

Horden Parish Council

Newsletter

Issue 29 - WINTER 2015



Local school children who made hanging baskets for the elderly in the village



Picture Credit Trinity Mirror

The Welfare Park welcomes its' newest addition "Marra"



Teddy Bears Picnic Fancy Dress Winners with Chairman, Jean White

Hi Folks

Well it's been another busy year for Horden Parish Council with lots of ongoing projects such as the refurbishment of its sports pavilion at Sunderland Road. The building, which includes sports facilities used by local football teams as well as a community area formerly used as a café, has been identified by the council for significant development.

In a phased programme of work, the entire building will be restored to its former glory. Future plans will involve a full pitched roof replacement, solar panel installation, geothermal water heating, underfloor heating and the re-opening of the building as a community hall.

The parish council have been helped get the project off the ground by grant donations from Horden's two Durham County Councillors, June Clark and Paul Stradling, who donated £39,000 towards the project.

Thorpe Road Cemetery extension is still progressing with the Planning Application having recently being approved we hope things will start to progress shortly.

The summer events proved a big hit with the Teddy Bears Picnic and Pirates in the Park attracting around 2,000 people.

We are always looking to extend our Summer Activities so if you have any suggestions please get in touch. There will be another schedule planned for the Summer of 2016 so keep your eyes peeled for the details around April time.

We held a Halloween Disco for the school children on Thursday 29th October 2015, the first session was for the little ones, in association with One Point, and the second session was for over 6's. It included a fancy dress competition, disco, hot dogs and entertainment. It seemed to be a real hit with the kids and we will certainly look at hosting another next year.



The Christmas Tree Lighting service took place on Wednesday 9th December 2015 at 6pm. I would like to thank Horden Salvation Army Brass Band who provided the music that only a brass band can provide. Big thanks also to Father James who presided over the event and for the church service afterwards and also to Logan Bailey who switched on the lights.

We have done it again this summer and obtained the prestigious Green Flag award making the Welfare and Memorial Parks amongst the best in the country. The national award recognises the best parks and green spaces in the nation. A green flag flying overhead is a clear sign that the parks are managed to the best possible standards.

Horden Welfare Park has been awarded both the Green Flag and Green Heritage site (one of only three in the North East) every year since 2006. Horden Memorial Park was also honoured for the eighth successive time.

The parish council are looking forward to building on the impressive success of the two parks in the future and will be seeking to include Thorpe Road Cemetery in a trio of awards following the planned extension and development.

The Vintage Tea Rooms, located in the Welfare Park, have now shut their doors for winter, the Tea Rooms will re-open on Monday 7th March 2016 so make sure you pop along for a spot of afternoon tea and take a look at the Heritage Centre whilst your there.

I held my annual charity evening on Saturday 21st November 2015 and raised a total of £1,272.00 which will be divided between my two chosen charities of Macmillan Cancer

Support and the Air Ambulance Service. Thank you to all the local businesses who provided donations and prizes to be raffled.

A huge thank you and well done to all the staff that have contributed towards our achievements in 2015.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and well wishes for 2016.



Teddy Bears Picnic Competition Winners with Chairman, Jean White

Horden Parish Council

Horden Denes Project wins DCC Environmental Award

The Horden Denes project was recognised as the winner in the category 'Places and Spaces' at the prestigious Durham County Council Environment Awards held in Durham on 24th November. The overall project has been delivered in three phases, over the last ten years along our coast.

Phase one concentrated around the area of Cotsford Field and consisted of the construction of a two kilometre fully accessible path on National Trust land with the inclusion of a piece of artwork, the Little Tern which celebrates the brave little bird which returns to the coast each year, and signage boards. It was completed in 2010.

Phase two was delivered by the Coal Authority and involved the creation of an innovative passive minewater treatment scheme to protect the aquifer from rising minewater levels. The contaminated water is filtered through a series of reed beds which provide a new habitat for plants and animals.

Phase three was completed in March 2015 and concentrated on the area north of the reed beds including Horden Grasslands and Warren House Gill. New linking footpaths, to the Durham Heritage Coastal footpath, cliff top seating, a sculpture of the Dingy Skipper butterfly and interpretation boards were included in this area. It was also necessary to include remedial works under the railway bridge to enable better access to the coastal path for walkers.

Horden Regeneration Partnership members have contributed at every stage of this ambitious project to improve and enhance our village's coastal areas and along the journey many other groups in the village have been involved too. These include local school children, who worked with artists to produce the interpretation boards, young people from our Youth Club who worked alongside Countryside Rangers on conservation work to the rare Magnesian Limestone Grasslands and a group of members from the Regeneration Partnership who helped to produce a village walks leaflet for visitors to the village with the help of DCC Heritage Coast staff. The works were funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, the Coal Authority, the National Trust and Durham County Council.

Cllr. June Clark, Chair of Horden Regeneration Partnership



George Patterson Memorial T-20 Pro. Challenge Cricket Match

George Patterson, a long-time member and coach at the Horden Colliery Welfare Cricket Club recently passed away and to commemorate his memory & services to cricket at Horden, the club held a Challenge Cricket Match on Monday 3 August 2015.

The cricket match was a T-20, this is a shorter version of the game consisting of 20 overs per team, which produces a fast paced game. The home team, Horden Pro Heat consisted of professionals from countries such as India, South Africa & Australia, including Lewis Broom who is a junior cricketer at Horden. The visitors were the Northern Universities Students Cricket Club (NUSCC), which is a unique organisation, that selects leading cricketers from the North East of England & integrates with local cricket communities to raise money for charity.

The event was well attended & a carnival atmosphere to the evening was created by the locally sourced music, food & refreshments. The cricket match provided an entertaining three hours of big hitting in which the home team batted first and scored 165-5 from 20 overs, while the visitors replied with 121 all out after 19 overs. To complete the evening, George Patterson's son Paul presented the trophy to the winning Horden Pro Heat team at the end of the match.

The Cricket Club would like to express their gratitude to Walter Rudkin and his team for all their work in preparing the grounds for the evening. Also, many thanks to Grenville & John Holland of NUSCC for all the support & advice they provided to ensure the event was a success. Wayne Birks, the Honorary Chair of Horden Welfare CC stated, "because of my association with NUSCC, it is envisaged that the reputation of the event would mushroom & in future years, it will attract an even wider range of international cricketers and celebrities. We are considering another prestigious event next year to celebrate the existence of the club, the theme is to be '105 Not Out' and will demonstrate cricket at Horden throughout the ages."



Wayne also explained that the money raised from the evening will be put to good use "we intend to raise the profile of the club, by purchasing new equipment & investing in better coaching facilities to attain a higher class of league cricket in Horden, the progression to better quality cricket may encourage a new generation of local people to take up the sport and preserve the game in Horden for many years to come". Additionally, it was decided to share some of the money raised & gift it to a cause within the local community. The club members agreed that a donation to the Langley House Residential Care Home in Horden would be an appropriate cause.

On 15th October 2015, a cheque for £150 was presented at Langley House to Gordon Parkin, President of the Durham Aged Mineworkers' Homes Association. Also present at the occasion were Paul Mullis, Chief Executive of the Durham Aged Mineworkers' Homes Association, Chis Conway the Care Home Manager, Langley House resident Audrey Flynn, Councillor June Clark & Wayne Birks & Alan Carr for Horden Cricket Club.

Horden Brownies

1st Horden Brownie Guides was formed on 14th August 1944 and has survived 71 years. The current leaders are unable to continue in their roles and therefore new leaders are required, otherwise it will close. Training would be provided to prospective leaders in order to gain the required Leadership Qualification plus 1st Response (First Aid).

Brownies are girls aged 7- 10 yrs who develop skills through activities, games, crafts and learning how to be a Brownie. Dawn, Jennie & Alyson are prepared to work with any prospective leaders to help them get established. If you are interested please call into the Horden Social Welfare Centre on a Monday evening between 5-6.30 pm or alternatively call the Divisional Commissioner Gina on 07443913515.

Horden Parish Council

Horden's Heritage Honoured

Horden Parish Council unveiled their latest acquisition, a nine feet tall sculpture of a miner at an official ceremony in Horden's Welfare Park on Saturday 21st November 2015. The parish council purchased the sculpture to honour Britain's proud coal mining heritage and are determined that Horden's roots should be celebrated, linking the past to the present. Horden's pit shaft was sank in 1900, in the 1930's it was the biggest and most productive coal mine in Europe employing over 4,000 people. The pit closed in 1986.

Grant contributions from Durham County Councillors, June Clark and Paul Stradling, towards the parish council's refurbishment of football showers and changing rooms at their pavilion on Sunderland Road freed up funds to enable the council to purchase the sculpture.

Locally acclaimed artist Ray Lonsdale, who created "Tommy" now residing in Seaham, created the sculpture and named it "I aint gonna work on Maggies farm no more", after a Bob Dylan song. The controversial sculpture reflects the devastating effect of Margaret Thatcher's programme of pit closures on mining communities throughout the country in the 1980's, including Horden, where an entire way of life disappeared overnight, and celebrates the resilience of former pit communities who refuse to lay down and die.

The parish council consulted with village residents to find out which one of two possible sites in the Welfare Park residents would prefer the sculpture to be located, in addition to resident's comments regarding a new name in September. The community responded with a lot of feedback and after careful deliberation on the results received Councillors decided on "Marra" as a nickname and chose the final location in the Welfare Park, taking into account numerous considerations to provide the most balanced final location.

The Welfare Park, restored to its former glory in 2005 via a 1.5 million pound lottery grant, is known locally as the Miners Park and was opened in 1926 by the Coal Board, paid for by the miners of Horden themselves out of their weekly wages.

The park itself is one of only a handful in the North East that has consistently been awarded the prestigious Green Heritage site award for the park being kept much the way it was when it originally opened nearly 100 years ago. Parish Councillors felt that it was only fitting that Horden's mining heritage should be honoured by placing the sculpture in the park.

The village had an official unveiling ceremony on 21st November 2015 with Stephen Wilson, aged 92, doing the honours. The ceremony was attended by hundreds of visitors from across the North East including a group of Horden's oldest miners (pictured). Central to the sculpture is community pride. The Clerk to Horden Parish Council, Paul Davison said, "the work adds to a sense of heritage, community and belonging for Horden. The past is central to how we see ourselves as individuals, as a community and as a nation. The parish council are proud to be able to bring this powerful and evocative piece of public art to Horden. It's not about living in the past, but remembering where you come from and being proud of the values that built our community, values that still hold true today, the pit may no longer be here but the village's core working class mining values of hard work, honesty, integrity, resilience and community spirit live on and that is a fantastic testament to those past and present".



The children from Horden Nursery School, Cotsford Park went to Horden Welfare Park to visit the sculpture of "Marra". They felt it was important that the children had the opportunity to learn about their heritage. The children were very interested, they returned to nursery talking about the new experience and information they had gained so it was thought beneficial to return the following day to revisit the experience and let the children to create their own representations of "Marra". They created detailed drawings and the nursery recorded their comments and ideas. Here's a few things they came up with:

"The statue is a miner."
"A miner is a man who dug in the mine."
"Marra means friend."
"His hat had a torch on"

Everyone noticed how 'Marra' had a hole where his heart should be, the children came up with many ideas.

"Shut down all the mines so he had a broken heart"
"Broke heart because he had no job and no money."



Horden Parish Council

It's one of those momentous occasions that you find a fascinating story which happened in your family history. It makes all those visits to Sunderland, Newcastle, Durham Archives and trolling through internet sites all worthwhile.

On my father's side (**Thomas William Rudkin**) I was researching my great Grandmother's ancestors, the '**Paterson**' family. I discovered my great-great Aunt, **Jane Paterson**, married a **Joseph Waine** in 1855 at Spennymoor. They went on to have two sons, Isaac Waine born 1861 and James born 1871, they all lived in Duncombe Street, Whitworth (Spennymoor). Joseph Waine was employed as a 'scavenger' by the Local Board of Spennymoor. Jane Waine also had a Tobacconist shop within her house in Spennymoor.

Whilst researching the St. Paul's Church, Spennymoor registers at Durham Archives I came across a burial for Joseph Waine on 20th November 1872 age 38 years old. The Curate had written 'Coroners Certificate murdered Nov. 16th 1872'. I then applied for a death certificate for more details, which stated cause of death 'Shock to the nervous system the result of violence – Wilful Murder against **Hugh Slane, Terence Rice, John Hayes and John Beesley.**'

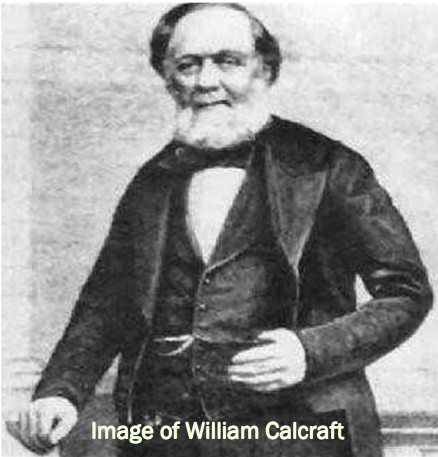


Image of William Calcraft

Knowing these details I realised the murder would be reported in the local newspaper, The Durham County Advertiser. The story unfolded: **Murder Most Foul:** Late on the evening of Saturday 16th November 1872 at the home of Jane & Joseph there was a knock on the door and in walked a neighbour, Hugh Slane and asked for a box of matches. What happened next led to the trial of 4 men for 'murder.'

An argument broke out between Waine's lodger, John Wilson, and Slane. Slane called him a liar and the two men squared up, but were separated by Waine. Slane wanted Waine to go outside and fight but Waine lit his pipe and started to talk to his son Isaac. Slane went away for a few minutes but on his return he threw the matches at Waine, grabbed him by his lapels and dragged him outside. Slane whistled and three men appeared, Hayes, Rice and Beesley. Slane held Waine down whilst the three men kicked him. Isaac Waine heard Slane say 'If I get a kick at him it will be his last.' Jane shouted at them to leave her husband alone and dragged one of the men off him. The four men ran off and Jane and Isaac managed to drag Joseph inside where Jane called the Police and a Doctor. Alas Joseph succumbed to his injuries and died later that night.

The trial of the four men started on the 17th December 1872 at Durham Assizes before **Mr. Justice Denman**. All four men, Slane 22 years old, Hayes 29 years old, Rice 19 years old and Beesley 27 years old were found guilty of 'Wilful Murder' and the Judge passed the death sentence on all four men. Their execution set for 6th January 1873.

An appeal was sent to the Home Office and it was decided that Beesley and Rice, whilst not being responsible for the murder, had been accessories and their sentences were commuted to life imprisonment. There was to be no reprieve for Slane and Hayes who were brothers-in-law.

The preparations for execution were all completed on the 3rd of January 1873, the scaffolding erected, the coffins made and the graves dug within Durham Gaol. Slane and Hayes were hanged 'side by side' on January 13th 1873 by the notorious hangman '**William Calcraft.**'. Calcraft was famously known to have been responsible for performing 450 - 500 executions in the 1800's, including 35 women. Calcraft lived a good life off the proceeds of his salary and being able to sell clothes and personal belongings of his 'clients.'

A few months later Calcraft hanged the infamous **Mary Ann Cotton** on March 24th 1873. Today she could possibly be known as England's first woman mass murderer. Mary Ann Cotton is buried next to Slane and Hayes in Durham Gaol grounds. Watch out for a two-part drama about Mary Ann Cotton, who murdered her way through the north-east of England in the 19th century, poisoning 3 of her 4 husbands and 11 of her 13 children as well as her own mother. Called 'Dark Angel' on ITV early 2016. **Article written by Councillor Edna Connor**

You can contact Horden Parish Council Office direct:

Chairman: Jean White

Councillors:

Mr R Bagnall

11 Ash Crescent, Horden, Co. Durham, SR8 4JN

Mr C Cain

4 Hudson Avenue, Horden, Co Durham SR8 4QL

Miss J Clark

73 Cotsford Park Estate, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4TA

Mrs M Clark

89 Cotsford Park Estate, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4TA

Mrs E Connor

2 Cedar Street, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4HD

Mr W Hill

6 Sunderland Avenue, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4BH

Mr D Langan

1 Snowdrop Avenue, Horden, Co. Durham, SR8 4PP

Mr D Nicol

86 Fifth Street, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4LA

Mrs I Roberts

33 Ninth Street, Horden, Co. Durham, SR8 4LZ

Mr G Robson

Apartment 7, Wesley House, Horden, SR8 4LD

Mr W Smith

22 Alder Road, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4HQ

Mr D Tait

6 Warkworth Avenue, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4AZ

Mrs J White

23 Blackhills Tce, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4LJ

Mr L Williams

1 Warren Street, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4NA

Mrs E Wood

12 Roseby Rd, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4RJ

All Councillors can be contacted via the Parish Council Office

Clerk to the Council: Paul Davison

Assistant Clerk: Jacqui Hunt

Admin & Finance Officer: Gemma Rowe

Office Opening Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9.00 am – 5.00 pm

Friday: 9.00 am – 4.30 pm

Social Welfare Centre opening Hours:

Monday till 9 pm

Tuesday till 8.30 pm

Wednesday till 5.00 pm

Thursday till 9.00 pm

Address: Horden Parish Council, Horden Social Welfare Centre, Seventh Street, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham, SR8 4LX.

Tel: 0191 5180823

Fax: 0191 5180385