

No. 8/9/ 12 (September)



Dr. Astley and Mr. Malcolm D'Northwood, Chairperson of Centre

LAUNCH OF FITNESS CENTRE:

On Saturday, 18th August, 2012 the 13th 'Legacy Gym' was opened in the Community Centre by Doctor David ASTLEY, our local GP, who, in his speech said, "I think it will do more for the health and well-being of the people of Leadgate than all the pills and potions that I can give them. Exercise is such an important way for people to feel better and about themselves. Beyond its health benefits, I think it will also become a real centre for the community in Leadgate. With so many things closing like pubs and clubs, it's going to become an important focal point.

These 'legacy gyms' are part of a joint initiative run by Durham County Council and Changing the Physical Activity Landscape Project and will be run by trained volunteers. The gym is the latest drive to encourage healthier lifestyles in the village, which in the 1980s was at risk of losing its health centre.

Membership of the gym will cost £15 per month or £2 per sessions with 11 – 16 year olds paying £1 per sessions (under 16s must be accompanied by an adult). The opening times are 9 am – 1 pm Monday to Friday: 4 pm – 7 pm Monday and Thursday: 5 pm – 9 pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 9 am – 12 noon on Saturdays.



Doctor ASTLEY has recently celebrated 25 years' service as our village GP, starting in the little surgery on Pont Road, a sub branch of Consett Surgery, working with Doctors FORSYTH and LAWRENCE. Whilst working in New Zealand on an exchange programme, he heard Leadgate Surgery was to close and because he felt the patients in the village needed their own dedicated GP, he decided to return home early and even though he had a young family, decided to take the risk and start his own practice. In 1995 he returned to Leadgate, opened for business in the Community Centre and eventually moved into 'Ewan House'. Doctor ASTLEY's patients are in no doubt as to his doctoring skills but what you may not know is he has been a tutor of GPs for many years and this year was appointed Associate Sub Dean of the Newcastle Medical School for Primary Care, covering most of the North East and ... Malaysia. If it hadn't been for Doctor ASTLEY, Leadgate wouldn't have its own surgery, so on behalf of the residents of Leadgate, I would like to thank him for his continued service to our village and hope we can expect many more years doctoring from him.

Since the opening of the 'Legacy Gym' I am now able to tell you the refurbishment of the Community Centre commenced on Monday, 10th September, 2012. As you know this work was originally started in September, 2009 but because of three, YES, three bats, some of the work was halted. It was said at the time, work that should have taken approximately three months could possibly take three years, never thinking that it would. However the work has now re-started and is expected to take between 8 – 12 weeks.





PARTNERSHIP NEWS:

This month's meeting took place on Wednesday, 19th September, 2012.

The suggestion of a Multi- Agency Games Area which had previously been discussed was mentioned. The site location is the main problem, the old tennis courts had been suggested but this land belongs to the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO) who has said to leave it alone, as tennis could come back.

A lengthy discussion took place concerning Groundwork and Watling Wood and it was decided that the Partnership Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 17th October, 2012 would be mainly concerned with proposals for a project to be called 'Watling Wood, the Way Forward'

In July's newsletter it was reported the Partnership was seeking sponsorship of the six tubs which have been placed in the village and I am pleased to say five people have offered to do this, if you would like to sponsor the remaining tub, please contact either Miss Linda PEARS on 01207 505148 or Mrs. Pat PICKERSILL on 01207 507607



COUNCILLORS' REPORT:

'BUS PASSES: *Recently three Leadgate school children, who live 2.9 miles from Moorside Secondary School (Consett South Academy) were refused school 'bus passes, **the stated minimum distance being 3 miles.** Following representations from Councillor STELLING and SHIELD, a review concluded that the children will now be awarded school bus passes as the request for a survey has identified dangerous pedestrian crossing concerns.*

WIND TURBINE: *A planning application for a 17 metre wind turbine (to service the electricity supply needs of 'Redwill Hills Farm') has been received. A restricted consultation with residents has taken place because the impact on the visual amenity was considered limited in its range and no major objections were raised: a decision is awaited.*

Applications for wind turbines at High Bradley and Hat & Feather have both been refused.

OLD CHESTNUT – LEADGATE BRIDGE: *Watts and Alan are involved in a series of discussions with senior County Council Officers regarding the options surrounding the future of the bridge and are pushing for it to be removed and a new road put in.*

An Outline Planning Application was granted on appeal to the Secretary of State for 10 – 12 properties on land between Pont Bungalows and Watling Bungalows, between the bungalow (where the Old Store used to be) and Pont House Farm.

Residents of St. Ives Road were still having problems with speeding, even though speed cushions have been put in place and Watts and Alan have asked for speed monitoring equipment, they have also been asked to look into parking for residents only. Some of the yellow lines in this area have been removed in an effort to ease the situation.



POLICE REPORT for period 8th August to 9th September, 2012

During the above period a total of 124 calls were made to the police of which only 16 were Community related. This month there has been only one burglary and that was at the 'Jolly Drivers' pub, where copper piping was stolen, this has resulted in the pub being boarded up with steel covers so there is now no access to the premises.

There have been several incidents of anti-social behaviour – in Eden Avenue – firstly, eggs were thrown at windows, two local youths were identified and spoken to: secondly there was a problem with rowdy youths, however when the police arrived all was quiet and no one came forward. Youths were reported to be on a garage roof at the rear of Durham Road, when the police arrived a young male was found on the roof and safety advice was given. The occupants of a house in Dunelm Way returned home to find bins had been overturned and rubbish all over the garden.

Several incidents of criminal damage have also been reported this month – Bradley Methodist Church has had a window broken: a house in Dunelm Walk had a kitchen window broken: a house in Alder Grove had the garden entered and plant pots overturned: in St. Ives Road three cars were scratched with an unknown sharp object and a garage door was damaged but no access was gained to the garage and in Windsor Gardens a wing mirror of a car was kicked. Three offences of thefts have been reported, one occurred in the afternoon in Durham Road when Koi Carps were stolen from a pond, one of which was left beside the pond to die. A purse was stolen from a handbag belonging to someone who was in the ‘Golden Lion’ pub, the purse was later found at the rear of the pub, minus the money. In Dunelm Walk someone entered a garden and stole solar lights.

If you have any information concerning any of the above incidents please contact the police. Our Neighbourhood Officers, P.C. Louise RAMSHAW and PCSO Michael CRAINE ask if you have to contact them, for whatever reason, could it be done as soon as possible as this will increase the chance of a positive outcome.

The next PACT meeting will be Wednesday, 17th October, 2012 at 6 p.m., **PLEASE NOTE this meeting will be held at Leadgate Methodist Church.** Any enquiries please contact the above officers by telephoning 101 or by e-mail on Conset-NPT@durham.pnn.police.uk



LEADGATE WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP:

Leadgate Women’s Fellowship is a small group of friendly ladies who meet in Leadgate Methodist Church every Monday at 10.30 a.m. for worship, fellowship and friendship. If you are interested why not go along, everyone is made to feel at home and are assured of a warm and friendly welcome.



ANOTHER NONEGENARIAN:

A nonagenarian is someone who is in their 90s and September has seen another ‘young lady’ from our village reach that age, her name is Mrs. Minnie CHARLTON, who for many years was the ‘lollipop lady’ for Brooms Infants School in St. Ives Road, Minnie and her daughter also take part in our village’s ‘Scarecrow Festival’. It may be a little late, but on behalf of everyone Many Happy Returns Minnie and we hope you have many more to come.



Don’t forget the ‘Scarecrow Festival’ started on 22nd September, 2012 and runs until 6th October, 2012, so if you haven’t already made one, it still isn’t too late to participate. It isn’t a competition, there are no prizes, it is just for fun, and the whole family can take part.

CROSSWORD

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14			15		16		17				
		18					19				
	20										
21									22		
23					24						

CLUES

ACROSS

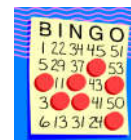
1. Decorative stony garden (7)
5. Journey on foot (4)
7. Total (3)
8. American state (8)
9. Wireless (5)
10. Cooker (4)
13. Romantic flower (4)
14. Applaud (4)
18. Short letter (4)
19. In front (5)
21. Female offspring (8)
22. Water that has frozen (3)
23. Norse god (4)
24. Permission (7)

DOWN

1. Impose limits on (8)
2. Comic (8)
3. Newspaper boss (6)
4. Snooker ball colour (6)
5. Victor (6)
6. Den (4)
11. Steep downwards plunge (4,4)
12. Tie for first place (4,4)
15. Toy weapon (6)
16. Very busy or confused (6)
17. ----- Beatty, actor (6)
20. Hairless (4)



DIARY FOR OCTOBER, 2012



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



3rd Leadgate and District Carers meeting today will be held At the home of Mrs. Mavis CRYER, commencing 1.30 p.m.

6th Leadgate Methodist Church Women's Fellowship are having a coffee morning, in the Chapel Hall, commencing 10 a.m.



8th Salvation Army Ladies' Fellowship meeting held in the Army' Hall, commencing 7.30 p.m.

11th Leadgate and District Historical Society meeting held in Leadgate Methodist Church Hall, commencing 2 p.m., presentation by M. SCOTT entitled 'W. Wailes of Gateshead'



13th Three 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.
Salvation Army held in the Army Hall, commencing 10.30 a.m.

15th Leadgate Women's Institute meeting held in the Community Centre commencing 2 p.m. with Norma HOLMES and Singers, the competition is a necklace



17th Leadgate and District Carers meeting today has been cancelled due refurbishment of the Community Centre.

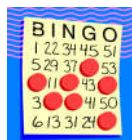


17th This month's PACT and Partnership meetings are being held in the Methodist Church hall due to the refurbishment of the Community Centre. The PACT meeting is at 6 p.m. followed by the Partnership meeting at 7 p.m.



19th Leadgate Methodist Church's 'Messy Church' held in the Church Hall commencing 3.30 p.m.

27th Salvation Army coffee morning held in the Army Hall commencing 10.30 a.m.



29th St. Ives' Church bingo held in the Community Centre commencing 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 17th October, 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

CROSSWORD ANSWERS:

ACROSS: 1 Rockery: 5 Walk: 7 Sum: 8 Illinois: 9 Radio: 10 Oven: 13 Rose: 14 Clap: 18 Note: 19 Ahead: 21 Daughter: 22 Ice: 23 Odin: 24 Consent: **DOWN:** 1 Restrict: 2 Comedian: 3 Editor: 4 Yellow: 5 Winner: 6 Lair: 11 Nose dive: 12 Dead heat: 15 Popgun: 16 Hectic: 17 Warren: 20 Bald