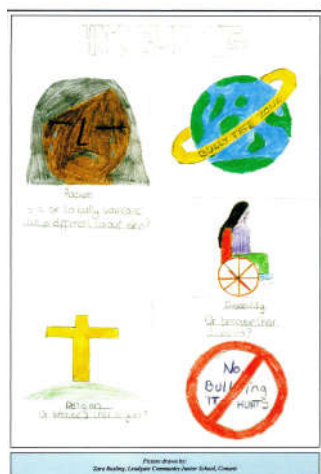


No.1/12 (January)



Well, the celebrations are over for another year but before I go any further, I should like to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and the 'man in the red suit' was good to you all. Thankfully the white stuff was conspicuous by its absence but no doubt before the month is out, we shall be seeing it.

I don't know if you remember but in this month's edition last year, I told you about Mrs. Sarah BLAYLOCK, one of our village's older residents, who had just celebrated her 99th birthday, well I have some sad news, Mrs. BLAYLOCK passed away a couple of weeks before Christmas and behalf of everyone in Leadgate I should like to offer sincere condolences to her family. Unknown to me our village had another resident who was also 99 years young but who sadly has passed away recently and that was Mrs. Betty FRENCH, a resident of 'Haven House' again on behalf of everyone I should like to offer her family our sincere condolences.



CONGRATULATIONS:

Last year I ended by telling you about Leadgate County Infants and Nursery School coming first in a competition called 'Grow with Esh', well I am following in the same vein, and starting this year by telling you about a pupil at Leadgate Junior School by the name of Zara RUSLING aged 11 years who has won 1st prize in a competition to design a poster promoting 'Anti-Bullying Week' which ran from 14th – 25th November, 2011 organised by Durham Constabulary in conjunction with its Youth Independent Advisory Group. The competition was aimed at raising awareness of the consequences of any type of bullying amongst young people. Zara didn't know she had won the competition until the morning of Thursday, 15th December, 2011, when, during morning assembly PCSO Laura BACKHOUSE, one of the organisers, presented her with her prize, a mountain bike, donated by Durham Agency Against Crime (DAAC). This is Zara's poster and on behalf of every one in our village, heartiest congratulations to her.

In case you can't understand the poster, on the left is a coloured face depicting bullying because of colour: the globe represents a bullying free zone: the wheelchair depicts bullying because of disability: the cross depicts bullying on the grounds of religion and the 'No Waiting' sign says No bullying, it hurts.



MORE GOOD NEWS – Sunday 'buses from Consett to Durham to re-start:

Recently the N.H.S. has come on board a three way partnership with local councillors and 'Go North East' to bring a return of Sunday 'buses between Consett and Durham. This service will provide public transport access to their local hospital to the people of Consett, Leadgate, Iveston and Lanchester each Sunday, as well as shopping opportunities and access to rail services.

After months of spadework and detailed discussions with the Transport Section and County Hall, Councillors BARNETT and ROBINSON from Blackhill, Benfieldside & Shotley Bridge Division: Councillors SHIELD and STELLING from Leadgate & Medomsley Division and Councillor TEMPLE from Consett North Division have already reached agreement about allocating funds from their Neighbourhood Budget for the restoration of this service. Everyone welcomes the decision of the N.H.S. and Primary Care Trust to throw their weight behind the scheme with a one-off grant of over £2,500 to help kick-start the scheme. Everyone involved knows this is a one-off opportunity. The scheme has to become financially self-supporting over the next two years because there will be no ongoing subsidy, but all the partners agree that if local people support the service and use it in numbers, the Sunday service to Durham has a future. There will be an inevitable delay in completing all the formalities, but the future looks a little brighter. In a few months' time this much needed service will be have been restored.



The winning numbers for St. Ives' '100 Club' draw for December, 2011 are as follows:

1st prize – No. 88: 2nd prize – 12



ANNUAL LOSCAS AWARDS

Annual awards of the Leadgate Official Sustainable Community Awards (LOSCAS) will be held on Friday, 9th March, 2012 in Leadgate Workingmen's Club commencing 7.30 p.m. These awards are in recognition of individuals and groups of people who have made a significant contribution towards making Leadgate a safe, supportive and friendly place to live and work. A nomination form is enclosed with this newsletter and should be completed and returned by 29th February, 2012 to either the Community Centre or 53 Durham Road, Leadgate or it can be completed by e mail by going to loscas@katalist.org.uk



PARTNERSHIP NEWS:

At this month's meeting held on Wednesday, 18th January, 2012 Councillors STELLING and SHIELD informed us the new bus shelters were in place and over a period of time the others would be replaced. It has been noted the one in St. Ives Road moves in the wind and this is being looked into. Villa Real Bridge was again mentioned but because of the 'credit crunch' it is still ongoing, it was suggested perhaps the local councillors could use some of their Neighbourhood Initiative Fund to do some cosmetic work but they felt as the money was from local people, it could be put to better use, especially as the bridge is owned by Sustrans, however Councillors SHIELD and STELLING are still in discussion with all stakeholders (DCC and Sustrans) about the long term viability of the bridge. The speed cushions in St. Ives Road, 9 sets of 3, are going ahead, but a Traffic Regulation is required first. Durham County Council (DCC), which has 15 recycling plants, wants to reduce them to 9 and one of the ones they wish to close is Broomsdene or as we know it, Stoney Heap. A petition with 5,000 signatures against the closure will be presented to DCC and will be debated. If the suggested sites close there will only be one site for the whole of North Durham, meaning approximately 165,000 people would be using the site at the Morrison Busty and in case you didn't know, Derwentside has the highest level of fly tipping.



POLICE REPORT for period 4th December, 2011 – 5th January, 2012

During the above period a total of 84 calls were made of which only 8 were community related and another month has passed without there being any alcohol seizures or dwellinghouse burglaries in Leadgate, however in the Tyne Avenue area an off road motor bike was stolen. This bike is green, with Monster energy drink graphics on it. In the Green Street area, a pedal cycle and power washer were stolen. Three incidents of anti-social behaviour were reported, one in Dunelm Walk area, one in Durham Road area and one in the Tyne Avenue area. In the Dunelm Walk and Durham Road incidents youths were stopped and warned about their actions. The incident in Tyne Avenue involved a group of youths throwing items towards houses. In the Watling Bungalows area a car window and a kitchen window were damaged and a car windscreen was damaged in the Watling Street area, a house in this area had lead stolen from the roof. If you have any information about any of these incidents, please pass it to us via the Street Safe box situated in the Post Office.

Some of the above thefts were from sheds so it might be worth thinking about securing them. Yes, padlocks can be cut off but it will slow the would be thief down and the noise could alert others.

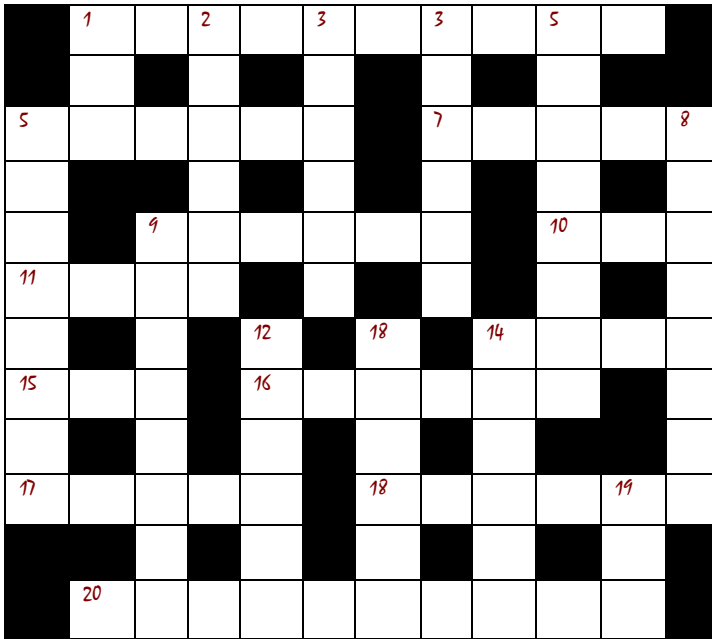
Over recent weeks there have been a number of reports of people having their car tyre slashed overnight on and around the Tyne Avenue and Eden Avenue areas. Where possible, please park your vehicle on your driveway or in a place where you can see it from your house. If you have time to do so, please check around your tyres before driving away to ensure that no objects have been placed near your vehicle which could cause damage to the tyres. Please remain vigilant and report any suspicious sightings to the police. **New number for non-emergency calls is 101.**

At this month's PACT meeting we were informed Durham County Council's Civil Enforcement Officers, the new name for Traffic Wardens, who have been working in the area and issuing warning notices, will now be issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for real, so motorists be warned you can no longer park where you like.

The next PACT meeting will be Wednesday, 15th February, 2012 at 6 p.m. in the Community Centre. Please continue to utilise the Street Safe box in the Post Office and remember, PCSO Michael CRAINE and PC Louise RAMSHAW are always available to be spoken to whenever you see them out and about in the village. Whichever way you let us know, any information received will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence. Any enquiries, please contact our relevant officer on 0191 3752446 direct, 0345 6060375 switchboard or e-mail Consett-NPT@Durham.pnn.police.uk

CROSSWORD

CLUES



ACROSS

1. Specific (10)
6. Tantalised (6)
7. Not drunk (5)
9. Strict (6)
10. Decay (3)
11. Violent disturbance (4)
14. Auction (4)
15. Wildebeest (3)
16. Package (6)
17. Sound (5)
18. Votes in (6)
20. Comprehend (10)

DOWN

1. Baked food item (3)
2. Apple type (6)
3. Rather (6)
4. Invisible (6)
5. Relating to or living in trees (8)
6. Aromatic herb (8)
8. Backs off (8)
9. Answer (8)
12. Globe (6)
13. Cleans feather (6)
14.Williams, tennis star (6)
19. Mr. Danson, actor (3)

(Answers overleaf)



MY BRILLIANT GRANDDAD, by Jack Smith

Episode 1:

I'm Jack SMITH, aged eight and a quarter years, that old bloke with the silver hair, singing "Zipper Dee Do Da, Zipper Dee Ay, My o' My What a Wonderful Day", that's my Granddad. He's the best Granddad in the world, he's 'brill'. Everyone worries about him because of his dementia. He gets told off all the time.

They worry when he goes out on his own and can't find his way home, but I think he's brilliant, he's so cool and so funny. He's just hellish. Look, he's singing again: "There's a blue bell on my shoulder, it's truth, it's actual, and everything is satisfactual". He picks me up and we dance around the room dead fast, it's brill!! Granddad spins us both around the room, singing at the top of his voice, but someone always comes to spoil our fun. "Stop it Harry you're going too fast, you're too rough with that child". The coolest thing about Granddad is he doesn't take any notice, he just laughs, with the biggest smile you've ever seen. I like it best when he changes the words of his songs, for instance, "Does your mother ride a bike in the middle of the night and I'll just do anything I like, whoo, I'll just do anything I like!" It's a bit strange when he can't remember my name or who I am, but I don't really mind, having a Granddad with dementia is better than having no Granddad or even a normal one. He's the only grown up that never gets tired of playing with me, he's brill! When my Granddad is playing with me and my mates, it gives my Nana some time on her own. If we stay out for a long time we have loads of fun. Nana gets a rest and she's not so tired, she even seems happier, so that's good I think. Granddad's more settled when he's been running around outside with me and that's good too.



ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

With the start of a new year comes the request for money. I should like to remind the Community Centre's many members that the yearly subscriptions of £2.00 per person are now due and if you wish to vote in the Annual General Meeting in March, this should be paid before 12th March, 2012. From Thursday, 2nd February, 2012 I will be in the Centre every Thursday between 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. (attending the Sewing Club) if you would like to renew your subscription there.



GOOD NEWS:

After their break for Christmas, the Community Centre's Sewing Club and the Salvation Army coffee mornings will be re-commencing – the Sewing Club on Thursday, 2nd February, 2012 at 1 p.m. and the Salvation Army will be having their first coffee morning of the year on Saturday, 4th February, 2012 at 10.30 a.m.



MOBILE GYM:

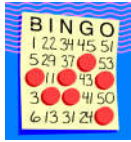
In June last year, I told you about the possibility of Durham County Council's 'Wellness on Wheels (WOW) programme coming to the Community Centre car park and guess what, it is going to take place. The WOW mobile gym will be parked in the Community Centre car park from 24th February - 20th April, 2012. Anyone can use its facilities **FREE, Yes, FREE**. After approximately 5 weeks, the members will be asked if they want a smaller version of the gym to be located in their area, in our case, in the Community Centre. This gym will not cater for body builders, it is a family type gym, catering for all ages from 10 years of age and will be open 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. on Friday.



DIARY FOR FEBRUARY, 2012



1st Leadgate and District Carers meetings held in the Community Centre, commencing 1.30 p.m.



4th Salvation Army coffee morning and jumble sale held in the Army Ha commencing 10.30 a.m.



6th St. Ives' Church bingo held in the Community Centre, commencing 7.30 p.m.

Leadgate Methodist Chapel are having a 'Broth Supper and Quiz', commencing 6.30 p.m., tickets are £3.00 each and can be obtained by contacting Joan on 01207 509904



9th Leadgate and District Historical Society meeting held in Leadgate Methodist Hall, commencing 2 p.m., presentation by M. SOUTHWORTH, entitled 'Up the Bank to Consett'

11th Two coffee mornings today:
Pont and Bradley held in Bradley Church Hall at 10 a.m.
St. Ives' held in the Community Centre at 10.15 a.m.



13th Salvation Army Ladies' Fellowship held in the Army Hall commencing 7.30 p.m.

15th Leadgate and District Carers meeting held in the Community Centre at 1.30 p.m.
PACT meeting held in the Community Centre at 6 p.m.
Leadgate Area Partnership held in the Community Centre at 7 p.m.



17th Leadgate Methodist Church's 'Messy Church' held in the Church Hall commencing 3.30 p.m.

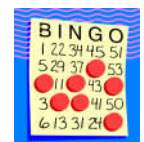


18th Three coffee mornings today:
Leadgate Methodist Chapel in the church hall at 10 a.m.
Brooms Church held in the St. Joseph's Hall at 10.30 a.m.
Salvation Army held in the Army Hall at 10.30 a.m.



20th Leadgate Women's Institute meeting held in the Community Centre commencing 2 p.m., the speaker is the Reverend Canon Glyn EDWARDS of St. Andrew's, Newcastle upon Tyne

27th St. Ives' Church bingo held in the Community Centre commencing 7.30 p.m.



If you have any items you wish to have published or advertised, any comments you wish to make, please let us know before 15th February, 2012, the contact names and telephone numbers are as follows: Brenda SURTEES, 01207 507506 or Jean HUGHES, 01207 506326.

If you wish to contact either of our County Councillors their details are as follows:

Councillor Watts STELLING – 01207 501674, mobile 07500125328:

Councillor Alan SHIELD – 01207 562080, mobile 07500125327

CROSSWORD ANSWERS:

ACROSS: 1 Particular: 6 Teased: 7 Sober: 9 Severe: 10 Rot: 11 Riot: 14 Sale: 15 Gnu 16 Parcel: 17 Noise: 18 Elects: 20 Understand: **DOWN:** 1 Pie: 2 Russet: 3 Indeed: 4 Unseen: 5 Arboreal: 6 Tarragon: 8 Retreats: 9 Solution: 12 Sphere: 13 Preens: 14 Serena: 19 Ted.

