

Eggleston Parish Community Newsletter

Autumn 2023

Letter from the Chairman of your Parish Council:

What a great weekend we had for the Coronation. So much went on. Hopefully those of you that picked up some wild flower seeds after the picnic are beginning to see the results. If not already sown they may be put in your garden or the verge. Thank you to everyone involved for organising the various events. Congratulations to Geoff Herbert for his patience taking the photograph in the Village Hall.

Gosh, it seems like a very long time ago and it hasn't stopped raining since!

The Pinfold Memorial Garden is almost complete. The cost of the garden has been met from a grant (£6.1K) from Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP) and a very small amount from the sale of the passage beside the Chapel.

No money has been used from the Precept. It has been made so that we can all remember our loved ones who have died. There is an emphasis for those who died during 'lock down' and whose funerals were so drastically curtailed. But not exclusively so. All parishioners are invited to paint a small stone with your loved one's name and place it on the shingle areas of the Pinfold. More information on page 3.

The vandalised child's slide in the Recreation Park is being replaced soon at a cost of over £3K. Our County Councillors have generously made a contribution towards the purchase and fitting of a new slide. Other contributions gratefully received.

Lynne Oxby

ANNUAL CHURCH FAYRE

SATURDAY 26th AUGUST

(Yes—August bank Holiday!) 2pm—4pm

In the Village Hall

Entry just 50p per person.

**Tombola; Bric-a-Brac ; Books and a Quiz; Raffle;
Fancy goods; our famous cream teas - sandwiches,
cakes, scones—gluten free options. Tea & Coffee.**

**We look forward to welcoming you to this charity
event**

It provides an overview of the area's flora in the context of its geology, climate and land use; identification guides, ecological information about TSF's key species, and recommendations for conservation and management. This, her first book, makes her the oldest first-published author.

Recently, she was the subject of a report on the television programme 'Countryfile', which was then followed by a further piece on Look North. The Trust has gained a great deal of recognition and support from these appearances.

Thanks to Geoff Herbert

Margaret is a force of nature and an inspiration for all who know her; long may she continue.

Community Coffee Mornings

Eggleston Community Coffee Mornings take place in the **Village Hall** between **10am. and 12 noon** on the **first Monday** of every month.

Everyone, of whatever age, is most welcome – older, younger, in the middle. If you have children under school age, bring them along – the young cheer up the old!

Tea and coffee and delicious home-made cakes are provided – all for free, however if you can make a donation this is appreciated.

JOB VACANCIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Chairman or Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee

Contact Dave Smith:
davsanjas@gmail.com

At UTASS—Citizens Advice

Worried about debt; finances employment; housing; benefits; energy; consumer problems. On 2nd and Last Friday each month 10am—1pm

No appointment needed.

If you gave some unwanted herb plants we have room in the Memorial Pinfold Garden for some more.

Making Memories



At the HUB in Barnard Castle the group meet most Monday afternoons at 2pm in the drama studio.

"We alternate singing sessions led by Mike Bettison, with games sessions where we try to be more active with seated chair exercises, team games such as indoor curling and bowls. We also play table tennis and when the weather is fine take a walk around the grounds together." For more information contact—

Sally (Davies) 01833 695692 Treasurer and Secretary on behalf of the Making Memories Group

Memories in Music

At UTASS 9-11 Chapel Row Middleton music with the aforementioned Mike with his ukulele. A warm welcome refreshments* sing-a-long to old favourites or just come and listen.

Fridays—Monthly from 2.30pm—3.30pm

The Pinfold Memorial Garden

The area has been made to be as low maintenance as possible. Next year the various herbs (*thymes, rosemary, sage, lavender*), and the miniature fruit trees will have settled and will be ready to 'harvest'. Parishioners are invited to help themselves but please, - leave enough for other people.

Learn how to make your memorial stone at Community Coffee—first Monday in the month.

With thanks to—Michael; Gwynne; Richard; Allan; Arthur; Chris; Dee, Max and Jean for their work and contributions

Dr Margaret Bradshaw MBE

Upper Teesdale is one of the most important botanical sites in the British Isles. A group of extremely rare plants, with very limited distribution elsewhere in the country, have been present here since the last ice age. Changes in climate, traditional farming practices and other factors have begun to threaten the long term survival of these plants.

Efforts to arrest the steady decline of these plants for over 50 years have been the work of one woman, Dr Margaret Bradshaw MBE. Margaret was born in 1926 to a farming family in the Wolds of the East Riding of Yorkshire. Upper Teesdale and its special plants captured her imagination. After completing her teacher training she moved to Bishop Auckland in order to be within reach of the area. For the best part of twenty years, she was a part-time tutor in botany and environmental science in the Department of Extra-Mural Studies at Durham University.

Margaret's work gained national significance in the late 1960s with her involvement in the campaign to save populations of rare plants from destruction due to the proposed construction of Cow Green Reservoir. In 1977 she was made MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services to conservation in Durham.

In 1982 Margaret moved to Devon and became a farmer of Gotland sheep. Here, while doing botanical work as a volunteer, she discovered a species of whitebeam, new to science, which was subsequently named 'Margaret's Whitebeam' in her honour.

After returning to Upper Teesdale in 1998, Margaret resumed ongoing plant population studies on Widdybank and Cronkley Fells that she began in the 1970s. After founding the Upper Teesdale Botany Group (UTBG) in 2001, Margaret worked to educate local people about the special nature of Teesdale and has built a strong base of friends and supporters. She still attends weekly meetings.

After a heart attack in 2008, Margaret entered the Great North Run half marathon. In 2015, nearing her ninetieth birthday, Margaret completed the race for a fourth time; raising over £6,000 for the Teesdale and Weardale Search & Mountain Rescue Team and UTASS.

In 2010 she was awarded honorary membership of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland. In 2012 Margaret was awarded the Marsh Botany Award in recognition of her lifetime contribution to the understanding and conservation of the Teesdale flora. In 2013, she was the recipient of the inaugural Pendlebury Award for her significant contribution to looking after the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

In 2017, eager to take more direct action, Margaret set up and financed the Teesdale Special Flora Trust. Its first task was a survey to establish the present status and distribution of the rare plants and to determine the requirements for their conservation. When the Trust gained charitable status in 2020, as part of the launch, Margaret sought permission from Lord Barnard to abseil down the tower of Raby Castle. Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, Covid intervened and the launch had to be put on hold. Later, as a fund-raiser for the Trust, she carried out a sponsored horse ride of 88 miles. In September 2021 the Trust secured a grant of £222,400 from the National Lottery's Green Recovery Challenge Fund for its Plants On The Edge project to conduct a base line survey, produce a 5-year monitoring and species recovery plan, build volunteer skills and capacity and secure the awareness, support of local communities via arts outreach with local schools and the general public.

Margaret is still a frequent visitor to Widdybank Fell, but as she has aged, she has found it more difficult to tackle the steep climb onto Cronkley Fell, which she now tackles it on horseback.

In March 2023, and to add to her many other honours and distinctions, Margaret was awarded the prestigious H H Bloomer Medal of the Linnean Society of London.

Towards the end of March 2023, at the age of 97, Margaret published her first book 'Teesdale's Special Flora: places plants and people'.

Continued on next page

BEWARE OF FAKE £10 NOTES

Fake and real both feel exactly the same to touch.
On the side with the Queen's face to the right of the £10 should be silver — NOT orange. On the fake notes the tower in that column is missing. There is more orange rather than silver at the bottom of the note. Take care.

Don't forget Quiz Nights on the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.
Craft and Chat from 1pm on the 2nd Saturday in the month.

More news of our December activities in the November newsletter.

People News

Welcome to ..
Jackie and Archie plus their dogs. They have arrived from Cumbria to Folly Top.

Sad Goodbyes ..
Derek Le Mare died in May.

The Coronation Raffle
was won by Fiona Lovat.
Well done to her.

Are you aware ..

Public Consultations on a variety of proposed changes undertaken by DCC are available on the Durham County Council's website. They include information on how you can respond. Check it out on:

[//www.durham.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation)

Sometimes consultations start & end before we can tell you about them in a newsletter so please check the website regularly, if you are able and make your voice heard.

It is possible to get paper copies of consultations—on request.

Barnard Castle library is a useful place to ask about these.

The latest consultation is on housing within Co. Durham.

You **can** only make a difference if you have your say.

Don't confuse
someone's
personality with
their attitude
Their personality
is who they are.
Their
attitude
depends on who
you are..

The newsletter is available on the Eggleston Parish Council website.

www.egglestonparishcouncil.org

If you prefer **NOT** to receive a paper copy please contact the Parish Clerk, by email or

TELEPHONE: 07809 442 901

Next issue is due in NOVEMBER 2023

We value your contributions.