

the tattleer

June 2008

Tow Law Community Centre contact number 01388 731444

**Launch of Tow Law
Business Directory
Saturday 12th July
10 o'clock**

**Tow Law Community Centre
with**

Hilary Armstrong M.P.

**Tow Law business directory is now
complete and will be launched at the
Community Centre by Hilary
Armstrong M.P.**

**Refreshments will be available and
all are welcome. Please let Diane or
Pat from the Partnership know if you
haven't been included this year as we
will be maintaining and updating the
directory on line and it will be
available on our website at
www.towlaw.org.uk The directory
has been made possible with funding
from Leader plus and Neighbourhood
Renewal Fund**

Training available from Tow Law Community Centre For Individuals and Local Businesses

Attention **ALL** people living in the DL13 postcode
area and who wish to access free training available
from the Community Centre in Tow Law.

This scheme runs for six months from April 1st,
2008, so registrations are now being taken at the
Centre.

You can take a **Numeracy** (Maths) and / or
Literacy (English) course up to NVQ Level 2
(equivalent to a GCSE grade C pass), using an
online course that can be accessed at the
Community Centre, or at home or at work if you
have a Broadband Service. **All of this is offered
free of charge.**

We also offer information, advice and guidance
support to make sure that you access the right
course for you. This can be arranged at a time to
suit you. **All of this is offered free of charge.**

It does not matter if you are a complete beginner,
nor does it matter if you are not computer literate
as you will be given help and support;
it does not matter either if you already have taken
a course at school or college as we are looking to
update your existing qualification.

Other Computing Courses up to Level 2 are also
available, though there is likely to be a charge for
the course, unless you are on benefits. These
include

Microsoft Word for Word Processing, including
posters, leaflets, letters, C.V's, **Microsoft
Publisher** for Business Cards, Certificates, etc.

Microsoft Powerpoint for Presentations,
Microsoft Excel for Accounts
and Spreadsheets and **Microsoft Access** for
Databasing.

Internet Use for information access, e-mails,
web-site design, banking on-line, etc.

ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) is a
nationally recognised qualification combining all of
the above software applications.

Other courses are available in Business
Management, Compliance with the Law, Finance,
Personal Development, Providing a Quality Service
and Health & Social Care.

If you would like to register or find out
further details, then please contact Alan
Anderson at Tow Law Community Centre
on (01388) 731444

Tow Law Station FC



The team has had an impressive
second season in the Wear Valley
Sunday League Second Division.
They finished runners up in the league for the
second successive season and have gained
promotion to the First Division. The team have
sent letters to local businesses and shops in the
village requesting prizes for a raffle drawn on
their presentation night, in the Station on
Saturday 24th May. They would like to thank
the following for their kind donations; Redz
Taxis, Carols Fish & Chips, Cathy's Shop, Hall
Hill Farm, Bonds Foundry and JC Dobson
Butchers. A big thank you must also go to IM
Dry Lining for continuing to sponsor the team
and to the Station Pub for putting up with us.
Let's hope next season is as successful as the
last two



Area Partnerships

Area Partnerships are seen as the way communities can have a greater say and influence in the way services are delivered in their localities.

Area Partnerships give the opportunity for a wide spectrum of people to voice their opinions and have a direct influence on service provision.

Community Groups & Organisations, Residents Groups, Individual Residents, District, Town, Parish, County/Unitary Councillors, Church Groups, Community Focus Groups, Community Partnerships, Neighbourhood Watch, Young People the list is potentially endless.

The structure of ***Area Partnerships***, though having a principle format, would be tailored to best suit the individual areas. What would suit one area may not suit another. It may be a strong formal formation is deemed suitable for one area where as a more relaxed structure may best suit another. The way of selecting which method is best suited to the individual area will be defined by the ***Area Partnership*** itself.

If ***Area Partnerships*** are to be successful they would be required to be accountable for its decision making, have clarity in contract awarding and the spending of money.

Areas Partnerships will become the custodians, commissioners, monitors of monies and contracts which directly affect their area. Long term aims are for ***Area Partnerships*** to become the major purse holders. Though it is foreseen there will always be a role for the service provision agencies.

The Neighbourhood Arrangements Team are running a number of workshops in each ***Area Partnership*** locality. The workshops will run for around 2 hours and are spread across Wear Valley. At these workshops you will have the opportunity to voice your thoughts and ideas on the development of ***Area Partnerships*** and assist in defining their structure.

Tow Law Community Centre
Thursday 3rd July 6:30 /4:00

For more information or if you wish to be added to our mailing list please contact the:

Neighbourhood Arrangements Team

Durham Wildlife Trust has taken delivery of a new minibus for use by its volunteers.

The bus was unveiled on Friday May 23 at the Low Barns reserve, which is between the A68 and the A689 outside Witton le Wear.

It will be used for a variety of purposes, including ferrying the Trust's volunteers around the organisation's reserves. The vehicle cost £26,000 with donations of £10,000 from the Goodfund, which distributes Postcode Lottery money, £2,500 from grant-making trust Garfield Weston and the remainder from Defra and the wildlife trust.

The type of work done by volunteers on reserves includes scrub clearance, woodland management and footpath maintenance and they make up the Trust's Taskforce, which has more than 100 members.

The previous minibus had clocked up over 100,000 miles. Some of the volunteers who will use the minibus will be at Low Barns at noon. Also pupils from Wolsingham Primary School will be at the site participating in the wildlife trust's environmental education programme. The school has given permission for them to be photographed with the minibus.

For more information, contact Trust marketing manager Adam Eagle on 0191-584-3112 or Craig Best on 01388 488728

Tow Law Youth News

The youth club is going from strength to strength and is currently involved in planning a viewing seat for the Millennium Green. The Duke of Edinburgh project is also working on an environment project on the green working with involved a national youth volunteering programme. This will clean up the pond area, provide wild flower planting and hopefully some provision of further seating. The Trustees of the green are supporting this as it helps them to maintain and improve the green.

A family barbecue afternoon with fun and games and entertainment is being planned with Tow Law Football Club at the ground on 19th July. This should start off the summer holidays well so look out for further information nearer the time.

The summer playscheme is now nearly organised and leaflets will be distributed at the end of the school term but will involve the following for the last four weeks of the school holidays

Tuesdays

visits with the Wildlife Trust in the morning Sports in the afternoon

Wednesdays

Cooking in the morning Weekly baths bus in the afternoon

Thursdays

Arts workshops including photography, carving and painting.

There will be other trips and activities organised as well and it should be an exciting few weeks.

We have the following dates already 27th August trip to Wet n'Wild 28th August trip to Flamingoland.

In October we will be holding an exhibition of some of the work of the young people showing what they have been doing over the year.

INTRODUCTION TO SAGE ACCOUNTS

WE ARE ORGANISING SOME TASTER SESSIONS IN SAGE ACCOUNTS LEADING TO A COURSE TO BE RUN BY BISHOP AUCKLAND COLLEGE ARE YOU INTERESTED? PLEASE RING DIANE ON 731444

CYCLE TRACK RE-VAMPED

Work has nearly been completed on the BMX track on Wolsingham Road. The existing track has been revamped as one of a number of projects receiving Liveability Funding via the Wear Valley Local Strategic Partnership and Wear Valley District Council and is mostly complete and the track was officially opened on 8th June 2008 by the young people who had designed it.

The project was developed after consultation with local residents and young people from Tow Law and has been progressed with backing from Tow Law Community partnership and the help of Jenny Mountain the youth engagement worker from the Community Association. The track improvements were designed by trail designer and builder Pete Laing who worked with young people from Tow Law Youth Club to create an improved facility that would address the young people's requests. The site will provide a skills based course which will be suitable for all ages and abilities and will be an additional leisure facility for the Tow Law Community.

At the opening event about 60 adults and children attended. As part of the afternoon people were invited to experience the track using demo bikes kindly provided by Red Ape, Bishop Auckland. Trainers were also on hand to give advice and pointers on how to use the track. The track is now in use and the only remaining work is landscaping, the provision of signs and the installation of a permanent fence. All of which will take place in the autumn

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Tow Law Town Council News

New Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Town Council

At the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 20th May 2008 Mr Peter Graham, 22 Dan's Castle was voted in as Chairman and Mr Jim Day, 5 Deerness Bungalows as Vice Chairman.

Councillors Surgeries

Town Councillors have arranged Surgeries to meet with any resident that has concerns/questions relating to the Town Council. They are being held in the Community Centre on the following dates and times:-

- Saturday 14th June 2008, 10am to 12pm.
- Friday 11th July 2008, 5pm to 7pm.
- Saturday 16th August 2008 10am to 12pm.

N-Power Community Fund

Further funds have been received by the Town Council from N-Power Renewable Ltd. The Town Council can donate up to £250 towards any organisation in the Tow Law area. For further information and an application form please contact the Town Clerk (Geoff Smith) at the Community Centre (tele 01388 731444).

Quality Town Council Status

The Town Council will complete an application for Quality Town Council Status on Friday 13th June 2008. This will be assessed by a panel of judges organised by the County Durham Association of Local Councils on Monday 30th June 2008. Further news in the next edition of The Tattler.

Monday	Times	For
I.T. Drop in	10:00 – 12:00	
Baby & Toddler	1:00 – 3:00pm	
I.T. Drop in	1:00 – 3:00pm	
Solicitor	4:00 – 6:00pm	
Boys Club	4:45 – 5:45pm	Age 6 -8
Under 11's Football	6:00 - 7:00pm	
Girls Under 11's Singing	6:00 – 7:00pm	Age 9 - 11
Homework Club	4:15 – 6:15pm	Age 11 - 18
IT Drop in and Projects	6:30 – 8:30pm	Age 11 -14
Tuesday		
I.T. Drop in	1:00 – 3:00pm	Adults
Weightwatchers	6:00 - 7:15pm	Adults
Keep Fit	7:30 - 8:30pm	Adults
Music - learn to play	6:00 - 8:00pm	
Adults I.T. drop in	6:30 - 8.30pm	Adults
Wednesday		
Home Group Surgery	3:00 - 4:00pm	Alternate Wed's
Rainbows	5:00 – 6:00pm	Age 6 - 8
Brownies	6:00 – 7:15pm	Age 8 - 11
IT Drop in	6:00 – 7:30pm	Under 11's
Youth Club	7:45 – 9:00pm	Age 12 - 15
D.J. with, CoMusica	7:45 – 9:00pm	Age 12 - 15
IT Drop in	7:45 – 9:00pm	Age 12 - 15
Thursday		
Baby & Toddler	10:00 – 12:00	
Gymnastics	4:00 – 5:00pm	
Duke of Edinburgh Group	Call for info	
Carpet Bowls	5:30 - 7:45pm	Adults
Sequence Dance Club	8:00 - 10:30pm	Adults
Friday		
Writers group	Call for times	
Boxing	6:00 - 7:30pm	
Saturday Morning		
Internet Café	10:00am – 12:00	Age 8+
Art	10:00am – 12:00	Age 8+

Dates of next Town Council meetings

17th June 2008

15th July 2008

All meetings commence at 6.30pm in the Community Centre.

New Councillor

Louise Brown, 100 Dan's Castle has been co-opted onto the Town Council.

What's on at the Community Centre

Timetable of sessions and groups using the Community Centre. Some sessions require membership or fee to be paid please contact the Community Centre on 01388 731444 for more

Tow Law Community Centre needs volunteers and board members. Can you help?

We meet once a month as a committee with other meetings in between as necessary. The next meeting is Thursday 24th July at 6.00. For more information ring Jenny Flynn at 730525

