

Village view



GREATHAM – SPRING 2017 – No.99

Subscriptions for this newsletter are now due for another year – please use the form at the back of this issue to renew or cancel.

GREATHAM IN BLOOM

Snowdrop Day was a wonderful success which raised £1201.95 for Greatham in Bloom. It also provided a very positive image of our village to a great many visitors and through the press. Thanks go to the splendid support provided by all wonderful people without which the event simply would not be possible. There is all the pre event setting up and organisation by the Hospital Staff, in particular John Churchman and his team. The supply of straw for the woodland walk provide by the Dresser family. The Bloom committee members, their friends and supporters earned congratulations and gratitude for pulling together to provide the welcome and hospitality for the visitors. We now have a good fund to set us off on this year's campaign to keep Greatham green and pleasant – with a few splashes of uplifting colour too.

The Northumbria in Bloom 2017 competition was launched on Wednesday 1st March. This year we continue to compete in the mid-sized village category. There are 9 entrants in this category, 4 less than last year. The other villages we are competing with are High Pittington, Lesbury, Medomsley, Middleton in Teesdale, Moorsholm, Newfield/Pelton Lane Ends, Trimdon and Washington Village.

Our judges this year are Mary Lou Downie, Ron MacParlin and Jonathan Archer. The latter is a second year trainee judge. Spring judging has been pencilled in for 12th April starting at 10.30am. Summer judging has been proposed for 19th July at 10.30am. Please support your village's entry and help ensure Greatham looks great. Both these dates are Wednesdays, the day after our bin days, so we will need extra vigilance from residents to help ensure there is no litter left over from the bins.

There is always room for more volunteers. If you would like to become more involved please contact any member of the committee or ring Dorothy on 870292 for more information.



THE GREATHAM WALKING STICK

A very special Greatham Walking Stick has been hand crafted with the aim of raising funds for Greatham in Bloom. The horn handle has images of the Sheaf Thrower statue and snowdrops. It is to be sold to the highest bidder by sealed bids. Bids (not money) should be in a sealed envelope with the name and contact details (phone number, e-mail or address) of the bidder. Address the envelope to Greatham in Bloom c/o Greatham Community Centre, Front Street, Greatham TS25 2ES and post with a stamp or just drop in to the Centre letterbox before the 10th April 2017. All monies raised will support the work of Greatham in Bloom in the village.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Refurbishment of the toilets, which will require some building work to provide a separate disabled toilet and baby change, will cost about £18,000. The Trustees have selected a preferred quote and are now working on pulling the funds together. The hope is to have this in place for the work to be completed this year.

Back by popular demand, Ukulele Power will be providing another lively evening of entertainment in the Community Centre on Saturday 22nd April from 7.30pm. Tickets are available from Dorothy or Brian at £7 – and if last time is anything to go by will sell out quickly.

The next production in association with Rural Arts will star Ian Sherwood on Sunday 7th May at 7.30pm. Sherwood is a guitar-playing, sax-blowing, crowd-pleasing looping singer/songwriter. A born story teller and a constant creator, his music dances the line between folk and pop. Starting his music career as an in-demand saxophone player in Toronto, Sherwood soon began looking for an outlet for his poetic side. His unique musicianship combined with his tales of heart-break, victory and adventure has led to a worldwide recognition as a solid performer, lyricist and player. This led to a nomination for the 2011 ECMA award for Male Solo Artist Recording of the Year. Tickets will be £10 (under 18s £8) and will go on sale shortly. The intention is to have a bar selling drinks organised in the hall.

The creative writing class arranged to start on the 21st January did not happen for good reason. Sara Dobson, who was to run the classes, made a bold decision to open a permanent home for these and other classes in the ‘Top Shop’ in High Street. Please see the article later in this newsletter for more details.

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 | | |

Enquiries about hiring the Community Centre or setting up a new group should initially be directed to Dorothy as Booking Secretary on 870292.

LENT LUNCHESES

This year lent lunches are being held on Mondays, 13th, 20th & 27th March, from Noon to 2pm in the Community Centre. Please come along and enjoy soup and a bun in return for a donation. There will also be a raffle and cake stall. The charities to benefit this year will be The Church Army, Practical Action and The Church Restoration Appeal.

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Village Archive. Our plans to assemble and create an archive of village memories will start soon. – the intention is to include photographs, written history and audio histories from people remembering our village.

WE ARE NOW LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN OUR TEAMS AND HELP CREATE THE GREATHAM ARCHIVE

This will be to meet with people; help to obtain copies of photos, have a chat and make an audio recording of their memories. Please leave your name and contact number marked for Residents Association in the Community Centre post box or email us at info@greathamvillage.co.uk.

Welcome packs. We hope to soon have welcome packs ready for new residents to the village. If you have a trade or business or community organisation and would like it to be known, please leave contact details in Community Centre post box marked for the attention of the Residents Association.

Replacement of the fence around the village green. We are working towards getting this done but it will take some time. Meanwhile the grass is suffering from parked vehicles, especially at this time of year. We are reminded that the fence was erected on safety grounds.

If you wish to comment on these or any other items you can post your details in the letter box of the Community Centre cleared marked for the attention of the Residents Association and one of the team will contact you if you so wish.

www.greathamvillage.co.uk email: info@greathamvillage.co.uk

SPORTS FIELD ASSOCIATION

The Sports Field has secured a new lease with the Hospital of God for 25 years. Targets for this year are to provide Water/Sewerage and Toilet/Showers to the changing rooms. The money to fund this is currently been raised by means of grants and fund raising. Thanks go to the Tees Valley Foundation who have donated £1000 towards our funds for the project.

A band night has been booked in the Community Centre on April 29th; the band is called Small Wonder who do covers from The Who, The Jam, Small Faces, etc. Tickets are £6, from Ronnie Westmoreland by ringing on 07722856589 or Barry Measor on 07747876911. Bring your own food and drink on the night.

A Quiz night is also being held on May 13th in The Bull and Dog details of all events will be advertised on the Sports Field's Facebook page.

The Annual Classic Car Show will be on September 17th

CHRISTMAS TREE

With no Christmas market and no funds in the kitty the Christmas tree was paid for by contributions from a number of people. Many thanks go to those who organised everything and also those who contributed to the cost. It was a beautiful tree which brightened up the village.

NEW LIFE FOR VILLAGE SHOP

The shop at 22 High Street has found a new role as an education centre, bookshop and library. Sara Dobson who holds a 1st Class Honours Degree from Lancaster University and is a qualified teacher has opened “LIBR a dedicated educational space with community at its heart”.

Numerous classes are available for all ages, and suggestions for classes are invited. Free taster sessions run through March:-

Monday 6th & 13th

Creative Writing 11am (adults) 4pm (children). Still life drawing 1pm (adults) 5.30pm (children)

Tuesday 7th & 14th

Introduction to Social Science (History, Sociology, Criminology, Psychology, Politics) 1pm (adults)

Maths KS2 4pm (children)

Wednesday 8th & 15th

Storytime 11am (baby & toddler)

CV Writing and Job Applications 1pm (adults)

Knit & Natter 7pm (adults)

Thursday 9th & 16th

Starting a Business 12pm (adults)

Chess Club 2pm (adults) 4pm (children)

Friday 10th & 17th

Perspective Drawing 1pm (adults) 4pm (children)

Book Club 7pm (adults)

Saturday 11th & 18th

Storytime 11am (baby & toddler)

Master Builder 1pm (children)

Poetry 3pm (children) 5pm (adults)

From the library books will be available for just £1 each. Once read you can simply return and swap for free, or buy more. Complimentary tea, coffee and fresh fruit will be available.

As well as regular group classes, private tuition will be available, priced at £22 per hour at 22 High Street, or £27 in your home with discounts for siblings and block bookings. Teaching is available for entrance exams, English (KS1, KS2, KS3, GCSE, A-level), Sociology (GCSE, A-level, degree), History (GCSE, A-level, degree), Philosophy (GCSE, A-level, degree) and Maths (KS2, KS3). There will also be support for children with learning difficulties, dyslexia and autism.

For more information or to book a place ring or text Sara on 07479932063.

A grand opening was held at 22 High Street on Saturday 4th March at 6pm.

GREATHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS

This year's pantomime, Jack & Jill, was another sparkling success despite being victim to the many cold and flu bugs which seemed to be circulating this winter. The cast are definitely getting younger – and that is not just because I'm getting older! This was the Player's twentieth pantomime production!

Among the youngest were Aiden Vaughan and his sister Alese who played a number of supporting roles with little evidence of nerves, in fact they looked like they were enjoying themselves which made it all the easier for the audience to enjoy. Another young player was Natalie Robson who was equally at home in the roles she was assigned. Among the more senior cast June Harrison returned to her place among the "chorus line" and again this year she displayed increasing ease on the stage. Another regular Brian Price once again excelled himself as the evil Dehydria, pulling off a convincing impersonation of Dot Cotton from Eastenders along the way. Granddaughter Lauren Price made a confident and excellent principle boy as Simone Owl. Hugh Stitt hammed it up in all the right ways a simple Walter Butt while Keiron Johnson took to being the Dame, Norma Snickers, like a duck to water, commanding the stage as only a dame can do. Another commanding performance came from Rachel Holmes who really did possess the stage with her confident portrayal of her character, Brown Owl, and Claire Anderson wonderfully supported her as Akela. Jack Snickers and Princess Jill were thoroughly well played by young performers Leah Alderson and Lauren Emmerson respectively. A very interesting duo were Queen Venetia, Adam Robinson (best wig) and King Roman, Mathew Bray (most regal voice) who gave just the right level of over the top performances. No recent panto would be complete without young Chloe Middleton who seems to have grown up with the players going from strength to strength each year and as the goodly Aquarius delivered again in 2017.

Now to back of house and much praise to wardrobe mistress Jean Proctor who put a lot of sparkle on the stage – including a complete cast re-costume in silver and white for the finale. Stage manager and assistant was Trish and Rebecca Watkins. Set and properties courtesy of Anita Stitt, Brian Price and Gerald Watson, with the latter being the stage crew. Music and effects Hugh Stitt with sound and lighting by Anthony Watson and Mathew Bray. Prompts Denise Lee and Anita Stitt. Smooth choreography thanks to Anita Stitt and Lauren Price. Front of house and refreshments by Carol Tweedy, Maureen Price, Jean Best and friends. Colourful programme by Adam Robinson. Cast and crew directed by Anita Stitt.

The Players Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Friday 31st March at 6.45pm in the Community Centre. A Murder Mystery is also on the cards for Saturday 8th April in the Community Centre, cast willing. Hopefully the Summer Concert will also be able to be repeated again this year. The search is on for performers.

GREATHAM SCHOOL NEWS

Greatham School has shown great sporting strength in the football and tag rugby competitions. The football team successfully took part in three Borough competitions held in the Domes at Seaton Carew. Greatham's team won their division and qualified for the Hartlepool Primary School Champions League Tournament. Even though they were by far the smallest school taking part, Greatham finished runners up to a more experienced Holy Trinity team.

In Tag Rugby Greatham played excellently showing great skills and fantastic team spirit which led to them winning the competition. They earned a place in the Borough competition.

Congratulation to the whole school for doing so well in these competitions.

GREATHAM DISAPPEARS!?!

Some local estate agents seem to have given up on village names – and even somewhere as big as Seaton Carew has vanished. This means in this advanced technological age if you are looking on a local estate agent’s web site for a house in Greatham, for example, you have to know your streets or look through the whole of Hartlepool! Ah! Perhaps that is the reason – chance to hook you with something elsewhere. Strangely the national property search engines have no problem identifying villages and you are able to look for exactly where you want to be and then be directed to that local estate agent who has wiped whole communities off their map.

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 |

Greatham Parish Council has asked for its precept to remain the same once again for the coming year. We have; however, been informed that asking for the same may actually result in a 1.27% increase. This results from changes in the band D tax base in the Parish which is used to calculate the council tax. We would love to explain this further but it would give even Einstein a headache!

Two seats continue to be vacant for South Fens on the Parish Council. If you feel you could represent that area, or know someone who could, please let the clerk know.

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
- Faded double yellow lines
- Pothole at the A689 Sappers Corner junction.

The Parish Council is still working on providing a pair of seating blocks which will be placed in the opening of the bus shelter without obstructing access into the shelter. The difficulty of manoeuvring the heavy blocks into place has brought the suggesting of getting a local builder to construct in situ. The permission of the Hospital of God is also awaited.

The Borough Council has responded to the request to repair their wall behind Saltaire Terrace to say there are not the funds to do so, and it is not a priority. An unacceptable situation.

LOST RIGHT OF WAY?

An application by the Parish Council to have the route along Thorn Tree Lane is in hand.

YOUR RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Hartlepool Borough Council invites representations on the Hartlepool Rural Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2031, in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

Elwick Parish Council as the qualifying body in conjunction with the Parish Councils of Greatham, Hart, Dalton Piercy and the Parish meeting of Newton Bewley (Hartlepool Rural Plan Working Group) has prepared a neighbourhood development plan, with the help of the local rural communities.

The Hartlepool Rural Neighbourhood Plan sets out the vision for the plan area over the next 15 years. It is built around the local distinctiveness of the rural area to generate a greater understanding of the community's sense of place and wellbeing for the present community and for future generations. The Hartlepool Rural Plan Working Group has previously carried out consultation on the draft version of the plan and comments made during this time helped inform changes to the document submitted to Hartlepool Borough Council.

This publicity period, which will run between **Monday, 20 February 2017 and Monday, 17 April 2017** is the final opportunity for you to have your say on this document before it is considered at independent examination. All comments received during this period will be forwarded to the Independent Examiner, appointed by the Council in agreement with the qualifying body.

During the publicity period, the Hartlepool Rural Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documentation are available to view on the Council's website: <https://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/hartlepoolruralplan>

The documents will also be available to view in the following venues:
Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY (08.30 – 17.00 Mon – Thurs / 08.30 – 16.30 Friday)
Central Library, York Road, Hartlepool, TS26 9DE
Elwick WI Hall, The Green, Elwick, Hartlepool, TS27 3EF
The Spotted Cow, 31 The Green, Elwick, Hartlepool, TS27 3EF
Greatham Post Office, 4a Woodbine Terrace, Greatham, TS25 2ET
Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hartlepool, TS27 3AW
The Blue Bells, Newton Bewley, TS22 5PQ

Representations should arrive no later than **5.00pm on 17 April 2017** and be sent to:

Community Safety & Engagement Team, Hartlepool Borough Council
Civic Centre Victoria Road Hartlepool TS24 8AY
Or e-mailed to community.safety@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Please note: if you wish to be informed of the Council's decision on the neighbourhood plan proposal under Regulation 19, then please state this within your representation.

If you would like any further information, please feel free to contact Tracy Rowe on the above email or by phoning 01429 523100.

HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

The latest stage of consultation on Hartlepool Local Plan has now closed. The Planning Department will be working through the responses received.

Traffic Lights for Dogs Project at North Brierton Farm

This is a year long project between Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police, the National Farmers Union, and the landowner.

The aim is to end dog attacks on this flock of sheep. It cannot work without your support. During 2015 this flock suffered three separate attacks from dogs not on leads. 4 sheep were killed outright, 8 were severely injured, 2 of which died later. 5 lambs were orphaned, 1 died.

The dogs or their owners have not been found.

The colour coding (traffic light system) on the map shown here, has a timeline; it shows what times of the year are crucial for the management of the flock, it could be that the sheep are in-lamb, or with lambs.

This traffic lights system aims to assist walkers with dogs using the footpath across this one important sheep rearing field; between points A,B,C,D,E and F on the map.

We do not want to stop you enjoying the countryside, or spoil a walk with your pet; we ask that when the amber sign is up you have a dog on a short lead and use the field edge and when the red sign is up we ask if you would use the signposted alternative path.



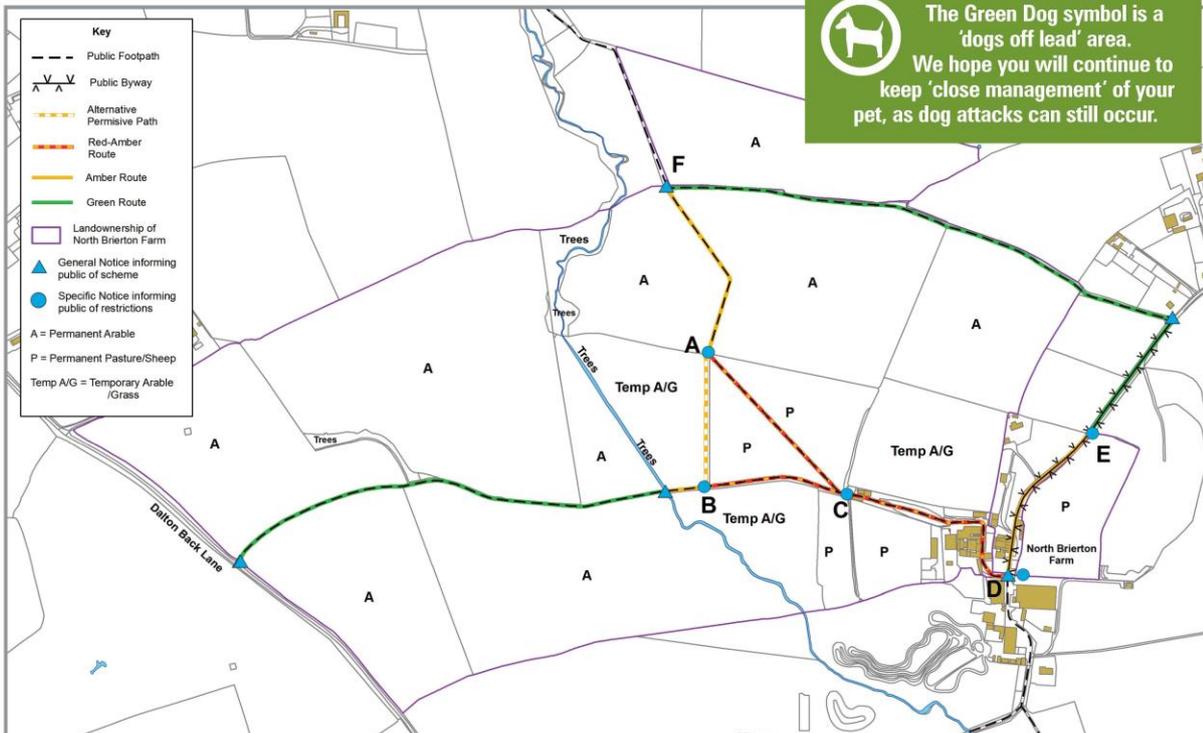
When the Red Dog symbol is used on the footpath it is a direct request to you to say 'no dogs allowed'. It is rare that this request will be made and an alternative route will be signposted at locations A, B and C.



When the Amber Dog symbol is used on the footpath it means that we request you keep your dog on a short lead around the sheep. This is described as being under 'close management' and we hope you use the signposted path along the field edge (A-B). The amber markers could be in place for most of the year in the sheep field, but these dates are particularly important - from March to mid - May, this is lambing time and when the ewes are feeding young lambs, and from mid - October to the end of February, when the ewes are pregnant.



The Green Dog symbol is a 'dogs off lead' area. We hope you will continue to keep 'close management' of your pet, as dog attacks can still occur.



If you are a regular walker you will know the request to put your dog on a short lead is only relevant around sheep or horses. If you are walking around cattle and calves, please let your dog run away to avoid attacks on your pet or yourself.

Once a dog has attacked a sheep it will be a danger to other dogs, animals and people.

It is a criminal offence to allow your pet to chase or attack livestock; you and your dog walker can be fined and your dog put down. If a farmer sees a dog attacking his livestock, the law will allow him to shoot the dog causing the damage.

These colour markers will also apply to the path through the farmyard and buildings - these are hazardous areas, at all times of the year - the chance of meeting farm machinery or farm dogs is higher than elsewhere on the farm.

To report a dog attack contact Hartlepool Borough Council 01429 523524 or Cleveland Police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111



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.

ARCHIVE

The picture on the front of the newsletter is the garden front of the old Greatham Hall. This was built by a Master as the Master's House. The Master who built it was Dormer Parkhurst who took on the title when his father stood down in his favour. He built the Hall in 1725. Dormer Parkhurst successor as Master is said to have split the Hall into a home for himself and a house for a tenant farmer. The building was stuccoed in 1820 and an addition made in 1857. When Canon John Shannon became Master in 1958 he quickly saw to the replacement of the building. By 1961-2 the old Hall had all but gone and the present building erected. One room, the Trustees Meeting Room, survived. The new Hall was designed by Francis Johnson who was a Georgian Revivalist, the contract price being £24,335. At the same time he de-Victorianised the Hospital Chapel restoring its Georgian elegance and designed the four bungalows just inside the Hall gates. The Hall was designed to include 2 rooms next to the garage as an estate office. These were demolished to improve access to Stitchell House. In 2000 after the last Master David Couling retired and Greatham Hall was no longer used as the Mater's House the whole building became the estate office.

DIARY

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 13 th March Noon to 2pm | Lent Lunch in the Community Centre |
| Monday 20 th March Noon to 2pm | Lent Lunch in the Community Centre |
| Tuesday 21 st March 7pm | Greatham Parochial Church Council A.G.M. in Church |
| Monday 27 th March Noon to 2pm | Lent Lunch in the Community Centre |
| Friday 31 st March 6.45pm | Greatham Village Players A.G.M. in Community Centre Lounge |
| Saturday 8 th April | Greatham Village Players present a Murder Mystery in the Community Centre |
| Monday 10 th April | Bids for Greatham Walking Stick closed |

DIARY CONTINUES OVERLEAF

| | |
|--|--|
| Monday 10 th April 6.30pm | Greatham Parish Council Meeting in the Community Centre Lounge Public Welcome to attend. |
| Wednesday 12 th April 10.30am | Northumbria in Bloom Spring judging of Greatham |
| Monday 17 th April 5.00pm | Closing date for representations on the Rural Neighbourhood Plan |
| Saturday 22 nd April 7.30pm | Ukulele Power bring an evening of entertainment to the Community Centre. Tickets £7 in aid of Community Association. Bar |
| Saturday 29 th April | Band Night with Small Wonder in the Community Centre in aid of the Sports Field |
| Sunday 7 th May 7.30pm | Presenting Ian Sherwood, Canadian singer/songwriter in the Community Centre in association with Rural Arts. Tickets £10 (under 18s £8). Bar |
| Saturday 13 th May | Quiz Night at the Bull & Dog in aid of the Sports Field |
| Monday 15 th May 6.30pm | Annual Parish Meeting in the Community Centre. Open meeting for all electors of the parish. |
| Monday 22 nd May 6.30pm | Greatham Parish Council Meeting, including A.G.M. in the Community Centre Lounge. Public Welcome to attend. |

POSITIVE THOUGHT

The tree is known by its fruits not by its roots

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 Huntsman, Greatham Works

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Please use this form to renew or cancel your Annual Subscription which is now due.

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No I do not wish to continue to receive the Village View

Pop this form (and subscription if renewing) into an envelope and send to 29 The Grove or 5 Station Road.