

## Parish Update

Planning permission has been granted for the Parish Council to install a new play area at Hart Crescent, Blackhall Rocks, further details regarding this

scheme will given in a future edition of the gazette.

The replacement changing rooms are

well on the way to completion and it is hoped they will be handed over to the Parish Council by the end of October.

# Monk Hesleden Parish Council Annual Report 2009-10

## Chairman's Report to the Annual Assembly of Electors

I would like to begin by thanking members for their support and staff for their work over the past 12 months. It has been a potentially challenging, transitional period as public services have transferred from the defunct District Council to the new Unitary authority, but despite this I believe the council has made good progress in a number of areas.

There are three particular areas that I would like to mention. Firstly, I think we have made good progress administratively and in terms of working practice, and I think we offer better value for money to the Parish than twelve months ago. The Parish Web Site has been improved and re-launched, the cemetery records computerised and payroll has been taken in-house. Also, lots of work has been undertaken at the Welfare Park and the cemeteries. Most noticeably, the south boundary fence has been replaced at the Park, but also less obvious jobs such as removing the hard standing from the football pitch. So I'd like to thank the Parks and Facilities Manager and his team,

I know I've been quite demanding at times, but the response has been first class.

Secondly, to celebrate the centenary of the sinking of Blackhall pit shaft in 1909, the Council organised more events than in any other year in recent times. I'd like to congratulate the staff and councillors who put this programme of events together and I'm pleased that community response to these events was generally very high. The experience of providing these events should be used by the Council to reach out effectively into the community in future.

Finally, in the past year we have made good progress on two projects which have been on the agenda for a number of years. A planning application is under submission to provide a new play area at Hart Crescent to replace the one removed from Attlee Avenue. While, the award of the Coalfields Regeneration Trust grant of £100,200 to build new changing rooms should allow the provision of excellent

new facilities at an acceptable cost to the Council.

Congratulations to Councillor S. McDonald and especially the Parish Clerk for their work on the funding application. I'm pleased that the council can expect to see a resolution to both of these issues within the next twelve months.

Looking to the future, the council have a number of challenges in front of it. The five-year plan which identifies necessary future capital expenditure has been developed, and I would hope that with sound budgeting the council will be able to deliver on this over the coming years. Other challenges include finding a way to improve the facilities for young people in the Parish.

I've enjoyed serving as Chair of the Parish Council in the past year and I would like to offer my best wishes to the incoming Chair, Councillor Underwood.

Councillor W McDonald, Chairman 2009-2010

Monk Hesleden Parish Council

# GAZETTE

Summer 2010

www.monkhesledenparishcouncil.gov.uk

## Inside this issue

- ▷ Hesleden in bloom
- ▷ Goodbye Tommy
- ▷ Are you a carer?
- ▷ Annual report

## Everyone receives a copy...

Monk Hesleden Parish Council aims to deliver the Gazette to everyone household in its area. If you know of someone who has not received their copy please contact the Parish Council, details of which are shown in Your Parish Council.

## To help you...

The Gazette is also available to read on the council's website- [www.monkhesledenparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.monkhesledenparishcouncil.gov.uk). Copyright notice: All articles published in the Gazette are the property of Monk Hesleden Parish Council and must not be copied or reproduced without the express consent of the Council in written or electronic form.



# Family fun day

The fourth Monk Hesleden Parish Council family fun day took place on Sunday 22nd August 2010 at the Welfare Park in Blackhall.

The marvellous weather ensured this free event was well attended and enjoyed by all. The show provided numerous attractions including a motorcycle display, fancy dress, face painting, children's magician and entertainer, falconry display and new for this year a climbing wall which proved to be a great hit with the young people.

Despite a shortage of entries for the tug of war, the competition was another crowd pleaser, with Denemouth Caravan Park the victors over the previous two year winners

Blackhall Navy Club. A special mention and thanks should be given to the team representing Hesleden, who came to the rescue at the last minute to ensure there could be a competition!

The Flower and Vegetable Show was once again of a very high standard and the winner of the highest placed resident from Monk Hesleden Parish was Aidan Wales. Aidan also won the best entry in the Children's Section, which was sponsored by the Blackhalls and Hesledens Health Forum.

## Summary of Parish Council's Accounts

| Year ended<br>31st March 2009 | Income Summary             | Year ended<br>31st March 2010 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| £7278                         | Bank Interest              | £587                          |
| £239600                       | Precept                    | £246788                       |
| £4036                         | Welfare Park               | £3950                         |
| £6265                         | Cemeteries                 | £6175                         |
| £6558                         | Other income               | £10811                        |
| £263737                       | Total Income               | £268311                       |
|                               | <b>Expenditure Summary</b> |                               |
| £45316                        | Administration             | £44328                        |
| £31531                        | General                    | £38149                        |
| £6925                         | Grants awarded             | £5550                         |
| £90840                        | Welfare Park               | £89336                        |
| £71730                        | Cemeteries                 | £62556                        |
| £7851                         | Play Areas                 | £7548                         |
| £10976                        | Resource Centre            | £4656                         |
| £426                          | Additional schemes         | £0                            |
| £265595                       | Total Expenditure          | £252123                       |

### Donations and grants were awarded by the Parish Council to the following community groups and charities:

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Blackhall Air Training Corps          | £1000.00 |
| Blackhall Community Association       | £600.00  |
| Blackhall Rocks Residents Association | £250.00  |
| Blackhall Youth Club                  | £1000.00 |
| Hesleden Playscheme                   | £1850.00 |
| British Legion                        | £20.00   |
| East Durham Citizens Advice Bureau    | £500.00  |
| Great North Air Ambulance             | £50.00   |
| Butterwick Hospice                    | £100.00  |



### Forthcoming meetings:

The Parish Council holds its meetings at the Resource Centre, Blackhall **Monday at 7pm.**

Members of the public are welcome to attend. If you wish to speak on a matter please contact the Clerk seven days before the meeting in order that the item for discussion can be placed on the Agenda.

- 18th October 2010
- 22nd November 2010
- 13th December 2010
- 24th January 2011
- 21st February 2011
- 21st March 2011
- 18th April 2011

## Hesleden in bloom

The Parish Council has recently sponsored the Hesleden in Bloom Competition which was organised by Hesleden Primary School. The Chairman, Bass Underwood, Parks and Facilities Manager, John Peace volunteered for the difficult task of judging over twenty entries. All were of a very high standard and the following residents were successful.

### Hesleden in Bloom Winners:

- Best Garden/Overall Winner  
Grace Forster (Year 1) and Grandma
- Best Allotment  
Ann Arrowsmith
- Best Tub  
Sue Spencer
- Best Hanging Basket  
Mr and Mrs Winwood

The Chairman commented "I would like to thank Hesleden Primary School, and in particular Mrs Redshaw for organising this event, and also residents

of Hesleden for taking part. I hope this will be an annual event which grows more successful every year."



## Future Events

The Parish Council will be hosting Remembrance Day Services at the following venues on Sunday 14th November 2010.

### Welfare Park, Blackhall.

Please meet at the park gates at 10.45am. Following the service refreshments will be served in the cricket tea pavilion.

### Hesleden Cemetery

Please meet outside Hesleden Methodist Church at 10.45am. Following the service refreshments will be served at Hesleden Methodist Church.



## Are you a carer ?



### Do you look after someone who through age, disability, illness or addiction cannot manage alone?

You are not alone. It is estimated that there are 15,000 Carers living in the Easington District who provide unpaid care

for a relative, partner, friend or neighbour. Most people do not see themselves as a carer but acknowledging the fact is the first step to getting help and support. Caring can be a rewarding experience, yet many carers also face isolation, poverty and ill health.

Easington District Carers Support is here to help. We offer advice and support, benefit information, complementary therapy, support groups and a quarterly newsletter. As we recognise that carers sometimes need a break from their caring role we also arrange events, trips and social activities throughout the year.

To contact us telephone (0191) 5869134 or call in and see us at 5th Floor, Lee House, Yoden Way, Peterlee.

## jobcentreplus

Did you know that Jobcentre Plus can now offer a package of support that is specifically designed to help carers obtain a balance between their caring

responsibilities and looking for work.

Jobcentre Plus can assist with job search, training, travel expenses and childcare to help you get back into work. Financial assistance may also be available to cover the cost of replacement care whilst you take part in an interview, training or some other work related activity.

### Other support could include:

- Work Trials to show an employer what you can do
- Access to opportunities for voluntary work to increase experience
- Access to training and/or education courses\*
- Help with interview costs through the Travel To Interview Scheme
- Access to opportunities for voluntary work to increase experience
- A "Better Off Calculation" to see how much better off you would be.

\*Eligibility and certain conditions apply

Work Focused Support for Carers is entirely voluntary and will not affect your benefit entitlement.

For more information on these and other services, please see our website [www.directgov.uk](http://www.directgov.uk) or ask at your local Jobcentre.

## Goodbye Tommy

In March of this year Blackhall lost a well known and well respected character, Tommy Fallow.

Tommy was 87 years old, sixty of which he served on the Parish Council, giving his time and effort generously and selflessly to the community. Indeed a memorial seat in the Welfare Park dedicated to him bears witness to the esteem in which he was held for this service.

Tommy was born in Hesleden, moved to Blackhall as a baby and except for a few years (including the Wartime) spent his life in Blackhall. During the war he

served in the RAF Regiment in Burma, India and Singapore for which he was decorated. Afterwards he returned home and joined the Fire Brigade serving 20 years before undertaking other enterprises to provide for his growing family. At the time of his retirement Tommy was working in Blackhall Pit, he leaves a wife and six sons.

He touched many, many lives as the tremendous attendance at his funeral and the hundreds of messages, tributes and condolences received by the family demonstrated. He was a good and worthy man and will be greatly missed.



## Your Parish Council 2010/11

Parish Council Web-site: [www.mhpc.org.uk](http://www.mhpc.org.uk)

**Chairman:** Councillor W B Underwood  
**Vice Chairman:** Councillor D Carr

### Blackhall Colliery Ward

Clr Trevor Ball  
20 Burns Avenue  
Blackhall Colliery  
TS27 4NH  
Tel: 0191 5184096

Clr Daniel J Crowley  
5 Oak Avenue  
Blackhall  
TS27 4HZ  
Tel: 0191 5872392

Clr Mrs Gaynor M Crute  
132 West Street  
Blackhall Colliery  
TS27 4LN  
Tel: 0191 5867223

Clr Gary Holmes  
17 Daffodil Close  
Blackhall Colliery  
TS27 4NU  
Tel: 0191 5860791

Clr Kelvin Stanley  
24 Park Avenue  
Blackhall Colliery  
TS27 4LD  
Tel: 0191 5183019

Clr D J H Wort  
13 Byron Avenue  
Blackhall Colliery  
TS27 4NG  
Tel: 0191 5866834

### Blackhall Rocks Ward

Clr Peter G Ward  
5 Coast View  
Blackhall Rocks  
TS27 4AA  
Tel: 0191 5864460

Clr Bill McDonald  
Cliffe Villa  
Blackhall Rocks  
TS27 4AN  
Tel: 0191 5864655

Clr Stephen McDonald  
Cliffe Villa  
Blackhall Rocks  
TS27 4AN  
Tel: 0191 5866455

Clr Mrs Susan Peacock  
4 Crimdon Terrace  
Blackhall Rocks  
TS27 4BQ  
Telephone: 0191 5860477

Clr Miss Joan Turnbull  
10 Meadow Avenue  
Blackhall  
TS27 4JE  
Tel: 0191 5865171

Clr Bass Underwood  
Dene Rise  
Coast Road  
Blackhall Rocks  
TS27 4DD  
Tel: 0191 5862286

### Hesleden Ward

Clr Barry Bates  
33 Hazel Drive  
Hesleden  
TS27 4PW  
Tel: 01429 837132

Clr Dave Carr  
2 Sycamore Drive  
Hesleden  
TS27 4QR  
Tel: 01429 837875

Clr Wendy Cartwright  
38 Front Street  
Hesleden  
TS27 4PH  
Tel: 01429 838101

Monk Hesleden Parish Council members are local people who live in the Parish; they give their time freely and receive no payment or expenses for the work they undertake. Their aim is to ensure the concerns and needs of the people they represent are heard at all levels.

### Parish Council Staff

Clerk to the Council:  
Mrs L A Wardle  
68 Middle Street  
Blackhall  
TS27 4AE  
Telephone: 0191 5184900  
E-mail: [theclerk@monkhesledenparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:theclerk@monkhesledenparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Parks & Facilities Manager  
Mr J Peace  
Tel: 07932 046082

Cemetery Supervisor  
Mr A Peace  
Telephone: 07956 211518

Administration Officer  
Mrs E Fortune  
68 Middle Street  
Blackhall  
TS27 4EA  
Telephone: 0191 5184900

Groundstaff  
P Harmer, J Dixon  
G Gray, P Webster