



Shildon Town Council Newsletter

Volume Issue 11

November 2008



Come On Give It a Glow

Are there snowmen and Santas in your garden this Christmas - then we want to know. Our hunt is on to see who has the best festively decorated house in Shildon. The Town Mayor will be touring the town in

mid December to judge which house is the best. The winner will receive a luxury Christmas Food Hamper.

So if you are adding that little extra sparkle, let us know either by telephone email or by letter and we

will be visiting you.

Telephone Shildon Town Council on 01388 772563, email: council@shildon.gov.uk or drop us a line at the Council Offices, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, DL4 1AH

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Kings and Angels Christmas Procession Friday, 5th December

Anyone who wishes to take part in the Procession is asked to arrive at the Netto Car Park at 4.15 pm. Santa will lead the Procession to the Town Square for the Official Lighting of the Christmas Tree Ceremony.

Santa, children's disco and a special guest appearance from Animupps Magic & puppets as well as face painting and lots more at the Civic Hall from 5.00 pm onwards.

Free for all the family to enjoy.

Fairy Queen storytime at the Sid Chaplin Branch Library for children aged 3 - 4 years on Friday, 5th December from 10.30 am - 11.30 am. Free tickets available from the Library.

Shildon Town Council Meeting Dates

24th Nov - 6.30pm
22nd Dec - 6.30pm
26th Jan - 6.30 pm
23rd Feb - 6.30 pm

Christmas Craft Fayre

proceeds in aid of the Butterwick Hospice

Christmas Craft Fayre at the Shildon Civic Hall on 5th December from 2 - 7 pm for all your Christmas gifts. Refreshments available. Come along and support the Butterwick Hospice.

Santa will be visiting the Town Square on Tuesday, 23rd December from 10.30 am - 1.00 pm then he has to return home ready for Christmas Eve.

Resources & Service and Amenities Committees

8th Dec - 6.30pm
19th Jan - 6.30pm
9th Feb - 6.30 pm



Shildon Town Council is grateful to everyone who has contributed to this newsletter. The newsletter is a quarterly publication and we would welcome contributions from local groups as well as suggestions on how the newsletter looks and what you would like to see in it.

Tel 01388 772563

YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES AT A GLANCE

Durham County Council

Name	Address	Ward	Telephone No.
Gary Huntington	5 Central Parade, Shildon	Shildon West	01388-773225
David Hancock	34 St John's Road, Shildon	Shildon West	01388-772797
Dorothy Bowman	4 Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe	Shildon East	01325-308094
Brian Stephens	30 Jubilee Crescent, Shildon	Shildon East	01388 773168

Sedgefield Borough Council

Name	Address	Ward	Telephone No.
Vernon Chapman	1 Newlands Avenue, Shildon	Sunnydale	01388-775077
Ina Jackson	6 Mafeking Place, Shildon	Sunnydale	01388-775433
Gary Huntington	5 Central Parade, Shildon	Byerley	01388-773225
Gareth Howe	32/34 Dean Street, Shildon	Byerley	01388-772473
David Hancock	34 St John's Road, Shildon	Thickley	01388-772797
Brian Stephens	30 Jubilee Crescent, Shildon	Thickley	01388-773168

Shildon Town Council

Name	Address	Telephone No.
George Lewis	10 Wesley Crescent, Shildon	01388-773124
Vernon Chapman	1 Newlands Avenue, Shildon	01388-775077
Leslie Iddon	31 Burnie Gardens, Shildon	01388-773925
Stuart Bird	38 Dale Road, Shildon	01388-775659
Allan Walker	25 Primitive Street, Shildon	01388-775130
Ann Hammond	43 Burnie Gardens, Shildon	01388-779476
David Hancock	34 St John's Road, Shildon	01388-772797
Mike Hardy	8 Fulton Court, Shildon	07831378887
Gareth Howe	Dean House, 32/34 Dean Street, Shildon	01388-772473
Gary Huntington	5 Central Parade, Shildon	01388-773225
Peter Quinn	96 Jubilee Road, Shildon	01388-775741
Brian Stoker	29 Main Street, Shildon	01388-772968
Frank Timmiss	4 Aspen Court, Shildon	01388-777570
George Swinbank	66 Dale Road, Shildon	01388-773262
Richard J Matthews	18 Dalton Crescent, Shildon	01388-775178

Town Clerk : Mr M Waterson, Shildon Town Council, Council Offices, Civic Hall Square, Shildon,
County Durham. DL4 1AH. Tel: 01388 772563 email: m.waterson@shildon.gov.uk Fax: 01388 775227

Useful Contact Nos.

Sedgefield Borough Council Tel: 01388 816166 Fax: 01388 817251

Durham County Council Tel: 0191 3834567 (Help Desk) Fax: 0191 383 4500

Durham Constabulary Non Emergency Number 0345 6060365

Sunnydale Community College Goes Learning on Location

Learning on Location is a residential Key Stage 3 based course. The vision is Education with Imagination. One of the main aims of Learning on Location is to give a kick-start to motivation. Year 8 can be the forgotten year, squeezed between extra resources

committed to induction shows that it is also the year when enthusiasm for education dips, especially amongst boys. If these pupils can experience learning in Maths, Science, English and the rest with an emotional response of excitement and relevance then there is a chance that this can be a turning point for their fu-

ture schooling. After this hard work you would think the students would be too tired by tea-time. Not too tired though to enjoy the amazing facilities and entertainment on the resort. Swimming, ten-pin bowling, discos, live shows and even the funfair on a cold crisp

Lincolnshire evening. This year's Learning on Location starts 3rd November and continues all week at Butlins.



Shildon Peoples Centre

The Shildon Peoples Centre recently received approval for a Grant to improve the premises and offer more accessible accommodation to people with disabilities. The project consists of the erection of a conservatory, kitchen refit, flooring/carpets, double glazing and furniture for the cells and café. The

refurbishment is to enable the Centre to offer a flexible service to meet the needs of local people and encourage new users and user group to use the facilities on offer. The project met the Department for Communities and Local Government eligible 'Regeneration' definition and demonstrated links to the key LIP criteria of meeting elements of the Community Strategy and community consultation. It had also been supported by Area 4 Forum

The Centre can now move on and develop further services with our partners and user groups, in particular helping Youth Workers develop further services for the teenagers of the Town. The Centre also hopes to offer more services to help with employment, training and vocational qualifications. Health will not be forgotten and we will be encouraging partners to develop services and courses such as healthy eating, cooking skills and nutrition and life style choices. Improvements in the kitchen and cafe will enable the volunteers to continue to offer home cooked food and healthy snacks, at a reasonable cost. The Cafe opens Monday to Friday between

10am and 2pm. All the money from the grant will be used to redevelop the building, to make it more comfortable and inviting to the many users and groups that regularly meet at the Centre. The Centre has evolved in many ways since it was first opened in 1984, this is the latest stage of that evolution. Shildon Peoples Centre is run by volunteers, who turn up on a daily basis to help. We are indebted to all our supporters, in particular Shildon Town Council, Sedgefield Borough Council and Durham County Council, also the many people and organisations in Shildon that have made donations.



Christmas Competition

The name of Scrooge's deceased business partner in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol was.....:

Answers to: Shildon Town Council including your name, address & telephone no.

Prize - £10 gift voucher.

Shildon Peoples Centre had requested £30,737 of LIP funding, which was 66% of the total capital project costs of £46,487.

Additionally the Centre applied for and received an extension of its lease from 5 years to 15 years from Durham County Council.

The Tearaways Youth Theatre Group

We 'The Tearaway's Youth Theatre Group', have been doing our bit for "Children In Need" and we hope when all the money is in, to have collected well over £200 towards Pudsey Bear's charity. Thank you to all who gave. Mmm, well it will soon be Christmas and we 'The Tearaway's' will be having a busy one entertaining with our Christmas music and dancing at 4 locations outside Shildon and 2 within the town at the Civic Hall and Jubilee Fields Community Centre. Our Annual Pantomime is coming up in January 2009, "Oh Yes it is". This year it is Snow White. I think our Direc-

tor cannot count as we know for a fact there are 8 dwarfs in it. Mmmm. We would like to thank everyone, our members, our volunteer leaders and you the public, for making our group and productions so successful. Thank you. In the pipeline for next year, we have more fundraising to do and 2 more productions, one of them being our version of "Mamma Mia". So if any young people out there are aged 8 -16 years and can dance, sing or act and want to be part of our group, then ring Derrick (01388) 774838. Thank you again to everyone and a Happy Christmas to you all.

The Tearaway's

Greetings from the North Pole

The North Pole weather reporter tells me the skies will be clear to fly right into Shildon on Christmas Eve. Even if it is cloudy I have Rudolph to guide my sleigh. I should be flying over Shildon and journey around the town from 5.00 pm.
Love & Snowballs
Santa Claus

Churches Together -Shildon Civic Carol Service

The Shildon Civic Carol Service will be held at the Shildon Civic Hall, Civic Hall Square, Shildon on

Sunday, 14th December at 6.00 pm. Everyone welcome to attend.

Recipe Corner

Christmas Day Muffins

Christmas Recipe Makes 12

calories per muffin: 175

preparation time: 15 minutes

cooking time: 20 minutes

Not suitable for freezing

Christmas recipe ingredients:

- cranberries, fresh 175 g (6 oz)
- icing sugar, sifted 50 g (2 oz)
- flour, plain wholemeal 150 g (5 oz)
- flour, plain white 150 g (5 oz)
- baking powder, 15 ml (1 tbsp)
- mixed spice, ground 5 ml (1 tsp)
- salt, 2.5 ml (half tsp)
- sugar, light brown 50 g (2 oz)
- egg, 1
- milk, 250 ml (8 fl oz)
- vegetable oil, 50 ml (2 fl oz)

Christmas recipe instructions:

Mix the icing sugar with halved cranberries.

Take a twelve cup muffin tin and grease with butter or use paper cases. In a bowl mix the brown sugar, salt, mixed spice, baking powder and both flours. Make a hole in the middle.

Add a mixture of beaten egg/milk/oil into the hole and just blend. Then add the cranberries and quickly stir. The end product should be a rough mixture with lumps and air pockets visible. [Note: Instead of the cranberries you can use mincemeat (225 g, 8 oz) to put in the hole.]

Take this mixture and fill the muffin cups to two thirds and bake at gas mark 4 (180 degrees centigrade, 350 F) until they are golden brown and well risen. About 20 minutes.

Cool for a bit and serve warm.



Christmas Services for Shildon Churches

At Shildon Salvation Army

Sunday November 30th – 6:00pm Toy Service and Christingle
Sunday 21st December – 6:00pm Carol Service
Christmas Day – 10:00am Family Service

At Shildon Methodist Church

Sunday December 21st - 6:00pm – Carol Service
Christmas Eve -11:15pm – **Christmas Eve Holy Communion**
Christmas Day - 10:30am – **Christmas Day Family Celebration**

At St. Thomas the Apostle RC Church

Christmas Day - 10:00 am – Holy Mass

At St John's CofE Church

Sunday November 30th – 9:30 - Special Advent Service for Families

Christmas Eve - 4:00pm - Nativity and Carol Service

11:30pm - Midnight Communion

Christmas Day - 9:30am - Holy Communion



Army & Local Support for Shildon Youngsters

Staff based at the Army recruiting office in Bishop Auckland, trustees and volunteers from The Pilgrim Club and local businesses are all creating the opportunity for young people from Shildon to take part in a 3 day 140 mile sponsored Coast2Coast cycle ride, from Workington on the Cumbria coast to Sunderland in Tyne & Wear. Locally based Senior Army Staff have made transport and other logistic support available to the charity. Office Manager C/Sgt Nick Froehling is providing the admin support and event organiser Sgt Rob Williams will also be taking part in the ride. The Army are also providing 12 cycle tops with Nick and Rob also

organising fundraising events. The Pilgrim Club are providing the bikes, health & safety equipment, instructor and on ride maintenance support. Paul Armstrong manager of Phil Hedley Tyres and Phil Cousins from P & G Window Cleaners and club volunteer Ian Emmerson are taking on the challenge and riding with the youngsters. Local councillors Ricky Mathews (trustee), Dorothy Bowman (trustee), Garry Huntington David Hancock and Mick Hardy are also supporting the event. Training for the July activity starts in the January 2009 and with the emphasis on fitness training, bicycle repair & maintenance, health & safety checks, on and off

road safe riding cycling skills and first aid training. Charity spokesman John Cutting added. "The on & off road training programme will itself provide some exciting challenges. We have some of the best routes in the country within easy reach and I am sure the lads/lasses will sample some of them. The staged programme also provides the opportunity for youngsters who may like the idea of taking part in such a challenge., who perhaps don't have the confidence, or feel they are not fit enough, or just don't have a bike to come along and give it a go. You will need to be at least 15 years old. (Further details Tel 07722957304)We are also hoping to use these skills

to organise and take part in a longer ride later in the year, progressing onto a European Exchange Adventure planned to take place during 2010". The group will also be using camcorders and cameras attached to the bikes. To make a visual record of their achievements during the training and event rides. The under 13s are also planning to make a DVD of their favourite rides including a ride around Shildon. Demonstrating bicycle road safety skills to national standards, pre-ride bike checks, the correct use of health & safety equipment and basic repair and maintenance skills. Further details are available from Antony Picken or Liam Johnson.

Shildon Community Safety Group

Registered Charity No. 1089902



Timer Switches

With the clocks having fallen back by an hour, the dark nights are now upon us. We have a limited number of timer switches available if you would like one to leave a light on in your home when you are out or away. All of our safety equipment items are available free of charge to local residents who need them, these are limited and only available to those residents who have not already had them. If you have had any problems with safety issues and have any concerns then get in touch with us for more information, we may be able to help.

Disposal of Unwanted knives

...Let's get right to the point...

There has been a huge amount in the news in recent months regarding a 'knife amnesty' whereby people can take these items to the local police station. However have you ever stopped to think "Where do I dispose of my old kitchen carving knife?" Many of us often

treat ourselves to a new set of kitchen knives but do we ever give any thought of how we dispose of the old ones which could potentially be lethal weapons. This question was raised in one of our recent meetings and the information we received from the local Police is that we should **never** dispose of them in our recycle boxes! Any unwanted knives or potentially dangerous metal items should be taken to the local 'Tip' at Tindale Crescent to be disposed of correctly or if this is not possible then take any unwanted knives to the local police office.

'Building Bridges' – DVD Project

The DVD project has had its first two meetings and the group are now working on scripting the DVD itself. We are really looking forward to the start of filming but are still looking for some 'older' people to become involved. **So if you would be interested in helping us out and would like to interact with the younger people or even if you just want to know a little bit more about the project before making a commitment then please give me a ring on 01388 778300 for more information.** Once the DVD is ready then it

can be shown at local groups around the town including the sheltered accommodation in order to get the community safety message across to local people.

BOGUS CALLERS & INTERNET AND MAIL SCAMS

Please always be aware of bogus callers, do not invite people into your home unless they are supposed to be there! Remember anyone from the local authority or utility company will always advise you by letter that they are coming, if someone just turns up at your door for whatever reason, **KEEP THEM OUT!** Always ask for identification but again be cautious this could be fraudulent so check it out carefully and ring the local authority or Utility Company to check. **IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBTS WHATSOEVER DO NOT INVITE THEM IN!** If you think they are suspicious then contact the local Police and report it. **IF IN DOUBT – KEEP THEM OUT**

Christmas can be a stressful time and it is also a time when thieves love to operate so please ensure you take all precautions to avoid theft. When out Christmas shopping always place everything bought out of sight in the boot of your

car and when you bring the gifts home keep them out of sight, do not display them under the tree until Christmas actually comes! Be safe in the dark nights – always wear something light or reflective when out and about. Do not use candles at home unless absolutely necessary and when you do take extra care!

When putting up your Christmas decorations always be aware of electrical safety and **By the way do you have a Smoke Alarm???** – **If not contact us and we can refer you to the Fire Service to have one fitted.**

Have a Peaceful and Safe Christmas

Useful telephone numbers
Police non-emergency 0345 6060365
GP Out of Hours Service 01388 455455
Shildon Community Safety 01388 778300
Age Concern 01388 720064
Community Wardens Shildon 01388 777450
Community Wardens Chilton 01388 721351
Sedgefield Borough Council 01388 816166
Shildon Town Council 01388 772563
Neighbourhood Watch 01325 742755

Shildon Community Safety Group
Town Council Offices
Civic Centre Square
Shildon
Co. Durham
Tel: 01388 778300
Office Hours
10.00 am – 2.00pm

Shildon Civic Hall Live Entertainment



Sunday 7th December

Saturday 13th December

THE CIVIC HALL SHILDON

SUNDAY 7th DEC

THE BEST LIVE MUSIC.

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The LOVE AFFAIR
"Everlasting Love"
"One Road" "Rainbow Valley"
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"Bringing On Back"
"The Good Times"

Plus NORTHERN SOUNDS DISCO

with **HOT BUFFET** included
Tickets **£10**



THE IVY LEAGUE



"Funny How Love Can Be"

"That's Why I'm Crying"

"Tossin' And Turnin'"

Plus NORTHERN SOUNDS DISCO

with **3 COURSE DINNER**

Tickets **£24**

7pm - 1230am

(Pre booking & deposit required)

70's GLAM ROCK NIGHT BALLROOM GLITZ



TREX

SWEET

SLADE

BAY CITY ROLLERS

& many more

Plus NORTHERN SOUNDS DISCO

with **3 COURSE DINNER**

Tickets **£24**

7pm - 1230am

(Pre booking & deposit required)

19th December Ballroom Glitz

Christmas Day

Reception Drink
Three Course Dinner
Coffee & Mince Pies
Adults £35 Children £20
Pre booking & deposit required

Tel 01388
772902

or 01388
772563

BOXING NIGHT 2008

COLDPLACE THE CIVIC HALL SHILDON
THE UK'S FINEST COLDPLAY TRIBUTE THE BEST LIVE MUSIC.
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"The Music That's Ready To Be Played Once Again"

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NORTHEAST **OASIS** COVER BAND
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BOUNCE ENERGETIC PSYCHEDELIA
BORO'S BEST BAND IN YEARS

TICKETS £5 6.30 til Midnight Tel: 01388 772902

Tribute to 3 greats **OASIS CHILLIPEPPER'S COLDPLAY**
+ **STONEDRIFTERS** playing all their own sensational material

See a video of **COLDPLACE** and more info on the other bands at
www.myspace.com/musicatthecivic_shildon

New Year's Eve

Hot Buffet
Northern Sounds Disco
Tickets £20
Pre booking & deposit
required

www.shildon.gov.uk

[www.myspace.com/
musicatthecivic_shildon](http://www.myspace.com/musicatthecivic_shildon)



Town Mayor's Christmas Message

Once again we are into the festive season, a time when we think of family and friends, especially those who are living away from home or serving with our Forces overseas. My best wishes for Christmas go out to all

Shildonians, wherever they may be, and on behalf of my Consort, Michael Stott and my children Thomas and Amelia, I wish all Shildon residents a happy and healthy New Year

Shildon Methodist Church

Saturday November 29th from 10.00am to 3.00 pm. Lots of stalls with a Victorian theme. Something for everybody. Refreshments

available. Santa in his grotto 10.30 - 11.30 & 1.30 - 2.30. Entertainment by Timothy Hackworth School.

Christmas Poem

***Pets are for life, not just for Christmas.
Each of us waits for the joy of a home.
Take one of us in and you'll never go
kissless, So long as you treat us as one of
your own.***

Shildon Library

The next coffee morning to promote the Inter-generational Heritage Project will take place on Thursday 11th December between 10.00 and noon. It will be a chance for people to meet the Project Workers, enjoy a free cup of tea or coffee and have a look at our local history displays. Previous displays have featured items kindly loaned by Create and have brought back memories of Baking Day, Sunday Tea and Toys of Yesteryear. Everyone is welcome to come along, have a chat and share memories. Our Halloween competition for children

was very popular and the winners were Nathan Lawton and Emma Box. Look out for another competition in December. Members of the Reading Group recently enjoyed an entertaining afternoon meeting local author Elizabeth Gill. The Reading Group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 2.00pm and new members are always welcome. From mid November we will have a selection of small gifts and jewellery for sale, as well as our range of local history books.

Jubilee Fields Community Centre

Jubilee Fields Community Centre are hosting their annual Christmas Carol Concert on Friday 5th December, 6pm – 8pm. There will be performances by 'The Tearaways', 'Thornhill Primary School' and also 'Timothy Hackworth Primary School'. Ticket are priced at £2 per adult - £1.50 per child which includes sweet mince

pies and refreshments. Tickets are available to purchase at the Centre, the 2 schools and also from Derek Robinson - The Tearaways. On the night there will be hot food for you to purchase, tombola stalls, cake stall and also a raffle. So come along and join in with the community for this festive season.

South Durham Counselling Service

Free local confidential counselling for adults

Are you feeling troubled, anxious or depressed? Are you struggling to make a big decision about changing your life? If you would like to talk to a trained professional counsellor, the South Durham Counselling Service is here to help you. We employ highly trained counsellors who know how to help people work through their problems and find solutions that improve their lives. The best news is that you can refer yourself without needing to see your GP. There is no charge for our service. We obtain funding from the Primary Care Trust, donations and other sources to fund our service. Our independent charitable organisation has been

based in Shildon for 8 years. It is led by volunteers with an interest in counselling who run the service and employ qualified counsellors. In January 2008 we moved to the 1st Floor, Shildon Town Council Offices in Civic Hall Square. Counselling appointments are available throughout the week. If you are over 18 and you would like to talk to a counsellor, please contact South Durham Counselling Service on 01388 773598 and speak to Paul the Counselling Manager or leave a message. You can also ask your GP, Probation Service or other agencies to refer you to this friendly service.