

Village View



GREATHAM – SUMMER 2017 – No.100

**Thank you for renewing your subscription and supporting Greatham in Bloom
& welcome to the 100th issue of Village View**

GREATHAM IN BLOOM

The Northumbria in Bloom judges visited Greatham for their spring judging on the 12th April. Although the weather was not at its best the village did look clean and tidy. Many thanks go to all those who take pride in where they live.

There is some concern with tubs and brackets outside houses which are not being looked after – this is worse than no planter at all because it shouts neglect. Weeds and tatty bits of plastic liners give a negative impression of the owners. If you are unable to look after planters outside your property then the answer is to remove it and then you are not suggesting you don't care and are not bringing your community down.

Many thanks to the small team that came out for the pre-judging litter pick. There was not a huge amount to pick up suggesting that there had been people out ensuring their areas were clean, for which the whole community can be grateful. Litter does seem to be a British disease that reflects very badly on our nation – where is the pride?

Judges Mary Lou Downie and Ron MacParlin will return for the summer judging on the 19th July at 10.30am. There is a lot of activity underway to prepare the village for this visit and ensure Greatham remains a pleasant place that all can be proud to call home. There is a big gap with Dorothy out of commission but we are trying to pull together to ensure we do not let her down.

It is with great sadness that we said goodbye to John Gorman who died on the 19th April. He was a long-time member of the Bloom Committee and one of our most dedicated workers. Through his connections at the council he secured a surplus street cleaners cart for bloom use, which he certainly put to good use until it finally succumbed to the rust. John was also our dedicated grass cutter keeping Front Street like a bowling green. Most of all however we can remember his smile and joyful countenance that helped turn any task into a pleasure.

The unique hand crafted walking stick was awarded to Dorothy Clark as a result of the sealed bid process. It has since been passed on to a relative of the maker who was keen to keep this treasure in the family. Many thanks to those who put in sealed bids and sorry if you were unsuccessful.

There is always room for more volunteers. If you would like to become more involved please contact any member of the committee or have a word with us when you see us working around the village.

DOROTHY

Unfortunately the organisations Dorothy is involved with are going to be without her services for some time as she recovers from her recent stroke. There are a myriad of jobs which she does in the village and a big hole to fill. Committees are gathering to make arrangements for her absence and would like to thank those who have offered help. We wish Dorothy all the very best and all the time she needs to recover.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Community Association continues to be in desperate need of a volunteer secretary. The role would include handling the correspondence which now includes e-mails to the Association's account and to prepare/organise the Trustee meetings. The role would be relatively easy for anyone with a secretarial/personal assistant background and experience using computers in such a role would be advantageous. It would be ideal but not required for the secretary to become a Trustee, but they would not have a vote at meetings if they were not a Trustee. Anyone interested in the role should initially contact any of the Association Trustees or use the contact details at the bottom of this article.

Refurbishment of the toilets is on temporary hold while we await the result of some funding enquiries. It will then be a case of finding a slot when the Centre can be closed for work which could take about 4 weeks.

As a result of public spending cuts the Youth Service will need to reduce the Youth Club which it runs in Greatham Community Centre from two nights to one. This is very sad if not entirely unexpected. The Youth Club offers an evening for youngsters to socialise, join in activities and access advice. After the 30th June the youth club will only be on Thursday evenings. At least the service is not disappearing altogether and Greatham remains the only village where such a service is provided.

The Flower Arranging Group is hosting a Beetle Drive in the Community Centre on Thursday 15th June at 2pm. Proceeds in aid of Association funds. Please support what has a reputation for a fun afternoon.

Ukulele Power returned to the Centre on the 22nd April and again wowed an appreciative audience with their lively entertainment and infectious joy. The evening raised just over £700 including £100 which went to the group's nominated charity Hartlepool Hospice.

Canadian singer/songwriter Ian Sherwood performed in the Centre on the 7th May. Reviews from the audience were very positive for a very amiable and extremely talented performer. Sadly the audience was rather small at only 28 people but they enjoyed the sort of intimate private performance that is hard to find these days. It is thanks to Rural Arts support that we are able to bring world class entertainment to a small hall in a quiet backwater like Greatham. Unfortunately despite support from the bar and raffle we registered a small loss of £27.

GREATHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION		WEEKLY ACTIVITIES 2015/2016						
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MORNING	LOUNGE							
	MAIN HALL		MATURE MOVERS 10.30-11.30	MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP 9.00-11.00	CARPET BOWLS 10.00-12.00	DANCE EXERCISE 10.00-12.00		
AFTERNOON	LOUNGE							
	MAIN HALL				FLOWER ARRANGING 1.30-3.30 (Seasonal)			
EVENING	LOUNGE			YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00	YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00			
	MAIN HALL	FLOWER ARRANGING 6.30-8.30 (Seasonal)	LINE DANCING 8.00-10.00	YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00	YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00	SEQUENCE DANCING 7.30-9.30		

To enquire about hiring the Community Centre or setting up a new group please ring the Centre mobile on 07434 517225 or e-mail greathamca@gmail.com.

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Village Archive, below are a couple of photos from this month's findings from the Greatham Historical Archive which is being compiled from your memories.

The High St 1932 showing the recently installed phone box. Where the Bus stop to Hartlepool is now can just be seen a black wooden office and entrance to its right for the first depot of Blumers Buses, prior to the building of the garage at what would become known as Sappers Corner.



The Feast procession as was in early 1950's with huge crowds. Note: Fish shop, old school and house – all since removed or demolished



These images are fast disappearing from our village. To create an archive, kept for public interest, available at any time – WE NEED YOUR IMAGES.

We are about to enter month three and to date have logged 186 images onto the system. The feedback we are getting is very encouraging and helps us tremendously. We now have a voice recorder and will soon commence the Audio section of our archive. If you know of someone with good village knowledge – please contact us. Put your name and tel no. on a paper through community centre letterbox marked ‘archive’ – or see Malcolm Thompson.

We are still amazed that some people don’t know of its existence after the efforts to mail drop the whole village - but it’s on the village website www.greathamvillage.co.uk . We are arranging an exhibition which hopefully will be in September.

Thanks for your support
Malcolm Thompson

GREATHAM VILLAGE POST OFFICE & SHOP

To all villagers, surrounding residents and local businesses.

Help is needed to keep your Post Office and shop open.

Post Office facilities need using more effectively, for the following:-

Cash withdrawals (all major banks)

Cash deposit (most banks)

Cheques paid in (most banks)

Most Bills can be paid by cash or card.

General Post Office facilities,

Stamps

Parcels

Postal orders

Holiday money can be ordered.

Euro over the counter or pre-order.

And other essential Post Office products.

The Post Office needs to be used in conjunction with the shop.

The Post Office gets the footfall in to the shop and hopefully customers will use the retail side and this will help keep the shop and Post Office open.

The retail side sells almost all essentials and some items can be pre-ordered.

Newspapers are a loss making item and are available hopefully to get you into the shop to buy other items or use the Post Office.

All of the above is required to keep your Post Office and shop open.

Please remember it needs to be used or lose it.

Please try to help

Post master

Martin

CHURCH NEWS

Vicar to move on to pastures new in Northumberland. After eight years at Greatham, and sixteen at Seaton Carew, Rev. Captain Paul Allinson will be instituted as vicar of St. Mary, Ponteland and Holy Saviour, Melbourne. His farewell service at Greatham was held on Sunday 4th June.

SPORTS FIELD ASSOCIATION

The Sports Field have been chosen to receive money from Tesco Carrier Bag Scheme. We are up against 2 other groups. To help our cause (which will go towards installing Showers/Toilets in the changing rooms) people will receive a blue token when they shop at the following Tescos: - Tesco at Throston, Tesco on the Fens, and the big Tesco in Hartlepool. We would really appreciate people supporting us if they do shop at Tesco. Our Scheme is known as Clean and Healthy.

We are having a meeting on July 31st in the back room of The Bull and Dog with a 7 o'clock start if anybody wants to come they are welcome.

The Annual Classic Car Show will be on September 17th.

GREATHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS

The Murder Mystery 'Karao-kill' on the 8th April was a great success. The money raised will be spent on costume and replacement equipment for the next pantomime 'Sinbad the Sailor'. The first read through will be held at 6.00pm in the Community Centre lounge on Tuesday 13th June. The script has been chosen with existing key players in mind so the principal parts are already cast but new members for the minor roles and to help back stage are always welcome. There is a desperate need for a prompt and someone with make-up experience. The players have a lot of fun but it does require a commitment of your time. Rehearsals start in earnest in September and are held every Tuesday evening in the Community Centre – increasing over the Christmas period before performances early in January. For more information please call Anita on 01642 562109

The players are also hoping to hold the open air summer concert in the Hall gardens again this summer. This, like the panto, has developed into a major feature in the village calendar. If you can help or perform please contact Kieron on 07956 600240.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE

In an emergency always ring 999. To contact your local police when it is not an emergency ring 101. An alternative is to ring the headquarters on 01642 326326. Our neighbourhood police contacts are P.C.S.O. Catherine Jones and PCSO Yasmin Calvert. Non urgent messages for your local officer can also be left via the Cleveland Police Force web site www.cleveland.police.uk using the 'my neighbourhood' tab.

LOST RIGHT OF WAY?

An application by the Parish Council to have the route along Thorn Tree Lane added to the definitive map is in progress. As it has not been possible to identify any owner of the lane it is required to place a notice giving any owners the opportunity to make themselves known. These are now in place.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This year the Annual Parish Meeting, chaired by the Parish Council, was attended by Barry Coppinger, Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner, P.C.S.O. Dave Fowler, Councillor Brenda Loynes and Tony Hanson, Assistant Director of Neighbourhood Services. Only seven electors attended.

Issues raised included dog fouling in West Row, the state of the pavements but particularly that in front of the houses along The Green, parking on the village green, parked cars blocking the dropped kerb in front of the arch to Founders Court, speeding, parked cars causing hazards in various locations, timing of the traffic lights at Sappers Corner and safety concerns at Sapper Corner, the junction at Claxton and the junction of Front Street & High Street.

GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to Greatham Parish Council is Mr John Cunliffe of 15 Blackton Road, Elwick Rise, Hartlepool TS26 0QG, tel: (01429) 213022, e-mail: johnlesliecunliffe@hotmail.com. Correspondence for the Parish Council should be directed to the above address.

Greatham Parish Councillors are:-

Greatham Village Ward	Martin Lamb, 4A Woodbine Terrace, Greatham Margo Simmonds, 3A West Row, Greatham Brian Walker, 29 The Grove, Greatham (Chairman)
Greatham South Fens Ward	Colin Richardson, 63 Mildenhall Close, South Fens (Vice Chairman) Michael Ward, 30 Wisbech Close, South Fens

Dog fouling is again the source of numerous complaints in the village. The offensive nature of this beggars believe when complaints start come from people tending graves in the cemetery who are confronted by dog muck on their loved ones graves. It's not the fault of the dogs it's the owners and thoughtlessness doesn't even come close to the correct description. Enforcement is surely the answer. If you know of any regular offenders please provide times and locations and we will pass on to the wardens.

Two seats continue to be vacant for South Fens on the Parish Council. This situation cannot be allowed to continue. We are now looking at co-opting from the village. This is far from ideal but if no-one will come forward from South Fens despite numerous appeals and there are willing bodies in the village what option is there?

The following maintenance list for Hartlepool Borough Council remains on the Parish Council minutes:-

- Ponding on corner at Egerton Terrace/Vicarage Row
- Potholes/poor road surface opposite Hope & Anchor (recently patched)
- Pavement surface in The Drive between Front Street and The Grove
- Pavement on road bridge over Greatham Beck
- Loose setts before entrance to Mellanby Lane
- Pavement on High Bank
- Pothole at the A689 Sappers Corner junction.

Faded double yellow lines have been removed from the list as there has been some progress redoing these.

Following further delays in being able to meet various demands the Parish Council has fallen back on the provision of a perch seat inside the shelter. The seat has been ordered and the Borough Council has promised to install.

YOUR RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The invitation to make representations to Hartlepool Borough Council with regard the Hartlepool Rural Neighbourhood Plan closed on the 17th April. Any representations and all relevant documents were then passed to an independent planning examiner. The examiner's role is to test whether or not a draft neighbourhood plan meets the basic conditions required and other matters set out in the Town & Country Planning Act 1990.

Usually the examination of a draft neighbourhood plan will not include a public hearing. Rather the examiner should reach a view by considering written representations; however, the independent examiner may consider it necessary in order to ensure adequate examination of an issue, or to give a person a fair chance to put a case, that they must hold a hearing to listen to oral representations about a particular issue. We await his recommendations.

The final stage of a neighbourhood plan is a referendum and the examiner will also consider whether the referendum area should extend beyond the neighbourhood plan area and if so to what extent. It may be appropriate to extend the referendum area, for example where the scale or nature of the proposals in the draft neighbourhood plan are such that they will have a substantial, direct and demonstrable impact beyond the neighbourhood area.

PLANNING ALARM

At Hartlepool Borough Council Planning Committee on the 10th May a planning application for 31 bungalows at Dalton Piercy was passed. The bungalows included one 4 bedroom detached bungalow, five 3 bedroom detached dormer bungalows, eight 3 bedroom detached bungalows, fifteen 2 bedroom detached bungalows and two 2 bedroom semi-detached bungalows.

The application was approved against the recommendation of the Borough Council's own planning officers. The application was highlighted as being contrary to the policies of the existing and emerging Hartlepool Local Plans as well as the emerging Rural Neighbourhood Plan. The application attracted 65 letters of objection, some were objections from individuals living in the same household and some individuals put in more than one letter. Further consultation caused by amendments to the plans attracted 72 objections. Dalton Piercy Parish Council and Tees Valley Wildlife Trust also objected. There are currently about 75 houses in the hamlet of Dalton Piercy.

All 3 Ward Councillors for the Rural West Ward, which includes Dalton Piercy (and Greatham), sit on the planning committee. Councillors Martin-Wells and Morris voted in favour of passing the application, Councillor Loynes voted against. The whole committee voted 7 to 3 to approve.

With the Borough Council's own Local Plans and the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, both of which require extensive consultation, so freely ignored is there any security in the future and who are the elected members representing? On a purely and proudly parochial point of view the question to pose is: - are our villages safe in the hands of Hartlepool Borough Council?

Councillor Ray Martin-Wells responds "As a Councillor for Rural West since 2012 I have tried to support village life for every village resident. I had the South West Extension reduced in number by almost half after successfully arguing the viability with the rest of the council.

I'm currently close to securing the funding to build the Elwick bypass which will benefit both Elwick and Dalton Villages.

At the recent planning committee involving bungalows at Dalton, I felt that the need to provide desperately needed bungalows for an ageing community in Hartlepool outweighed policies. At the moment any Dalton resident wishing to move to a single level property had little or no choice other than to move out of the village.

I also felt that Dalton would become more sustainable with a well-designed development that will have very little negative impact because of its location. In summary I felt the benefits outweighed the negatives."

HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Your Rural West ward councillors are: - Brenda Loynes, Local Conservative
George Morris, Local Conservative
Ray Martin-Wells, Local Conservative

NEW BUSINESS NAME

The Tioxide Works on Tees Road has a new name. The Huntsman signs have disappeared to be replaced with Venator. Venator is the Latin word for hunter. This Greatham plant has not been sold or taken over, rather the Huntsman Corporation has decided to create a spin off company for the pigments and additives business. The business makes dyes and chemicals that offer qualities such as sun protection, built-in freshness and imaging effects for textiles and other products. The full name of the new company will be Venator Materials Corporation.

ARCHIVE

On the 24 January 1463 the prior of Durham granted his license to John Etrick and Thomas Johnson of Greatham, and Thomas Man of Bishop Auckland, to go to the Holy Land upon a pilgrimage against the Turks. Prior to this he branded them on the right side of their naked breasts with a hot iron in the shape of a cross. This was done in front of the shrine of St. Cuthbert (Durham Cathedral).

Extract from 'The Local Records of Stockton and The Neighbourhood' by Thomas Richmond

DIARY

Thursday 15 th June 2pm	Beetle Drive in Community Centre
22 nd to 25 th June	Greatham Feast – please consult the programme delivered through Your letterbox for details of events.
Saturday 8 th July 10.30am	Hartlepool Civic Society 'Stories in Brick & Stone' guided walk around Greatham Conservation Area meet outside Community Centre – refreshments available in Community Centre afterwards
Monday 10 th March 6.30pm	Greatham Parish Council Meeting in the Community Centre Lounge Public Welcome to attend.
Wednesday 19 th July 10.30am	Northumbria in Bloom Summer judging of Greatham
Monday 14 th August 6.30pm	Greatham Parish Council Meeting in the Community Centre Lounge Public Welcome to attend.

POSITIVE THOUGHT

Getting the answers you want is not the same as getting the answers you need

This newsletter is available FREE to the entire village for passing on news, results and events.

Closing date for items for inclusion in the next issue is Wednesday 31st May 2017

These should be sent to Brian Walker at 29 The Grove, Greatham

Produced for Greatham in Bloom with thanks to Venator, Greatham Work

Greatham in Bloom

Gardening Trophies Entry Form

Name -----

Address -----

Please tick those you wish to enter:-

Greatham in Bloom Trophy (best kept garden)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alderman Lyver Memorial Trophy (extra garden - tubs, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Armstrong Ross Memorial Shield (allotments/vegetable gardens)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Location of allotment if not at above address -----	

Entrants will automatically be considered for
The Joan Booker Memorial Shield
(best floral display)
& Trustees Trophy
(best Hospital of God Property)

Please return forms to:- Greatham in Bloom,
at 29 The Grove or
post through the Community Centre letter box

Closing date: Sunday 25th June, entry is free