



No. 5/12 (May)



THE FIGHT GOES ON:

As you know the energy giant UK Coal would like to mine 500,000 tonnes of coal from the 'Bradley site. As a result of Durham County Council refusing planning permission for this project UK Coal appealed and in February after a three week public inquiry, Planning Inspector Stuart NIXON dismissed an appeal by them. We all thought this would be the end, but UK Coal is not finished yet, they intend to take their case to the High Court, apparently legal documents have been submitted to the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice in Leeds.

News of this new challenge is a blow for the protesters who describe the development as "environmental vandalism" not only will this opencasting have an impact on the landscape, ecology and wildlife of the area, it will also cause disruption to residents' quality of life because of dirt, noise and the amount of heavy trucks on the road.

Let's hope the judges, like the Planning Inspector, come down in favour of 'Joe Public'.



OLYMPIC FLAME IN OUR AREA:

Everyone knows London is hosting the 2012 Olympic Games due to start on 27th July, 2012, but did you know on its travels to London, the Olympic Flame will be coming through our region, not exactly through Leadgate but through Villa Real. On Saturday, 16th June, 2012 the torch will arrive in Shotley Bridge, travel up Cutlers Hall Bank, up Durham Road to No. One Roundabout and will arrive at Villa Real Roundabout sometime after 4 p.m. Part of the way the torch will be carried by local businessman, Nigel COOK, Managing Director of Elldis Transport. So, if you want to catch a glimpse or take a photograph of this unique experience you will have to be at Villa Real from about 4 p.m., I know I will be there and hopefully will be able to get a good photograph before the torch is placed in a vehicle and transported to Moorside.



SPONSORED BIKE RIDE:

Last month I told you about Lee ROBSON who, together with ten other cyclist, was doing a 'sponsored bike ride' from John O'Groats to Newcastle (approximately 550 miles) in aid of the 'Bright Red Charity' a charity specific to the North East, it raises awareness of blood cancer and is involved in the development of new drugs. The riders raised in the region of £35,000 between them and Lee himself raised £3,000. The ride started on Thursday, 3rd May and was completed on the Bank Holiday Monday, 7th May, 2012. All the riders are to be congratulated but especially Lee who, having previously suffered from Leukaemia is now susceptible to chest infections and has unfortunately developed such an infection and at the moment is on sick leave suffering from Pneumonia.

On behalf of everyone I should like to congratulate Lee and all the other participants for their tremendous effort and to wish Lee a speedy recovery. Many thanks to all those made donations

WALKING FOR CHARITY:

On Saturday, 23rd June, 2012 Neil PEARS, Andrew HEPPELL and David PARKIN, all members of Leadgate Methodist Church and six others will be walking Sciddaw, Hellvelyn and Scafell Peak, the three highest peaks in the Lake District, a total of 25 miles and 10,000 feet of ascent and they will be doing this all in one day. The object of the exercise is to raise money for Willowburn Hospice at Maiden Law. Neil and Andrew are walking in memory of their fathers who both passed away in 2011. If you would like to sponsor these walkers, you can make donations either by telephoning Neil on 01207 503554 or by visiting the group's website www.justgiving.com/andrew-heppell. It may interest you to know Neil has recently had a hip replacement and Andrew has lost 9st. in weight by going to Weight Watchers.





PARTNERSHIP:

The Annual General Meeting of the Partnership was held on Wednesday, 16th May, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Community Centre. After the formalities of the meeting, the existing committee stood down and Mr. Bill STOCKDALE took the chair for the election of a new committee. As there were no other nominations the retiring committee were all re-elected unopposed: they are as follows:

Chairperson – Ms Linda PEARS: Secretary – Mrs. Pat PICKERSGILL:

Committee Members - Mrs. Jean HUGHES, Miss Brenda SURTEES, Mr. Carl SOUTHERN and Mr. Lee ROBSON. The Partnership now has a new Treasurer – Ms Rosemary MANN, previously the Chairperson, Ms Linda PEARS had been performing both roles.

COUNCILLORS' NEWS:

The 'bus shelter sited outside the 'Drop In Centre' in Watling Street has been delayed but should be in place in the near future. A new shelter has been erected in St. Ives Road.

Our County Councillors raised a petition with 5,744 signatures in respect of the proposed closure of the Recycling Plant (tip) at Stoney Heap. As there were over 5,000 signatures this matter could be debated before the full Council, however the outcome was still the same, the County Council will be closing the 'Tip' at Stoney Heap and we will have to use the one at Annfield Plain. The closure decision was disappointingly supported by two local County Council cabinet members; our County Councillors wished to have the site remain open – once again the wishes of the public have been disregarded. Even before the 'tip' closes our area is suffering from fly tipping (see article overleaf). Our local councillors stated: "Whilst we are trying to keep our village clean, closing the 'tip' will only increase the plague of fly tipping". Stoney Heap 'tip' will finally be closed by March, 2013.



POLICE REPORT for period 5th April – 3rd May, 2012

A total of 87 calls were made to the Police of which 16 were community related. A dwellinghouse in the Pleasant View area was burgled which resulted in a pack of medication and some children's jewellery being stolen. There have been 9 burglaries of property other than dwelling houses of which 7 were sheds and the items stolen range from copper and other metals, a mountain bike and drills. One of these burglaries involved a group of local youths daring each other to take keys from a conservatory and open and enter a nearby garden shed, on this occasion nothing was stolen.

Recently incidents of anti-social behaviour have occurred at the Methodist Chapel, Baker Street and Eden Avenue. Local youths have been causing problems in and around the Chapel, they are reportedly climbing onto private property fences which surround the Chapel and causing damage. In Baker Street youths have been throwing stones and they have been warned in the presence of their parents. A mini moto had been used in Eden Avenue but when officers arrived the bike was nowhere to be seen. One incident of criminal damage has been reported, an unknown person broke a house window. Over the past 6 months a Mountfield Emblem grass cutter has been stolen from Grasmere Mews and in Pont Bungalows a wheel was stolen.

'Operation Sturgis', which tackles 'off road bikes' is still in force.

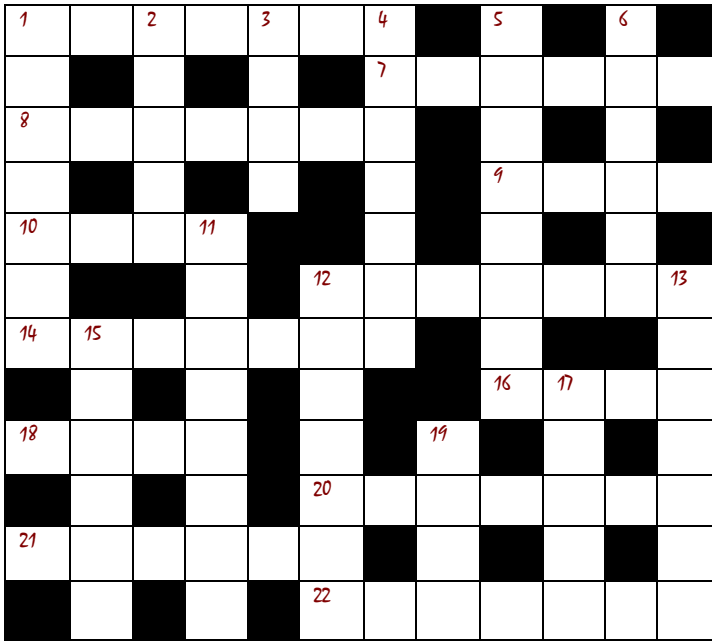
Over the last month there have been a number of shed burglaries in our area and on 3rd May, 2012 a local male was arrested in connection with these incidents, investigations are still ongoing. PC Louise RAMSHAW our Neighbourhood Police Officer is willing to come to anyone's house and give advice about crime prevention. PC RAMSHAW will also be visiting schools in our area as some parents are being rowdy and disruptive in front of children and where necessary she will be issuing Fixed Penalty Notices of £80.

A drugs warrant has been executed in our village and a male is helping with police enquiries.

The next Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting will be on Wednesday, 20th June, 2012 at 6 p.m., in the Community Centre, why not come along and air your views.

Your Neighbourhood Policing Officers are P.C. 2551 Louise RAMSHAW and P.C.S.O. 7242 Michael CRAINE who can be contacted by telephoning **101** or by e-mail on **Consett-NPT@Durham.pnn.police.uk**

CROSSWORD



CLUES

ACROSS

DOWN

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Small stream (7) | 1. Exact copy (7) |
| 7. Breathe out (6) | 2. Birth sign (5) |
| 8. Part of a whole (7) | 3. Den (4) |
| 9. Hurry (4) | 4. Street (7) |
| 10. Image or statue (4) | 5. Quicker route (5,3) |
| 12. Hide (7) | 6. American state (6) |
| 14. Public sale (7) | 11. Nudist (8) |
| 16. Roughneck (4) | 12. Admit (7) |
| 18. Practise boxing blows (4) | 13. According to reason (7) |
| 20. Stretchy (7) | 15. Cricket official (6) |
| 21. Emergency (6) | 17. Emerge from an egg (5) |
| 22. Bag for carrying | 19. Calcium chloride (4) |

/Answers overleaf



FLY TIPPING:

In case you didn't know, 'fly tipping' is an offence carrying a maximum fine of £1,000 and it is also environmentally unsightly that's why I have been asked to remind those people who have been 'fly tipping' in parts of Watling Wood **and** between houses in the village if they would refrain from doing so. Watling Wood is a nature area and is used by walkers and animal lovers alike.

Everyone in our village is trying very hard to keep it clean and tidy so if you see anyone 'fly tipping' please report it, you can do so anonymously by leaving a note in the Police 'Street Safe' box situated in the Post Office or you can ring the new non-emergency number 101. If you didn't know, there is a tip situated at Stoney Heap (at least until March, 2013) which is less than a mile away from our village, so to those people concerned, please use it.

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER:

Citizens' House in Consett have approached the Derwent Valley Partnership to help them find out if local residents would be interested in attending a specially arranged 'Digital Switchover Event' which would provide advice, support and help to residents when the Switchover takes place in September, 2012. This event would be held in partnership with Age UK at Citizens' House, providing a base for people living in the area to pick up leaflets and advice. If there is enough interest, Citizens' House would make all the arrangements. Suggestions would be welcomed regarding when the event should be held (weekday/weekend/morning/afternoon/evening).



If you are interested in attending such an event, please contact Mrs. Corinne WALTON, telephone number 03000 260725 or by e-mail on Corinne.walton@durham.gov.uk.



JUBILEE LUNCH:

On Thursday, 7th June, 2012 between 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. the Community Centre's Sewing Club is having a 'Jubilee Lunch' to celebrate the Queen's 60 years on the throne. If anyone is interested they are cordially invited, the only thing asked is you bring something to eat, which can be shared by all.



ST. IVES '100 CLUB' MONTHLY DRAW:

The winning numbers for June, 2012 are as follows:

1st prize – No. 29: 2nd prize – No. 64:

Did you know, our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing

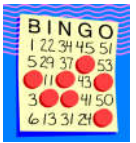


DIARY FOR JUNE, 2012



2nd

Leadgate Methodist Church 'Jubilee Shared Tea' to be held either inside or outside, depending on the weather, commencing 3 p.m.



4th

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



6th

Leadgate and District Carers meeting held in the Community Centre commencing 1.30 p.m.

9th



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

And

Salvation Army's Summer Fayre in the Army Hall commencing 10.30 a.m.



11th



Salvation Army Ladies Fellowship held in the Army Hall commencing 7.30 a.m.

14th

Leadgate and District Historical Society meeting held in the Methodist Church Hall commencing 2 p.m., presentation by Ms Heather MUNSEY entitled 'Who Killed Luci?'



15th



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

18th



Women's Institute meeting held in the Community Centre commencing 2 p.m., presentation 'The Bessie Surtees Story' and the competition is a Newcastle Memento.

20th

Leadgate and District Carers meeting held in the Community Centre commencing 1.30 p.m.



20th



Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting held in the Community Centre commencing 6 p.m. followed by Leadgate Area Partnership meeting commencing 7 p.m.



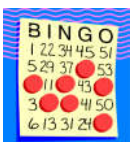
23rd



Salvation Army coffee morning held in the Army Hall commencing 10.30 a.m.

25th

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



29th



Salvation Army's 'Songs from the Shows and the Sixties', commencing 7.30 p.m., tickets obtained from Clare Thompson, seats are numbered, first come, first choice.

If you have any items you wish to have published or advertised, any comments you wish to make, please let us know before 20th June, 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#

CROSSWORDS ANSWERS:

ACROSS: Rivulet: 7 Exhale: 8 Portion: 9 Rush: 10 Icon: 12 conceal: 14 Auction: 16 Thug: 18 spar: 20 Elastic: 21 Crisis: 22 Satchel: **DOWN:** 1 Replica: 2 Virgo: 3 Lair: 4 Tension: 5 short cut: 6 Alaska: 11 Naturalist: 12 Confess: 13 Logical: 15 Umpire: 17 Hatch: 19 Salt.



