

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 11 Volume 10

Lanchester, November 2009

For contact information, see page 2

COMMEMORATING 10 YEARS OF THE VILLAGE VOICE

November 1999 saw the distribution of the first edition of the Lanchester village newspaper. This edition celebrates its 10th birthday. On the front and back pages we have printed photographs from each of the years of production.

The November 1999 edition was a trial and it was not until February 2000 that the paper was distributed on a monthly basis. In July 2008 we printed our first edition with colour. The paper is produced and distributed by a small group of volunteers with its expenses paid through the advertisements of local commerce.

More pictures from 2004 to the present are shown on the back page.



2000 - The Village Voice original Management Team view the first edition of the paper



2001 - Floats in the Carnival procession on a warm, bright day in June



2002 - Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society, dressed splendidly at the Jubilee Carnival



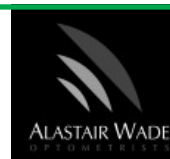
2003 - Lanchester Brass Band in the Methodist Church for their Patrons' Concert in December

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10 years ago, this month, when our first paper was delivered, it consisted of 8 pages with 17 adverts. Over the years the paper has grown to our current size of, on average, 20 pages and over 50 advertisers per issue. Without the support of the local businesses, shops and traders the Village Voice could not survive, so a big thank you to you all, but we would especially like to thank the 7 advertisers which are shown opposite and who advertised in the very first paper and who are still advertising with us today.



Dear Village....

The views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the newspaper, the editor or persons working for the newspaper. The editor retains the right to cut or otherwise amend any letter published. Letters must contain your name, address and telephone no., all of which may be withheld at your request.

Dear Sirs

Following our letter in the last issue regarding dedicating a Right of Way in Burnhope, we wish to thank everyone who contacted us in support of this claim. The response was overwhelming and far more than we hoped. It's good to see how many people care about preserving and securing the future of historic walkways in the area, of which there are many.

If anyone has not yet contacted us or didn't catch the last issue, then there is still time to do so. Once again thanks to everyone for your support and we'll let you know how it all progresses. Sincerely, Tracy and David Reid

Tel: 07900400540 e-mail treid1@btinternet.com

TO CONTACT THE VILLAGE VOICE

By email:

lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk .

By post:

The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0JQ.

Telephone enquiries: (01207) 520559

To advertise:

Contact John Hurren, Advertising Manager, by post at the above address. Telephone: (01207) 520288 Email: villagevoiceadverts@talktalk.net

Dear Sir,

In December 2008 I made two momentous decisions, one of which was to take part in The Great North Run for 2009. After taking this decision I embarked on what could only be described as a very difficult and exhausting training regime, mainly because I hadn't run in any kind of serious event since leaving school many years ago.

Two things kept me going through the months of training, my daughter Stephanie who decided

that if her mother could push herself to do this then so could she, and the support and generosity of the people of Lanchester. I also wanted someone to benefit from my efforts therefore, as a tribute to my Mother and Father, Anne and Bob Wakefield, I decided to raise some sponsorship for the British Heart Foundation. As an asthma sufferer herself Stephanie ran for Asthma UK.

On a personal level we had an absolutely fantastic day, completing the run in

3 hours and 8 minutes and enjoyed almost every minute.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all those in Lanchester and beyond who made the effort to sponsor and support us and let them know that thanks to their generosity the British Heart Foundation received £553.20 and Asthma UK received £301.00.

Yours faithfully,

June Taylor, 49 Manor Grange, Lanchester, Durham DH7 0LU



June and Stephanie at the end of the run

Dear Village Voice, In Issue 10, Volume 10, you published an article about the possibility of land being allocated to new building which seemed to lack any objectivity. Why is there such an emotional reaction to the possibility of expanding the size of Lanchester? Most of the residents in Lanchester live in buildings that didn't exist a hundred years ago, and they wouldn't be there if the same development

was happening now. Have a look at www.old-maps.co.uk and you'll see what I mean. Shouldn't each planning application be judged on its merits?

Kind regards
Richard Eyers

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for October 2009 is 17. The draw was made by Mr J Callaghan of the Gym.

Dear Village Voice

I would like to thank all concerned for the help given to my son David on 18th October when he was found lying on the ground with a fractured skull due to an accident which wasn't reported by the driver of a car which he was trying to move out of the way of. Also thanks for all the cards we have received. The accident has now been reported to the police and enquiries continue. David after spending a few days in hospital is now home. He is now recovering and will hopefully be back to school soon and also to

attend his much loved cricket nets. The 3 people we really do need to say a big thanks to are Rachel Crowe from Ridgeway, Neville Wallace and a lady whom I think lives in Alderside Crescent by the name of Sarah. If anything comes from David's accident, please please please don't allow your children out on their bikes without helmets. If David had been wearing his he probably wouldn't be in the state he is in at the minute. Once again a huge thank you from Robbie and Fiona Selby, Newbiggen Lane.

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THANKS TO PAST AND FUTURE DELIVERERS OF THE VILLAGE VOICE

The Village Voice team would like to extend its grateful thanks and appreciation to the past deliverers of the Village Voice:

Peter and Jean Harrison;
Dominic Bell;
Patricia Durkin;
Jeanette Williams; and
Lucy Ward.

Many thanks for your years of service and dedication delivering in all weathers throughout the year.

Welcome on board our new deliverers who have joined over the past months:

Dominic Quigley;

Don and Colleen Graham;
Brian and Florence Stocker;
Ken and Patricia Jose;
Mr Lions;
Julie Smith;
Suzanne and David Ward.

Without these helpers The Village Voice would not be delivered to your door.

We still require a couple of emergency deliverers to fill in when people are away for one reason or another, so if you feel you could do this then please phone:

Mike Stoddart on 520291.

MRS MARGARET TRAVIS

The Village Voice received a copy of 'The Nutshell', a Lincolnshire village newspaper similar to the Village Voice. In the edition received Mrs Margaret Travis described, in an article in the paper, a stay at her son Steve's house in Lanchester and her visits to various places in both the coast and countryside of Durham and Northumberland. She enthused about the area and is obviously a very good advocate for both Lanchester and the North-East.

CAN YOU HELP THE GUIDES?

Guides and Rangers have recently closed in Lanchester due to the lack of leaders.

If anyone was to feel that they would be interested in becoming involved in either of these organisations please contact 521323 and I would be pleased to put you in touch with other interested parties.

Eric Hepplewhite

ENVIRON- MENTAL TIP OF THE MONTH - 2

Follow these easy steps, published each month in the Village Voice, to reduce your household carbon emissions by 10% in a year. You can find more advice from the government website "Act On CO₂" at <http://actonco2.direct.gov.uk/actonco2/home.html>.

"Close the curtains, to keep in the heat - but don't drape your curtains over the radiators as this sends the heat straight out of your windows!"

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS

The Dedication of the two new treble bells, which were installed in the tower early last year, took place on Sunday the 1st of November (All Saints Day). The Archdeacon of Durham, who is The

Venerable Ian Jagger, gave the Address and then dedicated the bells.

Reverend Canon Peter Waterhouse gave The Blessing and then the eight bells pealed out over the village.

We are very grateful to the very generous benefactor who donated the two bells, that now make up a beautiful ring of eight!

Olga Walker, Tower Captain



Smiling faces at the service of dedication of the two new treble bells which make up a beautiful ring of eight bells and can be easily heard all over the Village

LAST POSTING DATES FOR CHRISTMAS

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1st Class	- Monday 21st December
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EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME AT THE PALACE FOR VIOLET

Violet Carter never dreamt when she joined the Women's Land Army aged 18 and left her Sunderland home for the first time that it would result in her having tea with HRH the Queen at Buckingham Palace 67 years later. The first 6 months in the WLA proved to be a rude awakening, working all hours on a very inhospitable farm in Darlington. There was very little food and the main meal of the day was often a raw onion, salt, vinegar and a piece of bread and butter.

Violet then moved to Lanchester and spent 5 years working on Colonel Greenwell's estate. Conditions were excellent and hunger was not a problem with plenty of food provided. It proved a life changing experience as she met

Thomas who worked on the estate, they married, remained in Lanchester and celebrated their 62nd anniversary in August.

This year Violet was pleased to receive a commemorative Badge in recognition of her work during the war and later also received an invitation to have tea with HRH.

On the 21st October Violet and her eldest daughter Sheila travelled to London's Royal Opera House. They were greeted with a Buck's Fizz before lunch, dined on soup, bangers and mash followed by apple crumble and custard all accompanied by wine. They were beautifully entertained by a pianist playing songs from the war years on a grand piano. Lashings of tea



Violet stops for a photograph in front of Women's Land Army posters at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden prior to going to Buckingham Palace

and coffee were available while they relaxed listening to speeches. Later in the afternoon they were taken to Buckingham Palace and shown into the Ball Room where the Queen's orchestra was playing

and HRH and Prince Phillip with some of the royal family circulated round the room spending time chatting to everyone. Tea consisted of dainty sandwiches, scones with jam and cream, various

cakes and tea and coffee. A wonderful day was had by all and Violet and Sheila departed floating on cloud nine. The euphoria has continued ever since, definitely an experience of a lifetime. Kate Boustead

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Lanchester EP Primary pupils loading up shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Congratulations to the school which sent 99 boxes full of presents which will make Christmas really special for children in Bosnia and Serbia.

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DEER AT KNITSLEY



Did this beautiful animal, seen at Knitsley, arrive too early for Christmas?

LILYDALE PINK DAY

Friday 30th October was "wear it pink day" to raise money for research into breast cancer. Everyone at Lilydale Pet Supplies entered into the spirit by wearing pink and generally looking silly. Even Zico the German Shepherd joined in. In addition a raffle was held, a pink quiz, lots of pink cakes were baked and sold

and a prize for the best dressed pink customer (won by two pugs in tiaras). Everyone had great fun. Margaret, the owner of Lilydale Pet Supplies, was diagnosed with breast cancer in June this year and after treatment is now back to work. This was her thank you but was only made

possible by the help and support of her work colleagues, friends and family, Ashfield Vets, Eukanuba dog food and Tiger Lily Florists, as well as all the customers of Lilydale and the people of Lanchester who gave generously. A grand total of £360.00 was raised and has been sent off to the charity.



Left to right; Ann, Alison, Margaret (all staff), Samantha (customer), front: Julia with Zeco the dog, at the Pink Party raising funds for Breast Cancer on the dedicated Pink Day.

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LIONS VILLAGE BONFIRE

In contrast to last year when the weather was very cold but dry, November 7th 2009 was very wet with rain throughout the afternoon and intermittent throughout the evening. However, this did not stop the crowds from turning up and there were probably only a few hundred less than last year.

All the light sticks were sold out in Kitswell Road and at the entrance to the park. The fire was well built and was soon roaring away, lighting up, and throwing out a tremendous heat. The superb, spectacular, fireworks display lasted about 40 minutes. All credit should go to the those who set the fireworks off as the wet conditions made it really difficult.

The hardworking Lions' Ladies and friends were busy with the hot dogs etc, and were virtually sold out by the end of the evening.

Lanchester Lions Club would like to thank all those who helped them put on the event. A super looking 'Guy' sat on top of the bonfire, but not for very long! This was made by the Art Club at the EP School. The Parish Council sponsored this hugely popular village occasion with a monetary grant. Lads from the Community Pay Back Scheme, grafted in the morning moving pallets, helping to build the fire and erecting fencing. Wharton Landscaping are thanked for providing and delivering the pallets and Lanchester Services for their hire of their van. The Cricket Club were

great hosts and provided warmth and plenty of beverages for those who had those needs. Stanley Round Table turned out in force with nine volunteers, and their help on the night was greatly appreciated. The Police presence was excellent and prevented any sort of trouble that may have happened and the Red Cross personnel turned out as usual but fortunately were not called upon. It was a highly successful night, organised well, and carried out under very difficult conditions. Finally, the Lions would like to thank all those who turned out to support the event and gave so generously. The profit was slightly down on last year but was still in the region of £1000 which, of course, will all go to good causes.



The Guymakers - children from Lanchester EP school who took part in making the Guy for the Lions Bonfire night



Some of the grafters from Lanchester Lions Club looking satisfied with their work. Left to right: Ian Murray (President); Brian Naylor; Bryn Jones; Tommy Robinson (Organiser); Jonathan (helper); Alan Hill; Martin Durkin; Mike Stoddart; Eric Tuffee (Helper from London - name correct at last after 9 years!); Peter Richardson; Tony Corry. Side of Bonfire (helper Bob T Builder)



A fabulous bonfire which was well built and was soon roaring away spreading a tremendous heat and light on a wet, cold night

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PICTURES FROM LIONS VILLAGE BONFIRE NIGHT



The Lanchester British Red Cross who were on duty all evening enjoying the display. - left to right; Ian Davison; Ros Samuel; Philippa Martindale; Elaine Williams.



The Lion's Ladies and friends hard at work at their stall selling hot dogs which were virtually sold out by the end of the evening.



Part of the large crowd, who turned up in spite of the intermittent rain throughout the cold evening on November 7th, look at the firework display in awe while trying to keep warm at the same time.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

We really are lucky people, living in Lanchester - on top of all the other lovely things we've got going for us, we now have the Farm Shop and Granary Cafe just at the end of the Lanchester Valley Walkway, within easy walking, cycling, or motoring distance from all of us. So, you can try to keep fit and healthy with a good walk/cycle before arriving at the cafe and allowing yourself to indulge in something lovely, be it coffee/tea and cake or a more substantial meal, or arrive by car like we did and plan to indulge in everything going. We sampled a bacon sandwich with chips, fresh battered fish and chips with mushy peas, mince and leek pudding with mash and seasonal veg. and a roast beef sandwich. For puds it was a double cream rice pud, banana split and apple and cinnamon cake. We have to say, everything was totally delicious and cooked to perfection. Also, we mustn't forget that vital female ingredient - retail therapy - they have the farm shop in the same building and the produce in there is second to none. An extra special weekend treat comes as Brunch/ all day breakfast which is absolutely delicious. All in all, somewhere to be highly recommended.

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POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER (PACT) MEETING - 10TH OCTOBER 2009

This preceded the Parish Council Meeting and was attended by most of the Council Members, the Lead Officer, Richard Young, County Councillor, Vanessa Gray our local PCSO, two other Members of the Police, Mike Gladstone from the Partnership and two village residents. The meeting was chaired by Jeff Johnson, Support Officer for Derwentside Homes. It was mentioned that it was disappointing that so few residents had turned up, in spite of extensive advertising, and it was suggested that a less formal meeting

might encourage more people.

The discussion mostly concentrated on how the Police are dealing with trouble makers in the village and traffic problems. PCSO Gray gave her monthly report, as follows:-

Rowdy Nuisance 12, Vehicle Nuisance 3, Theft 3, Vehicle Crime 3, Criminal Damage 3.

Various sections of the Police and the Derwentside homes have a network to deal with trouble spots and those causing it. Trouble makers are identified, homes visited and records kept.

Speeding in the village was mentioned and Cllr Burton explained how the AAP are proposing to buy two portable speed visors for shared use between local Parish Councils and other speed monitors are to be set up on roads approaching the village. Also discussed was the possibility of a 20 mph speed limit in housing estates and a No Exit sign at the entrance to Lee Hill Court.

Rogue traders were another topic brought up, with the possibility of setting up an experimental 'no cold callers' zone in the village.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 10TH OCTOBER 2009

Correspondence

An invitation to the Durham Police Authority Policing Priorities Consultation Event on 6th December - Cllr Glass to attend.

A letter from the Rural Services Network - the Parish Council should take up free membership and thereby receive weekly bulletins.

A letter from the County Council with regard to their Local Development Framework Core Strategy Issues Paper. With regard to areas of land being identified for development, Cllr Johnson said he would arrange for a meeting with the new Chief Planning Officer for the County and also suggest he attends a Parish Council Meeting.

The Area Action Partnership

Cllr Burton spoke about the portable speed monitors and also schemes planned to

slow down traffic as it enters the village; the County Council is to give information as to how this can be done. It was suggested that the 40 mph speed limit in the village should be moved so that it was at the other side of the Comprehensive School. As well as traffic concerns, the two other groups set up by the AAP deal with better provision for young people and also how the AAP can support Community Groups.

Christmas Lights Switch On

This will take place at 6 pm on Saturday, 28th November on the Village Green. The lights will be switched on by Cllr Ossie Johnson and children from Lanchester EP School and All Saints RC Primary School. Lanchester Brass Band will play Christmas Carols and everyone is

welcome. The event is to celebrate the Parish Council achieving Quality Status and invitations have been sent out and all arrangements made.

Global Warming Working Group

This is to be a section of the Lanchester Partnership and will be led by Sonny Shepherd, who attended the meeting. She thanked the 80 people who had attended the two showings of the film Age of Stupid, which was followed by a discussion and then, later, two meetings. The aim of the group is a 'low-carbon Lanchester', two of the main issues being food security and energy security. Ideas for food security involved allotments, fruit and nut tree planting (suitable for this part of the country), raised beds, etc. It was also hoped to find some

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - CONTINUED

way of producing independent, small-scale energy in the village. Ways of measuring energy use and leakage and alternatives to packaging were also discussed at the meetings. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Unitary Council asking them to identify land in their possession which could be used for allotments.

It was agreed that a letter of support be sent to the Partnership and Cllr Jackson asked that the group keep Members informed.



Presentation of Quality Status Certificate to Lanchester Parish Council Councillors. Margaret Gray and Ossie Johnson receiving the Quality Status Certificate during the AGM of Local Councils at County Hall on Saturday 31st October from Bishop Auckland MP Helen Goodman, who complimented them on the work done in the village and the progress and communication shown. Lanchester and its Parish Council have a growing reputation in the County due to work done by various groups and communities in the village.

The Quarterly Newsletter

This was approved and will be available in various shops, the library and other places in the village.

Consultation on the Development of Travel Schemes and the Alternatives to Bus Services across County Durham

This document was given to Members who will look at it and return individually.

Lanchester Cricket Club

The current lease is not due for renewal until 2011, and in view of the concerns of a resident with regard to cricket balls landing in her garden, causing damage, it was agreed that a letter should be written to the Club and that the nets should be inspected in situ before the start of the next cricket season.

The Financial Information

This was approved, but the Chair pointed

out that the surface of the play area is degrading again and the whole area will soon have to be renewed at some considerable expense. There is now no Precept support from the District Council. Also mentioned was investigating of the play equipment for teenagers and investments which could produce more interest than a Tracker account.

Accounts for Payment

These were approved and included the donations given to the Lanchester Partnership, Lanchester Community Centre, All Saints RC Primary School and Lanchester EP School, which was the money won in the County Village of the Year competition sponsored by Calor Gas.

Date of Next Meeting

This will be held in the Conference Room at Park House on Tuesday, the 8th of December, at 7.15pm.

Gardening in December

As the year draws to an end it is time to reflect on past successes in your garden and dream of the massive improvements to make next year. It can also be a creative time in two respects as it's time to (a) take hardwood cuttings and (b) make Christmas decorations.

Borders

Choose a dry day, wrap up warm and start clearing beds and boosting your soil. Cut down to ground level hardy perennials and compost the trimmings. Once the beds are cleared fork over the soil between the remaining plants mixing in compost as you go. Finish off by spreading a mulch of compost over the whole area.

Hardwood cuttings, a lovely easy way to increase your plant supply for free, can be taken in December from plants such as Roses, Buddleia, Hydrangea, Dogwood, Spiraea, Forsythia, etc. To root hardwood cuttings you need to cut about 20 cm lengths of stem from

the parent plant of this year's growth and make a straight cut below a bud at the base. Make a trench by pushing a spade into earth and moving the spade back and forth and place a handful of grit or sand at the bottom. Push the cuttings into the sand so that only a third of the length is above ground and push the soil back around the cuttings and firm the soil with your foot.

Vegetables

Now is the time to clear spent crops and dig vacant ground if you have not already done so. If you have heavy, clay soil add leaf mould, sharp sand or old potting compost. At this time of the year this can be laid over the ground to be dug into the clay in the spring.

Bulbs and Indoor Plants

If you planted bulbs for Christmas in pots and sank them in earth, the beginning of the month is the time to unearth them as and when they are ready. An ideal present for someone who loves

colourful plants is an amaryllis or hippeastrum. Put one of these large bulbs in a pot of compost with its nose just above the surface. Water it sparingly and avoid getting water on its nose. Leave it in a light, cool place and it will grow easily. If you receive an indoor plant unwrap it carefully and follow the care instructions closely.

General Tasks

December is a good time to prune any congested apple/pear trees while they are dormant. You should keep the centre of the tree open to let light through and stop branches chafing against each other. If you are pruning trees do not throw away the old branches and twigs, but burn them and save the resultant ash as a future source of potash - a perfect way to recycle!

It is also a good time to give your seed trays and pots a good wash with a disinfectant solution and clean your tools and give them a covering of oil to stop them rusting over the winter.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 8TH

There can be no greater venue to honour those of our village who died in two World Wars and young Stuart Laing in the Falklands War, than the cenotaph on our village green. It was a sober occasion but a most reflective and meaningful one, led, as always, by the clergy of our three churches. The men, women, children and young people of Lanchester were present in good numbers to honour those who gave their lives in such dreadful circumstances, to make things better for us. Jesus said in the Bible, 'There is no greater thing that man can do than lay down His life for his fellow man,' and Lanchester is so proud and appreciative of all the people named at the cenotaph on the rather dismal, wet morning of Sunday November the 8th. The rain, however, did not dampen the sincerity and loyalty of the village community and I am sure we were also thinking of all the men who have been killed in Afghanistan and Iraq and the families who grieve for them.

Lanchester Brass Band played perfectly for the occasion, as they always do, enhancing the singing of the hymns and playing appropriate music, before and after the short service. The last post, played on a 'soprano cornet', by Christopher Johnson was superb. As we left the green to attend the different churches in the village or just to return home, it was time to reflect and be very thankful for our freedom and our loved ones. Let us always cherish them!
Brenda W Craddock



The Boy's Brigade returning from laying their wreath on the village green



Wreaths were laid by representatives of the following organisations: Lanchester Lions Club; Brownies; Parish Council; Annfield Plain Scouts; Lord Lieutenant, County of Durham; Lanchester British Red Cross; The Boys Brigade; W.I.; Durham C.C.



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WALK FOR CANCER RESEARCH



*Left to right: Back row - Amy; Megan; Kelly; Stephanie, Jeanette; Penny.
Front row: Beth (5 years); Michael (4 months); Abby (2 years); Lucy (2 years); Samantha (3 weeks); and Barney.*

On Saturday, 7th November, Kelly Kasher invited family and friends to join her on a sponsored walk in aid of Cancer Research UK. They all met outside SPAR and set off towards Langley Park, raising over £200. Thanks are given to all those who supported this very worthwhile cause. It was quite a difficult walk considering the ages of the children and having to push buggies. Thanks are given to all the participants.

POSTAL WORKERS PICKET

Local postal workers protect public services and that 61,000 jobs had been lost since 2002 and the work load had increased. In addition the second delivery had been stopped and there were no longer Sunday collections'. He added that the strike was nothing to do with money but conditions of work were worsening'.



Local Postal workers picket the main Post Office at Iveston - Tom Clark, Union Representative 2nd right

BURNHOPE VILLAGE REMEMBRANCE

The annual service of remembrance was held at the War Memorial, Burnhope, on Sunday morning, the 8th of November, and was led by Mr S Collins and Mrs D Park. After the placing of the wreaths at the War Memorial, a service was held in the Methodist Church led by Mr I Wilson, local preacher of the North West Methodist Circuit. The "Roll of Honour" was read by Mrs D Park and Mr S Collins, the music on the organ played by Mrs V Collins. A collection of £56.68 has been sent to the Royal British Legion. I would like to thank all who supported this service.

Stan Collins

LINTZFORD GARDEN CENTRE



Lanchester Methodist Church Women's Fellowship members enjoying refreshments after a pre-Christmas lunch at Lintzford Garden Centre. After a lovely lunch Members were able to have a good look round the Garden Centre and were able to purchase some Christmas presents. "The outing was enjoyed by all" said Mrs Jean Dunn who was one of the organisers.

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LANCHESTER INFOLIST

(please advise of any errors or omissions)

Organisation	Contact	Phone
Aerobics	Claire McElrue	520607
Agricultural Society	Carol Cliffe	0191 3734565
Amigos	Olive Simpkins	520229
Anchor Boys	Mark Grimes	520481
Angling Club	Ted Brabbam	570447
Art Group	Judy Lowther	581336
Badminton	Rosemary Naylor	520087
Beamish Quilters	Elaine Williams	520063
Bereavement Support	Mrs P. Burton	230777
Bobbin Lace Making	Elaine Williams	520063
Bowls	Ken Raper	521673
Bowls (indoor)	Robbie Gowland	520697
Boys Brigade	Vicky Davison	521853
Brass Band	Susan Hayton	0191 3733205
Breatheasy	Betty Welsh	563117
Bridge Club	Jan Vasey	521948
Brownies	Carly Irwin	07500 840122
Carers Support		502688
Centurions M/C	David Jackson	521401
Childminders	Gillian Nichol	520446
Children's Society	Brenda Craddock	520749
Children's Dance	Karen Stewart	520468
Choral & Operatic Soc	Moirra Watson	0191 4106082
Church Wives	Brenda Craddock	520749
Community Association	Harry Taylor	520495
Community Policeman		0845 60 60 65
Computers for All	Christine Monaghan	529001
Country Market	Eveline Cowan	0191 5813703
Creative Writing	Library	521021
Crickets Club	Club phone	520198
Croft View Halls	Eric Hepplewhite	521323
DLI 68	Jane Parker	520077
Dog Obedience	Vicky Welsh	0191 4102325
Dolphin Swim Club	Pam Tilley	520488
Exercise Centre	Community Centre	521275
Flower Club	Helen Tomlinson	503667
Genealogy	Library	521021
Guides	Alma Kelly	520560
History Group	Kevin Leary	521627
Keep Fit	Liz Wood	520278
Keep Fit	Tanya Johnson	581466
Lace Circle	Heather Parkin	01833 621393
Lanchester Partnership	Mike Gladstone	528114
Lanchester Pathfinders	Anne Cook	529334
Library	Monica Murfin	521021
Line dancing	Lynn Nixon	231622
Lions	Mark Draper	529775
Macmillan Nurses	Brenda Hall	521408
Male Voice Choir	John Wills	520249
Model Boat Club	Ted Welding	0191 3733046
Mothers' Union	Margaret Brown	529714
MP	Hilary Armstrong	01388 767065
Needlecraft	Elaine Williams	520063
NSPCC	Diane Quail	521377
Over 50's Seated Exercise	Library	521021
Parish Council	Sally Laverick	529415
Playgroup	Liz Smith	521682
Poetry Group	Isam Hussain	521181
Rainbows (girls 5-7)	Kathryn Trotter	521226
Ramblers Association	Joyce Thomas	520568
Reading Group	Monica Murfin	521021
Red Cross	Dorothy Cox	520123
Rugby Club (juniors)	Dick Parry	520412
Scottish Dance Group	Jill Ramsey	520501
Scouts	John Wills	520249
Social Club	Trish Bennett	528304
Tae Kwan Do	Kevin Allison	0191 373 0673
Tennis Club	Dennis Laycock	520278
Thursday Club	Olive Simpkins	520229
Tiny Tots	Jacque	0191 383 0488
Village Voice Advertising	John Hurran	520288
Village Voice Distribution	Mike Stoddart	520291
Village Voice Reporter	Brian Oram	520559
Wednesday Whist		521042
Weight Watchers	Lynne Lightfoot	0191 4104568
Wildlife Group	Elaine Williams	520063
Women's Institute	Barbara Sproat	520247
WRVS	Betty Tregonning	521210
Youth Club	Jill Gladstone	528114

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS



A horrible ugly witch and an attractive looking devil came trick or treating on Halloween night



A sinister, scary looking band of trick and treat children knocked on the door on Halloween



The Tiger Lily Florists witches - from left: Melissa, Abbey and Julie - but who is the naughtiest witch? We think it is Abbey.



Which witch is the real witch? Left to right: Anna, Michelle or Lisa?



Left to right, wonderful witches - Michelle, Jeni and Rea, not only celebrate Halloween, but 10 years in business at Talking Heads

HALLOWEEN FUNDRAISER FOR CHARLIE BEAR

A week before the frightening date, Vicky and Michelle, renowned Halloween party organisers held their annual function for young children at the Community Centre. This year the charity chosen was Charlie Bear, such a worthwhile cause. The party was bigger and noisier than ever with about 80 children with Mums and Dads at the function. A friend of the organisers, Margaret, gave her services free with great disco music, which the children absolutely

loved. The dancing was wild. There were lots of witches and other horrible Halloween characters and the atmosphere was fantastic. All the children had a really great time enjoying the food, juice, party games and music. The adults seemed happy enough too. There was a raffle and many businesses in the village made donations. Vicky and Michelle would like to express their thanks for the wonderful support they received. The total sent to Charlie Bear was £125.52.



The organisers - Michelle casts a spell, Jeanette gets strangled, and Vicky enjoys every minute



HALLOWEEN IN THE LIBRARY



Children enjoy the Halloween craft session in the Library



Children who listened to Maisie Raine's 'Ghostly Tales', with Maisie in the background

Left: Six horrible girly characters try to frighten everyone

Below left: Even the lads get in on the action looking really frightening

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GEO-PHYSICAL SURVEY AT LONGOVICIUM



Andy Patell, Natalie Swann (both Durham University), Rod Hawkins, Project Manager, Howard Wilson, volunteer



Natalie Swann, Durham Archaeological Services, training volunteers on the Gradiometer

The great day came on a lovely autumn morning, Monday, 26th October. There were about eight volunteers along with some half a dozen 'Friends of Longovicium', led by Project Manager Rodney Hawkins. Everyone met at 9.00 am, and after a trek past the Fort, the training on Magnetometers and the Gradiometer began in earnest. Soon the pegging out of the areas

to be surveyed was accomplished and the action started. The volunteers from outside did most of the work while experienced members of 'Friends of Longovicium' observed.

The area being surveyed was beyond the Fort to the south which includes Dere Street and it is hoped to establish the area of the Civil Settlement. The magnetometer indicates characters in the soil and

reflects roads, walls and ditches etc. The gradiometer provides a geo scan and detects changes in the magnetic fields of the earth. Both machines store all the information which is then downloaded to a computer and will be sent to Friends of the Fort.

Andy Platell, and Natalie Swann, from Durham University Archaeological Services carried out the training for volunteers and did some of the surveys. Further work is to be carried out on this site before moving on to Margery Flatts. Nick Greenwell who owns the current site and John Brown who farms at Margery Flatts are thanked for allowing the surveys to be carried out. County Archaeologist, David Mason has been very enthusiastic about the project and his department has given monetary support along with local councillors, Richard Young, Bill Gray and Ossie Johnson. The main funding has come from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The survey is part of a bigger project researching other aspects of civilian life in Roman Lancashire.

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MALE VOICE CHOIR CONCERT IN AID OF NSPCC

We know that Lanchester Male Voice Choir always gives a good performance and all those who attended the concert on November 14th, in the Methodist Church, had a lovely evening. Under the baton of Harry Carr the choir were in excellent voice and a varied selection of songs had been prepared. The concert opened with a song called 'Deep Harmony' and that aptly describes the whole performance. The choral singing was interspersed with solo items, all of which were excellent.

Heraldo and John sang a humorous song accompanied on their guitars; Ken Dixon sang an Ivor Novello song absolutely beautifully, Paul Monaghan gave a splendid characterisation of the song 'If I were a rich man' from 'Fiddler on the Roof', Bill and Peter were John and Charles Wesley in their item of musical dialogue; Ian Tute accompanied his song skilfully with his guitar, Gordon Knighton sang with conviction about the religious meaning of Christmas rather than the secular celebration of it



Harry Carr conducting the Lanchester Male Voice Choir

and finally Noreen Bridgewater who is the choir's accompanist and a very talented pianist, gave a beautiful solo

piano performance. The whole ambience of the evening was very uplifting and just what was needed on a damp,

dark November evening. Congratulations choir. We look forward to more of your concerts in 2010. Brenda Craddock

NSPCC DELIGHTED

Lanchester NSPCC Committee are delighted to announce that the above concert by Lanchester Male Voice Choir raised the sum of £350. The evening was a

great success and showcased the many talents of the choir members.

We would like to thank the members of the choir for giving up their time

free of charge, and to thank everyone who came along and supported the NSPCC. The money raised will be used to help children in need in the north east.

HOME ON THE RANGE

Theatre lovers look forward each year to the arrival of North Country Theatre to the village. Known mostly for their hilarious comedies, this year they presented a more thoughtful piece of drama. Not that it lacked laughs, mostly at the expense of the masculine of the species.

Home On The Range told the true story of three women pioneers (originally from a lead mining family in Swaledale, Yorkshire) crossing the Oregon Trail in a wagon train in the mid 1800's. This was history told from the perspective of women. There were no gunfights, no shoot outs with Indians circling the wagons, just the daily trudge for five months over plain and mountain pass. The male head of the household Samuel

was taken ill and died early on in the crossing but Annis Hawker, her sister May and daughter Hope decided to press on to the promised land on west coast of the USA.

Powerful performances by Fiona Paul, Vivienne Garnett and Amelia Newbould kept the audience spell bound as the tale unfolded. May was married on the trip to a Swedish fellow traveller, a much loved harmonium had to be abandoned as the oxen pulling the wagon became weary, an encounter with a native resulted in an exchange of gifts not a scalping. Would they find eventual happiness we wondered. This was answered when a modern day descendent of the family discovered Annis's diary of the

expedition and presented it as a school project.

As usual Nobby Dimon, the writer and director, proved a master of creativity in the way he presents quality drama with a small cast and inventive but minimal scenery and props. The opening scene where the cast built their wagon from items scattered around the stage brought spontaneous applause from the audience and the way that male characters were depicted using jackets and hats on clothes hangers was very funny.

We are privileged to have such a strong theatre company visit our Community Centre each year. As a small touring company I suspect they will have few equals anywhere in the world.

Paul Monaghan

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CONTINUING SUCCESS FOR LANCHESTER ARTIST

Well-known Lanchester artist Judy Hurst's latest exhibition "Illuminations" opened to critical acclaim on Sunday 18th October, in Trevelyan College, Durham. It was not long before the "red spots" - indicating that the work had been purchased - began to appear on items. During the viewing, Judy also received orders for commissioned work from impressed collectors. The opening was voted a well-deserved success.

This exhibition, which follows Judy's recent successful Summer 2009 showing at the Bowes Museum, resulted from her appointment in September 2009 to the prestigious position of Artist in Residence at the St Cuthbert's Society, Durham University. She will hold the post for this academic year.

"It is a wonderful opportunity" said Judy, whose role at the Society combines opportunities to work with students and also to create original works in her own distinctive style. "The post enables me to research and to paint, and to blend my love of patterns in nature with the rich history and traditions of the St Cuthbert's Society."

She is currently working, in her college studio, on a commissioned piece for the Society which brings together these very themes.

A much admired display of her work lines the refectory walls in the College, whilst the exhibition in Trevelyan College remains open for public viewing until the first week-end in December.



Judy at work in her St Cuthbert's Studio

ART IN THE LIBRARY

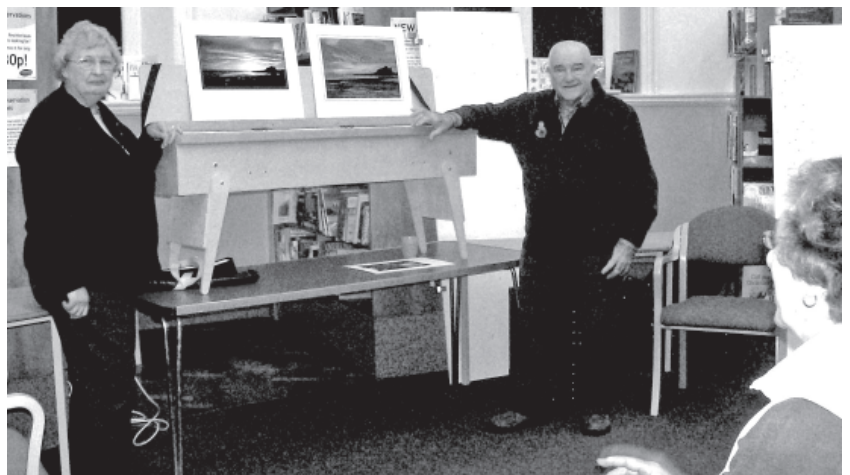
A very pleasant evening was held in the library on November 5th. The event was a fund raising one for Willow Burn Hospice and it was a photographer's delight. Mr Ken Coates and his wife, Betty, from Ebchester, who are both keen photographers, showed a number of brilliant photographic prints using a Light Box. This in itself was very

interesting and an excellent method of showing photographs. It eliminates a screen and projector and is extremely effective. There was a tremendous variety of prints, from urban and rural life, many showing great natural beauty and tranquility; a welcome diversion from the troubles of the world outside. There was a raffle and a cup of tea

or coffee and a pleasing amount of money was raised for Willow Burn Hospice

These events in the library arranged by Monica are very well worth attending. There were 25 people that evening but it would be nice to see more! Next time perhaps? Look out for details of future events in the Village Voice.

Brenda W Craddock



Betty and Ken Coates display their photographs in the Library

THURSDAY CLUB CHRISTMAS OUTING TO MATFEN HALL



Matfen Hall

We've had it planned, it was back to the booked and been looking conservatory for a glass forward to it since of wine/orange with March. Connie heard canapés. A two course about it and that you had lunch followed in one of to get your booking in the dining rooms, another quick, Eileen took over room with views out over and then it was just a the beautiful extensive matter of deciding that grounds. We started with you definitely would still piping hot pork, fondant be here, in the land of the potatoes, green beans and pay up the necessary fee. of wine/orange with canapés. A two course The 18th November, a lunch followed in one of Wednesday, (I know the dining rooms, another we're the Thursday room with views out over Club, but it was the only the beautiful extensive available date near our grounds. We started with 3rd Thursday) finally piping hot pork, fondant arrived and we were off potatoes, green beans and at 9.30 am from Peters to and a timbale of slowly get to Matfen Hall in time braised cabbage with a for morning coffee. The mustard and honey The rest of the day would be sauce. The pud was a spent watching an M & S satsuma crème brûlée and followed by a glass of wine with canapés, then lunch and finally home.

We have been so lucky - the weather forecast was awful and we've had such a sunshiny day. On arrival at Matfen Hall we enjoyed morning coffee with freshly baked cookies while sitting in the sunny conservatory overlooking the extensive grounds, bliss. Then on to the impressive Great Hall to watch Marks and Spencer present a fantastic fashion show with styles to suit everyone. They held a raffle in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance and two of our ladies won prizes, Jean Hunter won a bottle of wine and Liz Smith won a meal at Matfen Hall. After which,



Thursday Club members enjoying their lunch in the beautiful dining room at Matfen Hall

Would you like to join us?

Looking for somewhere to hang your hat on a Thursday evening in the third week of the month? Well, we are the Thursday Club, an independent ladies group who meet in the Small Hall of the Community Centre at 7.45 pm. 2010 is our 30th anniversary year and we have planned an exciting programme of talks, outings, demonstrations and charity events, and our annual membership fee is just £10. Interested?

Well, why not come along to our next meeting on December 17th, all about 'Thornton's Chocolates', you will be made most welcome. If you would prefer to find out more about us try talking to

Eileen 529104, Sylvia 520580, Liz 521682 or Olive 520229. Or go online and catch up with us at www.communicate.co.uk/ne/lanchestercommunitycentre as we surf into the 21st century.

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WI NEWS

We were very disappointed to have to cancel our birthday meal and trip to Northallerton just 6 days before we were due to go but the owner of the restaurant had gone out of business due to the current financial situation and he was very sorry to let us down. As the main point of the day was the meal, the very difficult decision was made to cancel the trip. Refunds will be given as soon as possible but what happened was completely beyond our control. It was very disappointing but

how much worse for the owner and staff of the restaurant who have lost their business and jobs. We still have so much to look forward to starting with our Christmas Party on Monday 7th December which includes a free raffle and a Chinese raffle. The entertainment will be the Male Voice Choir and we will have a demonstration with samples from Loopy Lisa's Fudge. Our Christmas meal is as usual a faith supper and wine and soft drinks will be served. The choir will be coming to join us after

they have sung for their supper.

Jean has arranged a very varied programme for next year with speakers and demonstrations ranging from Hand-Crafted jewellery and music to food and bees so as well as our usual treats and trips we have lots to look forward to in 2010.

Our members have been very busy this month with Breda and Jean helping at the DCFWI Autumn Fayre at Spennymoor selling the items WI members had donated for the Rainbow stall. Thank you to all who gave, £208 was raised for county office.

Ten members joined Satley WI on their birthday night enjoying a talk about hats and of course the delicious supper which was provided.

Seven members attended a Grand Charity Evening in

aid of St. Cuthbert's Hospice hosted by Annfield Plain WI with the entertainment provided by members. This was a very enjoyable evening.

Two members attended the Autumn Council Meeting at Bishop Auckland where speakers included Anne Wood from Ragdoll Productions who make films to help children with sleeping problems and other disorders. The competition was an Energy Saving poster and Jennifer Macdonald came third with her entry. Well done Jennifer.

On 28th October 8 members attended an 'Apple Day' at West Auckland Memorial Hall. Trevor Rogers from the Northern Apple Group brought

along 100 varieties of dessert and cooking apples. A most informative and amusing talk was given on the history, growing, storage and nutritional value of apples followed by a most lively question time.

After lunch Julie Clarkson demonstrated with Yorkshire humour 6 apple recipes and the pies were added to the raffle. It continued to be a most enjoyable day as two members won raffle prizes and Maureen Barker won first prize in the competition for the best Apple Pie. She shared the pie with everyone on returning to Lanchester and it was declared a very worthy winner! Congratulations Maureen.

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TAIZE WORSHIP

Imagine a large church lit only by candlelight; a hushed congregation; a trio of musicians making beautiful music on flute violin and guitar; a choir of male and female voices singing short Taizé chants; thoughtful readings and prayers and you have the ingredients of Taizé worship.

Miss Margaret Walters has for several years arranged a Taizé worship evening in the Parish Church. She assembles a small choir several weeks in advance, made up of anyone who is interested in this form of worship and they practise the special Taizé chants. She selects the readings and the prayers which are used and accompanies the singing on the piano together with Wendy Hughes who plays the flute, Sue Hill who plays the violin, and Ray Hill who plays the guitar. There must be time for reflection and silences in a Taizé service and Margaret builds this into the

worship. An added touch this year were two young people from St James Church Burnopfield talking about the time they had spent last summer at a Taizé camp.

'Peace, perfect peace is the gift of Christ our Lord' are words of a well loved hymn and that is what you experience at a Taizé service. You find peace from the hustle and bustle of the world outside and it does feel like a gift.

The numbers who attend this service increase every year and this year there were 98 people present. Many had come from other churches and I am sure they would take with them some of the peace which was evident in Lanchester Parish Church on Sunday evening, November 15th. Thank you Margaret for all the time you give to make it possible for us to spend time reflecting prayerfully about our Christian faith and our commitment to it.

Brenda Craddock

BOWLS PRESENTATION DINNER



Peter Coulson, President Elect of Bowls Durham (centre) with trophy winners, left to right, Ron Carr, Stan Easten, Dick Ball, Christine Monaghan, Joe Newton and Geoff Peacock. Harry Davison also won an award but did not attend the dinner.

LCC SENIOR PRESENTATION NIGHT

The week following the Junior Presentation night came the Seniors night. Durham Constabulary's Deputy Chief Constable Michael Barton was invited along to make the presentations. After a short speech, he started into the awards with the third team trophy winners as announced by captain Darren Wingfield. Veteran Andy McConnell picked up the batting and catching awards, whilst young Ashton Hughes was the top bowler. Glen Harrison picked up player of the year for his all round contribution.

Second team skipper Steve Murray took some good humoured stick for letting the club down for being the only captain not to lead his team to the league title. Andy Smith was top of the batting averages and should take the league award too in November.

Teenager Hayden Petch was top of the bowling which included a fantastic hat trick against Cowgate. Simon Tweedy held onto most catches for his team and Tony Dumighan picked up player of the year.

First team skipper Stu McPhail was on hand to praise his side's teamwork in their successful fight to win the title and gain promotion.

Paul Underwood was top of the averages and also player of the year after a fantastic season with the bat, but also in the way he encouraged others throughout the season. Chris Robinson had an excellent season with the ball and picked up that award whilst Graham Brinton had a cracking first season with the club and ran everyone close with bat and ball but came away with most catches. There

was a special award for scorer Jason Coates who had served the first team well throughout the season.

Five days later the thirds attended the Hetton Lyons Sunday League presentation night where skipper Darren Wingfield was presented with the second division league trophy and the players picked up their awards. Ashton Hughes picked up the spirit of cricket award for the division. Opposition teams pick the junior player who has played best or acted fairest and Ashton had most nominations through the season. It was a cracking night enjoyed by all.

The first and second teams are due to attend their presentation night at Dunston Fed Brewery's Lancastrian Suite on 21st November to collect quite a few trophies.

Lanchester Bowling Club held its annual awards presentation in the King's Head. Thanks must go to the staff for a delicious meal and friendly efficient service.

Peter Coulson, President Elect of Bowls Durham, presented the club trophies and the all important "thank you" gifts to the wonderful helpers who provide the teas for Saturday and friendly matches. There were also some surprise "Hot Shots" badges and certificates

awarded this year by Ron Cole, our club President. These were from Bowls International magazine for a team that scored eight shots in one end of a rinks team match (a bowls equivalent of a hole in one at golf). Two of our teams achieved this feat last year. Badge winners were David Bailey, Trish Jose, Mike Stoddart, Pat Rose, Neville Hartley, Ken Raper and Joe Newton was awarded two badges as he was in both teams.



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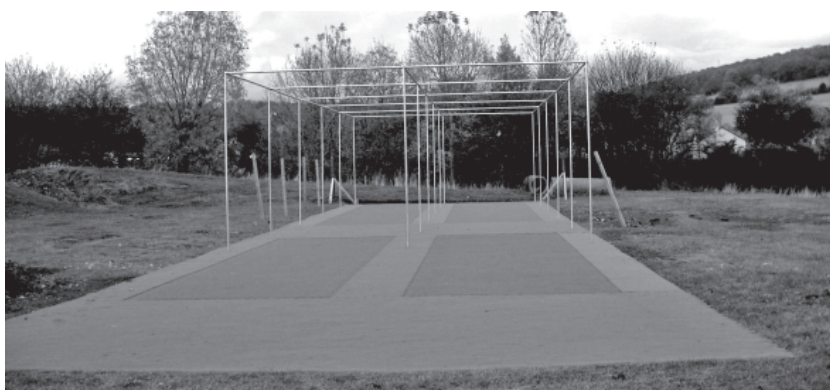
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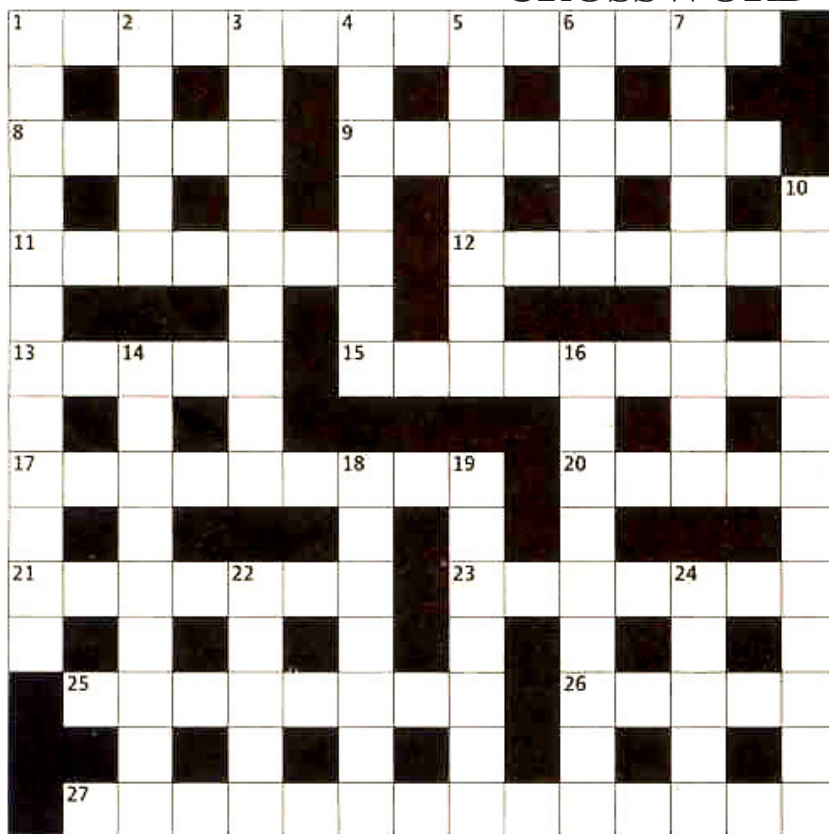
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Lanchester Cricket Club have recently been awarded grants from a number of sources including Sport England and H J Banks. A number of projects will be undertaken, the first being Cricket Nets, just erected. These will be used at the beginning of the next cricket season.

CROSSWORD 43



ACROSS

1. Pickled fish fillet (7,7)
8. See 22
9. If it clay mixture into establishment (8)
11. Boring Rosa and I taken in by bobby (7)
12. Part of ship used for executions (7)
13. Portrait's quality is seen within (5)
- 15,18. Queen Beatrice of the Netherlands (5,4,2,5)
17. Fish sounds like citrus essence (5,4)
20. Shot in the arm (5)
21. Scraps (7)
23. Advent (7)
25. Cut dead (4,4)
26. Parcel lost in transit contains instrument (5)
27. He cheers as heap is shepherd's job (5,4,5)

DOWN

1. Create a tulip and repeat (12)
2. Housey-housey (5)
3. Person with headgear and cane in New York (9)
4. Humourless FA coped (2-5)
5. Make secret points to chapel (7)
6. Monarch (5)
- 7,24. A lion adventure is not worth anything (2,5-2,5)
10. Holby City for example (1,7,4)
14. Hidden weapons (4,5)
16. See 22
18. See 15
19. Flexible (7)
- 22,8,16. Nervous hero, Scot back in a kilt (4,1,3,2,3,6)
24. See 7

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 42

ACROSS

8. thank you
9. prank
10. clan
11. henceforth
12. Titian
14. McCarthy
- 15,20. the back of beyond
17. stubble
20. see 15
22. Erebus
23. headstrong
24. trap
25. Lanza
26. runner-up

DOWN

1. childish
2. anon
3. python
4. surname
5. uppercut
6. favourable
7. sketch
13. inbreeding
16. Croatian
18. laudanum
19. adjourn
21. feeble
22. engine
24. team

CROSSWORD 42

There were 16 entries in last month's crossword competition.

The winner in the draw was Mary Hole of Lee Hill Court who will receive the £10 prize. Maybe you could be a winner in this month's challenge by John Wilson.

Name _____

Address _____

Please send your entries (by deadline date on back page) to The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0JQ.

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SUDOKU

There is just one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. See next month for answers.

		9			6			
8		5	1					
					5		3	7
4						1	8	
		1	4		9			
6			5					
3			7					2
	7			3				
		4			8	5		

TENNIS CLUB GAINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club became the first all-grass court tennis club in the country to be awarded the Clubmark accreditation from the Lawn Tennis Association.

With an all-year round tennis programme being a minimum standard for clubs to achieve Clubmark, it seemed impossible for Lanchester to attain this. However, with vision, fantastic partnership work and hard effort from Dennis Laycock and the Committee, the 3 grass court club was presented with the award on Thursday 5th November. The club had already built links with the Derwentside Leisureworks Sports Development Team and Shotley and Benfieldside Tennis Club prior to

Clubmark, but saw to strengthen the relationships to help gain the accreditation. One of the criteria is to run a coaching and competition programme. This would normally cease in the winter months in Lanchester but with these links it has now been possible to run the programmes at the Louisa Centre, Stanley and at Shotley and Benfieldside Tennis Club. Lanchester also has access to 3 macadam courts behind the Derwentside Sixth Form College that are used for winter league matches and early season coaching. The link with Shotley and Benfieldside has also seen adult members continue their tennis throughout the year and their commitment

proved successful with improved finishing places in the Northumberland and Durham tennis league, especially the mixed veteran's team who won their group. Dennis Laycock, club secretary, was presented with the Clubmark plaque and certificate by Caroline Blincoe from the LTA. Also in attendance were a number of Derwentside Leisureworks representatives, Michael Hume (Community Tennis Coach), Ossie Johnson Parish Council Chairman and Lanchester Tennis Club committee members. The afternoon was a proud moment for everyone concerned, showing what can be achieved by hard work, partnership working and innovative practices.



A proud moment for Lanchester Tennis Club

KIDS OF GOD COFFEE MORNING



Organisers of Kogs (Kids of God) at the Methodist Chapel, getting ready to serve refreshments at their fund raising Coffee Morning

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ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

6	9	3	5	7	8	1	2	4
8	2	4	9	1	3	7	5	6
7	5	1	6	2	4	9	3	8
2	4	9	3	6	1	8	7	5
1	6	7	8	5	9	3	4	2
5	3	8	7	4	2	6	9	1
4	7	2	1	3	6	5	8	9
3	8	6	2	9	5	4	1	7
9	1	5	4	8	7	2	6	3

Christmas Lights

The Christmas Lights on the Village Green will be switched on by Councillor Ossie Johnson, accompanied by children from the two primary schools, on Saturday, November 28th at 6.00pm. Lanchester Brass Band will also be playing, which will create a lovely Christmas atmosphere. Everyone is very welcome to come along to this seasonal annual event.

Red Cross Fund Raising

The Red Cross Shop is having two weeks of fund raising activity. There will be a Coffee Morning from 9.30 am - 11.45 am on 26th November, which will include a huge Tombola. There will be a sale of Jewellery during the Coffee Morning and for the remainder of the day. Beginning on 20th November until 6th December, there will be a Household Sale which will include collectables, books and linen. Please come and support the Red Cross and buy those Christmas bargains.

Christmas Wreath Making

Tiger Lily Florists are holding another popular Christmas wreath making session in the Community Centre on Wednesday 2nd December 6 - 8 pm. The cost is £12.00. To find out more contact Julie or Melissa on 521829. Hurry, places are limited.

Social Club Entertainment

Saturday 5th December, **Holly C**, Great Female Vocalist
Saturday 12th December, **Mikki Lawton**, Great Young Girl Singer
Saturday 19th December, **Karaoke**
Saturday 26th December, **Krockett**, Super Vocalist
Thursday 31st December **Karen McManus**, Fabulous Female Vocalist, Ex Touch

Film Club

The next film show will be on Sunday December 6th, 7.30pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. **I'VE LOVED YOU SO LONG**
A widely acclaimed French film (English subtitles), with superb performances from the entire cast which includes Kristin Scott Thomas.
An intense family drama, a story of redemption and rehabilitation during which a dark secret at the heart of the family is gradually revealed. Juliette and Lea are sisters who have been estranged for 15 years. The film begins with Lea, the much younger sister, picking up her sister Juliette at the airport to bring her back to live with her family.....
All welcome. Members £2 entry, Non-members £3.50.

MP Surgery

Hilary Armstrong will be holding her next advice surgery for constituents on Friday December 11th at 6 pm in Consett Civic Centre.

Black Bull Music Nights

We are still meeting each Sunday evening around 8.15 pm for a good old play and sing song. We enjoy troubadours from all over the region, notably George from Brandon, Ann and Margaret from Newton Aycliffe, Tom from Esh Winning and the prize for the furthest travelled must be Frank, who plays the melodeon magnificently, and sometimes comes over specially, from Brampton! I'm sure though that we could fill the room just with Lancastrians, as there are plenty of talented people in the village! So please pop in and join in, whatever the genre or ability, we're always pleased to see you. And Kelly our landlady, feeds us at break time, which is always appreciated!
Yours Ian (528286)

WI

Our December meeting will be held in the small hall of the Community Centre on Monday 7th December at 7.00pm. The committee will be hosting the evening which will include raffles, entertainment and Loopy Lisa's Fudge. The supper will be as usual a faith supper which is always delicious. If you could bring your contributions already cut it would be a great help. We look forward to seeing you all at this meeting which is always a lovely start to Christmas.

WHAT'S ON?

Lions Christmas Concert

Lanchester Lions Christmas Concert will be held at the EP School on Friday December 11th beginning at 7.00 pm. Taking part will be both primary school choirs, Lanchester Brass Band and some mystery artists. For further information please ring Mark Draper on 529775.

Country Market and Table Top Sale

Members of Lanchester Country Markets will be selling their fine produce in the Community Centre small hall, on Saturday 12th December, from 10 am. This will coincide with the Community Centre Table Top Sale. Come and get your bargains!

Valley Walk Conservation Group

Winter Activity and Barbecue, Sunday, December 6th
Not all hard work!! This could be a 'family' event suitable for adults and young people.
Come and join a work party with the Durham Countryside Ranger, equipment is provided, you just need warm clothes and sensible footwear. We expect to be carrying out winter clearing along the Valley Walk between Malton and the village. Rendezvous, 9.45 am at the Malton car park, or join in some time in the morning (for the coffee break, bring your own!). The plan is to round off the day at 2.30 pm enjoying an open air Barbecue (weather permitting), so bring whatever you fancy cooking and make it fun for all the family.

Activities at Croft View

The following organisations regularly meet at Croft View Halls and would welcome anyone interested in joining in their activities.
Youth Club Monday 7.30 pm contact Mrs Gladstone on 528114.
Badminton Monday 10 am contact Rosemary Naylor on 520087.
Brownies Tuesday 5.45 pm contact Carly Irwin on 07500840122.
Boys' Brigade - Junior Section Wednesday 6pm contact Vicky Davison 521853.
Senior and Company Section Wednesday 7.30pm contact Vicky Davison 521853.
Anchor boys Thursday 6 pm contact Mark Grimes 520481.
Indoor Bowls Friday 1.30 pm contact Robbie Gowland 520697.
Brass Band practises Tuesdays and Sundays contact Susan Hayton 01913733205.
Meanwhile, Croft View Halls are available for hire, either for a one off event or on a regular basis. We have 2 Pool tables, 2 Table Tennis tables and a large sports hall as well as a kitchen and a large carpeted bottom hall.
All interested parties should contact Eric Hepplewhite on 521323 or by email erichepplewhite@btinternet.com.

Beaver Scouts

2nd Annfield Plain Beaver Scouts now has vacancies for new children who would like to join. Beaver Scouts are aged 6 to 8 years, after which most go on to join the Cub Scouts. We meet on Fridays evenings 5.45 until 6.45 pm in the scout hut in Annfield Plain. If your child is interested contact Nadim on 01207 233025.

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Family Wildlife

Lanchester Wildlife Group have organized two more family wildlife walks to get you out of the house on either side of Christmas. Both are on Sunday mornings with return in time for lunch.

For more information about the group and its activities please contact Noel Jackson noelbats@onetel.com 02107 560684 or Elaine Williams 01207 520063

Sunday 13th December. Rainton Meadows. 9.30 am

A visit to the headquarters of Durham Wildlife Trust with a chance to see wildfowl, hares and wildlife of open fields. Meet at Lanchester Community Centre to share cars where possible.

Sunday 17th January 2010. Malton, 10.00 am

A winter visit to our home patch for winter birds, a chance to find out how to identify trees from their buds and some creative wildlife games on the reserve. Meet at Malton car park.

Library Event

There will be an exhibition of paintings in December by Lanchester Art Club

Rowley Organ Recital

Dr Ian Brunt will be giving an Organ Recital at Rowley Baptist Church on Saturday 5th December at 7.00 pm, presenting a seasonal programme of music.

The programme presented is entitled "Our Friends in the North" and features music by Charles Avison of Newcastle (1709-1770), his contemporary John Garth, organist formerly at Sedgfield and Auckland Castle, with other Northerners James Nares and Matthew Camidge (both York Minster) and William Howgill (Whitehaven), illustrating the

Wildlife Group

On Tuesday 8th December at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre, the AGM will be held followed by our usual social.

Short Circuits Walks

12th December, a varied 5 mile walk centred on Causey Arch and Bobgins Burn. Meet at Causey Arch Car Park, NZ 206562. For more information ring Ian Dawson on 0191 2685249.

Villa Real Fayre

Villa Real School is having a Christmas Fayre on December 5th 1-3 pm. Bring your family and friends to enjoy exciting stalls, refreshments - mince pies and ginger wine - and of course the chance to see Father Christmas. Stalls include, fantastic cakes, tombolas, children's games, crafts and pupils' enterprise products.

Christmas Ideas

Ideas for Christmas presents - jewellery and local books for sale in the library.

New Year Ceilidh

Lanchester Wildlife Group presents its annual, very popular, ceilidh on Thursday 31st December in Lanchester Community Centre. Doors open at 7.30 pm and the first dance, led by the 'Angels of the North' ceilidh band begins at 8 pm. Please bring food for a faith supper and also your own drink and glass. Tea/coffee will be provided during supper.

No admittance after 8.30 pm unless by prior arrangement.

All tickets are £7. Contact 520063 or 560684.



Willow Burn Forthcoming Events

Saturday 5th December

Sounds of Christmas at Newcastle City Hall

Featuring the Gibside Singers and compered by Colin Briggs of BBC Look North

Tickets £8 (or) £7 concessions.

Sunday 13th December

Light up a Life Remembrance Service at St Bedes School Lanchester

Contact Willow Burn Hospice for details

01207 523299 or 01207 529224

NEWS FROM LANCHESTER BRIDGE CLUB

Players are enjoying Tuesday evening bridge sessions and have welcomed a few new members who have been learning recently or have moved into the area. Recently there was a charity evening when the total proceeds were split between the local Willow Burn Hospice and The Air Ambulance. £200 was

sent to each. Soon it will be the Christmas Party when there is a 3 course meal supplied by Bells of Washington and then a few rounds of bridge with lots of lovely prizes for the winners (of the bridge and the raffle).

At the evening classes for beginners there is much enthusiasm and much progress already.

The students, having learned the value of the cards and the shape of the hand, are now practising bidding and responding correctly, and then how to play those hands. One hour soon passes. Several of the club members have been helping to make the learning as fun as possible.

SUNDAY BRIDGE

Sunday Bridge is now in its third year and is as popular as ever. On 1st November there were 7 tables of bridge enthusiasts who came along for a enjoyable

an experienced player. The cost is £3.00 per person, which includes tea and biscuits at half time. All proceeds go towards the running of the Community Centre.

Why not come along to the next Bridge Sunday afternoon which will be held on 6th December at 2.00 pm in Lanchester Community Centre.

Sunday afternoon of bridge. Once a month on a Sunday afternoon Lanchester Community Centre organises a Bridge afternoon, everybody is welcome, whether you are a beginner or



Liz Smith, organiser of Sunday Bridge, presents Sam and Linda with their prize for winning the November Sunday Bridge

COMMEMORATING 10 YEARS OF THE VILLAGE VOICE



2004 - Benny Harrison offers rides in his charabanc at the Carnival



2005 - Harry Carr conducts Lanchester Male Voice Choir at their Annual Concert in July



2006 - The first Clean Up Lanchester Day on 1st April. The weather didn't deter our brave litter-pickers and this has now become a successful annual event.



2007 - A section of the crowd watching and enjoying the fireworks at the Lions Bonfire Night in November, always an exciting event



2008 - Our first colour page in July with Angela and Julia from Willow Burn Hospice at a very wet Carnival



2009 - Opening of Bike Track with Councillor Ossie Johnson and Charlotte and Stephanie Walker cutting the tape in May

EARLY DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition by Tuesday 8th December. The deadline for **adverts** is 6th December.

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