

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 6 Volume 11

Lanchester, June 2010

For contact information, see page 2

## GLOOMY WEATHER - LIVELY CARNIVAL

Cool gloomy weather with a cold breeze greeted those who decided to give the World Cup a miss on Carnival day. Was it going to be a vuvuzela free afternoon for them? It was, until enterprising Ged, from Lanchester Hardware, purchased 150. By 3.00 pm he had sold 100. Fortunately, they were not all played at once as has been happening in World Cup matches.

Instead the crowds were treated to some lovely melodic music by our own Lanchester Brass Band and a colourful Lanchester Operatic & Choral Society, dressed in traditional English attire, who sang



*Lanchester Choral and Operatic society singing their hearts out for England with great traditional songs*

football anthems from Newcastle, West Ham and Liverpool, completing their repertoire with some great old spirited English national songs.

It was disappointing not to have a procession this year for the first time in many years.

The Fancy Dress had to be cancelled as there were no entries, and the Line Dancing suffered the same fate due to a car accident to their leader. Despite these setbacks it made no difference at all to what turned out to be a very lively, friendly, convivial Carnival.

There were plenty of stalls, games and things to do for both children and adults. A new exciting addition this year was the Climbing Wall

supplied by Conssett YMCA.

Derwentside Round Table tried to beat the Guinness record for eating Ferrero Rocher chocolates but despite a brave attempt under the scrutiny of judges, Mike Gladstone and Sally Laverick, they failed.

The world cup theme was a masterstroke and guaranteed colour for the day. The team that Lanchester Lions put together for this annual event was brilliant. In addition to themselves (and they are now few in number), they recruited

friends, Derwentside Round Table and Stanley Lions to help. If only England could have done the same.

Glenn Coxon, as well as bringing several classic cars and vans on display in the main street, held the Carnival together as compere and entertainer, helping to enhance the atmosphere for the whole afternoon.

And yes, the sun did come out at about 3.30 pm as people were beginning to drift away.

The profit for the Carnival will be approximately £1500.



*'Peters' for England - Not Martin Peters but the women who smile every time you shop showing their loyalty to England and the Lions Club.*



*Enterprising business man Ged, from Lanchester Hardware demonstrates the vuvuzela.*



*Three out of five winners on the fish stall for these girls is a pretty good ratio.*



## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

The total raised was £3376.52, an increase of over £640 pounds on last year's figure.

A big thank you to all who gave generously to the House-to-house collection, to the collection at the Churches Together service, and supported the coffee mornings at Burnhope and Lanchester. Most of all your generosity will be appreciated by the people of all faiths and none whom Christian Aid is helping both with emergency relief in crises, and in longer-term projects which enable people to become self-supporting.

Judith Brown

## COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for May 2010 is 83. The draw was made by Gemma James of the Gym.

## TO CONTACT THE VILLAGE VOICE

### By email:

lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk (please include Village Voice in the Subject line).

### By post:

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

### To advertise:

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## THE VILLAGE VOICE

## IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

## CALLING ALL BUSINESSES – WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT FOR LANCHESTER VILLAGE GREEN

Lanchester Parish Council has been working on the proposals for improvements to the village green for a period of time and work has included the involvement of the community on suggestions for the improvements.

Proposals include the introduction of a recreational path along the side of the burn on the underused stretch of the village green. This rather sinuous path approximately 130m long would link the existing unused seats on the green and would connect to

paths at the top and bottom thereby creating a circular path around the village. The path which would be wheelchair accessible would allow people easier access along the whole of the green and it is hoped that it would become a much loved short walk by all members of the community. Other developments include surface improvements to an area beside the church, the installation of a Parish Council information board on the main green and the installation of a circular tree seat on the

main green to encourage people to sit and enjoy the most beautiful surroundings. Also included in the development are some necessary tree works to address low limbs' problems and trees in poor condition.

The Parish Council has applied for a grant to help towards the costs of this project and has been offered a grant of up to £12,000 from CDENT (County Durham Environmental Trust). However one of the conditions of the grant is that a 10% contribution is

needed from a third party to be able to draw down the grant money. It is therefore necessary to attract £1200 in third party monies to allow the grant to be used.

Are there any businesses who would be interested in contributing to this amount in part or full to allow this exciting project to go ahead? This is your chance to be involved in a key community project in the heart of Lanchester.

For further information please contact Sally Laverick on 01207 521957. We look forward to hearing from you.

## KATE TINKLER CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

On Friday the 28th of May a group of Kate Tinkler's friends celebrated her 96th birthday in the Shotley Park Care Home, Shotley Bridge.

The care home provided a room and a beautifully decorated table for the feast.

Kate and her friends, Terri Lovell, Margaret

Brown, Freda Smith, Doris Horswell and Mary Nelson, enjoyed a drink of wine, a plate fresh strawberries and, of course, a piece of Kate's birthday cake.

It was a total surprise for Kate on the occasion of her ninety-sixth birthday and she had a lovely time with her friends.



Left to right, back row: M Brown, F Smith, T Lovell, D Horswell;  
front row: K Tinkler, M Nelson.

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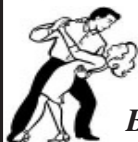


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# LAUNCH OF LOCALITY MAP

A ewe and her two lambs, three very well turned out ponies and riders, as well as a tractor, all under the trees on the Green, added a very rural air to the village on Saturday, 29th May. Passers-by and shoppers swelled the crowd, to about 70 people, attending the launch of the Locality Map, which commenced at 11 am in bright, sunny weather. The Launch began with a speech by Parish Council Chair, Ossie Johnson, who welcomed special guests and all those who had come along to witness this important occasion. The Locality Map, which in reality is a large booklet, is the third document produced by the Parish Council in conjunction with consultants and the Partnership and which deals with the rural community of the Parish. Cllr Johnson thanked those involved, in particular Cllr Keith Harrison and his family who had supported him during the three years of hard work putting the Map together. He also thanked Cllr Mike Wardle who had worked tirelessly to produce funding of £73,000 to pay for a Development Worker to work in the Parish during the next 18 months. Originally it was hoped

that Matt Baker, Presenter of BBC's Country File, would attend the Launch. However, due to work commitments he was unable to do so but his mother, Mrs Janice Baker, who farms just outside the Parish and is County Organiser for the Young Farmers, came in his stead. She, too, thanked those who had helped produce the Map for their dedication and hard work and stressed its importance to the agriculture, conservation and wildlife of the Community and the need to safeguard these for future generations. Matt Baker had sent a letter wishing the Project well and expressing the same sentiments as his mother, then John Gall, a local landowner and President of the History Society, spoke about the history of the local area, mentioning its recovery from coal mining, the former large estates and how the needs of the area have changed since the Romans and will continue to change. He also thanked Steve Scotton for his advice with regard to grants, planning and other aspects of the Map, finishing by saying that the Project would enable people to live happier, better and fuller lives.

After presenting Mrs Baker, Mr Gall and Mr Scotton with a token of appreciation, Cllr Johnson invited everyone to move to Park House, where a delicious spread was laid out. Mrs Harrison, wife of Cllr Harrison, had produced mouth-watering cakes and scones and there were

savouries and beverages too. A large number of people enjoyed these and lively conversation as well as interesting displays produced by the Friends of the Fort, the Partnership, the Wildlife Group (more livestock in the form of tadpoles and other examples of pond life) and a slide show of

the village. Altogether the occasion was very enjoyable with a warm friendly atmosphere and the feeling that this was the start, rather than the completion, of the Map. A statement from Matt Baker apologising for not being able to attend was read out by Janice Baker at the launch event.



*One of speakers, John Gall (centre) with the other speaker Janice Baker and Chair of the Parish Council Ossie Johnson*



*Riders and ponies from Oakwood stables*



*'Romans' - friends of the Fort*



*Councillors, Partnership Members, advisers, etc. connected with the production of the Locality Map with Cllr Johnson centre and our new MP Parish Councillor Pat Glass on his right and Janice Baker on his left.*



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## EIGHT BELLS RING OUT SUCCESSFULLY



*Left to right: Sandy Jackson, Paul Smith, Luke Smith, Stephen Nicholson, Christine Richardson, Kris King, Karen Dickinson, Janet Jackson.*

On a beautiful Bank Holiday Monday morning the bells of Lanchester pealed out over the village. This was the first peal on the ring of eight bells since their augmentation in April 2008. An attempt had been made on Easter Monday 2008 but it failed after an hour's ringing.

The peal was called Plain Bob Major, consisted of

5,040 changes and was completed in two hours and forty minutes. It was conducted by Luke Smith, son of Peter and Jennifer Smith. Luke now lives in Cambridge. Three other ringers from Lanchester were Sandy Jackson, Janet Jackson and Stephen Nicholson. We were helped along by Paul Smith (Consett), Kris King (South Shields),

(Roker, Sunderland) and Karen Dickinson (Roker, Sunderland) who is also the first female President of the Durham & Newcastle Diocesan Association of Church Bellringers.

Following the peal, refreshments were taken at the Queens Head. Long may peal ringing continue in Lanchester. Olga Walker, Tower Captain

## FATHER GEORGE



*All Saints' Catholic church continues its tradition of welcoming visitors from Goa. Father George Racos a colleague of Father Alex, the Director of the seminary in Goa, who visited Lanchester last year, is pictured chatting with Chris Kelly after Sunday Mass.*



# TABLE TOP SALE AND COUNTRY MARKET

Lanchester Community Centre held their latest Table Top Sale alongside Lanchester Country Markets, in the small hall of the Centre, on Saturday the 5th of June. More tables were hired than usual and the general quality of goods on offer was excellent. However, apart from a brisk early morning start, numbers of customers were down, probably due to the brilliant sunshine, which gave people different options to spend their day. Despite this the Community Centre which increased their number of tables, made a profit of £145 for their funds.



*Margorie Dobson, Betty Reed and Graham Dobson (left). Rose Matthews, and Maurice Swift (right) on one of the busier stalls with bric a brac from Margorie's house.*



*Lois Ruffle and colleague from Lanchester Country Markets selling plants, vegetables and fruits which were in season, all of which looked really lovely.*

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*Tea ladies hard at work as usual - scone buttering time?*



*Still some cakes left but not for long. But who was caught eating them?*

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**STRAWBERRIES AND SUNSHINE**

Strawberries and Sunshine was the theme chosen for the Summer Fair at All Saints' Parish Church on Saturday June 12th. The sun was shining, the strawberries gloriously red and juicy, were in plenty, and so the stage was set for a lovely morning of buying and selling, chatting, eating and drinking (coffee or tea of course) There were a

number of stalls displaying tempting offers, bric a brac, cosmetics, tombola, plants, cards, pictures, notebooks, and delicious cakes, scones and buns on the cake stall. Everyone seemed to be smiling, despite parting with their money and a grand total of £608 was raised in just two hours! Mrs Elizabeth Wharton

instigated the idea of a Spring or Summer Fair in addition to our much larger Fair in November, eight years ago and she still organises a team of people to help her with the event. She is very grateful for all the people who work so hard to make it the success that it always is. Well done everyone!

Brenda W Craddock



*All smiles from the raffle sellers as well as the buyers*

**E P SCHOOL BARBECUE**

**School Barbecue**

*Barbecue Smoke pervaded the air  
 Great big Beef Burgers made to share.  
 Loads of people were enjoying the feast  
 While others tried to tame the beast  
 The Bucking Bull was so much fun.  
 Greatly enjoyed by everyone  
 Mrs Davis also had a try  
 But like all others on the mat did lie.  
 What a lot of work had been done  
 To make such successful family fun!*

*Brenda Craddock*

Wednesday 26th May saw the bbq night at the EP Primary School, but this was a bbq with a difference.

The rain stopped right on cue at 5 pm when the cooking started, however the food was not the main attraction.

In the hall there was a terrible beast that had to be tamed, the children found a big rodeo style bucking bronco ready to take on any challenge.

Over the next 2 hours more and more children took turns to cling on with gritty determination, and then the parents and teachers took their turn, (including Mrs Davies, the head teacher), however the children were considerably more successful!

All of the food went down well and the evening was enjoyed by all.  
 Simon Peacock



*How long will she stay on? One of the pupils tries her luck on the 'Bucking Bronco'.*

# COUNTY DURHAM ENVIRONMENT AWARDS KITSWELL PARK BIKE TRACK SUCCESS

The County Durham Environment Awards ceremony took place on Monday 24th May at The Gala Theatre, Durham.

Kitswell Park Bike Track and Play Area had been nominated in the Community Partnership category and the representatives from Lanchester Parish Council, Lanchester Partnership and Southern Green Ltd attended the awards ceremony.

Everyone was delighted when the project was awarded the Community Partnership Award. The Community Partnership Award is given by Durham County Council in recognition of the commitment of all parties involved in successfully delivering the scheme to the benefit of the local community.

The project, which was initiated and to a large extent led by the young people, was made possible through the positive partnership of the Parish Council, the Partnership, the young people's working group, Southern Green Ltd and G & B Civil Engineering Limited.

Kitswell Park Bike Track and Play Area is maintained and managed by Lanchester Parish Council and provides a beginner and advanced bike track, teen play equipment and an under 5's play area.



*Left to right: Nick Laverick, Victoria Cebell, Emily Morris, Simon Green, Councillor Ossie Johnson, Councillor Keith Harrison, Mike Gladstone, Jill Gladstone and Councillor Mike Wardle with the awards.*

## FUN DAY AT THE QUEENS

Proprietors at the Queens decided to have a 'Family Fun Day' in the car park on Saturday afternoon, the 12th of June, at fairly short notice. They had some lovely things for families to enjoy and it was a pity that there were not more people who attended. There was the usual face painting which is always popular with families and their children as well as a huge slide and bouncy castle. The different events from the usual summer fayre were the little Shetland pony for rides, Sumo wrestling and Birds of Prey which children, who plucked up the courage, could hold for photograph to be taken.



*Joanne and Dan, who are the proprietors, and daughter Lilly, being taken for a ride with the frisky Shetland pony*

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# VOCAL WEEKEND AT CONSETT MUSIC FESTIVAL

The second weekend at the 86th Consett Music Festival brought success to the competitors from the village.

The Lanchester EP School Infant Choir beat off fierce competition to win both the Hymn Singing and Unison Song classes. The adjudicator Mary Powney awarded them the trophies for both the set test pieces and their own choice of music. The Lanchester EP School Junior Choir carried off more trophies, making it an exciting morning for the children and their supporters.



*The successful Lanchester EP School Choirs with the eight trophies they won at Consett Music Festival.*

Another of the Lanchester success stories was thirteen year old Ellie Caile, currently a pupil at St Bede's School. Ellie (pictured right) won the Lilian Dale Girl's Solo trophy and the Consett Theatre Workshop Junior Modern Musical trophy. She was also runner up in the Folk Song class.



*Ellie Caile poses with the cups she won for the Lilian Dale Girl's Solo trophy and the Consett Theatre Workshop Junior Modern Musical trophy..*

## THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

On Sunday June 6th St Cuthbert's Church in Shotley Bridge, was full to capacity for the confirmation of 33 children and adults. Bishop Mark, the Bishop of Jarrow, conducted the Confirmation Service and made this 'Rite of Passage' in the Christian Faith very meaningful for all concerned. Parents, godparents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, proudly

looked on while the candidates were presented to the Bishop, who laid his hands on their heads and symbolically filled them with the Holy Spirit. In effect this will enable them to live lives pleasing to God and ultimately help make the world a better place.

Fourteen of the confirmation candidates were from All Saints Parish Church and a

number of these were from our own EP School, namely Millie Days, Erin Densham, Ellie Jenkins, Ryan Johnson, James Kirby, Adam Moran, Kevin Moran, Jacob Raynor and Chloe Taylor. Annabelle Simpson, who is a server at our Church was also confirmed. We are proud of all these young people for making this very important commitment to their faith. Brenda W Craddock



*Some of those who were confirmed at St Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside, by Bishop Mark of Jarrow, on Sunday 6th June. Left to right: Ellie Jenkins; Erin Densham; Chloe Taylor; Millie Days; James Kirby and Andrea Days. Canon Peter Waterhouse joins the communicants for the photograph.*

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## PARKING PROBLEM?



*What parking problem in Lanchester?*

## FLOOD WARDEN SCHEME

The County Durham and Darlington Civil Contingencies Unit together with the Environment Agency have held a number of meetings in Lanchester to set up a Flood Warden Scheme. The Scheme has the support of the County Council and the Parish Council and will hopefully be going live very shortly. Flood Wardens are simply people who have an interest in their

community and a knowledge of the people. They help to reduce the impact of flooding by reporting problems such as blocked drains and culverts and in the event of a flood situation would be activated to alert residents in the village. One of the most damaging things about flooding is the psychological impact on people who are affected and Flood Wardens help with

reassurance and support. One of the first tasks for the Wardens would be to put together a very simple Flood Plan for their village to cover some of the risk areas and how the village might effectively respond. If you are interested in supporting the Scheme and would like an information pack please contact the County Durham and Darlington Civil Contingencies Unit on 01388 824030.

## NEW BABY



*Left to right, Grandma Heather Murray, Mum Brigitte Murray with Amber Mae (born May 10th), Grandma Jean Rom,*

*Grandad Ian Murray, Dad Alastair Murray at the back.*

*Grandma Jean's journey from Sydney was delayed over 2 weeks due to the lava ash problems, but clever Amber delayed her entry to this life by over 2 weeks which maximised Jean's time over here and she returned to Sydney on the 13th of June.*

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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8.6.2010

Cllr Johnson welcomed to the meeting David Battensby (Durham CC), Andy Coulthard (Area Action Partnership) and Maxine Stubbs (Durham Police) who had come to discuss proposals for the **Gateway Scheme** in the Parish. This scheme aims to restrict the speed of motorists entering a restricted speed zone. The measures taken are decided in consultation with the public, the Parish Councils and the above three bodies. Much discussion took place between members and the visitors, who had looked at the main entrances into the village, Durham Road, the A691 from Consett, Cadger Bank, Maiden Law Bank, Newbiggen Lane, Ford Road and Peth Bank. Various

suggestions were made, such as dragons' teeth and other markings on the road, bollards and other means of 'narrowing' the appearance of the road, to slow down motorists and make them aware that they were approaching the village. It was pointed out that as this is a country village, obtrusive markings and signs would be out of place and may frighten horses being ridden along the roads. It was stressed by Mr Battensby and Ms Stubbs that this is to be a community project and one of the methods of making the motorists aware of their speed is the use of portable speed monitors which are used by volunteers in conjunction with the

Police to record a vehicle's speed. If a driver is exceeding the limit, a warning is given and records kept. It was agreed that a working party should be set up to work with the Authorities.

**Speed Visors.** Mr Battensby informed members that the use of permanent speed visors in the County is to be phased out as it is believed that after a while they become ineffective and that portable speed monitors are to be used in the future.

**Police Report:** There had been no burglaries during the period 1st to 31st May, no bogus callers and no alcohol seizures. However, there were 5 reports of vehicle nuisance and 12 reports of rowdy/inconsiderate

behaviour. There were also 3 reports of criminal damage and 4 thefts.

Current Community Operations are Operation Weyhill which is a joint police, police dog and HMRC operation relating to possible substance misuse/possible illicit alcohol being sold in pubs and clubs and Operation Livorno which is tackling street drinking through all wards in the Consett area. Police Traffic Management attended Front Street, Lanchester, and other areas on 13th May and performed a site survey regarding parking complaints; warning notices have been sent where necessary. Two PCSOs have been appointed to specifically deal with Community Safety issues such as Farmwatch and Hate Crimes.

Members were dismayed to learn that the police will now only attend Parish Council meetings at the request of the Chair for specific reasons; police reports will be emailed to the Clerk in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that a PCSO should be requested to attend the meetings bi-monthly as the relationship between the Police and the Community was important and, in fact, this is why the PCSOs had been appointed.

**Correspondence:** Durham County Council Parish and Town Councils Conference. Cllr Burton agreed to attend.

Request from resident to park on land; it was agreed that this annual agreement should be

renewed subject to the same criteria.

LINK County Durham newsletter. The Clerk stated that this was available in the Office. Durham County Council Development Plan. As the consultation process begins on 11th June and the document is 130 pages, it was agreed that this would be sent electronically to members before discussion at the next Parish Council Meeting and that other Parish Councils be asked to attend. It was agreed that the Lanchester Partnership should be invited to join the Planning Sub-Committee in discussing this document; the document appears to contain very little regarding the needs of West Durham.

North Pennines AONB Partnership - Building Design Guide and Planning Guidelines consultation. Again it was agreed that the document should be sent electronically and that the matter put on the agenda of the next Planning Meeting.

**Area Action Partnership (AAP) Parish Councils Committee (PCC).** Cllr Burton urged Members to attend the AAP's Forum which could be held the following evening at 6 pm in the EP School hall, when the AAP would decide on things to be done and look at the Working Groups, what they had achieved and their future within the AAP. There was also a report from the PCC on the Neighbourhood Warden Scheme which has been set up in East Durham,

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# PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - CONTINUED

where wardens look into environment issues including Antisocial behaviour, each warden having their own area and working under the umbrella of the police.

**Locality Map:** It was agreed that the Launch on 29th May went off exceptionally well. Confirmation of funding for the Development Worker, to start in October, is awaited.

**Annual Report 2009/10:** The draft report was

approved although it was suggested that a photograph of members should be included as this had been a team effort. It is to be distributed with Top Banana on 29th June.

**County Durham Environment Awards 2009:**

Kitswell Park Bike Track project has received yet another award, that for Community Partnership. The certificate and trophy were presented at

the end of May. The Chair stated that a lot of effort by a lot of people had been made and especially thanked Cllr Harrison. The Clerk is to do a Press release.

**Financial Information:** The monthly report was approved by members, as were the **Accounts for Payment.**

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday, the 13th of July, at 7.15 pm in the Conference Room, Park House, Lanchester.

## Gardening in July

The four weeks from middle of June to middle of July are my favourite of the year as it's light early in the morning and still light at 10.00 pm. It's not just the flowers, soft fruits and vegetables that are growing and doing well this month, weeds are popping up everywhere too. So, keep on top of your tasks and you will enjoy all of your hard work of sowing and planting of the previous two months even more. Cut off faded flower heads on your lupins, delphiniums and roses which will encourage further flower heads later in the summer and spend time tidying bedding, pulling up weeds, keeping your hedges in trim and giving your pots and plants a welcome drink as and when it becomes necessary.

### Borders

Roses were voted last year the gardener's favourite summer plant suggesting that both their scent and long flowering period give them this position. So, apart from weeding rose beds and dead heading, give your roses a mid-summer feed this month (or even an extra mulch) and, if we

have a hot, dry spell, they will appreciate a thorough soaking once or twice a week. Sweet peas were voted the second favourite and these can also be kept flowering for a long period so long as you keep picking the blooms and have a good watering regime. At the height of summer your patio pots and hanging baskets will be reaching their peak. A high potash fertiliser (like tomato fertiliser) will help them to maintain their peak. It's not too late to sow biennials like Bellis (Double Daisy), wallflower and viola for flowering next spring so long as you do it early in the month. It is a good time to take cuttings of fuchsias and zonal pelargoniums which root readily now: it gives them time to develop good root systems before overwintering in a frost free environment. I particularly like to train fuchsia cuttings into standards for next year by pinching out the side shoots when they appear so as to make tall plants.

### Vegetable Plot

July is a good time for harvesting both fruit and vegetables as they

become available. It is the time to pick a final crop of rhubarb and give the plants a liquid feed. Most cane fruits including summer raspberries, loganberries and blackberries will now have vigorous new canes growing which will bear next year's fruit so tie these shoots to their supports. Train, feed and water your tomato plants regularly. Harvest broad beans whilst they are still young and the skins are soft and pinch out the growing tips of runner beans to stop them when they reach the top of their supports. Finally, use fine netting to cover soft fruit (currants, gooseberries and strawberries) to keep the birds off, and brassicas (cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli) to keep cabbage white butterflies away.

### General

In July, your watering schedule must continue and water early or late to avoid sun scorch. Feed your house plants and orchids every week and water newly planted trees shrubs and perennials until they are well established. Cut your lawns as necessary not forgetting to trim the edges.

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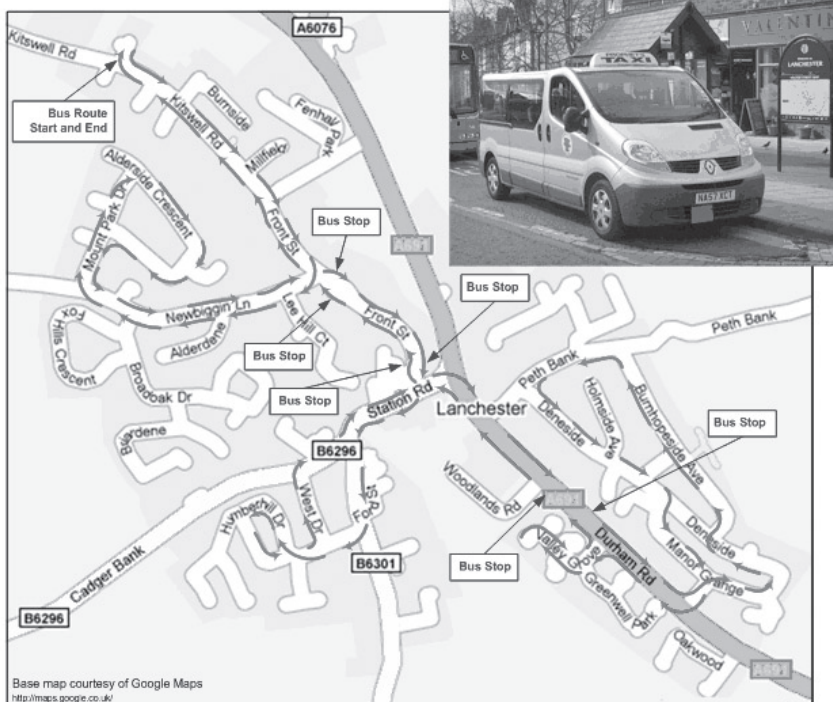
The Village Link bus service helps members of the public, including those who are elderly or infirm, get around the village. It runs from Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays) from 9.40 am until 1.40 pm. It picks up and sets down passengers at any safe point along the line of route except on Lanchester Front Street and Durham Road where it uses the normal bus stops.

It makes 8 runs a day. 6 of these are funded by voluntary contributions and commissioned by the Lanchester Partnership. 2 are funded and commissioned by the County Council. All are operated by Prophet Private Hire.

The basic fare is 60p, but usual concessions apply.

### Route

**Kitswell Road (Cemetery), Newbiggen Lane, Mount Park Drive, Alderside Crescent, Mount Park Drive, Newbiggen Lane, Front Street, Station Road, Ford Road, West Drive, Humberhill Drive, Watling Way, West Drive, Ford Road, Station Road, Durham Road, Manor Grange, Burnhopeside Avenue, Peth Bank, Deneside, Manor Grange, Durham Road, Valley Grove, Durham Road, Front Street, Kitswell Road.**



### Timetable

Kitswell Road

(Cemetery) Depart	09.40	10.10	10.40	11.10	11.40	12.10	12.40	13.10
Newbiggen Lane								
(Library)	09.43	10.13	10.43	11.13	11.43	12.13	12.43	13.13
Alderside Crescent	09.45	10.15	10.45	11.15	11.45	12.15	12.45	13.15
Front Street (Green)	09.48	10.18	10.48	11.18	11.48	12.18	12.48	13.18
Humberhill Drive	09.51	10.21	10.51	11.21	11.51	12.21	12.51	13.21
Station Road	09.55	10.25	10.55	11.25	11.55	12.25	12.55	13.25
Burnhopeside Ave	10.00	10.30	11.00	11.30	12.00	12.30	13.00	13.30
Valley Grove	10.03	10.33	11.03	11.33	12.03	12.33	13.03	13.33
Front Street (Green)	10.05	10.35	11.05	11.35	12.05	12.35	13.05	13.35
Kitswell Road								
(Cemetery) Arrive	10.08	10.38	11.08	11.38	12.08	12.38	13.08	13.38

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# LANCHESTER BRASS BAND

Lanchester Brass Band has existed for approximately 20 years and during that time has given some excellent concerts in the village. They are sponsored by the Village Voice, for which they are very grateful and they are also very grateful to the Methodist Church for the use of a small room above Croft View Hall where they practise for 2 hours twice a week.

People have come and gone over the years but there are some very dedicated members who have made sure that 'the band plays on'. Mrs Cath Johnson is one of those people and she has encouraged, cajoled, organised, and given instrument tuition for many years. She plays the cornet and travels from Burnopfield with her son Chris, who also plays the cornet. Cath is the Treasurer of the band.

A number of conductors have led the band but at the present time Mr Robert Vallance holds the baton. Rob lives in Durham and also plays the cornet in the Reg Vardy band. He has played an instrument since early school days and is a keen and talented musician. He aims to make the band the best it can possibly be and the band members work hard to fulfil his aspirations. Pictured are Rob the conductor, Cath the Treasurer, Helen Griffiths Secretary who lives in Lanchester, James Wafer with his cornet. He lives in Lanchester and attends St Bede's School.

If you wish to book the band for any occasion, ring the secretary who will be pleased to help you, (01207 528540 [lanchesterbrassband@googlemail.com](mailto:lanchesterbrassband@googlemail.com)) There is also a website giving details of the band. [www.lanchesterbrassband.org.uk](http://www.lanchesterbrassband.org.uk)

Brenda W Craddock



*Rob Vallance, Conductor*



*Cath Johnson, Treasurer*



*Helen Griffiths, Secretary*



*James Wafer, Cornet*



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# LANCHESTER HISTORY SOCIETY OUTING



*Local History Society members ready for their trip on the Weardale Railway*

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Following an earlier meeting when the Society was given a very interesting talk on the history and work of the Weardale Railway, it was decided that this year's outdoor meeting should be a journey on the railway itself. Consequently arrangements were made for members to meet at Wolsingham station on Saturday, 5th June, to make the short trip to Stanhope, with a couple of hours or so to be spent in Stanhope before returning to Wolsingham. It was also planned that we would be given a short talk about the Railway at Stanhope. However, on arrival at Wolsingham, members were informed that, due to a change of time of departure by the Railway organisers, we would have to wait a while but then have a longer journey, at no extra charge, all the way to Bishop Auckland and back. This was on the recently opened (23rd May) section of the line, and the journey was lovely. We passed through Frosterley and Witton-le-Wear, through

countryside not seen when driving round this area. The sun was shining and the hawthorn blossom on the side of the line was beautiful. John Asquith, Archivist for the Railway, pointed out places of historical and geographical interest along the way. The journey took about half an hour and much to our surprise the platform was crowded with people waiting to make the journey back to Stanhope. By the time we arrived in Stanhope there was much less time to spare, but we enjoyed a pleasant lunch and a wander round the gallery before catching the train, hauled by a diesel engine, for our return. It was a really relaxing, enjoyable outing and I am sure many members will want to repeat the journey. Indeed, it is now possible to travel on this line as far as Darlington to join the main line to London and further. There are seven trains a day during the week, five at weekends, so anything is possible. It was a truly enjoyable summer outing.

## FATHERS' DAY CELEBRATIONS



*Local fathers and grandfathers enjoy a hearty  
Father's Day Lunch prepared and served at  
Lanchester All Saints RC School on  
Thursday 17th June.*

# GOOD AND BAD NEWS FOR WILLOW BURN

## St Bede's Sixth Form's Magnificent Achievement for Willow Burn Hospice

At the year 13 leavers' achievement; the students celebration, led by Canon Spence, on 28th May, St Bede's Sixth Form were delighted to welcome Helen Mills from Willow Burn Hospice. The sixth form often runs fundraising events to benefit the Hospice and just in the last year the students have organised a 21st birthday celebration ceilidh for Willow Burn; held coffee mornings; fancy dress days and raffles. These efforts have resulted in a truly magnificent

achievement; the students were able to present a cheque to Willow Burn for £5,000. The Hospice will be able to use this donation to help more terminally ill people and their families cope with their emotional journey, so it is certainly a deserving cause.

Mrs Matthews, Head teacher, said, "We are so proud of our young people who unselfishly give their time, energy and support to the wider community. They have thrown themselves



Members of the Sixth form student council help Mrs Matthews present the cheque to Helen Mills, overlooked by Canon Spence.

enthusiastically into every fundraising activity, the last and most enjoyable being the ceilidh, which have decided that this brought together the huge sum will be our whole community. We target every year."

## Why the Willows were weeping on their 21st birthday

Days before Willow Burn celebrated its 21st birthday, thieves struck a devastating blow to the fundraising activities due to take place. Margaret Toberty, Fundraising and Marketing Manager arrived at Willow Burn's storage facility (on loan from a local business) to discover that thieves had struck over the bank holiday weekend and had stolen the majority of the generously donated items that were due to be raffled at the

birthday celebrations. The Fundraising team approached local businesses that were able to help save the day so that the event could still go ahead otherwise the party may have had to be cancelled. Businesses that rallied round to replace the stolen donations were, Tesco Stores in Annfield Plain and Consett, Elldis Transport, Delves Lane, Consett, AquaJoy Bathlifts Ltd, Consett, Lanchester Wines, Greencroft and local

community groups. Sadly the theft of these donated items will also have a huge impact on forthcoming events such as the Summer Fair on 24th July as many of the stolen items were also raffle and tombola prizes to be used at this event. Both are big fundraising stalls for Willow Burn. If you can help and have any new but unwanted gifts and are willing to donate them to Willow Burn to help raise funds for this vital cause

please contact Angela Margaret Toberty on Lowes on 01207 523295 01207 523299 or alowes@willowburn mtoberty@willowburn hospice.org.uk or hospice.org.uk

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Maureen Greaves (left) and Margaret Toberty of Willow Burn, dismayed at finding the storage facility empty.

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# PUNCH AND JUDY



*EP school pupils engrossed in Punch and Judy*

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There was plenty of punch, in the performance of a very special Punch and Judy Show in the EP School on May 18th and it was obvious by their enthusiastic response, that the pupils thoroughly enjoyed it. It was not just for fun of course, for as we have come to expect at this school, all the fun activities have educational value.

The 'Punch and Judy Show' is a husband and wife team who have taken their show to many different locations. The 'business' is in the family because 'Professor Brian Llewellyn', as he is known in the business, took over Punch and Judy from his father. As a young boy he followed his father everywhere with the show so he was well acquainted with it. At first he only went out to entertain but had so many bookings that in 1988 he gave up his day job to run a full time business. He has gone from strength to strength and has travelled all over the British Isles and in more distant places, which is proof enough of his success. He is a very good person to hire for birthday parties, club events, summer fairs, discos, Christmas activities, and end of term treats to name a few. 'Big or small we do them all' is the slogan the business uses.

The business also includes Marilyn the wife

of Professor Llewellyn. She does face-painting at events and makes novelty balloons, which are always popular with children of course. It is definitely a partnership of dedication and love for the work they do. If you are interested in booking this enterprising and charming pair I can give you his details. Ring me or e-mail me (01207 520749 or SCCofCMF@aol.com) The educational value of the Punch and Judy show was shown before and after the presentation. The 'Professor' talked to the pupils about what they were going to see and explained something of the history of puppet making and how 'Punch and Judy' shows came into existence which made everything they saw meaningful. After the performance he invited questions and inevitably this led to queries about the characters and the traditional Punch and Judy story, inclusive of the baby, the Policeman and the crocodile.

No doubt feedback from the show would be extended into the classroom and I am sure that puppet making, creative story writing, and creative art work will be included in the resulting activities in the classroom. As I have said 'Punch and Judy' was not just for fun!

Brenda W Craddock



*'Professor' Brian Llewellyn and his wife Marilyn*

## NOT SUCH A 'HARD KNOCK LIFE' FOR AMY!

The Gala Theatre in Durham was the venue for a performance of the musical 'Annie' in June, starring a Lanchester school girl. Amy George, who is in Year 5 at All Saints' RC School in the village, took the title role in the Gala Theatre Stage School production. She auditioned for the part back in March alongside over 100 other youngsters and was delighted to be given the coveted lead role. Amy, who lives in Satley, said, 'The audition was very nerve wracking. I was shaking with nerves! There were lots of other people who were really good so I was very surprised when I got the part. When the director read out my name I was lost for words!' Annie tells the story of an orphan who is deserted in an orphanage run by the wicked Miss Hannigan. Annie escapes to an easier life outside during the great depression, where 'Tomorrow' is always

brighter because of hope - and a certain stray dog, Sandy, who tags along for the fun. When she is returned to the orphanage she escapes again and her life is changed when she enters into the world of millionaire Daddy Warbucks.

The show, as with all Gala Theatre Stage School productions, was highly professional, with extravagant sets, a professional orchestra and all the technical knowledge and experience of the theatre staff. The performances were spellbinding with each character being perfectly cast and performed by an incredibly talented group of people ranging in age from 7 years to 19 years. Not to mention, of course, a talented, obedient and very cute dog called Bungle who played Annie's faithful companion 'Sandy'.

The show, which ran for four performances on the 5th and 6th of June, was sold out and enjoyed

standing ovations. The biggest cheer being reserved for Amy who, as Annie, ran down the magnificent staircase in Daddy Warbucks' mansion to take her final bow. This was very well deserved - Amy's performance was fantastic and all were agreed that she was a star in the making. Amy said, 'When I ran down the stairs and saw everyone standing and heard them cheering for me, it felt absolutely amazing.'

The Gala Theatre Stage School's next production will be Disney's Beauty and the Beast in August, involving Amy's older sister Charlotte. For Amy, her next challenge is to

play 'Maggie' in All Saints' RC School play 'Archibald's War' which will be staged on the 19th and 20th July. Break a leg, Amy! Claire Hogarth

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Amy George, a pupil of All Saints' School, in the lead role of 'Annie' in the Gala Theatre Stage School production of the musical.



# THURSDAY CLUB 30TH ANNIVERSARY OUTING TO KIELDER

As we pulled out of the village with the sun splitting the skies overhead, things looked set for a good day. We were on our way to Kielder Water via The Pheasant at Stannersburn for lunch. Just past Hexham at about the half way mark we called into The George at Chollerford for morning coffee/tea. The George commands a spectacular position by the bridge spanning the North Tyne - a superb riverside setting in which to while away a quiet half hour. We were soon on our way again up into the magnificent Northumberland countryside with views to die for at every turn. The Pheasant at Stannersburn is a family owned and run country pub and restaurant, with owner Robin being head chef. Their restaurant,



*Thursday Club ladies pose for their lunchtime photo opportunity*

normally reserved for evenings only, had been specially opened up at

lunchtime just for us, and between it and the cosy bar comfortably accommodated us all. We had been given the choice of their whole menu so lunches were very varied as well as perfect. Food at The Pheasant is exceptional every time we go! After a sunny photo opportunity outside we

were on our way up to Leaplish Waterside Park - a few to go walking, most of us to board the Osprey for a cruise around the Mediterranean-blue Kielder Water - quite idyllic, hoping for a sighting of the ospreys (we did see the nest site) but were only rewarded with seeing a buzzard

gliding serenely on the air thermals above the forest.

Once back on dry land it was time for a little afternoon indulgence, cake or scone with tea/coffee and then we were boarding the bus to bring us home to the end of what can only be described as 'a perfect day'.

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## WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed everyone before thanking all the members who had stepped in and done such a good job of taking the May meeting while four of us enjoyed our holiday in Jersey. Jessie Goodall gave a very funny reading called "A Right Royal Do" about what would happen if the Queen visited Lanchester WI which involved many of the members and much flag waving. June Wallis led us in singing Happy Birthday to Jennifer who was 21 again. Jennifer read out the correspondence and lists were displayed for a night out at Spennymoor on September 29th and for the group meeting on August 20th where the speaker will be Dennis Donnelly whose talk has the intriguing title "The Polar Bear and its place in Maori Culture". The raffle winners were Mavis Parker from Castleside WI, Maureen Barker and Muriel Gibbons. The

competition for a piece of silver jewellery was won by Heather Muir with Margery Raper second.

Our speaker for the evening was Sandra Burton who shared with us how she started her working life teaching Art and Design and progressed over the years into managing courses for a huge number of adults covering basic skills to university entrance level and everything in between. During these years she had always made jewellery for herself, family and friends so when 2 years ago she was offered early retirement from her very stressful job she took the opportunity and encouraged by family and friends, retired and changed her hobby into a business. Sandra's love in what she does and the pleasure she gets out of creating her jewellery in which she uses only best quality silver and semi precious stones was clear as she explained to us the



*Members admiring the lovely handcrafted silver jewellery of Sandra Burton*

techniques and tools she uses and how she spends many hours going to bead fairs and on-line to source unusual and rare beads and stones. Sandra told us she has never regretted her decision because she loves what she is doing, she can now work to suit herself and now sells to shops and at craft fairs. We were the first WI she has spoken to and we all really enjoyed listening to a lady who had the confidence to turn her

life round and turn a dream into reality. Sandra answered questions which included which is the best way to keep silver jewellery from tarnishing and it is to wear it or keep it stored in a box but if

you need to clean it use a silver cloth.

Jennifer gave the vote of thanks, then we had the chance to examine and buy Sandra's jewellery and enjoy our strawberries, cream and cake.

## THEATRE GROUP OFF AGAIN



*Pam Bygate's Theatre Group about to set off for a performance of 'The Dresser'. As one of the members who shall be nameless said, "Maybe The Undresser would have been more appealing"!*



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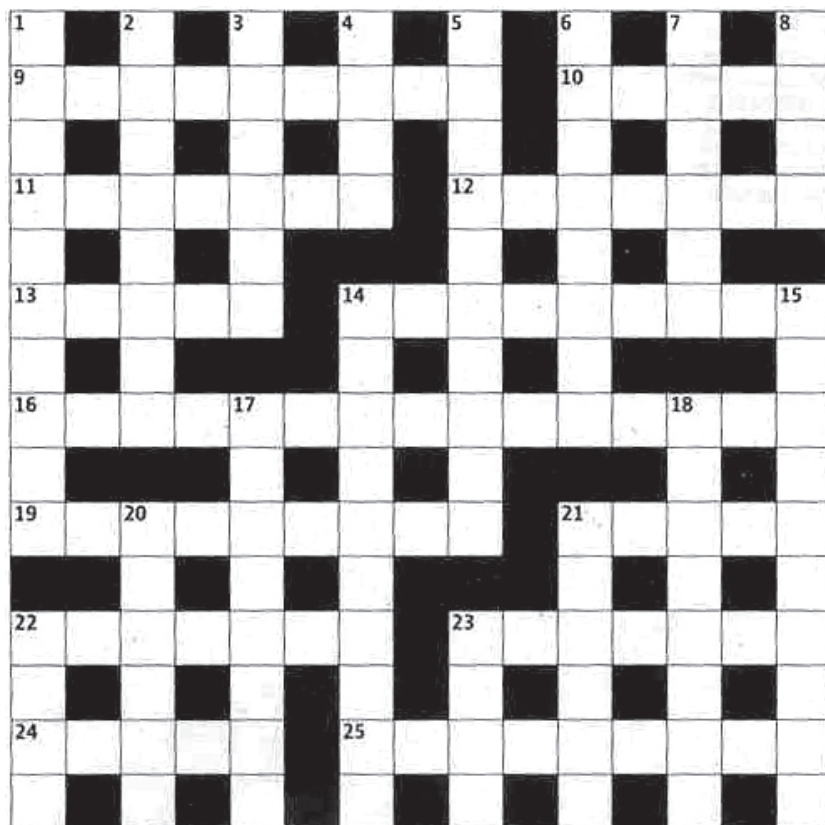


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# CROSSWORD 50



## ACROSS

9. Jewish Day of Atonement (3,6)
10. Twist in rich elixir (5)
11. Indirect (7)
12. Founder of the Jewish race (7)
13. Tie with the French upper class (5)
14. Liberal dizzy nude takes in fixed amount of work (9)
16. Maybe "Chez Nous" "Dunroamin" or "Sweet Repose" (10,5)
19. Molten emu gets reward (9)
21. Book for collection (5)
22. Holey tights (7)
23. Boom (7)
24. Nike's yarn twist (5)
25. Neat (9)

## DOWN

1. Side from upset Honey (10)
2. Paint lime on us (8)
3. Near the knuckle (6)
4. Sword (4)
5. Newspaper with wide coverage? (10)
6. Promptly (8)
7. Trite (3,3)
8. Short test (4)
14. Routine (10)
15. Sacred dram makes poker player's day (5,5)
17. Widow's weeds (8)
18. Rub a tiny charm (8)
- 20,23. Pearl plots perhaps (6,4)
21. Cancels (6)
22. Kung fu sessions produce bond (4)
23. See 20

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 49

### ACROSS

1. transport
9. joyous
10. ineptness
11. in fact
12. foolhardy
13. chicle
17. pen pal
19. bonanza
20. uranium
21. lob
23. ullage
27. attrition
28. fogeys
29. cantaloup
30. Canute
32. stamp duty

### DOWN

2. ransom
3. napalm
4. Punjab
5. residue
6. Roundhead
7. monarchic
8. isotherms
14. about-face
15. inelegant
16. Anaglypta
17. see 17 across
18. nub
22. outcast
24. pro tem
25. stolid
26. robust

## CROSSWORD 49

There were 15 entries in the May competition. The winning entry in the draw was sent in by Ann Lee of The Garths who will receive the £10 prize. Test your skill and see if you could be a winner in John Wilson's challenge this month.

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 0PB.

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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.

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

## CONSERVATION WORK



*Lanchester Valley Conservation Group, with Durham County Council Ranger Service, weave willow strips to contain the river bank at Malton, on Sunday June 6th.*

## CRICKET NEWS

It's been a good solid start for all three senior teams despite their elevation to higher divisions. The firsts set off really well winning their first four fixtures with Durham Uni student Luke Blackaby hitting an unbeaten 141 at Percy Main and regular top run maker Paul Underwood having made two scores in the nineties. Masoud Mirza has already taken 22 wickets including a fantastic 7 for 7 runs at Percy Main. After a stumble of two defeats normal service was resumed with a big win over Chopwell.

The seconds were soundly thrashed in their opening fixture at Ashington and could only tie their next game, but five straight wins have followed to propel the side towards the top of the table. Andy Smith returned

from injury after missing the opening fixtures to score an unbeaten century against Shotley Bridge. Teenager Ashton Hughes has made the step up from the thirds and has taken 19 wickets.

The thirds have had problems with the weather only managing to complete three games, but all three have resulted in comfortable wins leaving them top of the table.

The under 18s lost their opening fixture against title rivals Blaydon but they have won all the games that have followed. Highlight of the season was when Mattie Callaghan took a hat trick in the game against Consett.

The under 15s have won two from five matches despite having one of the youngest sides in the league. The under 13s are

the toast of the club with a one hundred per cent record recently beating a very strong South Northumberland side in the process. The under 11s share a similar record to the 15s, but it's more about the enjoyment of the game for them.

Off the field, the Marie Curie day will be on August 1st, with a novices cricket competition featuring teams from the Police, Fire and Courts as well as teams drawn from local resources. Feel free to come along and join the craic and contribute a little towards a very worthwhile cause.

Don't forget you can book the club for an event free of charge or just enjoy a pint in the sunshine (fingers crossed) whilst enjoying a good game of cricket, with matches most nights of the week.

## K O FOR BOWLS CLUB

For some unknown reason for the last few years, Lanchester Bowling Club has been defeated in the first round of the knock-out competitions. So far this year has proved no exception. Despite winning against View Lane (Stanley) 10-0 on Saturday

June 12th and again on the following Monday 8-2, we suffered a defeat to the same club in the North West Durham League Cup on Wednesday evening; all rather disappointing considering the Wednesday team has got back to winning ways recently.

As luck would have it, the club had to play Dipton on three consecutive dates this month. We suffered defeats in each game against this powerful club. Fortunately for club morale we did better against South Moor winning two out of three matches.

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### ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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



## **Dora's Wood - Anniversary Preparations**

Ten years ago, as part of the millennium celebrations, members of Lanchester community came together to design and plant a wood in the heart of the village. Our wood is now flourishing and the field of once knee-high saplings have really matured and are teaming with wildlife.

To celebrate this wonderful addition to the village we're planning a family day on Sunday 5th September including a nature trail, family picnics, a bug collection and other leafy art activities!! Bring the family, enjoy a stroll through our woodland and find out more about the other inhabitants of the trees!!

If you would like to assist in organising this event ring Carolyn Wardle 521622 or come to the Black Bull on Wednesday 30th June at 8 pm.

## **Annual Concert**

Lanchester Male Voice Choir will hold its Annual Concert in Lanchester Methodist Church on Friday 2nd July at 7.30 pm. Guests this year are the Scherzo Brass Quartet from the Royal Northern College of Music and local young soprano Hayley Johnson.

Tickets (£6, Patrons and Concessions £5 and children £3) are available from Choir members.

## **W I**

Our next meeting is on Monday 5th July in the small hall of the Community Centre at 7 pm where the speaker will be from the Great North Air Ambulance and the competition will be a first aid tip. Visitors are always welcome so do come and join us to hear more about this very worthwhile service and enjoy good company with a cup of tea.

## **Country Market**

The July Country Market will be on Saturday 3rd July in the Community Centre from 10 am. Be early for your cakes, jams, veg, plants, etc, as well as a cup of tea.

## **Service on the Green**

Churches Together welcome you to a service on the Green at 6.00 pm on Sunday 4th July. If the weather is wet, the service will take place at All Saints' R C Church.

## **Strawberry Cream Tea**

On Wednesday 7th July, at 2 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre, the Thursday Club will welcome everyone to a Strawberry Cream Tea in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance. Tickets £1 from any Thursday Club member or the Post Office.

## **Mothers' Union**

Our July meeting on the 7th (please note change of date), 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, is the AGM followed by a Faith Supper.

## **KOG's Disco**

KOG leaders are organising 'A Family Disco' to be held at the Social Club on Saturday, 10th July, beginning at 7.00 pm. Tickets will cost £3.00 per person, or a family of two adults plus two children will be £10.00. These are available from Eddie Hughes on 521874.

## **Open House**

All are welcome to Open House at the Chapter House on the first Thursday every month except August. A sandwich lunch is served between 11.30 am and 1.00 pm.

## **Black Bull Music Sessions**

Do you like a song and a pint? If so, you are most welcome to join our throng on a Sunday evening. Whilst the members are not up to the halcyon times, we do enjoy ourselves with music, song and chat, and welcome anyone who wants to come along. Many travel a distance to be in the Bull on a Sunday, so if the pub is your local, why not call in one Sunday evening and join us!

Ian Tute

## **Lanchester Wildlife Group**

On Tuesday 13th July at 7.30 pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre, Jessie Meredith will give a talk on Veteran Trees.

## **Junior Wildlife**

On Sunday 11th July, meet at 10 am at Malton Car Park. Contact Elaine on 520063 for further details.

## **Flower Club**

On Wednesday 21st July at 2.00 pm in the Community Centre, Wendy Smith from Durham will give a demonstration entitled 'Nature's Pallets'. Please note change of week due to Gateshead Show the following week.

## **Short Circuit Walks**

3rd July 10.30 am, Blanchland, 5.5 miles. Park in main car park in Blanchland.  
17th July 10.30 am, Dipton, Pontop Pike and Low Ewehurst, 6 miles. Park in centre of Dipton, NZ154536.  
31st July, 10.30 am, Warkworth and the Aln, 5 miles. Park in the NCC car park going north out of Warkworth, NU255064.

# **WHAT'S ON?**

## **Victorian Extravaganza**

Lanchester & District Amateur Operatic and Choral Society invites you to take a trip down memory lane and indulge in a spot of nostalgia. In a fully costumed presentation you can enjoy favourites from Victorian parlour music such as 'Come into the Garden Maud' and 'The Road to Mandalay'. We then move to the Music Hall (and chiefly yourselves!) via the local chapel (favourite hymns and songs including 'O for the Wings of a Dove' and 'The Holy City') and the theatre ('Merrie England', 'Gondoliers', 'HMS Pinafore'). Join us on Thursday 22nd July or Friday 23rd at Lanchester Methodist Church, 7.15 pm. Tickets £7.00 from any society member or telephone 01207 521458 or 520172.

## **Summer Music Festival**

The first 2 concerts in Dr Brunt's series will take place on Saturdays, 17th and 31st July, at 7.30 pm. Look out for details.

## **Ramblers' Association, Derwentside**

4th July, 10.30 am, Cauldron Snout, 8 miles. Meet Cow Green Reservoir car park.  
18th July, 10.30 am, Brafferton, 8 miles. Meet at village centre.

## **Derwentside Byways and Bridleways**

6th July, 7.00 pm. Meet at the 'Jolly Drivers' Pub, on A692 roundabout from Leadgate to Dipton.  
20th July, 7.00 pm. Meet at the 'Travellers' Rest' car park at Witton Gilbert off the A691 Lanchester to Durham road.

## **Warming Your Home Not the Planet**

Were you shocked at the cost of last winter's fuel bills? Are you keen to find ways to insulate your home against our inclement weather? Or maybe you'd like to use less energy to reduce your carbon footprint and help contribute to our national targets to reduce global warming. You may even wish to produce some of your own energy through the installation of solar panels. Then look no further and come to Lanchester's own Energy Fair on Saturday 2nd October.

Gathering information to make the right decisions on how best to improve the insulation and efficiency of your home or business can be a very complex and time consuming business.

So the Environment Group are hard at work, bringing together providers of services and information that could improve the energy efficiency of your home. So why not put the date in your diary and come along in October and find out all you need to know about warming your home and cooling the planet. As well as bags of advice and new things to learn, there'll be refreshments, children's activities and even a chance to have your bike repaired.

What's more, it could all save you money!!

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## CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN

On a sunny but fresh Sunday in May several members of Lanchester Boys Brigade, along with officers, children, mums, dads, grandparents and friends, took part in the Children's Cancer Race at Newcastle Race course. We were all inspired to take part in the race by the courage and determination of one of our friends, who is a member of our Company Section, currently undergoing treatment for cancer. The morning was fantastic with a great atmosphere and

everyone made it round either the 1 mile or 5 mile course to receive a medal, T-shirt and pasty at the finish (the event was sponsored by Greggs!). A big thanks to all who supported us, who knows, we might need to hire a bus to transport all those people from Lanchester willing to run next year? At the moment I think that somewhere in the region of £1000 has been raised by those who took part. Well done everyone! Vicky Davison

## COAST 2 COAST CHALLENGE

On Saturday 22nd May, my daughter, Grace (9 years), a year 4 pupil at Lanchester EP School, started the Coast 2 Coast challenge by bike. This ride is 140 miles from the Irish Sea (Workington) to the North Sea (Tynemouth), crossing the Pennines on the way. The first two days had temperatures of 26 and 28 centigrade. The second day involved the climb up Hartside to the summit in searing heat. We had planned 5 days at about thirty miles per day. In fact she managed 36, 32, 40 on the first three days and 25(ish)

on the last day. She finished at noon on Tuesday 25th May after only 3.5 days. This is an absolutely amazing accomplishment for a 9 year old girl. It was all her idea as were the charities she wanted to collect for: Charlie Bear (Children's Cancer) and breast cancer research. She has collected about £1400 so far. It would be good to get that up to £2000 before we hand in the money. People can still sponsor her at <http://www.justgiving.com/grace-coast2coast> Simon Stewart-Piercy



Grace at the start of the ride in Workington

The day was just right for cycling on Tuesday May 25th when about 50 young cyclists from the upper end of the school were riding from the EP school to Bear Park, near Durham. The cycle ride was one of the activities in 'Fun and Fitness Week' and very fit they would be on their return. Cycling is very good exercise!

## ICELAND TREK

I am raising funds for the Teesdale and Weardale Search and Mountain Rescue Team, of which I am Team Leader and live in Lanchester. On 1st July myself and small group of 4, including a friend and fellow Lanchester resident, Richard Hume are departing to Iceland to undertake a self supported trek and mountaineering expedition. I am, as ever, raising money for the Rescue Team - so if you want to give something for

my efforts, please visit [www.justgiving.com/david-bartles-smith](http://www.justgiving.com/david-bartles-smith) The plan is to trek for 5 days through the south central highlands, which will include the recently active Eyjafjallajökull volcano. The plan was conceived well before the eruption, so there has been a great deal of watching and alternative planning, but all looks good at the moment. The main goal follows, when we move to the Vatnajökull Ice cap.

This is Europe's largest glacier at over 8,000 sq km. Here we plan to ascend Iceland's highest mountain, Hvannadalshnukur, which rises over 2000m and stands icebound and aloft of the surrounding wilderness landscape. For more information on the work of the rescue Team please visit the website at [www.twsmrt.org.uk](http://www.twsmrt.org.uk) Thanks, David Bartles-Smith

## KOG'S BIKE RIDE AND BBQ

At the meeting on Monday 7th June KOG leaders decided a bit of outdoor exercise would be good for members and organised a bike ride

to Hurbuck and back, with the reward at the end - a barbecue. There was some rain but the twenty or so children who turned out carried

on regardless, arriving back a bit tired and soaked but had worked up a good appetite to enjoy the BBQ food, which they had to eat in the hall.



BBQ in the rain. Naomi is pleased to accept a fat sausage from organiser Mervyn, while Sophie and Becca look on awaiting their turn.

## ON YOUR BIKE!

A number of staff, including Mrs Davis the head-teacher, went with the cyclists who were all well equipped for the journey and riding a bike which had been thoroughly checked out for safety. The latter is something of prime importance in this school. There was a smile on every face as they rode out of

the school gates. Everyone made it back again, all highly delighted with their achievement. While they were away, there were other 'Wheel-Activities' in the school, because the theme of the day was 'Wheels'. The majority of the nursery school children and Reception Class were riding their bikes, or

scooters in the playground and some were pushing their 'babies' in their prams. There were bikes, and therefore wheels to be seen, in many places in the grounds of the school and it was obvious that everyone was thoroughly enjoying 'Wheels Day' and getting fit too! Brenda W Craddock



## CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN



*Some of Lanchester Boys Brigade and friends after the Cancer Race.  
Full details, page 23.*

## COAST 2 COAST CHALLENGE



*Grace Stewart-Piercy, aged 9, who completed the Coast 2 Coast Challenge.  
Full story, page 23.*

## ICELAND TREK



*Recent volcanic activity at Hvannasukarr, the site of David Bartles-Smith's trek to Iceland.  
Full story, page 23.*

## KOG'S BIKE RIDE AND BARBECUE



*KOG members setting out for the bike ride to Hurbuck. See page 23 for details.*

## ON YOUR BIKE



*Pupils and staff from the EP School on 'Wheels' Day. Story on page 23.*



## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by 20th July.  
The deadline for **adverts** is 18th July.

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