

Redesdale and Three Kirks News

All your local news in reports, upcoming events and pictures

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Issue 1: Monday, 12 November, 2018

Welcome

WELCOME to the pilot issue of Redesdale and Three Kirks News, which will offer not only the unedited version of my weekly Village Notes in the Hexham Courant but also other news that does not make it into the paper. This pilot issue, as a means of circulating *all* of the news you send me for my Village Notes, is something of an experiment and your feedback as to whether you think it valuable or not will be more than welcome.

Why is it necessary? Some of you will be aware that the Hexham Courant recently changed its policy regarding the length of its Village Notes contributions, reducing the number of words that Village Correspondents can submit each week from six hundred to two hundred and fifty. Additionally, the Editor is unable to offer any guarantee that everything submitted within the new limit will be printed and is also time-prioritising news, making it difficult to give advance notice of important events in your area.

I am setting off with a circulation to a small number of my own email contacts, including my regular contributors. I hope this initial circulation will grow; if you have email friends in Redesdale and Three Kirks that might be interested, please ask their permission before forwarding the newsletter to them. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please let me know and I will remove you from my subscriber list.

So here's this week's news.

Flu vaccinations at The Bellingham Practice

THE Bellingham Practice now has flu vaccine in stock for patients aged over 65; clinic dates are available up to the end of the month. The Practice also has lots of vaccine in stock for patients aged under 65 who are in *at risk* groups because of a medical condition or for those who are carers. Patients should telephone the surgery on (01434) 220203 to book an appointment.

Country dancing

I AM told that the dance at Rochester Village Hall on Friday, October 26, was a "super night" with country dancing to the music of Roddy Matthews and the Tweed Valley Ceilidh Band. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening, the company of fellow dancers and the pooled supper and there were some excellent prizes in the raffle.

Carpet bowling

OTTERBURN carpet bowlers played in their Molly Wright Pairs competition on Monday, October 29. The winners were Robert Anderson and Fran Johnson with Amy Scott and Helen Donaldson the runners-up. The following evening, Otterburn were at home to Kirkwhelpington, winning the game. Both teams played extremely well. In all, a friendly match followed by delightful supper.

Fund-raising whist drive

A FUND-RAISING whist drive will be held at Rochester Village Hall on Friday, November 16, starting at 7.30pm. Proceeds will be donated to Rochester Children's Christmas Party Fund.

Church Christmas Fair

ST JOHN'S, Otterburn, is holding a Christmas Fair at Otterburn Memorial Hall on Saturday, November 17, starting at 10.30am. The fair will feature stalls, a raffle and Christmas gifts. The small entry charge includes tea, coffee, mince pies and biscuits. Everyone is welcome.

Gardening and Beekeeping in Redesdale

AN OPEN meeting is being held at Rochester Village Hall on Tuesday, November 20, starting at 7.30pm. The meeting is for members of Rochester Garden Club and Redesdale Beekeepers and everyone is welcome. A speaker from Heighley Gate Garden Centre will talk about gardening and beekeeping and will answer questions afterwards. And here's a related story that didn't make it into the Hexham Courant last month:

REDESDALE Beekeepers met at the Redesdale Arms in late September for the final meeting of their 2018 season. Members reported that there had been very few swarms during the summer and apiaries were strong going into winter. The honey crop had been poor however, especially in the north, and there was disappointment that the heather flowered for such a short period. It was also reported that some heather moors had suffered severe attacks from the heather beetle. The suggestion that the group might be interested in Revitalising Redesdale's plan for the reflowering the valley was received with enthusiasm by most members. The members find their regular meetings helpful and rewarding and look forward to their 2019 season. Meetings begin on April 18, with subsequent meetings on July 11, and September 19. Thanks are due to the Redesdale Arms for hosting the last meeting of 2018.



Pie and pea supper

YOU are invited to join Revitalising Redesdale for an informal meal to celebrate the partnership's progress during its first year. You will find out more about the ongoing historical and natural heritage projects and how you can get involved. The event will be held at the Rede, Tyne & Coquet Sports Centre, Otterburn, on Thursday, November 29, starting at 7pm. Booking is essential, either by telephone at (07552) 269363 or by email to Nick Lightfoot, the Partnership's Programme Support Officer, at nick.lightfoot@naturalengland.org.uk

Red Squirrels appeal for help

NORTH Tyne and Redesdale Red Squirrels is a community based volunteer group dedicated to the conservation of red squirrels in our local area. You can help by reporting sightings of red and grey squirrels, host a feeder in your garden, help monitor feeders in local woodland, train as a volunteer, help spread the word and more. If you value red squirrels and would like to get involved, please telephone the local contact on (01830) 521141 or email the group at nt4rrs@gmail.com

Participate ...

Snap a photograph to include with your news

SNAP a photograph of your event on your mobile phone, or ask someone attending to snap one for you, and email it to me at redesdale.village.notes@gmail.com with your report (Jpegs only please).

Please send your news to me at redesdale.village.notes@gmail.com by noon each Sunday. Please ask permission before forwarding this newsletter to your email friends in Redesdale and Three Kirks. Please don't spam the population. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please email me at this address and I will remove your details from the subscriber list. Please do NOT paste this newsletter on Facebook, Twitter or any other social networking or blog site.

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