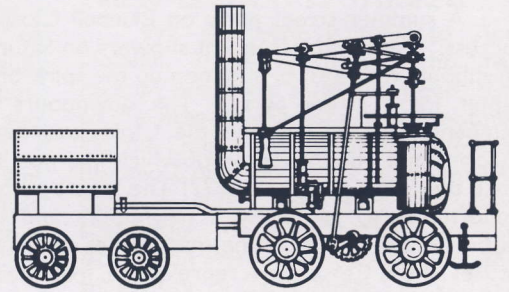


# THE WYLAM GLOBE

Newsletter of Wylam Parish Council



Autumn, 2008

Number 90

## Falcon Centre Improvements Planned

Melanie Dunnett, on behalf of the Pre-School Playgroup, writes:-

This year, Wylam residents will see Wylam Pre-School Playgroup organising a large number of fundraising events to pay for the replacement of the kitchen and general redecoration of the Falcon Centre. We hope that this may encourage more groups to use the building and therefore secure its future once the new Unitary Authority is in place. A new kitchen to replace the present dilapidated chipboard kitchen, which has no running hot water and which we can only guess dates from the old days when it was a school, would allow the children to bake and the Youth Club to warm up snacks such as pizzas for its members.

We are heartened to hear that Northumberland County Council is intending to rewire the building in the next few months, which has put our redecoration plans on hold. However, we are hoping to have several redecorating weekends once this work is complete and would encourage any interested Wylam residents to come and help.

Should anyone know of a new kitchen being ripped out and dumped, or indeed any newish appliances such as a fridge or a freestanding oven, would you please let us know as this would help us reduce the cost of this refurbishment work. For more information: contact Wylam Pre-School Playgroup by email [wylam.playgroup@live.co.uk](mailto:wylam.playgroup@live.co.uk) or ring the Falcon Centre between 9.15 and 11.30 any morning on 852174.



The present Falcon Centre kitchen which it is hoped to replace

### Hexham - Newcastle via Ovington, Heddon

### Route 684

Buses run limited-stop between Lemington Road End and Eldon Square, calling only at Denton Burn, Crematorium, Fox & Hounds, Plaza, Newcastle General Hospital and Gallowgate.

## 684 Bus Service

We are very pleased to be able to report that, in spite of some alarm on the matter a few weeks ago, Nexus have awarded a new contract to Arriva to continue operating this service after 31 August 2008, when the current contract expired.

The timetable, which we have reproduced here for your convenience, is very similar to the previous one except that the first and last journeys are now also running on Saturdays. We hope that local people will use this service as much as possible. It is only by us using local services that their continuation is likely to be assured.

#### Mondays to Saturdays

	684	684	684	684	684	684	684
Hexham, Bus Station	0715	...	...	...	...	...	...
Corbridge, Angel Inn	0723	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ovington, Green	0735	...	0855	1025	1155	1325	1455
Ovington, Bridge End	0740	...	0900	1030	1200	1330	1500
Wylam, Charlie's Corner	0745	...	0905	1035	1205	1335	1505
Heddon, Three Tuns	0751	...	0911	1041	1211	1341	1511
Throckley, Hexham Road	0756	...	0916	1046	1216	1346	1516
Lemington Road End	0801	...	0921	1051	1221	1351	1521
Denton Burn, opp Library	0803	...	0923	1053	1223	1353	1523
Newcastle General Hospital	0808	...	0928	1058	1228	1358	1528
Newcastle, Eldon Square	0816#	...	0936	1106	1236	1406	1536
	684	684	684	684	684	684	684
Newcastle, Eldon Square stand G	0825	...	0940	1110	1240	1410	1540
Newcastle General Hospital	0833	...	0948	1118	1248	1418	1548
Denton Burn, Library	0838	...	0953	1123	1253	1423	1553
Lemington Road End	...	...	0955	1125	1255	1425	1555
Throckley, Hexham Road	...	...	1000	1130	1300	1430	1600
Heddon, Towne Gate	...	...	1005	1135	1305	1435	1605
Wylam, Charlie's Corner	...	...	1010	1140	1310	1440	1610
Ovington, Bridge End	...	...	1015	1145	1315	1445	1615
Ovington, Green	0855	...	1020	1150	1320	1450	1620
Corbridge, Angel Inn	▼	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hexham, Bus Station	...	...	...	...	...	...	1829

▼ Continues to Ovington and Wylam - see above.

# Arrives at 0821 on schooldays.

Operated by Arriva.

North East Explorers can be used on this service.

This service is subsidised by Nexus and Northumberland County Council.



## Bunting and Balloons on Bluebell Close

A summer street party on Bluebell Close was a great success. Despite the frequent showers on Saturday 19th July neighbours managed to summon up the spirit of summer and gather for a street party. The downpours didn't put a dampener on the day and the Close was decorated with balloons and bunting, some of which had not been hung up since the Silver Jubilee in 1977! The street party was a good opportunity to gather with neighbours and friends for a barbecue and lots of home made cakes. More than half the houses in the Close were represented, from neighbours who had just moved into their home the day before, alongside those who have lived on the Dene Estate since the houses were built. The community party included babies, children, and adults of all ages joining together in the road. The street party organisers, Andre Terblanche, Simon Hackett, and Hilary Broomfield are grateful to all of the residents of Bluebell Close for turning a miserable rainy afternoon into a really memorable day!



*The Bluebell Close party in full swing*

## Peter Beardsley Makes an Appearance in Wylam



*Peter Beardsley with the Wylam Wheelers*

In July The Black Bull in Wylam held a charity event hosted by landlord Paul Bowes and The Wylam Wheelers, to raise funds for The Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Foundation.

Peter Beardsley was the guest for the evening and gave a talk about raising funds for the charity as well as his time with Newcastle United FC. He also answered questions from the audience and signed autographs. Afterwards there was a buffet, raffle and an auction of, amongst other things, several signed shirts, shorts and a football.

In total over £1,800 was raised on the night. Paul Bowes said, "It was a fantastic response and a good night was had by all."

In August another charity event was held in the newly refurbished Black Bull when over £500 was raised for the CLIC Sargent Charity (Caring for Children and Young People with Cancer). Raffle tickets were sold for the prize of a Harley Davidson Heritage Trail Bike worth £15,000, donated by Mr. Lawrence Laidlow.

*(The Black Bull was awarded "Charity Pub of the Year" for the Tyne/Tees Area in 2006 and we are delighted that this good work continues. Ed.)*

## Wylam Parish Council Environment Working Group

Due to the awareness of the environmental issues and climate change, Wylam Parish Council is examining the possibility of reconvening an Environment Working Group. This group was initially formed as a result of feedback from the Village Plan in 2002/2003, however its work was put into temporary abeyance in 2005.

A paper proposing the remit of this new group has been discussed at various Parish Council meetings and is now available for comment by Wylam residents. Detailed below is a brief summary of the remit, the full paper can be found on the Wylam Parish Council website under the section entitled Working Groups.

We would welcome any comments, criticisms, suggestions on the remit and the general requirement for the reconstitution of the group - as the world is a different place from that of 2003 when the group was originally formed.

We would ask residents to put their comments in writing and send as a letter to the Parish Council office or email to [wylampc@btinternet.com](mailto:wylampc@btinternet.com) by 30 September 2008.

### REMIT

#### 1. General

The general focus will be the monitoring of the condition of the village environment and ensuring that the services of the Local Authority - e.g. grass cutting and road sweeping are maintained at the expected standard.

#### 2. Waste

General waste and recycling issues - updating of the recycling leaflet, promotion of composting, monitoring of the state of the recycling area. Dog fouling and litter.

#### 3. Transport

Any transport issues raised by the Environment Working Group will be passed to the Highways and Public Transport

#### 4. Water

Monitor the state of the public toilets to ensure regular cleaning and maintenance.

Obtain and issue literature to encourage better use of water. Lobby the Unitary Authority to review long term water use, e.g. installation of rainwater toilets etc.

Monitor public water supply and drainage issues.

#### 5. Buildings (built environment)

Monitor that various public buildings are being maintained to a satisfactory standard

#### 6. Sustainability/Climate Change

*Examples of possible projects:*

Lobby the Unitary Authority on its planning procedures for domestic microgeneration.

Undertake a carbon footprint exercise of the village.

Make information available to residents on climate change grants available to reduce household carbon emissions.

Make available to residents information on local businesses to encourage residents to shop and procure services locally.

Assist with questions for a forthcoming update of the Village Plan on the environment and climate change.

#### 7. Village Environment

Regularly inspect public open spaces, trees, plants, rural footpaths, Nature Reserve, riverbank and Country Park within the parish boundary and report on any problems and the need for maintenance and improvement.

Within the built environment inspect:- street furniture, signs, litter bins and streetlights and report any problems or improvements required.

#### Terms of Reference (shortened version)

The group will be convened by the Parish Council and will include at least 2 Parish Councillors, with up to five interested residents invited to join the group.



## Queen for the Day



Did you know that the Queen lived in Wylam? Well, Pat Buckle certainly lived up to the title when she was Queen for the Day in Bamburgh – a title won in a Women's Institute pledge auction. Her duties included visiting all the local attractions in Bamburgh including the Grace Darling museum, where three little boys thought she was the real queen, took off their caps and bowed to her. Meanwhile her faithful Wylam WI servants dutifully endeavoured to fulfil their role of bidding for the title of "Best Sand Sculpture" on Bamburgh beach. Wylam WI designed and built a



mousetrap, complete with decapitated mouse, with mice running around carefully watched by a cat, a refreshing alternative to other WIs who constructed nautical objects such as mermaids, ships and an octopus. Wylam didn't win, but they had a fun day. Photos show Pat on duty and her WI subjects with their sand sculpture.

## Come and see!

Wylam Amateur Dramatic Society's next production is entitled "Murdered to Death" by Peter Gordon, a spoof of an Agatha Christie detective play. We are invited to come along to the Institute to see our favourite actors as Clouseau, Miss Marple etc. Great opportunities for over-acting! Dates for your diary: 4th, 5th and 6th of December.

## Wylam Playgroup Calendar

For the past 2 years, Wylam Pre-School Playgroup has produced a calendar featuring photos of Wylam taken by friends and parents. We would now like to offer all budding photographers the opportunity to submit photos for a 2009 calendar – all photographers will be acknowledged on the calendar.

Photos can portray anything pertinent to Wylam - previous year's calendars have included shots of Stephenson's Cottage, the River Tyne, the various pubs and landscapes, including Points Bridge and Bluebell Lane from afar.

If you would like to submit any photos, please either drop them off at the Falcon Centre in hardcopy or on a disc, or via email to

[wylam.playgroup@live.co.uk](mailto:wylam.playgroup@live.co.uk).

Each photo should be between 2-3MB. We are hoping to print the calendar earlier this year to allow Wylam residents to send them to their friends overseas in time for Christmas.

The proceeds from the calendar will be used to maintain the high quality service that the Playgroup offers to the village and will also go towards the Falcon Centre kitchen refurbishment fund.

If you have any questions please contact Melanie on 852106 or by email: [melanie\\_dunnett@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:melanie_dunnett@yahoo.co.uk)

## Scout Rail Mark 2 Rolls into Wylam

Ken John writes:-

Following the successful launch of Scout Rail in the village last winter, the village Scouts, Cubs and Beavers are staging another similar event on Saturday 11 October 2008, to be held in the Institute from 10.30am to 4.00pm.

We expect to have even more model railway exhibitors this time (last year's layouts were amazing). There will be games to suit all ages including the "Drive an Engine" simulators, and retailers with displays of model railway equipment for sale.

Please support the event. It is the Scout Group's principal fundraising event and provides us with funds to buy new tents and other equipment for a wide range of activities.

We would be grateful for offers of help on the day, with any railway related items that we might sell or auction and for material that we might display and return to respective owners.

The train shortly arriving at Wylam Institute .....

## Meditation Classes

Meditation Classes, including teaching on how to apply Buddhist ideas and principles to the challenges of everyday life, will commence in Wylam Institute on Mondays from 1 September, 7.00 to 9.00pm. These are individual "drop-in" sessions with no need to book in advance and no experience is necessary. For further information call 0191 284 3501 or visit [www.meditation-newcastle.org](http://www.meditation-newcastle.org)

## New Bench Donated

We are very grateful to Ann Dolphin, from Ovington, who has recently presented a beautiful bench seat to the village in memory of her mother, Winnie Dolphin, who was a resident of Blackett Court for several years until her death in 2005. The seat was made specifically for the purpose in the Acklington Prison Workshop under the supervision of Garry Budge. As you can see in the photograph, it is located below the Institute garden wall, close to the Wylam Tea Shop, where Winnie Dolphin was so often to be seen enjoying a cup of coffee or an ice cream (and sometimes a cigarette!)



Winnie was born in Hexham in 1919 but moved later with her parents to Newcastle. She trained as a hairdresser and served in the ATS in Darlington during the war, where she met her husband Jim, who was serving at that time in the RAF and to whom she was married for almost 47 years until his death in 1988.

Winnie Dolphin came to Wylam in her later years, as many have done, to be nearer to her family. Those who knew her describe her as "warm and wise, kind and funny, always with a ready smile and with an encouraging word for everyone". Ann Dolphin hopes that the seat will not only serve in memory of her mother but that it will be appreciated by anyone who needs a rest or is seeking a few minutes relaxation. "Please enjoy it" she says.

## Website Goes Live!

We are delighted to report that after a lot of unavoidable hold ups, the Parish Council's website at last went "live" very recently. For anyone with an internet facility you can now access the site at [www.wylamparishcouncil.org](http://www.wylamparishcouncil.org). The site will continue to be developed and extended but there's already a lot to see so, why not take a look? Your comments would be welcome!



## Community Week Programme

Arrangements for Wylam Community Week are well in hand. The series of special events, organised on behalf of the Wylam Institute Community Association, will take place this year between Saturday 1st and Saturday 8th November and it is hoped that everyone in the village will try to support at least one or two of the activities, which will give a great boost to the funds that help to maintain "our Institute", arguably one of the best community buildings in the area. The outline programme will be as follows:-

**Sat. 1st** - Charity Card and Craft Sale (in aid of "Shelter")

**Sun. 2nd** - Community Service at St Oswin's Church

**Mon 3rd** - A Lunch and Bridge Afternoon.

**Tues 4th** - Friends of Wylam - Coffee Morning and Stalls

**Tues. 4th** - A Cookery Talk by Sandra Heard and Tea

**Thurs. 6th** (afternoon) - Film Club (on behalf of the W.I.) - "Bride and Prejudice" a repeat showing of this popular Bollywood musical.

**Frid. 7th** (Provisional) - A Junior Disco

**Sat. 8th** - Table Top Sale

**Sat 8th** - A Family Evening "Gig"

Throughout the week, an exhibition of photographs of Wylam, taken by the late Frank Littlewood, will be on display in the Institute.

## Nature Notes - Squirrels and Trees

*Peter Clarke writes:-*

The outstanding event of recent weeks was the talk on squirrels given by two ladies from Northern Red Squirrels at the end of May. There was an enlightening discussion on the relationship of reds and greys, and ways and means of encouraging reds while reducing the number of greys. One or two people went away determined to do some trapping and they have been quite successful using the RSPCA preferred design of trap. If anyone else wishes to try trapping, then an opportunity still exists. Get in touch!

The wet weather of the last few months has once again meant that our grass cutter could not come to mow the Nature Reserve meadow. Progress in the development of the meadow has therefore been slow, but we shall persevere, as most of us would welcome the appearance of meadow flowers in due course. Meanwhile, voluntary labour has done a good job in removing much Himalayan balsam to prevent it spreading.

Some trees have been in trouble. The huge free-standing ash in Engine Dene has shed a very large branch and another was hanging rather alarmingly for some time. However, Tynedale Council which owns this specimen, has now carried out remedial work and has declared the tree to be safe.

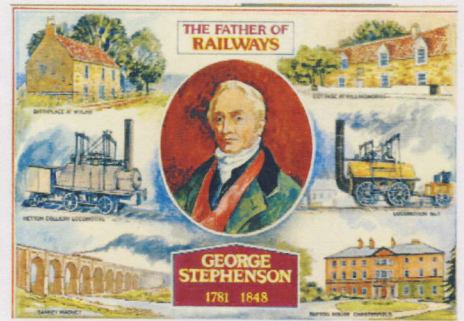
A number of other large trees around the parish will have to be watched for wind-throw and other damage, and a number of trees are pushing at a wall in Ovingham Road. They will possibly have to be removed.

On Tuesday 28 October, Steve Lowe, the Head of Conservation at Northumberland Wildlife Trust, will be giving a talk in the Institute on the Atkinson Tree Survey. Atkinson was a great friend of Thomas Bewick of Cherryburn, and he lived for some time in Wylam Hall. The survey was carried out in 1873-76 and includes a few Wylam trees, some that are still living. All are welcome to this talk, which has been arranged by the Local History Society.

**The Deadline for the December  
"Wylam Globe" is Friday 7  
November**

## Souvenirs

The Parish Council has recently obtained a small range of souvenirs depicting George Stephenson, often referred to as the "Father of Railways". The fridge-magnets and key-rings, which both carry the illustration shown above, can be purchased from Wylam Library or Stephenson's Cottage. (Fridge-magnets are £2 each and key-rings are £1.35).



## An Appeal for Help

*From the Playing Field Committee:-*

From the Institute to the Library and our numerous shops Wylam is a village blessed with many varied community facilities and, at the heart of the village is the Playing Field – a fantastic venue for all – and one that's easy to take for granted.

It's not only a fantastic playground for the village children but a cricket pitch, football field and picturesque location for our annual Summer Fair.

But the maintenance and protection of this vital community facility lies with all of us – the villagers – and we are putting in a plea for help - for more people to come forward and help shape the future of our playing field for generations to come.

Four members of the Playing Field Committee have announced their retirement – and a recruitment drive is being launched to find new members.

All you need is enthusiasm, energy, and a little bit of spare time. New ideas are warmly welcomed. If you are interested please contact Tony Mitcham on 852128.

And remember, this is YOUR playing field and YOUR chance to play a part in shaping the future of this wonderful community facility. We look forward to hearing from you.

## Forthcoming Events

**Sat 20 Sept** - Churches "Splashing Out" event in aid of Water Aid in the Methodist Centre. Coffee 10.00am to 12 noon, Soup Lunches 12 noon to 1.30pm, stalls, games and exhibits throughout this period.

**Sun 21 Sept** - Wylam and District Churches Harvest Festival at Methodist Church at 10.00am.

**Sat 27 Sept** - Friends of Wylam Bazaar in the Institute. Film Club, in the Institute, 7.30pm "Juno" (12a) a comedy drama starring Ellen Page

**Sat 1 Oct** - "Scout Rail" in the Institute 10.30am to 4.00pm (see earlier note)

**Sat 25 Oct** - Film Club, in the Institute, 7.30pm. "Michael Clayton" (15) a 'Neo Noir' legal thriller starring George Clooney.

**Sat 1 Nov to Sat 8 Nov** - Community Week – see separate note in this issue

**Sat 15 Nov** - Film Club, 7.30pm in the Institute. "The Counterfeiters" (15). A wartime thriller, in German with English sub-titles,

**Sat 13 Dec** - Film Club, in the Institute, 7.30pm. "Once" (15). A Drama/Music/Romance starring Glen Hansard (frontman of 'The Frames Band')

*Correspondence relating to this Newsletter should be addressed to:*

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