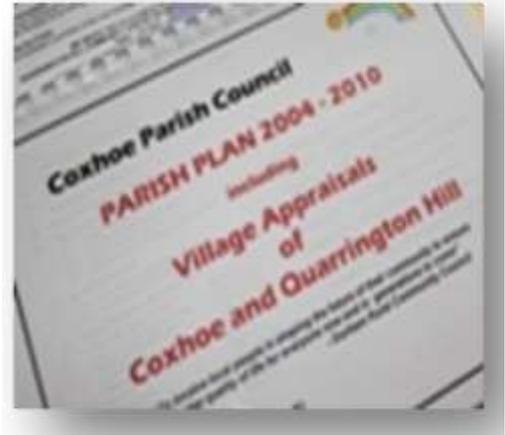




## Parish Plan 2 - Consultation Event coming soon

Work has started on a new community planning exercise in our village. Coxhoe Parish Council is working with the Coxhoe Community Partnership, Quarrington Hill Village Partnership, Quarrington Hill Community Association, County Councillors, and others to develop a new Parish Plan. The original Parish Plan was developed in 2004 and came to the end of its planned life at the end of last year. **Residents and business peoples' issues and priorities** may well have changed in the difficult economic climate so the time is right to have a fresh look at how we see our villages looking in the future. A Steering Group has been formed and is working hard to ensure that our **community is fully engaged in the Plan's development**. The Plan needs to be based on your issues and priorities.



To start things off, a leaflet was provided to all households just before Christmas to let everyone know why a new Plan was being developed, what had been achieved as a result of the last Plan, and how it was envisaged a new Plan would be put together. Village focussed community consultation events are now being held in both villages. The first one in Coxhoe will be held in **Coxhoe Village Hall** on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2011**. This will start with an exhibition at **10.00am** with the main event starting at **10.30am**. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The aim of the consultation event is to find out :

- what your aspirations are for the village;
- what you feel are the current issues and priorities;
- how things can be tackled.



The outcomes of the meeting will be used to help design a household questionnaire which will be **launched later in the spring to seek individuals' views** of the future of the village. An invitation is being delivered to all households. A separate event to engage young people is planned. Your help in preparing the Plan is very important. **Please try to get along to the consultation event.** You can also write to or e-mail the Parish Council if you want to make personal views at [clerk@coxhoeparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@coxhoeparishcouncil.gov.uk)

It is proposed that children and young people will also be engaged in the development of the Plan.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2011 10am at Coxhoe Village Hall**

## News Bulletin

### \* **Frank's Carpet Store**

In the last edition of 'The Chronicle' we expressed our regret at the closure of Gatenby's store.

In this edition we are pleased to welcome Frank's Carpet Store to our village—based in the building which was in the past the Primitive Methodist Chapel and Sunday School. It is good that a number of former **Gatenby's staff will be employed by Frank's** and the unique features of the building are preserved as they are an integral part of Coxhoe heritage and streetscape.

### \* **'Computer- Geek'**

Also noted with interest is the newly erected sign above what was recently an **Undertaker's, previously part of Wilson's Draper's premises.**

This is an excellent addition to the range of village shopping facilities—a step into the 21st Century—and something many of us will appreciate!

### \* **'Coxhoe Dental Surgery'**

After major refurbishment the two dental premises have merged into one excellent facility.

Our old village police station premises is now empty and the History Group are delighted to accept the **dentist's offer to accompany us on a visit to the premises to take photographs of the cells which are still in situ.** Look out for them in a future issue of the Chronicle.

### \* **'Old Chippy'**

In the Village Appraisal of 2004 the old fish shop at Commercial Road East was repeatedly identified as a village eyesore. Wow! What a difference the **renovations have made and they're still not complete.** The building has been tastefully developed and has enhanced the village street scene.

### \* **'Green Flag Award'**

In recent years Coxhoe Park has received considerable praise and achieved the Green Flag Award. It is praised for its diverse facilities and has community involvement. Some parts now need further development and existing facilities require a **lift.** **Durham County's Environmental, Leisure and Technical Officers** and representatives of Coxhoe Community Partnership recently met. Ideas are being explored to enhance the existing facilities and include restoring the human sun dial mosaic which was vandalised, improving landscaping, developing **the 'Will o Wisp' area with a platform for 'pond dipping' and organised visits, better leaflets and communication electronically, organised walking exercise, 'pram and buggy' groups for young parents,** additional interpretation, develop more biodiversity. The group will meet again shortly. Anyone interested in joining please contact Peter Lee **0191 3018689** or John Hepplewhite 0191 3771366



## Coxhoe Village Hall - New Entrance Doors

New internal automatic entrance doors have recently been fitted at Coxhoe Village Hall thanks to funding from County Durham Foundation (£4975), East Durham Rural Corridor AAP (£2,000), Councillors Morgan and Plews Neighbourhood Budget (£500) and Coxhoe Parish Council (£233). The new doors have made access easier and safer for the elderly, disabled, children, parents with pushchairs and those with wheelchairs and ensure that the entrance meets with the Disability Discrimination Act. Many compliments have been made, summed up by one **'village hall regular' who says she now just needs to press a button rather than struggle through heavy swing doors.** Chair Fred Burns tells us that the doors also help keep the reception area much warmer, saving on heating costs. It is hoped funding will soon be available for badly needed side entrance doors.



Before



After

## St. Andrew's Church –Landscape Improvements

The loyal band of workers at St. Andrew's continue to strive for their church and community.

Their fine new building for which they raised funds was blighted somewhat by the surrounding grounds which were unused and unsightly.

The Social and Outreach Group, with the assistance of Durham Community and Voluntary Service and Coxhoe Community Partnership received a grant of £10,000 from the Big Lottery Awards for All programme and the grounds have now been transformed with raised flower beds, paving and fencing. Members of the chapel raised the remainder of the cost.

The project has been created for use by young people, social events, quiet reflection and fundraising. The popular Saturday Coffee Morning can be held outdoors on fine warm mornings and educational, social and religious activities can be carried out in a safe and secure environment.

The workers involved are to be commended for their efforts which have also enhanced our Village Centre Regeneration.



## Limestone LinX Cycle and Walk Ways

**"GET ON YOUR BIKE AND GET OUT YOUR WALKING SHOES THIS SPRING"**

After 5 years of work the Limestone LinX are open for business this Spring.

Works recently carried out on the footpath at the north end of Coxhoe are part of the Limestone LinX project. A new surface, of good width, is being laid from Bower Court, staying on the east side of the main road, to a point **opposite Gatenby's**.

White lines will separate the cycle and walking sections.

The works are planned and organised by Durham County Council Highways Section with Service Direct constructing the route.

The community will benefit from an improved surface which will provide alternative environmentally friendly ways of accessing the village.

All the main routes are now "rideable" including the excellent ,traffic free, off road section from Cassop to Coxhoe. This route passes over the East Hetton Colliery reclamation site and returns to Coxhoe via the Kelloe Way and Mill Road.

Bikes are available from Coxhoe Leisure Centre, if required. Maps are also available and information boards are in position at various points along the route itself.

Only 3 short links remain to be completed and it is hoped to secure further funding to complete these later this year—watch out for Official Opening.

Please ensure you ride safely and take extra care on road sections and when crossing roads

As part of the East Durham Rural Corridor AAP Cycle and Walkway Project, County Durham and Darlington Community Health Services (CDDCHS) are providing activities for young people and their families.



This will be provided through a Get Active Cycling Club and will give families from the AAP area the chance to participate in free regular physical activity throughout the summer of 2011.

Launching 8th April 2011 until 29th October 2011, Get Active will be delivering 2 weekend bike rides targeting young people and their families. Both sessions will run on a Saturday morning (weekly tour from 10am—12 noon and away days from 10am-2pm) from Sedgefield, Hardwick Park and Coxhoe Leisure Centre respectively. Both rides start and finish at the same venue and last approx. 2 hours.

The bike rides are suitable for all ages and abilities and are led by qualified cycle instructor. Bike and helmets are available for participants to loan free of charge. All routes are predominantly off-road using a variety of national cycle networks. Why not join in and get active with the Get Active Cycling scheme?

For further information on health improvement (physical activity) or to book your place, please contact Get Active on 0191 569 2847 or via email [steven.hart@nhs.net](mailto:steven.hart@nhs.net)

For further information on the AAP Cycle/Walkway Project, please contact Jane Bellis, AAP Co-ordinator on 0191 5274726 or via email [jane.bellis@durham.gov.uk](mailto:jane.bellis@durham.gov.uk)



### ◆ Come and Join the Pact Process

PACT (Partners and Communities Together) is a valuable means of ensuring that residents are able to maintain contact with their local policing teams on a regular basis. Meetings scheduled in the coming period:

Thursday 10th March 2011 (1845hrs)

Thursday 5th May 2011 (1845hrs)

Thursday 14th July 2011 (1845hrs)

Venue : Coxhoe Leisure Centre, Linden Grove, Coxhoe. DH6 4DW

Telephone Mark Oglivie 0345 6060 365 ext. 66842820.

◆ You may be aware that the Police have launched a national website which brings local crime information to you in seconds. It provides the number and types of crime as a host of info including PACT meetings. Check it out at [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) simply add your postcode

◆ During our recent bad weather a number of people have wondered how best to report crumbling roads, potholes and street lights which are not working. There is a designated number to call as follows:

Highways Action Line (HAL) 0191 370 6000

### MEDICAL MATTERS

COXHOE MEDICAL PRACTICE WEBSITE giving information on registrations, clinics, opening times, health information etc and on line ordering for your prescriptions [www.coxhoemedicalpractice.co.uk](http://www.coxhoemedicalpractice.co.uk)



## John Egglestone 1928–2011 For Community and Young People



We are saddened to hear of the death of John Egglestone. John has left a legacy of **half a century of community and voluntary service in Coxhoe**. Born at Bell's Houses, Park Hill he moved to West Cornforth when he married in 1951 then to Coxhoe's Coronation Terrace in 1960. He grew up in an era where people and community were deemed important.

**Wife, Mary, tells us he always had an affinity with young people "He was always drawn to young people", she says. His work with youth blossomed between 1960 - 65 at Coxhoe's Primitive Methodist Chapel (now part of Gatenby's) and when it closed he continued at the amalgamated St. Andrews. He offered many activities which the young people thoroughly appreciated. "John had a great sense of humour and the youth nights were always great fun" recalls Barbara Hepplewhite.**

John decided to extend his youth work, trained with Durham County Council Youth Service and acquired his **Youth Leader's Certificate in 1966. In the early days at Coxhoe Village Hall (1965) John's Youth Club totalled over 170 members, seniors and juniors. These were huge numbers for one man to supervise but I'm reliably informed that behaviour issues were few. Mary tells us he could 'control all youth members by talking and reasoning, he was always consistent and whatever he said he did, whether it be reward or exclusion!**

Because outside visits were expensive for some members John sought to invite visitors along to the hall for the evening. Mary recalls PC Cromerty, the local policeman, visiting complete with motor bike. He proceeded to show the young people how to strip it down and more importantly how to put it together again. They had sponsored events (e.g. table tennis) to raise funds for equipment and were known to paint and decorate the village hall.

At one time he was posted to Bessemer Park but brought back to Coxhoe some time later to help rejuvenate the sessions as numbers had dwindled.

John had a deep seated belief in the importance of community spirit. He was a member of the Village Hall committee for 46 years and worked hard to see that the heritage which had developed since the Village Hall opened in 1910, built from funds raised by the local community, was maintained. He knew the measurements of all the rooms in the Hall.

From 1968-2001 he was secretary until wife Mary took over with John as assistant, latterly he was President. He always did the roll call at the Village Remembrance Services which he and Mary revived some 15 years or so ago.

John involved himself with the Village Playgroup, helping out and repairing toys and games. He was a regular Santa Claus also and was almost recognised when one child commented Santa wore shoes just like John! He may have worked out of a sense of duty but he certainly loved it. He would only take holidays when there were no significant events. **"We can't go away then, it's Carnival Week!"**

**A number of John's former youth club members attended his funeral and made themselves known to wife Mary who continues in the role of secretary. Village Hall Chair, Fred Burn describes John as "Mr. Village Hall', our president and friend".**

**It must be consoling to know that Coxhoe people turned out in force to show respect for John's terrific commitment to the community over five decades.**

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### Coxhoe's Christmas Celebrations

Despite the snow, ice and alarmingly cold temperature there was an excellent turnout for the Village Carol Services at Coxhoe.

**The St. Mary's Church Service on Christmas Eve, introduced by Francis Valks and Rev. Ian Pelton who was vicar at the time, has been well supported for over 30 years. Readers represented aspects of village life including St. Mary's and St. Andrew's churches, Parish Council, Community Partnership and Village Hall. Rev. Carole Lloyd led the service and the highlight was the section targeted at the children where she introduced Kirwin, her puppet who helped all present understand the meaning of Christmas. It even drew our attention to the dual purpose of Chocolate Oranges—they taste good and represent part of our 5 a day fruit and vegetable healthy eating programme!! This essentially religious but also a family social gathering attracts locals and former Coxhoe people too. The service was appreciated as was the chocolate given to all as they left.**

**The Christmas Eve Service at St. Joseph's Church attracted a huge gathering from Coxhoe and local villages. There was standing room only for a good number and it was estimated the congregation reached about 400 in total.**

## Argentinian Friends

Our dream began when my girlfriend Nuria and I bought the tickets in July 2010. That meant we had to start with all the paperwork to get things ready before 13th January, our departure day. It was a nice feeling.

As soon as we knew our flight was booked, I let my friend Jack Turton know about the trip. Jack worked very hard preparing an itinerary that in the long run was to make our trip unforgettable. The itinerary consisted of visits to places like London, Cambridge, Manchester and Newcastle, just to name a few. He planned everything in detail for us to feel happy and looked after.

We enjoyed every minute of our stay in England. We were marvelled with the places we visited: Beamish for example, the place where everything remains the same was superb. You had the feeling the past was round the corner as you can see how people used to live 100 years ago by exploring shops, pubs or key industries of the time.

**We were marvelled at every new place we visited and to be honest haven't heard before. It's quite common for tourists coming from Latin America to visit England and just a few other places around it and to jump all the way to Scotland.** Very few people know about the existence of all the beautiful places the North of England has to offer. Just to name a few: Bamburgh Castle and its long, wide and peaceful beach, The Lake District with its magnificent view – on a very cold day by the way-, York and so many other quaint little villages.

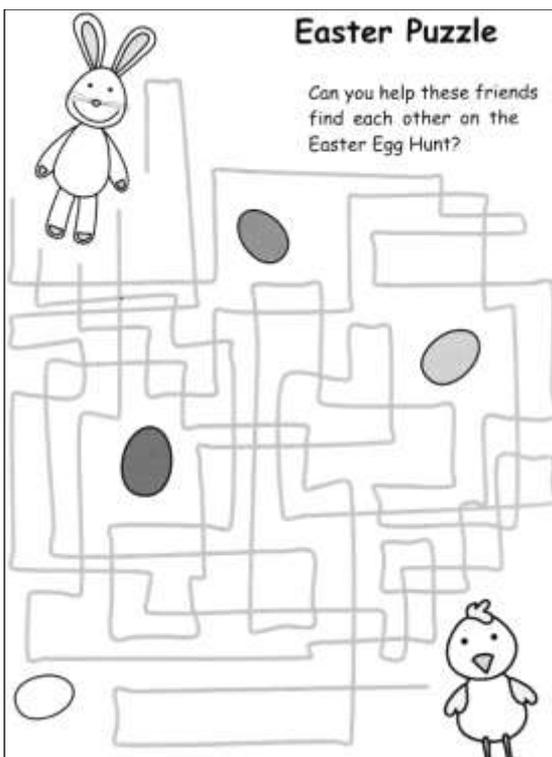
We lived every day to the most, waking up early in the morning ready to go for whatever the day and our guides outlined for us. One of these visits even included a day at the Coxhoe Primary School, we both teach English as a foreign language in Buenos Aires, Argentina and we were very interested in having the chance to see how kids work in school. So Jack made the arrangements and off we went. We were shown around by the deputy headmistress who very kindly gave us a tour around the different classes and explained how the children, the teachers and parents work together to make the learning process an enjoyable one. As you walked along the corridors you could feel a good vibe and see children working in perfect harmony, happy and having a good time; one of the forms even sang a song for us in French!



Football was not out of the itinerary. We met fellow Argentinian and Middlesbrough footballer Julio Arca at Rockcliffe Park and he gave us a tour of the Middlesbrough training facility. **We saw Sunderland play Newcastle. I'm proud to have witnessed such an event.** Perhaps the game on the pitch was not so good but the atmosphere in the Stadium of Light was terrific. The fierce rivalry between both sets of supporters made the day a special one. We also saw Sunderland play Chelsea. It was a perfect game but for the neutral eye. Unfortunately the score was 2-4, but it was a quality game that we enjoyed. In spite of the score I keep unforgettable memories from both match days.

All in all, we would like to thank all the people who made this trip enjoyable and unforgettable.

Walter & Nuria Buenos Aires, Argentina



How does the Easter Bunny keep his fur neat?  
*With a hare brush!*

What did the rabbit say to the carrot?  
*It's been nice gnawing you!*

How do you know carrots are good for your eyes?  
*Have you ever seen a rabbit wearing glasses?*

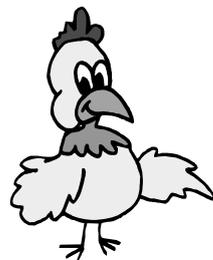


What kinds of books do bunnies like?  
*Ones with hoppy endings!*

What did the rabbits do after their wedding?  
*Went on their bunny moon!*

Why did the Easter Bunny cross the road?  
*Because the chicken had his Easter eggs!*

Why did the Easter Bunny cross the road?  
*To prove he wasn't chicken!*



### Easter Anagrams

1. DAY SUN LAMP
2. STEERED A RAPA
3. CRUSH BOSTONS
4. SEEN ANY TRUB
5. CT GOOGLE ACHE
6. RUSTY AND A SEE
7. TREE BANS TONE
8. HUG STRANGE TREE
9. SKEIN A CLAM
10. PASTY HEAPER

Answers on page 10





## Coxhoe Parish Council – Report and Update

It has been yet another busy time for the Parish Council. The Parish Council has met five times since early September (including a special meeting to discuss planning applications) and there were also meetings of the Environment and Finance Committees in the last four months. We considered well over 150 items of business. We are committed to promoting the well being of residents and businesses in our village and most of our work is aimed at improvement. Most of our meetings have been attended by the public and there has been a good debate about issues.

### Improving Personal Safety

The Police attend all main Parish Council meetings and provide a report on crime on a monthly basis. The Police targeted resources in Coxhoe due to an increase in reported crime at the end of 2009 and the result is that the increasing trend has been reversed. The Parish Council is continuing to be engaged in discussions with its partners to secure enhanced CCTV for the Park at Coxhoe and for it to be installed in the Front Street of Coxhoe. We have added the new Police crime information website to our own web pages as part of our one stop shop community approach. Now you can find up to date information about crime where you live.

**By working with the County Council, new 'heritage style', improved street lighting** has been installed in the Front Street of Coxhoe. There have been delays with electrical connections and the removal of the redundant columns due to inclement weather but it is hoped that these will be resolved soon.

### Improving Health - Coxhoe Medical Practice

We have continued to lobby for a new Medical Practice in Coxhoe. Unfortunately plans have had to be put on ice to at least later in the year due to holdups with the Primary Care Trust.

### Improving Highway Safety – Working with the County Council

Speed visors have now been installed and operate in Coxhoe and Quarrington Hill on a rota basis. The electronic signs are alerting drivers to excessive speed so that highway safety is improved within the village.

### Improving the Environment

One of the outstanding issues from the first Parish Plan was the improvement of the green areas of open space along Coxhoe Front Street. **The Parish Council's Environment Committee is considering how schemes can be developed and how they might be financed.**

The Parish Council has considered a number of consultations on planning applications from the County Council.

We have supported residents in objecting to proposals where we felt that there was harm to the overall community.

We have submitted representations where we felt it was necessary to seek improvements to proposals. Following our discussions with planners during the summer, we are pleased that some owners have and are undertaking works to improve some untidy buildings in the village. We thank them and commend them for their efforts.

The Parish Council has made representations to Durham County Council on a range of important Planning Documents following consultations. These include the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment and the Durham County Settlement Study. The Parish Council has made its views clear that no further significant housing development ought to take place without improvement to the social infrastructure of the village, including housing for the elderly, health facilities and primary school place improvement. You can read our representations in full on the Planning Applications and Important Document pages of our website.



In December we installed Christmas lights in the Front Street at Coxhoe. Unfortunately the weather and the problems with the installation of the new lighting columns conspired against us which meant that we could not have them all connected. They were still very effective and ought to be fully installed next year.



### Helping the Community

We have provided grants and donations to a range of community groups where we felt that the community would benefit. These include Durham City Centre Youth Project, Lansdowne House Pensioners, Coxhoe Village Hall Association, and Quarrington Hill Community Centre Association.

We have made significant progress in improving our community focussed website. It is regularly being made better and is being held up by Durham County Council as a standard to meet for other Parish Councils. A massive amount of work has enabled this to happen and it has all been achieved without cost to the Parish Council. We have received lots of positive feedback about it and have had 'hits' from around the globe! If you feel we could improve it even more please let us know.

The Parish Council is making a significant contribution to the development of Parish Plan 2 and we are looking forward to the consultation events in the villages. We are actively and enthusiastically represented on the Parish Plan Steering Group. All the documentation you will have seen so far has been produced 'in house' at very little cost and community volunteers have delivered it. We have had discussions with the Durham Rural Community Council who are providing a lot of support, largely free of charge. While we have set aside a small budget for the next financial year, we are hoping to secure most of the resources we need from those that already exist in the community. If you would like to help please let us know.

The precept for next year has been set with a view to helping to meet the aspirations of the community that will result from the Parish Plan 2 consultation process, balanced with a need to keep increases in real terms low in the current economic climate.

### Improving your local Council - A Quality Council for Coxhoe

We have been fully committed to achieving 'Quality' Council Status for the Parish Council. You can check out our progress on our website under the Audit and Risk pages.

### Contact Details for Coxhoe Parish Councillors and Clerk

#### **Parish Councillors in Coxhoe**

<b>Parish Councillors in Coxhoe</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Councillor Paul Dodsworth (Chair)	0191 3778914	p.dodsworth@bandk.co.uk
Councillor Stuart Dunn (Vice-Chair)	0191 3773314	stuart_dunn@hotmail.co.uk
Councillor Ron Mayo	0191 3771770	ronmayocxo@msn.com
Councillor Mrs. Barbara Hepplewhite	0191 3771366	bhepp4@btinternet.com
Councillor Tony Rowe	0191 3773642	tony.rowe@live.com
Councillor Colin Thirlaway	0191 3772596	cthirlaway@btinternet.com
Councillor Jimmy Taylor	0191 3771512	jimtaylor002@myguide.net
Councillor Dennis Smith	0191 3772437	

#### **Parish Councillors in Quarrington Hill**

Councillor Keith Pounder	0191 3773611	keith.pounder@tesco.net
Councillor Mrs. Carole Wigham	07545 526338	
Councillor George Shotton	07768 350576	
Margaret Forster (Parish Clerk)	07988 283287	clerk@coxhoeparishcouncil.gov.uk

### Future Parish Council Meetings

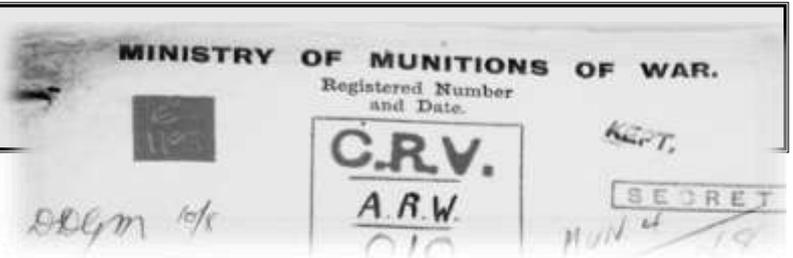
Members of the public are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. They are usually held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, commencing at 6.45 p.m. in Lansdowne House, 64 Lansdowne Road, Coxhoe. Agendas for meetings are displayed in advance on the Parish Notice Board. Minutes of the meetings are also displayed there once they have been agreed.

The dates of the next agreed meetings are as follows:  
 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011 : 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 : 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011 (Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30 p.m. followed by Annual Council Meeting)

You can access Agendas and Minutes for our meetings through our web site at [www.coxhoeparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.coxhoeparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Coxhoe 1916 -

Steetley Lime Co., Airships and Spies



The Steetley Company opened Coxhoe Basic Works in 1906, the works extending from the main road to the Joint Stock Quarry on the Coxhoe-Quarrington Hill road. The process used at Coxhoe produced Doloma for the iron and Steel industry. This was transported to Teesside via the Clarence Railway. Steetley also had a plant near Worksop in Nottinghamshire.

On a recent visit to the National Archives, Kew a search of their records uncovered a document dated **August 1916 connected to Steetley, Coxhoe and compiled by the Ministry of Munitions and War** .....

... On Tuesday evening 18th August 1916 two Zeppelins attacked the Coxhoe works dropping 12 high explosive bombs and fourteen incendiaries. There were no casualties but several bomb craters were left behind, 8 yards of railway track destroyed at Kelloe Colliery and a degree of broken glass. At Quarrington Hill glass was broken in 40 houses and shops.



The two airships flew so low that their apparent size was 40 to 50 feet. The report tells us *"They made one mistake by attacking the works quarry which contained a kiln and they dropped bombs within 40 yards of this;*

*fortunately the works are a short distance from the Quarry, and so escaped undamaged!"*. Two craters were left in the area we know as the Quarry Banks.



There followed a written dialogue between high ranking officers when it was recommended that an AA gun be sited at Coxhoe in view of its unique importance in the Iron and Steel company..

*"Apart from the plant owned by this company there is only one other works in Great Britain making basic material and if anything were to happen to either of these two works a very large proportion of our supplies of basic material, which is absolutely essential to our steel works, would be cut off" ...*

Notes were exchanged between Lieutenant Colonel's, a Brigadier General and other defence staff but the request for an AA gun was refused as there were insufficient to go around, the nearest being sited at Spennymoor!

The Steetley Management informed the War Department that prior to 1914 they purchased their electrical machinery from the A.E.G. and their representative, a German, was frequently at the works. *" Several months before the outbreak of war the man disappeared possibly to British Columbia! It seems not improbable that he may be giving a great deal of information to the Germans as to the position of different works."*



Zeppelins were a type of airship designed and developed by the German Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin. They were not designed for war.

Before the WW1 they were used for commercial reasons on scheduled flights. Between 1914-18 they were used as bombers and scouts by the German air force. Later they were developed as huge airships. **In the 1920's -30's, when the Graf Zeppelin and Hindenburg operated, there were regularly transatlantic flights.** In 1937 the tail of the Hindenburg, the largest airship ever built, caught fire. The whole of the airship quickly burst into flames killing 35 people and one member of the ground crew.



Doris Taylor, who lived at Joint Stocks Row, had personal memories of the Air Raid.....

**“When I was three, dad went to the 1914 War and we missed him very much. Mother made the best of everything, kept herself very busy, knitting socks for the soldiers and helped to form a group with Mrs Brighthouse, John Wood’s sisters from Coxhoe Hall and a great many more. A soup kitchen was opened – free dinners enjoyed by all.**

We went to Horden every Friday and stayed over two nights, coming back by train on the Sunday. One Sunday night we came off the train and when we got to the Pottery we were told our house had been bombed. The police were waiting for us, saying things were not too bad but we must not put a light on. Having nightdresses in our bags, we were able to go straight to bed, three of us all together to keep warm.

Next morning to my surprise, when opening my eyes it was an awful sight –Peg and mam looked like black and white minstrels. During the air raid, bombs from the Zeppelin had sent the chimney down and we were all covered in soot and stones, so we had a lucky escape. We had two bomb holes near the house and these were filled in over a time, with our rubbish.

When the War ended, we all had to go for a bag of cakes and a celebration mug. We were lucky for living at Joint Stocks – we were put on both the Coxhoe and Quarrington Hill lists, so we got two lots.”

Doris’s memories, written between 1984-89 are available in full on the Coxhoe History Group website.

Thanks to Ronnie Taylor for providing the memories and photographs.



Doris on the left with mother and sister, Peggy. Photograph taken in 1916 to send to Grandpa John who was fighting in the Battle of the Somme.

### Defence Against Zeppelins—Sound Mirrors and AA guns

The Defence Document tells us that the Zeppelins invading Steetley flew off via the sea. To strengthen defences on **the coastline (including the North East Coast) sound mirrors were constructed from 1916 until 1930’s usually located close to ports.**

**Commonly called ‘listening ears’ these acoustic mirrors were the forerunners of radar and warned of approaching aircraft, including Zeppelins.** These convex dishes were erected in an inclined position to maximise sound detection. Made of stone, the mirrors could detect engine sounds which focussed onto a receiver and gave between ten and fifteen minutes warning of Zeppelins approaching. Anti-aircraft guns could then be directed at them.

Interestingly some of these sound mirrors were on or close to the Durham Magnesian Limestone Escarpment and Plateau i.e. Sunderland, Seaham and Hartlepool.

There was one as close as Redcar also and the only one abroad was at Malta.



The Hartlepool mirror played a key role when Zeppelin L34 was shot down over Teesmouth on 27th November 1916.

The only local one remaining is at Fulwell near Sunderland.

Ken Bradshaw kindly supplied us with the photographs taken recently.

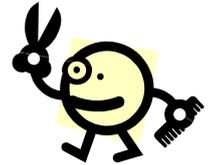
The AA gun is at Marsden, South Shields.



Website: [www.coxhoehistory.org.uk](http://www.coxhoehistory.org.uk) / email : [coxhoehistory@live.co.uk](mailto:coxhoehistory@live.co.uk) / Tel. Jack Turton 0191 3770771 Barbara Leo 01740 620869  
Meetings held on 2nd Thursday of the month 7 pm at Landsdowne Community Room : £2 inc Tea/biscuit. All welcome.

## Jack's Chat's :

*In this issue: Jack Turton chats with Ray Watson about the days when they both had long flowing locks. The Barbers in the mining villages were real characters with a canny line of patter that always seemed to be in some sort of code.. Ray told me the story of one such barber, nicknamed 'Sweeney', who made a fortune out of his patent concoction:*



**Cuckoo-Spit and Vaseline** : 'Sweeney' was highly skilled in two styles of haircut; 'All Off' or 'Down-to-the-Wood'. My long hair caused him much frustration and I had to promise him that—on the very day that I received my National Service call-up papers—he could do the honours. I kept my promise to him. In front of an audience of 20 miners—he scalped me. "The Army barber won't get more off this, Son" he bragged. He was right.

Comments about; 'Something for the Weekend, Sir?', 'Golden Rivets' and 'Navy Cake', just left me confused. Sweeney was an ex-mariner, so he knew about these sort of things. He reckoned that he had a 'Golden Rivet', which he stole from a German ship. He said that every ship had one. Perhaps some of our Chronicle's ex-navy readers could quantify the fact!

However, one thing that Sweeney had to his credit was his own Cuckoo-Spit and Vaseline. Every haircut was finished off with a dollop of his 'special stuff'. The trick was, as soon as it was splattered on me bonce, I had to dash outside and comb my hair into the style I wanted before it set like concrete. It was so powerful that I didn't need to comb my hair any more for a full week. I could dive off the top board into the swimming pool, even do the ton on my motorbike (before the crash helmet and speed limit legislations) and my hair would still be perfect.

The only trouble was that it attracted every wasp, bluebottle, bee and fly in the village. I even found a fossilised earwig once. The smell was guaranteed to "pull the birds", according to Sweeney. Insects were a problem—but Birds...

Cuckoo-Spit and Vaseline was so much in demand that Sweeney ran a lucrative business on the side. He would sell it for 6d for a Lowcock's pop bottle full. It was wonderful stuff.

No one, but no one, ever succeeded in learning the formulae—except me. During a hospital visit, one evening, Sweeney told me that he was about to 'pop-his-clogs'. He told me that because it gave him so much satisfaction through chopping my hair off—he would divulge the formulae before he met is Maker.

The famous Cuckoo-Spit-and-Vaseline was, in fact, WALLPAPER PASTE and OIL of LAVENDER. Sweeney made me promise never to tell his secret and I never will. However, I do think that someone must have overheard our conversation because, not long after that, I heard of a new product on the market called HAIR GEL.

I tried the new stuff—but it isn't as good. Come to think of it I never did get to see his Golden Rivet and I didn't ever get any of his precious Navy Cake but he was a tight old beggar.

Ray now has a LOW-maintenance hairstyle. Jack is proud of his ZERO-maintenance, environmentally friendly all-off. Happy days? Well maybe! But times on which to reflect if only to keep our problems in true perspective. As old Sweeney used to say: "Hair today, but gone tomorrow".

## SPORTS NEWS

### Matty for Wembley?

Carlisle United FC will appear for the second year running in the Johnstone Paint Final at Wembley Stadium on 3rd April 2011 against Brentford. Will Coxhoe lad Matty Robson appear at our National Stadium again? This season he has fallen foul of his manager's tactics who often plans for a tight rather than open game. Hopefully Matty will appear on the flank as Carlisle United strive to do better than their 4-1 defeat last year. Mother Bev tells us Coxhoe folk are asking if there's a bus to the game as there was last year. She says, 'It would be wonderful if they win this time, especially if Matty is included'.



We remain confident he will be in the squad.

**Matt's 2010-11 Record:**

Appearances 12 : Substitute 19 :

Goals 1 Exeter 16/10/10 ; Red/Yellow cards 0

What do you call ten rabbits marching backwards?  
A receding hareline.

What would you get if you crossed the Easter Bunny with Chinese food?  
Hop suey!

**Answers to Anagrams** : 1. Palm Sunday 2. Easter Parade 3. Hot Cross Buns 4. Easter Bunny 5. Chocolate Egg 6. Easter Sunday 7. Easter bonnet 8. Easter Egg Hunt 9. Simnel Cake 10. Happy Easter



LIGHT D.I.Y.

Flat pack furniture assembled  
General household jobs  
Pressure washing

**Kevin Portues**

Garden Maintenance/Handyman

Mobile : 0796 3871 288

Phone : 0191 3772 361

No job too small.  
Friendly and reliable service.

General tidy up  
Weed control

Fencing/sheds wood preserved . Lawns cut and edged /treatments  
Hedges/trees/shrubs trimmed and pruned . Turfing / gravel / bark

# WHAT'S ON IN COXHOE?

- March 19th 6.45pm St. Patricks Social Evening at St. Joseph's Church. All Welcome  
 21st 7 pm Paul Wheater Gospel Concert at St. Andrews Church. Tickets (in advance) £6.00  
 April 4th 7 pm 'Betty's Travels -South Africa and elsewhere' Talk and Slide show by Betty Waugh Tickets £2.00.  
 9th 9.45am Coffee Morning Stalls, Raffle in St. Andrews Church Hall £1 inc refreshments. Proceeds for Village Hall.  
 June 25th 4 pm Summer Fair in St. Joseph's Church Grounds. Bottle Tombola, Cakes, Tea. Coffee etc. All Welcome.



Thank you to all who attend our Disco's. We will be holding our usual Easter Disco with prizes and gifts for the kids all provided for by funds from yourselves from the raffles, tombolas etc. throughout the year. As we know times are hard for everyone at the moment and because DJ John has not increased his price since he started with us and remains committed to our disco we are not increasing our entrance price for another year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank John for his continued support to Coxhoe Kids Club Disco.



General Rules: Both adults and children pay the entry fee: All funds raised throughout the year are put back into the disco  
 Attend 4 discos for Halloween invite: Attend 6 for Xmas invite. £3 entry for anyone without an invitation.

## DJ JOHN'S Disco 50p entry Good family entertainment

Once a month on Saturdays 12.15-2.15pm March 5th : Easter Disco April 9th 12-3pm : May 7th

Hotdogs \* Tuckshop \* Prizes \* Raffle ALL WELCOME

Telephone 0191 3778826 for more information



How did the soggy Easter Bunny dry himself?  
 With a hare-dryer!

What happened when the  
 Easter Bunny met the rabbit of  
 his dreams?  
 They lived happily ever after!



## Coxhoe Village Hall

Parent/Toddler Playgroup 0-4 yrs	Tues-Friday 9.30-11.15 am
Healthy Horizons Gentle Exercise for over 50's organised by Age Concern	Mondays 3.15—4.15 pm
Snooker Club	Monday 6-9 pm
Line Dancing	Monday 7-8 pm
Tea Dance	Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm
Ladies Club—Monthly	Tuesday 6.30-9 pm
Rosemary Conley Diet/Fitness	Tuesday 6-8pm
'Zumba' Fitness Class NEW	Tuesday 8.-9pm
Citizens Advice 2nd & 4th Tues of the Month	2-3 pm
Applegarth Dance School	3-8 yrs Wed. 5-6 pm 8 yrs+ 6-8 pm / Adults 8-9 pm
Slimming World	Wed. 6-8 pm
Weight Watchers	Thursday 6.30-8 pm
Chantelle Knox Dance Class	Friday 5-7pm
Sequence Dance	Saturday 7.30-10 pm

—for bookings/enquiries Tel. 0191 3772261

## Coxhoe Workingmen's Club

Entertainment in the Bar/ Lounge (Free)	Saturday's	7-11 pm
Member's Money Draw 14 prizes	Sunday's	9 pm
£100 down to £5 Tickets 20p each		
Tote Double Draw followed by Live Entertainment (Free)	Monday's	8 pm
Bingo in Concert Hall & Joker Wild Draw	Monday's	8 pm
Sky Sports on Big Screen	Every day	

## Landsdowne Community Room

Coxhoe History Group	Second Thurs of month	7 pm
Coxhoe Community Partnership next meet	Wed 2nd March	7 pm
Coxhoe Parish Council	Fourth Wed of month	6.45 pm

## St. Andrew's Church

Morning Service Sundays 10.45-11.30 am  
 Shoppers Service: 10.00—10.30 am  
 Coffee Morning—Saturdays 9.15—11.30am  
 Wives Club-Fortnightly Wed. 7—9 pm  
 Maunday Thursday Holy Communion  
 Conducted by Rev. Jenny Pryde  
 (Everyone welcome) 21st April 7pm  
 Easter Day Holy Communion  
 Sunday 24th April 9—10 am

## St. Mary's Church

Service 1st,2nd, 4th Sun of month 9.15 am  
 Family service—3rd Sun of month 11 am  
 Holy Communion Tuesdays 9.15 am  
 Coffee Morning Tues & Thurs 10-11.30 am



## St. Joseph, Patrick & Cuthberts RC Church

Rosary Stations of the Cross Thurs, Sat 8.40 am  
 Morning Mass Thurs, Fri, Sat 9am  
 Latin Mass Thurs 12 noon  
 Vigil Mass Sat 6 pm  
 Coffee Afternoon Thurs 1.30-3 pm  
 Ash Wednesday Latin Mass 9th March 12 noon  
 Mass for Ash Wednesday 7pm  
 Mass of Last Supper 22nd April 7pm  
 Good Friday Service 22nd April 3pm  
 First Mass of Easter 23rd April 6pm

DISCLAIMER: The information in this newsletter is correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of going to print. Coxhoe Community Partnership accepts no responsibility for any error, omission, subsequent changes and complaints arising from items printed in this newsletter. The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the Coxhoe Community Partnership group.

# Coxhoe Youth Room

Wednesdays—Lads & Lasses

Thursdays—Girls Only!



31 young people from the Coxhoe, Bowburn and Kelloe area attended an event at 'The Loft' in Durham. They were nominated for all their good work and contribution to their youth clubs and personal achievements throughout the year. Activities have included 'Heart Start' training.



Coxhoe Youth Room ...  
... managed by Durham County Council/Coxhoe Leisure Centre and supervised by their staff.



All furniture, equipment and decorating have been provided by funds raised by Coxhoe Community Partnership and the young people themselves .. and this will continue to be the case in the foreseeable future .

Activities also need to be organised and funded.

The Youth Room Partnership— representatives of DCC, Leisure Centre, Youth Workers, Coxhoe Community Partnership, parents —work together to access funds and control finances and ensure it meets the needs of the local community and its young people.

The Friday night Junior Committee are working on a Code of Conduct.

Friday's 6.30-7.30pm 8-12 years / 7.30-9pm 12-19 years £1.20

## Youth clubs

At Abbey, Coxhoe, Meadowfield and Sherburn Leisure Centres

**BEST STREETDANCE MUSIC**

Durham County Council

## Are you between 8 and 19 years old?

Are you looking for something fun to do outside school? Then our youth clubs might be for you.

Abbey Leisure Centre	0191 301 8301
Friday 6.30 – 8.30pm	11 – 16 years
Coxhoe Leisure Centre	0191 301 8302
Wednesday 6.30 – 8.30pm	12 – 19 years
Thursday 7.00 – 9.00pm	Girls only 11 – 19 years
Friday 6.30 – 7.30pm	8 – 11 years
Friday 7.30 – 9.00pm	12 – 19 years
Meadowfield Leisure Centre	0191 301 8304
Friday 7.00 – 9.00pm	8 – 16 years
Sherburn Leisure Centre	0191 301 8305
Wednesday 6.00 – 7.30pm	11 – 16 years drop in*
Friday 6.30 – 8.30pm	11 – 16 years

**You'll need parental consent to attend the youth clubs. It's easy to do, just collect a membership form from one of the leisure centres and get your parent or guardian to sign it.**

**What's on?**  
Activities like football, basketball, kwik cricket and dance as well as arts and crafts, Wii and Wii Fit.

**Your club**  
This club is for YOU so if there's something you'd like to do, let us know and we'll see what we can do.

[www.getoutthere.info](http://www.getoutthere.info)

Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.  
Contact your local leisure centre.

\* Chill out with friends, listen to music, watch dvd's or play on the Wii.