

the star 2006

Tow Law Community Centre contact number 01388 731444

Banners and flags exhibition

**Saturday 28th October and Sunday 29th October
11- 4.00 each day accompanied by old
photographs**

We will be displaying the Black Prince Miners banner plus banners from the Freemasons, the Parish Church and St Joseph's Church. We also have the Flag that flew on the half way line at Wembley when Tow Law reached the final of the FA Vase in 1998. We are hoping to have a banner from the Salvation Army plus a flag that was waved for the visit of the King and Queen in 1938. The British Legion banner will also be on display with the Rolls of Honour that used to be on display in the Methodist Chapels.

We are still looking for a Boys or Girls brigade uniform to display with a bugle we have been lent. The Local History Society will have their books of old photographs to look through and we will be redisplaying some of the archives we have at the Centre

There will also be displays of banners that have been produced at the Centre over the years. Alongside all this there will be arts workshops on both days to produce a mosaic and banner from scratch and we hope to have a talk from a local historian on Sunday afternoon. You can also help with the Tow Law tapestry that Barbara McKimm has been sewing which is going to show Tow Law now and then and will be our equivalent of the Bayeux tapestry.

Come along and celebrate your past

Town Clerk Retires

It is with sadness that the Town Council has received a letter of resignation from our Town Clerk John Abbot. John has been with the Town Council for 3 and a half years and has been an invaluable support to the Council and to Jenny Flynn the former chairman and to Terry Batson the current chairman. John has just turned 70 and become a grandfather for the first time so he thought it was time to take things easy! We all wish him well in his retirement. His successor will have a hard act to follow.

The Clerks post will be advertised in the near future. The post entails approximately 10 hours a week and national pay rates apply. Experience of Local Government will be a requirement but if you are interested contact the Town Clerk at Tow Law Community Centre and he will be able to send out a job description and other details when they are available

You Can Do It!

A new course in confidence building organised by the W.E.A. (Workers Education Authority) starts **on November 2nd from 6.00 to 8.00** in the Community Centre. It will cover key skills writing a C.V and interview techniques and just building up confidence to move forward. If this is for you ring the centre on 01388 731444 or call in for more details. The course is free and no qualifications are needed.

Public Meeting regarding Youth Problems

A number of residents have expressed concern about the problems caused by gangs of youths roaming around. The police are very aware of the problem and we are pleased to report that our Community Police Officer P.C. Jeff Blair has now returned from sick leave. The Clerk has been in touch with the M.P.'s office and it is hoped that a public meeting can be held soon. Please look out for notices on the public notice boards that will advertise the meeting once it has been arranged

Lighting up

The trustees of the Millennium Green and the Town Council have had talks with Durham County Council about the provision of lights on the Millennium Green. A quote has now been obtained and a grant application will be made to cover the costs. Hopefully we will be able to get the lights installed before the end of winter.

PENSIONERS PARTY

The pensioner's party will be on December 15th at 1.00 in the Community Centre. Tickets will be available from November from the Centre or Greens Newsagents.

We are pleased to report that Jeff Gale will be preparing the meal again in spite of closing the Café and Shop. We wish Alma and Jeff a happy retirement but are pleased to note they will be continuing with their community commitments.

Get Fit

A group of volunteers have visited the WOW gyms in Wolsingham and St. John's Chapel and funding is now available to set up a gym in the sports centre. The estimated opening date is sometime in January. Workers from the WOW project are working with Diane from the partnership and a group of volunteers to set up a management group. If you are interested in finding out more ring Diane at the centre on 731444 or come to the next Partnership meeting on Wednesday 15th November at 3.00 in the Community Centre.

Free Goodies from Neighbourhood Watch.

John Raw from Neighbourhood Watch will be at the Community Centre from 1.00-3.00 on December 1st to give away free light bulbs and other security items for the dark nights. Stocks will be limited so put the date in your diary and come early. Why not stay for the show?

Mind your Own Business!!

No, this isn't a request for people to start ignoring each other.

This is a scheme aimed at local businesses who wish to improve the skills of their workforce by accessing Learn Direct Courses.

There are courses in Literacy and Numeracy (you can update your qualifications to Level 2 for free!), Computing, Digital Photography, Business and Management to name but a few. The courses can be accessed anywhere that there is a Broadband link so you can do them at work, at home or at the Community Centre.

For further details give Alan a call on: 01388 731444. We can even arrange to come out and visit you at your workplace, give it a try!!

Death of Jim Hodgson

It is with sadness we report the death of Mr Hodgson one of the oldest residents in Tow Law who has died at the age of 103. Mr Hodgson was a member of the Salvation Army all his life and was a former bandsman. He will be remembered by all the pupils of St Joseph's School where he was the crossing patrolman for many years. He was a lovely man who always had time for a chat and was still looking after himself at home until the end. His funeral was a fitting tribute to him and a celebration of his life as he requested.

Children's Show: Them with Tails

The children's show Them with Tails will be performed at the Community Centre at 2.00 on December 1st. Tickets are £1 for children and concessions and £2.50 for adults. Watch out for the posters and more details in the next Tattler.

Admin/Finance worker required.

The Community Partnership hopes to have a small amount of money available to employ a worker for the above post for 4-5 hours a week. The job will entail general admin work and keeping the Partnership finances especially records for grants received. If you are interested please register that interest with Diane at the Centre by calling in or phoning on 731444

Drop-in Sessions

Alan is organising a further Drop-In session to run weekly, starting on Tuesday October 24th, from 12.30 - 2.30 p.m. This is for anyone interested in either learning to use a computer, develop new skills such as word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, etc or for 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.

This session will be provided with a crèche facility and is aimed at all parents who want to develop their skills but need childcare to be able to do so!!

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.

In addition to this, we have sessions (without crèche) every Monday and Wednesday mornings and afternoons, from 9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. and 1.00 – 3.00 p.m. Alternative arrangements can be made if these times aren't suitable please ring Alan on the number above

2007 Year of the Community Calendar Comes Home

Tow Law Community Association is publishing for the first time a calendar of the town and its inhabitants which will be in the local shops for Christmas. The calendar is the brainchild of the Management Committee of the Tow Law Community Association, who felt that there would be a market for something produced locally centring on Tow Law and its community. Aileen Green, Chairperson, said, "We are really pleased with the calendar. It is a result of the efforts of a number of people and we are hoping that the people of Tow Law will find something of interest in it. It will make an ideal stocking filler for anyone who lives in Tow Law or who wants to send a copy to a relative abroad." The calendar will be on sale at £3.99 and profits from the sale of the calendars will go into the funds for the Year of the Community 2007