

LEADGATE'S NEWS



Leadgate Area Partnership
Charity No. 1098479

No. 10/12 (October)



SCARECROW FESTIVAL:

This year our Scarecrow Festival took place between 22nd September and 6th October, 2012 but was not as successful as in the past, quite possibly because of the atrocious weather and possibly because of vandalism. In the past the scouts have had one but this year I only managed to see it on one day and it was headless, the next day it had completely disappeared, I have a sneaky suspicion because it had been vandalised. However there were some people who did manage to have a scarecrow on display and here a few of them.



Mrs. Gary CRISP



Mrs. Woman and her little dog Having a rest before I start again



Hoping to catch something for tea



Miss Leadgate Rag Doll, 2012

I'm sure it's in here somewhere



The pitman having a rest (picture No. 3) was eventually thrown onto the road - he was so realistic I was told someone called an ambulance. To all those who participated the Partnership would like to offer their sincere thanks and hope, if we have the festival next year, they will not be put off by the weather or the vandals. People are now starting to comment and to enjoy our village's little bit of fun.



ANOTHER SPECIAL BIRTHDAY:

Last month I told you about Minnie CHARLTON (although I think her married name is Richardson) who had become a nonagenarian, well, this month I have another but this time it is a male, Joe SLATER of St. Ives Road. Many residents will remember Joe as the village undertaker. Joe's father before him was the village undertaker and at the tender age of 14 Joe joined him in the family business where he remained until his retirement at the age of 73. I was beginning to think there was something in the water of Leadgate that allowed only females to live into old age, but Joe has proved me wrong. On behalf of everyone in the village, I should like to wish Joe Many Happy Returns and hope he has many more to come.

This month's meeting took place on Wednesday 17th November, 2012 and after the formalities a lengthy discussion took place concerning Watling Wood. At a previous meeting concerning this matter it had found there was sufficient interest to form a working party which would come under the umbrella of the Partnership.

Before any work can be carried out in Watling Wood permission has to be obtained from Durham County Council, this will be done by Kath MARSHALL of Groundwork, however the Council has agreed in principal to what the Partnership would like to do. A committee for the enhancement of Watling Wood was formed and the project was to be entitled the 'Watling Wood Project'. The contact person for this group is Mr. Cecil WATSON, if anyone would like to help or if you have any suggestion you think would enhance the wood, please contact him on 07599808337.

As this project will need a logo, it was decided a competition be held for children to design one. The children should be made aware this wood hasn't always been there, it was in fact planted by their parents.

A member of the Wildlife Trust was also present who said she will be working with the local schools, including Villa Real, and will be holding community events by the end of the year or in the spring.

After the discussion concerning Watling Wood, the Chair of the meeting said she would ascertain the cost of plaques for the planters and Councillor STELLING stated Durham County Council's 'Plan for Leadgate' included the bridge between Villa Real and Leadgate and that land behind Willow Crescent and Laurel Drive was to be woodland.

POLICE REPORT for period 19th September – 16th October, 2012:



*A total of 93 calls were received this month and this included a hoax call – three were safety calls in relation to the intoxicated male sitting on the bench at the Jolly Drover Roundabout. **YES**, you've guessed it. The scarecrow was spoken to and found to be fit, well and sober. A report was received involving a male with a crossbow. A swift response was given by local officers, firearms officers, dog section and air support. The male was arrested and charged with possession of an offensive weapon and assault and was remanded in custody.*

Four males, who were on land with dogs, have been spoken to by police. PC RAMSHAW will be doing some work concerning this incident. Poaching is an illegal activity and where there are grounds to do so, arrests will be made and equipment confiscated. A report was received concerning youths throwing stones in Tunstall Grove, but they had made off prior to the arrival of the police. The police were called to a noisy party in Durham Road and at their request the music was turned down. Children have been climbing on the scaffolding at the Community Centre, but made off prior to the arrival of the police and others were on the roof of the church hall in Plantation Street, they were spoken to by staff and made off. A call was received concerning what appeared to be a domestic related incident. It was discovered a male, who had left the property, was wanted for a recall to prison. He attempted to evade capture but was unable to hide from the police helicopter and was arrested by police on the ground, hiding in woods.

There were no alcohol seizures in Leadgate; however, in Consett, alcohol was seized from a Leadgate youth. His mother is aware. The youth is not known to the police for anti-social behaviour and it is thought to be a 'one off' incident. PC RAMSHAW and PCSO CRAINE will monitor calls to identify any further issues concerning this young man. A male has been arrested for possession of a controlled substance following a search of a vehicle; he admitted illegal possession of diazepam.

Police have received what is believed to be a false report of a burglary; a similar false report was received during the last PACT period. Neighbourhood Police are working closely with other agencies to address this situation and to prevent further calls from this property, wasting valuable police time. A '2-in-1 burglary occurred in New Watling Street, car keys were stolen from the property and the car driven away. Enquiries are on-going regarding this crime. Residents are reminded that often with newer vehicles, this is the only way the vehicle can be stolen. Please remember not to leave your vehicle keys on windowsills or in areas where they can be reached through the letter box.

There has been an attempted burglary at commercial premises where access had been attempted through the roof. All lines of enquiry have been exhausted and the crime is undetected. Crime prevention advice has been offered and the victim has been urged to use anti-vandal paint. Also, a farmer disturbed trespassers in a barn: nothing was stolen but they were in the vicinity of scrap metal. Local officers, traffic officers and air support were used, but the suspects had made off prior to police arrival.

A report has been received of 2 off road motorbikes on farm land, but again had made off before the arrival of the police. The bikes were described as one red and one blue. The police have various powers in relation to illegal off road use. Most commonly, a warning notice is issued and if the vehicle is used in an anti-social manner again within a twelve month period, it is seized. Police regularly seize off road bikes under these circumstances. When reporting off

road bikes, please give as much information as possible, if you are aware of where the bikes used in anti-social behaviour are being stored, please let us know. Often the bikes are bought for children and it is subsequently discovered that there are very few facilities where they can be used, if you would like any advice regarding clubs, organisations, locations, please contact PC RAMSHAW who will be happy to help.

A window has been broken at a house in Durham Road and enquiries are still continuing. Paint has been poured over a vehicle on Leadgate Industrial Estate, the area is covered by CCTV and enquiries are continuing. An egg has been thrown at a car on St. Ives Road causing damage, enquiries have proved negative.



Leadgate Bowling Club has been vandalised. Parents are asked to speak to their children to ascertain whether they have any information. Local youths, both male and female are believed to be responsible.

'Operation Guy Fawkes' will shortly commence to tackle anti-social behaviour in relation to illegal activity and nuisance over the bonfire period. Residents are reminded that last year youths took numerous wheelie bins from yards around 'The Squares' and set fire to them. The Council has confirmed that all replacement bins will need to be paid for. Over this period, please attempt to secure your bin as well as possible. If you have a gate on your yard or garden, please lock it. If you have an out-building, garage or shed, is there any way of making room to temporarily house your bin? If you cannot put your bin away, please consider using a bicycle lock or similar to lock your wheelie bins together through the handles. Make them as difficult as possible to wheel away. Please consider the fact that is cheaper to buy a bike lock than it is to pay for a new wheelie bin.

A male, suspected of being responsible for regular shoplifting is being monitored by the police. Where there is sufficient information to support this, positive action will be taken and the suspect will be arrested at every opportunity. A large quantity of wood has been stolen from commercial premises. Anyone who has been offered timber for sale in suspicious circumstances is asked to contact the police.

PCSO CRAINE is recovering from his operation and is expected to return to work within the next two weeks. A new Crime Prevention Officer, PC JUDD, has been appointed following the retirement of PC FAWCETT. If you require advice regarding crime prevention PC JUDD can be contacted at Consett Police Office, telephone 101.

Neighbourhood Policing Team Officers are PC Louise RAMSHAW and PCSO Michael CRAINE. If you have any enquiries these officers can be contacted by telephoning 101 or e-mail Consett-NPT@Durham.pnn.police.uk.

THANK YOU

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING/PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

Tommy YOUNG and members of Leadgate Salvation Army would like to thank everyone who supported the recent Macmillan Coffee Morning and Photographic Exhibition held at Leadgate Salvation Army on Saturday, 29th September, 2012, the magnificent sum of **£2,345.49** was raised. Hundreds of people attended and looked at the photographs, had a very nostalgic chat, enjoyed coffee and cakes or had their photograph taken with the Olympic torch. It was a great day.



Macmillan regional fundraising manager, Michelle MUIR said, "THIS WAS A BRILLIANT EVENT, A COFFEE MORNING WITH A REAL DIFFERENCE. CAN I ALSO SAY A MASSIVE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT AND DONATIONS IT HAS BEEN AN ABSOLUTE PLEASURE WORKING WITH YOU ALL". Cancer is the toughest fight most of us will ever face, but there is a team of people who are there to support you every step of the way. Whatever's on your mind, Macmillan is there. Call the Macmillan team, free, on 0808 808 000 (Monday to Friday 9am – 8pm) or visit www.macmillan.org.uk.

Liz BAILEY



ST. IVES '100 CLUB' MONTHLY DRAW:

The winning numbers for October, 2012 are as follows: 1st prize – No. 32: 2nd prize – No. 3:

Sorry

No crossword this month, too much to report (see police report)

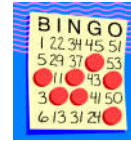


SATURDAY, 24th November, 2012

The Salvation Army are holding a 'Dickensian Christmas Fayre' at 11 a.m. which will be opened by Councillor Watts STELLING. Father Christmas will be his grotto, so bring your children/grandchildren, they will be able to have their photographs taken with him. For the adults there will be lots of stalls including Christmas gifts, crafts, cakes, toiletries, toys, books, 50p stall, jewellery and of course there will be refreshments.



DIARY FOR NOVEMBER, 2012



- 5th St. Ives bingo held in the Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.
- 5th Bonfire Night – **please keep your animals safe and indoors**
- 7th Leadgate and District Carers meeting held in the Community Centre (subject to completion of the refurbishment) at 1.30 p.m.
- 7th Consett & District Bible Society Action Group is holding a 'General Quiz Night' in Leadgate Methodist Church at 7 p.m. , tickets – donations only, light refreshments
- 8th Leadgate and District Historical Society meeting held in Leadgate Methodist Church Hall at 2 p.m., presentation by Captain D. DELL entitled 'Music Hall'
- 10th Three coffee mornings today:
Bradley Chapel held in the Church Hall commencing 10 a.m.
St. Ives' Church held in the Community Centre commencing 10.15 a.m.
(Please note new date for St. Ives' coffee morning)
Salvation Army held in the Army Hall commencing 10.30 a.m.



- 11th Remembrance Day Service at Leadgate Cenotaph commencing 10.45 a.m.



- 12th Salvation Army Ladies Fellowship today will be a Christmas shopping trip to Boundary Mills



- 15th **Election Day for a new Police and Crime Commissioner, who will replace the existing Police Authority.**

- 16th Leadgate Methodist Church's 'Messy Church' held in the Church hall at 3.30 p.m.



- 17th Brooms Church Christmas coffee morning held in St. Joseph's Hall, commencing 10.30 a.m.

- 17th Bradley Chapel is holding a 'Gift Sale in the Church Hall, commencing 2.30 p.m.



- 19th Leadgate Women's Institute meeting held in the Community Centre at 2 p.m., today is the Annual General Meeting, the competition is a tray cloth

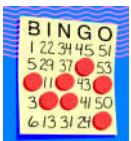
- 21st Leadgate and District Carers meeting held in the Community Centre at 1.30 p.m. , (subject to the completion of the refurbishment)



- 21st The Police and Communities Together meeting at 6 p.m., followed by the Leadgate Area Partnership meeting at 7 p.m., both held in the Community Centre (subject to the completion of the refurbishment) or the Methodist Church Hall



- 24th There are two fayres being held today:
Salvation Army's Fayre (see above) commencing 11 a.m.
St. Ives' Autumn Fayre held in the Community Centre commencing 1.30 p.m.



- 26th 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 21st November, 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

