in the forest looking/listening for nightjars. Charge £10. Or option 2 – the nightjar walk only - in the forest - £5.
- **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July** – evening – nightjar walk – as on the 13<sup>th</sup>.
- **In August** we are having a bat and moth night in the reserve – proposed date – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August .
- **In September** we are having our annual fungus foray – proposed date – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> – afternoon - in a different part of the forest this year.
- For all walks please book with Joan by email or phone – 01434 673245. Details of times, will be available on booking. We hope to see you at some of the walks. **NB – Rare plants walk is now fully booked.**



## The Rose and Crown

We were delighted to be part of the village celebrations for both the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Parish Wander. Our 'Picnic at the pub' event (for the former) went down exceedingly well (helped no doubt by the good weather and a 10% discount on all drinks). We were especially delighted to see some of our old regulars back for the first time since the lifting



of Covid lockdown restrictions. We'd love to see more of you.

The Board last met on 14<sup>th</sup> June under the chairmanship of Barry Warman. The agenda was once again dominated by the rising cost of energy and inflation, both of which are likely to take their toll on the profitability of the pub. That said it was noted that trading figures were strong for April and May.

How the Board communicates with shareholders was discussed. It was agreed that the current use of Mailchimp was a good method of communication, but that not all recipients opened the material. Shareholders reading this roundup of events who have not received Mailchimp emails may care to check their 'Spam' folder.

Don't forget to visit our website at <http://www.roseandcrownsalaley.co.uk/> to keep abreast of 'all things Rose and Crown'.

## Too much fruit and veg?

We do our best to source products used in the kitchen as locally as possible. It's good for the community and helps reduce our carbon footprint. This year we thought we'd go one step further and grow some of our own fruit and veg for chef Alan to use in his mouth watering dishes and keep our costs down. Perhaps you can help 'our keep it local drive' by growing something specifically for the kitchen or donating any crop that you have an overabundance of, so that it doesn't go to waste. If you would like to contribute something please contact Ian Stevens at [ian.stevens686@gmail.com](mailto:ian.stevens686@gmail.com).



The beginnings of our onion patch



## A thanks to all

It was great to see so many in the Parish contribute to, or take part in the Jubilee celebrations that were staged here on 4<sup>th</sup> June. Whether it was making a scarecrow, getting to grips with a corgi pattern or just basking in the sun at the 'Picnic in the pub' event, a big



thanks to all that took part.

Over the course of the Jubilee weekend the most photographed thing in the village was likely to have been the scarecrow created by Derek Hull.

## Herbs at the Hall



The Slaley Commemoration Hall Trustees have sponsored two large planters outside the Hall with a view to creating a community herb garden. The herbs are available to all to use and whilst they'll never replace the quantities available from supermarkets, for many recipe's they should save a trip into Hexham to buy them specially.

At the time Slaley News went to print, a number of people had already generously donated enough herbs to fill one of the planters. If you would like help fill the second, by donating some herbs, please leave them outside the Hall from where they will be planted.

## Church News

Weekly Sunday services at Slaley (every week) are at 10.45am. Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 3 July and Sunday 14th August. If the weather allows we may take some of our summer services outdoors into the churchyard extension. All are welcome – as always!

There will be a service of Holy Communion at Healey on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm.

The next Evensong at Healey will be on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 5pm.

Sunday services continue to be streamed on Facebook and You Tube as well as Helen's weekly 'thought for the day' each Wednesday. To find them please just click on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/moorlandgroup/> and via You Tube via our website: [www.moorland-group.org.uk](http://www.moorland-group.org.uk)

### Ecumenical Study Group

We continue a series of three special Bible studies about the meaning of the Resurrection on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July, both at 10.30am – at the Vicarage. Please come and join us – it's more fun than you might think!

### Vicarage Garden Coffee Mornings

Weather permitting, we plan to continue our series of outdoor coffee mornings. The next will be on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30am**. Please keep an eye on the church notice board and our regular email updates if it looks like rain and we have to re-arrange- there's always a plan B!

### Helen's thought for the month.

Every summer, my father, a Baptist minister, chose a hymn that begins (to a vaguely jaunty tune): *Summer suns are glowing over land and sea; happy light is flowing bountiful and free. Everything rejoices in the mellow rays; all earth's thousand voices swell the psalm of praise.* There was no better way of summoning up a downpour, even on one occasion, a violent thunderstorm.

It reminds me of August 1976 when Denis Howell was appointed Minister for Draught by Jim Callaghan. A few days later, the heavens opened and it didn't stop raining all autumn. I should know; I was working outdoors on an archaeological site, my first job after graduation. Mr Howell was re-purposed Minister for Floods and later, and I'm not making this up, Minister for Snow. He had a gift.

This year, the weather has already proved extreme. In the part of France where we're buying a house, June saw all-time record temperatures, then destructive hail. Farmers there had already begun to count the cost of late Spring frosts and yet more violent hailstorms.

So what's my point? You might say, it's 'be careful what you pray for.' I wouldn't argue, but also despite all our other worries this summer – war, inflation, strikes and travel chaos we really must remember how fragile our planet is and do all we can, each and every one of us, to address the problem of climate change. It won't go away – whatever hymns we sing.

### Slaley weather report

I'm writing this on June 23rd, and it really feels like summer. However, with depressions moving in from the Atlantic we're set for more changeable conditions again for a few days. We really need the rain.

The total rainfall for May was only 45.3mm and so far, this month we've only had 20.5mm, 16.1mm of those fell on only 2 days. We have had unusually dry conditions all year. June was dry last year (35mm) but we had a wetter spring. You just have to look at the Derwent Reservoir to see how much we need rain.

The warmest day of the year so far is today. As I write the temperature is 25.9°. I hope we will have more chances to enjoy al fresco dining this summer.

*Olwen Savage*

**Hexham Arts Society** Tuesday July 14th at 7.30pm Hexham Mart Function Room.

**Mad Men and the Artists – Tony Rawlings**



## Slaley Show is coming!

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022**

**Have you got your entries ready?** Come along and enjoy the show after an absence of 3 years. Main ring attractions

include falconry displays and herding of ducks by clever sheepdogs.

The royal theme throughout has kings & queens scarecrows; princess & princess parade and dressed bicycles as well as mounted royal fancy dress. All sorts of attractions to entertain all the family with extended sheep classes as well as the usual dog and horse & pony competitions, ferrets, terrier racing and of course, the industrial tent.

**HELPERS:** Volunteers are always welcome to help in any way possible, before, during and after the show. Please contact our new secretary Rebecca Wilson on [slaleyshowsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:slaleyshowsecretary@gmail.com) if you feel you can help. Thank you.

**MEMBERSHIP:** £10 for the year. Please contact our Treasurer, Sarah Ridley on [treasurer.slaleyshow@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.slaleyshow@gmail.com)

Help support your local village show – an integral part of our community.

**Enter the show!** Download a schedule from the Slaley Show website.

[www.slaleyshow.org.uk](http://www.slaleyshow.org.uk)



## Slaley Show is here!

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022**

**Its nearly the big day!** We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to enjoy the show after a 3 year break.

The committee of volunteers have been working hard to make this show better than ever! Main ring attractions including falconry displays and herding of ducks by clever sheepdogs. Frenetic Terrier Racing, Dogs putting their best feet forward at the Dog Show, Ferrets to meet- mind the teeth! A new extended Sheep show, with more breed classes than ever before plus the Horse show with working hunters and jumpers from around the region! See some of the best home-made cakes and other crafts from homes in Northumberland in the industrial tent, along with flowers and plants in the horticultural competition. Spend some money in the craft Marquee with nearly 40 different crafts and specialist foods to suit every taste!

Children and families can enjoy the children's corner with all the usual favourites, a giant inflatable slide, hook a duck, ride the miniature train, and enjoy the Punch and Judy show, plus much more!

With a Royal theme throughout which has Kings & Queens scarecrows; Princes & Princesses parade and dressed bicycles as well as Mounted Royal Fancy dress. All sorts of exhibitions around the field, local history, astronomy, vintage cars, bees, willow weaving, stone walling, lace making and lots of different food stalls to try .... Come and see it all!

**Entries close on the 7<sup>th</sup> August.** To **Enter the show** download a schedule from the Slaley Show website.

[www.slaleyshow.org.uk](http://www.slaleyshow.org.uk)

Marge Rastall, Show Chair



**By the time we publish our September edition it will be most likely that Ian and Darren will have pulled a last pint and served a last meal at the Travelers Rest. They will be sorely missed and we wish them all the best in their retirement.**

**Contributions for September edition by Wednesday August 24<sup>th</sup> or earlier please.**

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