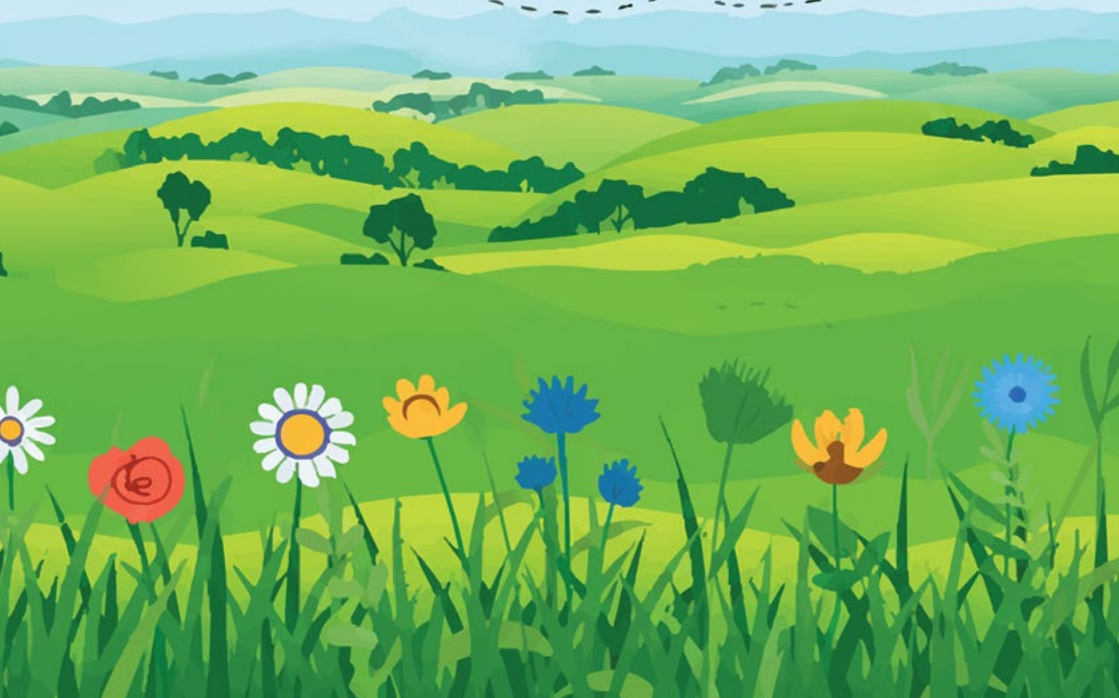


Issue No 195

May, June & July 2026

The Grapevine

Seamer & Tame Bridge Magazine



Keep up to date with what's happening locally by visiting

Seamer Village Website: seamervillage.co.uk

 **Facebook group:** Seamer Local's Chit Chat

Editor's Notes

Hi everyone,

It's fair to say that these are testing times in different ways. Between the uncertainty, rising costs and the news which greets us most days it can be hard to stay upbeat. That's when local community becomes more important. Looking out for one another, being pleasant, a smile or a chat can go a long way to cheering people up.

I am not sure if this edition will cheer you up but I've included a few jokes to help!

The parish council have now launched the new website. All minutes, agendas and audit details will now be uploaded onto the Parish Council website rather than in the Grapevine.

www.seamerparishcouncil.gov.uk

Details will be posted on the village notice boards as per normal.
Fb - seamer parish council (Hambleton)

Please note, whilst we have co-opted a new councillor who will be formally appointed at the AGM, we still have a vacancy for a councillor. If you would like to chat about what is involved or have some questions please contact me. It can be a very rewarding role without too much time commitment.

David Hugill, our district councillor attends our parish meetings and often discusses the NYC budget so thought I would share this with you.

North Yorkshire Council Budget 2026/27

North Yorkshire Councillors have approved the 2026/27 budget and renewed calls for a fairer national funding deal for rural areas. The Council continues to face major financial pressures, including more than £40 million lost each year through national funding changes.

To balance the budget, £17 million in reserves will be used alongside a 4.99% council tax rise (the maximum permitted without a referendum). Leaders stressed the need for a funding system that recognises the higher cost of delivering services in large rural counties like ours.

Key investment areas include:

- £60m for new care and support hubs
- £15m additional funding for children's services
- £1.4m per year to expand educational psychology capacity

Allison

Allison Routledge

allison.grapevine@gmail.com

To cheer you up...

Why did the scarecrow win an award? Because he was outstanding in his field.

Why can't a nose be twelve inches long? Because then it would be a foot!

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes. She gave me a hug.

Why did the teddy bear skip dessert? Because it was already stuffed.

Why are ghosts bad at lying? Because you can see right through them

My boss told me to have a good day, so I went home.

Why was the broom late? Because it swept in.

Why do skeletons not fight each other? They do not have the guts

Why did the golfer bring two pairs of pants? In case he got a hole in one.

Sandy's mum has four kids; North, West, East.
What is the name of the fourth child? Sandy!

Why is a football stadium always cold? It has lots of fans!

What do you call two bananas on the floor?
Slippers.



Church News & Services

Seamer Methodist Church

Refurbishment of the Church Building

During recent weeks a lot of work has been carried out on the building and the surrounding gardens. These works include roof repairs, redecoration, new handmade cushions, new carpet (expected within the next 6 weeks), removal of an overgrown tree at the entrance, repainting of the railings, along with updating maintenance relating to fire protection, heating etc. I'm sure to have missed something but sincere thanks go to the members of the Church who have arranged all this. Hopefully you will call in to see these improvements!

Thought for May to July

As I was skimming through a book entitled 101 Reasons to get up in the morning, I came across the following quote by Dickie Bird MBE
'The good Lord gave everyone a gift.
You must use that gift to the best of your ability.
Work very hard at that gift, and you will then succeed in life.
Remember to thank the Lord for the gift'

Welcome to Worship

All from 10.30AM

17/05/2026 Led by Rev A Peacock
24/05/2026 Led by Local members
31/05/2026 Led by Rev J Jackson
07/06/2026 To be arranged
14/06/2026 Led by Ron Kirk
21/06/2026 Led by local members
28/06/2026 Led by Rev J Jackson
05/07/2026 To be arranged
12/07/2026 Led by David Sills

19/07/2026 Circuit Service at Stokesley
26/07/2026 Led by David Sills

Everyone is always very welcome to come and join.

Time for a Smile

Teacher. 'If you had £5 in one pocket and £5 in the other pocket, what would you have?'
Pupil. Someone else's trousers on.



Mental Health

Many men know when they're struggling with their mental health, but taking the first step can feel overwhelming. Often, the instinct is to push through, keep quiet or tell themselves it's just part of life.

Shift Your Focus is a new campaign designed with that reality in mind. Instead of asking men to open up straight away, it offers simple, practical ways to change perspective and take small steps that feel achievable. It's a starting point that fits into everyday life, especially for those just trying to get through the week.



For more information visit:

<https://yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk/project/shift-your-focus/>



**NORTH
YORKSHIRE
COUNCIL**



All North Yorkshire residents must register to use the household waste recycling centres

Conditions apply for certain vehicles

For further information and to register visit
www.northyorks.gov.uk/hwrc

In partnership with  orwaste



St Martin's Churchyard

Unfortunately, there is an ongoing issue with dogs being walked off lead within the churchyard. Whilst we appreciate that this is also a public footpath providing access to the surrounding fields, we respectfully ask all dog walkers to remember that the churchyard is sacred ground and a place of remembrance for many families.

There have been incidents of dogs fouling on graves and causing distress to those visiting and tending loved ones' resting places.

We kindly ask that all dogs are kept on a lead at all times whilst within the churchyard.

Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Mobile Post Office

The mobile post office van comes to the village on Tuesdays from 10:25 to 10:55am, parking on the low green near the post box. It offers a full range of services and greetings cards, newspapers, magazines and sweets can also be purchased.



Do You Need A Lift To Stokesley? To The Shops?

The Community Bus now comes to Seamer on Friday at approximately 10.10 am and returns at 12.00 noon. Contact Community Care to book a place on 01642 710085.



Stokesley & District
Community Care
Association



Could a Befriending Service Help Someone You Know?



Stokesley & District Community Care Association offers a local befriending service for people who may be feeling isolated due to age, disability or loneliness.

The service provides friendly companionship and practical support through a team of trained and DBS-checked volunteers from across the local community. Befrienders can visit people at home, assist with shopping, or simply help someone get out of the house and enjoy a change of scenery and conversation.

Where possible, volunteers are matched with people who share similar interests, helping to build genuine friendships and companionship.

The service itself is free, although there may be a small mileage contribution requested for outings or shopping trips.



Stokesley & District
Community Care
Association

Charity No: 1178776

In a world where many people can go days without meaningful conversation, services like this can make a huge difference to wellbeing, confidence and independence.

The organisation is also always keen to hear from anyone interested in volunteering their time to support others in the community.

For more information about the Befriending Service, contact Stokesley & District Community Care Association on:

01642 710085

Monday to Friday, 9am – 4pm

Email: enquiries@stokesleycca.org.uk

Website: www.stokesleycca.org.uk

Oil Club

Order dates, 1st week in November, January, March, May, September.

Delivery approximately 3rd week in the month.

They can also organise boiler servicing and tank replacement discounts for you.

If you need oil before then then call us we may still be able to order at a discount.



Contacts: David Ward 01642 710333 or Gordon Reed 01642 711495.

Village Hall News & Events

Pop In

Is held in the village hall on Mondays during school terms from 10am to noon. Come along and meet up with friends and neighbours for tea/coffee and home made scones. Cost £2. Everyone welcome.

Now & Then

Magazines are available to collect from the village hall when open (see hall timetable).

Play and Stay

Held in the village hall, Thursdays 10 – 11.30am, for all pre-school children and their parents/grandparents/carers. Cost £2.50 per child. For more information contact allison at: allison.grapevine@gmail.com

Bridge Group

Held in the village hall on Thursdays from 6.30 to 8.30pm. It costs £3 per session and includes refreshments.

Contact Yvonne on 01642 710804.

Pilates Class

This group now meets on Tuesdays for two sessions 6 –7pm and 7–8pm in the village hall. You can either pay as you go at the class which is £7, or book online via the website at:

<https://gymcatch.Com/app/provider/1491/events>.

Please let me know if you would like to join in, just so I know numbers, and please bring your own mat. Any questions? Contact Rachel Chapman email – thehealthtoolkit@outlook.com or message on 07946 324080

Table Tennis

Held in the village hall on Wednesdays from 7 – 9pm. Cost £2.50 a session. Contact Christine Baptist on 07563 218372.

Carpet Bowls

Held in the village hall on Tuesdays 10am – noon. Cost – £2.50 per session. Come along and join us for a very informal game of carpet bowls, it's gentle exercise, a good laugh with a tea/coffee break.

Contact Christine on 01642 701733

Book Club

Book club continues to meet monthly on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall at 8.30 pm and we take turns to bring refreshments and choose the next book.

Village Hall Book Swap

Do you have any books that you have read and no longer want. Would you like to donate them to the village hall book swap for other residents to read and enjoy? They can be left at the hall when it is open for activities (see hall timetable).



Monday	Pop-In 10 - 12 am	
Tuesday	Carpet Bowls 10-12am	Pilates Classes 6-7pm and 7-8pm Hall Committee meeting 7.30pm (1st Tues every second month) Seamer Parish Council 7.00pm (3rd Tues every second month) Book Club 8.30 pm (4th Tuesday)
Wednesday		Table Tennis 7-9pm
Thursday	Play and Stay 10 - 11.30 am Bridge Group 6.30 to 8.30pm	

Seamer Village Hall 100+ Club

100+

February winners (121 members)

1st	£20	55	Caroline Walker, The Green
2nd	£15	39	June Brodrick, Leconfield
3rd	£12	24	Gill Burton, Hilton Road
4th	£ 8	33	Pat Bayliss, Stainton Road
5th	£ 6	47	Mark Murphy, Leconfield

March winners (118 members)

1st	£20	85	Jim Scheilling, Hilton Road
2nd	£17	90	Rob Hodgson, Hilton Road
3rd	£13	78	Nick Walton, Stainton Road
4th	£ 9	12	Stephen Doughty, Brackenhill Walk

April winners (118 members)

1st	£20	113	Nick Hill, Croft Hills
2nd	£17	25	Jane McGill, Leconfield
3rd	£13	102	David Ward, The Green
4th	£ 9	48	Joan Barnes, Leconfield

You will see that unfortunately the membership has dropped to 118 members. The number of prizes has therefore been reduced to four each month. I hope that you will continue supporting the club which contributes to keeping the hall open.

For those members who joined in May to July last year, this means that you are due to join again. I will contact you by email, phone or call and see you. If you are not at home, I will leave a letter with details of how to contact me.

To help me to remind you when your renewal fees are due, could you please let me have your e-mail address or telephone number. This is easier than me coming to see you.

If you have recently moved here and would like to become a member

or to rejoin, it costs £12 a year per number and each month half the monthly money is given out as prize money and the other half goes to the village hall funds.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Christine Cooper

chris_cooper1@hotmail.com

01642 701733

Items To Recycle

Plastic Milk Bottle Tops

You can leave your bottle tops – from the plastic cartons of fresh milk – washed please, at the village hall when it is open for activities or take them direct to Rea Funeral Services in Stokesley and place them in the box outside.

Used stamps

Please save your used postage stamps to donate to charity. I pass them onto Victoria Turton who comes to Book Club in the village hall.

All you need to do is cut the stamp from the envelope leaving a 1cm border, take them to the village hall and add them to the new collection box on the book case to the right of the main door.

Blister Strips

These are how most medications come these days. I used to collect and send them on to Superdrug. This was stopped last year. I see that The Discovery Centre (library) in Great Ayton are collecting them now if anyone wants to leave them there.

Thank you - Ann Thomas



Speedwatch Update

Since the last Grapevine report, Seamer Community Speedwatch has continued monitoring traffic speeds across Seamer and Tame Bridge, alongside further deployments of the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) system.

The latest VAS data provides a useful comparison with previous monitoring periods and highlights some encouraging trends – but also some ongoing concerns regarding excessive speeding through our communities.

VAS Results

SEAMER

The VAS was deployed for 21 days during each monitoring period (starting 20/10/2025 and 23/02/2026). The speed limit through Seamer remains 30mph.

Vehicle numbers during the latest deployment were significantly lower (23,000 compared with 29,000), possibly due to ongoing roadworks, particularly as weekday traffic reduced far more noticeably than weekend traffic.

Encouragingly, the overall average speed reduced slightly from 28.1mph to 27.8mph, with noticeable improvements on Mondays and Thursdays. The highest recorded speed remained unchanged at 50mph.

However, despite these positive signs, approximately one in three vehicles travelling through Seamer still exceed the 30mph limit. There have also recently been several road traffic accidents in and around the village, reinforcing ongoing concerns around speeding.

TAME BRIDGE

The Tame Bridge VAS deployments also covered two 21-day periods, beginning on 10/11/2025 and 16/03/2026. The speed limit remains 40mph.

Traffic volumes were almost identical during both monitoring

periods, although peak-time traffic increased during the latest deployment.

Unlike Seamer, average speeds increased from 35.4mph to 36.2mph, whilst the highest recorded speed rose from 75mph to 80mph – recorded at 4:25pm on Tuesday 24/03/2026.

The proportion of drivers exceeding the speed limit has also risen from 18% to 22%, which is particularly concerning given that higher speeds are increasingly occurring during busier traffic periods.

There appears to be a growing trend of most drivers travelling responsibly, whilst a smaller number deliberately ignore the limits and continue driving at excessive speeds.

With the growing number of quiet electric vehicles capable of much faster acceleration, concerns around pedestrian and road safety are only likely to increase if speeds are not properly monitored and enforced.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

A small number of Community Speedwatch sessions were carried out in Seamer during February and March. Results showed around 90% of vehicles travelling below 35mph – the police threshold above which offences can be formally recorded.

However, many of the vehicles exceeding this threshold were travelling significantly faster and often showed little sign of slowing down when approaching volunteers.

Unfortunately, due to holidays and illness, volunteer numbers have reduced and additional volunteers are urgently needed to help continue monitoring efforts.



SPEEDWATCH FIGURES FOR 2025

- 19 monitoring sessions carried out
- 4,763 vehicles monitored
- 357 speeding offences recorded

Action Taken

- 219 first warning letters issued
- 27 second warning letters issued
- 3 third warning letters issued

Police advise that drivers receiving a third warning letter should ideally receive a personal visit from officers, although this is not always possible due to limited resources.

Driver details are also shared with the Road Policing Unit and Neighbourhood Police Teams, who monitor for repeat anti-social driving behaviour.

Now that North Yorkshire permits fixed speed cameras to be deployed on its roads, there is a strong argument for one to be regularly used in Seamer and Tame Bridge.

Whether you agree or disagree, residents are encouraged to share their views with Speedwatch members, Community Police Officers, North Yorkshire Police, local councillors, MPs or other elected representatives.

The Speedwatch group is always looking for additional volunteers. The more volunteers available, the more often monitoring sessions can take place.

Anyone interested in joining can contact the Parish Council Clerk at: clerk@seamerparishcouncil.gov.uk

David Campy

On behalf of Seamer Community Speedwatch and Seamer Parish Council



Village Green Damaged

As I am sure many of you will have noticed the central village green has suffered a lot of damage over the last few months from vehicles driving on it or parking on it. This area is an integral part of our village and it is a shame to see it in this condition.



Please be aware that the council is currently looking into how we can solve this problem. Options so far are boulders around the back edge and sides, possible low-level fencing or planters. We are also considering initially putting up some sort of signage to ask people not to park or drive over the green. We suspect, although have no proof, that much of the damage is done by delivery drivers or maybe the bin wagons but as we have never seen this happen, we can't say for certain.

If you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact any member of the council with your ideas - www.seamerparishcouncil.gov.uk

Stokesley Loop

Would you like to join the Stokesley Loop newsletter?

It is a regular newsletter informing you of local events, what's on at the Globe – library, Community Care Association, Police matters, U3a news, Farmers Markets, photos and much more.

It is free and anyone can join the Loop by emailing stokesleyloop@gmail.com

St Martin's Church coffee morning

The coffee morning held on Friday April 24th in Stokesley Town Hall raised £375 for church funds. Thank you to everyone who helped, donated tombola prizes and cakes for the cake stall, to make it such a success.

Jumble Sale 2026

After a lapse of eight years the famous Seamer Village Hall Jumble Sale re-emerged on Saturday April 25th.

What a day it was!! The sun shone and the buyers came out in force from all parts of the area and what a feast awaited them. There was everything from the smallest ornament to a gaming chair, new designer clothes, artwork, all manner of household goods, toys, books, records and even Mexican poncho's. Did you come along and get a bargain? If not, you don't know what you missed – even the delicious home-made cakes to have with your cup of tea or coffee.

It was so successful that over £1000 was raised for the hall refurbishment fund. A tremendous achievement for a small village hall. A big thank you to everyone who generously donated items to sell and to the volunteers who gave their time to help to set up, bake the cakes and help on the day to make it such a success. Also, to James Bainbridge and family for allowing us the use of The Green as a car park.

Roll on next year for another one!!

Christine Baptist

Seamer Village Hall Committee member



Rememberance Day Poppies

Although it is only May, we are starting to knit/crochet poppies for the displays around the parish in November.

Would you like to come along to the village hall and knit/crochet poppies on the first Friday of each month from 1-3pm. If you don't knit, would you like to come and sew them onto display sheets/netting and enjoy the company of others and have a cuppa as well.

If you would like to knit/crochet poppies at home, they can be made in any shade of red wool. Patterns can be found online but if anyone requires one, please let me know. Wool and needles are also available. Wool can be bought at Boyes or the Cancer Research shop in Stokesley.

Diary dates: June 5th, July 3rd, August 7th, September 4th October 2nd.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Christine Baptist
07563 218372



Parish Notices

We would like to make this section for all announcements for families in the parish – e.g. births, weddings, anniversaries and deaths.

If you have an announcement you would like to be included, please contact Christine Cooper at chris_cooper1@hotmail.com or on 01642 701733.

