



# LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

(Issue 30 - August 2012)

The Lesbury W I celebrate their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year put 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> August in your diary for the Flower and Craft Weekend



The Northumberland Estates

**Proposed New Housing in Lesbury-** Northumberland Estates held an open event for residents on May 31<sup>st</sup> in the Village Hall where the plans were shown and comments invited. Unfortunately the June Parish Council meeting had been cancelled prior to May 31<sup>st</sup> which gave time for plenty of rumour and counter rumour to develop in the Parish before the July meeting. The Parish Council meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July was attended by over 100 people and at the end of the formal meeting was opened to the floor. Tom Wilson gave a summary of the actions of the PC since May and stated that the

proposal for development had some merit for bringing new people into the village BUT that the PC were very aware that many residents had great concerns regarding the size and impact of the development on the village centre and people living there. The PC had asked for residents views via a comments box in the Post Office and individual councillors have spoken to various residents and asked for their views. Thirty four replies were collected in the box most of which aired reservations about the development. The 2 major concerns were the potential loss of the Post Office, even for a short period of time, and the impact that the density of development would have on the centre of the Village and in particular the demolition of the existing properties. The PC was also informed that a group had been formed, - "Preserve Lesbury Village," and that they had collected some 250 signatures of objection to the proposal in a petition; these had been passed on to NCC for consideration by the Planning Committee when the proposal is reviewed. The Chairman opened the floor to anyone with comments relevant to the discussion and major concerns were re-iterated verbally by a number of speakers. Finally the Parish Councillors were asked to vote on the proposal from Northumberland Estate; **the proposal was unanimously rejected**. The result of this vote has been passed on to the NCC Planning Department to be included in their review of the planning application.



Photo P Hignett

**The Olympic Torch and Olympics-** Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> June saw the Torch pass through Hipsburn. Despite the appalling weather and the early morning many people turned out to wish the flame on its way. It is easy to be cynical about these events but the Torch journey around the country, the opening of the Olympics and the actual sporting events gave and is giving many people great pleasure.

In particular we would like to congratulate our own Olympian, Laura Weightman, on being chosen for Team GB as a reward for all her hard work and dedication to her sport. Laura and other young people like her are the role models for our society needs.

**Northumbria in Bloom-** A small volunteer group has done much work over the last few months, clearing overgrown and weedy thoroughfares and planting the bankside between Steppey Lane Bridge and the Post Office. New benches (copied from benches in the Yorkshire Sculpture Park) have been installed in the Memorial



Garden and at the entrance to Lealands where more new planting has certainly enhanced the area. On July 18<sup>th</sup> the NIB judges were welcomed for their 2<sup>nd</sup> visit and noted the progress made so far. The Parish is entered as a whole, but Foxton G.C. garden, The Coach, The Railway Station and Hawkhill Business Park are to be assessed in special categories. All of the results will be announced on Sept.11<sup>th</sup>. This is the first time that Lesbury



Parish has ever been entered for the competition and the results will establish a base from which improvements can be made in the future.



**Jubilee Parish Photo-** A sample of the 12 inch by 8 inch photograph can be viewed in the Post Office. If you would like a copy it will cost you £5. Please contact Tom Wilson on 830522 before August 31<sup>st</sup>. Cash with order please; unfortunately no cheques!



Photo P Hignett

**Parish Welcome Packs-** This is a time of year for comings and goings and if you suddenly have new neighbours kindly let Tom Wilson know so that he can provide them with a Parish Welcome Pack



**Lesbury W.I. -** We will hold a Flower and Craft Festival, from 10am to 4pm, in Lesbury Church on 11th and 12th August to celebrate our 90th birthday. Refreshments will be available in the Village Hall during these times. Later, Lesbury Church is the venue for a BIG SING of favourite hymns at 6pm on Sunday 12th August. EVERYONE is very welcome, (whether you can sing or not!) so come and join us and make this a great Parish event.

**Nature Note-** the Silver Jubilee, Olympic Games and the United Nations' Year of the Bat: 2012 has had so much to offer. An evening stroll just as the birds stop singing can be rewarded with aerial displays to equal any Olympic event. Above the Aln in Steppey Lane, Noctule bats are the earliest to be seen when swifts are still swirling; then the smallest Pipistrelles will be catching midges around the Old Lesbury Bridge, and further upstream the larger Daubenton's may be feeding on more chunky insects over the flat calm water near the weir. One lucky and dedicated local bat watcher had a close encounter with a Pipistrelle which landed on the stone bridge next to her, with an unexpected repeat the next night of that golden moment.



**Village Hall CEILIDH-** To be held in Lesbury Village Hall on Saturday 22nd September- 7.00pm until 11.00pm. Tickets only £10.00 per head to include all entertainment, soft drinks and a light supper. Book early as only 60 places are available. Reserve your place now by e-mailing [lvhmancom@live.com](mailto:lvhmancom@live.com), texting 07745173165 or calling 01665 833144 (Leave name, contact number and number of tickets required.)

**Community Support Officer-** Adele Catlow is our new Community Support Officer with Northumbria Police she is stationed in Alnwick but patrols the Coquetdale and Coastal Villages area. She can be contacted by phoning **101** and asking for extension **69191** or by e mail - [adele.catlow.5305@northumbria.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adele.catlow.5305@northumbria.pnn.police.uk)

**Parish Council Members-** It is a while since we published details of your Parish Councillors;-

**Parish Council Chairman:**  
Tom Wilson 01665 830522  
[lesburyparish@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lesburyparish@yahoo.co.uk)

**Parish Clerk**

Mrs Elizabeth Taylor  
Rivendell, Steppey Lane,  
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Pat Tulip (Vice Chairman)  
Gareth Breese  
Ray Brunton  
Alma Duncan  
Bob Dutton  
Vivien Kay  
Roger Styring  
John Wright  
Contact via the Parish  
Clerk  
[lesburyparish@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lesburyparish@yahoo.co.uk)

**Parish Council meetings** are held in Lesbury Village Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. All residents are welcome to attend. A full list of Parish Councillors can be found at [www.lesbury-pc.org.uk](http://www.lesbury-pc.org.uk)