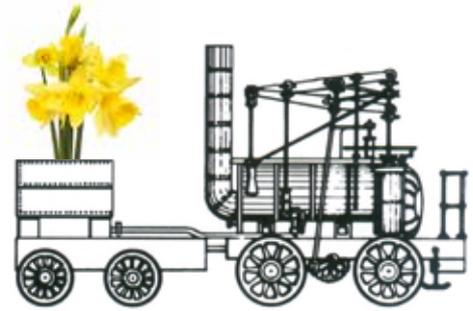


THE WYLAM GLOBE

Newsletter of Wylam Parish Council



Summer 2019

No. 133

‘CELEBRATING POINTS BRIDGE’

On Thursday 18 July, the Parish Council had the pleasure of hosting a wonderful event held in the Institute, the finale of our ‘Celebrating Points Bridge’ project with the pupils of Wylam First School.

The project had involved pupils from year 4 exploring the history of Points Bridge, drawing on a fantastic archive of resources that brought Wylam’s fascinating history to life. Integral to this was the discovery of the headteacher’s logbook, which they traced back to the period of the bridge’s construction. The book contained



a wealth of information, not only about the goings on in the village school, but the wider social context of pit closures, strikes and bridge tolls which had a day to day effect on the village.

Their learning was extended with a ‘community day’ hosted at the library, which saw community members coming along to chat to the children, sharing their stories and memories of Wylam’s past and what it was like to grow up here. Meanwhile, in the classroom, “Technology Tom” - Tom Mulholland - a design engineer, visited the school over a number of days to support the children in learning how Points Bridge was engineered. This culminated in the children building their own Points Bridge replica - to exact scale!

During the project, the children learned how to present the stories they had learned via a variety of media. They learned about the dramatisation of stories, how to operate broadcast standard cameras and sound recording equipment, and how to use Digital Single-Lens Reflex (DSLR) cameras.

The finale event presented the outcomes of all this learning and activity. It was a roaring success, as parents, grandparents, children and community members of all ages crowded in for a cultural feast

that celebrated the rich past our wonderful village. The audience were taken aback by the talent of the children in presenting their work.

The event offered a combination of three distinct art experiences: theatre, a photograph exhibition and a film screening.

In the first half of the event, the children presented a play exploring what life was like in 19th century Wylam. Everyone who saw the performance couldn't help but be impressed with the level of skill and professionalism achieved by the children in an impressive delivery that didn't miss a beat. Steph Pearce, Director of 'From Script to Stage' who supported the pupils in presenting this part of the show said "I can honestly say that working with the talented children of Wylam First School was a joy and privilege. All the children pulled off an ambitious and professional stage performance. I am feeling very proud of what they achieved".



During the interval, the audience moved to the Blakett Room to view a photographic exhibition that charted a journey from the school to Points Bridge from the children's perspective. Using DSLR cameras, the children produced a high-end exhibition, featuring Wylam's many landmarks, with a particular focus on Points Bridge. The exhibition also provided a chance to view the pupil's impressive model of the bridge.

The second half of the event featured a beautifully captured and delightfully candid film produced and narrated by the children. Brimming with questions and new understanding, the young film-makers crafted a documentary capturing the life and times of village members, documenting Points Bridge and exploring how Wylam's industrial heritage shaped the identity of the village.

Bryan Dixon, the project lead, reflected on the event afterwards saying; "We delivered, not only a fantastic art event, but hopefully a lasting impact on all pupils and members of the community involved. Pupils have been

connected to their local history in a new way and their curiosity has led their creative exploration through a wide range of disciplines including theatre, photography, filmmaking and engineering which has led to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the structures, buildings and stories of the past".



The Parish Council would like to thank all those involved for their energy and talent, and the Reece Foundation for their continued support. Special thanks go to Suzi Robinson for her inspiration, commitment and boundless enthusiasm.

WYLAM'S GOT TALENT

Want a ticket to the hottest show in the village this autumn? Tickets for Wylam's Got Talent will be on sale from September 1st 2019. Be involved in a fun-filled night where you get to play the role of the Wylam's Got Talent judges. Be wowed by local artists and decide who walks away with the cash prize. Wylam First School Parent and Teacher Association is delighted to be hosting the event at the Wylam Institute on Saturday 12th October. Tickets available to buy from the office at Wylam First School or contact Sarah on 07771 500987

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Council has decided to sell the **former Post Office** premises in the Village, located at 3-4 Laburnum Terrace. The property was bought by the Council in 2012 with funding from the Reece Foundation. This generous donation secured Post Office facilities within the village. However, in 2016, as part of its national modernisation programme, the Post Office relocated to the Spar premises opposite and the original reason for the Parish Council keeping the building was lost. The premises continued to trade, providing a range of services to the village, before they became vacant earlier this year.



The Council has obtained professional advice on how to utilise the building to gain maximum value for the village. Having considered all information, and being mindful of the significant ongoing running costs attached to owning the building, the Council has agreed to put the property up for sale. It is hoped that this will see a building in the heart of the village being brought back to life. We would particularly welcome bids that contribute to the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the area and its residents. In the meantime, arrangements are being made to improve its appearance by removing the ivy from the exterior walls, once all nesting birds have fledged. The Council intends that the proceeds from the sale will be used to benefit the local community and more information on this will be available in due course.

Each year, we provide **village priorities for inclusion in the County Council's Local Transport Plan**. Last year both of our main priorities - resurfacing of Main Road from the shops to the Fox & Hounds and a solution to the problem of standing water on Main Road adjacent to the War Memorial – were included in the County Council's programme of works. This year, in conjunction with Wylam Road Safety Group, we are highlighting road safety issues. Anyone interested in joining the debate of what our priorities should be and how we can them put into practice should contact Tom Appleby via our website or the Council office.



We are currently looking for **two new councillors** to join the Council. Registered voters in the parish have until 21 August to ask for an election for these roles (see <https://wylamparishcouncil.org.uk/home/news.html> for more details). If an election is not required, we will look to second new talents from the village! Please contact Jos Joures via our website or the Council office if you are at all interested. As a result of these vacancies, in combination with some significant work and family commitments amongst other councillors, we do not have our full capacity at the moment and some of our usual activities are under strain. Please bear with us – we are working to put this right.

After a long period of lobbying by the Council, we are pleased **that new signs have been installed along the waggonway** to help encourage more considerate behaviour and ensure everyone can enjoy this beautiful countryside walking and cycling route.

A typical cloudy summer's day was the setting for the **village Summer Fair** this year, but the weather didn't dull spirits. In a well-attended day, people got to sample a myriad of food, drink and crafts stall as well as competitions, performances from local groups and, for the first time, wrestling! The Parish Council were there as well –to ask for people opinions on a range of issues and to give feedback to what we've done over the past 12 months. Our thanks to those who came to speak with us and to say hello. We received a lot of constructive ideas. As ever, if you were not able to attend or have another issue you'd like to rise then please get in touch.



Finally we would like to thank Suzi Robinson and Keith Trobe for all their work as councillors. We are sorry to see them leave us and wish them well in the future.

A full description of the Council's activities, guiding principles and current priorities can be found in our Annual Report on our website.

FREE FIRST AID TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

The British Red Cross are rolling out basic first aid training (including CPR & use of defibrillators) to community groups across the region.

The sessions can last from 1 to 3 hours, depending on the needs of the group for a minimum of 8 people and a maximum of 15 (but please still get in touch if you only have a few people interested as it may be possible to join groups together in some areas).

The main areas in which the Red Cross hope to deliver the training is to those who support or have contact with the elderly, those who may misuse substances and the homeless. They will, however, also look to deliver more generalised community training, so please still get in touch.

There is no cost for this training which is tailored to each group's abilities, although donations to the charity are welcome.

If anyone is interested, please contact Nikki Willis, Adult Education Coordinator, on 07803 013232, 0191 2334183 or nwillis@redcross.org.uk.

GUIDES GROUP RESTARTING

After a break of 9 years, Guides will be re-opening in Wylam from September 2019. Guides has a varied and exciting programme, designed to inspire and challenge girls from age 10-14. They will earn badges, complete challenges and take part in local, national and international guiding opportunities and events.

Meetings will be 7:30-9pm on Tuesdays during term time at St Oswin's Church hall. The first meeting will be on September 10th.

The Guides are also looking for adults who would like to volunteer: this could be as much or as little commitment as you'd like it to be. If you'd like more information or to be involved, or to register your daughter's interest, please contact Holly Waddell either by email on hollywaddell@live.co.uk or phone 07972292187 for more information.

CRICKET COACHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

1st Wylam Cubs received a training session from Rich Opie, Wylam CC youth coach, on a sunny evening this Summer. The cricket club were contacted by Mark Berry asking if they could help the cubs gain their Skills challenge - trying a new activity badge. Wylam CC were only too happy to oblige. Rich Opie said 'It was a lovely collaboration between two of the village's institutions and some sporting talent was definitely on show. We took them through all three disciplines, bowling, batting and fielding and then played a game. We are always looking for new players, boys and girls, to join our under 9's, under 11's and under 13's sides, so it was great to take them through their paces. Most importantly though, everyone had great fun'.

So, if there's any budding Joe Root's or Jimmy Anderson's out there please contact Rich at richard.opie@sky.com. And if you're interested in 1st Wylam cubs Mark would love to hear from you at mark.w.berry75@gmail.com.



OVERHANGING HEDGES AND VEGETATION

Could anyone who has a hedge or vegetation bordering a public pavement or path PLEASE ensure it is trimmed back. It is very difficult – especially for some older and disabled people - to navigate the village in some areas, especially when it has been raining!

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

We all know that Wylam is a beautiful place for residents and visitors to walk their dogs and the Green Dog Walkers® Scheme aims to keep it this way.

The Parish Council currently distributes free dog poo bags from locations in the village and believes it should be socially unacceptable to fail to clean up after your dog. So, we are encouraging dog owners to become a Green Dog Walker®.

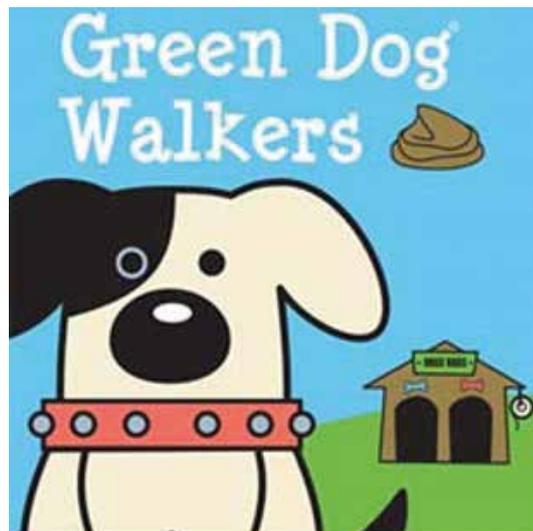
By joining the scheme you'll receive:

- ✓ Free poop bags for you and to give to other dog walkers
- ✓ A green dog armband to encourage other dog walkers to talk to you about the scheme
- ✓ Leaflets to hand out to dog walkers, encouraging them to also take the Green Dog Walker pledge

The Green Dog Walkers® Pledge: **I hereby volunteer to accept a Green Dog Walkers® Armband and pledge to take part in the campaign as follows:**

1. I will wear the armband as often as possible when walking my dog(s)
2. I will at all times clean up after my dog and dispose of the bag in a bin
3. When others walk my dog, I will encourage them to clean up after my dog
4. I understand that wearing the armband indicates that I will carry extra doggie bags to distribute to other dog walkers if requested
5. At no time when wearing the armband will I aggressively confront other dog walkers about dog fouling. I fully understand that Green Dog Walkers® is intended to be a non-confrontational and friendly campaign to change attitudes about dog fouling
6. I agree that Green Dog Walkers® may contact me to take part in questionnaires or surveys regarding my Green Dog Walker® experience, to help judge the success of the project.

For further information please contact: greendogwalkers@northumberland.gov.uk



INVASIVE SPECIES

You may not have heard about Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam but they are all 'non-native' invasive species which cause serious problems because they spread very quickly, with seeds often being carried by the river. Giant Hogweed in particular can represent a danger to human health so, if you do see it please avoid it, but make sure that you report it to the Council so that it can be dealt with correctly and safely.

Giant Hogweed was recently spotted on the island below the nature reserve and removed thanks to Councillor Colin Percy and local volunteers.



For more information on Giant Hogweed see <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/06/giant-hogweed-facts/>

Wylam Community
Orchard



Wylam Apple Day

Charlie's Corner

Saturday 14th September 12noon to 3pm

Celebrating apple and fruit trees throughout Wylam and recognising the resources at our fingertips

Taste the lovely grub from Paul Johnson, The Ship Inn, produced with apples from Wylam Community Orchard

Apple identification by Tom Gledhill (*bring along x3 apples with stalks*)

Apple juicing, taste the difference of fresh squeezed fruit from Wylam Community Orchard

Wylam First School Choir

Chilli competition judging

(bring your chilli/pepper plant from Summer Fair).

Help us map all the fruit trees in Wylam by telling us what you have in your garden

Find out all about Wylam Community Orchard and award winning Wildflower Meadow.

Please park considerately,
use the Countryside Car Park behind the War Memorial

Guide dogs only on site

DID YOU KNOW?

That Northumberland County Council's website has a facility to enable residents to report a whole host of problems including: fly tipping, missed bin collections, potholes, faulty street lights, road flooding, grass cutting and tree issues etc. All reports are logged so that they can then be dealt with as appropriate by County Council Officers.

Go to <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Home.aspx> and 'click' on the 'Report' button at the top right of the page.

Similarly, if you need to apply for a County Council service such as a replacement bus pass, planning permission, a council tax enquiry or a copy birth/death/marriage certificate you just need to click on the 'Apply' button.



Interested in joining us?

Get in touch with Susan Crisp for further information

Call: **01670 784 800**

Email: susan.chrisp@ageuk-northumberland.org.uk

www.ageuk.org.uk/northumberland

We need help with:

- Welfare Benefits
- Advocacy
- Information & Advice
- Day Centre Support
- Fundraising
- Befriending
- Reception
- Admin

DIARY OF EVENTS

At Wylam Institute, unless otherwise stated.

AUGUST

- 6** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 20** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 28** Institute Coffee Morning (10.30-12pm)

SEPTEMBER

- 3** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 7** Heritage Games (10.30-1pm). St Oswins
- 14** Jumble Sale (2-4pm)
- 14** Film Club 'Suffragette' (7.30pm)
- 17** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 27** MacMillan Coffee Morning (10-12pm)
- 28** Organ recital and soup lunch (11am) St Oswins

OCTOBER

- 1** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 9** Film Club 'Two Days Overnight' (7.30pm)
- 15** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 23** Institute Coffee Morning (10.30-12pm)
- 29** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)

NOVEMBER

- 12** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 16** Film Club (7.30pm)
- 23** Wylam Amateur Dramatic Society: an intriguing one-act mystery drama by Agatha Christie, plus supper (tickets available in September)
- 26** Friends of Wylam Coffee (10-11am)
- 27** Institute Coffee Morning (10.30-12pm)
- 30** Christmas Fair (11-4pm)

Please address correspondence related to this issue to:

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The Clerk to the Parish Council

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Tel: (01661) 852498

email: clerk@wylamparishcouncil.org.uk

Website: wylamparishcouncil.org.uk

Deadline for next issue is 30 September 2019