

GET IN THE SWIM

Once again the Town Council is providing transport to Crook swimming baths on five Wednesdays during the school holidays. As an additional feature for this year, arrangements are being made for an outing to the "Wet 'n Wild Water Park on North Tyneside. This trip will take place on the remaining Wednesday of the holidays, and full details will be given by public notices as soon as arrangements are complete. In the meantime, please contact the Town Clerk or the community workers at the Community Centre, either in person or by calling 731444 if you need any further information

NO CHANGE

At the Council's annual meeting in May, Councillor Terry Batson was re-elected as Chairman for the 2006/7 civic year, while Councillor Ron Grogan was re-elected as Vice Chairman. Councillor Grogan of course represents the Tow Law Ward on Wear Valley District Council. Along with Town Councillor Jeff Gale, while Councillor Colin Hayton also represents Sunniside.

MAKING PLANS

Talks have been taking place with consultants appointed by Wear Valley District Council in connection with the Area Development Framework (ADF), with specific reference to Tow Law. Following a similar exercise in Coundon, the initiative is designed to revitalise and regenerate the community, both economically and environmentally, and although the consultation has just ended, it is hoped to have the consultants' report quite soon. This has been passed to English Partnerships, and thence to the relevant Government department. Allied to the work which is ongoing on the Fell by Durham Wildlife Trust, and the emerging plans of Durham County Council to review and revive where necessary, its Footpath & Rights of Way network, the future looks quite bright. Watch this Space

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

With the recent co-option of Adrian Blacker, the Town Council is back to its full complement of 12 members. Councillor Blacker has taken the place of former member Andrew Lawton whose resignation created the vacancy. We hope that Councillor Blacker enjoys a long and fruitful association with the Council

PLEASE BE SEATED

The Town Council is to provide four additional public seats across the community, and while the location for one of them has been previously determined, residents are invited to submit ideas for the other three sites. The Council is anxious to involve residents, young and old, in its activities, and it is hoped that you will feel free to approach any of your councillors for advice and assistance, or to drop into the community centre for a chat with the Town Clerk, John Abbot, who is "in residence" on a Tuesday and a Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Even if your concern does not involve the Town Council, you will be pointed in the right direction and advice will be given to help you resolve your query. You will be very welcome.

BEST BEHAVIOUR PLEASE

The Chairman and the Clerk have met with the District Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Officer to seek advice and guidance on what can be done to combat the unacceptable level of nuisance behaviour and vandalism in the community. It is intended to bring together all interested parties and groups – Town Council, Police, Community Workers, Residents and the culprits themselves in an attempt to rid the town of this problem. It is no comfort to know that this is a nationwide matter and not just local, but we know it must be stopped.



Do you have questions or concerns regarding your child's behaviour, sleeping routines, speech and language, or would you just like someone to talk to?

Would you like to borrow any children's books?

If you would like to talk to Tamsin, Tow Law's Family Support Worker, please feel free to drop in on Tuesday mornings starting 27th June between 9:30 - 11:30am in the Crèche at the Community Centre, on Clinic (01388) 730976.

the tattle

First Time Online



Alan is organising a number of Drop-In sessions through July, starting on Monday July 3rd, to anyone interested in either learning to use a computer, developing new skills such as word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, etc or those who wish to learn how to use the Internet e.g. how to e-mail, how to shop on line, etc and it's all for free. That's the sessions not the shopping – you'll have to pay for that!!

In addition, these sessions are a must for anyone who wishes to access any of the Learn Direct courses and work towards a qualification. This can be done totally online either at home or at the Community Centre. There are courses in Literacy and Numeracy (you can update your qualifications to Level 2 for free!), Computing, Digital Photography, Business and Management – you can even research your family history online. Again, there is no cost for doing any of this!

For further details give Alan a call on: 01388 731444.

Times of sessions, every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1.00 – 3.00 p.m. If you cannot make these times, then please ring and we can make alternative arrangements, either on a morning or evening. Funding is also available for crèches, so if you need childcare, then let us know in advance.



FUN DAY

The date for this years fun day is:

Tuesday the 8th of August, 11-4pm

We are very interested in hearing your suggestions for the day, although we can't make any promises, we will try to accommodate them.

strawberry tea



The teen club are planning a charity event to raise awareness of breast cancer. We are holding a "Strawberry Tea" day at the Community Centre on Sunday 9th July. Activities that we are hoping to deliver are a bring and buy sale, face painting, nail art, tee-shirt painting, strawberry face masks/pamper products, and food – e.g. strawberries and cream, strawberry scones, strawberry tea, and so on.

The teen club on Mondays is up and running again, and young people have been brimming with good ideas for the summer. The group are currently enjoying cookery sessions, and are putting together a healthy eating cookbook with fun and tasty recipes that are good for you. The group are researching nutritional facts, including information about foods, vitamins, minerals, antioxidants for inclusion in the book. Other activities available on Monday evenings include. Five a side football in the gym, IT sessions and youth projects.

20th Birthday Celebrations

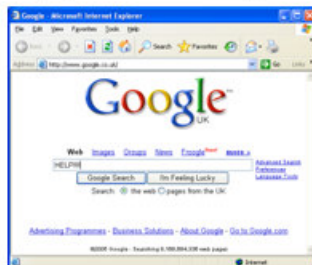


There will be a planning meeting at the Community Centre on Thursday 29th June at 7.00 p.m. for anyone who wishes to put forward ideas on how to make our Birthday celebrations go with a swing!

We are looking for fund raising ideas and, of course, extra volunteers to help carry them out. So please come along and help in what should be an interesting and rewarding project.

basic computing

If you are having problems with IT, word-processing, spreadsheets, Internet or email, come along even if it's just one thing that you are having problems with.



Word-processing

Would you like to know how to use Microsoft Word to create, change, or amend your documents, or how to use tables, even use mail merge to create a form letter.

word-processing
Internet
spreadsheets

	Jan	Feb	Mar
9 Gas	34	34	34
10 Elect.	25	25	25
11 Water	20	20	20
13 Total	79	79	=SUM(D9:D11)

Tuesday evening 6:30 to 8:30
£2 per session
Starting July 4th for 10 weeks
Tow Law Community Centre 731444

FLAGS AND BANNERS

To celebrate the restoration of the old friendly society banner, the Community Association are organising an exhibition of Flags and Banners at the end of October. We are looking for flags and banners used by local groups and churches either now or in the past to display. We will also be holding an exhibition by local artists, so if you have a flag or banner that we can exhibit or are a local artist who would like to display their work please contact Lynne at the centre or Jenny Flynn. We hope to hold some arts and photography workshops over the summer to produce some new work to exhibit as well so look out for more information in the next Tattler and the press. We can always do with some help for these occasions so if you can help please contact Jenny or Lynne.

FUN CLUB ENDS

Sadly Carol Hurton and Lynne Rowland have had to stop working as organisers from the end of this session and we have insufficient volunteers to continue the club. We will try and make alternative arrangements if we can but we will need volunteers to do this as Durham County Council will not provide youth workers for this age group. The association thanks Lynne and Carol and all the other volunteers who help at the club for all their hard work.

Boxing Club

temporarily suspended

This suspension is because the coach could not always make the sessions. Ashley is now talking to possible coaches with a view to restarting the club on Wednesday evenings. Please look out for posters and more information soon.

Tow Law Community Centre 01388731444

Basic Web-Design

The object of this short course is to design at least two linked web pages on one of the following topics

- . A hobby or pastime
- . TV programme
- . Family
- . Yourself
- . Personal interest

To include all of the following

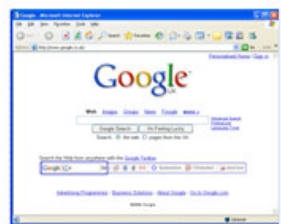
- . At least 2 images
- . 2 links to other websites
- . paragraph of own text
- . piece of text imported from another website
- . mixture of fonts and colours

Discuss your chosen theme

- . research other websites on your chosen theme
- . use the evaluation sheet and evaluate other websites
- . print the evaluated websites
- . design your website
- . Make any final adjustments
- . Print the web site off in design and from the browser
- . Collate all information together

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Internet

Thursday evening 6:30 - 8:30, Starting July 6th for 5 weeks @ £2 per session

Tow Law Community Centre 01388 731444

teen club news

Two of our group, Jade Armstrong and Jordan Anderson, are now part of the County wide project called Youth Voice. This is all about young people having a say and a direct impact on the Youth Service. It's a great project that helps young people to develop skills like handling the media, attending key meetings and how to present their views effectively. Also, young people attend interviews for youth service staff recruitment, thus having a say in how the service is run and developed.

It also means that Jade and Jordan can access the Youth opportunity fund for activities on behalf of the whole group once they have done the training.

Closure to Sports Hall

Please make a date in your diary if you use the Sports Hall.

This will be closed for approximately 4 days from Monday September 4th for essential repairs. All other activities will be unaffected.

Banner Restoration update

Our Friendly Society Banner is currently at Humshaugh Studio in Northumberland awaiting its restoration. Paint restoration experts, Norma Johnson and Jim Devenport are to start, in the next month the painstaking work to bring the banner back to its former glory, working together with fabric conservator Caroline Rendle. In addition, a beech display cabinet is being made by local craftsman, Alan Johnson so that the Banner can be displayed permanently when the restoration is complete.

We shall be organising trips to the studios for anyone interested in the restoration, so that you will be able to see close at hand the processes involved. The two schools, Blessed John Duckett and Millennium have also been invited to take part in this which will probably occur around September time.

Hopefully, if the restoration is completed in time, we shall have a celebratory official opening on October 27th, with Hilary Armstrong, M.P. doing the honours. We also plan to have a number of events to coincide with this and more information will be made available in the next edition of the Tattler.

Football Coaching

Tow Law Town AFC will provide football coaching sessions, with qualified coaches for 4 weekends commencing Sunday 2nd July 2006.

The cost is £3 per child per session or £10 for all 4 sessions. Payment must be made in **advance**.

Cheques should be payable to:
Tow Law Town AFC.

Participants should wear suitable clothing & provide their own drinks containers.

For more information, contact Tow Law Town AFC after 7pm any evening on (01388) 731443.

To guarantee your place, fill in a booking form, available from the community centre or the football club, and return with a with payment to:

Football Coaching
Tow Law Town AFC
Ironworks Road
Tow Law
County Durham
DL13 4EQ



Mountain Biking at Hamsterley Forest

We will be taking a minibus of young people to Hamsterley Forest as part of the Summer Scheme on Thursday August 10th and Thursday August 17th, with the proviso of either a single day or 2 half days depending on demand, if you wish to book a place, then contact Lynne on (01388) 7431444 or pop into the Community Centre and fill a form in.



Cost will be £1 per participant, with free transport.

If you book for a full day, you will need a packed lunch.

WANTED... your memories!!!!

Carol and Lynne would like to know if there are any people of Tow Law have memories of the train station, railway or any funny or old stories they would like to share as part of the video project. If so please contact Lynne at the centre on 731444