

SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Save the Date!



Party in the Park

Saturday 7th June

The Fulforth Centre
Jubilee Park
11am - 3pm

Outdoors
Fairground rides, Giant Inflatables,
Crazy Golf, Climbing Wall, Animal
Petting Zoo, Face-Painting all for FREE!

Indoors
Community Cafe, Local Traders
with Stalls



Turners Funfair, NBK Leisure, Douglas Design,
AR Entertainment, Animals about Town, BeatRoute Disco



WELCOME!

It is lovely to get our Parish Newsletter started back up, and keep residents in touch with what is going on across the parish. As the sun is out at the moment, our thoughts to this year's floral display across the village. Within the next couple of weeks, you will see work begin on the Crossroads. A lot of time and energy has been spent to get this project going, and will be funded by the Parish Council and part of Neighbourhood Budget of former County Cllr's Wilson & Waldock. We hope this will brighten another area within Sacriston, and discussions have already begun as to where next! Planting has already started for the hanging baskets and tubs which will be going out within the next couple of months, in time for Big Meeting Day. If you are able to help, please get in touch with the Fulforth Centre, they are always looking for volunteers. Party in the Park will be taking place next month, which is one of our key calendar events, and funded by the Parish. It really brings the village together and is a great day for all ages. Please come along and support the day if you are able. If you have any suggestions of future projects or would like to find out more, please visit our website and get in touch, or come along to our Monthly meetings: 1st Wednesday of the Month at 6.30pm at the Fulforth Centre. If you would like to feature in our next newsletter, please drop us an email at: sacristonnewsletter@gmail.com by Monday 23rd June.

Many thanks,
Hughie Dixon
Chair of Sacriston Parish Council

New Bus Shelter Installed: Help Us Protect Community Resources



The Parish Council has recently funded a brand-new bus shelter in the village, providing residents with a safer and more comfortable waiting area. This comes after repeated vandalism to existing shelters, which has caused inconvenience and resulted in significant repair costs. Bus shelters are expensive to install and maintain, and the damage caused by anti-social behaviour (ASB) puts an unnecessary financial burden on the community. Broken panels, graffiti, and other destruction mean funds that could be used for other local improvements are instead spent on repairs.

The Parish Council stated, *"We want to provide good facilities for our residents, but we need the community's help to look after them. Please report any vandalism so we can take action."*

Let's work together to protect our village and keep our public spaces in good condition.





Fulforth Centre Update



The Fulforth Centre has been buzzing with activity recently! It's been great to see some new faces popping along to our events and activities. If you've never been before – we'd love to meet you! We kicked off the Christmas season with our first ever Christmas Market which featured great stalls selling bespoke gifts, trinkets and edible treats! Not long after that was our annual Christmas Extravaganza, bringing the community together for an unforgettable time of festive cheer, music, rides and food.

Don't forget to put our annual Party in the Park on Saturday 7th June in your diaries. With activities for all ages, it promises to be a fantastic day out for the whole family.

In addition to our one-off events, we continue to offer a busy weekly programme. For those looking to enjoy a delicious two-course meal for just £4, our Lunch Club runs every Tuesday and Thursday at 12pm. Our Toddler Group runs on Wednesday mornings, a great opportunity for little ones to play and socialize. There are many more regular groups you can join in with – check out our website or social media for more details. There really is something for everyone.

Come and get involved!

Introducing: Friends of Sacriston Woods



How often do you venture out into the woodlands? More people than you think use the paths that stretch from Witton Road around past Daisy Hill and onward to Holmside. Many of these paths lay over an area that, less than a century ago, was a hive of industrial activity. After a short chat with a passing dog walker at the beginning of February I decided that something really should be done about the sad state of our woodland areas.

I set up a group on Facebook and the response was quite remarkable; within a few weeks we had organised a meeting with the DCC Woodlands representative to work out the best way forward. We are in the process of setting up an official Volunteer group hosted by the County Council. This will enable us to improve some aspects of the woodland ourselves, whilst allowing volunteers to log their hours and learn new skills.

Our first unofficial litter pick took place on February 22nd, clearing 17 bags of litter from the area opposite Lingey Close. Since then we have hosted another two events, bringing our total haul so far to over 60 bags of litter, 45 tyres and well over 10 barrows of larger items. Over the three events, 23 people of all ages came along to volunteer, individuals, couples and parents with their children. We would like to encourage anyone who has a stake in our woodlands to join the group and have your say. Working together as a group will improve our beautiful community area, as well as having the benefit of getting to know other people.

Our next litter pick will take place on the 31st May, details can be found on the Facebook group (QR code below); please read all details and RSVP to the event if you plan to come along so we can ensure enough equipment is available.

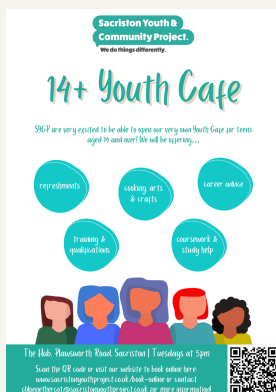
E. Hopkins

Photo Credit: Vivien Kent



From St Bede's Primary School

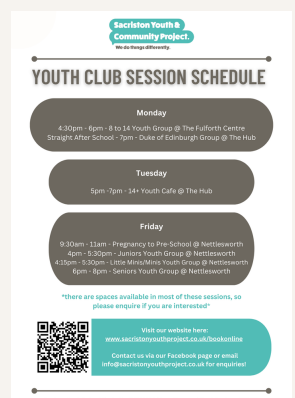
Last month, the children of St Bede's had the privilege of welcoming Fr. David, who shared the incredible story of his missionary work in Kenya. Since 2003, he has dedicated himself to improving the lives of people in a small Kenyan community, including constructing a new church, helping fund children's education and providing safe drinking water for the whole community. One of his most remarkable achievements was raising funds for an ambulance, which has been vital in saving lives. Fr. David even helped deliver babies himself! Newcastle United footballer Jacob Murphy generously donated money to purchase the ambulance and set up a factory where locals can weave baskets to sell, giving them an income. Our pupils found Fr. David's stories fascinating and inspiring. As a school, we have purchased some of the beautiful handmade baskets to place on our prayer tables, and we are now thinking about ways we can contribute to this amazing cause. Fr. David's visit reminded us of the power of kindness, generosity, and the difference we can make in the lives of others.



Sacriston Youth and Community Project

At our Youth Cafe, young people are welcomed into an inviting atmosphere where they are given the opportunity to learn and develop cooking skills, help with school and college work by qualified staff, and encouraged to take part in social action projects. This will benefit themselves, their peers, our other youth club sessions, and the wider community.

Our young people are working towards a Key Fund project that will provide funds towards a trip to Infinite Air for our 8 to 14 Youth Group. We are also working towards getting an L2 Food Hygiene certificate for the group so we can continue with our plans to open our cafe to the public during the school holidays. Keep your eyes peeled for this!



Parish Councillor Contact Details:

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Councillors:

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Our meetings are the 1st Wednesday of Every Month (apart from August) at 6.30pm in the Fulforth Centre

<https://www.sacristonparishcouncil.co.uk>