

# LEADGATE'S NEWS



Leadgate Area Partnership  
Charity No. 1098479

## No. 5/15 (July)



### **STARTING AND FINISHING:**

The photograph on the left is Father Michael KEOGHAN, who for the past 20 years has been priest of Our Blessed Lady and St. Joseph's Church (known locally as Brooms Church).

On Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 a celebration mass was held at Brooms Church to mark Father KEOGHAN's Diamond Jubilee – 60 years in the priesthood.

Father KEOGHAN, originally from Southern Ireland, was ordained in Ireland and will be retiring in August, 2015, but don't fret he will still be in and around our village, as he intends to remain at the Brooms, residing in the Presbytery House.



The photograph on the right is of Father John BAGNALL, who was officially ordained at St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 by Bishop Seamus CUNNINGHAM and who I understand is to be Brooms new priest, as yet his starting date is unknown. Father BAGNALL is from Liverpool, was originally baptised into the Church of England and moved to the North East at the age of 18 to study Fine Art at Newcastle University



The above photographs are Leadgate Primary School



The above photographs are Our Lady & St. Joseph's Primary School (Brooms)

On Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 Leadgate Primary School and Our Lady & St. Joseph's Primary School (Brooms) held their annual sport day. The weather was brilliant and both events were well attended. Above are photographs taken by your roving reporter who attended both functions (lack of space stops the printing of more photographs).



### **PARTNERSHIP NEWS:**

This month's Partnership meeting was held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, following the PACT meeting. The meeting was informed the Derwent Valley Area Action Partnership is holding its third 'It's Up 2U' event in November. Grants of between £500 and £2,000 are available for projects in five categories chosen by the public – activities for children and young people: employment: education, training and regeneration: older people: health and wellbeing or culture and tourism. Application packs are now available and can be obtained by contacting a member of the Derwent Valley Partnership team on **03000 260 725 or email dvaap@durham.gov.uk.** The deadline for completed applications is **noon on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2015.**

The money allocated to Councillors was discussed and it was suggested that perhaps some could be obtained through the Partnership. Councillors are allocated two funds – Member's Initiative Fund where groups can apply for between £50 and £500: the main fund is the Neighbourhood Budget Fund which is for the benefit of community buildings. Our councillors' area is one of the largest in Co. Durham, covering Iveston to Westwood and everything in between. It was also suggested that each year our councillors should publish where this money is spent.

The village's planters was once again discussed: there are ten of them in various locations in the village, however two still do not have any sponsorship, if you are interested in sponsoring one, please contact the Partnership's Chair, Miss Linda PEARS on 01207 505481. A vote of thanks was given to Linda who, once again has done the summer planting and an excellent job she has done. Litter was also mentioned and Groundwork is to be contacted in September with a view to regular litter picks taking place in an attempt to clean up our village.



### **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

**See attached sheet**



### **POLICE REPORT**

This month's PACT Meeting was held prior to the Partnership meeting on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.

The current PACT Priority is speeding in the Durham Road area and this is to continue for at least another month. PCSO CRAINE is visiting the area and volunteers have been conducting Community Speed Watch in the area.

As a result of CCTV in the Co-op, a male, who isn't local, was identified stealing a large quantity of meat and has been summoned to court. As a result of a number of thefts from the Co-op, local officers will be patrolling at peak times.

The bus stop opposite Kerbside Motors has been damaged and a local youth has admitted causing the damage. Local Officers, PC 2158 Kevin HALL and PCSO 7242 Michael CRAINE will be conducting Restorative Justice and the youth will be painting the bus shelter as payback to the community.

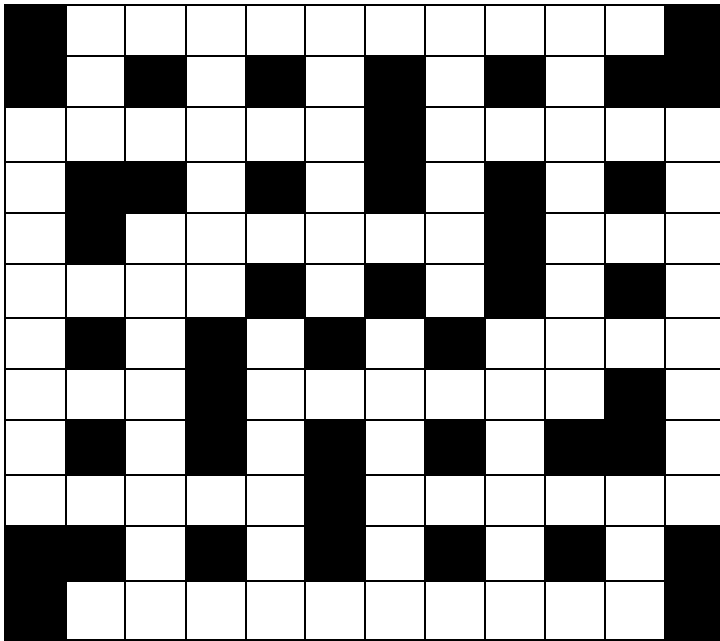
PC HALL and PCSO CRAINE both attended Leadgate Primary School fairs and great fun was had by all. As a result of a shed break in at Fourth Street, Watling Bungalows, a leaflet drop has been carried out in the area offering advice

Sergeant Andy PHILLIPS attended this month's meeting stating the format of the PACT meetings is being reviewed – if anyone has any ideas on this subject he can be contacted by telephoning the non-emergency number 101.

Here are some interesting statistics about Durham Constabulary: on a busy day '999' calls can be as many as 300: each year Durham Constabulary's vehicles cover 6.8 million miles. In the 1950's Durham County Constabulary as it was known, was the 4<sup>th</sup> largest force. Finally, the Force's first Chief Constable – Major James WEMYSS' salary was £250 per year

The next PACT meeting will be Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 at 6 p.m. in the Community Centre. If you wish to contact our local officers they can be reached by telephoning 101 or by email on michael.craine@durham.pnn.police.uk.

## CROSSWORD



## CLUES

### ACROSS

1. Dreadnought, say (10)
6. Australian city (6)
7. Small group of trees (5)
9. Of a woman (6)
10. Water when frozen (3)
11. Dread (4)
14. Become a member (4)
15. Born as (3)
16. Toy weapon (6)
17. Quick in movement (5)
18. Separate distinct thing (6)
20. Number of people present (10)

### DOWN

1. Purchase (3)
  2. Vulnerable or sensitive (6)
  3. One without expert knowledge (6)
  4. Something unrevealed (6)
  5. Lock up (8)
  6. Symphony (8)
  8. Perpetuity (8)
  9. Cosmetic surgery (4-4)
  12. Globe (6)
  13. Extend widely (6)
  14. \_\_\_\_\_ Timberlake singer (6)
  19. Foot digit (3)
- /Answers overleaf

### BRADLEY METHODIST CHURCH

There have been rumours circulating that Bradley Church is to close. That is not the case and there will be more information given in the future. Services and activities will continue as usual



### CONGRATULATION:

Congratulations to Redwell Hills Care Home which recently celebrated its silver anniversary, 25 years of being in Leadgate, some residents of the village will remember that the Home's site was once home to the Church school, known locally as 'The Hills School'. As well as the Home celebrating 25 years, several of its employees also celebrated their silver anniversary, having worked there since it opened. In the March issue I told you about the Care Quality Commission giving the Home an Outstanding Rating, so on behalf of the residents and everyone in the village, heartiest congratulations to the workers, past and present for reaching this milestone.



### WEDDING MILESTONES:

This month I have two wedding milestones to report. The first is Elsie and Joe SLATER, who, on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, that's 60 years of marriage. Elsie and Joe were married at St. Ives Church by the Venerable BB SHRISUNDER, Archdeacon of Nasik of India. Many people will remember Joe as he was one of the village's undertakers, having taken over the business from his father.



The second milestone belongs to Mary and Danny MULLIGAN, who on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, that's 50 years of marriage. Mary and Danny were married at the Brooms Church by Father Peter WATSON, cousin of the groom. In this modern age it is lovely to hear of couples celebrating such milestones. On behalf of everyone who knows them and those who don't, I offer heartiest congratulations and hope they many more happy years together.



### QUESTION:

Does anyone know who owns the land situated behind the 'bus stop in Watling Street. This site is now a real eyesore. Attempts by our Councillors to ascertain ownership have proved negative, mainly because the land is not registered at the Land Registry. If anyone has any information that could help identify the owner/s, please get in touch, my telephone and councillors' number are overleaf.



The Salvation Army will be holding their Macmillan Coffee Morning on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2015



**Did you know** during the month of May, 148 people failed to keep their doctor's appointment, this averages out at 37 per month: during the month of June, 166 appointments were missed, an average of 42 per week.  
**Let's see if July can bring a reduction.**







## DIARY FOR AUGUST, 2015



1<sup>st</sup> Salvation Army coffee morning, 10 30 a.m. in the Army Hall

3<sup>rd</sup> St. Ives' Church bingo, 730 p.m. in the Community Centre

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

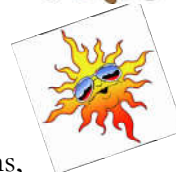


8<sup>th</sup> Pont and Bradley Church coffee morning, 10 a.m. in the Church Hall

8<sup>th</sup> Redwell Hills Care Home is having a Summer Fayre from 2 p.m.



8<sup>th</sup> 'Steel Festival' being held at Consett Rugby Club between 11 a.m. – 11 p.m., the festival **IS FREE**, there will be various attractions, a children's Fun Day and live bands from 7 p.m.



10<sup>th</sup> Salvation Army's Ladies Fellowship meeting at 7.30 p.m. in the Army Hall



15<sup>th</sup> Two coffee mornings today:  
St. Ives' Church, 10.15 a.m. in the Community Centre  
Salvation Army, 10.30 a.m. in the Army Hall



17<sup>th</sup> Leadgate Women's Institute meeting, 2 p.m. in the Community Centre  
presentation by Bernhard HOPE entitled 'Forty Years at the Chalk Face'



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

19<sup>th</sup> Police and Community Together (PACT) meeting, 6 p.m. in the Community Centre  
**There is no Partnership meeting this month**



21<sup>st</sup> Leadgate Methodist Church's 'Messy Church', 3.30 p.m. in the Church Hall



23<sup>rd</sup> A Food and Craft Fayre is being held in the Community Centre today  
between 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

29<sup>th</sup> Salvation Army coffee morning, 10.30 a.m. in the Army Hall



31<sup>st</sup> St. Ives' Church bingo, 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre



**Bingo sessions are held every Monday and Saturday  
in the Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.**



**The Centre's Legacy Gym is open every morning except  
Sunday between 9 am - 12 noon and Monday to Friday between 5 pm – 7 pm  
Leadgate Salvation Army has a Parent/Carer and 'Toddler Group, every  
Tuesday 9.15 am - 11.30 am, it's just £1 per child, for further information  
contact Envoy Gwen HALL on 07803 452999**



As there will no newsletter in August, if you have any items you wish to have published or advertised, any comments you wish to make, please let us know before 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, 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 Battleship: 6 Sydney: 7 Copse: 8 Female: 10 Ice: 11 Fear: 14 Join: 15 Nee: 16 Popgun: 17 Agile: 18 Entity: 20 Attendance. **DOWN:** 1 Buy: 2 Tender: 3 Layman: 4 Secret: 5 Imprison: 6 Sinfonia: 8 Eternity: 9 Face lift: 12 Sphere: 13 Spread: 14 Justin: 19 Toe.

**PARTNERSHIP NEWS, continued:**  
**COUNCILLORS' REPORT:**



**VILLA REAL BRIDGE:**

The closure of the bridge to all vehicular traffic from Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May was to allow the re-alignment of the utilities using the principle of thrust boring. An inspection of the bridge to determine its safety and capability levels was to be completed at the beginning of July. As a result of a meeting on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2015, the bridge will remain closed to **ALL** vehicular traffic until demolished.

**BUS SERVICE:**

Following the closure of Villa Real Bridge bus services have been re-routed down the re-surfaced Werdohl Way, with some buses (V6, X71, V8) not entering Leadgate village at all. This has created significant problems to the local community.

- Passengers are having to alight those buses at the bottom of Werdohl Way and walk into Leadgate or alternatively, passengers are travelling to Consett and then change to a bus service, e.g. 15, V78, X70 that actually go through Leadgate.
- Local traders are seeing a dramatic reduction in their takings.
- The G.P. service is seeing an increase in requested home visits because people are not able to travel to Leadgate to get to the surgery in Watling Street
- Residents in certain part of 'West' Leadgate are feeling particularly isolated.

A meeting, called by our local councillors, included officers from Durham County Council and for the first time Go North East, was held on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2015. The outcome of this meeting is the bridge will remain closed to all vehicular traffic until its demolition. A further meeting with our Councillors and Go North East is to be arranged to reconsider various routes, especially the V6, X71 and X78.



This meeting took place on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 and Councillors finally persuaded Go North East to change the route of the V6 bus.

From Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 the V6 bus, which travels via Pont and Bradley, will travel up Watling Street to the traffic lights, where it will turn right, into Front Street, travel towards the 'Old Co-op' building and then turn right, into Garden Place. The bollards leading to Bradley Industrial Estate are to be removed to allow all traffic, including the V6 bus, but excluding Heavy Goods Vehicles, to travel through the Industrial Estate onto Werdohl Way and in the case of the V6 bus, on to Consett.

It is appreciated that the residents of Garden Place and Garden Terrace may not be happy about this arrangement, but remember, this change is only temporary and will have long term benefits to the whole village, once the road is completed the bollards will be returned to their original place, at the entrance to the Industrial Estate.

**OPEN CASTING:**

- (i) The decision by the Independent Planning Inspectorate has disappointingly upheld the appeal by UK Coal and approved the application for open cast mining on the Bradley Site.

The Inspector, Mrs. Kath ELLISON, made her decision that whilst the current environmental conditions (supported by the Derwentside Local Plan), could not be sustained, the national need for coal (supported by the National Planning Policy Framework –NPPF) super-ceded the environmental concerns and local planning policies.

- (ii) Before any extraction of coal is allowed from the site, a Phase 1 Restoration Bond must be submitted to Durham County Council and another Bond must be submitted before the commencement of Phase 4 – 5.. These bonds are required (as a condition of the Planning Inspectorate's decision) to ensure the site is returned to acceptable pre-open cast environmental
- (iii) A community fund of £53,000 (£0.10/tonne) will be available for local communities once the extraction of the coal deposits, expected at 533,000 tonnes, has been concluded.  
(Councillors Alan SHIELD and Watts STELLING)