

# Parish News

Issue 22

Winter 2015/16

Eskdaleside-cum-Ugglebarnby

**Sleights Horticultural Venues Past and Present by Cllr E Preston:** I first remember attending Sleights Show as a young boy when it was held in the field behind Blue Bank garage. Its next venue was in the field behind the village pump, the field now built on. Its next move was to Sleights sports field where it remained for many years. It later relocated to Sleights village school grounds where it was thought it would be a better position (in bad weather). Finally it moved back to the sports field as it was felt the school grounds did not have quite the right setting for a village show. Since moving back, the show has continued growing and is a great success. It seems to have found its permanent home in an ideal setting.

**Linden Close Wildlife Area:** SBC Cllrs Guy Coulson and Phil Trumper spent a morning at Linden Close together with staff from SBC and several residents undertaking clearing around the pond area. It is planned to have another session in the New Year. Going forward it is hoped that Roger Burnett and his team will visit on a regular basis to keep on top of things. It is hoped these works will make a positive significant improvement to the area and be beneficial to both residents and wildlife.

**Death of Councillor Ron Duck:** it is with regret that we report the passing of Cllr Ron Duck, who has served the Parish Council for several years. His death has created a Casual Vacancy and the official process has been put in place to fill this post. It is hoped that the Parish Council will be able to co-opt a new member in the New Year.

**Library Membership for School Pupils:** Nicky Morgan,



the education secretary, has announced that in a bid to improve literacy and stop the closure of public libraries, all children over the age of 8 will automatically be enrolled at their public library. She has also made plans to create at least 200 new book clubs across the country.



## **Apprentice Scheme for School Leavers:**

For those considering an apprenticeship the County Council has a programme called REAL START. To find out more, visit [northyorks.gov.uk/apprenticeship](http://northyorks.gov.uk/apprenticeship).

**Lamprey Return to England's Rivers:** A prehistoric fish, that lived about 200 million years before dinosaurs, has been seen in English rivers for the first time since the 1800's. The world's oldest living vertebrates, Lampreys, are slowly returning to their old habitats as the result of the lowest levels of pollution for 100 years. They have been seen in the upper reaches of the Ouse, Trent and Derwent including on Buttercombe Weir near York, where the Environment Agency is monitoring their progress.



**NHS Free Health Check:** Adults aged 40-74, without previously diagnosed heart disease, diabetes or chronic kidney disease, are invited to apply for a free health assessment. The assessment aims to identify those at risk of serious, but potentially avoidable, conditions. For more information ask at your GP surgery or visit [northyorks.gov.uk/healthcheck](http://northyorks.gov.uk/healthcheck)

**A Timely Reminder:** For those over 65 or those having existing health problems, flu can be dangerous. For free flu jabs they should contact their local surgery.

Similarly, free, fast and painless protection from flu is available for children aged 2, 3 and 4 in the form of a nasal spray.

**Affordable Housing:** An open day was held at Sleights Village Hall on the 23 November when people were able to register their interest in acquiring one of the properties off Eskdaleside. Advice was given about the criteria which determines eligibility and information on how to apply. The properties are expected to be completed by March 2016



## Grants Available for Community Projects: County Cllr

Helen Swiers advised that £5,000 had been made available to support individuals or groups engaged in projects to benefit the community. Applications should be made directly to Councillor Swiers at County Hall, Northallerton—giving details of the project. The monies are to be allocated before the end of the financial year in March.

**Snow Clearance:** NYCC report that they are well prepared for winter with 55,000 tonnes of salt stockpiled and 20 new gritters. Residents who clear pathways adjacent to their property are reminded that, provided they follow sensible guidelines, they are unlikely to be sued or held responsible for any injuries sustained by pedestrians. Some points to note:

- \* Do not use water to melt snow—use salt or sand
- \* When shovelling snow, do not block paths or drains
- \* First make a path down the middle of the area and then shovel snow from the centre to the side



**The Surgery's Appointment System:** The staff are aware that there are patients who are not fully aware of the different ways in which they can receive medical advice from the clinical staff:

- ⇒ If you phone with a query, or for advice, someone will either give you the answer at the time, or you will be phoned back in the next few hours or days (depending on urgency, complexity, and availability of who has the answers)
- ⇒ Telephone appointments are encouraged where appropriate. You will be given a date and time, and a specific doctor or nurse will phone you as near to the time as possible. Useful for discussing test results or medication
- ⇒ A face to face appointment for routine matters. A week's wait or thereabouts is the norm to see a doctor. This may be longer if you wish to see a particular doctor
- ⇒ Prescribing advanced practitioner nurses are available to see patients with minor ailments or injuries
- ⇒ At times when you feel you should see a doctor on the same day, patients WILL be seen. Reception staff will take basic details and pass them to a GP. You will be rung back and an appointment will be arranged if it is deemed necessary

These arrangements are now common in GP practices across the country. More information available at the surgery.

**Reporting Parishioner Complaints:** Parishioners may not be aware that due to contact by parishioners the Parish Clerk regularly reports issues which need attention to the relevant bodies who are responsible for resolving them. For example, in the month of September the following problems were reported:

- Uneven pavement (left hand side from St Johns Church upwards)
- Overgrown hedges at the upper end of Sleights on the A169 Coach Road
- Stagnant water running down Coach Road/A169 from the development site
- Weed growth on the road edges close to the chicane through Briggsath B1410
- Fly tipping behind Blue Bank garage
- Litter left by contract workers on the road adjacent to the affordable homes development, Eskdaleside

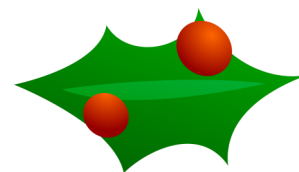
**Garden Waste:** The announcement that in future years residents may have to pay to have garden rubbish collected has prompted concerns amongst residents that either there will be an increase of bonfires, or that people will dump garden rubbish creating an eyesore. Residents are urged to dispose of rubbish responsibly and to be aware of the distress caused by bonfires to those with breathing problems.



SBC will be making its final decision at its January council meeting.

**Waste Collection Calendars:** SBC will no longer be automatically circulating waste collection bin calendars to households from next year. However, they will be available via their website, from Customer First Centre points or you can ring Customer First on 01723 232323 for a calendar to be sent to you by post.

**Seasonal Greetings:** The Parish Council wishes all residents a peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year Period



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