

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN – GAYNOR CRUTE

The bank holiday weekend saw the last of the Parish Council's summer activities programme. During the past five weeks there have been free activities provided by the Parish Council to keep the young people of our Parish entertained. This has included a soccer school, weekly arts and crafts at Blackhall and Hesleden, family discos, rock pooling, Green Fingers Workshop, Farmyard Flyer Animal Bus and Story Telling.

The activities came to an end on Friday with our fabulous Seaside Event at Blackhall Welfare Park where over 100 children enjoyed donkey rides, a sand pit, tea cups ride, inflatable slide, coconut shy, a Punch and Judy show, face-painting, kite making and arts and crafts. They were also able to enjoy a free hot dog, juice and ice cream.

The summer programme would not have been such a success if we hadn't once again had the support of our fantastic partners in our community who helped with the use of their venues and time, so thanks go to Hesleden Methodist Chapel, Blackhall Community Centre, Hesleden Workingmen's Club, Blackhall Library and Durham Heritage Coast.

The Parish Council was also able to provide assistance to The Hesledens Residents Association with regards to their successful fun day.

As Chairman of the Parish Council, I would like to express my personal thanks to the parish council staff who have in addition to their normal duties ensured that the events run to plan and that refreshments were made available.

The summer activities programme was funded jointly by Monk Hesleden Parish Council and East Durham Area Action Partnership.

The Parish Council is looking for people to join its Events Committee to help with the organisation and staffing of future community events. So if you would like to help out, either by joining the committee or by volunteering to help out at events, please contact the Parish Council on 0191 5184900 or email clerk@monkhesleden-pc.gov.uk