

Kimblesworth, Plawsworth and Nettleworth Parish News

Issue 9: December 14

From the Parish Council

(website: <http://www.kpparishcouncil.co.uk>)

Most of our residents will be aware that the Parish Council is responsible for commenting on planning applications, liaising with Police and Durham County Council on issues that affect the villages, dealing with allotments, and other statutory responsibilities.

Did you know that the Parish Council can also give grants to help local organisations?

This year to date the Parish Council has given financial support to the following causes: To help set up the very successful Community Café; Essential repairs to the Community Centre; The County Durham School Benevolent Fund; Nettleworth Youthie; Langley Park WMC Steelers FC (who use our pitch for home matches); Sacriston Table Tennis Club, Kimblesworth branch; Childrens' and OAPs' Christmas parties; WW1 Centenary Remembrance Service and allied events.

All organisations in the area or that have an affiliation to the area can apply for small grants to help set up or run a group, or for a specific purpose. Apply to the Parish Council on its grant application form, available from our Parish Clerk, Mrs. Jocasta Lawton, on kpparishcouncil@gmail.com.

Alan Holden (Chair)

Nettleworth Primary School

We are delighted to announce that on Thursday 25th September the outstanding work which the staff and children in school do in the area of Sport and Physical Activity was recognised with the award of the Chester-le-Street and Durham Primary School of the Year trophy for our contribution to sport and physical activity amongst the children we teach.

Mrs Lee and Mrs Roberts attended a ceremony held in the Town Hall. We were nominated as the Partnership's most successful school and were very proud to be announced as the winners in the Primary School of the Year category.



Local Prize Winner: John Burgess

John Burgess, who lives in Kimblesworth, recently received a national Teacher of the Year Award (Secondary School), at a prize ceremony in London. John has been teaching Science in Northfield School and Sports College since 2006, having entered the teaching profession from a career in industry. What does he like about teaching? "The interaction with the pupils, helping develop their minds and their personalities. If they enjoy the lessons there is a good chance that they will learn well. He was chosen out of 30,000 nominations across the UK, following visits from judges who interviewed staff, parents and pupils at the school.



Community Café

The Community Café started in September this year and is now ably staffed by our chef Karen Carrick and a team of volunteers. It has achieved the top hygiene rating (5) and is becoming well known for its excellent food and very reasonable prices.

The Café is open, in the Nettleworth Community Centre, every Monday and Thursday, 9.30am to 5.00pm. The kitchen and canteen have been newly equipped and the atmosphere is welcoming and friendly. Do come and try out this great new community facility.

The start-up for the Café was funded by a number of local community grants, and it is run by a local charity, the Kimblesworth and Nettleworth Community Task Force.



Local Credit Union

The Prince Bishops Credit Union, a local not-for profit credit union offering affordable loans, is now freely and conveniently available via the Community Café (at the times when the Café is open). Call in and ask for Donna Bruce, who has all the necessary forms and can explain how the Credit Union works.

Foodbank

An access point for the local Foodbank (run by the Trussell Trust and based at Chester-le-Street) is now also available via the Community Café (at its normal opening hours). Ask for Donna Bruce. For emergency, phone Donna on 07835565393.

Christmas Lunch

A special Christmas lunch is being held on Friday 19th December in the Community Centre from 12 noon to 4.00pm, supported by Age Concern and designed especially for the older members of our community. There will be traditional Christmas food, provided by the Community Café, with entertainment and Christmas carols. Tickets (£7.00) need to be bought or ordered in advance. *Ask at the Community Café.*

Nettleworth Youthie

Christmas Disco:

Friday 12th December in the Community Centre
5.00 – 7.00pm. Tickets £1.00

The Parish Church, Kimblesworth

The congregation wish everyone in the village a very joyful and blessed Christmas, and pray that you will know the peace of the Christ Child in your lives.

We celebrate the birth of Jesus at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve and extend a warm welcome to you all.

AN EXCITING VISIT

On Sunday 9th November St Philip and St James Parish Church was visited by The Bishop of Durham, the Rt Revd Paul Butler. He had joined us for two very special reasons. Firstly to commemorate Remembrance Sunday and secondly to bless two new stained glass windows that have been designed and installed by the artist Alan Davis who works at a studio near Whitby.

The first window (nearest to the font) has a beautiful Christmas image of the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus being visited by the Magi. The second is in memory of Mr Maurice Suddick, and the design picks up his love of music and gardening as well as his working life as a miner.

The church was packed and we were delighted that some of the staff and pupils from the village school joined us. The children had made 'stained glass' windows with a WW1 theme and they also sang a beautiful song reminding us of the importance of the two minute silence.



A NEW KITCHEN

You may have seen builders' vans outside of the church recently. That is because we have received a generous grant from The Bethlehem Trust that has enabled us to modernize our church hall and kitchen and to create a ramp for easier access into the church. We can't wait to invite the village in for a cuppa and cake in the New Year, and to show you our new stained glass windows.

Changing Lives

When I joined Changing Lives in July of last year, Great North Road was in essence a combination of a building site and worn-out accommodation which transported me back to childhood trips to Butlins chalets!

Time flew by and in the dawn of 2014 we accepted handover of shiny new buildings, affectionately known as tiers two and three. Tier two offers residents shared semi-independent accommodation, whilst tier three are two-bedroomed independent living bungalows.

With the support of the staff team, the guys moved in and in tier two were soon planning and preparing meals together, and taking pride in their new home. The new buildings brought a real buzz to the place, and staff commented upon the value such a positive environment brought to residents.

Now tier one is completed as well, giving direct access accommodation with intense support.

With the support of HCA this has literally been the transformation of old inappropriate accommodation to purpose-built supported housing to be proud of. Amy Robinson and her team have worked tirelessly to develop a seamless structured support programme which will provide intense one-to-one support in tier one, group and one-to-one independent living and life-skills support within tier two, and employment and move-on activities in tier three.

All individuals will receive from day one a full package of support which will be tailored to meet individual needs and circumstances. All this within a physical environment that speaks volumes in reiterating that we value everyone as an individual, and we all deserve a safe environment to live in.

Amanda Brown
(Assistant Director)



Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Councillors

Cllr. A. K. Holden (Alan) 70 Tanmeads, Nettlesworth. DH2 3PY Tel. 3711362
Cllr. D. Bruce (Donna) 44, Hillmeads, Nettlesworth DH2 3PU Tel. 0191 3710491
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Cllr. J. Barclay (John) 1 Kimblesworth House, Kimblesworth. DH2 3QP Tel. 0191 3710388
Cllr. D. Inman (Daniel) The Old Vicarage, Kimblesworth, DH2 3QD Tel. 0191 3711278
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Cllr. G. Kendall (George) 1, Oak Crescent, Kimblesworth, DH2 3QA
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From the Editor:

Thanks again to all contributors to this issue. If you have something you want known in our villages, do contact me:
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or Tel: 0191-371-0388.
Thanks again to members of the Changing Lives for distributing this Newsletter around our villages.