

# LEADGATE'S NEWS



(Leadgate Area Partnership)

Charity No.1098479



No. 1/10 (January)

The festive season is now behind us and I do hope everyone enjoyed themselves even though the weather wasn't too good.

Whilst on the subject of the weather I have to tell you our County Councillors, Watts STELLING and Alan Shield are disappointed with the County Council's response not only in their divisions, but throughout the County in respect of the following:

- (a) Response time of gritting (a good job done once out).
- (b) Topping up of grit bins?
- (c) Since the bad weather started and circumstances allowed the clearance of our local town centre, doctors' surgeries, places of worship (funerals), residential homes and back streets.

The residents of our divisions, Leadgate, Ebchester and Medomsley appreciate the excellent work done by the staff of the County Council however the decisions made by the new unitary council leave a lot to be desired.



At the beginning of December last year, a text message was received by a BBC reporter complaining about the state of our village Christmas tree. This reporter subsequently contacted Councillor Watts STELLING who informed him of how the tree, which was a 'living tree' came to have no top on it, that it had been vandalised in the summer.

After some discussion it was decided the vandalised tree be removed and replaced with a temporary Christmas tree. A tree was purchased from Messrs. J. BEVERIDGE and put in place by Councillor STELLING, local businessman Mr. Martin BOYLE and resident Mr. David SHIELDS. On Christmas

Eve lights were borrowed from Medomsley School by Watts and with the help of Martin and David placed them and tinsel (provided by Leadgate DIY Shop) around our tree, Martin provided a portable generator to enable the lights to be lit for a short period of time as can be seen by the photograph. The people in the photograph were members of Leadgate Methodist Church who were carol singing that evening.

Let us hope by next Christmas we will have our own lights and the facility to have them working without the use of a portable generator, i.e. to have them connected to the main electricity supply. On behalf of the residents of Leadgate I should like to thank Councillor Watts STELLING, Mr. Martin BOYLE, Mr. David SHIELDS, Leadgate DIY Shop and the Community Centre (who paid for the tree), for their efforts in trying to improve the main street of our village and for giving our village, even for a short time, a Christmas tree that we could assemble around and sing carols.



### ST. IVES' MOTHERS' UNION

The picture on the left is of the front of Mothers' Union banner which hangs in St. Ives Church, the picture on the right is of Mrs. Brenda PEARS and Mrs. Carole STOCKDALE, who, over the past few months have been diligently renovating it. The banner has been completely renovated and the beautiful central motif has been incorporated from the original banner.



Brenda and Carole are members of Lamesley Embroidery Group which specialise in ecclesiastic needlework. The group has supplied banners, pulpit falls, altar frontals etc. for churches throughout the North of England as well as for Lesotho in South Africa and Nevis in the Leeward Islands. This type of embroidery is very specialised and if you want to see how beautiful it is, why not pay St. Ives Church a visit.

I have a piece of sad news this month, over the New Year period our community lost a valued member, Mr. John WILLIAMS, an ex Councillor of Derwentside District Council before the new Unitary Authority, passed away on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 at the age of 62 years. John's contribution to our community was enormous and as follows: chair of governors of Leadgate Junior School: a member of Leadgate Gleeman: a Derwentside District Councillor: treasurer of Leadgate Area Partnership: chair of 'Open Arms', committee member of Leadgate Community Association and member and past president of Consett Rotary Club. John, you will be greatly missed, not only by your family but by everyone in Leadgate and the surrounding district for your valued contribution. On behalf of everyone, to Mrs. Joan WILLIAMS and her daughter Joanne and son John I should like to offer our most sincere condolences.



### LEADGATE AREA PARTNERSHIP:

The Partnership's first meeting of the year was held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 and the Chair, M's Linda PEARS paid tribute to the treasurer, Mr. John WILLIAMS and a minutes silence was observed. Our County Councillors, Watts STELLING and Alan SHIELDS were both present and informed the meeting Durham County Council will, as from April, 2010, be employing 6 neighbourhood wardens for Derwentside (this does not include Stanley) who will be able to give out Fixed Penalty tickets, they will be similar to the Police Community Support Officers and will supplement the work done by the PCSOs. They also said the 46a 'bus will not be re-introduced as, according to the 'Bus Company, the X71 was more efficient.

WATLING WOOD was also mentioned and it seems all may not be lost. Whilst planning permission has been granted to Gary HALL, he (Gary Hall) does not own the land and he now has to make a bid to the County Council to purchase the land.

Our County Councillors are concerned when the Civic Centre is demolished to make way for the new ACADEMY Derwentside will become a 'backwater' and will have no 'civic ceremonial building'.

The meeting was also informed some smoke alarms batteries in Derwentside Homes may have a shorter life than the expected 10 years (perhaps only 2 or 3 years) so keep a watch, be alert. The work on 'Haven House' is a little behind scheduled and is now not likely to be finished before May/June, 2010.



### POLICE REPORT – period 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 – 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2010

Over the past few months the scout hut behind the 'Commercial public house', Leadgate has been having problems with youths throwing stones and being abusive. These youths were very good at not being caught but on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2009, their luck ran out, they were caught. Names were taken and the youths have been warned, since then there have been no further calls, however there have been a few calls concerning snowball throwing, hopefully this will stop soon as the snow melts. Generally our area has been quite over the above period, touch wood it stays that way. A bit of good news, one female has been arrested for possession of a controlled substance and there have been no calls regarding off road motor bikes, historically this is a big problem in our area.

Recently we received some good information via the 'Street Safe' box, which has been acted upon, so please continue to utilise this box which is in the Post Office and remember, PCSO CRAINE and PC HENDERSON are available to speak to whenever you see them out and about in the village and remember whichever way you pass on information it will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

PCSO 7242 CRAINE/PC 2164 HENDERSON, telephone 0345 6060365

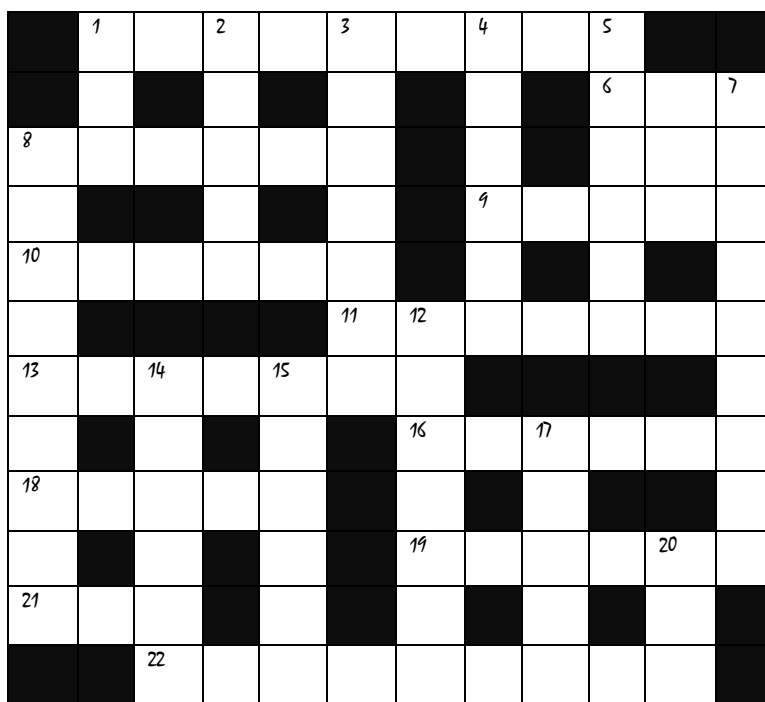
Crimestoppers 0800 555111

# CROSSWORD

# CLUES

## ACROSS

## DOWN



- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Calmness of the mind (9) | 1. Shy (3)                  |
| 6. Small demon or devil (3) | 2. Native New Zealander (5) |
| 8. Stockings (6)            | 3. Lend (7)                 |
| 9. Anaesthetic (5)          | 4. Pressing (6)             |
| 10. To drink (6)            | 5. One or the other (6)     |
| 11. Unstudied (7)           | 7. Palsy (9)                |
| 13. Walks awkwardly (7)     | 8. One living next door (9) |
| 16. Entices (6)             | 12. Bewilder (7)            |
| 18. Gemstones (5)           | 14. Brags (6)               |
| 19. Male relatives (6)      | 15. .... Grantham actor (6) |
| 21. Groove (3)              | 17. Dark brown coffee (5)   |
| 22. Resolute (9)            | 20. Newt (3)                |

(Answers overleaf)



On 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2009, Miss Amanda CAIN held an 'Ann Summers Party' in the 'Golden Lion' public house and she would like to thank all those people who attended and made the evening such a success.



## LEADGATE COMMUNITY CENTRE

After the atrocious weather of the last few weeks, some of you may have forgotten that the Community Centre is open for business and also for private hiring. The Thursday night bingo, last one held 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 will be re-starting on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 at 7 p.m., the Sewing Club which I understand has been greatly missed, will also be re-starting in February but on a different date, it will now be held on a Monday between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. and the starting date is Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2010, you don't have to sew, you can come just for a chat, if you want to learn to sew, Jennifer will be there to assist. The organisers of both these functions look forward to seeing all the original members together with, hopefully, some new ones.

## ST. IVES '100 CLUB'



Here are the winning numbers for the last three months:  
 November: 1<sup>st</sup> prize – No. 66: 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – No. 82: 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – No. 92: 4<sup>th</sup> prize – No. 15  
 December: 1<sup>st</sup> prize – No. 115: 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – No. 19: 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – No. 98: 4<sup>th</sup> prize – No. 16  
 January, 2010: 1<sup>st</sup> prize – No. 109: 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – No. 29: 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – No. 63

## PONT VALLEY NETWORK WALK:



The Pont Valley Network presents 'A Walk on the Wild Side', a guided walk to visit the Pont Burn Boundary Stones, to be held on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2010, commencing 10 a.m. from Dipton Community Centre, refreshments will be available at the end and **please remember to dress appropriately, this is a tough one, a real 'wellie walk'.**

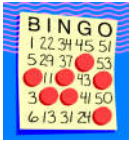
**Don't forget, if you have anything you wish to have published or advertised in next month's issue please let us know before 19<sup>th</sup> February,, 2010, the contact details are as always: Brenda SURTEES, 01207 507506 or Jean HUGHES, 01207 506326**





## DIARY FOR FEBRUARY, 2010

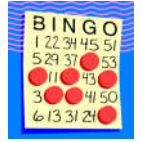
1<sup>st</sup> Community Centre's Sewing Club is re-starting today, Yes on a Monday instead of Thursday, same times 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., why not come along, you don't have to be able to sew, you can just come for a natter.



1<sup>st</sup> St. Ives' Church bingo, held in the Community Centre, commencing 7 p.m.



3<sup>rd</sup> Leadgate and District Carers meeting, held in the Community Centre, commencing 1.30 p.m.



4<sup>th</sup> Community Centre's bingo is re-starting today after the Christmas break, commencing 7 p.m., everyone is welcome.



8<sup>th</sup> Salvation Army Ladies Fellowship, held in the Army Citadel commencing 7.30 p.m.



10<sup>th</sup> Leadgate Methodist Church Men's Forum meeting, held in the Methodist Church Hall, commencing 2 p.m., presentation by Mr. G. WAYNE, entitled 'My Life with Murder'.



11<sup>th</sup> Leadgate and District Historical Society meeting, held in the Methodist Church Hall, commencing 2 p.m., presentation by Mr. T. YOUNG and Mr. T. PARKIN entitled 'Remember When'.



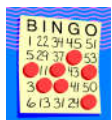
13<sup>th</sup> Three coffee morning today:  
Pont and Bradley held in Bradley Church Hall, commencing 10 a.m.  
St. Ives Church, held in the Community Centre, commencing 10.15 a.m.  
Salvation Army held in the Army Citadel, commencing 10.30 a.m.

16<sup>th</sup> Leadgate Women's Institute meeting, held in the Community Centre, commencing 2 p.m.



17<sup>th</sup> Leadgate and District Carers meeting, held in the Community Centre, commencing 1.30 p.m.

17<sup>th</sup> Leadgate Area Partnership meeting, held in the Community Centre, commencing 7 p.m. If you would like to represent one of the many groups in the village, why not come along, everyone is welcome.



22<sup>nd</sup> St. Ives Church bingo, held in the Community Centre commencing 7 p.m.



24<sup>th</sup> Leadgate Methodist Church Men's Forum meeting, held in the Methodist Church Hall, commencing 2 p.m., presentation by Mr. D. LIDDLE, entitled 'Railways to Country Lanes'

26<sup>th</sup> Leadgate Methodist Church's 'Messy Church', held in the Church Hall, commencing 3.30 p.m.



27<sup>th</sup> Salvation Army Coffee Morning, held in the Army Citadel commencing 10.30 a.m.

28<sup>th</sup> Pont Valley Network's 'Walk on the Wild Side', commencing 10 a.m. from Dipton Community Centre



### CROSSWORD ANSWERS:

**ACROSS:** 1 Composure: 6 Imp: 8 Nylons: 9 Ether: 10 Imbibe: 11 Natural:  
13 Hobbles: 16 Temps: 18 Opals: 19 Uncles: 21 Rut: 22 Steadfast.

**DOWN:** 1 Coy: 2 Maori: 3 Obscene: 4 Urgent: 5 Either: 7 Paralysis: 8 Neighbour:  
12 Astound: 14 Boasts: 15 Leslie: 17 Mocha: 20 Eft

