

# West Life

*The Newsletter of West Auckland Parish Council  
No 46 – December 2018*

## Seasons Greetings

**REMEMBRANCE DAY: SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>**



There was an excellent turnout for this year's Remembrance Day Service held at the Village Pant Memorial. Many people chose to join the parade from The Well car park which was superbly led by the Ferryhill Town Band, whilst many more gathered at the Pant.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of The Royal British Legion, Bishop Auckland Air Cadets, Durham Constabulary, Durham County Council, West Auckland Parish Council, St Helens Scout Group, St Helens Guide Group, St Helens Rainbows and Brownies, West Auckland Women's Institute and West Auckland Working Men's Club. The names of those commemorated by name were read out by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

During the week before the service, pupils from both primary schools had placed individually named memorial crosses in front of the Pant; as an extra touch to the commemorations, large poppies were attached to nearby trees and lampposts whilst some houses in and around the village were displaying wreaths on their doors

Many thanks to everybody who helped with the organisation on or before the day – and thanks also to everybody who chose to attend the service and honour those who gave their lives for us all on what was the centenary of the end of World War One.

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - SHOEBOX APPEAL**



Once again, there was an excellent response to the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child:

290 shoeboxes packed with small gifts were collected and £192 donated. Thank you.

## **CAROLS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE**



**Tuesday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm**

As usual, there will be the opportunity to sing some traditional carols around the Village Christmas Tree with the Salvation Army Band. Stay on and enjoy a cup of homemade soup in The Well afterwards.

## **ANDREW HUNTER TURNER 1953 - 2018**

It is with great sadness that we record the death of Andy Turner in October. Well known in local football circles, Andy was also a dedicated County Councillor representing West Auckland and then Evenwood. He served on West Auckland Parish Council from its formation until he stepped down earlier this year due to ill health. He will be greatly missed but fondly remembered



## **SPRING BULBS**

Several thousand more daffodil and crocus bulbs have been planted around the village green and in the Lakes estate by a small team of volunteers led by Parish Councillor Neil Simpson. This was the latest phase of a project aimed at increasing the display of spring flowers around the village which is likely to continue next year

It is also hoped to brighten up the village in the summer months and the Parish Council will look into ways of doing this next year. There are already plans to alter the two rose beds near the World Cup Statue, neither of which produce much of a display: one will be grassed over and the other redesigned as a more attractive feature



## **WEST AUCKLAND MEMORIAL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Three new activities have started at the Memorial Hall in recent months:

### **Bald Eagle Country Music and Line Dance Club**

*has moved here from the RAFA Club in Bishop Auckland and now meets every Friday from 7.45 until 10.45pm in the Memorial Hall Further information from Keith Wilson 07511 030 638*

### **Fern Outdoor Adventures**

*An activity time for children every Thursday from 3.30 to 5.00pm For more information contact Graeme White 07496 277 411*

### **Little Treasures**

*This is a get-together for families with autistic children held on the third Saturday of every month from 1.00 to 3.00pm Contact: [michelleabbs21@gmail.com](mailto:michelleabbs21@gmail.com)*

## **THANK YOU.....FOR SAYING THANK YOU!**

People who volunteer their spare time – and this includes Parish Councillors – don't do so in expectation of thanks or a special mention; however, when the following appeared in the Northern Echo Hear all Sides letters page, it was much appreciated:

### **Remembrance**

*Well done to everyone in West Auckland who organised the Remembrance Day parade in the village.*

*The band were excellent and the children who carried the banners and laid the wreaths did really well but a special mention for the Parish Council and the volunteers who made the giant poppies which looked great and not to mention the lads who put them all up.*

*Nice to see so many people attending the event.*

**Dave Bowes, West Auckland**

Many thanks for your kind thoughts Dave and for taking the trouble to offer your compliments for publication to a wider audience.

## **It's Your Village – Have Your Say**

Come along to a meeting and let the Parish Council know what improvements you would like to see in your village.

### **West Auckland Parish Council Contacts**

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Meetings held at Monteith Close Community Parish Room at 7.00 pm on the 2nd Monday of each month (except August).

For more information visit our website:

<http://www.westaucklandparishcouncil.org.uk/>

**WestLife** is produced by West Auckland Parish Council, printed by Cre8tive Graphics and delivered by St Helens Scout Group. If you live in West Auckland and don't receive a copy at your home, please contact the Parish Clerk.

## **CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS**

### **ST HELENS CHURCH**

#### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

11.30am – 1.30pm MESSY CHRISTMAS  
*crafts, lunch, fun, fellowship and worship for all ages*

#### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

10.00am THE PARISH MASS  
6.00pm THE PARISH CAROL SERVICE  
*with Ferryhill Town Band and choirs from local schools*

#### **Christmas Eve**

4.00pm FAMILY SERVICE with CHRISTINGLE  
*a service for all ages lasting about 40 minutes*  
11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS by Candlelight  
*traditional Midnight Mass with carols*

#### **Christmas Day**

9.30am CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY MASS

### **WEST AUCKLAND VINEYARD CHURCH**

The Vineyard Centre Unit 3 Aptec Industrial Park

#### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

10.00am CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WORSHIP  
5.00pm COMMUNITY FAMILY CAROL SERVICE *followed by mulled wine and mince pies*

#### **Christmas Day**

10.00am FAMILY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

### **ST. MARY'S and ST. WILFRID'S RC CHURCHES**

**Christmas Eve**    St Wilfrid's    5.30pm  
                         St Mary's        7.30 pm

**Christmas Day**    St Wilfrid's    9.30am  
                         St Mary's        11.00am

# **Best Wishes For 2019**