

The £2,000 came from the Times/Touche Ross Community Enterprise Awards, which are run by Business in the Community and chaired by Prince Charles. It will be presented early next year, possibly by the prince.

Money is still coming in for the hall from Stan Wallace, excellent book about the history of the village. The initial price was promptly sold out, and there have been two reprints.

The book is available from various outlets including the village hall at £4.95 or can be ordered from Stan Wallace at Teesdale 640066.

New logo chosen for Oasis Club

A bright new logo has been created for Teesdale Oasis Club which provides care, companionship and stimulation for elderly people. A competition was held to find one to replace the original logo designed by community psychiatric nurse Mrs M. Allinson. All schools in Teesdale were invited to take part and over 50 entries were submitted.

A panel of four judges - Gerald Dawson, consultant psychiatrist for the elderly, Stan Ray, community development officer, and Mrs Isobel Gregg, support worker, along with Mrs Allinson - had a hard task in picking the winner.

Mrs Allinson said, "We judged we had to think how well it would reproduce on a terhead stationery. We could pick one on artistic merit, but they were all so good."

George Morton, 16, a pupil at Barnard Castle School, was the winner. He was presented with £50. Second prize was awarded to David Gray, 16, also a pupil at Barnard Castle School.

The prizes were handed over during a fashion show held at the Jersey Farm Hotel on Thursday. The event raised £80 for the club's funds.

GENERAL NOTICES

MAUDE'S COACHES

Sunday, 27th November METRO CENTRE (Dep 10.00 a.m. Return 5.00 p.m.)

Saturday, 3rd December METRO CENTRE (Dep 9.00 a.m. Return 5.30 p.m.)

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Teesdale Mercury

No. 7268 Price 20p

Barnard Castle, Wednesday, 23rd November, 1994

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£5,000 quarry haul

Machinery and tools worth £5,000 were stolen from a quarry near Middleton on Monday night. The haul included angle grinders, numerous Britool spanners, a 110 volt drill and battery drill, two sets of pull lifts, socket set, two inch Honda water pump, two torque wrenches and other items.

Chemist raided

Burglars who broke into Mr Tom Brett's chemist shop in Cockfield on Thursday night got away with £400 worth of toiletries. They included shampoo, hair spray, talcum powder, disposable nappies, baby bottles and gripe water.

Vehicles taken

A Landrover Defender pickup E293 ODC, green with a cream roof, was stolen from Darlington Road, Barnard Castle, on Thursday.

A blue Austin Metro car G240 EEF was stolen from Bowes on Sunday evening.

A spare wheel, tool kit and 10 cassette tapes were stolen from a Lada car parked at Gainford the same day.

A horse box was stolen from Wycliffe on Wednesday.

25 windows broken

Vandals smashed 25 windows at Stainton Grove Community Centre at the weekend by throwing bricks through them.

Members of the community association held an emergency committee meeting on Monday night and said they were disgusted by the damage.

The windows have been boarded up for the time being but may not be repaired as there is already a plan by Teesdale Council to brick them up permanently as part of a renovation scheme.

A 6ft by 4ft window was smashed by vandals at Teesdale School at the weekend.

£407 harvest dance

Proceeds of a harvest meal dance held at the Morrill Arms Hotel have been donated to the Darlington Leukaemia Support Group. The total was £407. The organisers say they want to thank local businesses which donated prizes for the draw.

Brent's mansion to be history centre?

A proposal has been put forward to buy Middleton House, the mansion owned by Brent Stephenson, and turn it into a heritage centre which could attract many extra visitors to Upper Teesdale.

The idea of launching the project in the imposing 28-roomed property, which is on the market at £260,000, has been submitted by Middleton Chamber of Trade.

It has been sent to Teesdale Council in the hope that it will support it and try to win funding for it from Europe or some other source.

The traders say the mansion, former headquarters of the London Lead Company which flourished in the upper dale more than a century ago, would be the ideal location for a heritage centre.

They feel it could be the venue for an exhibition of historical relics, already being built up by the Teesdale Heritage Group. One idea is to recreate a lead mine lodging shop. At the same time, they believe, it could be a study-training-conference centre with space for craft workshops and a tele-working computer studio.

A statement from the chamber secretary, Judith Mashiter, said, "The chamber committee is encouraged by the initial response from people in the dale - that the project would be an exciting way to make the rich history of the dale come alive."

Brent Stephenson, who bought Middleton House from the widow of the previous owner Sir Joseph Nickerson for £300,000 three years ago but has now gone bankrupt,

told the Mercury, "I think this is a wonderful idea.

"The large rear garden would be ideal for displaying some historic items, such as farm machinery. It would also be a perfect location for open air concerts or drama productions, which would fit in well with the heritage project. I

wish the chamber well and hope it goes ahead."

Mr David Sparrow, the Teesdale Council solicitor, said the project would be considered for submission for funding. "There are various ways in which ideas like this can be put forward and Europe is just one of them," he added.

Villagers to decide how to spend old £4,000 nestegg

There is to be a public meeting in Startforth School next Tuesday evening when it is hoped agreement will be reached as to how to spend money remaining from the old Startforth Welfare and Village Hall Fund.

A preliminary public meeting was held earlier in the year to acquaint younger members of the community and refresh the memories of the older residents with the details of the fund and to ask for ideas on how the money, some £4,000, could be spent.

One of the original purposes was to build a village hall but this is no longer a viable proposition as it is possible to use the Morrill Memorial School as a centre for village activities.

At the last public meeting Mrs Marjorie Tiplady and Mr Parkin Lowson were elected as trustees of the fund together with Mr Tony Liversed, who is the only surviving trustee from the fund's earlier years. A committee was elected consisting of the three trustees, Mr Jim Betterton, chairman of the Startforth Community Association, Mr John Cooke-Hurle, Mr Geoff Bland and Mrs Glenda Eaves.

It is hoped that there will be a good attendance at the meeting and that all interests will be represented. Everyone will be welcome and it is hoped that a scheme can be agreed and accepted by the charity commission so the money can be spent and the old fund closed.

Anyone requiring more details before the meeting can telephone Tony Liversed on Teesdale 38260.

Big efforts to raise money for children

Efforts are being made in various parts of Teesdale over the next few days to raise money for Children in Need.

Mr Ivan Pakiam will have his beard shaved off at the Red Lion in Cotherstone on Friday night. It is hoped BBC television cameras will be there. His whisky campaign has received a lot of attention since we featured him three weeks ago.

An auction sale is being held at the Kirk Inn, Romaldkirk, on Sunday starting at 9.30pm. Lots include a manure, flower displays, dressed pheasants, crafts, a winter jacket and saucy underwear, to name a few. A raffle prize is an outing to Sedgfield races. Mine hosts Denis and Ros Frampton will accept pledges over the phone and will also welcome any other donations for the auction.

Students and staff from the Teesdale Training Centre will be taking part in a sponsored treasure hunt and contraption push on Friday starting at 10.30am. They will be collecting money. A car wash effort at the centre on Friday raised £150.

Evensong service

A special Evensong service is to be held in St Cuthbert's Church in Cotherstone this Sunday at 6.30pm. "O Come, Emmanuel" is a candlelight Advent service of seven bible readings and seven hymns for the congregation with music by the singing group. Everyone is welcome.

Festive fayre

A Christmas fayre for St John's Church, Ingleton, will be held on Friday 2nd December in the village hall at 6.30pm. The vicar, the Rev John Boocock, says, "This is our only major fund raising event of the year. It is an excellent opportunity to buy presents and for children to visit Father Christmas."

Race called off

Travelling people from around the north gathered between Staindrop and Evenwood Gate on Sunday morning ready for a race between horses along the A688 road, but police put a stop to it on the grounds that it would cause traffic danger, and the visitors dispersed.

Fans can bid for TV souvenirs

A reminder has been given about the auction of TV show costumes and souvenirs to be held at The Bowes Museum this Saturday at 2pm, with viewing until 1pm. Brochures are on sale at £1.50, and for the one day this will give entry to the museum at the low rate of another £1.50.

All the proceeds are going to the Save the Children Fund which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. All the items have been on display in the museum for some weeks and have created a lot of interest. They were featured in the Mercury some time ago.

It is expected that items from Coronation Street will win most attention. They include outfits worn by Audrey, Mavis, Bet, Reg, Raquel, Rita and so on, as well as photographs of some of the cast.

There are costumes worn on Cluedo by Jerry Hall and Joanna Lumley among others, and a number of waistcoats worn by Matthew Kelly on Stars in Their Eyes.

Night of Fellowship

A meeting of the Teesdale Fellowship is being held at Middleton tonight at 7.30pm. The guest speaker will be Miss Maxine Raine of St John's Chapel. A hearty invitation is being extended to everyone.

LOTTERY FEVER If you won, come and spend your winnings! If you didn't, never mind. We've plenty of bargains. Middleton-in-Teesdale the place to shop

Prisoners' hostel: no riding roughshod over objectors

Mr Bill Ginn, the governor at Deerbolt, gave an assurance yesterday that all opposition will be taken into account over the proposal to create a hostel for prisoners just outside the fence.

"We won't ride roughshod over anyone's feelings," he stated after returning to the young offenders' institution from leave.

Mr Ginn said a feasibility study is still being carried out into the idea, which is to convert a training centre into a hostel at which 24 inmates would be able to stay when nearing the end of sentences.

He added, "These inmates are already out working in the community. They would be able to stay in the hostel on weekday nights, under supervision of an

officer, and go home at week-ends. It is not as unreasonable as it might seem at first.

"It would provide 24 extra places and thus lower the cost per head of the inmates. But it would cost a great deal to start with, and it may be quashed even before the planning stage."

He said he did not want to raise local hopes that it would be halted, but if the proposal went further he would meet all the objectors and listen to them.

Mr Ginn said he was particularly concerned about a playgroup which might be displaced if it did go ahead, and would want to ensure that alternative premises were made available first for the toddlers and brownies who also use the centre.

Fears about the scheme were expressed at a meeting called by the playgroup on Wednesday.

A delegation from the parish council has also expressed the concern of Startforth people. Coun Eddie Scott, Coun Ruth Bell and parish clerk Mrs Moira Alderson met deputy governor John Fawcett and the head of operations, Graham Reading.

The parish council plans to call a public meeting soon. In the meantime it is urging anyone who opposes the idea to write directly to the governor at Deerbolt.

Advent lunches

Barnard Castle Christian Council is to hold a special service of Advent Praise this Sunday at 6.30pm in St. Mary's Parish Church. Entitled 'O Come, Emmanuel' it will feature scripture readings and familiar hymns on the theme of Advent, and members of all the local churches will be taking part. Everyone is warmly invited to join the congregation.

On three Fridays in Advent, the 2nd, 9th and 16th of December, members of the Christian Council will be co-operating to put on a series of lunches in the Parish Hall, along the lines of those successful in Lent for a number of years.

Starting at noon, the lunches of soup, bread, cheese and mince pie, will raise funds for Christian Aid, and will provide an opportunity to help the world's poor as well as enjoying good company. A donation of not less than £1.50 is asked from those attending.

School vacancy

Members of Staindrop Parish Council are looking into the possibility of co-opting a member of the public to act as their representative on the village primary school's board of governors.

Coun Mrs Alison Gates has stepped down as governor after serving for 12 years but so far no other councillor has been willing to fill the post.

Coun Mrs Virginia Trotter said on Thursday that she knew of someone who would be willing to be a governor.

Coun Mrs Sandra May said, "If nobody here wants to be a governor then I think it is a good idea to have someone else who wants to be one."

A letter will be sent to County Durham education department to see if this idea is acceptable.

Get well, Derek

A message was sent by members of Teesdale Council on Thursday to Mr Derek Foster, wishing him a speedy recovery following his collapse in the Commons. He is recovering well.

Nursery campaign

Following our report last week about mothers in Barnard Castle launching a campaign for more nursery school places, Durham County Council said its policy is to provide places for all children under five as soon as funds allow it, and it will help in the town when it can.

Another sheep dip training and assessment day is being held at the Moorcock Inn, Eggleston, on 13th December, by the Teesdale Training Group. Anyone wishing to book a place can call Liz Littlefair on Teesdale 0429-271279.

Parish to form a planning team

A sub-committee is to be formed by Staindrop Parish Council to enable its members to deal with planning matters more carefully.

Coun Mrs Virginia Trotter brought up the idea on Thursday, suggesting that the village's two district councillors should be on the sub-committee so that they could all look at applications affecting local residents more carefully.

Coun Roger Humphries welcomed the idea saying, "It will mean nothing can slip down through the cracks any more."

He agreed to be a member of the sub-committee along with Coun Harry Sams.

Draw raises £950 for village school

A prize draw has raised £950 for Staindrop Primary School. It was organised by the Home School Partnership, of which Mr Howard Stuttard is chairman.

He said the money will go into school funds, allowing the head teacher Mr Hubert Ord and his staff to start on their "shopping list." The total was much higher than expected.

A further £140 was raised at a toy stall in Barnard Castle. This was spent on repairing PE equipment and a new step ladder. Teesdale Lions have given the school a colour TV set to replace an old one which could not be repaired any more.

Mr Stuttard gave thanks to everyone who donated prizes for the draw, and all who have supported the partnership's efforts.

Church treasures taken by burglar

An intruder who broke into St Andrew's Parish Church at Winston between 5pm Wednesday and the same time on Thursday stole a number of items which had been there for many years. They were two brass candlesticks, 14 inches tall and worth £140; four brass vases 12 inches tall and worth £400; two silver decanter stoppers valued at £82; a brass candle snuffer priced at £50; and a brass alms dish worth £140.

Hairstyle bargains

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