

# **Sherburn Village Parish News November 2018**



## **Chairperson's Remarks – Angela Leary**

This year I took over as Chairperson from one of the best chairmen, I believe, we have had for a long time in Sherburn Village. Jimmy Leadbitter put in 100% into the post and he is going to be a hard act to follow but I will give it my very best. I was taught by the best teacher and also one of my best friends.

This year Durham Gymnastics Club has gone from strength to strength as you will find out from Glen further in the newsletter. I still can't believe we have Team GB members training in our village. The leisure centre is now also used as the base for the Durham Youth Partnership which has grown very quickly more than anyone thought it would and is an asset for our children and grandchildren to use. My grandson absolutely loves it. Well done to all involved.

The hanging baskets and boxes have been beautiful this year despite a flower box which was stolen from alongside the war memorial; a hanging basket pulled down outside the post office; a box tipped over and plants pulled out in front of me while I was watering. I struggle to understand why people do things like this. These incidents were all reported to the police and a culprit was caught. CCTV!

On a serious note I also have to mention the increase in drug taking and legal highs. It hurts me when I think of this going on especially with youngsters. We can't keep an eye on our children 24/7 but please look out for the signs. On in particular is drinking extreme amounts of water. If you think your children/grandchildren are partaking in this please seek advice and help. Also, if they tell you that someone has tried to sell them something report it to the police. Our community Police Office has contributed some tips. Let's come together and help to protect our children from the evils of drugs.

## **Flower Display**

Hi everyone.

For the past two years we've won Best Village in the Durham in Bloom competition. We've entered again this year and I hope you agree the displays look very attractive! It's a lot of hard work but the smiles on people's faces as they walk or drive past make it all worth the effort. The Parish Council never did this to gain awards, it was purely for the residents and if we don't win this year then, so be it!

Thank you for all your encouraging remarks.

Jimmy Leadbitter



### **County Councillor Bill Kellett Surgeries**

County Councillor Bill Kellett will be holding surgeries on the first 3 Saturdays of each month at the Sherburn Community Centre coffee mornings.

## **Accident**

Our Vice Chair Jimmy Leadbitter had a really nasty accident at the beginning of August. He was watering and feeding the hanging baskets outside the community centre. He fell off the steps resulting in a broken ankle and heel which also resulted in him spending a week in hospital. His estimated recovery is three months. Considering we have other parish councillors and volunteers watering I have taken the decision that no one is to use the ladders to water. It was discussed about not having hanging baskets next year but we have bought a pressure watering device that will make the job of watering everything much easier. I am sure that everyone reading this wishes Jimmy a speedy recovery.



## 134<sup>th</sup> Durham Miners Gala

Sherburn Collieries Banner Group along with a bus load of local residents joined over 200,000 on the day and what a day it was! The annual gathering stretches back to 1871 and is associated with the coal mining heritage (and particularly that of miners' trade unionism) of the Durham Coalfield, which stretched throughout the traditional County of Durham. It is locally called "The Big Meeting" or "Durham Big Meeting".

The highlight for me and most is being able to parade our Sherburn Banner as we marched through the cobbled streets onto the Old

Racecourse, where political speeches were delivered and families had picnics. Following the speeches Bill Bragg was on stage to wow the crowds.

In keeping with recent years, the weather was great with clear skies and the sun shone brightly on the crowds, brass band instruments and the banners. Our village was very well represented with former miners, families, visitors, County and Parish Councillors. This year Sherburn were supported by the Uppermill Brass Band from Saddleworth who were commissioned by the Banner Group.

The day commenced at 7.30am when we began to meet up, check the banner and harnesses were all in good order. Families met at the war memorial in the village, with children some of the first to arrive, all excited and some even teaching adults how to floss; the new dance craze. We left at 8am for Durham to meet the band and other marchers at 8.30am at the top of the North Road and did not arrive back in Sherburn until around 6pm where we concluded the day in the Club listening to The Uppermill Band before their long journey home.



This year's Gala was also special because a documentary chronicling the history of the Gala and what it means to different people was made. The production of the film started some months ago and the film director and his team spent time with me in my home and around the village before returning on Gala Day to follow our journey throughout the day. It is worthy to note that despite 53 years since the last colliery closed in the Sherburn, our history and heritage is recognised and celebrated.

As a former miner and with my deep links to the NUM and Durham Miners' Association, it

makes me immensely proud to join people from my own community to march and enjoy the special day with special people. I hope more of you join us next year on 13<sup>th</sup> July. You will not be disappointed.

Organising the annual trip to the Gala and funding the costs is a year long process. Special thanks to my fellow members of the Sherburn Collieries Banner Group, Friends of the Durham Miners' Gala, County Councillors Bill Kellett & David Hall and Sherburn Parish Council. Without their time and kind donations to assist with the costs, we may not be in a position to make the trip collectively as a community.

If you would like to donate to the Group or join our activities, please contact Parish Councillor Keith Smith.



### Litter Picking

Thank you to Paul Tindale and his picking group for continuing the great work that they are doing around the village. Due to issues regarding insurance the Parish Council have not been able to do a Village Litter Pick this year. Health & Safety rule our lives now! We have requested the moving of the bin which is currently next to the notice board to be moved next to the bench. This area is always littered and looks terrible. Please can we all think about where we put our litter and use the bins provided or take it home.



Every other Friday morning a group of local villagers meet up outside the Community Centre and we go for walks, lasting no more than a couple hours, usually covering between 3 to 4 miles. The walks start promptly at 10am and people are asked to be there for 9.50 to hear about the proposed route. We are a very sociable group so you are welcome to come along and join us. There are no membership fees.

Contact Paul Tindall on 0191 372 1553 for more information.



### **First World War Commemoration Event**

As most of you will be aware, this year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of cessation of hostilities in the First World War. As a mark of respect for all who dies in this terrible conflict the Parish Council, Church, Salvation Army, Girl Guides and local businesses including Kathryn and Emma are all commemorating this.

The service will of course take place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am and it will be a very special occasion! Refreshments will be available in the Community Centre afterwards along with a WW1 display of uniforms, weapons and a mock-up of a trench provided by Peter Kell. A number of flags will appear throughout the village and a few surprises appear on benches. At the stroke of 7pm a bell will chime and a beacon will be lit on the green which will later be part of the memorial.

Hopefully lots of you will attend this special once in a lifetime event to honour the fallen.

Jimmy Leadbitter



PACT Meetings

Meet outside Sherburn Community Centre

13<sup>th</sup> November – 10am

8<sup>th</sup> January – 10am

Come and meet your local officers.



What wonderful people we have in Sherburn Village. The Food Bank collections have been a great success. The gymnastics club have contributed and supported the Parish Council again this year with collections and storage. More and more people are using food banks in Durham. People in our village are using them and they are a life line to people who now find themselves on the governments universal credit. Some people are waiting more than six weeks for claims to be processed. I hope that the government listens to all the organisations that are saying it isn't working. So, I am asking you kind to help families have a better Christmas.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> December I will be collecting at the Community Centre Coffee morning and the lighting of the Christmas tree.

Let's keep making a difference!

Angela Leary

#### [Shopping List](#)

Tins of ham	Sweet Mince Pies	Chocolate Bars
Biscuits	Crisps	Selection Boxes
	Tins of fruit	



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We have continued to work on improvements and repairs to the centre following those done to the toilets earlier in the year. As you can see from the photo above the painting of the main fascia board and renewed signage work has now been completed at a cost of £400 and with the hanging baskets in “full bloom” the front of the centre looks at its best. Thank you to County Councillor Bill Kellett for the donation of £500 towards the costs of repairs and repainting.

We have been decorating the inside of the building and it was during this that a gas leak was discovered in the main hall. This was isolated and urgent repairs were carried out to make it safe again. Our thanks go to the caretakers who did the majority of the painting.

Sadly after 43 years, due to lack of numbers, the Mother & Toddler group has now closed.

Our plans for the Autumn and Winter include:

**11<sup>th</sup> November** – 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 1 in conjunction with the Parish Council – all day.

**24<sup>th</sup> November** – The Roxi Tart Concert

**1<sup>st</sup> December** – Christmas Fayre & Christmas Tree Lights switch on in conjunction with the Parish Council



## Christmas decorating of the centre

The centre continues to support groups using the centre.

- Spiritualist Church - Monday
- Zumba – 5.30 – 6.30pm – Tuesday
- Exercise group – Monday & Thursday evenings
- Guides – Tuesday evening
- Pain Management & Easy Exercise – Wednesday lunchtime & Thursday morning
- Children's Karate – Wednesday evening
- Bingo – Thursday evening
- Children's dancing – Friday
- Aikido
- Breakfast coffee mornings – every Saturday except for the last Saturday of the month when the Church hold their coffee morning. Our full breakfast at £2.00 includes 5 items plus toast, tea or coffee and is very popular.

Membership is £1.50 per year.

A big thank you to all who help and support us throughout the year.

### **HELP REQUIRED**

We are looking for officials to become Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer & committee members who will be able to bring new ideas to the centre in the future. The centre is self-financing and training will be given to anyone interested. Contact Ray Pye 0191 372 0272.



## **Your Village needs your Help**

As you seen from the Chairman's remarks regarding the WWI anniversary we will be doing various things over the day, one of these being an exhibition of WWI artefacts & memorabilia. All though we will not have people who were around when the war ended we are hoping that some households will have some items that have been left within the family. It would be great if we could loan them for the exhibition and be assured that they would be looked after but if you would prefer to stay with the item that would be fine.

If you have items that you think you may loan or to donate please contact Jan at [sherburnpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sherburnpc@hotmail.co.uk) or Angela on 07985255571.

### **Durham Police Herbert Protocol**

This encourages carers, family & friends to identify vulnerable adult who are at risk of going missing, for whatever reason, collating relevant information which can then be used in the event of them going missing. To find out more information contact 101 or [Herbert.Protocol@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Herbert.Protocol@durham.pnn.police.uk)



Have you seen our website?

[www.sherburnvillage.org](http://www.sherburnvillage.org)



Durham Area Youth (DAY) is a new charity set up by local residents (David Hall, Jon Steer, Vicki Wharton and Emily Burns) supported and funded by the parish councils, to provide youth provision in Sherburn Village and surrounding areas. Our Youth workers, Rachael Roberts and Stephen Davison have been delivering detached youth work and sporting activities every Wednesday evening from 6-8pm using the area around the gymnastics centre with 25 regular attendees aged 8+. We have kindly been given a room within the Gymnastics Centre to run a youth club from and are currently working with the young people on a funding bid with Durham AAP to get the room decorated and equipped the way they want. We hope to move into the centre very soon.

Many of the young people enjoyed a visit to Moor House where they participated in Orienteering, the group had a brilliant time, and the young people worked well as a team and supported on another. We have recently been awarded £2,000 from Tesco's and would like to thank everyone who put tokens in our box to support us. This money will be used towards activities for the young people in Sherburn Village.

If you require any more information on DAY please find us on Facebook @durhamareayouth or contact our Lead worker on 07871524985 or [rachael.rob-  
erts@durhamareayouth.org.uk](mailto:rachael.roberts@durhamareayouth.org.uk)

### **Attlee Square Luncheon Club**

Attlee Square Communal Hall, Sherburn is situated at the outskirts of the village, just behind the Doctors Surgery. It is smaller than the one in village centre, members of the community around the area set up a luncheon club for the over 60's nearly 11 years ago (it is still going strong by more or less the same people who started it). They were the same age as some of those being catered for. They have a cooked lunch with dessert, tea or coffee followed by bingo. Outings and events are arranged including fish & chip suppers, entertainment, cream teas.

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## Christmas tree lighting

Our annual Christmas tree lighting will be on Saturday 1st December. The tree will be blessed and light around 4pm. The blessing will be done by Rev Tom Glover. Last year as you know Santa was very busy but he will be coming along this year with Mrs Claus and elves.

The community centre will be holding its Christmas fare at the same time refreshments will also be available. The parish council will be selling memory baubles in aid of the Durham Food Bank and collecting food items, toiletries and Christmas foods.



**Flytipping** is illegal and can result in an on the spot fine of £400; or up £50,000 and/or your vehicle being seized. If you have any large items or several bags of waste to get rid contact Durham County Council to arrange collection for a fee or take it to one of the recycling centres. **Remember** that it is **your duty** to ensure that any one you get to take the waste is licensed to do so. Let's keep our village beautiful!



We have had a busy summer building a podium in the main hall for our fast & tumble track as we have had a raised pit installed which will enable our athletes to train more complex skills in a much safer way. Funds towards this work were raised by our fundraising committee through a fun day in July. Work has started on the extension which will enable us to move the tumble tracks to here to ensure a safer working environment and enable a sprung floor to be put down for the cheerleading section. Unfortunately, our bid to secure funding for the build has fallen through but we have secured some funding from elsewhere to allow the work to be completed, hopefully, by the end of October.

Our next aim is to purchase a sprung floor for which we need approximately £18,000. This will help our Cheerleading squad train on a floor that they will be competing on. It is their aim to become one of the best squads in the country. In the future it is our intention to update the toilet facilities to increase the number of disabled toilets and baby changing facilities.

As we now have gymnastics classes running 7 days a week as well as club classes daily we have taken the decision to stop running children's parties to accommodate the increase in demand for our club and general members. We now introduced ballet classes on Saturdays from 1-3pm and as from September the newly formed Sherburn Youth group are using a room in the centre on a Wednesday evening and we are very pleased to support this venture. The centre is also a drop off point for donations to Durham Foodbank. The parent and toddler group continue to meet on Friday mornings, 9.30 to 11.30am and will be more child friendly once the bigger equipment has been moved over into the extension.

17 of tumbling gymnasts have made it through to the finals of the British Tumbling Championships, which are also doubling as the trials for the World Championships, and hopefully some of our tumblers may be selected for this event. A weekend of competitions, bringing the best tumbling gymnasts from the north of England to our venue, on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

**The annual Christmas displays will run from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> December.** Tickets will be available from the beginning of November and you are all invited to see our gymnasts in action.

Anyone interested in joining any of the classes or getting involved in any way please contact Glen on 0191 372 0971.



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David Hall

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Facebook: @Cllr David Hall

As your local County Councillors, David Hall & Bill Kellett were elected to by local residents to serve your interests and bring as much of the County Council's & other organisations resources & attention to the area and to



support local residents, groups, businesses & Parish Council for the benefit of the area in any way we can.

Durham Area Youth – a new youth group which has been set up in the village and is running out of room at Durham City Gymnastics. Feedback has been very positive so far with many children engaging in the outreach service. (See DAY article for more information)

Dropped Kerbs – Wheelchairs users can now benefit from the new dropped kerbs which were requested including the lessening of the slope on the one near the Coop.

Resurfaced paths, roads, new road signs & dog bins – Front Street & Gray Avenue paths have been redone/resurfaced. New street signs installed with others on order in the next few months as are new dog bins in some areas. Poor road & paths condition have been reported i.e. Cummings Avenue, Coalford Road, Kidd Avenue. Resurfacing has or will take place in other areas. Residents can report theirs directly too via [help@durham.gov.uk](mailto:help@durham.gov.uk) & emailing their County Councillors.

County Councillors have contributed some funding to the Parish Council project to do some verge hardening in the village. They are also looking at the affordability of additional parking bays for Gray Avenue and Park House Gardens, the latter we are talking to County Durham Housing Group to see what they can do to help. The Parish would like to develop a rolling programme of projects. The call to attend a meeting for a proposed Parish Plan to develop this was not met with any response but the Parish will try again next year.

Sherburn Primary School Play Equipment – Significant funding has been committed to new play equipment which is been matched by the school to replace outdated equipment. We look forward to seeing this project roll out this year and to see the County Council's promised £1m investment in the school start to take place in the new year.

Sherburn to Dragonville Path – this was completed a little while ago completing the ability for all to use the path for its entire length. Had this request been made now then the chances of the project giving funding would have been impossible now due to Government austerity measures so it is fortunate that this was requested in 2013.



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Youngsters enjoying DAY.



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## How to contact the Parish Council

Parish Clerk – Jan Penn-Jones

Mobile: 077844 80370

Email: [sherburnpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sherburnpc@hotmail.co.uk)

Website: [www.sherburnvillage.org](http://www.sherburnvillage.org)

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Sherburn Village won “Best Village” in the Beautiful Durham Competition.