

Pupils get prizes for road safety art



Mr John Priestley, Teesdale's Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, presented prizes to the winners of a road safety poster competition at Staindrop Primary School.

It was the idea of PC Peter Moore. He is pictured with Mr Priestley, teacher Mr Simon Heritage and pupils Sarah Small, Nicola Atkinson, Jodie Turnbull, Laura Craig, Kendra Rowlinson, Alexandra Jackson, Louise Rutherford, Laura Davies and Ruth Harding.

Three posters were chosen by Mr Priestley. Rose Hughes was among 10 pupils who contributed to the winning designs but she was not present when the Mercury photographer called.

The children's colourful designs will be used in leaflets explaining the importance of wearing car seat belts and of dressing in bright clothes when walking home on dark winter nights. Some of the pupils' comments on the importance of road safety will be featured in the leaflets too.

The project was thought up by PC Moore as a way of raising awareness of the issue among children and parents. The leaflets are being printed at police HQ and will be distributed soon. "It is an ideal way of getting the children involved," he told the Mercury. "The safety message will be better understood when they see their own work in print."

All the pupils in Mr Heritage's class 5 took part. The winners each received £5 WH Smith book tokens.

PC Moore hopes a successful campaign in Staindrop will lead to similar projects in other schools in Teesdale.

Mr G.R. Lowe has been given planning permission by Teesdale Council to construct agricultural store buildings in a former quarry at the rear of Roseberry Cottages, Woodland. A condition is that they should be used for agricultural purposes only, thus avoiding any unacceptable commercial or industrial use.

Disabled people must be given help on buses

New regulations which will make it easier for wheelchair users to travel on regular bus services were welcomed by members of Teesdale Council.

They were given a lengthy report at a policy meeting outlining changes in the rules to cut out any discrimination against disabled people.

Coun Mrs Mary Mitchell said a bus with a lift for wheelchairs was much appreciated by people in the area but she felt it would be more valuable if it had a more settled timetable.

"If it had a specific time for going to each place it would be a great help in letting people plan their journeys," she added. "Its service for Staindrop is fairly sporadic at the moment. If we knew it was coming at say 10am and 2pm it would be really helpful."

Mr Ken Hughes, head of planning, said this point would be made to Durham County Council.

Coun Ken Robinson, chairman, said the best solution would be for more buses to be fitted with a wheelchair lift.

One regulation places a duty on a driver or conductor to allow a wheelchair user to board a vehicle if there is a wheelchair space available. Equally they can't allow a wheelchair user on board if there is no space available.

Any other passenger sitting or standing in a wheelchair space will be expected to give it up if a disabled person gets on board. If a portable ramp is on the bus the crew must ensure that it is correctly placed when needed.

The driver or conductor must allow guide dogs or hearing dogs to travel with disabled people if they are needed - and must also give reasonable assistance to disabled persons if requested.

News from the Women's Institutes

Ladies report on all the action at their meetings

BARNINGHAM by Shirley Stuart

Jill Kettlewell spoke to us about making friends through gardening. Members enjoyed her talk very much. Kay Duggan presided as Felicity Thompson was away. There will be a demonstration of bread making by Corinne Andrews at Kay's house tomorrow at 2pm.

A deposit of £200 on the millennium notice board has been made. There will be a group carol service at Barningham Church on 21st December at 7pm. Our Christmas dinner is on Tuesday 11th January. Carol singing will be held on 15th December, meeting at Judith's at 6.30pm for winter warmers before singing.

Our next meeting is on 14th December at Barningham Village Hall.

INGLETON AND DISTRICT by Mary Grisdale

Celia Fiske, proprietor of Margaret Scott Fashions at Cockerton, entertained us with a fashion parade. She acted as compere as local models showed off a wide variety of separates, dresses, suits, nightwear, casual and evening wear. The collection was aimed at the young-at-heart mature woman.

The clothes were put on display so members and guests could examine, try on or purchase. Models were Joan Clarke, Monica Elliott, Jean Forbes, Joanne Gammack, Muriel Gritton, Janice Hobson, Susan Kitching, Hazel Whitehead and Diana Wilkes.

As it was an open meeting business was kept to a minimum. Members were reminded the next meeting is our 75th birthday party. Those going to the carol service at Durham and to Sunderland Glass Centre were given departure times.

Our competition for a wedding hat, judged by Mr Fiske, was won by Jean Thompson; 2, Norma Todd; 3, Susan Kitching. Mrs Fiske and the models were thanked by Anne Oselton.

The evening ended with supper provided by the committee. Our next meeting is on 8th December at 7.15pm. It is the last meeting in the present hall.

PIERCEBRIDGE by Josie Smith

The president welcomed members and eight guests from other institutes in our area. The newsletter was read. A board went round for names for the Christmas dinner.

Pat Crack and Helen Johnston organised a book stall of all the new publications, notelets and cards from the county office. We enjoyed browsing through these. There were some nice ideas for presents.

Mr Murray gave us an interesting and entertaining talk. Mrs Bainbridge gave a vote of thanks. Elizabeth Brown won the competition for four bread rolls. Mrs Pledger won the raffle. We enjoyed a lovely supper served by Jessie Allen and Maureen Gwilliam.

Our next meeting is our festive dinner on 9th December.

NEWBIGGIN by Lorna Bell

Mr Chris Knowles gave us a light-hearted slide show. There were views of Teesdale including shows and scarecrows, with the odd joke thrown in.

Kathleen Teward had three of her photographs published in the WI Durham County calendar. One is the cover picture. Our festive dinner is on 8th December. Several members attended the group meeting.

Our competition for a pill box was won by Peggy Hill; 2, Lucy Hutchinson. Doris Dent won the surprise box.

Mrs Carol Dixon will speak about flowers for Christmas at our meeting on 13th December at Newbiggin Village Hall. At our next December meeting we will be holding a bring and buy stall to raise money for Mrs Dodge Betton's charity walk in aid of Mencap. We are hoping members will support her.

EVENWOOD by Nora Blamire

Our meeting opened with a unanimous vote of thanks given by Enid Kidd to our new president Joan Simmonds for all her hard work during her years as secretary. There was little correspondence but items of interest were noted from the county newsletter.

Our president gave us a resume of next year's varied programme which will hopefully prove interesting to everyone. We were reminded to bring a gift for the bran tub to the next meeting. Unfortunately our speaker did not turn up but a jolly time was had by all finding the answers to several quizzes organised by Doris Steel.

Our competition for an attractive PVC bag was won by Marjorie Hewitt; 2, Joan Simmonds; 3, Mary Vickers. Marjorie won the raffle. Our next meeting is our party night on 8th December when there will be a demonstration of flower arranging. There will be a pooled supper. Our competition is for a wrapped Christmas parcel.

ROMALDKIRK by Doreen Benson

After welcoming 10 members and getting business out of the way, our president Doreen Braithwaite introduced our speaker Marilyn Hopkins.

She brought slides of the work she does with young children, people with learning difficulties and stroke patients around County Durham. There were wall hangings of local places, made with wool and material. The 3D pictures were made up of pompoms, finger knitting, collage and crochet, producing unique works of art.

She then demonstrated working on a hokey rug. Many questions were answered. It was an interesting and enjoyable evening.

We had books and sweatshirts for sale from the Durham office. Our competition for a home made article was won by Ann Dant with a quilt; 2, Rosemary Smailes, hokey rug. Jessie Atkinson won the raffle.

Our next meeting is our Christmas dinner at the Kirk Inn on 9th December.

Assault alleged

Steven James Boswell, 19, of Cuthbert Avenue, Manchester, charged with an assault at Deerbolt Young Offenders' Institution, had his case adjourned for committal by Bishop Auckland magistrates on Wednesday. He was remanded in custody until 15th December. Committal proceedings take place on 5th January.

Move for slimmers

Thursday Slimming World classes in Barnard Castle have been replaced by a Monday teatime class from 5.30-7pm. It is held in the reception area at the Methodist Church, as is a 10am Monday class.

There is no change to the Tuesday classes held in the Methodist Church Hall at 7pm. Anyone wishing further information about Monday classes can contact Janice Cartwright on Teesdale 695458. For Tuesday classes contact Joan Staley on 640545.

New farm buildings

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The second, and ter question is: wha e being done to reso ton? The answer t these questions ca as confidential. So c some answers pleas Teesdale Council taking the brunt of t the present impas understandable due t secrecy it has built there is another p maintaining a policy that is Saleway. I t statement from it on Last week a c dropped through it everybody in Tees Saleway ABC loyalty from the manager of ton store. It outline

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