



SLALEY NEWS JULY & AUGUST 2024



July will of course see the end of all the hustings and arguments as voting in the General Election takes place on Thursday the 4th at the Commemoration Hall.

Stella Douglas would like to say that although it is not a requirement for a voter to bring their poll card to vote, it will make it easier for the Poll Clerks to find them on the register. However even because you know the poll clerks and presiding officer, you must still show photo identification!

And then in August we have the 162nd Slaley Show to look forward to on Saturday the 10th!

This annual exhibition of produce, livestock and skilled craftsmanship by the local community of Slaley and surrounding districts has seen many changes in its history; it has continued to survive and prosper nevertheless, to become one of the best village shows in Northumberland. Successive generations have worked hard to maintain the Victorian tradition of an annual 'get-together' of local people competing in friendly rivalry, or simply chatting over a cup of tea and a sandwich.



Thanks to Slaley Women's Institute, we now have a new noticeboard in front of the Community Shop: check it out! And more from the WI later ...



Slaley Parish Council will be holding a monthly drop-in session where you can come and discuss local issues. Councillor Ian Stevens will be at the shop, in the green cabin.

Also this time we have a new page at the back, providing a brief list of "What's on in Slaley".

Contributions for the September edition by Monday 26th August or earlier,
please!

Send by email to slaleynews@icloud.com, or to
michael@elphicks.myzen.co.uk

The Rose And Crown

Come and enjoy the events planned for July and August, details will be available on our Facebook page and in the pub. You can of course come other times to enjoy our lovely garden, excellent food and full range of drinks.

Quits. Our team have won all their league matches so far, Well Done! Good luck for the rest of the season.

Don't forget you are always guaranteed to get very warm welcome from Tracey and the team, and we look forward to seeing you all.

And the Rose & Crown is NOT up for sale! Although the Hexham Courant seemed to say that, the Community-owned pub is in fact just advertising for a new tenant to take over from Tracey.

STOP PRESS!

From Paula & Michael Darrington

Saturday 13th July 2 from 4.30

A pop-up garden opening at Middle Grange, Slaley, NE47 0AA

Come and enjoy tea and cake with your friends!

The Traveller's Rest

Summer has eventually landed and, along with the sunshine comes a veritable feast for the palate here at the Travellers.

July's diary;

- Wednesday 3rd Acropolis – Greek street food
- Friday 5th Parm-o-rama
- Wednesday 10th NE Delhi
- Friday 12th Gyros – Greek street food
- Wednesday 17th Bay Tree – Burgers, loaded fries
- Friday 19th Tyne Thai – Finest Thai in the northern hemisphere
- Wednesday 24th Hog Roast – Pulled pork etc
- Friday 26th Al's Street food – East Asian style street food
- Wednesday 31st Fire & Dough – Pizza Pizza Pizza

Church Services

The Services in Slaley and Healey in July are as follows:

St Mary's, Slaley at 11.15am:

7 July	Holy Communion	Canon David Kennedy
14 July	Methodist Service	The Revd Marie Beard
21 July	Service of the Word	The Revd Linda Hunter
28 July	Service of the Word	Mrs Diane Wylie

St John's, Healey at 5pm:

14 July	Holy Communion
28 July	Evening Prayer

Andy's Man Club!

I (Jed Irving) am going to be lead facilitator at a group called Andy's Man Club which is going to be situated at the Farmer's Mart in Hexham.

AMC is a support group for men. A peer support group. There are no specialists, no therapists, no advisors. Just men who have struggled. Struggled with relationships. Struggled with finance. Struggled with cruelty. Struggled with addiction. Struggled with life.

It's free, confidential and non judgemental. You don't have to sign up or make an appointment. Just turn up on any Monday night (apart from bank holidays). You get a brew, a biscuit and a chance to talk. And a chance to be listened to.

Check us out on Facebook, Instagram or the web. Just type in andysmanclub (all one word)

The Slaley Healey and Hexhamshire Community Moth Project

Despite a very cold spring and what seems like continuous rain we do have some moth records! The moth trap has been loaned out 10 times, with over 98 moths caught and released and 37 species recorded. Hopefully now that the weather is getting warmer, we will have more moths flying and we can increase the species list.



Hebrew Characters

So far, the winners are Hebrew Characters 23 recorded, Clouded drab 15, Early Grey 13, with Poplar Hawkmoth, Common Quaker and Brown Silver line coming in fourth with 7.



Clouded Drab

At the end of the year the full species list and numbers of moths recorded will be published, and the results will be sent to the North East Environmental Records Information Centre (ERIC).

If you would like to borrow the moth trap over the summer, please contact Anne Porter for availability, anneporter3@gmail.com

Ladycross Nature Reserve

Joan Jewitt is now taking bookings for the Nightjar walks – on 01434 673245 or jjewitt245@btinternet.com

Please leave your name and mobile number.

- Wednesday 17th July
- Thursday 8th August

Details re. time, etc will be given nearer the date.

We make a charge of £10 per person and this supports the upkeep of the reserve.

Also taking bookings for the Fungus Foray on Sunday (afternoon) 15th September (please book by 26th of August if possible)

Thank you for supporting the reserve.

A New Correspondent for the Hexham Courant?

Do you read the Slaley Notes in the Hexham Courant? Since October 2017 this has been a weekly task undertaken by Stella Douglas and Catherine Lincoln, but they now wish to stand down at the beginning of September this year.

Other past correspondents have included Lesley Woodhouse, and Jean Elphick (who retired in 2017). Stella will have done 185 reports when she stops in September, and Catherine will have done a lot more!

So this is an appeal for one or two new correspondents to take on this task: not an arduous one, just reporting what's happening in Slaley each week. Talk to Stella or Catherine if you would like to know more about what is involved . . .

SAVE THE DATE!

On Saturday 31st August, thanks to Paula & Michael Darrington.

Parish BBQ in aid of St. Mary's Church

Food Drinks and Bouncy Castle

Keep an eye on the Community Shop notice board for further details!

WI News for July & August

The Community noticeboard gifted by us to the parish is finally in place within the garden of the Community Shop and promises to be an ever-changing source of local useful information. You'll notice the 'traditional' frontage and the modern chalkboard on the back – old and modern, to acknowledge our 100th birthday (last year). Additions to the displays are welcome and our thanks to the shop for their support and their donation as well as a generous donation from Slaley Parish Council.



David Hastings from Chester le Street, a 'community presenter' from the RNLI came to see us at June's meeting to tell us all about the history of the organisation and as a way of showing his gratitude for having been rescued personally during his career as a deck officer in the Merchant Navy. We can claim, as a region, that today's RNLI has its roots in 1785 Bamburgh using simple converted cobbles. Its official organisational launch in 1824 by Sir William Hillary, failed to gain government money support and so it remains to this day reliant on public donations.

Today's RNLI is vastly changed; they coordinate with coastguards, water safety advisors observing riptides and shifting sands as well as the Samaritans and 20% of its crews are women. Our regional RNLI crews were called out 9,000 times last year. "200 of those were for paddleboarders swept out to sea" he said.

Encouraging fundraising continues apace and David told us of one of their volunteers called Betty coming up with an idea to save 5p coins in tiny jam jars which, when full, hold £2.30. During the summer we will be distributing these jars known as Betty's jam jars to anyone who is often irritated by the 5p which lodge

firmly in the folds of purses. Keep an eye on the community noticeboard for further information. More info on www.savinglivesatsea.com

An extra trip to have a look around Karen Melvin's Garden was a real treat "It was fabulous" reports our president Catherine Myers "what an amazing array of plants and flowers and so many different areas of interest, so tranquil..."

Our July meeting on the 10th welcomes The Cramlington Forager with an extra trip, weather permitting to Thornton Hall Gardens. The August meeting has a delayed date of the 28th due to so many of us helping at Slaley Show, but it promises to be fascinating...on forensics,

It's unlikely that a picture of Mel Brown aka Scary Spice will ever appear again in Slaley News so here she is ...

at the recent WI national conference, attended by Catherine, which had an overall theme on domestic violence; she proved to be an inspirational speaker... we'll be sharing some of the outcome of the conference over the next few months.

Anyone interested in joining us? Please give Catherine a call on 01434 673023



July 2024 gardening column-

Still cold as I am writing this. And wet. Garden to be open tomorrow. The rhododendrons and azaleas have loved the wet, thinking they have moved to Cumbria. The cool has extended their flowering period, some perhaps may still be open for the Garden Trail here on Sunday. What season will it be, hopefully summer at last?

Spring presents itself as a steady slow sequence of events where a few things catch the attention; summer, on the other hand, is quantity, the whole garden filled with a profusion of form and colour. We have oriental poppies, Kolkwitzia, philadelphus totally covered with flowers, herbaceous clumps sending up tall stems. I pay particular attention to how the colours are blending at this time of year. I think I buy so many geums because I like the spots of warm colour amongst all the blues of

Karen Melvin



Potentilla nepalensis Miss Wilmot & Geranium

campanula bell flowers and catmint. The geums have so many beautiful subtle corals and orangey pinks in the family, supposedly all bred from two wild forms, the nodding water avens *Geum rivale* and the tiny yellow wood avens *Geum urbanum*.



Rhododendron Wardii

In my kitchen picture window view I see a fortuitous combination of enticing colour. Through the pale yellow bells of *Rhododendron Wardii* stand two seedling *aquilegias*, the cottage garden type of Granny's Bonnet, one deep purple, the other deep pinky red. In front of the yellow rhododendron are the tall stems of bearded *Iris Cantina*, a pale indigo. This indigo iris against the backdrop of the



Centaurea montana & Amethyst in the Snow

grass of the lawn glows in the light from backlit rays of low sun, all this a wonderful blend of related and contrasting subtle colour.

Indigo is a mysterious colour. Naturally dyed blue jeans tend towards a blue-green colour but the rainbow and my indigo paint tubes are purple blue. Isaac Newton set the rainbow colours in their order and only introduced indigo to make up the magic number seven, seven with its associations with the days of the week, the number of known planets then, and biblical texts. Indigo comes from the dye plant *indigofera*, Chinese indigo *persicaria*, and also woad and can be dark blue or blue green.

These dye colours differ from spectrum indigo. Since the 1980s when computer programmers gave specific values to colour names, indigo has been pinned

down to 290 degrees, in the web spectrum sRGB (0 Red, 65 Green 106 Blue). Indigo paint pigments are between blue and violet in the colour wheel. I photographed an indigo bunting bird in my sister's Florida garden and it was an intense cerulean bluegreen with a darker head, nothing like the named indigo. Even on the computer the colour remains elusive shifting from violet to greener blue with different degrees of saturation. In Newton's time the name blue was a blue-green and indigo was clear blue, so they didn't recognise the indigo that we see. Visually mysterious is the idea that if our culture doesn't have a word for something, we don't see it (linguistic relativity).

Slaley Film Club

After considering the pros and cons of this, the Film Club is proposing that we consider a one year trial of the MPLC Umbrella license scheme. MPLC is the "Motion Picture Licensing Corporation", and some other film clubs are trying this.

This licence would be for the Commemoration Hall itself. In this way, for an annual fee of £391.52 the Film Club or any other group using the Hall could show films, as long as they don't charge an admission fee or advertise it publicly outside the Hall.

There will be posters and information INSIDE the Hall before the event, and we can also advertise a “Film Night” or “Children’s Film”, as long as no film title or character names are used in the advertisement.

For the Film Club itself we will ask for a donation as you enter, and may still have a raffle; we are planning to continue providing a supper, covered by your donations. Also if you are on our email list we can let you know what the film is and more details as before. We hope that you will support us in this, so let us know what films you would like to see in the coming months. And let Michael know if you would like to join our email list: michael@elphicks.myzen.co.uk.

We will confirm the final decision at the start of September!

The Parish Council

10th June 2024

The Parish Council last met on 10th June, discussion at the meeting was dominated by:

- the pre-approval planning application submitted for two dwellings at South Farm
- comments made to Councillors about the stance they had taken upon being made aware of the unlawful activity of a member of the community
- the need to rejuvenate the Neighbourhood Plan to ensure a greater say for the community in the physical, social and economic development of the Parish

As well as all Councillors being present at the meeting, together with County Councillor Horncastle, Samantha Dalglish the new Parish Clerk was also present.

Parish Council meeting minutes can be found at **www.slaley.org.uk/spc-meetings-and-minutes**.

The Exercise of Public Rights

Following the internal audit of the Parish Council for 2023/24, which was signed off in May, as required by law, the Councils accounts are now available for members of the community to view. Anyone wishing to exercise this right should contact the Parish Clerk by 19th July 2004.

Here Comes Summer!

With school holidays just around the corner don’t forget that our Community Play area is open for use behind the school. Whilst the land is the property of the County Council, as a community we have negotiated its use outside school hours as a play area, this is of course conditional upon it, or the equipment in it not being abused.

If you or your children are going to use this wonderful space, please bear the following in mind:

- all persons use the area at their own risk
- the area must only be used for its intended purpose
- in the interests of safety, please do not bring dogs, glass or alcohol into the area
- the use of this space as a community asset is dependent upon it being kept in good condition by those using it
- there is no first aid kit on site
- this is a no smoking site

Keeping our Village Clean

Please remember to clean up after your dog when you're out and about together (and don't forget that the school grounds/Community Play Area are out of bounds to them).

Make a date

From 9th July 2024, until further notice, Parish Council meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5.30 p.m. in the Commemoration Hall.

On 29th July and 27th August, between 10:30 and noon, the Chair of the Parish Council will be at the Community Shop should you wish to raise any issues with him.

Who to contact

Contact with the Parish Council can be made via Samantha Dalglish (the Parish Clerk) via slaleyipc@gmail.com.

What's on this Month?

What?	When?	Where?
Exercise To Music	Mondays at 9:30 and 10:45	Commemoration Hall
Carpet Bowls	Alternate Tuesdays at 7 pm	Commemoration Hall
Parent & Baby group	Thursday at 10 am	Commemoration Hall
Yoga	Every Friday at 8 am	Commemoration Hall
Hall AGM	July 2nd	Commemoration Hall
GENERAL ELECTION!	Thursday July 4th, all day!	Commemoration Hall
“Messy Church”	Saturday July 6th at 9:30	St Mary’s Church
Communion Service	Sunday July 7th at 11:15	St Mary’s Church
Women’s Institute	Wednesday July 10th at 7:30	Commemoration Hall
Whist	Thursday July 11th at 7:00	Commemoration Hall
Pop-up Garden!	Saturday July 13th at 4:30	Middle Grange, Slaley
Methodist Service	Sunday July 14th at 11:15	St Mary’s Church
Nightjar Walk	Wednesday July 17th	Ladycross Nature reserve
Service of the Word	Sunday July 21st at 11:15	St Mary’s Church
Service of the Word	Sunday July 28th at 11:15	St Mary’s Church
Whist	Thursday August 8th at 7:00	Commemoration Hall
Nightjar Walk	Thursday August 8th	Ladycross Nature reserve
Slaley Show!	Saturday August 10th	Townhead
Women’s Institute	Wednesday August 28th at 7:30	Commemoration Hall
Parish Barbecue!	Saturday 31st August	Middle Grange, Slaley

USEFUL CONTACTS

Badminton Group	Fran Pugh	673429
Carpet Bowls	Karl Beckett	07914 693199
St Mary's Parish Church	Rev. David Kennedy	633012
St Elizabeth's Catholic Church	Father Antony Connelly	673248
Commemoration Hall	Chairman: Ros Doonan	673173
	Bookings: Stella Douglas	673001
County Councillor	Colin Horncastle	618259
Dial-A-Ride	A.D.A.P.T.	600599
Film Club	Michael Elphick	673443
Friends of Slaley School	Andrea Foster	634865
Hexham Hospital		0344 811 8111
Ladycross Nature Reserve	Joan Jewitt	673245
Leek Club	Catherine Lincoln	07918 120125
Local History Group	Pat Wilson	673388
	Ian Hancock	673502
Mobile Hairdresser	Linda Johnston	673196
Northumberland CC	Report faulty Streetlights/ Potholes	0345 6006400
Parish Council	Chairman: Ian Stevens	07395 566997
Post Office Van	Martin Nichol, Stocksfield Post Office	01661 842110
Police	For non-emergency calls	101
Rose & Crown Pub		673996
Slaley Shop	Enquiries	673201
Slaley Community Shop	Sandra Innes (Chair)	673845
	(mobile)	07710 726338
Slaley First School	Head: Mrs. Hayward	673220
Slaley Notes = Hexham Courant	Stella Douglas	07838 866976
	Catherine Lincoln	07918 120125
Slaley Parish Website	www.slaley.org.uk	
Slaley Show	Chairman: Stella Douglas	07838 866976
The Travellers Rest	Lucy & Jed	673231
Women's Institute	President: Catherine Myers	673023
	Secretary: Hilary Porteus	07803 268947