

# Waterhouses

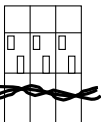
# Wanderings

November  
2012

YOUR COMMITTEE WISH YOU

ALL A

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**



Registered Charity number 1064926



The Queen's Award for  
Voluntary Service 2005

News, Views and Events from Waterhouses and the surrounding area provided by the Waterhouses Community Association.

The last few months have seen the death of Waterhouses oldest resident, John Bell (see the tribute on page 3) and the introduction of a Cinema Club for young people (more details below)

All too soon it will be Christmas and as usual there will be a Fayre, tree lighting and the seniors Christmas lunch (see details on page 2)

November sees the publication of **"The Disappearing Farms of Weardale"** by Chris Ruskin of Rose Terrace. Chris was until very recently a very active member of your committee. It is a full colour book, 216 pages, about farms from Wolsingham to Killhope. To reserve your signed copy (£12.99) ring Chris on 01388 730113.

The New Monthly **YOUTH CINEMA CLUB** had its first film show on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Although aimed mainly at teenagers parents are also welcome. Each month the film for the following month will be chosen, and snacks will be provided. If you are interested contact Kim at [kriennings@talk21.com](mailto:kriennings@talk21.com)

# CHRISTMAS STARTS EARLY IN WATERHOUSES!

## Christmas Fayre

with a wide range of stalls and other activities, seasonal refreshments, a major raffle (to be drawn at the tree lighting) with prizes including bottles and Christmas Hamper, and a visit from Father Christmas, will be in the village hall from 2 o'clock on the afternoon of **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November**. (Mini Mixers will also be present)

There will be a **Santa's Post Box** at the fayre for children to post their letters to Santa, so get writing, kids!

## Christmas Services and Tree Lighting

Our Christmas Tree at Waterhouses Village Hall will be lit on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December** at 6.30 to the accompaniment of carols and with refreshments, mulled wine and mince pies, to follow inside the hall. We thank Hills Prior of Hedley Hill Terrace for donating this year's Christmas Tree. At this event also the draw for the Christmas Raffle will be made.

On Christmas Eve, **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December**, there is a **Christingle Service** at St Paul's Waterhouses Church at 4pm suitable for all the family.

You are warmly invited to join us.

## Seniors Christmas Lunch **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December** (Seniors

are those aged 60 or more!)

Many of you will already have been contacted by Beryl or Kate but if we haven't contacted you and you would like to come to this free lunch for Waterhouses residents please ring Kate on 3736198 to book your place. If you are

housebound then ring Kate also and we will try to arrange for you to receive a plated up lunch later in the afternoon. The hall doors open at 12, food served from 12.30.



## Salsacise

Over 16 and want some fun exercise? Come along to The Village Hall any Friday evening 6-7pm to the Salsacise. No partner needed, just have a laugh while moving to the Latin American beat of Salsa, Mambo, Merenge and Cha Cha Cha.

No experience needed you just learn and laugh with the rest of us. £3 per session and worth every penny!!

# Tribute to John Bell

by Rhona Foster

John was born nearly 95yrs ago at Shildon where his father worked for the railways. When he died John, aged 1½months, and his mother had to leave their tithe cottage. They returned to Waterhouses from where his mother had originated and lived with the Gott family who, even though they had 10 children of their own, made them welcome.

At the age of 14 John began working in the mines of Waterhouses and up to his last years was ready with tales of the hardship he and his fellow miners endured. When the mines closed John became a driver/handyman for Durham Police, a job he loved.

Although he never married John had many friends and took great pleasure taking them in his car on trips and to the Bingo. When, because of his failing eyesight he finally had to give up driving, he became a regular on the bus to Durham and loved chatting to the drivers and passengers alike.

He was a regular at the Wednesday morning 'Drop In' Coffee morning where he thoroughly enjoyed having a good moan about every and anything and generally putting the world to rights.

Even people who did not know John will miss "the little old man" who sat on the seat outside his front door next to The Village Hall and passed the time of day.

John died peacefully in Shotley Bridge Hospital on Saturday 27th October and was cremated on Monday 5th November.

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## Village Business Success. Mini-Mixers proves popular!

Sarah Seed writes: Mini Mixers has been enjoying Creative edible fun with lots of children since January with many of the sessions and workshops taking place at Waterhouses Village Hall. The positive feedback has been overwhelming with parents expressing how much their children have enjoyed the sessions and learnt new skills.

We are looking forward to our Christmas sessions and are very excited about the near future with lots of exciting things planned.

Visit our website - [www.minimixers.co.uk](http://www.minimixers.co.uk) for more information or our Facebook page.



## **Forthcoming Events in Waterhouses Village Hall**

*For some of these events full details are not yet available. See the posters, What's On or the web site nearer the time.*

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November **Family Film evening in aid of 'Finding Hope' Charity.** Doors open at 6.30, party games and hot dogs. Film starts at 7.

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November **Christmas Fayre.** 2-4pm (see page 2)  
**Wine Club.** 8pm All welcome.

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December **Coffee and Cakes** (with bacon sandwiches!) 9.30 to 11

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December **Seniors Christmas Lunch** (see page 2) 12.30 (doors open 12 noon)

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December **Carols and Tree Lighting** outside at 6.30, followed by mince pies and mulled wine in the hall, where the Christmas Draw will take place.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December **Christmas Quiz Night** at 7.30 with hot turkey sandwiches. Phone Beryl on 373 4442 to book.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December **Christmas Cupcake Decorating Workshop** 10am suitable for aged 7-12 year olds. Cost will be £12.95 per child. Booking and prepayment essential - Contact details - [sarah@minimixers.co.uk](mailto:sarah@minimixers.co.uk)

**Family Film Night** 6.30 for 7

**Children's Christmas Party** – date and details later

## **In the new year**

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January and Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February. **Family Film nights.**

Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 8pm **Musical Evening with the Ragpickers** (blues and ragtime) Tickets £4. Phone Kate on 373 6198.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 **Ceilidh** with soup and stottie.