



WYLAM PARISH COUNCIL

INTERIM NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2004

MORE HELP NEEDED FOR VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN AND LITTER PICK

More help from adults, as well as children, will be welcome for the village's annual spring clean and litter pick which will take place (weather permitting) on

**SATURDAY
20th MARCH
at 10 a.m.**

If you can spare an hour or two, to help tidy up the village and make it more attractive, your support will be much appreciated. The Parish Council will make a

small donation to a local organisation or society for each person taking part, so village groups can benefit from their members supporting the litter pick. Please assemble in the War Memorial Car Park for 10 a.m. Wear old clothes, gloves and stout shoes or boots.

If you would be interested in joining a group of volunteers who pick litter on a regular basis throughout the year please contact the Clerk, at the Parish Council Office (852498). Thank you in advance for any help you can give.

TRADCRAFT COFFEE MORNING

There is to be a Traidcraft Coffee Morning in the Foyer of the Methodist Church Centre on Saturday 13th March 10.30 - 12 noon, in support of fair trade fortnight. Traidcraft goods will be available and there will be an opportunity to sample fairly traded products. Your support welcome.

LOCK UP YOUR BIKE

In recent weeks a number of bikes have been stolen from garages in South Wylam. Please be on your guard, and ensure your bike and garage are always securely locked when not in use.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This year's Annual Parish Meeting, will be held on **Wednesday 12th May at 7.30pm.** in the Institute. The Parish Council will be reporting on what has been happening in the village over the past year and its plans for the year ahead. There will also be plenty of opportunity to question councillors and express your views on any matters which affect the village.

BLACKETT COURT DAY CENTRE

Age Concern would like to restart the Day Centre, which was until last year held every Monday at Blackett Court, but is unable to do so without the help of a number of local volunteers.

If you are able to help please contact Anne Shilton (Volunteers Development Officer) at Age Concern Northumberland tel. 01670 528220 for more information.

CAN YOU HELP?

Both Wylam Institute, and Wylam Pre-school Playgroup are looking for someone with a financial background who would be willing to carry out the Independent Examination of their accounts, as required by the Charity Commission. If you can help, please contact either the Institute Office (852498) or Jennifer Power, Chairman Wylam Playgroup (852834).

KITCHEN WALK

Wylam Housing Group is organising a kitchen walk (or drive) as a fundraiser for Shelter NE on Saturday 27th March between 2 and 5 p.m. It is aimed at being a lighthearted peek into other people's kitchens and perhaps having refreshments while you do so. For tickets (priced £2 each) please contact either Sharon Lamb (852688), Wendy Wright (852721), Dorothy Eavis (852188), or Marion Stobo at the shop during opening hours. The Housing Group are also organising another Garden Walk. If you would like to offer your garden as a venue for visitors please contact either Wendy Wright (852721) or Dorothy Eavis (852188).

BROADBAND PROGRESS

At around the same time as the successful campaign to reach the 500 target set by BT at the end of last year One North East was tendering a contract to bring Broadband to rural areas in the northeast region. This was won by BT. They are currently carrying out a technical audit of the ICT infrastructure in Northumberland with a view to identifying "gaps" in the network.

These gaps are, for example, telephone exchanges that have not yet been updated to provide Broadband and communities that are outside the distance limit of 6km for conventionally wired Broadband links to the telephone exchange. Having defined the gaps in potential Broadband provision they will be looking at "solutions" such as satellite broadband, and wireless systems designed for residential application.

This analysis is taking place now and BT intends to have identified communities, to be part of the first pilot applications, during April.

These wireless solutions would be available at similar prices and service levels to conventional provision.

JUMP FOR JOY!

Members of St. Oswin's Church are organising a family fun day on Saturday 12th June from 2 p.m. in the grounds of St. Oswin's Church. Events include a teddy bears' parachute jump from the church tower and a picnic tea. Look out for more details nearer the time.

This Interim newsletter has been issued to bring to your attention several matters which require publicity before the next edition of the "Wylam Globe" newsletter which should appear in early June.

Any queries or correspondence to the Clerk to the Parish Council - Mrs Karen Webster, Parish Council Office, Wylam Institute. (852498)