

LEADGATE'S NEWS



Sponsored by our local Councillors



Leadgate Area Partnership
Charity No. 1098479

No. 08/18 (September)



In July's issue I was pleased to report that Mr. & Mrs. Joe PLATTEN, who reside in Watling Street, had celebrated their Diamond Wedding, unfortunately I referred to them by Margaret's maiden name – DINNING. I should like to offer them my sincere apologies and to tell everyone their married name is PLATTEN as many will know.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION PILGRIMAGE:

By Mrs. Vera Parnaby)

On 8th August, 1928 the British Legion organised a pilgrimage for widows, families and forces personnel to Ypres to march to the newly erected Menin Gate Memorial to those who died in World War One (WW1).

On 8th August, 2018, the 90th anniversary, the now Royal British Legion organised a re-enactment of that pilgrimage, naming it 'The Great Pilgrimage 90' (GP90) to commemorate 100 years since WW1 ended. Over 60 coaches, filled with participants travelled to Ypres, including officials, 1100 Standard Bearers and 1100 Wreath Layers. My daughter and I travelled from Durham as part of a parallel tour for those who did not take part in the parade, but had the honour of watching and viewing the ceremony on a huge screen in the Market Place. When everyone was assemble around the Menin Gate a memorial service was held and the Bishop of York gave a short sermon, then the 1100 wreath layers went forward, about ten people at each side of the centre stairs leaving the ground covered in a sea of red poppies. The wreaths were especially made with a centre GP90 logo and a blue ribbon with the branch name it was representing, including Consett R.B.L. who sent representatives.

Our hotel was about 200 yards from the Menin Gate and on more than one occasion we were able to take part in the daily ceremony at 8 p.m. We had taken a wreath and were told we could just turn up any evening at 7.30 p.m. to take part. We laid our wreath on the Wednesday night and it was marvellous sight to see the 1100 laid in the afternoon side by side.

The tour was five days, the first and fifth travelling: day 3 in Ypres for the parade, we were privileged to be on one of the two coaches staying in the centre (i.e. we were on the spot before the other coaches started arriving and beat everyone to the best viewing points). We found two chairs at the barrier and watched the parade go there and back. We had a wonderful afternoon of entertainment provided by the Royal British band, the military band which led the parade, a male voice choir and a young singer who moved us all with a song he had written about this great grandfather who had fought in WW1. On days 2 and 4 we travelled to the many war cemeteries which are kept in pristine condition. The guides, one of whom was a local lad from Villa Real, were extremely knowledgeable and pointed out many graves of interest. I was interested in all the work still being carried out to trace relatives of unnamed solders who are still being discovered on the sites of the old battlefields. We saw the graves of three soldiers who had recently been re-buried with full military honours, unfortunately no living relatives had been identified to attend the service.

We had a very memorable but emotional tour and are pleased we took the decision to go as I don't think we will see anything like it again.

SURGERY NEWS - MISSED APPOINTMENTS:

Good news, July and August figures for missed appointments showed a slight decrease: in July 150 appointments were missed, equivalent to 38 per week and in August another slight drop – 141 were missed, equivalent to 35 per week.

Don't forget, waiting times for appointments can be long but this can be overcome with patients' help if you are unable to keep your appointment please cancel it and allow someone else the chance to have it.





PARTNERSHIP NEWS:

This month's Partnership meeting was held on Wednesday, 19th September, 2018 at 6.30 p.m. in the Community

Centre.
A lengthy discussion took place concerning the provision of playground facilities: it was felt the playground at the bottom of Watling Street is now in need of revamping as the present facilities are too large for very small children and no good for teenagers. It was decided **a sub-committee of the Partnership should be formed and it was agreed to hold a meeting on Thursday, 18th October, 2018 at 6.30 p.m. in the 'Golden Lion' public house.** If anyone is interested and would like to share their views on this subject please attend.

The chair Ms Linda PEARS, informed the meeting one of the **final activities for 'Leadgate Remembers WW1'** will take place in **Leadgate Workingmen's Club on Thursday, 8th November, 2018** and will be a musical evening with a 'sing-a-long', entertainment, refreshments and a raffle, tickets will cost £3.00 each and will be available shortly: veterans and serving personnel are to be invited. The **final activity** of course, will be the **Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial.** **Those people attending should meet at the 'Old Co-op' building in Front Street as they will march from there, on the footpath, to the War Memorial** where the service will take place. The ladies of the Community Centre's 'Knit and Natter Club' have been busy knitting and crocheting poppies and have also received poppies from numerous other people, these poppies are being fixed to mesh and will be placed on the War Memorial: Leadgate Methodist Church is creating a 'Garden of Remembrance' on the lawn in front of the Church and wooden crosses are to be made available: papier mache poppies are being made by school children and scouts and will be placed in various locations around the village.



COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

OPEN CASTING – BRADLEY SITE: The winning and mining of coal from the site has commenced and HGV deliveries using the A.692/3 roadway has started. A committee to consider applications for community funds to support local projects is being set up (guidelines for applications to be issued). Members from the Liaison Committee are to be involved in discussions with representatives from Banks Group and Durham County Council (DCC) Officers to establish plans for the restoration of the site after the winning and mining of coal has been completed.

EDEN MINERS INSTITUTE HALL (The Tute): The Trustee Board is still awaiting confirmation from the dance group regarding the use of the upper floor area. Trustees have submitted grant applications to improve the building structure and work to improve the downstairs facilities will be undertaken shortly to encourage the opportunity of organisations/groups use of these rooms.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL: A report from NHS Officers has been submitted proposing options of limited operational services for a new 'Community Hospital' facility (probably within the Consett locality) – this report was subject to specific scrutiny and criticisms from Councillors on the 'reference committee'. A formal request has been made to the NHS that an actual assessment of medical needs mainly from the DH8 post code is undertaken before any final decisions regarding which services are needed is made. Public consultations are to be undertaken in the near future and Councillors will ensure these meetings are well publicised and strongly urge as many residents as possible to attend to consider the proposed options and to make their views/opinions known.

PARKING – Front Street: A project to improve the parking facilities in Leadgate Front Street with the introduction of time restricted lay-bys on the westbound carriageway is to be undertaken (probably in 2019). Councillors have previously met with DCC Highways Officers to consider the proposed dimensional size of the lay-by which will improve the access to the commercial buildings within the village.

CHRISTMAS TREE – Front Street: Councillors have financed and approved the introduction of a permanent fixed narrow gauge steel enclosure (with a fixed electricity supply) and the installation of a 'large cut' Christmas tree into the gap site in preparation for the Christmas festivities – work is expected to commence in November. The current metal structure (in the gap site) is to be re-located to the vacant space next to the Cricket Club exiting Leadgate on Front Street.

Councillor Alan SHIELD (07500 125 327)

Councillor Watts STELLING (07500 125 328)

POLICE REPORT:

In response to concerns raised by the previous Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting, officers organised an operation working alongside Durham County Council to take action against scrap men who are working without the correct documentation. On 22nd August the operation, across the area of Consett and Leadgate, resulted in six (6) vehicles being stopped, searched and documentation verified. Officers are happy to say all vehicles stopped had the correct documentation.

Local Officers are: Police Constable 542 Fiona MADDICK, e mail Fiona.maddick@durham.pnn.police.uk

Police Community Support Officer 8107 Alex CAVE, e mail alexander.cave@durham.pnn.police.uk

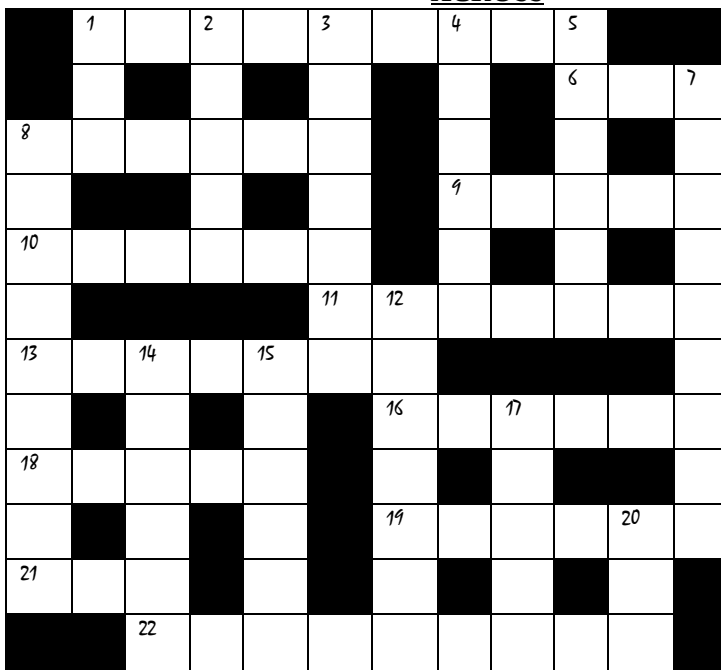


CROSSWORD

CLUES

ACROSS

DOWN



- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Something orbiting a planet (9) | 1. Mineral spring (3) |
| 6. Pinch (3) | 2. Very strong person (5) |
| 8. Spat (6) | 3. Hunting dog (7) |
| 9. Keyboard instrument (5) | 4. Disregard (6) |
| 10. Tree part (6) | 5. Mystery (6) |
| 11. Refined or chic (7) | 7. Break through (9) |
| 13. Spartan (7) | 8. The Rock (9) |
| 16. Emotional shock (6) | 12. _____ Dean, actress (7) |
| 18. Human trunk (5) | 14. Canny (6) |
| 19. Hairpiece (6) | 15. Runs away to wed (6) |
| 21. Quarrel noisily (3) | 17. Having reached maturity (5) |
| 22. Take apart (9) | 20. Viewing organ (3) |

/Answers overleaf



HAPPY RETIREMENT:

In August, 2018, after five (5) years as Minister of Leadgate Methodist Church, the Reverend Keith HOPER retired. A tea was held in his honour and he was presented with a cheque and a silver lapel flower holder brooch; his wife Gina received a hydrangea plant for her garden. On behalf of everyone in the village, I should like to wish Keith and Gina a very happy and healthy retirement.



COMMUNITY CENTRE: On Saturday 3rd November, 2018 the Community Centre is holding an Autumn/Christmas Fayre, if you are interested in participating, tables can be hired at a cost £5.00 each. Please contact the Centre's Secretary, Brenda SURTEES, 01207 507506, to reserve your table/s as it will be first come first served.

UNDER 13's CRICKET MATCH:

On 29th August, 2018 Leadgate Cricket Club's under 13's played a fantastic game of cricket against Littletown, in the final of 'DCB under 13 Shield'. Leadgate batted very well reaching 52 before losing a wicket and set what was thought to be a massive total of 93 off reduced overs of 16 due to the time of year for evening games. Littletown however, had no intention of rolling over and after a gentle start to their innings they ramped up the pressure and the score. Needing 10 to win off the last 2 balls, they proceeded to hit a huge six off the penultimate ball leaving 4 needed of the last ball. The pressure lead to the final ball being bowled as a wide, leaving 3 runs needed. Littletown scampered a quick single, making Leadgate the winners by 2 runs.

The game was an excellent advert for junior cricket and both Leadgate and Littletown did their clubs proud in a fantastic game of cricket. Well done to all.



FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE: Consett Royal British Legion Women's Section's annual Festival of Remembrance in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal will be held on Friday, 2nd November, 2018 from 7 p.m. in Consett Empire Theatre, tickets are £8.00 each. This year marks the Festival's 25th Anniversary and is supported by Tesco's 'Bags of Help' and other local organisations.



DIARY FOR OCTOBER, 2018



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1st St. Ives' Church bingo, 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre



5th Leadgate Methodist Church 'Lunch Club', in the Church Hall 12 noon for 12.15 p.m.

6th Leadgate Task Force is having a 'Lamp Post Poppy Day' starting 10 a.m. from Leadgate Co-op



6th Two coffee mornings today:

10 a.m. - Leadgate Methodist Church in aid of 'All We Can' Harvest Appeal in church hall
10.30 am. - Salvation Army coffee morning in the Army Hall

8th Salvation Army's Ladies' Fellowship meeting, 7 p.m. in the Army Hall, presentation - 'Memories are Made of This', people attending are asked to bring a treasured/special possession or photograph and to share your story



13th Leadgate Task Force is having an Autumn Litter Pick in various locations, from 10am - 12 noon

15th Salvation Army's 'Busy Bee' Craft Fellowship meeting, 7 p.m. in the Army Hall



15th Leadgate Women's Institute meeting, 2 p.m. in the Community Centre, presentation - 'Sea Glass Jewellery' and the competition is a necklace

17th Leadgate Area Partnership meeting, 6.30 p.m. in the Community Centre



20th Leadgate Task Force is holding a bulb planting session from 10 am starting from Leadgate Co-op

20th Two coffee morning today:

10.15 am - St. Ives' Church, held in the Community Centre
10.30 am - Salvation Army, held in the Army Hall



25th Leadgate Task Force is having morning and afternoon sessions with Durham Wildlife Trust in Watling Wood

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27th 'Leadgate Remembers 1918 - 2018' 'Heritage Walk' marking the houses in Leadgate of the fallen from World War One, those interested should meet outside the Community Centre at 12 noon. There will be a second chance to go on the walk from the Community Centre at 2 p.m. on Sunday, 28th



29th 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. and at 1 p.m. on Thursday in Leadgate Workingmen's Club.



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 am, it's just £1 per child



If you have any items you wish to have published or advertised, any comments you wish to make, please let me know before 17th October, 2018 the contact name and telephone number is:

Brenda SURTEES, 01207 507506

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 Satellite: 6 Nip: 8 Gaiter: 9 Organ: 10 Branch: 11 Elegant: 13 Austere: 16 Trauma: 18 Torso: 19 Toupee: 21 Row: 22 Dismantle. **DOWN:** 1 Spa: 2 Titan: 3 Lurcher: 4 Ignore: 5 Enigma: 7 Penetrate: 8 Gibraltar: 12 Letitia: 14 Shrewd: 15 Elopes: 17 Adult: 20 Eye.