



Stonehaugh News

Supported by Wark Parish Council and Stonehaugh Village Greens

Vol 3 Issue 1

January 2009

25p

A Happy New Year

Now The festive season is over and we are well into January, which always seems such a long month, most of us are looking forward to the lighter nights. Lets hope we have an early spring and a good summer!

The Day A Herd of Sheep Came to Stonehaugh



Ramblers are a regular sight in Stonehaugh but it was on 12th December that a handsome herd of Herdwick Sheep were found strolling up the back lane.

A quick thinking resident herded them into the playground and went on to investigate where the sheep had come from.



Apparently they had gone walkabout from Willowbog Farm. They must have made their way over the hill and through the woods to have a look around Stonehaugh.

Perhaps they were having a sneaky preview of the allotment site in anticipation of some tasty Brussels Sprouts and turnips next winter!

Photos: Nick Tasker

January 2009

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6 Epiphany	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Greens 8pm	16	17	18
19 Parish Council Meeting 7pm	20	21	22	23	24	25 Burns Night
26 Chinese New Year	27	28	29 BAA 7pm Riverdale Hotel	30	31	

Forthcoming events in January and February

15th January – Greens Meeting 8 pm in the Social Club. Everyone is welcome as we are all members of the Greens!

5th February - Stonehaugh Allotments Meeting 8pm in the social Club

14th February – St. Valentine's Day Celebration in the social Club. Buffet Supper and Quiz

Seasonal Events Reviewed

Christingle

As always this turned out to be a delightful service, with many people from outside the village boosting the numbers attending. The service was led by Rev Bar Nash-Williams from Stamfordham, with Rev Thompson in attendance. Children living in the village helped to distribute the Christingles, and Carols were sung by candlelight accompanied by Lewis Watson playing the organ.

Bottle Bingo

Thanks to Carolyn for organising this annual institution! Thanks also to Allison for being “the caller”, and to Hannah for gracefully presenting the bottles and other prizes to the lucky winners.

Craft Fair

The craft Fair went ahead on 7th December despite bitterly cold, icy weather. Thanks to those who organised and supported the event.

Stonehaugh Village Christmas Party

Please see page 11 for full coverage!

Santa's Visit on Christmas Eve

He arrived at the post box at 6.30 to greet an excited group of both children and adults, handing out a taster of gifts to come and throwing sweets! It is quite a spectacle as he rides through the village, all lit up in his sleigh driven by his Chief Elf! It has been suggested that next year Santa could be invited into the New Hall for Mulled wine, Mince Pies and Carol Singing!

New Community Hall open Day

The CHT Trustees opened the hall on 7th December, the day of the craft Fair, between 11am and 1pm to allow villagers a glimpse inside. A total of 29 people took the opportunity to look around.

The bar/lounge area is located at the south west corner, with an adjoining hard floor area. There is a fully fitted kitchen for the preparation of food and beverages, and a separate family room. Upstairs is a wide galleried balcony, and two substantially sized meeting or function rooms.

The hall will be opening early in 2009. Several groups have already expressed an interest in using the facilities.

Bellingham All Acoustic

....'just south of the border'

*Come and join us doon 'The Baa'
To hear the 'torns' from near and far
You'll find the local stuff surprisin'
And some of them guests quite mesmorisin'
When's it happnin'?
Thursday nights at Riverdale Hall Hotel,
It's only once a month mind
You gannin'?...might aswell !!!*

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Come along and sing a song.....play a tune.....read a verse.....or just sit back and listen!

Bellingham All Acoustic or the 'Baa' Club will take place in the back conservatory of the Riverdale Hall hotel on the 4th Thursday of every month (except December) at 8.30pm. This intimate room, seating 40 maximum, will provide the perfect surroundings for the enjoyment of acoustic music.

Riverdale Hall says, "The idea of the club is to promote live music at two different levels. Firstly to provide a platform for invited guest artists who we feel deserve a wider audience. Some of these will be local, others from further a field. Secondly we want to encourage music making within the local community. We plan to have several floor spots before the guest comes on, so if anyone feels they could contribute a song, tune or verse on the night, then we'd love to see you. Everyone is welcome, even if you just want to come along, sit back and listen!"

Friends of Ian and Jayne are playing on **February 26** - THE CAFFREY'S £8.00

To find out more visit the website <http://baaclub.co.uk/>



January and February in the Garden



- Keep planting trees, shrubs and fruit trees if weather allows
- Prune away untidy stems of herbaceous perennials
- Divide and replant snowdrops
- Cut back overgrow hedges before the nesting season starts
- Water trees, shrubs and climbers growing in containers
- Plant bare root fruit canes
- Sow sweetpea seeds outside
- Feed fruit trees and bushes with high potash fertiliser
- Prune large flowered clematis
- Melt frozen ponds by pouring on boiling water, so fish can breathe
- Prune autumn fruiting raspberry canes for a generous crop later
- Plant lilies and other summer flowering bulbs

Progress on the Allotments

The S A S have received funding which will enable them to have the plot drained and laid-out for allotments. It is hoped that work will begin as soon as the weather permits.

Further funding will now be sought to develop the strip of land adjacent to the back lane into a Green Zone. It is planned to plant this area, approx 70 x 20m, with a range of native trees, shrubs and plants to attract and sustain wildlife.

There has been an informal suggestion that the SAS take over responsibility for landscaping the area around the new Community Hall. While there has been no official approach, the issue has been discussed in SAS meetings. The general consensus has been that we would consider planting a range of fruit and nut trees and shrubs to improve the appearance of the area and provide free produce for villagers.

If the proposal goes ahead, views will be sought from the village but as ever, money will be the main determining factor.

SAS meetings are held in the club at 7.30 on the first Thursday in the month; all members of the community, not just members of the Allotment Society, are welcome to contribute suggestions.

Happy
40th
Birthday
to
Paula Wright
from
Jan and Mick

Belated
Birthday Greetings
Doreen Barnes
a milestone Birthday on
30th December
Graham Murfin
on 3rd January

<p>Happy Birthday To Hannah On 21st February</p>	<p>Happy Birthday To Rachel On 22nd February</p>
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No Portaloo Allowed on Picnic Site!

It is now two years since the Forestry Commission announced that they were closing, and removing the toilet block from the Warksburn Picnic Site.

Last summer, after several complaints at the loss of these essential facilities by visitors to the picnic site and the many walkers and cyclists who visit the area, the Parish Council provided a Portaloo at the top of the hill, on the Council's own Amenity Land. Although this was satisfactory and a welcome facility providing relief for many visitors, it was suggested that they could be better served if the Portaloo was situated down on the picnic site.

The Parish Council therefore wrote to the Forestry Commission requesting permission to site the Portaloo where the old toilet block once stood. This request was refused on the grounds that it would look unsightly, it would be a target for vandalism and as landowners, the Forestry Commission, did not want to be liable for any injury to persons using the facility.

Webblvory Best Buy

Defrosting the freezer has to be one of the most tedious and put-off jobs in the whole kitchen, apart from cleaning the oven! What has this to do with Christmas Cards and Gifts from a fundraising catalogue you might ask. Well, on sale in the 2008 Christmas Catalogue was an Anti-frost mat for freezers. The illustration showed a small, slightly padded plastic mat . “Can’t possibly do any good” we thought, but ordered one anyway . We have been amazed how such a simple innovation could have such a dramatic effect on the freezer compartment of the fridge/freezer. It seemed so effective that after a week we ordered another one for the tall upright freezer in the utility room. 8 weeks on, there is not one crystal of ice on any of the drawers, which previously would have been inches thick in ice. Amazing and well recommended!

Thanks to everyone who supported the fundraising effort! The final amount earned in commission from sales was £39.50, and cash donations brought the amount to almost £70.

The account has to be settled by the end of January so please let me have any money owed by then. Thanks again for your support.

Carol M

For sale

Sharp Television

21” Screen

£25 o.n.o

Tel: 230396

Coffee Morning

Wark Town Hall

Every Friday

10 am to 12 Noon

Coffee or Tea

With

Biscuits or Cake

£1

Did You Know?

The long running advice to use a wet tea towel to tackle chip pan fires is to be scrapped by the government. When faced with a blazing pan of fat the public will now be advised to “get out, stay out and dial 99” which is more consistent with the rest of the advice we are given by the government about tackling fires!

Paul Craney from news.bbc.uk

Ease Your Guilt at Over-indulgence

Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, glass of red wine in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming “WHOO HOO! What a ride!”

Contributed by Anon

Recycling skips

It has been reported that the re-cycling skips have not been replaced because parked vehicles and other items have prevented access. Please be aware that access is needed especially during the day.

It was always intended that the skips would be returned to their original position behind the hall once the hall is completed and the building work has ceased.

Ryan Jones

Wishes for

a

Speedy Recovery

Ryan was due to celebrate his

21st birthday

on

Friday 9th Jan

but instead was admitted to hospital in London due to having Chicken Pox and Tonsillitis!

Chinese New Year

The Year of the OX

The Chinese New Year this year falls on 26th January. Each year, in the Chinese Calendar is represented by one of the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac:- Rat, Ox, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Ram, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. Some people believe that people born in a particular year such as the Year of the Rat will have some of the characteristics of that animal. It is said the “The animal hides in your heart”.

The legend behind the animals

According to Chinese Legend, the twelve animals quarrelled one day as to who was to head the cycle of years. The Gods were asked to decide and they held a contest. They decided that whoever was to reach the opposite bank of the river would be first, and the rest of the animals would receive their years according to their finishing position.

All the twelve animals gathered at the river bank and jumped in. Unknown to the ox, the rat had jumped upon his back. As the ox was about to climb ashore, the rat jumped off the ox's back and won the race! The pig, who was very chilled out and couldn't care less, ended up last. That is why the Year of The Rat is the first year of the Chinese Calendar Cycle , the ox second and the pig last.

Babies born in the Year of the Ox are said to be dependable, great organizers with good leadership qualities, loyal, patient, strong and responsible. They are said to possess a strong work ethic and are creative when decorating their home. However, they can also be narrow-minded, stubborn and unemotional.

Ox years so far have been, 1901, 1913, 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1997 so people born in those years will also have Ox characteristics and features.



Raptor Photography Day

11th April 2009

Falconry Days of Lady Hill, Stonehaugh is organising a Bird of Prey Photography Day. Phone : 01434 689681 for full details. Places are very limited so phone early!

<http://www.northumberland-falconry.com/section107271.html>

About the Raptor Photography Day

Work with the acclaimed photographer Nigel Shuttleworth and learn how to get the most out of your digital camera on an unforgettable day out here at Falconry Days photographing our Birds of Prey.

Expert Falconers will fly a range of Hawks, Owls, Falcons and Eagles and you will be given expert guidance by Nigel Shuttleworth, a qualified lecturer in Photography. You will be taught the techniques and settings to capture the very best images of each Bird of Prey.

Congratulations

To

Pauline Murfin

On Your

Bachelor of Science Degree

In

Health and Social Care

Gained after studying for 6 years with the Open University

An outstanding achievement !

Pauline has so impressed her tutors with her determination to succeed despite serious health issues that she has been nominated for an Open University Adult Learners Award.

Good Luck and hoping you win this award!

Village Christmas Party

Despite many villagers being unable to attend because of winter ailments or other commitments, the party was a great success!! Everyone turned up in their suits and posh frocks! Thanks to all who supported the night. The kids had a thoroughly great time and so did the adults. The food was wonderful and Santa had a great time too! A special thank you to Stacey for creating such an ambience with a cosy fireside setting for Santa! Thanks also to Eleanor for working so hard with games and activities for the younger children.

*Jan Mallaburn
Paula Wright*



Stonehaugh Newsletter
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Phone: 01434 230074
Email: carol.madsen@btinternet.com
Or just pop a note through my door for
inclusion in the newsletter

Useful Contact Numbers

Wark Parish Councillors

Anne Hutchinson Tel: 230680
Carol Madsen Tel: 230074

Greens Secretary

Brenda Murray: Tel 230447

Social Club Secretary

Albert Alderson Tel: 230125

Gardening/Leek Club Secretary

Carolyn Murray Tel: 230473

**Members of the public are invited
to report problems with the
following:-**

Potholes

Tel: 0808 10008910

Streetlight Failures

Tel: 0800 085 0029

With individual lamp number.

Other Problems log on to :

<http://www.fixmystreet.com>

What's on in Tynedale

Visit :- <http://www.tynedale.gov.uk/residents/findevent.asp>

Also:- http://www.northumberlandlife.org/admin/COBWEB_AllEvents.asp

More Did you Know?

Butch Cassidy's mother was a Geordie. She was born and raised in Jesmond!

20,000 people die each year from snakebites!

Rates of drug-taking, smoking and drinking are falling among young teenagers. A survey shows : In 2007, 25% of the 8000 11 to15 year olds surveyed by the NHS had tried drugs at least once, compared with 29% in 2001.

Paul Craney from news.bbc.uk