

## PARISH HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

So far this year has had some wonderful shows in the Hall. All have been well attended and two have been sell outs. Snake Davis brought in an audience from all parts of Newcastle and Northumberland. The Radio Revellers' Dracula went down a storm.



Muriel's Quiz is on 20<sup>th</sup> June. This event is always loud but entertaining. To book your team a place please ring 514031. (Tickets £3.50 incl. "Nibbles" but bring your own drinks and snacks)

Coming back by popular demand ELVIS (a.k.a. Derek Henry) will once again be in the building on 18<sup>th</sup> July so keep the night free for an evening of dancing, drinking and fun. In September we are having a Highlights show – exact time and date is to be confirmed. Mervyn Stutter, who was a founder member of the Flying Pickets, will be here to entertain.

Also back on October 3<sup>rd</sup> by popular demand is Bill Ridley with his Wine Tasting Evening. This again is an event which sells itself. The folks of Hepscott like a little tippie (and Bill's jokes).

On 31<sup>st</sup> October there will be a Halloween Party – again final arrangements have to be confirmed.

We seem to have a full and varied programme of events coming up so check your diaries, come along and join in the fun. As usual advertising for all events, coffee mornings and shows are displayed on the board outside the Hall along with times, prices and telephone numbers.

**LOST and FOUND:** We have an array of coats, jackets, cardigans and umbrellas in the hall. All are hanging up behind the main door, so if anyone has lost any of these things and would like them back please call in the hall. Also a bracelet was found after the Snake Davis show. If it is yours please give me a ring and I will return it.

Katie McDonald 514031

### HALL EXTENSION REQUEST

As you are aware we have no school, church, pub or shop in Hepscott and the Village Hall is the only communal place where the people of Hepscott Parish can socialize locally. The hall is the only local meeting place which allows the community to get to know each other and generate a sense of belonging.

Some of you may be aware that the Hepscott Village Hall is very popular and has a range of activities throughout the week/year. We have regular clubs that meet weekly at the hall, private functions, entertainment, e.g. music, drama, comedy, race nights, wine tasting and quizzes etc. All of which are well subscribed. Unfortunately due to the size of the hall and lack of storage, we are unable to accommodate as many people who would like to attend some of the events, nor accommodate all of the groups that have expressed an interest in hiring the hall for weekly events.

Unfortunately 'clubs' for younger people, such as mother and toddler and youth clubs don't run from the hall due to lack of space, facilities and storage and this is detrimental to the continuation of the hall.

We have decided to apply for a lottery grant to help us finance an extension to the hall which if successful would give us another large function room, storage space and more parking facilities. To give us a better opportunity of succeeding in this application we are asking as many of you as possible to support our bid by answering the questions on Page 4:

### 100 Club Winners

February:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs L E Stanners,
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs E Nevins,
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mr A Murray
March:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Carolyn Reid,
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs H Whittaker,
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mr W Findlay
April:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs M Fischer,
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mr C Temple,
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs J Raine
May:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dr P Robson,
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mr and Mrs Coleman,
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs M Tate

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# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR MAY 2013-MAY 2014

It has been a hectic year and my maiden innings as Chair. Many thanks indeed go to my Deputy Chair, David Cowans, and to all of the other Parish Councillors for all the help and support they have given me, attending meetings, standing in, handling issues and providing advice, kind words and succour when needed. I must say I couldn't have asked for a better team. Most of the Councillors have had their first year too—I hope that they found it enjoyable and rewarding. Other new faces were Glen Sanderson, County Councillor, who has always been helpful and supportive, and of course Sylvia Johnson our new Parish Clerk, who has worked so hard for us and so well. 'Older hand' Ian Lindley, County Councillor for Stobhill including Stobhill Manor was also very helpful and supportive throughout the year. Thanks to you all.

'Hectic' means that we dealt with a lot of meaty issues in the year. Having fought off Sainsbury's a few years ago we have another threat to the field to the southeast of Stobhill Roundabout; Barratt are planning to build 400 houses there. Hepscott Parish Council (HPC) opposed this vigorously and, having formed the Hepscott and Morpeth Together group, will be fighting this at the Public Inquiry due to start 22 July. Our thanks go to the support we have had from Alison Bayard of Stobhill Manor and from Joan Tebbutt, both of Morpeth Town Council.

HPC has been a very active member of the Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan group, with representatives on 5 Committees including the Steering Group. This will be enormously useful to Hepscott, but I ask for patience as it is proving to be a longer term project. Special mention should be made of the hard work that David Cowans has put in to the Heritage Group. We made strong representations that major new housing in Morpeth should be located to the north of the town and this is supported by the Neighbourhood Plan group. We are also proposing flood management policies that should be of great help to Hepscott when adopted. HPC were vociferous in their views on the inner Green Belt boundary around south Morpeth. We hope at least that we will secure Safeguarded Land status there until beyond 2032, but there is no feedback from Northumberland County Council until the mid-August issue of their latest draft of the Core Strategy. Meanwhile we fear in our darker moments that the Barratt Public Inquiry may render all this effort useless.

Other issues successfully dealt with during the year included nearly 20 planning applications in the Parish, many of which proved to be long running. We supported Loansdean residents hopefully to stop 200 Bellway homes putting rain run-off into Catch Burn, a tributary of Hepscott Burn. And we tried to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with the launch of our website, and regular email newsletters to interested Hepscott Parish residents.

The above report was given to the AGM of the Parish Council on 15 May. At the meeting I was, for my sins, re-elected Chair for 2014-2015, with David Cowans as the Vice Chair and I am pleased to say the entire Council opted to serve for another year. Phil Ashmore, Chair.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Look out for each other



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Someone with a lot of washing to do – three rotary clothes lines were stolen at different times. Some garden plants were dug up and removed and the usual procession of knockers—that was the extent of criminal activity in the village in the last four months, as far as I know.

Door to door knockers are particularly irritating and the Police will willingly come out to check identity and authorisation. A warning, - don't offer a twenty pound note for a five pound duster – you are unlikely to get any change.

Internet crime on the other hand is a growth industry and most people have been phished or had their computer virally infected. As with street crime, one can only be vigilant, be aware of scams and maintain a healthy suspicion of anything new.

101 extension 69191 is the Police number for contact management. Crime is happening all around us, particularly on the farms, but not in Hepscott. So keep up the good Neighbourhood Watch work. JM 516309

Here's the solution:

First measure your speed using Speedtest.net. You can do it on, say, your iPad, and try several places around your property. Also try it on your computer. If you find it much slower on the iPad then you need a Powerline device, e.g. from Amazon. My speed was 26mbps on the computer but 3mbps in my back room. You need to get just a pair of these, one plugs into the mains by your computer and is linked to your router, the other plugs in where you want WiFi elsewhere in the house. The WiFi is sped through the mains. Bingo!

### Parish Council Contacts:

Chairman:	Philip Ashmore	01670 516726
Vice Chairman:	David Cowans	01670 516397
Village Ward:	Ken Reed	01670 51301
	Merle Heppell	mheppell@btinternet.com
	Fred Dye	01670 514871
Stobhill Manor Ward:		
	Philippa Raper	01670 503436
	Hollie Ross	07974 002446
Parish Clerk:	Sylvia Johnson	01670 503883

### GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR SUPERFAST BROADBAND

By now, most of those who had snailspeed broadband will have switched to the Fibre Optic superfast alternative and will have increased their speeds by at least 10 times. However, you may have found that while your computer is brilliant, other WiFi devices such as iPads, phones etc are still disappointingly slow elsewhere around the house.

Otto Meth-Cohn

## Views from County Hall

One year on from the election, I can confirm that you have kept me busy with a varied menu of topics. There have been a few late nights at County Council Planning committee meetings where difficult planning applications have been discussed, and I remember well the ups and downs of the Public Meeting that I requested to discuss the Stobhill Housing proposals. That issue will rumble on for some time, of course, but I feel that the village has made its views well known in a very logical way.

We have made some progress on picking up on the pothole problem, but there are still a lot of poor areas that need attention.

I have been particularly concerned that the Mobile Speed camera vans are often parked up at Fairmoor and Fulbeck - over 2300 fixed penalty notices were issued over a recent six month period - whilst efforts to get the vans at Barmoor to work there have, so far, fallen on deaf ears. We will not give up on that, however.

I was pleased to be able to contribute some funding towards the speed gun for the Speedwatch volunteers in the village who, I understand, are making a difference already.

Particularly, I would like to thank the Parish Council and its chairman, Philip Ashmore, for the friendly and effective way in which we have worked over the past year. I am sure there will be a new menu for this coming year, and I look forward to it.

In the meantime, if there are any issues with which you need a hand, please let me know.

[glen.sanderson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:glen.sanderson@northumberland.gov.uk) or 07730 979737.



## Hepscott Women's Institute

Hepscott W.I. celebrated its 7<sup>th</sup> birthday in April and has continued to attract visitors and new members this year, enticed by the interesting speakers and then charmed by our friendliness!

In January local resident Julie Porksen gave us a very interesting account of her work for "Women in International Development" with Christian Aid and the Marie Stopes Trust in Peru, Bangladesh and the Yemen. Our next speaker was Lilian Nelson who is chair of the Morpeth and Wansbeck link of the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline. She explained how ten children from the affected area visit Morpeth every June to stay with local volunteer hosts. As well as lots of fun visits they also receive dental and eye tests. Her audience were captivated by her enthusiasm and as we viewed her photographs emotions ranged from horror at the devastation caused by the nuclear disaster to delight in the happy faces of the visiting children.

In March the reputed resourcefulness of W.I. ladies was proved when, due to illness, the advertised "Garden X Factor" had to be abandoned and our President, Carolyn Reid, stepped in at the eleventh hour to entertain us by sharing her delightful memories of polar bear watching around Hudson Bay - whoever could imagine that bears could be given ASBO's!

Lloyd Langley, manager of house and collections at Wallington Hall, enthralled us with the history of the estate, home to many illustrious Northumbrian families - De Greys, Fenwicks and Blacketts - before coming into the Trevelyan family through marriage and finally into the hands of the National Trust in the 1960's.

In May we hosted the East Coast group meeting of W.I.'s. and enjoyed the wonderful singing of the ladies choir, Werca's Folk; the recurring theme of women in society, so appropriate for both choir and audience, was reflected in many of the songs.

**On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June we hope you will be tempted by a murder mystery night - "Murder at Morpeth Manor" to be held in the village hall.** By the time you read this the murderer may have struck but if not, tickets are available from Lynda Wadge Tel. 504909 at £10 which includes supper. Please bring your own drinks.

As we head towards a, hopefully, sunny summer there is plenty to look forward to; the annual Photographic evening in June, a talk about Place Names by Philip Tallon in July and in September an invitation to twirl the light fantastic in "Let's Dance" so please do come and join us and maybe if you like what you find you will join our happy band. Lynda Wadge (above) will be pleased to answer any queries you may have. **Sandra Armstrong**

## KEEP FIT

Pumping iron instead of popping pills is recommended for the more mature person even into your 80s according to a study by three universities. Before you fall about laughing at the thought of a room full of the more mature in their tight lycra leggings and short shorts throwing weights about, in moderation it's not a bad idea.

Small hand weights and long, wide rubber bands are great for improving muscle and counter-acting the natural wasting away of muscles. Physical activity and drugs are equally effective at preventing heart attacks, diabetes and speed up the recovery when we are feeling unwell. We have a Keep Fit session in the hall on Friday mornings at 10.30am. Anyone is welcome to come along or alternatively call in at 11.30 am - have a coffee, chat to the extremely friendly ladies and check out the many and varied equipment we use and find out what we do. **Katie McDonald**

## PARISH HALL EXTENSION REQUEST

1. Do you attend any events at the hall? yes/no
2. Do you support the bid for extending the hall? yes/no
3. Would you use the hall more if it was bigger? yes/no
- 4a Would you or anyone you know want to run a weekly session from the hall? yes/no
- 4b If yes - What type of club/activity.....
5. Currently the hall holds about 70 people, do you think more people would book it for private functions if it held up to 140 people? yes/no
6. What type of events/entertainment or clubs would you like to see on at the hall?.....  
.....
7. Are there any other developments you would welcome at the hall?

Please email responses to : [lmains@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lmains@hotmail.co.uk)

or send by post to L Mains, Fenwood, Shadfen, Morpeth,  
Northumberland NE61 6NS.

or text answers to: 07927 258814.

**Please give your name and postcode.**

**Many thanks.....remember every extra person responding will give us a greater chance of success.**

## SPARKLING WINE EVENT FOR HEPSCOTT IN JULY



**Helen Savage**, well known in the North East and further afield for her expert knowledge of wine, has agreed to hold **a wine tasting event in Hepscoth Village Hall on July 22<sup>nd</sup>**. The theme is sparkling wines from around the world.



**Come and taste and learn!**

Helen has over 25 years' experience in wine education. She has a regular column in the Newcastle Journal's Culture Magazine and broadcasts regularly on BBC local radio. She is currently studying on the world famous Master of Wine programme. Through her company Vine Visit Ltd she offers a wide range of courses, tastings and holidays. She is especially interested in French wine.

We are very lucky that she has fitted us into her busy schedule! She has an effervescent passion for all things sparkly, but this will be a rather different take on the world of fizzy wine. At the event she will explore the many different ways in which it can be made, with examples for everyone from around the world.

I have attended many events run by Helen over the years. I have always enjoyed the evening and felt I had increased my knowledge of wine.

**The evening will start at 7.30. A light supper will accompany the wine. Places are strictly limited to 35 on a first come first serve basis. Tickets are £20 per person. To reserve a ticket please phone Ruth on 01670514178**

or e mail: [barbara\\_ruth\\_adams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:barbara_ruth_adams@yahoo.co.uk) .

## Regular activities in the Parish Hall

<b>Mondays</b>	
Quilting Class	10.00 a.m.
Tai Chi	6.30 p.m.

<b>Tuesdays</b>	
W.I. 3 <sup>rd</sup> in month	7.30 p.m.
Village Tea	
Last in month	2.00 p.m.

<b>Wednesdays</b>	
Yoga Class	7.00 p.m.

<b>Thursdays</b>	
Art at Hepscoth	
	9.00a.m. – 12.15 p.m.
Bridge for All	1.30 p.m.
Parish Council	6.30 p.m.
3 <sup>rd</sup> in month bi-monthly.	
Bridge Class	7.00 p.m.

<b>Friday</b>	
Keep Fit	10.30 a.m.
Bridge for All	1.30 p.m.

<b>Saturday</b>	
2nd in month	
Chatterbox Quilters	9.30 a.m.

<b>Sunday</b>	
1st and 3rd in month	6.00 pm
North East Mandolin Band	

## SPECIAL EVENTS

<b>JUNE</b>	
W.I.	
<b>Murder Mystery Night</b>	
Saturday 14 June	7.30 pm
<b>Hall Committee</b>	
<b>Mu's Quiz Night</b>	
Friday 20 June	7.30 pm

<b>JULY</b>	
<b>Parish Council Meeting-</b>	
Thursday 17 July	6.30 pm
<b>Hall Committee</b>	
Friday 18 July	7.30 pm
<b>Elvis Evening</b>	
Tuesday 22 July	7.30 pm
<b>Sparkling Wine Event with Helen Savage</b>	

<b>AUGUST</b>	
Coffee Morning	tba

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	
<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	
Thursday 18 Sept	6.30 pm

<b>OCTOBER</b>	
Friday 3 October	7.30 pm
<b>Bill Ridley's Wine Tasting</b>	
Hepscoth Herald <b>DEADLINE</b>	
Friday 26 September 2014	

Editors: Anne 518888  
Kate 515504