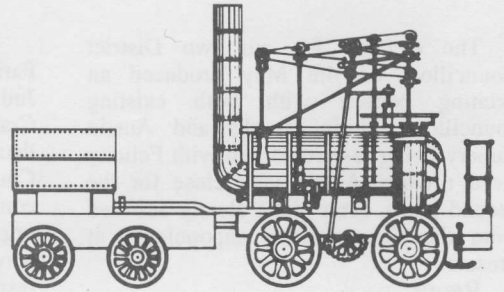


THE WYLAM GLOBE

Newsletter of Wylam Parish Council



Summer 1995

Number 57

Plenty to enjoy in the Summer Fair programme . . .

A few magic moments - or even a whole afternoon of them are on the programme for this year's Summer Fair, to be held on Saturday, 24th June.

Wide-ranging attractions will include not only the skills of Martin the Magician, but Ovington Tynedale Band (qualifiers for last year's National Brass Band Championship) and the Irish Dancers (instead of the Morris Men).

For the more energetic there will be opportunity to take part in the Fun Race (sponsored this year by John and David Craven) and new entrants as well as older stalwarts will be most welcome.

There will also be opportunity to test your skills in the Annual "Egg-Hoying" Competition.

A new and unique attraction not to be missed will be a fascinating falconry display by Ray Lowden of the Birds of Prey Centre at Mickley.

Attractions especially for children will include donkey rides, a bouncy castle, fairground rides and for the first time, mini-quad bikes, which seem certain to be popular!

A wide variety of stalls and side-shows have been promised and should all help to ensure a great afternoon's entertainment. Gates open at 1.30 p.m.

Entertainment continues in the evening with a barbeque and a dance in the Institute with music from the Geoff High Disco.

Profits from this year's Fair will go into a fund which the Association has set up to purchase the playing field from the Boys Brigade, (at present it is only leased). This

will ensure that its future is safeguarded.

We hope that as many residents as possible will support the Fair and so help the Playing Field Association whose members work so hard to maintain and improve the field for the benefit of the village.



Many congratulations to the residents of Woodvale Gardens who organised their own party on 6th May to commemorate the 50th anniversary of V.E. Day. Posing patriotically beneath a Union flag are (left to right) Mrs. Joyce Howe, Mrs. Marian Young, Mrs. Violet Gray and Mrs. Pat Buckle - with only one glass on the table to celebrate between them!

(Photo kindly lent by Joe Cassidy)

Country Park News

With more intensive use of the Country Park walkway and car park in recent years, the surface has deteriorated badly. Resurfacing of both the walkway and the car park by the County Council is therefore welcomed.

Less welcome are problems caused by motor cyclists and galloping horses along the walkway. These difficulties seem to have increased since gates across the walkway have been removed and the problems have been raised with the County Council Countryside Team.

One well-known figure, Country Park Warden Les Hewitt has retired after 15 years in the job and the Parish Council has expressed its thanks to him for the help he has willingly given as Warden.

More books needed for popular bookstall

One of the popular stalls at the Summer Fair, which regularly attracts visitors as well as residents, is the second hand Book Stall. Its success depends on having a wide selection of books for sale - provided by local people.

So please search your cupboards and bookshelves and bring any books you can spare to the Methodist Church Centre, Chapel Lane, on the morning of Saturday,

17th June, the evening of Friday, 23rd June or Saturday morning 24th June. All types of books wanted.

Profits are shared between the Playing Field Association and Youth work at the Methodist Church. If you would like someone to collect the books from you please contact Brian Japes (Tel: 852151) or Philip Brooks (Tel: 853520).

District – no change, but 4 new Parish faces

The election for our two District Councillors on 4th May produced an exciting contest with both existing councillors, Philip Brooks and Austin Rubery being re-elected, but with Felicity Reed running Austin very close for the second place. Ivon Piette clearly suffered from the Government's unpopularity at present.

Result

Philip Brooks	807 Elected
Austin Rubery	438 Elected
Felicity Reed	428
Ivon Piette	197

The turnout of 63% was lower than usual for Wylam, but still well above the national average for local elections.

There was no contest this year for the Parish Council. Four existing members, Judith Furniss, Edna Beattie, Angela Craven and Bob Davison retired, and we thank them all for their service to the Parish Council and the village. We're sure they'll continue to help and support village organisations and activities in whatever ways they can, but without the responsibility of being a councillor!

We welcome Christine Hammill, (5 Front Street, Hagg Bank Tel: 852553), Phil Appleby (The Stephenson's Arms Tel: 852738) and Ivon Piette (1 The Orchard Tel: 853727) as new Parish Councillors. The remaining vacancy will be filled by co-option shortly.

Reminder for dog owners

Complaints have again been received about dog-owners allowing their dogs to foul footpaths and mown-grass areas around the village.

No dog-fouling is permitted on those grassed areas on the Dene Estate, Engine Dene, Jackson Road, Hedley Road, the Jubilee Playing Field, around the War Memorial Car Park or elsewhere in the village where the grass is regularly mown.

There are plenty of areas of rough grass where people don't walk and children don't play. Dog-owners are encouraged to use a poop-scoop and clean up after their dogs wherever possible, especially if they foul any of the mown areas mentioned above.

The Turnbulls at Rift Farm have specifically asked that residents exercising their dogs on the lane past the farm buildings, should not allow them to foul the pond and garden area next to the lane, which the Turnbulls are trying to make into an attractive feature.

Care on open spaces

When the football season starts again parents (and children) are reminded that use of the open spaces on the Dene Estate for playing games should be limited to children of First-School age (5 - 9 years).

Older children should use the Jackson Road ("Chinese") field or Engine Dene which are much more suitable for ball games.

Children using the open areas particularly on the Dene Estate and those off Bell Road and the Hedley Road playground which are close to houses, are asked to take special care to avoid damaging neighbouring gardens.

Keen on Local History?

Following successful completion of the popular "Wylam from the Archives" courses on local history, the idea of reforming the Local History Society, or just getting people together who might be interested in investigating and researching local history, is being explored. If you are interested please come to a meeting in the Institute on Wednesday, 7th September at 7.30 p.m., when ideas will be discussed. Please note the date in your diary now.

Security marking - FREE

To help combat the rise of thefts, arrangements have been made with the Police to offer free security marking at the Falcon Centre between 7.00 - 8.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 27th June. Bring anything you would like to be given a security mark - bicycles, electric mowers etc. seem especially vulnerable at present.

This is your chance to have it done locally - and FREE.

Correspondence relating to this Newsletter should be addressed to Mr. D. Petrie, The Clerk to the Parish Council, 8 Stephenson Terrace. (Tel: 852577)
Printed for Wylam Parish Council by The Gilpin Press, Houghton-le-Spring DH4 4BA.



Our plea for pictures showing how Wylam has changed, prompted Sylvia Telford to kindly find this photograph taken in 1960/61 when the houses in the Dene were being built. It shows the former Miners Club, built in 1925 which stood on Engine Dene. The hut was used for various activities during its life, before it was removed in the early 1970's. Has anyone else got a picture of the old hut?

Protect riverside areas from fire damage

Camping and lighting fires on the riverbank between the village and Stephenson's Cottage, or on the land adjoining the allotments and Haugh Nature Reserve, from the playing field to the Hagg Bank bridge is prohibited.

The dangers of playing with fire cannot be over-emphasised. Although damage caused to vegetation will recover in the course of time, the damage to a burnt child could well produce permanent scars.

There are two other ways in which fire can cause damage in these riverside areas. Firstly, the sandy river bank is becoming seriously eroded, as the exposed tree-roots show, and we must endeavour to preserve plant growth along the riverside in order to minimise this. Secondly, fire is one of the biggest threats to nesting birds and young plants on the Nature Reserve, especially in dry weather.

If you see instances of people lighting fires, or camping on the riverside, please report details direct to the police, or phone

the Clerk to the Parish Council (Tel: 852577) or Peter Clarke, the Nature Reserve and Tree Warden (Tel: 852297) as soon as possible

Wylam Housing Group

Wylam Housing Group raised over £2,600 last year which they used to benefit the Tyneside Housing Aid Centre, Links (Hexham), the Cyrenians and SHELTER. The group would like to thank everyone in the village who supported their activities. Anyone interested in helping them in future is asked to contact Sharon Lamb (Tel: 852688). Their Grand Jumble Sale is on 16th September.

Recycling raises funds

The village has raised over £300 recently with recycling cans, glass and plastics - please continue to take your cans and bottles to the recycling bins in the War Memorial Car Park.