

# Skinningrove News

Issue 16 December 2004



L. King.

## Merry Christmas

**M** for the Music, merry and clear;  
**E** for the Eve, the crown of the year;  
**R** for the Romping of bright girls and boys;  
**R** for the Reindeer that bring them the toys;  
  
**Y** for the Yule log softly aglow.  
  
**C** for the Cold of the sky and the snow;  
**H** for the Hearth where they hang up the hose;  
**R** for the Reel which the old folks propose;  
**I** for Icicles seen through the pane;  
**S** for the Sleigh bells, with tinkling refrain;  
**T** for the Tree with gifts all a bloom;  
**M** for the Mistletoe hung in the room;  
**A** for the Anthems we all love to hear;

Dear Friends

I would like to spare some thought with you about our Chapel in Skinningrove. I wonder if you have ever thought what it would be like if, one morning, you went to the Village store (Post Office) and found that the door was locked, perhaps boards up at the windows? Or you went to pub and found a similar situation ? Or even if, one morning, the Postman or Milkman failed to come to Skinnigrove ? Or, likewise, you needed the Chapel for a Wedding, Funeral or Baptism, and you found it was no longer in use? Imagine how you would feel. The Chapel has always taken a prominent place in the life of our community.

The point of this exercise is to bring me to you the fact that the Chapel is, sadly, very underused, and lacks regular support. Use and support are essential to keep the Chapel open and viable, to be available for you and your family's use, especially in times of bereavement or other crisis, and to be place, of course, where you share your sorrows and joys.

Skinningrove is noted for being a very close-knit community and always gives support when the need arises, and at the end of the day, it is YOUR CHAPEL, and this applies to anyone of another faith, you will always be made welcome if you wish to attend. But alas, we have reached a situation where the congregation on average totals between 6 and 8 for Sunday Service. This is a situation that cannot go on, if the life and survival of the chapel is to be guaranteed.

So, I would ask for you to support the Chapel for an hour a week, once a fortnight or even once a month, because it is not only a question of how much money the building has coming in each week, but also a question of the number of people filling there pews.

The decline in worship that has taken place from the late 50 early 60s not unique to the Methodist Church, I fact it is a malaise and trend throughout all major Christian Denominations in England. It would be a tragedy if, in the future there was to be an increase in interest, and the Chapel was no longer there.

On a final thought, I would like you to think what it would be like if you needed to bury one of your loved ones and found that you had to go out of the village for a service to be conducted. It has been a long tradition in Skinningrove that the Chapel was always well used. Please do not risk losing this Chapel because of indifference or the fact that you cannot spare an hour occassionally to attend service and swell the very small numbers.

You have a beautiful, renovated building, please use it or you could lose it. Why not make a good start and join us at 3pm on Sunday December 19th for our annual Service of Carols and Lessons. Regular Sunday Services are 6pm-7pm unless otherwise notified, and everyone is welcome.

Your Sincerely ,

**Councillor Andrew Downs (Chapel Organist),**

Website.

We would like all our readers to know Skinningrove as it's own website with plenty of pages to look at such as Tommy's, Barry's, Janice & Margaret's and also Canine Capers and not forgetting the Newsletter these are just a few there is more to see and a few surprises.

View the Guest Book and see what others have said, and let us know you think of it.

[www.skinningrove.tv](http://www.skinningrove.tv) you won't be disappointed.



This is a reply to the television programme that Sky 1 did on Skinningrove:

Dear Editor,

I am so sorry when I sat and watch the worst piece of TV journalism on UK television called the "Toughest Villages". If any journalist wanted to see real village spirit, he can do no better than to sit down and involved himself with the residents of Skinningrove.

As everyone knows the village was founded as a mining village, working in the ironstone mines. They were very hard jobs and even harder men back then, with none of the health and safety rules to protect us today.

When the mines closed the villages was then involved in steel making. Just as tough a job and still no safety rules in the early days. When men work in hard and dangerous conditions, they like to let off steam and then play hard.

Skinningrove "Tough Image" was laid down in these early days and under very difficult and different times than we have today.

These things are a part of Skinningrove past it has moved on in leaps and bounds since the days of old. Look how much community spirit it takes to make a success of every bonfire night for the past.. Well it seems like donkey years. Everyone enjoying themselves and with no injuries or incidents.

I feel like the rest of the village, that it has been treated terribly by journalism. I think that the villagers are owed at least an apology for casting them in such a poor light.

"We shoot every third journalist that comes to this village -warning- the second one just left". (sorry)

The Lithuanian exile

### Skinningrove Village Hall.

The Village Hall is 22 yrs old it is run by a management committee it needs people using the hall to keep it running. We have one boarded up building in the village, and it would be a shame to see well kept building boarded and not used. Please feel free to enquire about hiring the hall for your parties and other events. We have Bingo's, Old Age Mondays at 6 pm, Village Hall Friday's at 5 pm and every Friday a Coffee Morning at 10 am, why not come and have a coffee and a chat then wander up to the Riverside Buildings for your Lunch.

Please Use Your Hall or Lose it.

J. Scott.

### Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum.

The museum is having a 'Santa's Grotto in the North Drift of the mine on Saturday December 11th. Keep an eye out for

finalised details in the Riverside Building.

We are also planning a Gala to mark it's spring opening. The gala will run on the weekend of the 19th & 20th of March. On Saturday there will be a series of free art and craft workshops available to all, on Sunday afternoon there will be a showcase of local schools musical and dramatic work based on the history of the region also live music and a craft and cake fair in the chapel.

Stalls for the craft and cake fair cost £5, if you would like a stall at the fair on the Sunday afternoon please contact Tolly Sinclair at the museum on 01287 642970 or

visits@ironstonemuseum.co.uk There will be significant advertising for this weekend event, so we are hopeful of a good turn out for the fair.

T. Sinclair.

### It is only Temporary.

This is a fax we got from R.C.B.C. regarding the Humps in the middle of Newcompany Row, they intend to construct a new plastic hump to prevent vehicles speeding past the entrance. Measures will be temporarily only until a new scheme is improved in the near future.

Safety will be improved by preventing vehicles swerving into new entrance making it difficult to pull out.

Hopefully it will be in before the end of the year.

### 'Dates to Remember'

Riverside Café, closes from

Dec, 16th till Jan 4th

Riverside Building closes from,

Dec. 17th till Jan 4th.

Booking are now been taken in the café for Xmas Lunch served from Dec 9th till 16th

Skinningrove Chapel Christmas Carol Service Sunday Dec. 19th at 3 pm.

Happy Christmas & A Happy New Year to all our readers.



## Skinningrove Bonfire 2004.

Once again Skinningrove village was filled with spectators to see the bonfire; the theme this year being Harry Potter. A lot of work goes into the building of the bonfire, including all of the work done in various workshops by local children to make the lanterns and other decorations. To enable the village to have this event each year a lot of fundraising is needed, we are greatly helped to achieve this from the donations given by the spectators on the night; all donations are very much appreciated (except foreign coins!).

Unfortunately there were less fireworks than this year due to part of the order being undelivered, never the less it was still a great night. Due to the TV program giving Skinningrove a bad name and the good publicity on the news about the bonfire spectators were shown the community spirit that the village holds.

Our thanks goes to everyone involved that has helped to make 'Skinningrove Bonfire 2004' to be another great display in the area.

On the 27th of October at the Skelton Civic Hall. Twelve community groups in the Redcar & Cleveland area received free refurbished computers of which Skinningrove Bonfire was one of them and video/ DVD players from the Computer Technicians Ltd for help with the voluntary work they are involved with, this was made possible through the help of Tees Valley Community Foundation also businesses and the public who wanted to get rid of there old computers. All computers was made internet ready and a suite of business software so that the groups will be able to use it for what ever purposes they need. Computer Technicians are hoping to do the same next year in another area.



[www.skinningrove.tv](http://www.skinningrove.tv)

## Retirement

Mrs. Margaret Teasdale has retired from being treasurer of Skinningrove village hall after 19 years of dedicated service and hard work. Over the years she has greatly contributed to keeping the hall open and running. Our many thanks for everything you have done.

HAVE A TERRIFIC  
RETIREMENT.  
YOU'VE EARNED IT!





## Cleveland Fire Brigade Free Home Fire Safety Checks

To help reduce the risk from fire to the residents of Skinningrove, Cleveland Fire Brigade are offering every resident a free home fire safety check.

Fire fighters will be calling at every home within the village to promote the scheme and encourage residents to have a Free Home Fire Safety Check carried out.

During the 15 minute checks fire fighters will discuss common causes of fire and if required fit FREE smoke alarms to your property, they will inform you of the need for a fire plan and actions to take to avoid fires.

If residents are unavailable when the Fire fighters call a leaflet will be left explaining the need for a Home Fire Safety Check and a contact **Number to ring- 01429 872311.**



Latest Update,

Progress over the last few months has been painfully slow with many completion dates forecast but not achieved. However, all the plant & equipment has now been powered up and tested as individual units and it only remains to check the PLCs ( yes, even a sewage works has a computer these days) before turning the flow of sewage into the tunnel which was completed almost 18 months ago. From the tunnel, the sewage flows into the pumping station and is then pumped up to the STW in the Corus site.

The pumps have been tested on clean water and have exceeded requirements for flow rate. We still have our fingers crossed as sewage is much more difficult to pump than clean water because of all the solids, which can sometimes block up the very best of pumps. The big switch on date is Monday 29 November which should be landmark event for Skinningrove and the start of clean beaches.

The outer marker on the sea outfall has disappeared but will be replaced just as soon as we get a spell of calm weather - it seems to have been too rough for quite some time. I would like to know how the fishermen have managed to get off and safely back again. The last piece of news is that the pumping station has won a commendation at the Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council Design awards 2004. I quote the judges' comments:

" A demonstration of sleight of hand & camouflage. This rustic building near the seashore says to the casual observer, 'traditional barn or boathouse' and hides its technically advanced content"

What I think they mean is that we have successfully crammed a lot of equipment into a small space in an attractive building. We are very pleased to receive the commendation, but not just for ourselves. All of the Skinningrove people who took an interest in the early days of the project have influenced its final shape and appearance, so thanks to them also. A. Thomson.



**Matthew Morrish,**  
5 years old on December 24th  
**Happy Birthday & a Merry Christmas Matthew**  
Lots of Love from  
**Granma, Nana, Grandy, Great Gran Tick-Tock & FunnyGran**

### **E@eastcleveland Update.**

The centre is now officially open, we have been open for a few weeks now, and we finally have internet connection by Liberator we are sorry about this delay. We are still having a successful time with having a wide age group joining up to use the centre. At the moment we have 18 users and there is plenty space for more. The centre offers support for your home work, with free printouts (colour & black & white) and guidance, so if you need to do a presentation in Power Point for example, then come along and we'll show you how.

#### **New Opening Times.**

Monday 4 pm— 8 pm  
Tuesday 6 pm —9 pm  
Wednesday 4 pm — 7 pm  
Closed Thursday & Friday.

#### **Editor's Note :**

The volunteer group who produce Skinningrove News reserve the right to edit any correspondence submitted for publication, and would like it noted views expressed are not necessarily the views of the editorial group.

### **Trim and Slim**

Want to learn about healthy eating, how to understand food labels, portion sizes, fats and lose unwanted pounds for **FREE**?

We'll come and join us at any of the following groups

#### **Mondays**

1 - 3pm Steel Club, Dormanstown

#### **Tuesdays**

10 - 12md Riverside Building (Community Café) Skinningrove

1 - 3pm Roseberry Square Youth & Community Centre Redcar

3 - 5pm East Cleveland Hospital Restaurant

#### **Wednesdays**

10 - 11am Saltburn Primary School (Youth and Community centre)

1pm - 3pm Harry Dack Community Centre Loftus

6pm Hollywell View Pub Liverton Mines

#### **Thursdays**

10am- 12md Skelton Civic Hall

#### **Fridays**

2pm Sunnyfield House, Westgate Guisborough

For more information

tel: (01287) 284081

### **SkinningroveNews**

New Advertising Rates for Advertising in the Newsletter  
1/4 page Advertisements & Features—£5.  
1/2 page Advertisements & Features—£10.  
A4 page size Advertisements & Features— £20  
This is per issue, please will you either phone 01287 642508 and leave your message or email us at skinningrovenews@skinningroveukonline.co.uk this will help to keep the running costs going for the newsletter. Thank you.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRAN!**

26th December 2004

Lots of love from Laura

X x X x X



Neighbourhood  
Renewal Unit