

Village View



GREATHAM – AUTUMN 2018 – No.105

GREATHAM IN BLOOM

This year we are awaiting the Northumbria in Bloom results longer than usual. They will not be announced until the 26th September so unfortunately the results do not appear in this issue but the full report will be in the winter issue. On the judging day in July the village did look splendid, so tidy and attractive, it was such an honour to show the judges round. So an enormous thank you to everyone who did their bit and more to ensure Greatham not only is but looked a wonderful community and place to live.

We can however give you the full results of the village's own garden competition. Independent judges had another unenviable job of deciding between excellent entries. We would like to thank all entrants for taking part in what we hope is a friendly competition. The results for 2018 are:-

Greatham in Bloom Trophy for best garden

1 st	Mr & Mrs Llewelyn	17 Front Street
2 nd	Mr & Mrs McNeill	31 Saltaire Terrace

Alderman Lyver Memorial Trophy for 'extras' baskets, tubs, etc. and yards

1 st	Mrs Meakin	3 Front Street
2 nd	Mr & Mrs Llewelyn	17 Front Street
3 rd	Mr & Mrs Fleet	40 High Street

Armstrong Memorial Shield for allotments and vegetable gardens

1 st	Mr C Richardson	Allotment top of first garden after B&D car park
2 nd	Mr & Mrs McNeill	31 Saltaire Terrace
3 rd	Mr G Bolland	2 The Drive

Joan Booker Memorial Award for outstanding floral display

Mr & Mrs Llewelyn	3 Front Street
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Judges comment: - "we felt that this entry demonstrated a real wow factor from whichever angle it was viewed and its visual impact was stunning".

Trustees Trophy for best entry from a Hospital of God property

The Residents	1-4 Whitehouse Farm
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Judges comment: - “we felt that this entry in particular deserved this award as the residents have worked together to create colour, fragrance and impact within their shared space and we liked the fact that they had planted up different areas to create “room” that everyone could sit in and enjoy the available space”.

Also part of the village competitions there are a number of trophies in the gift of the Bloom Committee which recognise contributions made throughout the year – or longer.

The Jackson Trophy recognises best display from a non-domestic property which this year is awarded to :-

The Bull & Dog for their tub at the front door and rear beer garden.

The Geoff Clark Memorial Shield (outstanding contribution to village entry in Northumbria in Bloom)

Peter Dixon in particular for his herculean edging of grassed areas.

The Tioxide Award (outstanding contribution by an individual or group to the improvement/maintenance of the environment of Greatham)

Hazel Campbell for her tireless efforts the length and breadth of the village.

The Miles Difford Memorial Trophy (recognizing special efforts/achievements)

Emma Armstrong & Nicola Watson for regular volunteer services

Presentation of the trophies is penciled in for the 20th October.

We always need help so do please have a word with any committee member you know or contact the secretary Lorraine tel. 0740 3384192, e-mail lorrainemeakin@hotmail.com if you would like to become more involved.

GREATHAM FEAST

Congratulations to the new committee for putting on a wonderful Feast. It is a huge task but they certainly rose to the occasion. The weather too not only smiled upon us but positively overflowed with joyous sunshine. Let's hope they didn't find it too stressful and are looking forward to next year.

SPORTS FIELD

The Sports Field Association A.G.M. was held on the 17th September 2018 in the Sports Field cabins. Continuing as Chair is Barry Measor with Secretary, Ronnie Westmoreland and Treasurer Jane Sickling. The Sports Field is a wonderful facility to have in our community and all credit is due to the trustees and committee that quietly get on with ensuring it is not only maintained but continues to improve.

A quiz will be held on the 1st December in The Bull and Dog Greatham starting at 8 o'clock. Tickets are available from Barry Measor or Jane in the Bull and Dog.

VILLAGE PLAYERS

January's pantomime will be Aladdin and run from Wednesday 9th to Saturday 12th. Rehearsals have already started in the Community Centre on Tuesdays at 6pm. The main parts have been cast, but if you are interested in helping please come along. For further information please contact Anita on 01642 562109.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting of Greatham Community Association Limited will take place on Friday 5th October 2018 at 6.30pm in Dorothy's Room (the lounge). All interested are welcome to attend to discover how the Association is doing and ask questions of the Trustee/Directors.

We welcome a Book Club to the Centre which will meet every Wednesday from 7.00pm to 9.00pm in Dorothy's Room (The Lounge). If you are interested please call in and see Diane.

The Beetle Drive organized by the Flower Class on the 14th June raised a splendid £381. Many thanks to all who made such a successful and enjoyable afternoon possible.

GREATHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES 2018

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MORNING	LOUNGE							
	MAIN HALL		MATURE MOVERS 10.30-11.30		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			CHORAL INTERLUDE (LADIES CHOIR) 10.30-12.30
	MAIN HALL	FLOWER ARRANGING 6.30-8.30 (Seasonal)	LINE DANCING 8.00-9.30		YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00	SEQUENCE DANCING 7.30-9.30		

TO ENQUIRE ABOUT HIRING THE LOUNGE OR MAIN HALL PLEASE RING 07434 517225 OR E-MAIL greathamca@gmail.com

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.

HOSPITAL OF GOD

David Granath has retired from the post of Director of the Hospital of God charity after almost 18 years. Mr Granath said: "The thing I will miss the most is the people that we help and the people that work here. There is a fantastic team here; people are really committed to the organization. We have done so much for Hartlepool in terms of care services and housing. We are proud to be part of Hartlepool. The organization is five times bigger than when I first came here."

The new director is Lawrence McAnelly who comes to Greatham from another charity called The Junction Foundation which is based in Redcar. This is a local based charity which exists to make a difference to the lives of children, young people and their families by supporting and empowering the children and young people to overcome the barriers that they face. The new director says "It's great to be involved with so many people that genuinely care with a smile on their face. The Hospital of God is unique; everything it does and its history. It has a unique place in our community."

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Annual General Meeting: This was held on Monday 10th September 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Methodist Chapel, High Street. The committee was re-elected on block - Alan O'Brien (chair), Linda Dempsey (secretary), Andrew Merifield (treasurer), Andrew Rees, Dorothy Clark, Sheila Kell, Michael Lawson and Bob Johnson.

Dan Briggs, who is the Senior Trading Standards Officer from Hartlepool Borough Council, gave a talk about 'scams', which we all need to be aware of.

Greatham Residents Association are pleased to announce that they will be holding a Christmas Market on Sunday 25th November 2018. There will be a limited number of stalls available for hire. However as we are seeking to offer a variety of merchandise there will be a restriction on the number of stalls available for tombola and raffles. For further details or to hire a stall please contact Allan O'Brien (Chairman) on 07881 623431

We appreciate it is a busy time for him, but we would love to hear from Santa Claus to see if he could join us at our Christmas market.

In addition, we will be holding a Grand Draw on the day, with the first prize being a luxury food hamper, and ask if anyone would like to contribute items towards this hamper or any prizes for the draw. These can be left at either Whitfield's general dealer or the Post office by 1st November 2018. Tickets will be on sale shortly.

With the kind permission of Kane Young Photography we are producing Christmas cards using photographs of the village. There will be 4 designs available to purchase in the coming weeks. The cards will be available in packs as well as individually.

Welcome Packs: Despite the packs now being available for a year several residents are still unaware of them. The packs are produced for new residents to the village, they contain details of organisations within the village, who is who, businesses in the village, regular events being held, refuse details, travel information and include many leaflets about services local to the area.

Over recent weeks we have distributed approximately 10 packs to new residents and we are very grateful to Whitfield's general dealers for their support with this.

The Hospital of God Estate Office has kindly agreed to distribute packs to their new residents but if you know of any property which is empty or has new residents please let us know.

Packs are reviewed on a 6 monthly basis and new packs will be available shortly at both Whitfield's and the Estate Office.

Linda Dempsey (Secretary)

www.greathamvillage.co.uk

CHURCH NEWS

The Parish Church has a new website – www.stjohnthebaptistgreatham.org.uk

Applications for the post of Priest in Charge of the combined parishes of Seaton Carew and Greatham closed on the 23rd August. Interviews are scheduled for the 20th September. Hopefully the interregnum will shortly be at an end.

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. 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.

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	Margo Simmonds, 3A West Row, Greatham Brian Walker, 29 The Grove, Greatham (Chair) One vacant seat
Greatham South Fens Ward	Don Cameron, 6 Aldeburgh Close, South Fens Allan O'Brien, 9 Station Road, Greatham Colin Richardson, 63 Mildenhall Close, South Fens (Vice Chair) Michael Ward, 30 Wisbech Close, South Fens

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,
- 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,
- Tree maintenance on the Black Path at South Fens,
- Flooding near Sports Field Entrance,
- Pavement in front of houses The Green,
- Pavement west side of Saltaire Terrace,
- Pothole junction of West Row and Vicarage Row,
- Flooding in Station Road (behind Saltaire Terrace) and at Sappers Corner
- Pavement in Aldeburgh Close
- Overgrown shrub Wisbech Close

Flooding in front of 11 The Green has been removed from the list as Hartlepool Borough Council has now completed works to the road drains in that area.

YOUR RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

REFERENDUM at last! The 4th of October is the date on which you will have the opportunity to confirm or reject the Rural Neighbourhood Plan. If you are on the electoral roll and resident within the area covered by the plan you should have already received a voting card.

Not to be confused with Hartlepool Local Plan (which has already been adopted) the Neighbourhood Plan has been developed from consultations and therefore one hopes the wishes of the majority of the rural population. Guided by a group with representatives from the 4 parish councils of Dalton Piercy, Elwick, Greatham and Hart the Rural Neighbourhood Plan has been 6 years in the making, a lot of voluntary time and energy with several phases of consultation including questionnaires through the doors. The result is, we hope, a document which represents the wishes of the rural population in planning terms, which will determine the future of the rural area for the next 15 years. But it remains your plan and you have the final power through this referendum to accept or reject it. As chair of both the Rural Plan Group and Greatham Parish Council my obvious hope is you will feel able to vote *YES* – *Brian Walker*.

The question which will be asked in the Referendum is:

"Do you want Hartlepool Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for the Hartlepool Rural area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

The local by-election, caused by the resignation of Councillor Ray Martin-wells, which was held on the 12th July elected the Conservative Candidate Mike Young to serve as a ward councillor for the Rural West Ward which includes Greatham village. The results were:-

James Brewer, Independent	546 votes
Michael Holt, Green Party	87 votes
Yousuf Khan, Labour	184 votes
Mike Young, Conservatives	678 votes

The turnout was 25.32%

Your Rural West ward councillors are: - Brenda Loynes, Conservative
George Morris, Conservative
Mike Young, Conservative

The road into the village from Claxton has been resurfaced from the A689 junction to just beyond Rose Villa. The next stage to complete will take the new surface to in front of the Hope and Anchor. This work is expected to be undertaken early in October.

The Local Government Boundary Commission review of the ward boundaries for the Borough of Hartlepool is now at the stage of reviewing the consultation responses and coming up with draft proposals. A consultation on their draft recommendations are expected to run from the 2nd October to the 10th December.

POST OFFICE

The Post Office Reopens (at last)

We started negotiations to take over the Greatham Post Office and Shop way back in January. Working at the same time with all of the previous Post Master, the Landlord, the Post Office, the Estate Agent and our own solicitor as well as trying to set up the basis for the business led to a complex process – with many delays from one source or another. We eventually signed all the paperwork in late May, we moved to Greatham and started on the refurbishment of the post office and retail premises including reflooring and replacement of the shop fixtures fittings. With this complete, many shopping trips to stock the shop and having finally finished our training with the Post Office we eventually opened for business in July 22nd. It has been a long haul.

This is our first experience of running a retail shop as well as a post office counter. We are learning as we go; a pretty steep learning curve. There are still a few gremlins to sort out but slowly we are getting to grips with all aspects. We have secured supplies of fresh daily goods and newspapers since opening. We are also learning the shopping habits of the Village, allowing us to cater better to your needs. Please bear with us. We are getting there.

We are really enjoying the experience of running the post office, and life in Greatham. We were fortunate enough to have moved into the house in time to experience our first “Feast”. What a great day that was. We would like to thank you all for your patience, as well as your encouragement and support since we opened. We have been made to feel really welcome in the village. We look forward to spending many happy years in Greatham.

Thanks again,
Richie, Chiara & Brandon Griffiths

We are so fortunate that someone has taken over the Post Office in Greatham. So many villages are not so fortunate. Please use the facilities as much as possible and we wish Richie and family every success.

CHURCH NEWS

The Parish Church has a new website – www.stjohnthebaptistgreatham.org.uk

Applications for the post of Priest in Charge of the combined parishes of Seaton Carew and Greatham closed on the 23rd August. Interviews are scheduled for the 20th September. Hopefully the interregnum will shortly be at an end.

HOPE & ANCHOR

Sadly, though undoubtedly deserved, George and Sonya MacNee are hanging up their aprons and measures to retire from the Hope and Anchor. The pub is therefore sporting an extra sign seeking new Landlord/lady.

Star Pubs & Bars are proposing a transformative investment to update both the interior and exterior. Being so close to Hartlepool it is hoped the opportunity exists for the Hope & Anchor to become a destination pub. They are seeking an operator to build on the current standard pub food offering. They seek someone who can demonstrate a proven track record within the licensed trade and who can work with them to build the potential they believe the pub can achieve.

Although refurbishment details are yet to be finalised they suggest, once complete, the Hope & Anchor will showcase a refreshed, contemporary decor complete with new or revamped fixtures & fittings and soft finishes throughout. It will have natural finishes in wood and stone along with warm coloured soft furnishings to make for a cosy, welcoming feel. Currently the pub has a traditional feel and retains some inviting features including two fireplaces. The current kitchen will be improved where required to enable an increased food offer. Externally the pub will undergo a facelift which will see much improved kerb appeal through a new lighting & signage scheme.

VANISHED COMMUNITIES – GREATHAM CREEK

The chosen artists for this River Tees Rediscovered scheme, supported by ARC, Stockton are Tom Adams and Dan Scott who propose constructing a replica house boat in a public location in Stockton. This will act as both a site of remembrance for the Greatham Creek houseboats and also as a performance space for a two day micro-festival. The boat-house-theatre will provide a performance/exhibition space for a small audience of around 25 people. It is expected to cost £8500. It has also been suggested that the boat-house-theatre could be mobile and might be brought to Greatham. Hopes are for a Spring 2019 launch.

Tom Adams is a composer, performer and associate artist of Harrogate Theatre, Attenborough Arts Centre, Leicester, Omnibus Theatre, Clapham and Looping the Loop Thanet in support with Battersea Arts Centre and Esmee Fairbairn. He trained as a clown and physical performer and likes to inject this humour and energy into his creative process and final product.

Dan Scott is an artist, musician and researcher based in Margate, Kent. He works across music, sound, listening, installation and filmmaking. In recent years he has exhibited work, and initiated & run projects at Tate Modern, Tate Britain, De La Warr Pavilion, and Battersea Arts Centre. He co-developed Tate Modern's Open Studios programme with their Families department and also initiated the Sonic Trails series of audio works for both the London Tate galleries that has now been running for six years.

GREATHAM CREEK FILM SCREENING

Back in 2016 Warren Harrison, Principal Lecturer (Media Production) in Teesside University's School of Arts & Media, was gathering memories to produce a documentary film to recapture the days when Greatham Creek was a popular destination for families and individuals. They set up temporary homes in houseboats and cabins from where they fished for salmon. It was a unique community which deserves to be remembered. The area was documented visually during the 1970s and 1980s by photographer Ian McDonald; with photographs featured in his book Images of the Tees.

Dobbin Fletcher, who featured in Ian's photographs and Bill Blackwell, now aged 82, are among former Greatham Creek residents Warren was able to track down and interview for the documentary. Warren, who has a background in television production and is part of the University's Institute of Design, Culture and the Arts. He is working with Heritage Lottery funded project River Tees Rediscovered Landscape Partnership, who are gathering written history about the area with the aim of sharing content. The intention was for a documentary film to be shown publically and entered into film festivals.

The film is now ready and a screening is to be arranged in Greatham Community Centre. The date penciled in is Saturday 29th September. The film last about 40 minutes after which there will be an opportunity for discussion.

ARCHIVE

What is Greatham's connection to some of the finest stately homes in England? The list includes Longleat and Chatsworth, not to mention Windsor Castle. Jeffrey Wyatt (later Sir Jeffrey Wyatville), architect who worked on many historic houses whether remodelling to make them more convenient as at Longleat or adding major extensions as at Chatsworth. By the end of his career his list of clients included King George IV, King William IV, Queen Victoria, 7 Dukes, 3 Marquises, 17 Earls, 3 Barons, 4 Knights, 1 foreign Duke and 1 Count. He was given Winchester Tower in Windsor Castle as his residence by a grateful George IV, with whom he regularly dined, and when Sir Jeffrey died, aged 74, in 1840 he was buried within the castle inside St George's Chapel.

Greatham's connection – the old Hospital (latterly called the Brother House) which he designed in 1803/04.

DIARY

Monday 24 th September 6pm	Parish Council Meeting in the Community Centre Lounge. Public welcome to attend.
Wednesday 26 th September	Northumbria in Bloom results announced.
Saturday 29 th September 4.00pm	Screening of documentary film about Greatham Creek community in the Community Centre. All interested welcome. Free entry, refreshment available.
Thursday 4 th October	Referendum. Your chance to vote for the Rural Neighbourhood Plan.
Friday 5 th October 6.30pm	Greatham Community Association Limited A.G.M. in Dorothy's Room at the Community Centre
Monday 11 th November 6.30pm	Parish Council Meeting in the Community Centre Lounge. Public welcome to attend.
Saturday 1 st December 8pm	Quiz in the Bull & Dog for the Sports Field.

POSITIVE THOUGHT

Weak people revenge, strong people forgive, intelligent people ignore

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 Friday 30th November 2018

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

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