

NORHAM NEWSROUND

NOVEMBER 2015

- a) It was agreed that the need for the Vehicle-Activated Electronic speed sign was urgent. The funding for this is available.
- b) County Councillor Watkin agreed to contact NCC again about this matter. He indicated that the road near Norham School was being reassessed.
- c) The Police Community Police Officer will be asked to be a visible presence in the village. Suggestions included training residents to use hand-held speed detectors.
- d) It was agreed that three poles should be put in place at the three entrances to the village, enabling the electronic speed sign to be moved as necessary. Priority would be near Norham First School. (Flashing lights could also be installed there); near Birch Hill; Castle Bank.
- e) Letters will be sent to all Contractors and Hauliers in the area requesting them to ensure that their drivers respect speed limits and drive safely through the village.

Proposed Joint Neighbourhood Planning in Norham and Islandshire

More information will be sought. Bearing in mind the particular needs of Norham, including undergrounding of cables and maintenance of Norham Bridge to ensure communication with Scotland, a decision whether Norham Parish Council would undertake a Neighbourhood Plan independently or in conjunction with Norham and Islandshire Parish Councils will be made at our next meeting.

Seat plan of location of seats in Parish Jim Blythe has commenced this. John Gramslaw was thanked for the repair and maintenance carried out on the seats.

Responsibility for Public Conveniences NCC will meet with Norham Councillors to discuss this on Wednesday 7th October 2015 at 11 a.m..

Donation Miss Thompson was thanked for the generous donation from her father.

State of roads and pavements Birch Hill to Norham Station: The landowner will be asked by NCC to clear earth from under the hedges to ensure the pathway remains clear. Councillor Watkin was thanked for removing the gravel from Castle St./village green. The damaged signpost at Grindon crossroads will be removed following insurance investigations. Morris Hall Farm road potholes have been filled in but are in a state of disrepair again. A more durable repair is necessary.

To look at latest planning applications Granted: Installation 25m shared communications mast etc. Land N. of B6470 Junction, Norham. On-going: Galagate Farm development; Victoria Hotel development; Lantern glass roof at 29 Castle Street.

Control of dogs JG was thanked for maintaining the War memorial. Before being able to cut the grass around the memorial, he has to remove dog dirt. **Please treat the war memorial with more respect.**

Norham Castle The Council is grateful to Terry Hume who cuts the grass outside the castle, vastly improving its appearance. The system whereby local volunteers open the Castle gates from Easter to the end of September is working well.

Walks around Norham Interest has been shown in the production of leaflets showing walks around Norham and area. The donation from Collingwood Thompson might be appropriately used for this.

Charity Tractor Run SH thanked the Council for the use of the village green for the Ladies' Charity Tractor Run. This had been very successful and had raised over £1,000 for SHINE, a charity which supports Stroke victims.

St. Cuthbert's Church. Rev. K asked about brown historical signs for Norham Church. The cost could be £4,000, though smaller signs would be cheaper than this.

Date of next meeting 23rd November 2015.

Forthcoming Events.

Monday 2nd November : **All Souls Day Service** in church; 6pm.

Thursday 5th : **W.I. Meeting** in the Village Hall; 2pm.

Sunday 8th : **Remembrance Sunday Concert** in church; 4pm

Monday 9th : **M.U. Meeting** at Branxton Village Hall; 2pm.

Thursday 12th : **Parish Walk Meet** on the Green at 10am.

Sunday 22nd : **Pre-Advent Carol Concert** in church; 6pm.

Wednesday 25th : **Drop-in-4-Coffee** at church; 10.30—12 noon.

Saturday 5th December : **Advent Activities** in church. Details later.

CONGRATULATIONS to Eva Potts on winning the annual W I competition for points cup. Also to Marjorie Gramslaw for her photo of Norham Green in winter included in the W I 2016 Calendar.

LADIES' TRACTOR RUN Thanks to all who supported, and particularly to Ladykirk Estates for allowing access to their roads and tracks, making the event so enjoyable. Over £1000 was raised for SHINE, a charity supporting stroke victims

WOMENS' INSTITUTE At the November meeting (5th) Jan L'Argent will talk about a trip to China.

MOTHERS' UNION We are collecting again this year to fill **shoeboxes** to be given to people who live on the streets in Newcastle and who come to the People's Kitchen at Christmas Time. The lists showing the items needed are at the back of church. Please put your name alongside an item or items you feel you can contribute and hand it (them) to a member of the Mothers Union by 30th November. If you would like to talk to someone about it first, please have a word with Shirley Matthews or Babs Gibson

The November meeting will be 'Preparing for Christmas'; music and readings with Jacqui Budge.

CLAIRE JOHNSON would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who sponsored and supported her completing the Great North Run. She raised an amazing £718.67 for Norham Rainbows Brownies and Guides. They are looking to spend the money on their Pack Holiday in Seahouses next year and a trip to the Zoo!

HELP NEEDED The Berwick office of Northumbrian Citizens Advice Bureau is currently looking for much needed new volunteers to join our team.

Rachel Turnbull Operations Manager 07739660896

COFFEE MORNING/HALL FAIR in late September raised nearly £400 for Hall funds. Thank you to all who supported the event.

PHOTOGRAPHY - BLACK AND WHITE Please contact me if you would be interested in getting together regularly to learn and share the practice of black and white photography, digital and film. All would be very welcome whether beginner or pro! *Peter Thoday (382099)*

THE FLOWER FESTIVAL last month, to mark St. Cuthbert's 850 years, was a resounding success - in a class of its own. Huge congratulations and thanks to all contributors for all their hard work.

An extra special thank you to Jane Bannister, who organised the funding and who managed the whole event. With hard work, kindness, patience, planning and imagination, she brought the whole community together in friendship - using its many skills - making this a truly memorable event. Well done all and especially to Jane; we are very proud of you and of our village.

Editorial note: the Festival raised nearly £500 for church funds.

NORHAM CHURCH 850TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MUG

This fine commemorative mug is on display and on sale each Sunday morning in church, at 11.00am, and at special events in church, or directly via the contact details listed below.

There are photographs on display in the church to give you an idea what it is like (and order forms). There is also a photograph on the Norham Community website (norham.org). This mug would make a lovely gift for Christmas for friends and relations and for those who live in, visit or who have connections with Norham (and to commemorate baptisms or weddings) etc.

They cost £10 each - a very reasonable price and less than you would pay in the shops for such a high quality item. A brief history of the church comes with each mug. A gift box [Dunoon] is also available at 50p.

Contact details for purchase: Josephine Harris Tel. 01289 382363
Margaret McPhee Tel. 01289 382799 email: mcphee99@yahoo.co.uk

ADVENT WINDOWS As a result of many requests that it should happen Mary-Rose plans to organise 24 advent windows again this year. Success will of course depend on volunteers agreeing to dress their window with a Christmas theme. It will again be confined to Castle and West Streets, they being the most central and accessible for visitors. If you would like to be included please put a note through the door of 6 Castle Street or phone 382442 or e-mail mrblythe@btinternet.com. Mary-Rose will make every effort to circulate the addresses of those taking part, so watch for leaflets through the door, follow the trail and enjoy the efforts of the window dressers as we welcome Christmas.

NORHAM BIKE FEST was held on Sunday 13th September. A very successful day attracting a lot of cyclists to the Village. A time trial and a sprint up Castle Bank for experienced cyclists, a scooter run for younger children and a cycle through Ladykirk Estates for families were all on offer. Finally tea and scones in the Hall where winners were presented on a specially-made podium with a variety of cash and gift prizes. The organisers were delighted with the response and plan a repeat for next year. Thanks to some generous sponsors the final profit for the day should be about £400 for community funds. The organisers thank all who came forward to marshal. Their help was invaluable and ensured the safety of the cyclists taking part.

ITEMS FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSROUND

Any contributions should be given to Josephine Harris (382363) before Thursday 26th November.

A Service in Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

**6.00pm, All Souls' Day, Monday 2nd November
Norham Parish Church**

In the Church of England it's customary to remember our departed loved ones, especially those who have died in the previous year, at a special service on All Souls' Day. The service on 2nd November will include a Commemoration, when the names of those who have died are read aloud. It will also include the opportunity to light candles.

If you would like your departed family and friends to be remembered in this way, then please write their names on the list that will be available at the back of church from Sunday 18th October until a few minutes before the start of the service.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY CONCERT by Andante Chamber Choir; 4pm in church; Sunday 8th November. Tickets £5 (children free). Proceeds to Veterans' mental health charity 'Combat Stress'.

PRE-ADVENT CAROL CONCERT by the Edinburgh University Renaissance Singers; 6pm in church; Sunday 22nd November. Tickets £7 (children free) including refreshments.

FOR DETAILS SEE WEBSITE/ NOTICES AROUND THE VILLAGE

Spreading a Smile for Christmas

We hope to repeat the practice started last year and give a small gift from the community to anyone who might be alone at Christmas. If you would like to provide a gift such as a token box of chocolates, smellies or something similar there will be a drop-off point at the Mason's and church. We would also appreciate help in identifying possible recipients. We also understand that not everyone on their own will want to receive a gift. If this is the case PLEASE let us know as we wish not to offend anyone.. Any donations should be placed UNWRAPPED into the donations boxes between the end of November and 19th December.

Linda Dowdall

Catherine Johnson

(Mason's Arms 382326)

Norham Parish Council

28th September 2015

Stone Planter This is now in place by Castle Bank.

Parish Council Clerk Victoria Craig will become the new Parish Council Clerk.. She signed the contract and commences duties in November 2015.

Play Area signage The minimum information legally required on the signage will consist of Name of Playground, name of Operator, contact details including telephone number and e-mail address, for reporting incidents and equipment damage. Alan Cater will provide the signs for Norham village green and Ubbanford green play areas.

Electronic Speed sign Complaints have been received about vehicles speeding through the village, particularly heavy agricultural machinery. Some contractors have been identified. There had been several near accidents involving children and a horse and rider, due to inappropriate speeds. PTO