



# Esh Leaves



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Esh Parish Council newsletter for Esh, Langley Park, Quebec, Ushaw and Wilk's Hill



## CHAIRMAN'S MEDAL AWARDED TO MISS BRENNAN

On her retirement after 25 years as head of Langley Park Primary, Miss Brennan was awarded the 'Chairman's Medal' by DCC Chair Linda Marshall, for her services to education. She was nominated by parent Mr Allaker.

The new head Mr Michael Gardener took up position in September.

## 125 Years Old

All Saints Church Langley Park will be celebrating its 125th birthday at a special service at 6pm on Sunday 7th October 2012. The church was built in 1887 and consecrated on the 8th October 1887 by Bishop J.B. Lightfoot. There will be a display of old photographs and memorabilia at the back of the church and souvenir postcards will also be available. Everyone is welcome.  
Rev. Michael Peers



## CHRISTMAS TREE FUND

Fundraising is under way for the Langley Park Xmas tree. The Co-op opposite the Tute is raising money by selling books. The Langley Park Pub (Blue Star) has a collection box and various businesses have promised donations. Anyone wishing to help or donate can contact Keith on (0191) 3732843 for details



On Sunday 7th October over 2,500 cyclists will be tackling the challenge of the North

Pennines, 79 miles on the roads of Durham. Particularly affected will be Esh Village with no parking allowed on Front Street—as it was for the Olympic Torch progression. All residents have received information as to alternative parking and the specific plan to operate a one way system through the village with race marshals help. It promises to be quite a spectacle.

Local resident Keith Wesson of Green Court, Esh, is a keen amateur cyclist and will be participating in the race. Keith has been a fervent cycling fan most of his life and started racing as a junior. He is looking forward to the Etape and racing on his home roads. Hope that it stays dry on the day!



## 'THE TUTE' UPDATE

Residents may be aware of vandals gaining access to the 'Tute' through the roof causing wanton destruction of the contents and to the interior of the building. To secure the building from any further damage, County Councillors have paid for repairs to the whole of the roof via the AAP Neighbourhood Budget. Parish Councillor Barbara Armstrong, as the leader of the 'Tute' working group (Parish Councillors and local residents) has worked with the County Council to secure a clean bill of health (from possible asbestos) and to sketch out improvement plans for the building (available to view in the Harry Guildford Centre) to bring the building back into community use as an icon of the village and not an eyesore. Some funding is already secure, with a big bid into the lottery, (fingers crossed). The Parish Council have paid to have the building stripped of all the rubbish left by the vandals, and the Green Team (Parish Councillors and local residents) have made a start clearing the waste outside the building. The Parish Council will be the lease holders of the building from C.I.S.W.O, but it will be run by a management team. The plans are to have an I.T room for learning, education and research; the snooker room will double as a reading/meeting room and a drop in coffee shop; a fitted kitchen to supply lunches etc; a youth/young persons/toddler group room; the main hall for dancing, keep fit, indoor sports as well as parties, receptions, conferences and seminars; the outside space to be accessible from the main hall extending the capacity; the toilet area redesigned to create a better space with a storage area. Approx Cost £180,000 (if anyone out there feels an urge for a donation, everything will be welcome). Please come and see the plans at the Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park. Businesses can write letters of support for this much needed facility, to help with grant applications.

## PROJECT IOA

On the 13<sup>th</sup> August, in Woodview Community Centre, Langley Park, a group of seven 16 year olds, organised and hosted a 'Fun Activity Taster Day for local youngsters'. We are part of a scheme run by the government called the 'National Citizen Service.' The scheme is for school leavers and aims to give them something to do for their community. Our group decided that young people aged 11-13 are growing up with a lack of activities in the village so we decided to see if there is a need for a youth club for young people in that age group. We ran a taster day in Langley Park. We were incredibly happy when twenty six 11-13 year olds, plus their families, turned up on the day. The variety of activities provided included a climbing wall provided free by Consett YMCA, arts and crafts, cake decorating, crazy dancing, raffles and much more! We were very encouraged when several young people asked us when would we be organising the next one! We are extremely thankful for all the local support without which the day wouldn't have happened. We'd like to say a particular thank you to Councillor Joseph Armstrong for his generous donation and Mrs Armstrong for her encouragement and advice; thanks to Geoff and Lynne from the Parish Council; to **Sagittarian Embroidery** in Sacriston for the donation of 7 wonderful Project IOA T-shirts, (IOA stands for Improving Our Area); Andy Coulthard at the AAP and the two fabulous Youth Workers, Laura Wilkinson and Emma Crawford. If anyone would like to know more about Project IOA please feel free to contact us at [project.ioa@aol.co.uk](mailto:project.ioa@aol.co.uk).



## LANGLEY PARK WAR MEMORIAL

Names on the memorial will be re-gilded before Remembrance Sunday. Work has been funded by grants from AAP and Councillor Armstrongs Neighbourhood Budget Fund.



## Wildlife Corner

One of the most wonderful things about 'Nature' is how it is constantly changing. This is not just from day to day, or even season to season or year to year but all the time.

Last year I was studying flower-rich hay fields in Weardale and Teesdale. We are lucky enough to have some of the botanically best meadows in the country in those dales. Cranesbill shows its blues to mix with the meadow buttercups' yellow and the red of the sorrel and the great burnett. This painting of the countryside is as much a delight to the visitor's eye as to the botanist. Spring 2011 was very dry and most of the annual flowers shot up, flowered and died in a matter of days, while much to the farmers' consternation, hardly any grass grew. Then, in late summer, when haytime came, it poured with rain for day after day and the grass and perennial flowers flourished but everyone was tearing their hair out wondering if they would ever get the hay!

This year we're all aware of how wet it has been ever since March. The grass and perennial flowers have grown madly and smothered all the annuals completely. You wouldn't know that you were working in the same fields! Getting the hay has been very chancy, with soggy fields and bogged down machinery but the crops of grass have been heavy, if you can get them dry at all.

What flowers will thrive next year? Who knows? We do know that one of the things they depend on is the weather.

You can find out more about our incredible hay meadows from the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Hay-time Project.

ALISON



## PLEASE HELP KEEP LANGLEY PARK TIDY

A group meets every Thursday morning at 9.30am (weather permitting) at the entrance to the Industrial Estate. They spend about an hour and a half picking up litter in various parts of the village, concentrating on areas not included in the County Council's regular route.

The group would really like more people to join them. If you are interested, please come along any Thursday morning at 9.30am or leave your details at the Parish Office and one of the group will contact you.

Everyone can help keep our village tidy by using the bins provided or by taking their litter home.



## COLD CALLING AWARENESS ZONES.

Cold Calling Awareness Zones are areas at risk of attack by criminals posing as officials in order to steal valuables or money, or undertake unnecessary work at inflated prices.



If you would like to set up a Cold Calling Awareness Zone in your street, you can contact Alison Jude from the Trading Standards Service, at Durham County Council, tel. 0191 260939 or e-mail [Alison.Jude@durham.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.Jude@durham.gov.uk)

When a zone is set up you will be given door stickers and an information pack which tells you how to deal with cold callers. There will also be signs erected in each street to discourage cold callers.



**MIA'S AT LANGLEY PARK** now do Sunday Lunches. Dinners can be picked up or delivered to you from 12 till 2. Call Mia's on (0191) 3751404 for details.

**COFFEE MORNING** At St Andrews Methodist Church, Langley Park. Every Friday from 9am—11am. There is also a cake stall the last Friday of every month.

**AVAILABLE** Packs of dog bags are available to purchase from the Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park cost 50p.

**WATCH THIS SPACE** Youth Workers will be in the area collecting information with a view to setting up a Youth Club at Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park.

**STRINGER TERRACE** Following consultation with local residents, improvements to the bus lay-bys at Stringer Terrace will start in October. Both stops will be resurfaced; This will give a more efficient turn around and provide more privacy to the houses on the bus stop. Cost, approx £10,000

**ARTICLES** If you have any articles or you want a councillor to attend an event. Please contact me on (0191) 3735473 or email me at [Spen01@sky.com](mailto:Spen01@sky.com) or contact the Parish Office on (0191) 3736687.



Deadline for the next edition is 23 November 2012.

Julie Carr (Editor).



The Pact Meeting is held the first Tuesday of every month in the Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park at 6pm.

This is your chance to discuss issues or concerns with members of the local police force and your parish council. It is often attended by local members of the Neighbourhood Watch. All welcome to attend.

### DURHAM CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The sessions in the Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park, are held the second Wednesday of every month between 10am—11am. Appointments can be made (if necessary) by contacting the Parish Office. The Citizens Advice Bureau offer free confidential advice.



Session Dates: October 10th, November 14th and December 12th 2012.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Tuesday 9th October - 7.00pm Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park
- Tuesday 13th November - 7.00pm Village Hall, Quebec.



Parish Council News

Residents are welcome to attend.

### NEW OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Monday to Friday 10am - 12.  
Telephone (0191) 3736687.

Geoff Smith (Parish Clerk) Email: [geoff.smith@langley-park.org.uk](mailto:geoff.smith@langley-park.org.uk)

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to help at the Luncheon Club please contact Kevin Elliott on (0191) 3730757 for more information.

### LUNCHEON CLUBS

Langley Park meets every Friday at Wood View Community Centre at 12 noon. The price is £2.50 for a main meal and a sweet. We have a bus which picks up at Langley Park, Esh and Quebec from 11am and return by 1.30pm. Please contact Kevin Elliott on 3730757 or Sylvia Buxom on 3731644 for further details.

Esh Lunch Club meets on the second Tuesday of every month at the Cross Keys, Esh.

The Esh Leaves reserves the right to edit all material.