

Wylam Cricket Club's Plan

As the spring approaches, Wylam Cricket Club is planning for the forth-coming season. We run adult First and Second XI's in the West Tyne 1st and 2nd divisions respectively. We are always looking for new players and if you are interested in joining us please either go to our Facebook page for more details about the club or contact David Lamb 852688.

We will be running Junior Coaching for all ages on Monday evenings starting on 16th April and later in the summer this will include the very popular AllStar Cricket sessions promoted by the ECB. Some other dates for your diary during the year. The first home match is on the 28th April with the 1st team playing Humshaugh. We will be hosting a Family Cricket Day on 6th May to which everyone is invited. Further details will be advertised nearer the date. For the Under 9 Juniors we are arranging a round robin tournament for the 3rd June.

For those interested in supporting the club from the spectating side of the boundary we offer the option of becoming a Vice President for a donation of £40. All Vice-Presidents are invited to our Vice-Presidents Day which this year will be on the 4th August for the game against Stocksfield, where food and drink will be provided for the duration of the game.

Please come and support the home games on the Jubilee Field.



Thanks to retiring Parish Councillor

Bill Nicholson, a Parish Councillor since July 2013, has offered his resignation from office. This decision has been influenced by Bill's work commitments and personal circumstances. He is intending to move out of the village in the near future and he and his fiancée are planning their wedding for July.

We would like to thank Bill for his enthusiastic support as a Parish Councillor, and his particular contribution to the Planning Group. We would also like to take this opportunity to wish him and his fiancée every happiness in their life together.

And a Parish Council vacancy....

Clearly this now leaves a vacancy on Wylam Parish Council, and anybody who may be interested in filling this should contact Diana Carney, the Clerk, for further information.

Forthcoming Events

MARCH

Saturday 17th – 'Fill the Void' Film Club at 7.30pm
Thursday 29th – WEAR A HAT DAY in all of Wylam

APRIL

Thursday and Friday 12th – 13th Ayckbourn's 'It could be any one of us' at 7.30pm
Saturday 21st 'A United Kingdom' Film Club at 7.30pm

MAY

Saturday 12th WCPFA Music Quiz 7.30pm, Wylam Institute
Saturday 19 'Queen of Katwe' Film Club at 7.30pm
Sunday 20th – Jump for Joy – Fun for all

JUNE

Saturday 16th 'Cinema Paradiso' Film Club 7.30pm

Wylam Library: 'Story & Rhyme Time' every Tuesday during school terms 2.30-3.00: drop in sessions for pre-school children.

'Wear a Hat Day' is on again this year on Thursday 29 March 2018. www.braintumourresearch.org/fundraise/wear-a-hat-day.
Wylam's Railway Heritage

Village Spring Clean March 24th

Yes, it's that time of year again, and we are looking for volunteers to help with a litter pick and general clean-up around the village. On Saturday March 24th we will be meeting at 10.00am in the Country Park Car Park (behind the War Memorial). Come as an individual or a group and children are welcome as long as supervised. Advice about health and safety and where we would like you to 'pick' will be provided: as well as bin bags and we will have a number of litter pickers but if you have your own that would be great. Wear stout shoes boots or wellies, gloves and some old clothes, no flip flops!

If you can spare an hour or two please come along, and if you nominate a village group, as long as it has a bank account, the Parish Council will make a small donation to it.



EASTER WISHES FROM FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Articles for next issue by
May 12th please!

Correspondence relating to this Newsletter should be addressed to:

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The Clerk to the Parish Council
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Tel: (01661) 852498

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www.wylamparishcouncil.org.uk

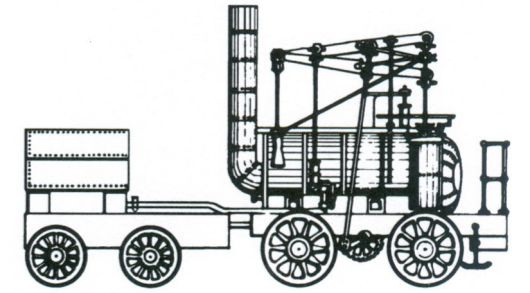
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THE WYLAM GLOBE

Newsletter of Wylam Parish Council

Spring 2018

No. 128



Local Foodbanks Benefit from Wylam's 'Reverse Advent Calendar'

How it all started - Wylam resident Kat Conaty writes:

I had seen the idea of a 'reverse advent calendar' on Facebook in 2015. An empty cardboard box on December 1st and every day in the lead up to Christmas a food item is put into the box which is then taken to a local foodbank. I thought how good this process would be to help teach my young children the art of giving, for them to learn to appreciate what they have, especially at a time of year when all of this becomes more meaningful. Telling Rachael Shaw-Kew about the idea over coffee in October 2016, she decided she would do it too. We then thought 'why stop there?!' We live in an amazingly supportive village - why not facilitate a village collection? That was it. Letters went into Wylam First book bags and we set up a page on Facebook - within hours the response had been incredible.

December came and the boxes began to arrive - and they just kept on coming! Rach and I took carloads to Hexham. The Mowden Hall School mini bus, thanks to Anna Little, took a load to Newcastle and a couple of car loads followed too. We were gobsmacked!

We plan to keep the scheme going as long as people are interested in donating. Look out for Facebook posts and posters around Wylam towards the end of the year. We must thank Sarah Leahy, Dave Carr and Fiona at Wylam Institute (plus our husbands and my daughter Izzy) for helping us out in December. What began as a solitary project three years ago has turned into an epic community project, showing, once again, the fantastic support this village is capable of. Thank you everyone!

For more information please look at our Facebook page - Wylam Foodbank Info - or give either me, Kat Conaty, a ring/text on 07968954378 or Rach Shaw-Kew on 07966663738.

The need is there all year around

I must make it clear that foodbanks obviously aren't just for Christmas. Please keep donating throughout the year. The Methodist Church and the chemist have drop-offs and I am happy to take donations too. I find it completely heart-breaking that in this day and age people as close by as Prudhoe have to rely on donations. Newcastle West End Foodbank is the most used in the UK. We are so incredibly lucky - throwing a few tins into a bag and dropping them off is hardly a hardship.

Healthwatch Northumberland: Proposed relocation of Riversdale Surgery residents survey

Healthwatch Northumberland is the local champion for users of health and social care. They are seeking feedback from people in Wylam and the surrounding area about the proposals by the Riversdale Surgery to move its services to Prudhoe. They have circulated a questionnaire about health needs and provision in the Wylam area for residents to complete.

Please return this to **Wylam Library** (during opening hours) or to **Wylam Institute** (return box on Foyer table).

Alternatively, you can complete the questionnaire online by going to: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WylamPC>

Please return by MARCH 30th

(‘PC’ stands for primary care not Parish Council)



Institute Notes

The Institute Committee are looking for willing and able volunteers to form a grass cutting rota to cut the lawn in the Institute garden.

Ideally, four or five volunteers are required which would mean the commitment would be every four to six weeks. The grass requires cutting every week between April and September using the Institute's own mowers. If you feel you can help, please contact either Fiona or Marg in the Institute office 852498.

Coffee Morning

The Institute Annual Members' Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday 24th February between 10-12 noon there will be a cake and a plant stall and a raffle. If you are a member please come along for a complimentary cup of coffee.

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 already 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 made in the usual way.

I am sure many of you will have used the Institute or know someone who has and will appreciate its value within the village. 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.

Subscriptions:

Patron £15 Family £12 Single £7

Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Sue Nicholson Chairman

Thanks to Sam for a great job!

The Parish Council would like to express its thanks to Sam James who stepped down as Tree Warden last autumn. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge his hard work and the thorough reports he provided monthly throughout his tenure on the trees growing on Parish Council land.

This of course means we now have a vacancy for someone to take on this voluntary role and we invite anyone interested to contact the Parish Council Clerk. A more detailed job description is available, but in essence, the role is monitoring the trees within Wylam Parish and reporting to the Council any issues requiring attention.

Obviously experience is helpful but interest and enthusiasm are the main requirements. Do not hesitate to get in touch even if you would simply like to know more about the role.

Voices of Hope Concert

Hilary Bloomfield writes:

The Voices of Hope choir (BBC Choir of the Year) returned to St. Oswin's Church on 2nd December and gave another amazing concert, once again raising the roof with their wonderful singing. The concert was followed by afternoon tea in the Institute.

The concert and the tea raised the fantastic sum of £2,600 which was divided between the British Heart Foundation and Brain Tumour Research. My thanks are due to Voices of Hope for coming and to everyone who helped in the organisation and baking for the tea. Thanks also to everyone who attended and made the day such a huge success.

Wylam's Railway Heritage

The Parish Council met National Trust reps recently to get an update on the closure over a year ago of George Stephenson's Birthplace. The Trust is giving no promises yet on reopening, but it has commissioned two pieces of important work.

One is a historical and social study to find out what was happening in Wylam (and, if possible, to George's family) around the time of his birth in 1781. This might lead to a better understanding as to why there were such huge advances in railway technology soon after, both in Wylam and further afield.

The second strand of work is looking forward, to explore how the Trust, the Council, local organisations and businesses and village residents can all contribute to making more of Wylam's rich heritage, much of which is a little hidden away and easily missed. We are looking ourselves at how the Council might update and expand past or current sources of information such leaflets, interpretation boards, web sites and of course our own Railway Museum in the Falcon Centre (open library hours).

We might also cooperate with the Trust to have more regular guided walks for both residents and visitors. The Parish Council hopes these could perhaps be combined with occasional openings of the National Trust property in the short term (but not as a substitute for full reopening in the longer term).

By the time you read this we hope that the Trust and the Council will have had a preliminary meeting with local organisations and businesses to look at how we might all contribute to and benefit from more and better promotion of Wylam's heritage. The current intention is that open meetings will follow soon after, culminating in a display and workshop at the Summer Fayre in June. We also hope to work with the Tyne Valley Community Rail Partnership on these issues, tying in with their wider promotion of the Tyne Valley railway line.

Lastly, did you know that 11 March 2018 is the 50th anniversary of the withdrawal of passenger services from North Wylam Station (where the waggonway car park now is) - see www.disused-stations.org.uk/n/north_wylam/index.shtml. We would welcome any memories or photos of the station or line when running - drop them off at the Institute or email to the Councils' email address and we'll do an article in the next Globe.

Closure of Crawcrook Road below Sled Lane

The closure is likely to be for only 6 weeks. There is no fixed start date yet although the order states 28th February. There will be a legal diversion for HGV's via Scotswood Bridge which has to be agreed between Gateshead Council, NCC, Highways England (A69) and the firm that manages the A1. More information will be going on the Gateshead Council website as soon as possible.

There will be pedestrian access throughout the period.

Prior to commencing the work, the trees in the roadside verge will be removed (prior to nesting season). This will be done on a Sunday, with traffic light controls.

Carols around the Christmas Tree on Charlie's Corner



It may now seem a long time ago but on Friday December 22nd we celebrated the tenth anniversary of this opportunity to 'sing your heads off!' Except for one year when the 'Grinch' had to cancel the event due to freezing conditions we have been gathering at 10 o'clock on Charlie's Corner on the last day of the school term for the last ten years. This year was the best attended, with two classes from Wylam First School, Wylam Singers and a good crowd competing for 'the best group effort'. Little could separate the school and the choir with the audience coming in third!

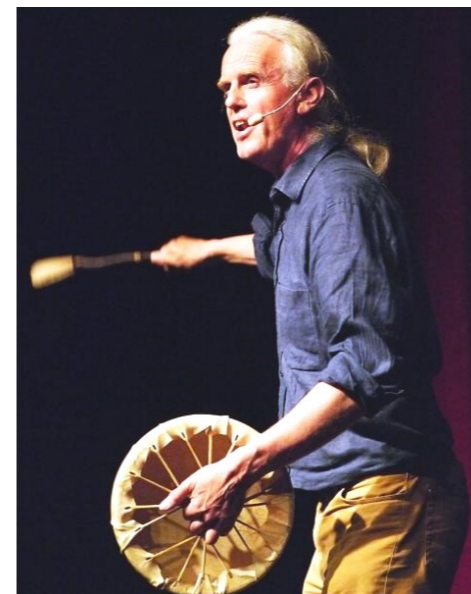
The Community Gathers Around Wylam Winter Tales

Wylam Winter Tales Festival rounded off its third annual outing on Friday 2nd February. With over a thousand people attending fourteen different events across the week the organisers are grateful for the support of the local community and for the dedication of Festival volunteers.

Highlights this year included the visit of poet, comedian and BBC broadcaster Ian McMillan for a special show called 'Words, Music, Glee & Delight' with musician Luke Carver-Goss (both pictured).

Ahead of their evening event, they worked with young people at Wylam First and Ovingham Middle schools to write improvised stories and poems. Lauren and Esther, Year 7 pupils from OMS told us they put together "a song that was all about 'Grandad Tom' and 'an improvised stretcher from World War I!' It was a fantastic experience for all of the pupils and also a great opportunity to improve creativity and have a lot of fun together!". Through the rest of Festival week it was great to see young and old experience the talent of wonderful artists like songwriter Anna Coogan, Mezzo Soprano Madeleine Shaw, story teller Hugh Lupton (below) and Americana trio Ashton Lane.

Some events particularly stand out in the memory like the first Festival outing to Wylam Nursery. As the moon rose on a chilly Monday evening Festival-goers gathered in the richly atmospheric surroundings of the glass house at Tom & Joe's. There, beside the crackling and spitting of a log stove and with breath visible through frosty evening air, a mix of local readers and guest story teller Pam Pott brought us winter tales in poetry and prose. It was a magical event topped off brilliantly by owner Tom Martin delivering the famous poem 'Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening' through the branches of a young potted tree!



On Thursday evening the Festival moved back indoors for an evening called 'Art Amongst The Coal' a special tribute to mark the opening of the new Mining Art Gallery in Bishop Auckland. Backed up by music and prose, experts Bob McManners and Gillian Wales delivered a passionate and gripping account of this increasingly revered generation of artists such as Norman Cornish and Tom McGuinness. It was a fantastic event where people got to meet staff from The Auckland Trust (who run the new gallery) and learned more about how to visit and experience these powerful and evocative works of art.

Wylam Winter Tales is run entirely by volunteers as a voluntary community organisation and will return from Friday 25th January to Friday 1st February 2019 (inclusive).

Keep in touch with WWT

www.wylamwintertales.org.uk email wylamwintertales@gmail.com