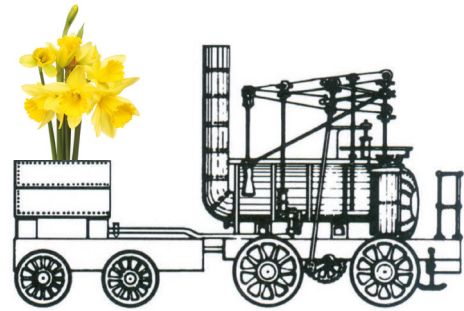


THE WYLAM GLOBE

Newsletter of Wylam Parish Council



Spring 2020

No. 135

Wylam Parish Council: Corona Virus Support Service

Wylam Parish Council – with the help of our generous community - are launching a service for people who need help due to illness or self-isolation as a result of the corona virus.

We will be learning as we go, but initially the service will offer

- Someone to talk to on the phone if you would like a chat to or would like someone to ring regularly to check that you're ok.
- A pick-up and delivery service for all those things you need when you can't get out the house, including help with your shopping, posting mail and urgent supplies.
- Access to the latest Government guidance on what you should do and how you can protect yourself.
- While we will not be able to give advice in areas like healthcare, finances, benefits or social services, we will do our best to help you find someone who can help.

If you need any of these services, please contact us:

Support helpline: 01661 611908

Email help: wylamparish@gmail.com

Facebook Page: Wylam Community COVID-19

*We may not always be able to answer straight away,
please leave us a message and we will get back to you quickly.*

If you would like to volunteer to help us provide support, please contact us via the email above, giving your name, address, contact details and the type of support you are able to offer.

Thank you.

Riversdale Surgery Latest

The proposed closure of Riversdale Surgery has caused widespread concern to patients and carers in Wylam and the surrounding community.

Intensive lobbying by the Wylam Surgeries Users' Group (WSUG), Wylam Parish Council and other community groups and individuals has resulted in a further round of consultation and engagement with senior managers from the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

It is almost three years since the Riversdale GPs announced their intention to transfer their Woodcroft Road surgery to Oaklands in Prudhoe following Dr Knapton's planned retirement in May this year. Since then, little or no research has been done by the CCG to identify the needs of local patients and how the move will affect them.

The CCG have now agreed to explore the requirements of the full range of patients including those who will have difficulty travelling to Prudhoe.

A series of meetings and drop-in sessions as well as a public meeting and analytical research have been held in February and March. Details of these events were advertised on village noticeboards and on social media and feedback from these are expected to be known by April.

The key issue that the CCG need to address is what will be done to meet the continuing needs of all of the Riversdale patients especially those dependent upon the limited public transport services linking Wylam and Prudhoe.



Keeping Wylam Tidy!

The Great British Spring Clean and our village annual litter-pick on the 21st March, has been cancelled.

We hope to run this popular event later in the year – no doubt when all the leaves have fallen! In the meantime, we can all help by taking our rubbish home or cleaning up around our own patches. Many thanks to residents at Holey Hall crossroads for their efforts in keeping their verges clear.



Guides and Scouts

Northumberland County Scouts hosted a climbing competition at the Newcastle Climbing centre on the 23rd of November 2019. The 1st Wylam Scout group was represented by 2 groups of 5 Cubs from our pack. The County had 10 groups, and approximately 60 Cubs attended the competition in total.

1st Wylam Scout Groups' Cub Park Akela (Mark Berry) received the news that one of our climbing groups received the Highest Average Score for their section at the event, well done to the fearless William Wood and Fred Carr for challenging all the routes. This achievement, however, would not have been possible without the rest of the team which included Noah MacDonald, Noah Thompson and Benjamin Conaty.



Wylam Guides enjoy lots of fun activities outside of the Village as well as weekly meetings in St Oswin's Church Hall. Recently we went Ice Skating at the Centre for Life in Newcastle and it was great fun!

Other things that we have planned are First Aid, a Pancake Challenge, Crafts, and soon we will be going to Seashouses for a pack holiday.

One of our Guides, Maddy Bacon, aged 10, tells us: "Guides help Girls aged 10 to 14 to follow their dreams and become more confident in themselves, while having fun with friends."

Thank you to Wylam Parish Council for their recent grant which has allowed the Guides to buy many of the resources we needed to set up as a new unit. We bought the Skills builder pack, badges and resources needed for the guides to complete their stage 4 First Aid Skills Builder. This was something that the girls in the unit requested we do and have enjoyed completing.

Interested in joining? please contact Holly on 07972292187 for more information.



Celebrating 10 years of Wylam Community Orchard

Tom Martin writes:

It's hard to believe that it was the autumn of 2010 when the first spade was plunged in anger into the soil of the sloping lower third of Wylam First School field. Wylam Community Orchard was inspired by Wylam Greenstreet and we started planting fruit trees that autumn, however as a result of some wintry weather, it was February 2011 before this first phase was completed.

Since then our Orchard has certainly grown. We now have over 80 fruit trees, from which our members are entitled to a share of the crop. There is an award-winning wildflower meadow across the site below the trees, together with fruit bushes, willow for weaving, and bird and bat boxes. We manage the entire site including hedges, woodland and scrub to create a wildlife haven.

Each year we monitor plant, butterfly, bee and bat species and over the years have recorded a significant increase in all. We have hosted many group visits to the Orchard, held information events for the public and given talks to a range of organisations. We have also supplied surplus fruit to local businesses, charities and community organisations.

We provide a valuable educational resource for the school and work hand in hand with the headmistress and teachers. In fact, we have become something of a model project, advising and helping other communities to develop their own orchards. None of this would have been possible without the commitment and hard work of our volunteers, the support of our all our members and the awarding of grants from bodies including Wylam Parish Council.

This year we plan to celebrate our tenth anniversary at three events in the village. We will be involved in Wylam First School Outdoor Day in May, will have a large stall at Wylam Summer Fair in June and will hold our main event, Wylam Apple Day, in September. At each there will be displays featuring Wylam Community Orchard through the ages! We would love to see members past, present and future at the Summer Fair and Apple Day.

Further information will be available on our Facebook pages or by contacting us at wylamcommunityorchard@gmail.com.



Wylam Winter Tales: Five Years & Counting



Exceptional story-telling delivered by local people at a special TENX9 event, scintillating shadowography from Drew Colby that engaged all generations, and magnificent musicianship from Parisian Gypsy Jazz specialists Rose Room were just some of the many highlights from an action packed and fun-filled Wylam Winter Tales 2020 Festival.

Festival goers were also treated to a wealth of inspiring young folk talent as Sage Gateshead's youth ensemble "Folkestra" performed to a packed-out audience at St Oswin's church. Later in the week resident singer-songwriter Yvonne Lyon and resident story teller Malcolm Green both caught the imagination of sold out audiences at Wylam Hall, Daniel Farm, The Coach House and the Ship Inn.

All in all, nearly 1300 people attended twenty-two different arts events across nine days in ten different venues across the village, all delivered by an army of local volunteers and made possible by collaborations with local organisations and businesses including an exhibition of local history from the Brooks collection at historic Wylam Station House.

Now in its fifth year, the Festival continues in its aim to generate a sense of community and togetherness in the village bringing light through the arts at the darkest time of year and encouraging people to watch, listen, enjoy and participate in the arts across a range of genres and mediums. Run as a non-profit community organisation with a mix of ticketed and free events, and with everything from comedy, cartooning, film, music, story-telling, poetry, literature and dance on offer, there really is something for everyone, from the youngest to the oldest.

The launch event for the 2021 Festival will be held in November this year, where tickets will be available and there will be an opportunity to sign up to get involved as a Festival volunteer. The Festival is grateful for the help and support of the local community, NCC's Great Winter Festival initiative, and to the Parish Council for their ongoing commitment through a community organisation grant that supports the Festival's website, publicity and administrative costs. Find out more about the programme and what Wylam Winter Tales is all about at www.wylamwintertales.org.uk

Wylam Band



It's official! Wylam has a new community band made up of all ages (7 to 75+) from the village and surrounding areas. The band is beginning to build up its repertoire and hopes to be seen and heard at village events in the Summer.

Established and led by our village brass teacher, Helen Walker, its aim is to give younger players more experience and gain confidence. They are well supported during each session by musicians from the village, such as David Featonby and Tim Kenny as well as parents, grandparents and visiting members from Whittonstall Band.

It runs on a not for profit basis and donations of £3 each week go towards music costs and the hire of the Methodist hall. The band has a few spaces - all instruments are welcome and particularly beginner violin, trombone, flute and trumpets.

Due to the corona virus outbreak, the Wylam Band rehearsals are suspended for now.

Please contact Helen Walker 07751723806 for updates.

Jubilee Field Fundraising

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the fundraising events in January. The Jumble Sale raised over £1,000 with all the left-over Jumble taken away by a very delighted Tynedale Hospice at Home. Very few visits had to be made to the tip this year, with as much as possible sorted for recycling. The sell-out Burns Night Ceilidh was a huge success, with dancing led by the Prudhoe Ceilidh Band and a fantastic supper from The Black Bull. Due to the corona virus the Music Quiz on Saturday, May 2nd at Wylam Institute and the Summer Fair on Saturday, June 27th are both cancelled.

As many of you know, Jubilee Field is owned in trust by Wylam Community Playing Fields Association and they manage the facilities for the benefit of all residents in our Parish. High general maintenance costs of the field and its buildings plus the cost of new play equipment provide a constant fundraising challenge. Last year WCPFA spent nearly £60,000 and are fortunate that in addition to monies raised at their events they have recently received significant support and donations from the Parish Council, the Co-op and the Masons.

You may have already noticed the repaired surfacing under some of the play equipment. You will soon see new line markings on the

MUGA (for basketball and football practice) and some surprises near the pump track and on the toilet black walls. WCPFA are also carrying out some minor repairs and the field will look great and be safe in time for the Spring. Please report anything you notice via their Facebook page (@wylamjubileefield) or by email (wylamplayingfield@gmail.com).



Renewed surfaces

Jubilee Field Hedge Laying

Work has been completed to the hedge row on the river path boundary along with some further general maintenance of overhanging trees and hedges on the riverside and on the allotment boundary.

Rather than just cut the hedge down it was decided to go for a more traditional approach with conservation in mind and engaged with the award winning contractor G Hodgson and Son for advice on 'laying' to ensure the best result was obtained. Following laying, the gaps in the hedge have been planted with a 2-year-old stock mixture of Hornbeam, Hazel, Hawthorn, Crab Apple, Dog Rose, Gubeder Rose and Field Maple.

This will be reviewed over the coming months and a longer-term plan of hedgerow maintenance put together. It will be exciting to see how it matures over the next few years.

Players are already appreciating the improved lighting and space it has given – just look at the difference in the photographs.



Before, shows shaded area



After, showing the laid hedge

Institute Annual Members Coffee Morning

Sue Nicolson writes: The Institute Annual Member's Coffee Morning on the 7th March was very well attended with the plant and cake stall and raffle following on from the meeting itself.

About a third of our membership now pay by standing order, the rest of the subscriptions are collected door to door. It would be helpful if those members who have not set up a standing order would consider doing so. This can be done on the day or at the Institute office but payment can still be done in the usual way.

I am sure that many of you will have used the Institute or know someone who has and will appreciate its value within the village. Subscriptions are a very useful source of income which go toward the running of the building. If you are not already a member perhaps you would consider joining by coming along to the coffee morning or by contacting the Institute office. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Annual Subscriptions: Patron £15 Family £12 Single £7

Events - please check in advance!

Christian Aid House To House Collection 10th - 6th May

Christian Aid is celebrating its 75th year. They will prioritise raising awareness of climate change on the world's poorest communities. In Wylam we hope our collection will raise over £2800 this year and plan to add a quiz and coffee morning to the house to house collection. We always need volunteer collectors.

If interested please contact Michelle (coleman_michelle@hotmail.co.uk) on 07874003410 or Fiona (hiphog@aol.com) on 07798 724631.

Children's Cancer Ride on Saturday 20th June.

The organisers propose to double the number of participants this year which could mean as many as 200 riders cycling from Newcastle to Wylam and back. The organisers propose to stagger the start times in order to reduce congestion; they are also advising participants of the need to respect other users of the route.

Forthcoming Events – Please check before attending as they are likely to be cancelled due to the Corona virus

At the Institute, unless otherwise stated.

Mon 23rd March	4.30-5:30pm	Wylam Band rehearsal, Methodist Church
Sat 28th March	10am-12	Cancer Research Coffee Morning
Tue 31st March	10am-12	Friends of Wylam Coffee morning
Mon 6th April	4:30-5:30pm	Wylam Band rehearsal, Methodist Church
Tue 14th April	10am-12	Friends of Wylam Coffee morning
Sat 25th April	7:30pm	Film Club 'Free Solo'
Sat 25th April	10:30-4pm	Ultra Run passing through village (@500 runners)
Tue 28th April	10am-12	Friends of Wylam Coffee morning
Sat 2nd May	7pm – 10pm	WCPFA musical quiz and entertainment night
Tues 12th May	10am-12	Friends of Wylam Coffee morning
Sat 16th May	10am-12	Gardeners coffee morning
Sat 16th May	7:30pm	Film Club 'Sorry we missed you'
Sun 17th May	12-3pm	Jump for Joy, BBQ, stalls – St Oswin's church grounds
Tues 18th May	10am-12	Friends of Wylam Coffee morning
Tues 26th May	10am-12	Friends of Wylam Coffee morning
Sat 30th May	7:30pm	Wine Tasting Event in St Oswin's church hall

Please address correspondence related to this issue to:

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Tel: (01661) 852498

email: clerk@wylamparishcouncil.org.uk

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Deadline for next issue is 30 April 2020