

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 4 Volume 12

Lanchester, April 2011

For contact information, see page 2

EASTER JOY - MAYPOLE DANCING



The EP School held its annual Easter Service in the Lanchester Parish Church and after the service the congregation of parents, family members and church members went to the Village Green to see teachers and children complete a display of Maypole dancing. Here they make a spider's web.

Article
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LYNWOOD HOUSE



The plans for the redevelopment of Lynwood House were presented at a Public Meeting on 14th April in the Social Club.

Story
>> P10

BUS 10th ANNIVERSARY



The 10th Anniversary of the Village Link Bus took place in the Social Club with a 'Brunch' organised by Karin Bravington seen here presenting driver Fred with an appropriate gift.

Story
>> P6

LAUNCH OF COMMUNITY ORCHARD

March 19th finally came and about 15 people gathered at Margery Flatts for the launch of the Community Orchard. The weather was good and the grafting began. They divided themselves into a few groups. Some prepared (grafted) the



A large group prepare the soil and pot the cuttings

cuttings ie Apple, Cherry, Plum and Pear, whilst others dug the turf, or brought topsoil and compost to the potting area, whilst another group planted about 100 fruit

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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 Village Voice

I write this having just returned from watching a wonderful event held on our village green. I refer of course to the spectacular Maypole dancing performed by the teachers and children from the EP school. It was so lovely to see them all enjoying themselves and also to see so many spectators also enjoying themselves clapping and singing. We should all be glad that we live in such a community spirited village and how lovely to see the village green used once again for village activities. Hopefully we can make this an annual event.
Heather Murray
St Bede's Court

Dear Village Voice

This is the first time I have ever been affected to write to Village Voice.

Malton picnic area is a beautiful well maintained area with access for all people. Why is it that horse riders insist on riding through the area on the paths, picnic area and mown grass? I am sure it is just a small percentage of members of our local liveries and stables but still it is having a large impact on people.

Firstly they present a danger to pedestrians along the winding paths. My family and I had to move off the path and onto the brambles, to allow around five horses and their riders to pass.

Once around the river they trotted on the mown grass to the picnic tables where two dismounted to smoke whilst the others trotted/galopped around. Not only did this churn up the mown grass walks but when one horse relieved itself in the middle of the picnic area not one effort was made to move the horse or clean up.

Putting up with the piles of dung along the railway line is something the silent majority of people with

their pets and children constantly endure. I find it ironic that dog owners are required to clean up after their dogs, but horses and their riders don't. Personally I'm tired of cleaning horse dung off my daughter's bike. But to return to the real issue; why do horse riders feel that they now have to invade this public area and destroy the work and time that a lot of people have undertaken and invested to make this area accessible, clean and beautiful.

The same could be asked of Dora's Wood which is often subjected to horse riders tearing up the grass paths with their hooves leaving a quagmire for pedestrians to walk through.

I ask them, if they want to experience the beauty of these areas then why do they have to do this on their horses.

Name and address withheld by request



Horses on Malton
Picnic Area

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

Dear Village Voice

I live in Maiden Law and receive the Village Voice monthly. I enjoy reading it and receive much valuable information.

I would like to inform readers about two of my cats who have been injured in the past 3 weeks. One of my cats, which is a young female tortoiseshell, has been shot by a shot gun and has 22 pellets inside her, one breaking her leg. She has managed to survive.

Within the same week it appears my other cat, a male brown tabby, has been poisoned. Unfortunately he has had to be euthanased. He was in chronic renal failure and his kidneys were too badly damaged to be treated.

I believe the local residents should be aware of these awful incidents with regard to their own animals and illegal use of shotguns. The police have been informed and there is an ongoing police investigation. The RSPCA are also involved.

Many thanks
Michelle Penny

Dear Village Voice

I wish to thank the Village Voice for including the write-up about my sister and her dog, Venus. I would also like to thank the gentleman who apologised to Mandy for the misunderstanding he had with Venus. I would also like to apologise to my sister, Mandy, for calling her dog Venice, when her dog is called Venus. Sorry Mandy.

Thanks again
Christine Eland
Deneside

POLICE INCIDENT

Have you any information?

An incident occurred in March in which a cat was shot by an unknown person with a shotgun and seriously injured. The location is believed to be in the fields and wooded area off LANCHESTER ROAD heading towards GREENCROFT. Any information that can help police with their enquiries is sought. Ref police incident log no 184 of 17th March 2011. Tel 0345 60 60 365.

To contact the Village Voice

By email:

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

By post:

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Shotley Bridge, Consett, Co Durham

Dear Village Voice

My daughter, Sarah Jane Messenger, attended Lanchester EP School from Nursery right up to and including Year 6, then left to go to Durham High School for Girls.

She enjoyed her time at Lanchester and loved doing Drama and Singing, and taking part in and starring in some of their shows. She is now in Year 8 at Durham High School for Girls, who have fantastic facilities for Drama. Sarah joined the Drama Club at the High School and auditioned and obtained a Performing Arts Exhibition Award on Speech Day at the High School. She has taken part in many productions, including Aladdin and Yanamamo, which included some Year 5 pupils from many Primary Schools in the area, including Lanchester EP Primary School.

Sarah has managed to secure one of the leading roles of "Annie" in the upcoming production of "Annie" at the Assembly Rooms, Durham. Sarah will be performing on 20th and 21st May at 7.00 pm, whereas Elise Goddard, the other "Annie", will perform on 19th May at 7.00 pm and at 2.00 pm on 20th May.

Sarah has come a long way since leaving the EP School and I am sure she will go from strength to strength in her ambition for her Performing Arts. Congratulations and best wishes for your forthcoming role of "Annie" from Mam and Dad.

Linda and Ray Messenger



Sarah with her Annie costume

Dear Village Voice

Re: Speed Limit outside of St Bede's

I would like to thank all the support and help offered from mothers especially Angie Winters and Alison Joyce, St Bede's & All Saints Primary, and the residents of Lanchester who have contributed in getting our petition up and running with regards to the unsuitable speed limit outside St Bede's School. I have spoken to our local Councillor Ossie Johnson who has offered his support, as well as our MPPat Glass, however we do need to have as many signatures on our petition as possible. These have been placed in various locations around the village (Newsagents, Charity Shop, Hairdressers, Library etc) as we have been placed on the Parish Council's Agenda for discussion in May. We warmly welcome anyone who would support this cause to attend this meeting where you can participate as much or as little as you wish, just your attendance is enough.

If you would like to be involved however big or small please contact me on an evening on my home number 528398. We are overwhelmed with the amount of positiveness we receive from residents. We have all met some lovely people.

Thanking each and every one of you.
Clare Lamb

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for March 2011 is 73. The draw was made by Mrs Tucker of the Playgroup.

HILARY'S RETIREMENT



Staff at Parkhouse Surgery say goodbye to Hilary Edwards who retired on 31st March, after 30 years' service. Hilary was taken out to dinner at Lumley

Castle the following evening. Hilary (centre) is surrounded by: Julie Ledger; Matilda Morgan (last patient); Ian Davidson; Joan Dennis; Lillian Dodds; Joanne Marshman, Norah Brown; Liz Miller and Kate Bidwell.

GEORGE CELEBRATES 100TH



This momentous occasion took place at Foxhills Crescent. George Foster is the father of Rosemary Naylor and recently moved to be near his daughter. Over thirty family and friends enjoyed the celebration. George was in great form. Featured in the photograph with George, proudly holding a birthday card from the Queen, are: left to right: George's Grandson Stephen, holding Great Granddaughter Hannah, Grandson Martin, and Rosemary Naylor holding Great Granddaughter Ellie.



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WEDDING OF CATE AND ANDREW

The marriage took place on Saturday April 2nd at All Saints' Catholic Church Lanchester between Cate Matthews, daughter of Martin and Maria Matthews, Lanchester and Andrew Key, younger son of Kevin and Jenny Key, Oxford. Cate and Andrew met eight years ago while studying medicine in Sheffield where the young doctors still live and practise.

The bride was radiant in an elegant, silk 'Jenny Packham' dress and veil; she carried a bouquet of Calla lilies, Eryngium thistle and ivory Avalanche roses; her four bridesmaids, equally radiant in midnight blue silk,

carried country style bouquets. Bridesmaids: Alicia Berry, Emma Routledge and Jemma Garrett have been friends of Cate since their athletics training days in Jarrow and Emma Fayed is a friend from university days. Andrew's brother James was Best Man and his friends Mark and Ben were ushers.

The beautiful nuptial mass led by Canon Spence was concelebrated by a family friend, Fr Richard Scriven who arrived from Kilkenny for the occasion.

The reception was held at Matfen Hall, Northumberland. Cate and Andrew will honeymoon on safari in South Africa at the end of May.



*Photograph
courtesy of
Dirk van
der Werff
www.aq
photos.com*

50 YEARS' PRESENTATION

For the past 50 years, Lanchester volunteer Eric Skipsey has supported more than 400 teenagers through their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

He first found out about the Award Scheme in 1960, when he joined the staff of a school in Trowbridge, Wiltshire who were running the D of E. He thought then it was a good scheme for young people, especially the way it challenged them to improve on their personal performance. The Award challenged their 'stickability' for there are set times that some activities have to take. They have to complete four sections: Service; Expedition; Skills; and Physical Recreation.

Since that time he has been active in many aspects of the Award: running a unit for young people, in Sunderland and Durham County; organising and doing pre-checks for groups going out on expedition; helping in the training of people to operate the scheme; an Assessor with the High Pennines & Durham Dales Expedition Panel; and

a member of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Durham County Co-ordinating Committee since 1978.

He was Treasurer and Secretary of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Durham County Co-ordinating Committee since 1991.

Eric's highlights were: to see young people achieving their awards; sharing the challenges and adventures with them, watching their surprise when they actually found satisfaction and enjoyment in activities they would not have attempted if it had not been for the D of E. In

some cases they found their vocation for life.

In 1973 he was asked to marshal a group of Gold achievers from the North East to Buckingham Palace for their presentation. Quite an experience when he was allowed to drive his second hand Corsair through the gates and into Buckingham Place (giving a wave to the people looking to see who was going in!!!)

After presenting the young people to the Duke of Edinburgh, he was asked to present the Gold Medals and Certificates to the candidates on the Duke's behalf. This was an unexpected honour.



*Eric proudly displays his presentation plaque
for his 50 years of service*

EASTER JOY AT THE E P SCHOOL

The EP School held its annual Easter Service on Thursday 14th April. The service takes for its theme 'From Tragedy to Triumph'. A large wooden cross stands in the middle of the chancel steps and items are brought to it by the pupils, indicating what happened to Jesus on the cross, eg purple robe, whip, hammer and nails, a crown of thorns etc. During this activity appropriate songs are sung. When all the items have been brought forward, to convey the tragedy of the cross, they are then removed to make way for the triumph of the cross. This is done by all the congregation coming forward to attach a daffodil to the cross. The wooden cross is transformed into glorious colour and light, symbolising the

resurrection of Christ. He has passed through death on the cross, and three days later he comes alive. He has conquered death and this means that all who believe in him will have Eternal Life. This service certainly deepens the children's understanding of Easter. There was a sizable congregation of parents, family members and members of All Saints Church. Rev Peter Waterhouse was there to welcome everyone and give a short Easter message. Mrs Davis thanked all the people who had come and she also thanked the pupils of Year 2 and Year 5 who wrote the words and the order of service this year. Parents find it a very moving service. One of the songs the children sang made a fitting ending to the

service: 'God's Not Dead. No. He is alive. Serve Him with your hands. Follow with your feet, Love Him with your heart Know Him in your life, For He is alive in me! Once outside everyone crossed over the road to the Village Green for a unique experience. A Maypole had been erected and a large crowd had gathered there. It was pure delight to watch pupils of the school dancing round the maypole. It was a very colourful spectacle too with the brightly coloured maypole ribbons and bright red skirts and waistcoats of the dancers. The crowd showed their enjoyment by clapping loud and hard. This could certainly be the start of something new for the village green. Brenda Craddock



Pupils bringing daffodils to put on the cross



As the ribbons wound round the maypole it was clear that the dancers knew exactly what to do to make various patterns down the pole.

COUNTRY DANCING

The pupils of the EP worked very hard in preparation for the Maypole Dancing on the village green. Mr Burt Hunter accompanied by Mr Chuck Fleming on his fiddle have been in the school, teaching the children some maypole dances.

On Tuesday 22nd March, Burt and Chuck as they like to be called were in school for an afternoon to do some preliminary work for dancing. They were so enthusiastic that the children gave their best effort to learn the steps. Burt demonstrated the steps first and then the

children copied him and even the five year olds coped well with the 'step' practice. They also danced in pairs, the boys having to choose a girl partner. In fact it was a joy to watch the pupils in action and dancing traditionally with live music and not a disco in sight! Burt and Chuck have the recognition of the Education Authority as their work is titled @Dance Tuition for PE relevant to National Curriculum Key Stages 1-4. As Burt and Chuck moved up the school with their dancing the pupils began to see it as an enriching, energetic

and exciting experience. They were in actual fact having a physical work-

out and really enjoying the activity. It came as a surprise that it was quite

hard, like football training, one pupil was heard to say. Brenda Craddock



The children learn their steps

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VILLAGE LINK BUS 10th ANNIVERSARY PARTY

The warm, friendly atmosphere in the Social Club matched the warm, sunny Spring air outside when the celebrations were held on Thursday, 7th April, from 11 am to 1 pm with a 'Brunch'. This had been organised, in appreciation of the service, by Karin Bravington, who had been a bus user at the

start, when it had been a tremendous help to her. There was a splendid buffet, followed by a special birthday cake with candles and bucks fizz for the many people who attended. Karin was helped by Marie Richardson, John Brown, Winnie Lyons and the Social Club, who allowed the use of the club at no

cost and were very co-operative during the preparations. Karin also organised a raffle and this, together with donations for the coffee, etc, made a total of £150. The Lanchester Partnership also held a raffle, tickets being sold a week or so beforehand and this raised an amazing £712! Generous prizes had been donated by individuals and businesses in and around the village; thanks are due to donors and ticket buyers that so much could be given to the bus fund. Without it people would not be able to get out to shop, visit the doctor, hairdresser, etc. Most people present who use the bus said it is their lifeline and a social service. They also praised Fred Prophet, the driver, who has kept the bus going through all weathers, helping people on and off, knowing everyone's names and habits, checking up if they don't appear for the bus. Recently he was instrumental in getting a lady to hospital after she had collapsed; he raised the alarm and she made a full recovery. The many residents, bus users,

Councillors and those connected to the provision of the bus showed Fred their appreciation. Fred was formally thanked by Mike Gladstone of the Partnership and presented with a 10th anniversary magnetic plate to put on the bus. Mike explained that the service is unique, being funded entirely by the village from donations, fund-raising and grants obtained. It costs nearly £1,000 per month to run, and in 2006 and 2007, a Lanchester resident made two anonymous donations, each of over £6,000! The passengers themselves, by giving £5 or £10 a month, produce about £4,000 a year, Margaret Doyle 'runs for the bus' in the Great North Run and donates over £700 each year. The Theatre Group gives extra money when paying for tickets each month and together with many donations and grants, the bus is still running. It is hoped that it will continue to do so for many years to come. Dr Bidwell recently remarked how beneficial it is to village residents. Mike Gladstone then thanked all those who had

made a contribution to the service, saying it had been a great team effort, and said he would like to single out a few who have made an exceptionally valuable contribution: Dick Cooper of DC Taxis; Three Members of the Partnership - Babs Maskery, Maureen Loy and Jill Gladstone; Adrian White, Richard Startup and Steve Lockwood of Durham County Council; County Councillors Richard Young, Ossie Johnson and Tom Forster; Lesley Millgate of the Countryside Agency; Brenda Dye of the County Durham Foundation; Lynette Cassidy; and 'Lynch pin' Karin Bravington. Finally, Mike read out a moving letter from a lady sending a donation in memory of her mother who used the bus regularly, indeed until just a few days before her recent death, saying how the bus was more a social service to her than a bus route and that it had enabled her to stay in her own home and keep her independence and dignity. 'It is a Godsend to many villagers.'

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Mike Gladstone and Maureen Loy with Fred Prophet, Village Bus Driver, all in the sunshine with the new magnetic plates on the side of the bus

People enjoying the social occasion of the 10th Birthday Party for the Village Bus



30 YEARS OF FUN AND FROLICS AT HALL HILL FARM

Hall Hill Farm is celebrating 30 years in the business this April. It first opened as an attraction on 12th April 1981, inviting people to come and see their lambs during the lambing season - and the attraction grew from there.

30 years on and Hall Hill Farm now has several breeds of sheep which lamb during March and April. Visitors can now bottle feed the pet lambs, see fluffy chicks, inquisitive goats, magnificent Highland Cattle and get close to children's favourites such as guinea pigs and rabbits, as well as enjoy a tractor or donkey ride around the beautiful countryside. The first lambs arrived this year on March 11th.

Over the past 30 years the farm attraction has grown in size and popularity, now welcoming nearly 60,000 visitors every year.

However in 2001 the farm was devastated by Foot and Mouth, closing for the entire year and losing most of their animals including sheep, cattle, pigs llamas, goats and deer. Ann Darlington's determination to re-open the attraction deservedly saw her named NFU North-East farming ambassador of the year. The hard work paid off with the farm currently the North East England Tourism Experience of the Year and the National Farm Attraction of the Year.

Hall Hill Farm is still very much a family business. The 720 acre farm has been in the Gibson family for 86 years. Ann's Grandparents, John Henry and Edwina Gibson came to the farm



Children and parents from Newburn Manor Nursery with Ann Darlington

in 1925 and it is now owned by Jack and Pat Gibson. Their son David runs the working farm and livery and daughter Ann Darlington manages the Visitor Enterprise. The farm also now has the fourth generation of the family, Ann's son Richard

(19), very much involved in the farm too and studying agriculture at Askham Bryan agricultural college in York.

The farm is open daily for the new tourist season from 10.30 am - 5.00 pm until the autumn.



Three generations of the family - left to right, David Gibson, Pat Gibson, Ann Darlington, Jack Gibson, Richard Darlington

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL VILLAGE CONFERENCE & MEETING HELD ON 14th APRIL

The Conference was held at Park House, Lanchester, on Tuesday, 12th April, prior to the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting. The Minutes of the Annual Village Conference held on 13th April 2010 were read and approved by Members. The Audited Accounts of the Parish Council for the financial year ended March 2010 were also approved and as there was no other business, the Conference was closed.

ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 14th APRIL 2011

Police Report. Chairman Cllr Ossie Johnson introduced Inspector Dave Turner, who is in charge of Consett Police Station and who has made a massive difference to the policing in this area since taking over in October 2008; Consett is the top performing station in the County. Inspector Turner gave Members a large number of statistics which show that crime figures in all areas are reduced and the crime detection rate has risen. He promised to make the minimum number of officers redundant due to the funding cuts and the Neighbourhood team in Consett and the PCSO's in the village will remain the same. He also promised to attend the next Parish Council meeting. He was thanked by Cllr Johnson who stressed the importance of the relationship between the PCSO's and the village. Cllr Jackson also thanked Inspector Turner and suggested that perhaps a short

PACT (Police and Communities Together) Meeting could once again take place along with the Parish Council Meeting. Inspector Turner suggested that the Parish Council should run the PACT Meeting and this should be mentioned at the next PACT Meeting.

Statistics were also given with regard to the two sessions of the Community Speedwatch, one on 13th March near Greenwell Park and the other, when the Police with the help of students from St Bede's monitored the road outside the school. Only 6 vehicles were doing between 40 mph and 44 mph, the rest were travelling at lower speeds.

Report for period 01.02.11 to 28.02.11:- Anti-social behaviour 2, Theft 4, Theft from vehicles 1.

For the period 23.02.11 to 23.03.11 (there is a slight overlap):- Street drinking report 1, Burglary 3, Theft 2, Criminal damage 1, Anti-social behaviour 2.

Operation Livorno (tackling street drinking) is continuing.

Correspondence:- LINK - the latest newsletter and information was received as well as letters of thanks for donations from the Great North Air Ambulance, Finchale Training College, Churches Together and Lanchester EP Primary School.

Action Partnership/Parish Councils Committee:- Cllr Burton said that there was nothing new to report with regard to the AAP and it was

agreed by Members that Cllr Burton and David Bell be nominated for Parish Representative to the AAP Board.

Consultation Documents:- In view of the Government Grants to County Councils being cut, the following consultation documents were considered:

1. Sport and Leisure Facility Review. The nearest to Lanchester is that at Deerness.

2. Community Alarms and Telecare in County Durham - Public Consultation. Cllr Jackson agreed to fill in this form.

3. Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan for County Durham. Some response has already been made.

4. Proposed changes to the Home to School/College Transport Policy - public consultation. This gave rise to a great deal of discussion, particularly as St Bede's will be affected.

5. County Durham Plan - Consultation/Engagement Process. The Parish Council will be involved from May during a 6 weeks consultation period and also during this Autumn and Winter and Spring 2012.

Maintenance Progress Report:- Members considered the report prepared by the Lead Officer and wished to thank Handyman David Maddox for all his hard work around the village which was very noticeable.

Insurance Renewal 2011/2012:- This was received and approved. **Litter:-** Cllr Myers brought up the subject of litter in the area of the

village shops and Newbiggen Lane and dog fouling and made some suggestions as to how this could be dealt with. After much discussion, it was agreed that the Neighbourhood Warden be asked to attend a Parish Council Meeting and perhaps an article in the Village Voice. Cllr Wardle said he thought there has been some improvement and County Cllr Richard Young told Members that in March Wardens had dealt with dog fouling, litter and fly tipping.

Disabled Access:- 3 residents have enquired about the possibility of designated disabled parking in the village for access to shops, banks, etc. Various sites were suggested and it was agreed that the Lead Officer should write to the County Council requesting a disabled bay. It was thought that enforcement might be a problem.

Annual Training Plan:- This was accepted.

End of Year Accounts for Financial Year 2010/11:- These were approved and arrangements will be made for internal and external auditing.

Financial Information:- This report, including new Budget figures, was approved. It was suggested that an article be placed in the Village Voice relating to the Christmas Tree lights and asking if anyone, individual or business, would be willing to sponsor a tree in view of rising costs.

Accounts for Payment:- These were approved.

Chairperson's Announcements:- Cllr

Johnson said that there is a possibility that the Fenhall Banner might be returned to the village. Details of how this would be done and where it would be kept were discussed and it was agreed that it would be put on the Agenda for next month.

Questions from Members:- Cllr Clarke said that he had been asked by a resident to look into the problem created by the fence around the old Police Station and the footpath between Victoria Terrace and Millfield. There is a gap between the fence and the path which is dangerous and needs to be illuminated. It was agreed that in the first instance the Lead Officer would write to the owners of the property and it would also be in their interests to have this illuminated.

Date of Next Meeting:- This will be on 10th May 2011 and will take place after the **Annual General Meeting at 7.15 pm.**

APOLOGY

In February's edition of the Village Voice we reported on the Parish Council meeting of 8th February. In the Police Report it was correctly reported that the Parish Council received a Police report a month late because the Police now present their report firstly to the PACT meeting held on the last Wednesday of the month. Unfortunately in the final sentence the Village Voice incorrectly contradicted this and said that the police did not send a report to the Parish Council. We wish to apologise to the Police and Parish Council for this confusion and inaccuracy.

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21st MARCH

Planning Applications
Members considered the following planning applications.

i. Demolition of existing storage barn and erection of two detached dwellings at Greystone Crow Hall, Lanchester and

ii. Conservation area consent to demolish storage barn and replace with two detached dwellings at Greystone Crow Hall, Lanchester.

These two applications were considered together and it was confirmed that the proposed development was within the conservation area and on the boundary of the development unit. Two members of the community attended the meeting and raised concerns about the development:

RESOLVED: That Members object to the proposed development for the following reasons:-

i. The current design of Bishops Meadow allows residents to utilise the grassed area as a recreation amenity and this should be retained for residents' use.

ii. Members consider that the barn gives character to this corner of the village and wish to see it preserved.

iii. There seems to be some confusion as to the ownership of the land in front of the proposed dwellings.

iv. Members are concerned over the flood risk elements on this designated flood plain. The documentation does not address the possible consequences to other properties. Members are aware of existing problems of persistent flooding in this area of the Parish.

v. There is limited parking which is considered inadequate for

dwellings of this size.
vi. The proposed development is significantly high in density compared to other properties in Bishops Meadow and includes building forward of the current building line.

vii. Members would query legislation regarding the development of garden areas and question whether the proposed development conflicts with PPS3.

viii. Members express concerns over additional traffic on the complicated, already busy access/egress on to the A691 which will only be compounded by this development.

ix. In addition, Members refer to the arboriculture report 2.5 which states 3 proposed dwellings and would request clarification.

Erection of external staircase and extension to patio to north side of property at 2 The Paddock, Lanchester.
RESOLVED: No objection.

Replacement of front and rear exterior doors at Park House Cottage, Station Road, Lanchester.

RESOLVED: That Members raise no objection to the application but request that the doors be wood rather than composite in accordance with Village Design Statement page 19 4H.

Erection of two wind turbines max tip height of 86m, associated landscaping, creation of access roads and temporary hard standing for Lanchester Wine Cellars at site F, Greencroft Industrial Park.

RESOLVED. That the application be received for information.

Decisions of the Planning Authority.

The following planning applications have been **approved** by Durham County Council:

* Kitchen and bedroom extension at 11 Sunnybanks, Lanchester

* Erection of a single storey sunroom extension to rear at 26 Lee Hill Court, Lanchester.

* Agricultural determination for the erection of a silage pit and creation of new access road at Greenwell Farm, Lanchester.

* Felling of one silver birch tree at White Leas, Crow Hall, Lanchester.

The following application has been **withdrawn**:

* Erection of farm workers dwelling at Greenwell Farm, Lanchester.

CRUFTS 2011

I had decided not to go to Crufts this year, as it is tiring and expensive, and I thought this year's judge would not like Freya. Freya is the only one of her litter who is the show ring, so I think of her as 'unique'. I get so much pleasure out of her and my other dog, Zarka, a Hungarian Wire Haired Vizsla, who is a real character. However, when Freya's mother, Nushka, qualified as a Veteran (over 7 years) for Crufts, and her owner Georgina, who takes me to shows, wanted to go (I handle Nushka), I agreed.

So, as usual, we were picked up at 2 am on Saturday morning at Bowburn Services, having spent Friday evening trying to find things to do, unable to go to sleep in case we did not wake up in time. We arrived at Crufts

at about 7 am, and we settled the dogs on their benches and had a welcome cup of coffee and a sandwich. Judging started at 9 am. There are 36 rings to accommodate over 20,000 dogs taking part. The trade stalls are fascinating to browse round - everything from diamante-encrusted collars and polo-necked jumpers for the dogs through veterinary equipment, dog-food and accessories. I saw a beautiful, white alpaca coat - only £199! The only things I bought were a grooming tool for removing Freya's thick undercoat when she moults and a bag of dried tripe pieces for her and Zarka.

There was an Obedience ring in our hall, above which there was a huge

screen showing what was going on in the main hall. This year we did manage to look at 'Discover Dogs', where each breed recognised by the Kennel Club in each of the seven groups, ie, Hounds, Gundogs, Terriers, Working, Pastoral, Toys and Utility, have a small area where two or three dogs of that breed are there every day with their owners who give advice and information about each breed. Very interesting, especially the new, imported breeds of all shapes and sizes.

At last it was time to go in the ring. The dogs are always judged first, then the first class for the bitches was for the Veterans. It was a surprisingly large class and Nushka is rarely shown, but she performed well.

However, she was unplaced. Freya was in the last two classes, so we had a little time to wait. Again it was quite a large class with most of the others being champions. We had to run round a few times before the judge made up his mind, but again we were unplaced. The last class, however, was a show class for bitches who have a Kennel Club obedience award. Not many Elkhounds achieve this as they tend to have minds of their own and obey if and when they feel like it. But Freya has her Gold award and won the class - she only had one opponent - so we still came home with a red Crufts rosette and card and a special Good Citizen Obedience rosette which for some reason has a picture of Wallace

on it. This also means she will retain the trophy with which she was presented by the Elkhound Association of Great Britain last year, although the other two trophies will have to go back, duly polished and engraved next month, at their annual Championship Show.

As I had not expected Freya to win, I was not really disappointed. As Freya last year qualified for Crufts for life, we can always try again next year. Our return journey was delayed as some of the judging took such a long time, but eventually we arrived home at about 11 pm. I thought Freya would have been exhausted the next day, but she was ready for her morning walk with Zarka long before I was.

Mavis Datta

The Village Voice Page 9

LYNWOOD HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING AND CONSULTATION

Continued from Page 1.... The Public Meeting and formal presentation of plans for the restoration of Lynwood House took place in the Social Club on Thursday, 14th April. The proposals and plans (see P1) had been on display in the Social Club and around 50 people took

the opportunity to inspect these during the day. Almost 40 people attended the meeting, when a panel of 8 gave talks and visual presentations, chaired by Cllr Ossie Johnson, who said that the Parish Council and Lanchester

Partnership, organisers of the event, together with other partners in the proposed development, would listen to what people have to say. The first person introduced was Cllr Mike Wardle, who has worked for over five years on this project, ever since the first hint of the closure of Lynwood House. He explained the proposed, innovative, multi-use centre which will benefit a wide range of users from North West Durham. A steering committee had done some hard, determined work to get the County Council to agree to this redevelopment. Different agencies on the site will be able to work together and Cllr Burton, who was also involved in the steering committee's work, said that it would enable elderly people to have their own homes (28

two-bed apartments for people over 55 will be created for rent or purchase from Derwentside Homes, a charitable, registered social landlord). Next to speak was Malcolm Robinson, Director of Design of the Architects, Brown Smith Baker, who had been supportive over the years of planning, gave details of the proposed layout and how and why it had been designed that way. Then David Pye of Derwentside Homes showed details of other apartments for which they had been responsible with regard to design and furnishings. These were all very attractive and Mr Pye said they would be affordable to rent or purchase. Kerry Robinson of the charity Mental Health Care then took over and explained how the creation of a 27 bed unit would provide a combination of physical nursing care and mental health rehabilitation to the over sixties; 8 beds will be specifically for women. Terry Blair, Practice Manager at Park House surgery then told the audience that the present premises are unsuitable and that the design of the proposed surgery would take them into the future. A 3-day workshop is being held for this design and all patients and anyone else interested are welcome. Mark Burdon, representing the Pharmacy, said that they had similar problems and that the pharmacy is an integral part of the village. He said that the future of the pharmacy in the village has not yet been decided, but that more space is needed to offer other services.

Judith Lund then described the steering committee's vision of the central, community part of the development. This will include a bistro which could be used for social activities as well as providing healthy food and drinks for staff, patients, residents and visitors. The community area would provide space for a variety of groups and possible complementary therapies. People will be able to come together to share knowledge and help in the care of older people and enable them to keep their independence. She said she would like to thank Debbie Lamb of Derwentside Development Agency for her help. Cllr Wardle then explained how the project would be run through a Community Interest Company, giving details of its formation and also stating that funding will have to be found. Cllr Johnson then opened the meeting to the public who were invited to make comments or ask questions. There were a few queries and concerns about the layout of the site, the main one being the access and egress onto the A691. All these concerns will be looked into before the project reaches the stage of planning application. Finally, Mike Gladstone of Lanchester Partnership summed up, stating that the development must be two-storey to make it viable, that the site should have good landscaping which would include activities for residents and that the whole development should be holistic to meet all requirements. Cllr Johnson closed the meeting thanking all for coming, Sally Laverick for her hard work and asking people to fill-in feedback forms and leave them at the meeting or at Park House later.

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HELP FOR HEROES

It is approximately three years since Trevor Jones, who is an ex-serviceman, and who has lived in the village for ten years, decided to raise awareness of the increasing number of soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan who survive the war but whose lives are seriously affected by it because of their injuries. Long after headlines are made of accidents and incidents, these soldiers are bravely suffering from their injuries and trauma. They too are heroes and to this end Trevor who lives in Ford Road Lanchester wanted to fundraise for these brave men. Four tins were put out in Lanchester, in the Newsagent's, the King's Head, the Social Club and the Chemist's shop. As we know the people of Lanchester are generous and the tins have to be emptied regularly. At least two £20 notes have been emptied from the tins, which is so generous.



Tony Morland and Leanne Muirhead show their certificates

Tony Morland in the Newsagents has his box on counter display, with stickers and armbands alongside. There were some attractive badges but these have all gone now, such was their popularity. The armbands are £2 each and Tony says that they are popular with the children. Tony has raised £742.10 in a relatively short period of time and thanks everyone who has contributed to this excellent total.

Together the King's Head and the Newsagents have raised over £1000 and the charity has recently given Tony Morland and Leanne Muirhead, manager of the King's Head, certificates for their very successful fundraising. Trevor Jones who describes himself as a co-ordinator for the charity, presented the certificates, appropriately

beside the village war memorial.

Remember to look for the 'Help the Heroes' tins when you next visit the newsagents or the Post Office, the King's Head, Social Club or the Chemists, and to contribute to this very worthwhile cause. We owe these heroes so much!

Brenda Craddock

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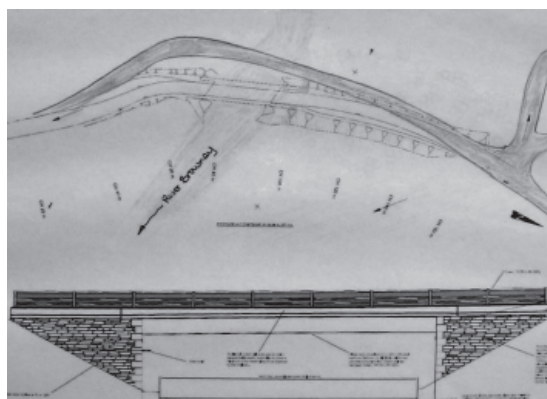
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MALTON?

The bridge structure on the road between the A691 and Malton needs renewal to meet current carriageway standards. The scheme involves the construction of a new bridge structure to the east of the existing bridge and the subsequent realignment of the road. On completion, the old structure will be demolished and the redundant carriageway reinstated to a verge. The riverside footpath will be diverted and temporary traffic signals installed each side of the existing bridge during the duration of the works, due to be completed in September 2011. The copy of the plan below shows the proposed re-aligned road and an elevation of the proposed structure which incorporates bat nesting boxes and provision for wildlife movements under the bridge during flood conditions.





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CHANGE AT RED CROSS SHOP

In 1991, Red Cross Branch asked members in Lanchester to set up a shop, so Brenda Gibson's career began as a Volunteer Manager in a small shop at 2 Croft View, with approximately 28 members.

Volunteer staff members and good business soon outgrew the premises, and a move to 4 Front Street happened in 1997, which was very successful.

As the years have passed it has been a very satisfying job for Brenda working with so many friends and helping the people of Lanchester. Volunteers have now increased to 37, which remarkably, includes four founder members. After 20 years as Volunteer Manager Brenda decided to step down to Assistant Manager on March 19th.

The new Manager is Tracey Dobson who lives in the village and has been a volunteer since August 2010. She took over as Manager on March 21st. Everyone wishes her good luck in her new position. Tracey will receive full support and backing - something which Brenda enjoyed and was grateful for during the last 20 years.



Tracy Dobson and Brenda Gibson in the Red Cross shop

LAUNCH OF COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Continued from page 1 ... tree roots into pots. It all seemed well organised and the atmosphere was very convivial with terrific enthusiasm all round. Tree cuttings were donated by people with gardens and the Gibside National Trust. The group is extremely grateful for these kind gestures.

Come October/November the cuttings will have grown to be set out in the form of an orchard to be designed by members, in a field close to the work area.

To become a member costs just £10 per annum for a family or individual and the willingness to put in a few hours work during the year. Anyone is welcome to join and meet

like minded people who thoroughly enjoy what they do in their spare time. It isn't all hard labour as there will be many other worthwhile jobs to accomplish with the organisation, such as designing, administration, fruit processing and grafting.

The outcome for all the members will be very satisfying as they really will literally see, the fruits of their labours. For more information

about this exciting altruistic project, please call Kate Wicks on 520258. PS. If you have applied to join the Lanchester Community Orchard and paid your subscription of £10 and have not heard from The Partnership, you could be the person that did not leave contact details on the card you delivered. Please contact Kate Wicks 01207 520258 and you will be included in the Group circulation list.



A group prepare the grafting of trees, for planting into pots by the other team

SPRING CLEAN FOR LANCHESTER

A fine chilly day meant that the HQ tent was set up without a problem and soon all was ready for the brilliant volunteers who turned out to clean up the village on the Partnership's 6th annual litter-pick.

It had seemed that there was much less litter than in previous years, but as a result, people dug out some difficult rubbish. Not all could be bagged - such as the two large carpets that were pulled

out of Smallhope Burn. In all 1½ lorry loads of rubbish were picked up. The village looks marvellous. Can we manage to keep it clean? Thanks to Helen Douglas of the County Council; Sally Laverick of the Parish Council; Kit Bartram of CPRE (who doesn't just help us - he has been instrumental in setting up Litter Free Durham throughout the county); Dave Maddox and the Parish Council for

their regular litter sweeps; those who regularly pick up litter throughout the year, and especially the 90+ people who came out on 26th March, picking up litter so conscientiously and cheerfully. It was good to see 8 young people from the youth club.

But what can we do about the lanes and approach roads where there is a lot of litter? Any ideas?

Jill Gladstone 528 114



By the look of the full lorry of plastic sacks of litter, it was a successful day and there was another half lorry load not shown in the photograph



Organisers and early 'Litter Pickers' gather at the beginning of the Partnership Litterpick

TOWARDS CARBON NEUTRAL ECONOMIC GROWTH

Economic growth, largely powered by CO₂-emitting fossil fuel burning and the lowering of CO₂ emissions, seem irreconcilable notions. The conflict however needs resolution since a sustainable, secure global future depends on both growth and a reduction in emissions. Demographic forecasts indicate a stabilised world population of 9 billion by 2050. To meet increased demands for food, energy and materials without increasing CO₂ emissions, an agricultural-industrial infrastructure is needed that integrates food production, electricity generation, raw material extraction and manufacturing so that CO₂ from certain processes is stored or serves as raw material for

other processes. High-yielding crops that do not need a petroleum-derived chemical input are required, as well as more emphasis on renewables in electricity generation - wind, HEP (including waves and tidal), geothermal and solar. Though controversial, using nuclear fuel has advantages: (a) high energy density, ie, a tiny amount generates a lot of electricity and (b) no CO₂ emissions. Fossil-fuelled electricity generation is favourable if carbon capture and storage technologies (CCS) sequester the resultant CO₂. The advantages of fossil fuels - high energy density and, in the case of coal, relatively vast reserves (200-300 years) - can then be exploited. Fossil fuels are used in

manufacturing: eg, coal for steel making and petroleum for chemicals and plastics. The CO₂ evolved can be used innovatively - eg, in plant and algal growth, producing biofuels and various chemicals. Our region is at the forefront in developing these innovations and Durham and Newcastle universities hold meetings to enhance public understanding of the science involved and the societal impacts - see websites below for information on these and events programmes.

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BISHOP SEAMUS VISITS ALL SAINTS' RC PRIMARY

On Tuesday 22nd March, the staff and children of All Saints' school welcomed Seamus, Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, to their school.

The visit was celebrated with Mass in church at 10 am, where the children sang beautifully to the piano accompaniment of Mr Michael Quigley. The Lenten theme of the Mass focused on Forgiveness and the service ended with a thought provoking Lenten Liturgical Movement piece performed by Year 6.

Bishop Seamus then came into school where he met all the classes



Children of All Saints with Bishop Seamus (centre), Councillor Paul Jackson, Chair of Governors (left) and Headteacher, Karen McKenna (right)

and comfortably answered the many questions the children had about his job and the symbols of his office; his crozier, mitre and St Cuthbert's cross were all greatly admired! He diplomatically answered Adam Butler's question about which football team he supported by saying he cheered on every team in his diocese!



Children of All Saints' school singing at Mass and performing a dance to the music of "When I survey this wondrous Cross"

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Bishop Seamus Cunningham (Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle) and Canon Spence, after Mass

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WILLOW BURN ACQUIRES LAND TO BUILD NEW HOSPICE

Willow Burn Hospice has taken a significant leap towards building a new hospice by acquiring land at Lanchester. The hospice has completed the purchase of 2 acres of land at its existing site at the former Maiden Law Hospital, Lanchester.

Willow Burn plans to create a new hospice on the same site, with increased individual bed spaces in cottage-style rooms and dedicated family accommodation. The proposals would see the hospice increase the number of in-patient beds from four to six and create additional well-being facilities such as a spa and therapy suite. Helen Mills said: "Our vision is to build a world class hospice facility on the acquired south westerly apex of the Maiden Law Hospital site. It's a tremendous step forward for Willow Burn and will certainly help us to advance our ambitious plans."

PRINCE BISHOPS' COMMUNITY BANK

On May 3rd a branch of PBCB will open in Lanchester. This is a not-for-profit financial co-operative which offers convenient savings and low interest loans to its members.

The members own and manage the community bank themselves. The aims of a community bank are to encourage its members to save regularly; and to provide honest loans to members at very low rates of interest.

Your money is safe with us. We are registered with the Financial Services Authority (FSA) as well as being covered by the Credit Union Act 1979. As such we are independently audited every year and regularly monitored by the FSA.

Membership is open to anyone who lives or works in County Durham, is aged 16 or over, can provide 2

forms of identification and pay a joining fee of £1. Under 16s can join free.

Call into the Community Centre (Computer Room) on May 3rd between 10 am and 12 noon or any following Tuesday for more information about joining or volunteering.

AWARD FOR KIERAN

On Thursday 24th March a number of young people were honoured at the region's annual Shrievalty Awards Ceremony held at Durham Castle. The Awards, which recognise children who have displayed bravery, determination, or outstanding community work, were presented by the High Sheriff of Durham, Bernard Robinson.

Among those honoured was Kieran Bell from Lanchester. Kieran, who is only ten years old, has helped to save his sister, Emma's life. Emma was diagnosed with leukaemia in March 2008 when she was three. Eighteen months into her treatment her family were told that she needed a bone marrow transplant. Kieran, who was eight

at the time, was found to be a match. Despite the risk to himself, he had no second thoughts and the operation was carried out last April. One year on, Emma is cancer free and she has recently joined her brother at All Saints' Catholic Primary School. Kieran felt really proud receiving his award and he said that it was made even more special by all of the important people who were there, such as the High Sheriff, the Mayor and Canon Robert Spence from All Saints' Catholic Church.



Kieran and Emma Bell

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LANCHESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR PATRONS' EVENING

When you see the title above you know to expect something good and on Saturday April 9th this choir gave an excellent performance. It was their Patrons' evening and the Community Centre was full to capacity for the occasion. Their choice of songs suited the audience beautifully. There were songs from two Gilbert and Sullivan Operas; a medley 'Nice 'n' Easy', including 'Magic Moments', 'Catch a Falling Star', 'And I love you so' and 'Try to Remember', an American Trilogy and the lovely hymn 'Let there be Peace on Earth', being the heartfelt sentiment of all of us!

Noreen Bridgewater, who is a very talented pianist, accompanied the choir and



Lanchester Male Voice Choir Patrons and the choir

also played a solo item beautifully, namely 'Clair de Lune'.

Harry Carr always puts a great deal of time and thought into leading this choir and under his excellent baton the choir has gone from strength to strength. They always create a happy relaxed atmosphere and through their chairman John Wills,

always give a very warm welcome to their Patrons and indeed to any audience. They also provide an excellent buffet on Patron's Evening. Fiona of Crinnions did the catering and it was a sumptuous feast.

This year everyone was given a sheet of 'Ding-Bats' which were great fun to work out together and

there were some excellent prizes in the raffle for the lucky winners.

Long may this choir continue to provide such pleasurable music and

such warm hospitality. Thank you very much indeed Harry, Noreen and all members of this handsome choir!

Brenda Craddock

CHARITY NIGHT IN MEMORY OF ALBY ALLEN

On September 1st 2010 after a spell in hospital my father Alby Allen passed away, he was two days short of his 66th birthday. My father was very well known in Lanchester, moving here 38 years previous, the Police Force bringing him and my mother back closer to home after spending time in Hebburn and Stockton as a rookie Policemen. Lanchester was close to his roots as he was born and raised in Burnhope. My father was involved in both villages in his younger days - playing for Lanchester Ajax and managing Burnhope Ivy Leaf for a while, playing Lawn Bowls for a good few years, and also being a member of the Allotment Association behind the Vets, he took part in Various Charity Bike Rides and was once part of a group of bobbies that rode from Consett Police Station all the way to Devonport in memory of a local Soldier killed in the Falklands. For the last few months a group of us have been getting up at the crack of

dawn and training hard for the Coast to Coast Bike Challenge. We are doing it over 2 days, May 20th and 21st 2011. I am also organising a charity evening in the Social Club in Lanchester on Saturday 21st May 2011 starting at 7.30 pm. We have The Lanchester Male Voice Choir opening the evening, and then a great local band called The Great Escape doing their stuff for a few hours.

All of this is in Aid of the Stroke Association for the wonderful work they did with my father whilst he was poorly, especially at Bishop Auckland Stroke Rehabilitation Ward, and then for all the help and support they gave our family after he passed away.

The evening at the Social Club is a free event, all donations are greatly appreciated, and we are currently organising a raffle and if anyone would like to donate a prize or simply sponsor us for the bike ride then please contact me, Andy Allen, *continued on opposite page*

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THE KING JAMES BIBLE

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there had been attempts to translate parts of the Bible into English there had never been a full translation, from the first book of Genesis to the last book of Revelation. It took seven years to complete and so it was 1611 when the Authorised Version or King James Bible came into being. Its flowing language and prose rhythm has had a profound influence on literature for the past 300 years. This year is the 400th anniversary of this Bible and it is being marked throughout the country by a 'Bible Journey'.

The Durham Diocese of the Anglican Church is taking part in this journey. A replica copy of the King James Bible is being taken from location to location throughout Durham and passages from the Bible will be read in various churches, so that at the end of the four weeks allocated to Durham Diocese the whole Bible will have been read. The Reverend Peter Sinclair, former vicar of Consett Parish Church, and his wife who now live in

retirement in Lanchester, have been the organisers of the Bible journey in Lanchester. We have a very good 'Churches Together' committee here and so it was decided that each of our three churches could be involved in the Bible reading. On Tuesday April 12th representatives from each church gathered in the Methodist Church to read the chapters from the Bible which have been allocated to Lanchester Deanery.

On Wednesday 13th the group gathered at the Burnhope Wheel on a cold but dry afternoon. Two people read from the King James Bible, Romans chapters 12 and 13. The group then adjourned to St John's Church Burnhope, where the remaining 3 chapters of Romans were read. This was followed by very welcome tea and biscuits.

Reverend Peter Sinclair opened and ended each of the proceedings with prayer and it was a very special time for those who took part.

Brenda Craddock



Representatives of Lanchester's three churches at the Bible reading at the Methodist Church



Bible reading at Burnhope Wheel

continued from opposite page
on 07786918021 or andyallen27@hotmail.com. So if you have fond memories of my dad from being a friend from Burnhope or Lanchester in his younger days, or a fellow Bowls or Gardening enthusiast, or someone who would queue up for a Football Pink religiously on a Saturday evening and have a good twist about the Mags or the Mackems, or you just think it's a good cause, please show up at the Club and enjoy the entertainment with our family. Thank you, Andy Allen

SHADOW SECRETARY VISITS LANCHESTER

On Thursday, 31st March, Maria Eagle, Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, attended a meeting of the Labour Party held in the Community Centre. Ms Eagle had visited Newcastle and Redcar that day in the run-up to the Regional Local Election. The meeting had been organised by Andy Plant of Leadgate and was attended by Members of the Party from the village and constituency and included members of Lanchester Parish Council. Cllr Ossie Johnson was in the Chair and welcomed Ms Eagle, saying how fortunate

the Party was to have such a distinguished politician speak to them. She talked about the Party's Transport Policy and the Policy Review, saying that now she was in opposition she had more time to think as she was not inundated with papers, letters, etc. After this very interesting speech, people divided into three groups to discuss the Party's consultation booklet. After some lively discussion, during which Ms Eagle spent time with each group, a spokesman from each group gave their opinions, which Ms Eagle said she would

take on board and report back. This included views on transport such as sustainability, affordability, accessibility for local communities and possible changes in the provision of the transport system, as well

as green issues. Altogether it appeared to be a satisfactory, productive meeting. If anyone is interested in the booklet or completing the questionnaire, it can be seen online at fresh-ideas.org.uk.



Maria Eagle with Cllr Ossie Johnson

CONCERT FOR SOLOISTS

There is nothing to compare with the feeling that a parent has, when their child achieves excellence and merit in some way. It makes you extremely proud. On Wednesday March 16th there were some very proud parents in the Methodist Church. A 'Concert for Soloists' was being held there. Mr Hartley, a very competent musician and an upper strings teacher from Durham Music Service, had organised this concert. He had a very good motive for doing so.



Frances Archer with her violin

He sees it as a way to encourage his pupils and give them the opportunity to perform for an audience. It will give them confidence and further their progress, as a number of the pupils are working towards Associated Board of Music, GCSE or A-Level examinations and their course involves performance skills.

Most of the 10 pupils in the concert were from St Bede's school but there were also pupils from Lanchester EP School and St Mary's RC School in Blackhill. The names of the pupils are Bethany Grimes, Beth James, Oran Kurowski, Libby Wright, Bethany Reeve, Joshua Nichol, James Brown, Ben Sterling, Frances Archer, and Hannah Rhodes. All the pupils were playing

violins and each gave a gifted performance of demanding music (Oran also played a solo piano piece beautifully). The music was appropriately selected from examination pieces and they were not easy!

Mr Hartley accompanied the pupils on the piano and in one case the harpsichord. He obviously wants them to do well in their several examinations and the standard was very high indeed. All their hard work has been worth it. It was pure pleasure listening to these talented young people.

I am sure we will be seeing and hearing much more of these young musicians in the future. Well done!

Brenda Craddock



Mr Hartley with two of his pupils, Libby and Bethany

AFRICAN DRUMMING AT ALL SAINTS

On Wednesday 14th April, parents and grandparents of Year 3 and 4 children were entertained by a fantastic performance of African drumming. Mr Ian Halford, of Durham Music Service, has been teaching them the art of

African drumming every Wednesday afternoon since January. Mr Halford congratulated the children on their hard work and ability to learn some very complicated rhythms. The performance was colourful, lively and loud.

Despite being nervous, the children performed well and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A rousing "Three cheers for Mr Halford" confirmed this! The Year 2s are already asking if Mr Halford can return next year to teach them!



All Saints' drummers perform with Mr Halford

A NIGHT AT THE RACES

The 'Family Fun Night' at the EP School on Friday March 18th was certainly Fun with a capital 'F'. There was speculation, excitement, elation, competition, merriment and cheering as the horses, (wooden and beautifully painted) raced up the race track, handled by 'good jockeys'. The teachers took the bets on the horses and sorted out the winner in each of the 13 races and each winner was given the prize of an Easter Egg. There was a race for teachers, which Mr Boddy won, and a race for mums then dads, Junior boys, then girls, Stage 1 and 2 boys and girls, husbands and

wives, and finally a non-category race for anyone who wished to try their luck. Matthew Atkinson was the very popular winner of that last race. Teachers served pizza pieces



Teachers enjoying the races!

and garlic bread from the kitchen hatch. Families brought their own drinks. The money raised amounted to £215, a super total, and the money is going to be used to buy new equipment for the school play areas. The happy relaxed atmosphere

in the hall was proof that everyone had enjoyed it. It was very appropriately called a Family Fun Night. Families and Fun were in full attendance! One thing missing. - Ascot hats! Next year perhaps? Brenda Craddock



A very well attended event

CONCERT AND CEILIDH FOR OUR COMENIUS FRIENDS

The last week of term at Lanchester EP School was a very exciting time. Over 20 visitors from various European countries spent three days in the Village as part of the Comenius Project, which encourages educational and cultural links between young people across Europe.

A highlight of the visit came with a concert and a ceilidh held in the school on April 13th. Head Teacher Mrs Davis, in welcoming parents, children and guests, pointed out that 8 different countries were represented that evening, gathered together to enjoy some traditional music and dancing. Pupils opened the programme with a square dance, led by the Moorcock



The EP School Choir in full voice



A young soloist entertains

Ceilidh Band, and in the audience, feet started to tap. The Dance Master then invited the entire audience onto the floor to learn the basic steps of the folk dance, and soon everyone was circling, promenading and

honouring their partners. Dancing skill came second to the enthusiasm shown and the enjoyment shared! A circle dance followed, to the familiar local song "Blaydon Races" and then a rest was needed. The school bell ringers played

"Ode to Joy" as a welcome to their guests from Europe, and then came the choir with a lively programme which included "Just Can't Wait to Begin" and "A Whole New World". There were contributions from several

individual instrumentalists, showcasing the musical skills of these talented youngsters. More ceilidh dancing followed, and the audience agreed that this had been an enjoyable and a special evening.

BUDDING ACTORS

We are aware of many life issues in the world and we worry about our young people becoming involved with crime, violence, drugs, alcohol abuse, and abuse of other kinds. Today there are numerous charities working hard to keep our children safe and protected from the dangers in society and there is good teaching in schools to increase awareness of these dangers. Actions of course can speak louder than words and in the EP School this awareness has been approached through Drama.

Year 6 have been doing a project with Mr Les Watts who is a film maker. The focus for the project has been that of medication drugs and in particular sleeping tablets. The pupils worked in groups and were set the task of writing a play which would draw attention to the dangers of taking tablets and particularly sleeping pills. The best play was decided upon and Mr Watts then set about making a short film of it in

the grounds of the school. Pupils who wished to be part of the film practised dialogue, improvisation and stage movements with him and thoroughly enjoyed this valuable experience. This short film will be made available, as a resource for other schools, who are raising awareness of life issues.

It was obvious that Mr Watts enjoys working

with children, as does his young student helper Cailey Adams who is interested in Drama and Film. Mr Watts works in schools, youth clubs, and with community projects but can also be hired for other occasions or events by the general public. For further information, please contact

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Brenda Craddock



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GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR LANCHESTER

Community and voluntary groups in Lanchester can benefit from grant funding ring-fenced specifically for the village and surrounding areas.

County Durham Community Foundation manages over 130 charitable funds, two of which are for the sole benefit of Lanchester and surrounding villages. EDF Energy set up two wind farm community benefit funds in 2009 to benefit those living within a three-mile radius of their wind farms at High Hedley Hope and Langley.

As well as these funds there are also those

specific to the ex-district of Derwentside, such as the I'Anson Family fund and the Bob Young Grassroots fund, or those which are available for community and voluntary groups across the County. Grants of around £2,000 are available from these funds to help fund community and voluntary group activities, improvements to community buildings, biodiversity, habitat, energy conservation and community-based projects.

Examples of projects in Lanchester which have received grants from funds managed by

County Durham Community Foundation include the Lanchester Village Bus, which celebrated its 10th Anniversary last week, the Cricket Club, the Lawn Tennis Club, the Brass Band, the Male Voice Choir, the Community Association, Allotment Association, Playgroup and Rugby Club.

Anyone who wishes to apply for a grant from County Durham Community Foundation can view the guidelines and fill in an application form at www.cdcf.org.uk, or alternatively call the office on 0191 378 6340.

Gardening in May

Warmth has at last returned to the soil and even the sleepest of hibernating plants have been brought back to life. Even though we probably have lost some of our perennials due to the extremely low temperatures we had in winter, from now until autumn it is just one long succession of flower, colour, sunshine, showers and then, fruit. May, for me, is probably the best month of the year as any worry of late frosts is fading, seeds are germinating and there is summer to look forward to. It is, of course, also a busy month.

Borders and Baskets

At the beginning of May you need to begin to harden off your bedding plants and, at the same time, keep check of the weather forecast to provide the necessary protection if frost is forecast. You can lift and divide primulas, polyanthus and forget-me-nots which have finished flowering and dead-head

narcissi but remember not to tie leaves together or cut them off for at least six weeks as the foliage helps the bulbs for next year's flowers. May is also a good time to prepare your hanging baskets and containers. In order to help with the watering remember that:

- large containers/baskets are the easiest to maintain;
- you will need a mix of compost, feed and water gel;
- place a small pot in the centre at the top to help with watering;
- place basket side plants in a newspaper roll to make for easier planting.

A mix of two or three colours is all that you need. For example pink, silver and white choose from dichondra 'silver falls', ivy-leaved pelargonium, nemesia, nepeta, petunia, verberna; for blue and yellow choose from bidens, felicia, nemesia, creeping jenny; for red, orange and yellow choose from begonia 'bonfire',

begonia 'million kisses', ivy-leaved pelargonium, petunia, verberna; or for a shady basket choose from trailing begonia, trailing fuchsia, impatiens and hosta.

Vegetables

The beginning of the month is the time to sow French and runner beans in the open and erect supports as necessary. During the month sow marrows and courgettes and plant brassicas, French and runner beans that have been raised under glass. Plant tomatoes and cucumbers.

General Tasks

Around the garden the following jobs can usefully be completed this month: dig dandelions, daisies and other weeds out of your lawn; tie climbers like clematis to their supports; thin out any congested growth on annual seeds that are growing, water lilies and other aquatic plants; cut down dionysiums and pulminarias after flowering; and feed houseplants every week.

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LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Unfortunately Margaret Hedley was unable to give her talk to the Society on 1st April as planned, but member Arthur Dodds stepped into the breach and gave a third talk to members about spying, this time entitled The History of Espionage.

As usual, Mr Dodds spoke for some time, very knowledgeably, without notes, with the accompaniment of

relevant slides showing various people and places. Beginning with the Tudors, going right through the World Wars, the Cold War, Northern Ireland up to the present day, the talk was extremely interesting. Members were enthralled and many questions were asked at the end of the talk. Kevin Leary, acting Chairman, thanked Mr Dodds for his brilliant

talk, which had obviously been very well researched, and said that he hoped Mr Dodds would come again. Mr Dodds agreed to do this, saying that his talk would be about Mossad, which he had mentioned during his talk.

Next month's meeting, on 6th May, will be Mrs Hedley on the subject of Victorian Women in the Pit Village.

THURSDAY CLUB UPDATE

Our last meeting in March was our 31st anniversary which we celebrated in a much more down to earth manner than last year. It was spent in the Community Centre where we enjoyed a piece of birthday cake and had a beetle drive, all good fun and an excellent way of getting to know everyone. On April 21st we shall be hearing all

about, 'Hwange conservation, helping Zimbabwe's wildlife' and in May Catherine McAnancy will be talking about the 'Life and Work of Mother Theresa'.

We are having an outing to Whitby on Thursday August 18th - names and a £5 deposit are required by the May meeting which is on the 19th.

AMIGOS COFFEE MORNING

Amigo members and helpers would like to thank everyone who contributed towards a grand total of £186.60 which was raised at their coffee morning in March. We all enjoyed a happy sociable occasion and are most grateful for the support given.

LILYDALE FUNDRAISING

Lilydale Pet Supplies are to run several fundraising events over the next few months to help Teesdale and Weardale Search and Mountain Rescue Team raise the funds for a new vehicle. The volunteers and dogs of Search and Rescue receive no Government help to fund their work. Details of the appeal are available at Lilydale Pets.

Lilydale now has a Guess the number of biscuits in the jar competition at 50p a guess, and hopes to

organise a sponsored pup crawl from the first to last pub in Weardale this summer. Any ideas for

fundraising would be welcomed. Your help with this worthwhile cause would be appreciated.



One of the volunteers and dog, just part of the Teesdale and Weardale Search and Mountain Rescue Team

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VASELINE DIARIES (final part)

**Day 13, 6 pm Thursday
26th August 2010**

Made it to Bettyhill and the end of our penultimate day. Stu had taken one of my saddle bags for most of the journey to lighten my load, and with the additional assistance of anti-inflammatories and pain killers, it had made a difference.

That night Stu came up with a fantastic idea for my leg (why he hadn't thought of it two days earlier I'll never know). He had a pair of cycling leggings which were too tight and suggested cutting the calf section out of one and using it as a support for my thigh.

Friday 27th August - the final day

I woke with a mix of excitement (our last day!), fear (my thigh!), and sadness (our last day!). Pulling on the make-shift support bandage, I packed my bags for the bike for the last time and headed out to a sunny cool morning - perfect.

Our journey was free of any tension that had accompanied previous days. It was our last. It didn't matter how long it



*Dave and Stu celebrate with Champagne
in John O'Groats*

would take and it was only 53 miles. Stu's bike, having broken a spoke the day before needed a repair. So we stopped in Thurso, where the bike shop informed us that it would be an hour and a half to fix the bike. On other days we would have been gutted, but not today.

Happily, we ventured off in search of food and found ourselves a wonderful little coffee shop. Two Cappuccinos, tuna melt and a big slice of cake later, we rolled out to reclaim our bikes.

Eventually we were within 50 metres of John O'Groats! Turning onto the final stretch to the 'finish' line, injury or not, Stu and I increased our pace and sped for the end, passing the line side by side.

We had made it! Despite the setbacks, the pain, the boredom and the wet, we had made it. We set our bikes down on the grass and headed for the sign signifying the end. There we were met by Stu's girlfriend Ellie, Champagne in hand!

Dave Algeo

AGRICULTURAL SUCCESS



Eighteen-year-old Catherine Gardiner, a former pupil of St Bede's School, won the best dairy calf prize at the 50th anniversary stockmanship competition at Bishop Burton College, near Beverley, East Yorkshire, with her calf, named Florence. Catherine (left) is pictured with Florence and runners-up in her class, with Bernard Liddle, chairman of Holstein UK, second right.

CHAMPIONE!!!



Left to right: Glen Harrison, Mark Charlton, Stephen Bell, John Waugh, Nathan Burnett, Peter Edgell, Wes Welch, Richard Pearce, Chris Hughes, Steve Smithson, Jonathan Hames, Ashton Hughes, Donny Crozier, Corey Glendinning, Dale Southeran; Kneeling: Phil Bowes (captain), Tom Pinnington.

The inaugural season for Lanchester Cricket Club Football team has seen skipper Phil Bowes lift the third division trophy in the Consett Sunday League. It's been a hard slog and the run in to win the title put professional players to shame with seven games in fifteen days. The run started on a Sunday with a 5-0 home win over Ox Inn. The Tuesday saw a blip with a 2-1 defeat at the Freemasons Arms, where their keeper single handedly kept out the cricket club. No damage was done though as title rivals lost at Beamish on the same night. Thursday saw the return fixture with nine man Ox Inn, thrashing them 11-1, Peter Edgell smashing in six goals. Sunday was a breather from the league with a cup tie against Division 2 league leaders Leadgate Golden

Lion and the Cricket Club put in one of their best performances of the season defeating their higher division opponents 4-3 in extra time with Steve Smithson getting the winner. Tuesday saw a 3-2 win over Chester Le Street Black Horse, followed on Thursday with a 3-1 win over Glendenning Arms. The same night Washington Oasis lost, leaving the cricket club top by three points, both sides having two games left. Lanchester entertained Oasis on the Sunday and came from behind twice to earn a 2-2 draw, goals from Mark Charlton and Steve Smithson, meaning that the cricket club needed only one point to win the league. That all became academic as Oasis lost their final match on the Tuesday night. The final game on the Thursday night, after a

massive four day breather (!) saw the cricket club play the Black Horse again. The spirit and teamwork shown throughout the season came to the fore, as injuries were taking their toll and they fought back twice to earn a 3-3 draw and ensure that they won the title. Cue the celebrations.

The football hasn't quite finished as two cup competitions are yet to be resolved, but the club achieved what it set out to do in its first season and that's what is important. Huge thanks must go to Steve Murray who got the team organised and up and running before moving on, to Gary for providing the food after the home games and the biggest thanks to Elmfield Transport for providing the strips that allowed us to play.

DURHAM POLICE - 3 YEAR PLAN

Durham Police Authority and Durham Constabulary have agreed ambitious targets to continue to drive down crime, despite recent cuts to policing budgets. The Authority's Annual Report 2010-11 and Policing Plan 2011-14 demonstrates how the Authority and Force will work together to continue to improve performance

measures and address local policing priorities, influenced by the views of local people. The main priorities of high importance to local people are tackling anti-social behaviour, protecting vulnerable people from harm and reducing the impact of drug and alcohol abuse on people and communities.

This year, the plan is a much smaller, magazine style document, aiming to attract a wide variety of local people to view it. The Annual Report 2010-11 and Policing Plan 2011-14 can be viewed at www.durham-pa.gov.uk and www.durham.police.uk, or residents can call 0191 3835511 to request a copy.


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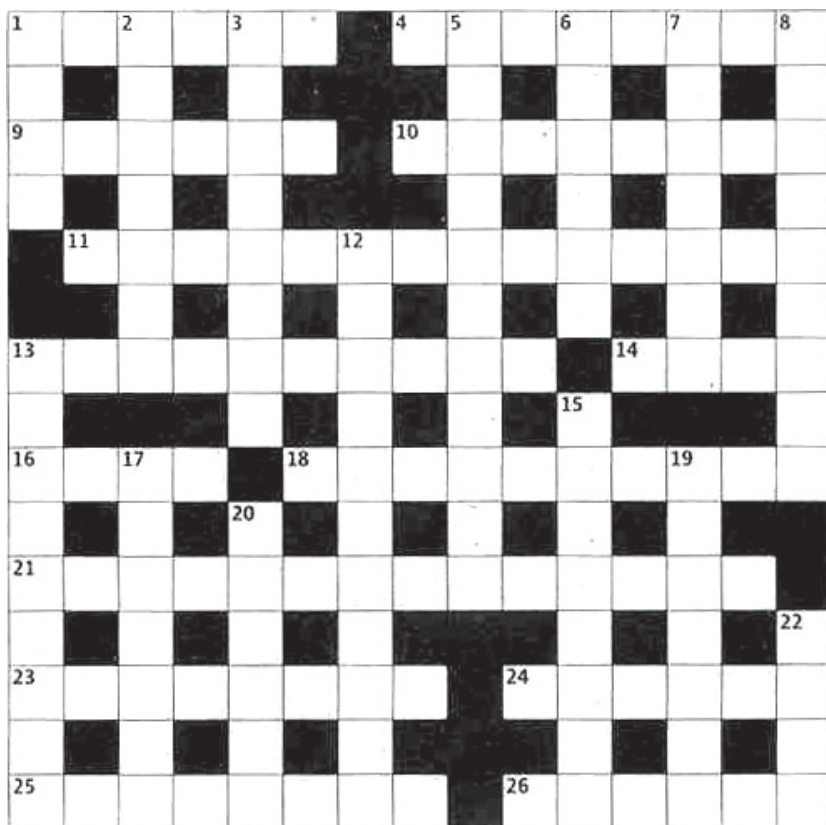
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CROSSWORD 60



ACROSS

1. Wobble (6)
4. Creature with a sting in the tail (8)
9. Wince (6)
10. Weapon sounds like snappy tie (8)
11. Do what comes naturally (fig) (6,4,4)
13. Gasping (10)
- 14,16. Skilful individual (1,3,4)
16. see 14
18. Inactive air (4,6)
21. Don't interfere (5,4,5)
23. Invigorate (8)
24. Light (6)
25. Controversial EU policy for agricultural land use (3,5)
26. Still conditions produced by request as I sit down (6)

DOWN

1. Minor disagreement (4)
2. Instalment (7)
3. Grow (8)
5. Versatile metal used in manufacturing (6,5)
6. Prayer counter (6)
- 7,15. Perfect visibility (2,5,8)
8. Recent recruit (3,6)
12. Smart (4,7)
13. Observers put support in ales (9)
15. see 7
17. Closest (7)
19. P a p a l ambassadors (7)
20. Pretends (6)
22. Hardy heroine (4)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 59

ACROSS

8. jailbird
9. youth
10. edge
11. toe the line
12. thwart
14. seascape
- 15,17. hell for leather
17. see 15
20. unsaddle
22. torrid
23. fly-by-night
24. mire
25. ogler
26. see 13

DOWN

1. sandshoe
2. clue
3. diktat
4. adverse
5. lych gate
6. duplicator
7. chin up
- 13,26. a clean bill of health
16. ordinary
18. emigrate
19. Peugeot
21. Nelson
22. tetchy
24. moan

CROSSWORD 59

There were 22 entries in last month's crossword competition.

Congratulations to Dennis Dunn of Burnhope who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

Test your skill on John Wilson's latest challenge.

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.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Baked Apple and Almond Pudding

Ingredients

1 lb cooking apples, peeled and sliced (450g)
 2 oz soft brown sugar (50g)
 4 oz ground almonds (110g)
 4oz butter at room temperature (110g)
 4 oz caster sugar (110g)
 2 large eggs, beaten
 (Pre-heat the oven to gas mark 4, 350F (180C))
 A buttered pie dish approximately one and half pint (850ml) capacity
 Place the apples in a saucepan with the brown sugar and approximately 1 tablespoon of water, simmer gently until soft, and then arrange them

in the bottom of the prepared pie dish
 In a mixing bowl, cream the butter and caster sugar until pale and fluffy and then beat in the eggs a little at a time. When all the egg is in, carefully and lightly fold in the ground almonds. Now spread this mixture over the apples, evening out the surface with the back of a tablespoon. Then bake on a 'highish' shelf in the oven for exactly 1 hour.
 This pudding is equally good served warm or cold - either way it's nice with some chilled pouring cream. It will keep in the refrigerator for 2 or 3 days.

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.

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

WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed members and visitors to our April meeting. June Wallis did the reading then Jennifer allocated transport for our May meeting taking place at Lanchester Garden Centre. Members attending the AGM on 12th April were told travel arrangements as were members attending the murder mystery night. The balance for the Summer trip on Wednesday 29th June is due by 6th June.

Ann Horner won the raffle and the competition winners were Eileen Curnow and Breda Branscombe.

Our speakers were Les and Viv Howe on the art of silversmithing. Les was sporting cuts and bruises from a cycling accident but this did not stop him coming to share with us the inspirations and techniques he uses in his work, pieces of which he has created for among others the Queen, Prince Charles and the Bishop of Durham. A lot of his work is inspired by the Lindisfarne Gospels and Durham Cathedral, some of his tools were first created over 4000 years ago. This was a humorous and very informative talk. Jennifer gave the vote of thanks before refreshments.

25 ladies had a lovely evening at Knitsley Mill farm shop where they opened up just for us, explained the history and showed us round the kitchens before we finished our evening with delicious homemade refreshments in the café. We would certainly recommend a visit both for the produce and the café.

Our April coffee morning was very enjoyable with lots of homemade cakes and sales items all supplied by members. We would like to give a big thank you to everyone who helped in any way, whether bringing, buying or serving and everyone who came to support us.



Mary Moralee, Maureen Heron, Barbara Sproat and Breda Branscombe buying and selling at the WI coffee morning sales table

LADIES WHO LUNCH

Our last outing was back to Lumley Castle - they had their Two for Lunch for £30 offer on again and we decided to take advantage. The offer is fantastic value, lunch in the atmospheric Black Knight restaurant, 3 courses plus coffee. We sampled for starters smoked mackerel salad with

horseradish sauce, cauliflower soup, chicken liver pate with chutney and bruschetta. Main courses were bacon wrapped chicken on a sage mash, goats cheese and pesto tart with sun-blushed tomatoes, baked salmon with new potatoes and dill butter. Puds were profiteroles, a very

tangy lemon tart and American cheesecake, all rounded off with a really good cup of coffee. The food is always excellent and the whole experience of dining at Lumley Castle a delight. We thoroughly recommend you go and give it try for yourself.

The Gourmet Girls

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ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

Country Market

The next market will take place in Lanchester Community Centre on Saturday 7th May from 10 - 11.30am. The usual cakes, scones, pies, jams, marmalades, chutneys, crafts and plants will be for sale.

Open House

All are welcome at the Chapter House on Thursday 5th May. A sandwich lunch is served between 11.30 am and 1.00pm.

Wildlife Group

There is no meeting on 10th May. On Saturday 7th May there will be an outdoor trip. Please ring 01207 520063 for further information.

Lanchester Social Club Entertainment

Special Bikers Hog Roast and afternoon of rock, Saturday 7th May, starting at 12 noon. Free entry. All proceeds to Willow Burn.

Saturday 7th May, JENNIFER JONES, Great Young Vocalist

Saturday 14th May, MARK McCANN, Fantastic Male Vocalist

Saturday 21st May, LYNDESEY DARLING, Super Young Singer

Saturday 28th May, KEVIN JAMES, Great Vocalist Ex Image Limit

Junior Wildlife

On 15th May there will be a visit to Malton. Meet at 10 am in the car park.

Paradiso Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday May 8th at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. Refreshments, raffle and a chance to see a film on the big screen - 'MADE IN DAGENHAM'.

From the Director of 'Calendar Girls' with a stellar British cast, it is the inspiring story of the woman who made history! Award-winning Sally Hawkins (Happy Go Lucky) plays a feisty yet warm-hearted worker of the Ford car plant in Dagenham, who leads the revolution for equal pay for women. A group of workers/friends make a journey from the factory floor to the House of Commons and prove nothing is impossible if you stand up for what you believe!

All welcome, membership is £5 pa and ticket at the door £2.50 each Social.

WI

Our next meeting will take place on 9th May (second Monday) at Lanchester Garden Centre where we will have a talk on hanging baskets, tubs and alpine displays. Transport has been arranged and the competition is a gardening tip.

Mothers' Union

At the meeting on Wednesday 11th May, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, Dorothy Rand will give a talk entitled "1950's-Voyage of Discovery".

Library Talk

Jackie Clark, Outreach Information Officer for the Northumberland Royal National Institute for the Deaf will be giving a talk in the Library on Thursday 26th May at 7.30pm. Entry is free, and tickets may be obtained from the Library. For more details, telephone 01207 521021.

WHAT'S ON?

Start Swimming and Stay Swimming

When was the last time you thought about going for a swim? 'Swim Active' is a new way to start swimming and stay swimming in County Durham.

Starting on 11th April for those aged 40-74 years the new 'Swim Active' programme is looking to encourage people to take to the water with a 12 week programme of aquatic activities. Participants can visit the pool as many times as they like in a 12 week period only paying £2.10 no matter what activity they take part in. The 'Swim Active' project has been developed by the Amateur Swimming Association North East region as part of a drive to increase the number of people swimming in the region. Both the Louisa Centre Stanley and Belle Vue Swim Centre Consett are participating in the project. The project will run for 18 months and the last date to register is 30th September 2012. There are no set registration dates - just go along to your local leisure centre to join.

Flower Club

On Wednesday 25th May from 1.30 - 3.30 pm in the Community Centre, there will be a workshop with Pam Greenhill.

Short Circuit Walks

14th May, 10.30 am, Kibblesworth circular, 5 miles. Meet at Pit Wheel to west of village, NZ24256.

28th May, 10.30 am, Ponteland circular, 5.5 miles. Meet at Memorial Hall on Darras Road, NZ163727.

Lanchester Lions 2011 FA Cup Draw

Opening of Envelopes at Lanchester Social Club at 9 pm on Friday 13th May.

Lanchester Lions hold a sealed envelope in the name of each of the 92 participants in the draw. Each envelope contains the name of a team in the Premiership, Championship, Division 1 and Division 2 Leagues.

Come along on the Friday night to open your envelope and see the name of your team. (If you cannot make it, your collector will open the envelope on your behalf.)

On the night the Lions will pay by cheque the following:

Losing teams round four 16 x £50 prizes

Losing teams round five 8 x £75 prizes

Losing quarter finalists 4 x £100 prizes

Losing semi-finalists 2 x £200 prizes

We will then know the two teams in the final the next day. After the final we will pay out £1,000 in respect of the winning team and £400 in respect of the losing team.

After giving out a total of £3,600 in prizes, the Lions will be left with £1,000 to use for their charitable purposes.

We hope that those of you who have participated in the draw this year will wish to do so again for next year. We will be taking names on the night.

Lanchester Lions

PACT Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 25th May at 7.15 pm in Lanchester Community Centre. All welcome.

Day and Evening Yoga Classes

Lanchester Community Centre & All Saints Parish Centre

Gentle Hatha Yoga to Stretch, Tone & Relax
Current classes: Thursday 6.00pm - 7.30pm

**New Classes starting 9th May
Monday 9.00am - 10.30am**

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www.laura-yoganortheast.co.uk



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Wednesday 11th May 5.30-7.00pm

please bring some form of ID

For more information please contact
Tracie on 0191 375 4933
tracie.conlan@newdur.ac.uk

New College Durham reserves the right to amend information at anytime.

Tennis Family Fun Day

Not played tennis for a long time?

Have never played tennis?

Fancy having a go?

As part of their Centenary Celebrations Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club is holding a Family Fun Day at the club courts off Ford Road on **Saturday 14th May from 1.00 - 4.00 pm.**

Events will include Tennis Fun Factory, Ball Machine, Games, Mini Matches and Coaching with prizes to give away.

All ages and abilities welcome, all equipment supplied. Refreshments available including a sausage sizzle. Come and enjoy the fun.

This is a **FREE** event funded by the Mid Durham Area Action Partnership and Lanchester Parish Council.

For those who haven't already joined the coaching sessions, just a reminder of the times and venues:-

Ford Rd grass courts; Monday evenings (except Bank Holidays)

4.30 - 5.30 pm Under 8 years

5.30 - 6.30 pm 9 to 12 years

6.30 - 7.30 pm 13+ years
The club season officially starts on the first Saturday in May when the grass courts will be open to members.

For further information on the Family Fun Day, Coaching and Club Membership contact the Secretary on 01207 520278.



Derwentside Byways and Bridleways Walks

10th May, 7.00 pm. Start from The Chelmsford Pub, Ebchester. Park in Shaw Lane or outside St Ebba's Church.

24th May, 7.00 pm. Start from Hamsteels Inn, Front Street, Quebec. From Lanchester go along Ford Road (B6301) and left at crossroads after Square House Farm towards Esh.

Costume Extravaganza

Durham Dramatic Society is staging a 'Costume Extravaganza' on Friday May 13th at 7.30 at the City Theatre, Fowlers Yard, Back Silver St, Durham, as part of the 25th Anniversary Celebrations of the City Theatre.

The wardrobe department has been raided and a selection of ladies theatre costumes, from medieval to the 1980's, will be modelled, some original, some adapted and some made especially for specific plays. Tickets are £5 each and include nibbles. Contact Lesley Anderson on 521678 for information and tickets.

Summer Fayre Parish Church

Lanchester Parish Church will hold their Summer Fayre at the Chapter House on Saturday 4th June 9.30 am - 11.30 am. The theme is Sunshine & Strawberries. Cakes and savouries, cards, pictures, plants, books, bric a brac, toiletries and a bottle tombola will feature, along with the Grand Summer Draw. Tea/Coffee, Strawberry and Cheese Scones will be available for only £1.00. Put the date in your diary now.

BOWLING SEASON BECKONS

The outdoor bowling season has begun, Lanchester's green is open for practice and the team matches will start on Wednesday 4th May. The green is probably in the best condition it has been for a good few years and the surrounding flower beds are looking good too, so thank you to the council gardeners for their work over the close season.

We were delighted to see some new faces at

our pre-season meeting and a few more have come down to the green to join, so things look good for the coming season.

We would still like to welcome more new members, be they new to bowls or seasoned players. We run 4 teams which play in the local leagues on Monday, Tuesday and Saturday afternoons as well as Wednesday evenings. All our teams include both men and women. We also play friendly

games against clubs from different leagues and have a number of club competitions that run through the season.

Membership is only £40 for the season and you can practise at any time with nothing more to pay than a token charge for club competitions.

Come down one afternoon and have a chat and possibly a "roll up" or ring Ken Raper on 521673 if you would like to join.

HOPING FOR WARM WEATHER

By the time you read this the cricket season will have started over the Easter weekend and fingers crossed it was nice and warm.

The first team start at Sacriston and then face the two teams who finished above them when they entertain Swalwell and Shotley Bridge. It will be a measure of how much the team can progress as they take on these two teams.

Twenty year old Aussie, Nathan Hudson joins the club as professional and coach for the junior

players. Nathan is a left handed batsman from Newcastle, who can bowl spin and keep wicket. He recently scored 292 not out off 160 balls, which is some feat. Here's hoping for more of the same at Lanchester. Stu McPhail continues to lead the firsts and Steve Murray will lead the seconds again. The third team start on May 1st with a trip to league champions Boldon and are again led by Andy McConnell.

Doug Patterson is the under 18s skipper, Lee Murray will lead the

under 15s and John Lawson the under 13s. New players are still welcome for all age groups. Anyone interested should contact Bob Gardiner on 07980238187.

One disappointing piece of news was that thieves removed the garage door and stole three lawn mowers from the club in March, seriously hampering preparations for the season.

The last two seasons have been good ones so let's hope for good weather and great cricket this year.

RED NOSE DAY AT BURNHOPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

continued from back page

On Friday 18th March, Burnhope Primary School celebrated Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief. Red noses were sold during the week leading up to Red Nose Day, and children filled up Smartie tubes with loose change (after eating the Smarties first, of course).

On the day, school had an 'opposites' theme, with pupils dressing as

staff, and staff as pupils, much to the amusement of all concerned. The children in our nursery and the staff and children in Burnhope First Class Childcare joined in the fun by having a pyjama day. Everyone made a donation of £1 each for being allowed not to wear uniform!

In the morning we sold cakes to parents and friends, and in the afternoon held our very

own reality show: "Burnhope's Got Talent!" The panel of judges was very supportive and it was a difficult task to choose a winner from each year group.

In all, a very enjoyable and successful day was held, which raised the magnificent sum of £450 for Comic Relief.

We would like to thank everyone who supported us in any way.

RED NOSE DAY FUN FOR COMIC RELIEF



The EP school held a special Red Nose Day assembly to watch the documentary, 'Francis Story'. Most children and staff dressed in red and many wore red noses. Money raised for Comic Relief was an excellent £458.00.



Burnhope Primary School - winners of "Burnhope's Got Talent" from each year group



Burnhope Primary School staff dressed as pupils for Red Nose Day (see page 27 for full story)



A 'Pyjama Party' at New Image (left) as Mary and colleagues raise in excess of £100 for Comic Relief and still counting. Staff gave tips and generous customers contributed the rest.



Peters 'schoolgirls' amuse customers for Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief. In total they raised an excellent £119.50.



Jeni and girls of Talking Heads (left) paint the town red with a money raiser for Comic Relief. They expect to reach in excess of the £150 which they have already received from customers and staff.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next Village Voice by 17th May. The deadline for **adverts** is 15th May.

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