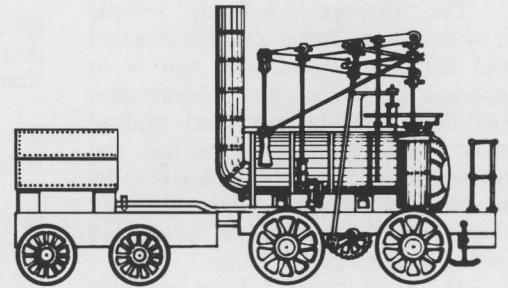


THE WYLAM GLOBE

Newsletter of Wylam Parish Council



Summer, 2005

Number 77

Popular Summer Fair includes 25th Fun Run

It may not seem very long since the last fair but the 2005 Wylam Summer Fair will soon be upon us. Make a date for your diary next Saturday, 25th June, come and support not only the Playing Fields Association but also the host of other village organisations taking part. As usual there will be the 'old favourites' Prudhoe Community Band and Martin the Magician, together with the egg hoying competition and the Fun Run which will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary having started in 1980. The Playing Fields Association would like as many previous runners as possible to return to this year's Summer Fair and take part in this special anniversary run.

There will be races for the children and a tug o' war for the adults which together with the variety of stalls and side-shows will ensure that there is something for everyone. The ever popular book stall will also be held in the Methodist Church Hall. As usual admission is by programme only.

Please try to support this event, it is one of the main sources of income for the Playing Fields Association, your help will ensure that the facilities can be maintained for at least another year and you'll enjoy it! See you there.

Calming Dene Estate

In response to concerns about road safety expressed by several residents in the Dene Estate, area, the County Council is undertaking a preliminary consultation of local residents to ascertain views on whether or not they would support the introduction of traffic calming in this area of the village.

All households in this area should have received an explanatory letter from the County Council early in May, and were asked to complete and return the consultation form by Friday, 24th June, it's your chance to express your views on this issue. We hope most have already done so.

Editor retiring

Knowing when to let someone else take over a job you have done for many years is never easy, but having edited this newsletter for the Parish Council since it was introduced back in 1973, Philip Brooks has decided it is time to pass the responsibility on.

"It has involved producing some 80 newsletters and leaflets during this time. I've certainly enjoyed the job, and have been grateful for the thanks and appreciative comments which readers have made over the years."



The teddy bears parachute jump from the church tower was again a popular event, sponsored by Wylam and District Churches to raise funds for local youth work. Kay Jours (facing the camera) was chief organiser. Inevitably several bears and parachutes caught on the trees or the tower walls (see left).

Pavement parking is illegal and hazardous

One of the recent irritations that have spread to Wylam is that of pavement parking. Its practice ranges from putting a couple of wheels on the kerb to taking over the pavement completely.

It can be a slight inconvenience to pedestrians or force them to walk in the road with its safety implications. It certainly can be a major hazard for those in charge of pushchairs or small children, the disabled or those with mobility or sight problems.

It is also against the law! It is illegal to "drive on or over a pavement, footpath or bridleway" (Highway Code Rule 123). The Highway Code Rule 218 forbids "parking wholly or partially on the pavement."

Regrettably pavement parking is now becoming ingrained in many motorists' behaviour, which does lead to some strange examples of the habit. Parking on the pavement in Elm Bank Road, where the carriageway is 24 feet wide and has little traffic perhaps illustrates the acceptance of the practice as 'normal behaviour'. In the centre of the village some drivers seem to consider that the new dropped kerbs have been provided to make it easier to drive onto the footpath outside the chemists or post office! This is not so.

The Police are aware of the problem and drivers have been ticketed in the village, so think when you park and don't park on the pavement - you risk a fine, and could cause a hazard for pedestrians.

Bottle could save lives

The "Message in a Bottle" scheme run by the Lions Club is a simple idea that could help save lives. The aim is to encourage people to keep information about their basic personal and medical details - such as blood type and any medication used, in a special bottle to be placed in their fridge, where the emergency services will expect to find it in the event of their being called to your home.

The local "Lions" Club are now introducing the scheme throughout Tynedale and are encouraging residents over the age of 65 to take part. Leaflets explaining the scheme and giving details of where the bottles specially produced for the purpose can be obtained locally free of charge will be available soon. See the Parish Council notice boards for further information or contact the Lions Club Secretary, Jan Tuckwell. Tel: 834668.

Broadband at Institute

Broadband has at last come to the Institute. All five PCs are networked into the system. So come along and have a free taster session.

Monday & Friday 9.30 - 12.30 and Wednesday 9.30 - 12.30 & 6.30 - 8.30. (Help is available on Wednesdays). From September the **Wednesday evening**, slot will need to be pre-booked no later than 24 hours ahead by ringing Liz McGlashan 852722.

A four week beginners' course and a three week desk top publishing course are being planned for the autumn term. For details please ring Viv Smith 853713.

Eroded path repaired

Regular users of the narrow riverside footpath which runs eastwards from the side of Stephenson's Court, towards Stephenson's Cottage, will have noticed the damaging scouring of the bankside caused by the high river levels early in the year. Warned that this might cause parts of the path to collapse the Parish Council reported the problem to the County Council Footpath Officer, who has recently arranged for urgent repairs to be made to protect the vulnerable section.

New notice board

Following requests for an additional public notice board in the centre of the village, the Parish Council approached Wylam Chemist Andrew Nicholson, who kindly agreed to a notice board being fixed to the front of his premises. The board is intended for the display of notices advertising village activities and official information. It is not intended for private advertisements or commercial activities and events away from the local area.

More books needed

It's time for the appeal for books for the annual second-hand bookstall held during the Summer Fair in the Methodist Church Centre.

Books of all types, for children or adults, paperback or hardback will all be welcome.

It would be a great help if you could deliver any books to the Methodist Church Centre between 10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. on any day Monday 20th - Friday 24th June. If you cannot deliver them please contact Brian Japes (Tel: 852151) or Philip Brooks (Tel: 853520) who will be happy to collect them from you.

Nature Reserve News

An interesting development for the village nature reserve will be the provision of two "interpretation panels" to describe some of the wild life to be found there. The designs for the panels are well-advanced and they should be ready for installation in the late summer.

The cost will be largely covered by generous grants from outside organisations, mainly the SITA Environment Trust which awards grants for conservation projects using proceeds from the land-fill tax credit scheme. On completion the display panels will enhance our local riverside nature reserve and show its importance to wild-life conservation in the area.

Join the Cancer Run

A team of 26 Wylam women and girls have registered for the Race for Life on Sunday, 10th July at Gosforth Race Course starting at 11.00 a.m. We have eight places left so if you would like to run, jog or walk with us please contact me for details A.S.A.P.

If you have already registered as an individual and would like to be counted as part of our team also let me know. Viv Smith 853713.

Green-list amendments

Please make the following amendments to the Waste-Recycling Green List leaflet issued earlier this year.

USED STAMPS - now collected by:

Mrs. J. Hunter of 16 Holeyn Hall Road (or via Wylam Methodist Church) for the Leprosy Mission - **not by** Mrs. A. Featonby.

FURNITURE; HOUSEWARES

Although the LINKS organisation have closed their shop at 82-83 Front Street, Prudhoe, the Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop is still open (832343).

Caretakers needed

Caretakers are wanted for Wylam Institute. For full details of job description, hours, salary etc., please contact the Institute Office on 852498 or call in. (Office open 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon on Mon., Wed. and Fri.)

Thank you . . .

At the end of this term, Val High, the long-serving Deputy Head at Wylam School will be retiring. Next term will also see the arrival of Lyn Johnston who has been appointed as the new Head Teacher. We thank Val and also Acting Head, Hazel Holliday for their work at the school and look forward to welcoming Lyn in September.

* * * *

Thank you to the County Council for installing dropped kerb crossings on pavements along the main road through the centre of the village which has made movement easier for people pushing buggies and pushchairs. Funding was through Councillor Kelly's allocation for highway work in his constituency.

* * * *

Thank you to those residents of Cherry Tree Lane who have recently made special efforts to tidy and brighten their verges which front onto the side of the lane.

* * * *

Wylam First School PTA raised over £800 at their Jumble Sale and Auction on 21st May, and thank everyone who supported the event and helped achieve this excellent result.

Items in brief . . .

At the County Council election on 5th May Paul Kelly was re-elected as our County Councillor for another four years. We congratulate Paul and trust that he will continue to do his best to represent the interests of the village and local residents in the corridors of County Hall.

* * * *

Working in co-operation, the County and District Councils have now provided dog-litter bins and poop scoop bags in the Country Park car park. Hopefully these will help to reduce the instances of dog fouling around the car park and picnic area, or along the Country Park walkway.

* * * *

The police are warning residents of the risks of leaving their wheelie bins in the back lane where they could be used by thieves to climb over walls or fences and gain entrance to property, or as containers in which to hide tools or stolen goods.

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Don't forget to report any problems with local public services, e.g. potholes, blocked gullies and drains, faulty street lamps, dog fouling, bin collection, recycling etc., etc., to the authorities responsible who are all listed in the Village Information Card (green) produced by the Parish Council. Alternatively contact the Parish Council Clerk at the Wylam Institute office (Tel: 852498) for advice.

Correspondence relating to this Newsletter should be addressed to

Mrs. D. Carney, The Clerk to the Parish Council, Wylam Institute, Church Road, Wylam NE41 8AP.

Printed for Wylam Parish Council by The Gilpin Press, Houghton-le-Spring DH4 4BA.