

LEADGATE'S NEWS



Leadgate Area Partnership
Charity No. 1098479

No. 1/13 (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 now unfortunately it has arrived with a vengeance.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL:

Between 6th – 9th December, 2012 Leadgate Methodist Church held a Christmas Tree Festival and if you didn't visit this display you missed a real treat. There were 25 trees, each decorated by an organisation/business from the village, e.g. Open Arms, the Community Centre, the Paper Shop and even the police. Not only was there an array of trees but there was also a display of Christmas toys, one in particular caught everyone attention, it was a man playing a piano and every time you changed his hat he played a tune that corresponded with his hat.



Before I leave Christmas, I must give a vote of thanks to the ladies of Leadgate Methodist Church, who, on Friday, 21st December, 2012, risked life and limb, at the traffic lights to be precise, to hand out a cracker and Christmas pudding to everyone they could 'capture'. I am told when it was safe to do so, much to the astonishment of drivers and passengers, they were going up to stationary vehicles and handing out the Christmas goodies. I am told everyone who received this gift was highly delighted and on behalf of them I should like to sincerely thank the members of the Church who were involved in this venture.



CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS:

The 31st January, 2013 is a very special day for Mrs. Veronica (Vera) McGURK, a former resident of our village who now resides in St. Mary's Convent on Ebchester Bank. On this day Mrs. McGURK or as some may know her, Miss CLERE, will be celebrating a very special birthday, her **100th** to be exact. For many years Mrs. McGURK was a teacher at Brooms School and part of the time was even headmistress, she was also the organist at Brooms Church. Unfortunately several years ago so a result of ill health Mrs. McGURK had to give up her home and moved to St. Mary's.

Since I have been doing the Newsletter this the first time I have had pleasure of reporting such a milestone birthday, so on behalf of all the residents of Leadgate, her family and many friends, I should like to wish Mrs. McGURK a very, very happy birthday. I understand there may be someone else in our village who will be celebrating this milestone sometime this year, so if you know who it is, please let me know. The picture on the left of Mrs. McGURK (apologies for the quality, it is a copy of a copy) appeared in the book produced to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Brooms Church and shows her sitting at the organ. Apparently she was first "commanded" by Sister Agnes Gertrude to play the organ in 1937 and by the time this photograph was taken in 2002, she had given 65 years to the service of the musical (as well as the spiritual) life of the Church.



LICENSING CEREMONY

On Wednesday, 9th January, 2013 the Reverend David Robert CLEUGH was licensed by the Bishop of Jarrow, the Right Reverend Mark BRYANT, as Priest in Charge of the Parish of St. Ives, he and his wife, Hannah, pictured right will be residing at the Vicarage behind St. Ives Church. Hannah, a local girl from Shotley Bridge is to be licensed as Chaplain of University College, Durham on Wednesday, 16th January, 2013



PARTNERSHIP NEWS:

This month's Partnership meeting took place on Wednesday, 16th January, 2013 and most of what was discussed is in the Councillors' Report. The temporary traffic lights in Watling Street and at the Hat and Feather were mentioned, these lights are necessary as electric cables and fibre optics are being installed in connection with wind turbines at Shotley Field.

The Partnership has applied for two grants from Derwent Valley Area Partnership's 'It's Up2U' scheme, one in respect of Watling Wood and the other is for funding for the newsletter to continue. The Partnership has to give a presentation in respect of these applications and then the community has to vote. **This presentation will take place on Saturday, 2nd March, 2013 at Derwentside College, Consett, between 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.,** so please make a note in your diary/calendar because we will need as many people from Leadgate as possible to attend and cast their vote.



COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

BOWLING CLUB - there has been another incident of anti-social behaviour with benches and seats overturned, bedding plants uprooted and spread over the green which has suffered some minor indentation damage. Councillors STELLING and SHIELD have provided funding for a secure fence at the Club.

OPEN CASTING - BRADLEY OPEN CAST – UK Coal have challenged the decision by the Independent Planning Inspector in dismissing the appeal following the public meeting held in Leadgate Workingmen's Club in March, 2012 – the hearing in the High Court in London is scheduled for June of this year.

WATLING WOOD – proposals to re-designate ALL of Watling Wood to a Greenfield Site rather than the current Brownfield designation are still being considered.

VILLA REAL BRIDGE - funding for the removal of the bridge and a new road depends on the site being developed for housing and discussions are still ongoing.

WOOD NOT HOUSES – Councillors STELLING and SHIELD are very happy to announce that a new wood, to be called Jubilee Wood, between the by-pass, Willow Crescent, Lilac Place and Laurel Drive has started and over 8,000 are to be planted.

POLICE REPORT FOR PERIOD 13th December, 2012 – 16th January, 2013

A total of 108 calls were made to the police, 13 of which were community related. No dwelling house burglaries were reported, however in Pont Bungalows two sheds were broken into and tools taken.



ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - at Pont View youths were reported to be playing football in the street and kicking the ball against the telephone box, however when the police arrived there were no youths in the area, officers made enquiries and residents said youths are in the area regularly but just being kids. A local male attended the Doctors' Surgery, whilst intoxicated, to collect medication and because of his condition his medication was refused, this caused him to 'kick off'. When Officers arrived he was arrested because of his behaviour. Youths were reported playing around rear gardens of Ponthead Mews and local youths who were stopped in the area were warned about their actions. A report was received of youths throwing snowballs in the Annaside Mews area but when officer arrived no youths were in the area.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE: Wing mirrors have been stolen from a car in Durham Road: unknown persons have broken house windows in Bradley Cottages: an unknown person has kicked the rear door, causing damage, to a property in Green Street and the Bowling Club has been targeted again, believed by local youths who have entered the Club upturned plant pots and smeared mud on the pavilion window (see Partnership News for further details).

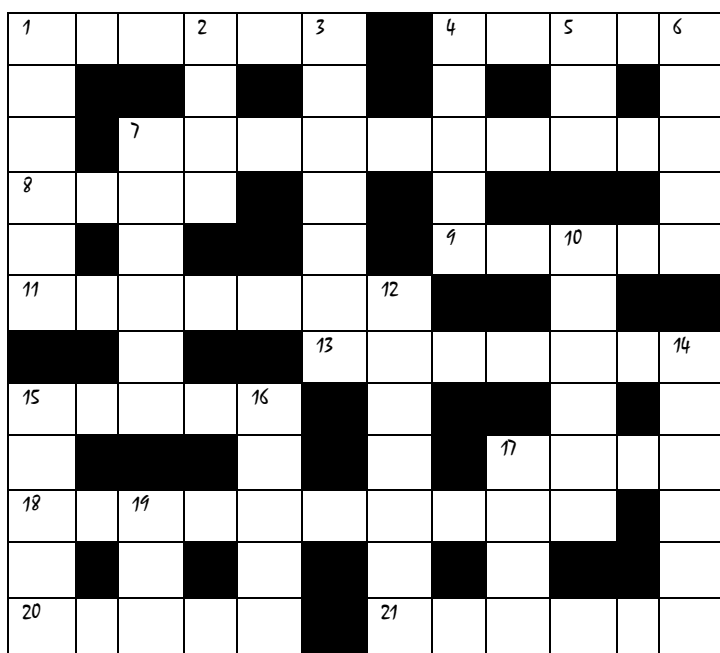
THEFT: Leadgate Workingmen's Club has had lead removed from the roof: garden furniture, which was found nearby, had been stolen from a property in Ponthead Mews: a report was received of two people breaking into a Council owned vehicle, both were arrested and in Dere Park copper was stolen from the roof of a van.

POSITIVE NEWS: Two males have been charged with a racially aggravated public order offence and criminal damage: one male has been banned from driving following a crash before Christmas: one male has been reported for Theft from Khan's Foodstore: one male has been cautioned for an assault in Khan's Foodstore and a vehicle owner was given a Fixed Penalty Notice for causing an obstruction at the rear of North Cross Street.

The next PACT meeting will be on Wednesday, 20th February, 2013 at 6 p.m. in the Community Centre.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team Officers are P.C. 2551 Louise RAMSHAW and P.C.S.O. 7242 Michael CRAINE. Any enquiries, please contact the above officers on **telephone number 101 or e-mail Consett-NPT@durham.pnn.police.uk**

CROSSWORD



CLUES

ACROSS

1. Root vegetable (5)
4. Mass of bees (5)
7. Small decorative gifts (5,5)
8. American state (4)
9. Reimburse (5)
11. Level of command (7)
13. Conundrums (7)
15. Mournful song (5)
17. Undergarments (4)
18. Tennis terms (3-7)
20. Bulky or heavy (5)
21. Hair colour (6)

DOWN

1. Holding of an office (6)
2. Biblical ship-builder (4)
3. Mounted bullfighter (7)
4. Sweetener (5)
5. In the past (3)
6. Untidy (5)
7. Dad (6)
10. Filch (6)
12. State of perfect happiness (7)
14. Planet (6)
15. Narrow channel (5)
16. Premature (5)
17. Doing word (4)
19. Pixie (3)

(Answers overleaf)



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED:

Are you interested in helping people? Are you caring and a good listener? Have you considered using your skills? If so **DERWENTSIDE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP (registered Charity No. 1073863) NEEDS YOU!** For more information please call **0800 313 4220** and speak to Jean.

The Women's World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday, 1st March, 2013 at 2 p.m. and will be held In Leadgate Methodist Church, the speaker will be Mrs. C. PARKER.



YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Please note the yearly subscriptions for membership of the Community Centre are now due. If you wish to vote in the Annual General Meeting to be held on 25th March, 2013 please note, these subscriptions should be paid before this date.



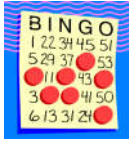
ST. IVES '100 CLUB' MONTHLY DRAW:

The winning numbers for December are as follows: **1st prize – No. 17: 2nd prize – No. 56:**

The winning numbers for January are as follows: **1st prize - No. 116: 2nd prize – No. 31**



DIARY FOR FEBRUARY, 2013



4th St. Ives' Church bingo held in the Community Centre, at 7.30 p.m.

6th Leadgate and District Carers meeting held in the Community Centre at 1.30 p.m.



9th Two coffee mornings today:
Pont and Bradley held in Bradley Chapel Hall at 10 a.m.
Salvation Army held in the Army Hall at 10.30 a.m.

11th Salvation Army Ladies Fellowship meeting held in the Army Hall at 7.30 p.m.



14th Leadgate and District Historical Society meeting held in Leadgate Methodist Church Hall at 2 p.m., presentation by G. NAIRN entitled 'The North East in Old Postcards'

15th Leadgate Methodist Church's 'Messy Church' held in the Church Hall at 3.30 p.m.



16th St. Ives' Church coffee morning held in the Community Centre at 10.15 a.m.

18th Leadgate Women's Institute meeting held in the Community Centre at 2 p.m.



20th Leadgate and District Carers meeting held in the Community Centre at 1.30 p.m.

20th PACT meeting held in the Community Centre at 6 p.m., followed by Leadgate Area Partnership's meeting at 7 p.m.



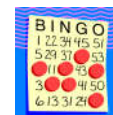
22nd Salvation Army is having a 'Murder/Mystery Night', the audience has to vote as to 'who dun it', there will also be a Faith Supper and the price is £1.50



23rd Salvation Army coffee morning held in the Army Hall at 10.30 a.m.



25th St. Ives' Church bingo held in the Community Centre at 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 20th February, 2013, 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: Councillor Alan SHIELD – 01207 562080

CROSSWORDS ANSWERS:

ACROSS: 1 Turnip: 4 Swarm: 7 Fancy goods: 8 Utah: 9 Repay: 11 Echelon: 14 Riddles: 15 Dirge: 17 Vest: 18 Tie breaker: 20 Hefty: 221 Auburn. **DOWN:** 1 Tenure: 2 Noah: 3 Picador: 4 Sugar: 5 Ago: 6 Messy: 7 Father: 10 Pilfer: 12 Nirvana: 14 Saturn: 15 Ditch: 16 Early: 17 Verb: 19 Elf



