



# Newsletter

Issue 5. July 2021

## 15 minutes of fame....

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Another month has passed already and the summer has finally arrived. It's been a busy one in the village as you may have noticed with our 15 minutes of fame earlier in the month as the cast and crew of Vera descended to film in our beautiful Community Hall and the Duke of Wellington. More later in the newsletter but if anyone managed to get a photo of the event it would be great if you could share it with us.

In other news the social committee have unfortunately decided to postpone the Post-COVID Social mentioned in the previous newsletter due to the rising cases in our area.

Classes and groups are continuing at the Hall with more and more returning thanks to the latest lifting of restrictions and the diary for the Hall is filling up quickly which is wonderful to see. Don't forget about our gorgeous venue for your next event. There is a discount for social events held by residents of Newton and Bywell.

Following the easing of restrictions on July 19th, the Community Library is now open any time when the Hall is in use. Residents and hall users are all welcome to use it. The donation of books in top notch condition enables us to maintain a wide choice of books and your support is much appreciated.

As always, please do let me know if you would like to add anything to our future newsletters by emailing me at [mrs\\_laura\\_stephens@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mrs_laura_stephens@hotmail.co.uk).

Wishing you all well.

Laura Stephens  
Newsletter Editor

### John le Carré

19 Oct 1931 - 12 Dec 2020

#### *Quotations which some might think are appropriate for the World in 2021*

A desk is a dangerous place from which to view the world.

All men are born free: just not for long.

The fact that you can only do a little is no excuse for doing nothing.

The cat sat on the mat is not a story. The cat sat on the other cat's mat is a story.

There is a terrible alienation in the ordinary man between what he is being told and what he secretly believes.

By repetition, each lie becomes an irreversible fact upon which other lies are constructed.

I used to think it was clever to confuse comedy with tragedy. Now I wish I could distinguish them. I think bankers will always get away with whatever they can get away with.

When the world is destroyed, it will be destroyed not by its madmen but by the sanity of its experts and the superior ignorance of its bureaucrats.

I think the greatest single enemy is the misuse of information, the perversion of truth in the hands of terribly skilful people.



## Thought for the day

Coffee is vital for survival. Dinosaurs didn't have coffee and look what happened to them.

## Dodgy definitions

Abundance ....A social event held in a farm building

Intoxicated ....To feel sophisticated .... but not be able to say it.

You may have noticed a lot of activity around the Community Hall for the last few weeks. Following the launch of our new website we were approached by ITV with a view to using our Newton and Bywell Community Hall as a location for filming a forthcoming episode of Vera. They are currently filming the 11th series of Vera in the North East, and they hoped that the hall would feature in Episode 5 "Vital Signs" as 'Denewood Medical Centre'.

Over a couple of months we have had numerous visits from their production and technical teams to see how it would work to achieve the desired look for filming, and after some negotiation, the design team started their preparation work on 7th July.

They used the meeting room, reception area and the hall itself, where they built two sets using partitioning walls. The exterior too was dressed with signage to resemble a medical centre.

In these Covid times it would have been very difficult to use an existing medical setting, but as a Community Hall we have many regular users who since May have resumed normal activities, so it was important for us to have a minimum of disruption to these classes. As part of the negotiations ITV agreed to provide a marquee in the car park with a hard floor and facility for music, which was used for those classes affected by the preparation and filming in the hall. A couple of activities were moved to another date to avoid too much disruption and I would like

to thank all the groups for their patience and understanding. Obviously this was an exciting event for the Parish, and of course the location fee for the use of our premises will help enormously after a difficult prolonged period of lockdown. It was decided by the trustees that it was an opportunity that should not be missed.

The actual filming days were 14th and 15th July and we expected some upheaval with the big Tech trucks. However, they were all parked up in the Hall car park and caused very little disruption to the village itself. The filming began with some outside scenes to the rear of the Duke of Wellington, with Vera in her hat and coat driving her trusty Land Rover. From there they relocated to the Hall for some exterior and interior scenes. It will be fascinating to see how much of our hall and village we can actually recognise. There were not the usual crowds of Vera followers, so the film crew were pleased that they could get on with their work relatively unhindered. From Friday 16th reinstatement began. The marquee was removed on the 20th July and the Hall was then back for normal use.

I trust the disruption was not too much of an inconvenience for the residents of Newton. It will be exciting and interesting to see how our village looks on the screen, when the episode is aired later in the year.



Sadly, the Newton and Bywell Photo Competition for 2021 has been cancelled due to lack of interest.