

**Welcome to your Winter Newsletter for the Matfen, Ingoe, Ryal and Fenwick District.  
We hope you find it interesting and informative!**

**Parish Council News**

1. The Parish Council website is up and running! The Parish Council are keen to hear from villagers as to what else may be included and any improvements which can be made. Please go to [www.matfenparish.org](http://www.matfenparish.org) and send any comments or suggestions to Mrs Mandy Senior, (contact details on the home page).
2. The Parish Council are continuing to support the churchyard maintenance in Matfen and Ryal with a £400 donation.
3. A Dog Bag dispenser has been erected on the village green. It is hoped that responsible dog owners will use this facility and dispose of bags in village litter bins which are emptied on a weekly basis. Signs have been erected requesting dog owners to clean up after their dogs. Volunteers for the recent litter pick discovered a large number of plastic bags containing dog's dirt thrown over the wall into the copse leading up to the cricket field! Could dog owners please ensure that such bags are deposited in the litter bins provided or taken home?
4. Matfen Sports Ground - Signs have now been erected banning dogs from this area. This has been agreed by Matfen Estates.
5. The Parish Council hopes to reinstate Ryal village green for the use of the village. At present heavy equipment is illegally stored there. Once the equipment has been removed it is hoped that the grass can be restored and posts positioned round the perimeter to prevent this happening again.
6. It is hoped that a dropped kerb will be installed outside the public toilets to facilitate wheelchair users and deter thoughtless parking.
7. A grant of £6,568 has been approved by CMBC for the updating of play areas within the parish. This is considerably less than the original application. The Parish Council will look into further sources of funding then decide priorities.

**To all Residents:**

*Recently we've had some fantastic support from local individuals and families who have joined in wholeheartedly to make sure that the Village Fete, Quiz night, Halloween Party, Fireworks Evening and various other events have been huge successes. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard! We have a friendly and supportive community and love to welcome new residents who want to be part of the social life of the village. Please come along to future events!*

**Matfen Village Hall.**

The hall can be rented by every individual, family or group. If you would like to hold your own private party, or you would like to suggest an event or gathering to be held at the hall please call Lynda Padgett on 01661 886785.

Many thanks to all those who completed the questionnaires sent out by the Village Hall Committee. After collating the answers we plan to take some of the ideas forward. Three events for children are scheduled starting in January. An instructor for a weekly fitness club is being sought and a programme of talks starting in January 2009 covering a variety of topics suggested in the questionnaires. It is hoped that people will be happy to support these initiatives and make this an even more lively and friendly community.

**Past Events in the District**

- ❖ Although it seems a long time ago now, the Village Fete on July was a great success. The village had a large turnout, and all the stalls and games were well supported. Thank you to all the organisers and helpers who made the day such a success. Roll on 2009!!
- ❖ The last quiz night was sold out, and Steve Gregory-Smith did a great job of Quiz Master. Around 7 teams battled it out for the top prize. The Shepherds Pie dinner went down very well and the bar did a roaring trade, and everyone gave a huge round of applause for the organisers. We're all looking forward to the next Quiz Night!
- ❖ A very successful Halloween Party was held on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October from 6 to 7pm at the Village Hall. It was open to all and a selection of small pumpkins, witches, wizards and ghosts had a good time playing games and dancing.
- ❖ As usual, the fireworks party on 5<sup>th</sup> November, was very well attended, and everyone was impressed with the quality and scale of the fireworks. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fire works fund, and worked on the evening. **More volunteers are needed for these events – please contact Lynda Padgett on the number above.**

## **Future Events**

- ❖ Sunday 7th December: The lunchtime Family Christmas Party will be held from 12pm onwards, with visiting Santa Claus, games and refreshments for young and old. Tickets can be bought at the village shop or on the door.

## **Regular Groups and Meetings**

- ❖ Parents and Children Group – Every Friday 9.30am - 11.30am. Come along with your pregnancy bumps, babies and toddlers. A very friendly group for any parents with children from 0 - 4 years, that runs through out the year and during all half terms and holidays. Coffee, tea and biscuits available with lots of toys to play with! £1 per session for each family. For more information call Sally Urwin on 01661 886 937.
- ❖ The Table Tennis Group every Wednesday evening 7-8pm for children and 8 to 10pm for adults For more details please contact Derek Padgett 01661 886785
- ❖ Craft Afternoon every 2nd Wednesday of each month from 2 - 4pm. Bring your own work. Refreshments served. All welcome (for further information contact Margaret Sutcliffe, 886646).

**Support our Local Businesses!** – to be included please contact Sally Urwin on numbers below.

### Matfen Village Store & Coffee Shop

The village store sells everything from newspapers and magazines to groceries and take away food and is open 7 days a week and also has a cash machine situated in the entrance hall. Our lovely little coffee shop has a great choice of both hot and cold dishes as well as Austin's famous scones and cakes! Over the winter months we also have a home-made soup on offer every weekend - not to be missed. If you need any more information please call Lindsey & Austin on 01661 886202.

DIARY DATE - 25th - 30th November - Stocking Filler Event! The store & coffee shop will be open until 9pm every night and will be selling a large range of local produce and crafts as well as lots of unique stocking fillers all at great prices and special offers! Be sure to call in for free mulled wine and mince pies each evening and stock up on lots of fabulous little gifts and Christmas essentials.

### Coffee Shop Winter Opening Hours

Monday - Friday Closed  
Sat & Sun 10am - 4

### Store Winter Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 8.00am – 6.00pm  
Sat & Sun 7.30 am -5.00pm

### The Black Bull Pub

The Black Bull now serves a delicious lunchtime menu daily, except Monday and Thursday, from 12 to 2pm. The pub is open from 11am to 11pm daily, and has a great selection of real ales, lagers, spirits, soft drinks and wines. There is a large flat screen television. 01665 886330

### Hadrian Pet Hotel

The Hadrian Pet hotel provides 5 star dog and cat boarding in purpose built kennels. Signposted off the Military Road. Tel: 01661 886675.

### High House Farm Brewery and Visitor Centre

Award winning tearoom, shop, exhibition and farm walk. Open – Sat. and Sun. 10.30 until 5.00pm. Please order your Christmas ale ASAP! Very popular Sunday lunches served. Book now for your Christmas or New Year party! Tel 01661 886192 or [www.highhousefarmbrewery.co.uk](http://www.highhousefarmbrewery.co.uk)

### Matfen Hall Country House Hotel, Spa and Golf Course

Please call 01661 886 500 or visit [www.matfenhall.com](http://www.matfenhall.com)

### Standing Stone Drawing Office Supplies Ltd

For all your office stationery, design, photocopying, graphics and print needs. Please call on 01661886 653

### GS Environmental Pest Control

Ring to sort out your rodent, wasp or ant problems. Contact Steve Gregory-Smith on 01661 886282 or 07717575 678

### Got friends or relatives coming? Here are details of bed and breakfasts in the Matfen area.

- ❖ Bog House B&B – please call Rosemary Stobart on 01661 886 776
- ❖ Matfen High House B&B – please call Struan or Jenny Wilson on 01661 886 592
- ❖ Wallhouses B&B – please call Jean Patterson on 01434 672226
- ❖ Wallhouses South Farm Self catering cottage – please call Eileen Lymburn on 01434 672388