

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 5 Volume 14

Lanchester, May 2013

For contact information, see page 2

VILLAGE FLOODED AGAIN



Ged's quickly erected barrier cordons off the village



Paul Jackson's flood defence working well, his wife Mary smiling in the background



The Jet Station under water



A close call for Ray Emmerton, the rain stopped just in time.

Heavy rain on Saturday morning on 18th May, adding to previous falls overnight, saw Lanchester Front Street and other areas flooded once more. What many people had dreaded, had

happened. It was not quite as bad as 'thunder Thursday' last year but it did cause stress, particularly for those who lived or had businesses in the centre of the village.

Continued on page 4

BEN HUR RIDES AGAIN



Just so our front page is not all wet and gloomy, this picture was taken at the Ben Hur bikers' rally where the weather was fine. Is this helmet legal?

See story on page 6



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
Naomi Little and family would like to thank those who sent lovely cards and messages of condolence and sympathy following the death of a beloved husband, Wilf, father, grandfather, brother and uncle. These were much appreciated and a comfort to us all at this sad time.

The funeral collection in lieu of flowers raised the sum of £315.45 and cheque for this amount has been sent to Cancer Research UK. Thank you all for your generosity.

Sincerely, Naomi Little

How to contact the Village Voice

To advertise:

Contact John Hurran, Advertising Manager
Telephone: (01207) 520288

Email: villagevoice adverts@talktalk.net
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By email:

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

By post:

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

Dear Village Voice

I would like to express how grateful I am to the gentleman from Ford Road who contacted the Village Voice after finding a watch. I really appreciate the thoughtfulness of the kind gentleman as I purchased this watch over 45 years ago when I was demobbed from the armed forces. The watch is of sentimental value therefore I was very pleased to have it returned.

Kind regards

A resident of Alderside

Dear Village Voice

A big thank you to absolutely everyone who helped in any way, to ensure the success of the 'Swish' evening, held on May 2nd, in Lanchester Methodist Church.

We enjoyed an evening of fellowship over coffee and cake, and most of us found super 'swaps' to add to the wardrobe!

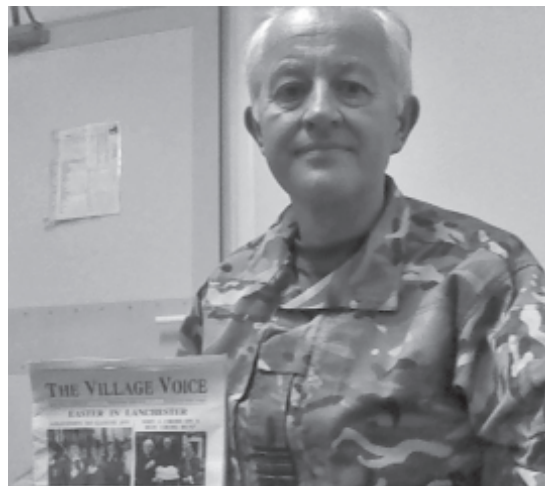
It was a tremendous team effort raising £291.83 for Christian Aid to help transform lives around the world

by supporting poor communities to explore and find their own solutions to poverty.

Red Cross will also benefit from the 'Swish' event as all surplus donations of clothing and accessories were kindly accepted by the village charity shop for resale - ie eco friendly recycling at its best!

We do appreciate your support!

Women of Lanchester Methodist Church



The Village Voice travels a long way. Ken Horn with his copy at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan.

LONG DISTANCE VILLAGE VOICE

The picture below is of me at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan some 3000 miles away from Lanchester showing a copy of the Village Voice. How did it get here? Well my mam (Kathleen Horn of Ford Crescent) kindly dropped it into the post for me to keep in touch. My credentials are that I was born at Croft View

and attended the EP School after starting in Mrs Errington's class in the old prefab back in 1962, a long time ago.

My other claim to fame is that I was the last clockwinder at the church before the winding mechanism was electrified back in 1974. Although I have lived in Oxford for 20 years I make regular returns to the village for an inspection. The good news is it is still as nice as when I was born there!

However, on a personal note I would not let them build houses on Cadger Bank! Would you want to buy a house above old mine workings? Keep up the good work with the Voice.

Best wishes

Sqn Ldr Ken Horn
RAF Mobile Meteorological Unit
BFPO 792

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for April 2013 is 50. The draw was made by Sheila Kelly of the Thursday Art Group.

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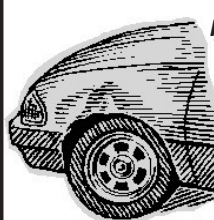
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ANGUS CELEBRATES HIS 90th BIRTHDAY

Angus Appleby celebrated his 90th birthday on 3rd April with his family and friends. It was a thoroughly enjoyable day and Angus appreciated the many cards and presents he received.

Angus was born in Sunnyside, but has lived in Lanchester for most of his life. He moved to Hollinside to live with Sister Evelyn after taking employment as a coal miner at the tender age of 14! Angus worked in the local mines for most of his working life. In his spare time Angus bred and raced pigeons and was a member of Lanchester Social Club. He was one of the first

members of this club and his membership number is no 1. He was also a keen gardener and took part in the leek show, where he won a lot of prizes for his vegetables and flowers. During the war Angus joined the home guards. The headquarters was located behind the King's Head Hotel in Lanchester. He likes to reminisce about the time he served as a home guard and is interested to know if there is anyone else in Lanchester who was also a home guard.

Angus married a Hollinside lass, Rene, who sadly died nearly 3 years ago. They have a family of 5, 12 grandchildren and



Angus helping the band at his grandson's wedding

10 great grand children. Keeping in touch with the family is important to Angus, especially to his grandchildren who live in Australia, New Zealand and USA. Recently, he flew over to Ireland for a grandson's wedding. This

was the first time he had been on an aeroplane and he thoroughly enjoyed the experienced. During the wedding celebrations he accompanied the Irish band with the spoons. Angus is very musical and as well as the spoons plays the harmonica and accordion.

Angus still keeps active by doing some planting out in the greenhouse. He

also reads a lot, completes the Sudoku and code breaker in the daily newspaper. He also enjoys completing jigsaws and watches sport on TV. His family never tire of listening to Angus's stories including how Lanchester used to be and the fond memories of Lanchester people who he and Rene shared their lives with.

NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN FOR LANCHESTER

My name is Chris and I have been Neighbourhood Warden for Lanchester for 4 weeks. I thought I would use this opportunity to introduce myself and also introduce our service.

Neighbourhood wardens tackle environmental problems to improve the local environment and promote community involvement and social inclusion, especially among young people. They also deal with stray dogs and enforce legislation around dog ownership.

They specifically tackle the following environmental issues and have the powers to issue fixed penalty notices.

- * litter
- * dog fouling
- * fly-tipping
- * abandoned vehicles
- * graffiti
- * waste - duty of care
- * disposal of household waste
- * illegal storage, treatment and disposal of waste
- * transporting waste



Chris Hindmarch, Lanchester's Neighbourhood Warden

- * clearing waste dumped on land
- * street litter
- * chewing gum
- * litter clearing notices
- * fly-posting
- * abandoned shopping trolleys.

Neighbourhood wardens work closely with the police, fire service, other enforcement agencies and council service providers to deal with issues of concern to residents. They carry out regular patrols throughout the county, dealing with any issues they encounter or which are reported to

them. They also help to tackle low level anti-social behaviour, where it is safe to do so.

Neighbourhood wardens will collect any stray dogs which are found by members of the public. If a dog is reported as loose and stray we will attempt to catch it.

If you come across any of these issues please do not hesitate to let us know either by contacting us at 03000 261000 or 101.

I look forward to working in Lanchester and doing all I can to help wherever possible.

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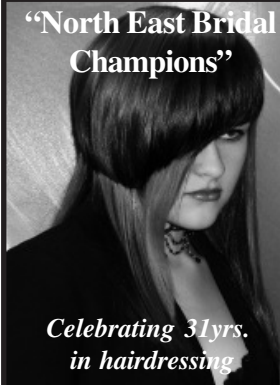


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VILLAGE FLOODED AGAIN



Bottom of Maiden Law Bank, eventually closed



Police block village at Consett end

Continued from front page
Durham Road at the church junction, Maiden Law Bank and outside St Bede's School were all closed for a few hours. As usual Maiden Law Bank, Peth Bank and Newbiggen Lane were like rivers, the latter causing much of the central flooding. Alexander Sales and Lettings and

Barclays Bank were flooded and the house next to the hardware shop, but the remainder escaped except for Lanchester Hardware at the rear. Flood defences erected quickly by Lanchester Pharmacy, Paul Jackson and the Bridal Shop were successful. Other vulnerable areas: Station Road, The Square, Church View and Victoria Terrace were not affected. The Jet Station on the bypass was under water as was the entrance to Bishops Mews. Traffic was at a standstill on the bypass and the police closed the entrance to the village at that end for anyone wishing to enter the centre. Much of the traffic had to turn around. There was a police presence near the

entrance to the Queen's Head for a short time but no evidence of any other services ie, Fire, Durham CC or Northumbria Water. Front Street was left in a filthy state with silt everywhere. Quick thinking Ged from Lanchester Hardware closed the road just past his premises with some bright red plastic crates erected to an appropriate size. Once again there was some inappropriate driving through Front Street at the early stages but Ged's action quickly negated this. The flood subsided after about two hours when the torrential rain stopped. It will be interesting to see how Operation Valencia (staged emergency flood event) on 13th June responds to a similar situation.

FLOODING - WHAT IS BEING DONE?

The County Council engineers have commissioned a report on improving the flood resilience of Front Street. The draft report has been received. It recommends speeding up the rate at which water will get away by putting in an additional pipe, perhaps 900mm diameter, to take some

water from the underground Alderdene Culvert at a point more or less beneath the war memorial and discharge it into Smallhope Burn east of the King's Head. It is hoped that funding for this work will become available soon. (The capacity of Smallhope Burn below the King's Head has already been

improved by taking away the footbridge.) The County Council engineers are also looking at improving the flood resilience of the A691 between Lanchester and the Langley Park roundabout and that of Maiden Law Bank and its junction with the A691. They are also

advising St Bede's School, following Saturday's knee-deep flooding there. As a spin-off from Operation Valencia it is hoped that the village might acquire a stockpile of Aqua-sacs. It is infuriating and unfortunate that the people of Lanchester have again had to suffer

another flood within a year of the last one. Luckily not so much damage was caused this time. However, there is action going on in the background to try and improve drainage facilities. Due to local political pressure money is expected for this to happen in the near future.

EXERCISE VALENCIA UPDATE

Exercise Valencia will take place in and around Lanchester on the morning of Thursday 13th June and will involve a number of organisations including the police, the fire service, the local authority and the voluntary sector. Part of the exercise will also involve a visit from the RAF Search & Rescue Squadron.

The scenario for the exercise is around flooding and intends to build on the excellent work done in the village over the last 12 months during some of the flooding emergencies we have experienced.

Just prior to the exercise local businesses have been invited to a business continuity drop-in breakfast which will be running from 7.30 am in the King's Head Hotel. This is a chance to talk to the Durham County Council Civil Contingencies Team as well as a representative from the Community Resilience UK charity about how businesses can plan for emergencies.

The exercise will commence with a briefing at the Community Centre on Newbiggin Lane at 9.00 am. The police will be communicating with local community groups and organisations to get representatives to the briefing and at the same time the Territorial Army will be setting up some tents on the village green where you will be able to check out some displays and information booths about flooding and other emergencies.

The Fire and Rescue Service and the Territorial Army will be demonstrating how to construct aqua-sac defences in and around the village green and then the focus of the exercise will shift slightly outside the village when the RAF Search & Rescue Squadron will 'rescue' a vulnerable missing person and airlift them to safety. You will be able to get information about times and safe viewing areas on the morning of the exercise at either the Community Centre or at the village green.

Extra police officers will be on duty in and around the village centre during the exercise and they will be able to provide you with information and answer questions. The important part of the morning is testing how the community can work with the emergency services to protect itself.

Volunteers are still needed to help on the day; they can come to the Community Centre at 9 am or the Village Green at any time during the exercise. For further information contact the Durham County Council Civil Contingencies Unit on 03000 264645 or Durham Constabulary Operational Planning Unit on 0191 3752932.

LANCHESTER BUSINESSES THINK AHEAD!

Business owners in Lanchester are invited to attend a free business breakfast to find out about the benefits of Business Continuity planning. Business Continuity is simply making arrangements to ensure an organisation can stay in business following disruptions, such as flooding, fire, loss of utilities or staff shortages. According to the Federation of Small Business, 80 per cent of businesses affected by a major incident close within 18 months. Having Business Continuity plans can reduce this risk by improving resilience and

minimise exposure to hazards.

Incorporating Business Continuity principles in planning is not difficult; it is just about responsible management. It makes a business a safer place to work, contributes to financial stability and is valuable to businesses of all sizes.

To find out more, join the County Durham & Darlington Civil Contingencies Unit at the King's Head Hotel Lanchester, 7.30-9 am on Thursday 13th June.

If you would like to attend, or for more information, please telephone 03000 264645.

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BEN HUR RIDES AGAIN!

Continued from front page
Once again, a tent city appeared on the hills above Lanchester, and the growl of motor bikes echoed along the lanes as bikers from across the UK arrived to take part in the annual Ben Hur Rally. The Rally is hosted by the Lanchester Centurions Motor Cycle club and is an extremely popular event. Tickets had sold well, and the maximum capacity of 500 bikers was expected to be reached, with several local charities set to benefit from the generosity of the biking community. After the extremely cold and wet weather last year, it was a dry and pleasant weekend for the biker boys and girls, who looked forward to two days of good music, food and drink and meeting up with old friends. Live music is an important part of the gathering, and this was provided on site, and at Crinnion's bistro, which once again served as a gathering place and focus for events. Live bands included the Dee Tees, Tumblin' Dice,



The biking community start to arrive



Biker Mementos on sale at the Rally

Accidental Damage and the Boneshakers. The venue was, as always, very well organised, with First Aid facilities provided, and effective disposal of litter. The beer tent was a popular meeting place, with several stalls selling refreshments, and the tee shirts, belts, hats and badges collected by motor bike aficionados. Gary Overs provided the onsite catering and there was a quiet area and quiet talk.

Club Secretary Jim Kane expressed thanks and gratitude to the biking community who offer strong support to the Ben Hur Rally every year. He stressed how grateful the Centurions are to local farmer Peter Suddes, who always hosts the event with great good humour. The welcome and support offered by local residents, and by the shops, restaurants and bars must also be recognised, with Crinnions Bistro

providing a welcoming base for the bikers and their activities. So often, these boys and girls from the biking fraternity receive a bad press, but they should be applauded for their kindness, generosity and good humour. Many local charities benefit from their contributions, and for a weekend in May, they bring a lot of business to Lanchester, as well as brightening up the village scene.

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BRIAN MURPHY, 'MOUSE'

Lanchester Centurions are grieving the sudden death of one of their number, Brian Murphy, 'Mouse'. Brian became ill with a chest infection, he was taken into hospital and

died of pneumonia last week, the day before his 48th birthday. Treasurer Roy Bennington paid tribute to Brian, on behalf of all the bikers. He described him as a

popular, fun loving member of the group, always ready to join in all activities. He'll be greatly missed, and thoughts are with his family and girlfriend Carol.

LANCHESTER CENTURIONS FLY HIGH!

County Durham Motorcycle Club, Lanchester Centurions, has once again made a very generous donation to the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

The Air Ambulance Charity, which serves Cumbria, the North East and North Yorkshire 365 days a year, needs to raise £4 million annually to keep their three helicopters flying and saving lives. As no government funding is received, the Charity relies on donations from the public, and in the last five years, the Centurions have contributed over £25,000.

The latest donation of £2,000 was presented on April 24th, and was received by Rob Colgrave of the Teesside branch of the Air

Ambulance. He thanked Centurions' Chairman Les Ward for the club's continued support. Several events are held throughout the year, with the main fund raising focus being their annual 'Ben Hur' motorcycle rally, held near Lanchester in early May. Treasurer Roy Bennington reminded the group that 2012 had been a difficult year for many motorcycle clubs, because of the adverse weather conditions, with many rallies, very often held on farm land being flooded out. The Ben Hur Rally had still taken place in muddy conditions, and that had been followed by a successful Christmas Party for North East Bikers. More information can be obtained from the club



A superb fundraising effort ... the Centurions hand over their cheque to Rob Colgrave of the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

secretary, Jim Kane, on 07748 960616 or visit www.lanchestercenturions.net.

PARISH CHURCH BELLS RUNG FOR ST GEORGE'S DAY



Left to right: Bell Ringers: Sandy Jackson, Mary Pearce, Diane Benzie, Isabel Appleton, Bell Tower Captain Olga Walker, David Bickle, Jennifer Smith, Sheila Bull, Melanie Atkinson.

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PARK HOUSE



Park House - Station Road, Lanchester

A number of people have approached The Village Voice asking about the future of Park House, the old building which dominates Station Road. A 'For Sale' sign has recently been seen on the front. The building belongs to the Durham Rural Community Council. Apparently, it is currently too large for their personnel at present so the market is being tested for a possible future sale of the premises.

The Parish Council have an office in the building and of course the Parish Council hold their meetings there. The Police have been using it as well but are moving to The Green School. With Park House Surgery probably moving to the Lynwood House site the whole area in this part of Station Road adjacent to the Play Park could be ripe for development sometime in the future if the main building is eventually sold to a

developer. The building does not appear in 'Listed buildings in Lanchester' on the internet.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

A new session of Parliament began a couple of weeks ago with the State Opening of Parliament and the Queen's Speech to both Houses of Parliament. This is my third year in Parliament but only my second State Opening so contrary to popular understanding it appears that it does not have to happen every year.

The whole ceremony is about pomp, ceremony and tradition. This is shown on the TV and attracts huge crowds in London as the Queen travels from Buckingham Palace to Parliament in a golden coach, dressed in medieval costume, ermine and jewels. She arrives at the Sovereign's entrance to Parliament, travels up the Sovereign's staircase

to the Queen's Throne Room and then through a State Ballroom, the Tudor Gallery and into the House of Lords where she sits on a golden throne to deliver her speech. Once the Royals and Lords are seated Black Rod, the Queen's representative, walks from the House of Lords, through Central Lobby, the Member's Lobby and right up to the door of the House of Commons to summon the members of the Commons to the House of Lords to listen to the Queen's Speech. This is when the door of the Commons chamber is ceremoniously slammed in the face of Black Rod to signify the precedence of the House of Commons over the House of Lords and the Monarch. The

door is then opened, Black Rod delivers the Queen's summons, Dennis Skinner traditionally has something witty to say about Black Rod's medieval costume, and then the PM, Leader of the Opposition and Leaders of other parties follow Black Rod back through to the Bar of the House of Lords to listen to the Queen deliver a speech written by the Prime Minister. The whole thing lasts about an hour and foot soldiers like me just get to see the bit that takes place in the Commons chamber. Then, if we are lucky, we are able to take part in the arguments over the speech itself. And then onto a new Parliamentary year ...
Pat Glass MP

ELECTION RESULTS

The results for the Lanchester Division of Durham County Council are as follows:

Candidate	Party	Votes
JOHNSON, Oswald	Labour	1189
YOUNG, Richard	Derwentside Independents	876
BOX, Janet	Labour	758
HARPIN, John Rutherford	UK Independence Party	413
TAYLOR-SHOLL, Clive	UK Independence Party	340
MACALLISTER, Christopher James	Conservative	275

The turnout was 33.57%. Ossie Johnson and Richard Young have been re-elected. There were no Parish Council elections but the following are the Parish Councillors for Lanchester for the next 4 years:

Candidate	Party
BURTON, Colin	Labour
COOK, Elizabeth Mary Ann	Labour
GLASS, Robert James	Labour
GRAY, Albert William	Labour
GRAY, Margaret Mary	Labour
HARRISON, Keith	Conservative
JACKSON, Paul	Independent
JOHNSON, Oswald	Labour
LEARY, John Kevin	Labour
NAIRN, Alasdair Gerard	Independent
RICHARDSON, Julie Anne*	Labour
RICHARDSON, Peter Edmund*	Labour
RICHARDSON, Philip*	Labour
WALKER, Stuart	Labour
WARDLE, Thomas Michael Seymour	None

* New councillors

POLICE REPORT

Since our last PACT meeting on 24th April we have received 50 reports to the area, 9 of these were anti-social behaviour related. We have successfully had an alcohol seizure in Deanery View woods following information that youths were beginning to congregate to consume alcohol and had recently built a camp. In total 8 youths were stopped in possession of alcohol including bottles of cider and cans of lager. Reports of anti-social behaviour have also been received in the areas of The Garth, Valley Grove and Front Street in relation to local youths causing a nuisance. As the current PACT priority is anti-social behaviour extra patrols have been conducted both on foot and in vehicles. During these patrols we have identified a group of 8 youths believed to be our main offenders in nuisance behaviour

therefore evidence is being collated to issue these youths with an Acceptable Behaviour Contract containing a curfew. Further to this we received a report of a red coloured Honda 350cc quad stolen from a farm at Maiden Law on 29th April by unknown persons. Anyone with information please contact the Police on 101. Up and coming this month in Lanchester we have the Live Event exercise due to take place on Thursday 13th June, also officers will be taking part in a Farmwatch operation to tackle rural crime and a Stay Safe operation to tackle underage drinking. Anyone with information, or questions that they would like to bring to the attention of your beat officers please contact Ian or Lisa on 101. The next PACT meeting is on Wednesday 26th June at 7.15 pm in Lanchester Community Centre.

LYNWOOD SITE REDEVELOPMENT

Residents will be aware that the demolition of the old Lynwood House is now virtually complete; foundations for the new buildings will be going in very shortly. For the past eight years the Parish Council has been working closely with potential partners to secure the best provision possible for the Parish and the area. This work has been carried out by a working party established by the Parish Council, under the chairmanship of Councillor Wardle, which eventually became the Lynwood Care



After removal of trees the demolition of Lynwood House takes place

Centre Community Interest Company. At the time that CIC was created it was hoped to realise a very full vision for the site as a multi-purpose Health and Social Care centre with the CIC carrying responsibility for the redevelopment. Those plans were shared with residents at a public meeting some while ago. Unfortunately, not long after that public meeting, the whole national funding scene changed dramatically and it proved impossible for the CIC to act as developer. Derwentside Homes had been part of the group of partners working with the CIC for some time and it was agreed that the best way forward was to invite them to take on the role of developer. They agreed to do this but continued funding difficulties resulted in other partners having to withdraw so that the position became that Derwentside homes would be building 33 self-contained

apartments, 20 to rent and 13 for sale together with a new surgery for Park House Surgery (jointly with Trinity Developers) and making community space available to the CIC, the latter at minimum cost. Despite this generous offer from Derwentside Homes the CIC have found it impossible to raise sustainable funding for that space and accordingly the CIC reluctantly withdrew but suggested that the Parish Council be approached to discuss ways in which they might use that facility. Derwentside Homes were very willing to do this and discussions are currently taking place to work out the details of that arrangement. The Board of the CIC consider that the provision being planned by Derwentside Homes is of the very highest standard and represents a considerable asset for the whole community.

They have invited Derwentside Homes and the Parish Council to join with them in an exhibition of the up to date plans and designs

for the information of all residents. This display will take place on Wednesday 26th June at Park House, 3.00pm-8.00pm.

All are invited to take this opportunity to view the details of this exciting development which will benefit the whole community. Mike Wardle



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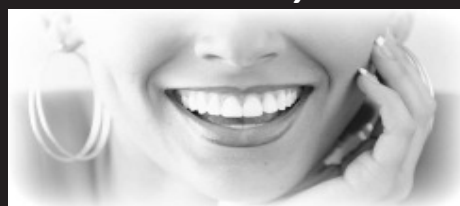
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IT'S SHOWTIME

'Friday Night was Music Night' in the Methodist Church, when a large audience gathered to hear Lanchester Male Voice Choir sing some beautiful, familiar lyrics from a variety of favourite shows, South Pacific, Carousel, Phantom of the Opera, to name a few. This very competent and popular choir directed by the equally competent and popular Harry Carr, gave their usual excellent performance, accompanied by their

talented pianist, Noreen Bridgewater.

The very lovely and gifted Jane Westwater took part in the concert. She accompanied herself on the piano as she sang six beautiful songs from familiar shows. Everyone gave their services free so that the profit could be greater. Their generosity is much appreciated.

This concert was held to raise money for the Village Link Bus. At the beginning of the evening

Mike Gladstone, of Lanchester Partnership, after welcoming people, explained a little about the Village Link Bus. The Partnership is actually the Commissioner of the bus and the Partnership raises the money for it and what a valuable service this bus has proved to be over the years. The bus helps lots of people in lots of ways, but its main function is to take people who are living on the steep valley sides,

down to the village and then home again. Mike referred to the driver of the bus, Fred Prophet, who is a remarkable man. He takes a personal interest in the welfare of his passengers and he is loved by all of them!

The bus costs £1,000 a month to run and some of the money comes from various funding agencies but they would not help if

we could not prove that the people of Lanchester value it and contribute towards its cost themselves. Many groups in the village do this and almost all the passengers, voluntarily, donate £5 or £10 a month. The money raised on Friday night was in excess of £700, which is a great total. Thank you everyone!

Brenda Craddock



Noreen Bridgewater, accompanist of Lanchester Male Voice Choir



Soloist, Jane Westwater



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CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Christian Aid week ended with a morning at the Methodist Church. Coffee/Tea and Scones were available for 50p and funds were further augmented by a cake stall

and Bric a brac table. The morning was well supported despite a flood building up outside. The total funds raised for the week will be published in the next issue.



Bric a brac at the Christian Aid morning



Anyone for a cake?

'GRANDAD' IS COMING TO LANCHESTER

Lanchester resident and amateur actor Paul Monaghan has persuaded the Matchbox Theatre Company to bring their production of the play 'Grandad' to Lanchester. He has told the Village Voice; "When I performed in this play at Chester-le-Street 3 years ago I thought it was superb and dearly hoped the play could get additional performances in the area and nationally. When the playwright Tom Casling formed a new Theatre Group based at Ouston and said he was going to do another production of Grandad, I jumped at the chance to play my role again. In

fact most of the cast are, like me, doing their roles for a second time so it should be a good production.

The play is very funny but not in a farcical way - it draws its humour from the characters and the situations. Tom writes plays with real people based on his friends and acquaintances and tackles issues of everyday life. The play is full of human spirit as a grumpy but lovable old Grandad pulls himself out of bad times and begins to enjoy life again.

The original plan was for two performances at Ouston but I have persuaded the company



Ken Martin as Grandad and Paul Monaghan as Father O'Neil will be re-visiting their roles in Lanchester

to come to Lanchester on 6th July. Many people in the village enjoy good drama and I hope for a

good audience. If all goes well perhaps we may be able to bring a few more plays to Lanchester."

Tickets £5 are available from the Community Centre or the newsagents.

A WET, WET NOSE DAY

Seeing a 5-mile sponsored walk advertised as a Wet Nose Day in What's On, I decided to take my dogs Freya and Zarka for a change of scenery as it was in a good cause, Stray and Abandoned Dogs (SAD appropriately).

Typically, after a lovely week, the weather was wet and cold but we had a good time.

I am told that 96 dogs (all beautifully behaved) took part, two thirds of which were rescued from the centre at Deerness Kennels, Langley Moor,

a few being still residents looking for homes.

After the enjoyable walk, along the railway walk and through fields, I went for a welcome cup of tea and homemade scone and so missed the drugs search demonstration by Carl and Frank from the Regional Search Team, North East Prisons and their wonderful dogs, and some fun activities for the children.

I had wondered why there were tubs full of sponges; they were to throw at two brave

volunteers, dressed in Dalmatian outfits, in the stocks!

Next there was a Companion Dog Show and it was Zarka's turn to shine as she won The Prettiest Bitch class. It was good for her to win something for a change. So far the day has raised around £1,000, which will only go a little way to pay the bills. In March and April over 100 dogs were taken in, necessitating £3,000 in vet's fees alone.

SoSad (the supporters organisation) hold many different fund-raising events, details of which can be found in their Newsletter in the Post Office and other places in the village, and of

course volunteers are also needed to help with the dogs. If you are interested in helping or making a donation, please contact Simon on

01388 603135 or sosad.co.uk. As the certificate which Zarka won says 'Make a SAD Dog Happy!' Mavis Datta



On the right, Mavis with Zarka and Freya just after Zarka had won the prettiest bitch competition

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SPRING FAIR AT COMMUNITY CENTRE

A superb local Arts and Crafts Fair was held at the Community Centre on Saturday 20th April. This was the first of its kind at this venue to raise funds for the Centre. It was a huge success. The hall was filled with eager buyers such as the varied, high quality of the products on offer. There must have been twenty or so stalls with those

running them creating a friendly informative atmosphere. The stalls were too numerous to describe individually but homemade bread, the chocolate stall and several others were new to fairs of this type in the village. Many people attended so it is hoped that they and the stallholders return on November 2nd when

another similar event is planned.

The profit made for the Centre was a very satisfactory £345 which came from the hire of tables and refreshments. Congratulations are due to organisers Margaret Laycock and Alison Boyd who trawled Facebook to contact possible stallholders and persuade them to attend.



Fair organiser, Alison, interested in the homemade bread, made in Blackhill

FAMILY PARTY FOR FRAJA ELLIE SIMPSON

There was a fantastic family party in the Social Club on Saturday afternoon May 4th, to raise money for Fraja Ellie Simpson who is 5 years old and who has Neuroblastoma, a particularly nasty life threatening illness. The family wish to take Fraja to America where she can receive the specialised treatment she needs. It is going to cost a lot of money, £500,000 and this party was just one of many fund-raising events to achieve that incredible amount of money.

Anne-Marie Warner, a friend of the family who lives in our village, had organised the party with the help of friends and a very happy atmosphere prevailed. There was disco dancing, a variety of games, competitions,

a raffle and super food, provided by Karen Ledger and friends. Everybody entered into the fun, mums and dads, babies and toddlers, 4-11 year olds and among the latter, there were some excellent dancers.

Anne Marie is passionate about fundraising for this family, so look out for

other events in the future. This event raised £489.76. Well done everyone!

I am sure that all our Village Voice readers send their good wishes to the Simpson family and sincerely and prayerfully hope that Fraja will receive the healing treatment she needs.

Brenda Craddock



Anya Warner and Courtney Thompson enjoying the party

LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

Chairperson Helen Tomlinson welcomed members and friends to the meeting on 24th April along with Pamela Alexander of Pegswood, our demonstrator. Her demonstration theme was 'Celebration' in keeping with our 40th anniversary year. Everyone enjoyed Pam's varied and extremely interesting displays. All flower arrangements were raffled and all the winners were extremely happy with their really beautiful arrangements.

Tickets are now available for our Open Evening which will celebrate our 40th Anniversary on 28th June at 7pm in Lanchester Community Centre. The demonstrator will be Kathleen Marlor from Crawcrook and her theme will be 'Celebrations', tickets £6. If you would like to come and join us, contact Helen Tomlinson on 503667, Lestrine Kelly on 521494 or Norma Jenssen on 520574 for your tickets. This will be a very special evening. The club's Summer

Outing is to be on 17th July when we are to go for lunch to Heighley Gate then on to Walton House for a tour of the beautiful gardens. Names are being taken and we hope as many as possible will attend. Come along and join us at Lanchester Flower Club. It is £3 for visitors and to become a member there is an annual fee of £13. I am sure this won't break the bank and you are assured of very enjoyable and relaxing afternoons.



Pamela Alexander poses with some of her arrangements under the theme of 'Celebration' at the Club's April meeting.

Gardening in June

June is the month when the risk of frosts and cold nights are passed and it's all systems go in the garden.

In the Borders

Now is the time to plant out annual summer bedding plants and thin out hardy annuals if you sowed these in your borders in the previous two months. Similarly, it is the time to plant up containers and move hanging baskets outside to their final position. If you are growing fuchsia, now is the time to pinch out tips to make bushy plants. Snowdrops and bluebells have finished flowering now so lift and divide any clumps once the leaves start to go

yellow and lift and divide any overcrowded clumps of daffodil or other spring bulbs. As soon as sweet peas start to flower, keep picking the blooms to ensure that more are formed. Sow outdoors calendula, candytuft, godetia and larkspur for a good show later in the summer. Stake tall perennial plants in your borders to prevent wind damage.

In the Vegetable Plot

Tomato plants grown either in the greenhouse or outside need their side shoots pinching out and should be fed weekly once the first truss has set. Continue to earth up potato plants as they grow and harvest early

varieties. Plant out tender vegetables such as courgette, tomatoes and sweet corn. When planting out cabbage plants use cabbage collars to prevent root fly attack and/or jars with their bottoms knocked out to prevent slug damage. Harvest salad crops and re-sow fortnightly for a constant supply.

General

Use water butts as much as possible to water your plants. Cut evergreen hedges such as privet, yew, box and leylandii whilst they are in active growth. Turn the compost in your bins once a month so that they are well aerated and speed up decomposition.

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ALL SAINTS SUMMER FAIR

Michael Quigley brought people to attention at the same time inviting Canon Bob Spence to say a few words, which he did in a highly amusing manner, reminiscing about his relationship with the late Sir Bobby Robson, Lady Elsie and Newcastle United. He was extremely proud and pleased with his gift from Sir Bobby at his 40th celebration. It was a framed photograph of St James's Park which hangs in his study. As an aside he commented to everyone's delight about his gift from the Pope presented to him on his visit to Rome at that time. Canon Spence continued by introducing Lady Elsie

who officially opened the Fair with a few gentle well chosen words of praise for the school and encouragement for the people around her to support the event. Lucy Joyce presented Lady Elsie with a lovely bouquet. What a day! By 11.00 am the heavens had opened along with the Fair, and flooding had started further down the village. Numbers were down in the beginning but this was

quite understandable. As usual there was plenty on offer with lots of tombolas to suit one and all and a variety of other money-making ideas to pursue. Were there really Rolex watches to be won? One lovely area was the 'Guide Dog for the Blind' with such a gentle looking Labrador who seemed to like having a photo taken despite being unwell. Face painting was busy, hot dogs were enjoyed and the

refreshment area had lots to offer but unfortunately all the outside activities were a damp squib! It was a lovely 'summer' atmosphere. All three speakers made a joke of the 'summer' bit with the appalling weather outside, but it did not detract from anything especially the profit which was in the region of £2000 and will be donated to Canon Bob Spence's Golden Jubilee Fund.



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(i) Left photo above: Canon Bob Spence makes a highly amusing speech introducing Lady Elsie Robson and (ii) Right photo above: Left to right: Paul Jackson (background) Lucy Joyce presenting bouquet to Lady Elsie Robson, Mary Jackson (background) and Maria Matthews, Head of St Bede's (background).

Lanchester Village Link Bus Service

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

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

Route

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



Timetable

The basic fare is 60p, but usual concessions apply

Kitswell Road (Cemetery) Depart	09:40	10:10	10:40	11:10	11:40	12:10	12:40	13:10
Newbiggin Lane (Library)	09:43	10:13	10:43	11:13	11:43	12:13	12:43	13:13
Alderside Crescent	09:45	10:15	10:45	11:15	11:45	12:15	12:45	13:15
Front Street (Green)	09:48	10:18	10:48	11:18	11:48	12:18	12:48	13:18
Humberhill Drive	09:51	10:21	10:51	11:21	11:51	12:21	12:51	13:21
Station Road	09:55	10:25	10:55	11:25	11:55	12:25	12:55	13:25
Burnhopeside Avenue	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	13:00	13:30
Valley Grove	10:03	10:33	11:03	11:33	12:03	12:33	13:03	13:33
Front Street (Green)	10:05	10:35	11:05	11:35	12:05	12:35	13:05	13:35
Kitswell Road (Cemetery) Arrive	10:08	10:38	11:08	11:38	12:08	12:38	13:08	13:38

This is an advert paid for by the Lanchester Partnership

NEW PAVILION



'Friends' of All Saints R C Primary School have provided a Pavilion and Storytelling Chair for the children.

CANON SPENCE'S GOLDEN JUBILEE CONCERT

Relatives and friends of Canon Bob gathered at the Gala Theatre in Durham on Wednesday, 24th April, to celebrate his 'Golden Jubilee' year in an evening of exquisite music and laughter. It was a packed house as people had travelled from far and wide to honour the legendary and popular parish priest. It was no surprise to see the theatre so crowded. Throughout his ministry, Father Bob has touched many lives - not only in Lanchester but in every part of his beloved north.

Musicians and singers, honoured to be invited to lead the celebrations on this wonderful evening did not disappoint their audience. Tom Gilfellon accompanied by Johnny Handle (ex High Level Ranters) opened the evening.

Another exciting feature of the evening was the unique line-up of Gerry Kaley (vocals/guitar),

Paul Archer (fiddle), Damian Caisley (banjo/guitar), Dick Park (bodhran) and Martin Matthews (banjo/mandolin/guitar). Their innovative and highly creative performance of tunes and songs was breathtaking - a truly rich variety of talent.

After the interval, Vin Garbutt, the popular Teesside troubadour, regaled the audience in his own inimitable way with his endearing humour and superbly crafted folk songs. Vin became a firm friend of Father Bob when Bob was parish priest at St Augustine's in Darlington.

Members of the audience were there to show their love of Canon Bob and appreciation of all that he has given to the people whose lives he has touched throughout his 50 years ministry. It was a joyous and uplifting evening - a tribute to a

great priest and friend of many.

This concert was just one of many special events organised to celebrate the

Canon's anniversary. Please see the What's on page for details of other events or check out All Saints' RC Parish website.

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*Left to right:
Vin Garbutt,
Martin Matthews,
Canon Bob
and Gerry Kaley.*

CRAFT AND CHAT

Craft and Chat seems to be catching on. It has only been running for a short time but there is plenty of enthusiasm among those who attend. Is it the teaching of Alison from the Community Centre or is it the good wine and excellent buffet provided? Either way it seems to be a very

convivial night where participants take home several fairly simple crafts made during the session. The meeting takes place at the Community Centre on a Monday between 7.00pm and 9.00pm every other month. Each attendance costs £10 but includes the above (well worth it) and materials.

You need to pre book so if you would like to go for a very pleasurable evening, learn something along with a glass of wine then call Alison or Margaret at the Community Centre on 01207 521275. This particular meeting raised £40 for the Centre which is always in need of funds.



Some very crafty women at the Craft and Chat session at the Community Centre

RED CROSS WEEK May 6th - 11th



Tracey Dobson, Manageress

The Red Cross shop in our village is always busy. It has been 22 years in the village and was founded by Brenda Gibson who worked tirelessly to make it the success it

undoubtedly is. Brenda retired 2 years ago and Mrs Tracey Dobson is now the manageress, who with her staff is carrying on the courtesy, kindness and helpfulness which is

the mark of this shop. Last Tuesday a special afternoon was held and the shop stayed open until 6.00 pm. There were wine and nibbles on offer and the helpers were kept

WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed everyone to our March meeting; Maisie Raine did the reading.

In the finals of the WI darts competition our team did very well just missing out on third place on the final dart. Members attended the AGM and another wine tasting.

There are still 4 places for the wine tasting on 27th June; lists are out for the History Wardrobe 29th October and an evening visit to Wickham Heritage Gardens on Tuesday 20th August.

The yearly money raising for County this year is the sale of raffle tickets at £1 each.

Voting on resolution to look at the 'Decline of our high streets and town centres' was a unanimous For.

Heather Muir gave a Community Centre Meeting report and Jennifer reported on County AGM.

Our speaker was Maria Baily on education for

deaf people. She became involved in 1989 when her brother married a deaf lady. She was so inspired by how she dealt with her disability that in 1990 she trained to be a teacher of the deaf and over years has trained both students and teachers. Four years ago she co-wrote a book on Communication Support Workers and her next book will soon be published. Deaf people have always slipped through the system as this disability is an unseen one but technology has really helped to give deaf people more independence. Maria finished with giving us all a copy of the finger spelling alphabet so we could sign our own names. This ended a very interesting talk.

Ann Carr won the raffle and the competition winners were Jessie Goodall and Jennifer Macdonald.

Maisie gave the vote of thanks and the evening ended with refreshments and a sales table.

Ann Carr with her entry in the country competition for a patchwork tote bag. Ann received 14½ points out of 20 and was commended on her use of colour, matching of patches and hand sewing.



very busy. The total raised was £520 - an excellent result and thanks are given to everyone who helped and supported the event. It has now been decided that there will be a monthly coffee morning for the Red Cross in the Methodist Church and the next one is June 20th. There will be a cake stall and in the shop on those days there will be a tombola table.

The next big fund raising event is much more dramatic. On 30th June, Tracey Dobson, Betty Walton, Betty Hawkins and Diana Snowdon are doing a Zip-wire over the River Tyne near the Baltic Mill. There are sponsor forms for this in the shop and I am sure you will be generous for these very brave ladies, one of whom is over 80 years old!

Brenda Craddock

THURSDAY CLUB OUTING



Thursday Club members posing next to the giant pottery teapot which stands by the tearoom entrance.

On May 16th Thursday Club members and some friends set off for what proved to be a lovely day out. We were very lucky in that the sun shone throughout the day, on our journey there and back and all the while we were at Beningborough Hall - a National Trust property in North Yorkshire. They have a farm shop, gift and plant sales, beautiful gardens-walled, formal and acres of landscaped areas to walk in. The house itself was most interesting with lots of friendly informative guides with answers to all inquisitive questions. Of course, we did need sustenance and their courtyard tearoom provided both substantial lunches and the requisite afternoon tea. We all had a really good day.

MACMILLAN FUNDRAISER

Pictured here are Michelle Muir, Co Durham Macmillan Fundraiser and Julie Richardson, Derwentside Macmillan Nurse, being presented with a cheque by Mary Jo Hayes and Emily-Kate Tiplady, both aged 13. The girls raised £700 in a sponsored swim, completing the distance in 32 minutes! Mary Jo's dad, Graham, was so proud of their achievement. Thanks to staff at Liebherr, Sunderland; Asda Distribution, Washington; AA Flags; Atlas Taxi's, Consett and staff and pupils from St Bede's School for their support.

A further £600 was kindly donated following Graham's Requiem Mass in All Saint's RC Church. Thank you to family, friends, colleagues and parishioners for their generosity in supporting Macmillan in Graham's memory.
Anne Hayes



LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

A large number of Members together with their friends turned up to the meeting which was held on Friday, 3rd May, because they were intrigued by the title 'Weird and Wonderful'.

The items which were shown on slides by Julian Harrop, who is the Assistant Collection Project Officer at Beamish Museum certainly were weird and wonderful. The alternative title was 'An insight into some of the varied, stored collections at Beamish Museum'; this was more descriptive and meant that we saw items not normally on display in the Museum.

There are, literally, millions of stored items there, including books and photographs, and we were privileged to see

some of these, with their history explained.

Sometimes an explanation of what they were was needed (for example a horse belfry, used on the harness of cart horses as a warning) and so it was a very interesting evening.

A very old film of Craghead, made by some of the residents and showing their daily lives, was also shown, giving a fascinating insight into life as it was at that time. Mr Harrop was thanked by Chairman John Thompson, who described the talk as 'All kinds of everything'.

As the June meeting is the annual outdoor session, the next meeting in the Community Centre will be on Friday, 6th September, at 7.30 pm. Details of this meeting will be provided at a later date.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

LEMON CRUNCH

This is a very refreshing lemony biscuit/cake which is ideal to help you cool off in the garden on a warm summer evening.

6 ozs digestive biscuits
2 ½ ozs butter
1 tbls cornflour
6 ozs granulated sugar
¼ pt boiling water
½ tsp salt
2 tsps grated lemon rind
2 eggs
4 tbls lemon juice (2 lemons)
½ pint cream

1. Crush biscuits - melt butter - mix together and press half into an 8" sandwich tin.

2. Mix cornflour and sugar with water and cook until clear.

3. Add salt, lemon rind, egg yolks - cook gently stirring until egg thickens - add the lemon juice and allow the mixture to cool.

4. Whip cream - beat egg whites - fold both into lemon mixture.

5. Pour into crumb-lined tin - top with the rest of the crumbs.

6. Wrap and freeze. When frozen turn out of tin and re-wrap.

7. Serve frozen.

FITNESS 4 U GETS NEW EQUIPMENT

The Community Centre is extremely grateful to Durham Community Foundation who recently gave a grant of £2000 to help the purchase of a cardiovascular upright bike. This is a professional piece of equipment and will be a great addition to the gym. The Centre can only survive by the generosity of grant providers, donations and the efforts of the fund raisers in the centre. Many people think we are funded by the local authorities; this cannot be further from the truth. The following is a brief history of the centre to

help in the understanding of how it works. The Community Association began life as a Village Hall in 1953. In 1968 the Community Association was formed and took up residence in the old school and this is our current premises. At this time the building was owned by Durham County Council who paid for the staff and made a substantial contribution towards the maintenance of the building. This came to an end in 1992 when the building was closed because it required major investment for repairs. Around this time, the Management Committee decided to purchase the building on behalf of the Community and to run it. By 1995 over £300,000 was raised and the Centre was reopened. In 2007 £70,000 was raised to build the

extension for the Fitness Centre which is extensively used by all age groups. We need to raise about £60,000 each year to run the Centre and more if we are to undertake major capital projects. We recover about £50,000 from room rentals and the other £10,000 has to be raised each year from fundraising events, Membership Fees, Gift Aid and Grants. Lanchester Community Association is a registered charity, it is made up of 25 affiliated

groups. The centre is also available to the general public to hire. We cater for a wide range of interests and age groups, from the very young to the elderly. Our rooms are hired (our main source of income) for various activities including, educational classes, training, fund raising, dance groups, keep fit, social meetings, history groups, art groups, table tennis etc. If anybody is interested in helping to run the Centre please contact John Wilson on 01207 521275.

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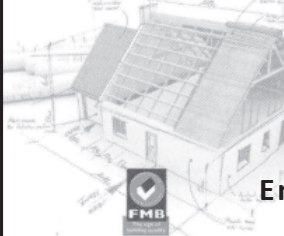
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Satisfied customer using the new Bike in the Fitness 4 U exercise centre thanks to the grant received from Durham Foundation.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

On learning that the Beamish Park had a sister hotel we decided to try it out - the Gibside Arms at Whickham.

Unfortunately, the main restaurant - with the exciting looking menu - was only open in the evening. However, the staff could not have been more welcoming, the panoramic window which extended over the surrounding area and set you wondering how far you could actually see. It was definitely a good spot if you were just looking for a 'lite bite' rather

than a good lunch. We sampled a cheese and onion omelette with chips and salad, grilled salmon fillet served on roasted saffron potatoes and mixed veg, classic prawn cocktail with marie rose sauce and brown bread. For puds we chose tiramisu, sticky toffee pudding and bakewell tart. The food was all good and we enjoyed being out but we do like a little more choice.

Best make sure we check out the menus for next month.

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LANCHESTER BOWLING CLUB

The season started with some positive news, 7 new players have joined the club and are all keen to learn the game. Get Together sessions for new starters and developing players are held every Thursday afternoon at 2.00 pm so if anybody is interested in joining in this summer sport come along on Thursdays or contact Paul Monaghan on 01207 529001 who will give you all the necessary information. To encourage new members

there is a special joining fee for the first year of £10. Plans are well in hand for the Durham County Championship which is being held in Lanchester on 28th July. The County Championship is the pinnacle of the bowling season in the north east, the champions will go on to the UK finals and this is a great opportunity to see the game played at the highest level. More information will be in the Village Voice next month with details on how you

can come and watch the games. This is great honour for Lanchester as well as the County President Ken Raper who lives in Lanchester and plays his bowls for Lanchester Bowling Club.

At the time of writing the results so far are:-

Monday Triples

Played 3, Won 3

Tuesday Rinks

Played 3, Won 1, Lost 2

Wednesday Triples

Played 2, Won 1, Lost 1

Saturday Rinks

Played 2, Drawn 1, Lost 1.



Action from the first home match of the season

TENNIS FAMILY FUN DAY

On Saturday 11th May, Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club held the first of this year's events, with a Fun Day organised for all the family.

The unpredictable weather was kind for the afternoon with fine and sunny conditions prevailing and although the wind was blustery and cold, this did not stop the event being enjoyed by around 60 children and adults.

Dennis Laycock organised games and competitions for all ages, and medals and prizes

were presented. For the very young, there was a rebound net, a mini net and a mini net with target hole to hit balls through. The latter was used by the little ones to show off their skill. The club's ball machine was very popular amongst the older juniors and adults.

The finale was the 'Tennis Grand Nationals' for both children and adults. Despite the odd steward's enquiry, these relay races were run in a good competitive and fun spirit. The ladies of the social committee provided a

barbeque for a 'sausage sizzle', and biscuits, cakes and beverages were all available for the visitors. The club would like to thank everyone who helped or contributed in any way prior to and on the day. It was enjoyed by all who attended.

The club's coaching sessions continue at the grass courts on a Monday evening from 4.30 pm and for those who would like more information about this or any other aspect of the club, please call Dennis Laycock on 01207 520278.



Some of the children, Dennis Laycock and Grant Ridley relaxing after their exercise on the courts

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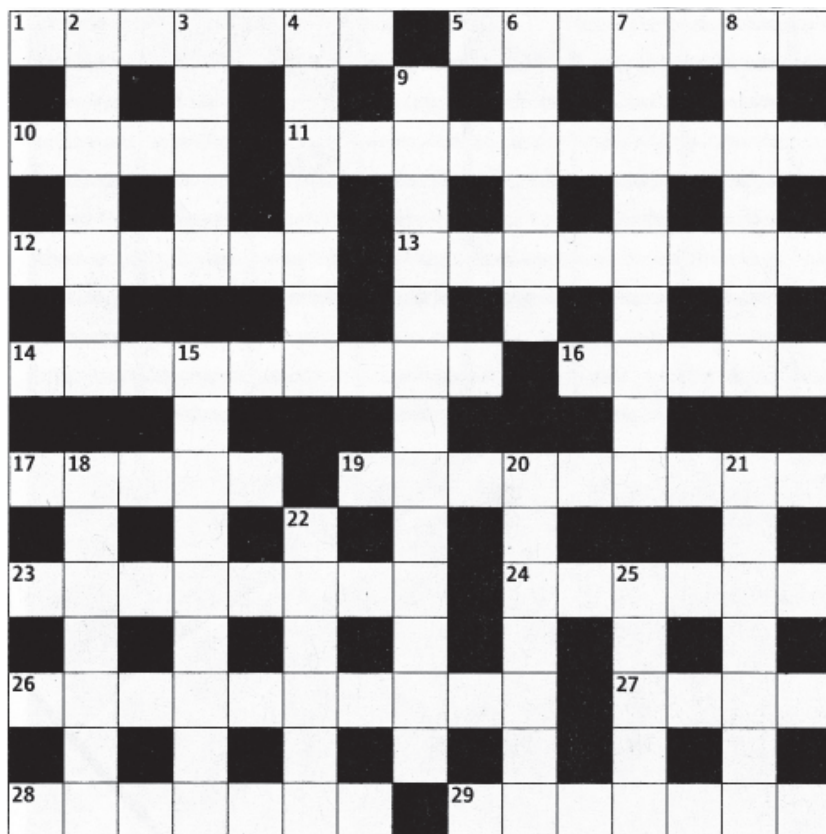
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CROSSWORD 85



ACROSS

1. Fruit (7)
5. Change pose and use as support (7)
- 10,17. Fruit (9)
11. Trepan grey activists (5,5)
12. Fruit (7)
13. I use blog and assist one (6,2)
14. Dachau for example (5,4)
- 16,17. Fruit (10)
17. Fruit (5)
19. Fruit (4,5)
23. Type of apple (8)
24. The truth! (2,4)
26. B road (5,5)
27. Cultivate (4)
28. Seen in centre of the road at night (7)
29. Stupid as I take 9 (7)

DOWN

2. Throb (7)
3. Notions (5)
4. Natural (7)
6. Doddering (6)
7. Butterfly with a fruity point? (6,3)
8. Fruit (7)
9. Fruit pie (5,8)
15. Violent storms (9)
18. Unusual objects (7)
20. Nuts (7)
21. Have a rest (3,4)
22. Fruit (6)
- 25,17. Fruit (10)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 84

ACROSS

9. retentive
10. See 11
11. citrus fruit
12. film set
13. ache
14. bowdlerise
15. topside
17. sets off
19. nincompoop
22. Yeti
23. toccata
24. kaoline
26. otter
27. inclement

DOWN

1. procrastination
2. stitch-up
3. undo
4. oilstone
5. leafed
6. effluent
7. muesli
8. Statue of Liberty
16. idolatry
17. spot kick
18. one-liner
20. nicety
21. placid
25. omen

CROSSWORD 84

There were 25 entries in last month's crossword competition.

Congratulations to Audrey Davies of Deanery View who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

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 0HY.

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SUDOKU

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

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

A HAT TRICK AND A HUNDRED!

To everyone's surprise and mainly thanks to the hard work of John Bell, the cricket season started on time. It was pretty cold but at least we got underway and what a start! There have been some sensational individual performances with seventeen year old Jack Ramshaw taking a maiden hat trick and fifteen year old Cameron Metcalf scoring a maiden century. Jack picked up his hat trick in the seconds opening fixture against rivals Annfield Plain, whilst Cameron batted through the innings for an unbeaten 137, also against Annfield Plain thirds.

The firsts had a tough start and lost at Annfield Plain; their second fixture was a victim of rain but then they chalked up two wins against Leadgate and Ponteland. Nav Ahmed and Mark Ramshaw both scored seventies at Leadgate whilst our Aussie Michael Lukic had a good start taking five wickets. The

firsts then entertained Ponteland with Kieron Taylor getting 93 and Simon Tweedy scoring an unbelievable 89 off just 35 balls. The bowlers all chipped in as the side cruised home by 66 runs. The seconds lost their opener to Annfield Plain but then followed up with wins at Whickham and home to Newcastle City. Darren Wingfield scored fifties in the first two games but his services weren't required in the Newcastle City game as they were skittled out for a measly 52 mainly down to Mattie Callaghan's impressive nine wicket haul.

The thirds have picked up two wins against Annfield Plain, the second game being in the Bob Langford Cup where Cameron's hundred dominated proceedings. In the opener, Nathan Somersall scored his maiden half century in senior cricket. They then suffered a home defeat in an exciting game with Washington. The

visitors made it home with the last pair at the wicket after Andy McConnell had taken six wickets.

The under 18s have won one, lost one, with Lee Murray scoring fifties in both. The under 15s have played four and won all four. Connor Hunt has retired twice with fifties as the team have scored well in all their games. The under 13s had a good win against Swalwell in their first competitive game as they didn't get to play in the first two weeks. The under 11s also had a good win against Lintz after losing their opening two matches.

With the football season out of the way, we will hopefully settle down in getting teams out and if the weather stays fair, we will be hoping for a good month. Come along any Saturday and enjoy the sunshine and a beer.

The club is available for functions free of charge and you can contact Jim Potts on 07973249760 or Neil Graham on 07717516759.

TABLE TENNIS - NEW TIMES

Lanchester Table Tennis Club are now meeting in the Community Centre Main Hall on Wednesday evenings, beginning at 6.00 for an hour's Junior coaching, followed by all-comers from 7.00 - 8.00 and team practice in the small hall from 8.00-9.00. Friday evenings remain as before, in the Main Hall from 6.00-9.00, again with the first hour focusing mainly on the younger players. Coaching is available for all, regardless of ability or experience. The Main Hall gives us the space to put up all five of our tables, with much more room for the players to move around, and somewhere to sit between games as

well! It also means we can make more frequent use of our popular robo-pong to give intensive stroke practice, for beginners and advanced players alike.

Wednesday night will also be our league night for home matches (usually alternate weeks). We have just about held our own in the Sunderland League Division 3 during the winter months, with many closely contested matches and with the participation of a wide range of players, including several of our promising youngsters. In May the Northumbria Summer league begins, offering us the chance to broaden our experience against a

different range of competition.

With more space, we now have room to welcome more members. Do come along and join us, young or older, beginner or experienced player: we'll be pleased to see you!

We are in the process of developing our own website (watch this space!). In the meantime, to keep up to date with club information, please 'like' us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter.

We are currently looking for sponsorship to help us move the club forward. If you would like to discuss any possibilities, please contact our Treasurer, Adrian Evans, on 528570.

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ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

WHAT'S ON?

Country Market

On Saturday 1st June, 10 am - 12 noon, come along to the Country Market in the Community Centre for your fresh produce, cakes, pies, jams, chutneys, eggs, plants, etc.

Short Circuit Walks

June 1st, Derwent Valley Walk, 5.5 miles. Start at Swalwell Visitors Centre, north of B6317 next to Blaydon Rugby Club, NZ197620.

June 15th, Corbridge, 5 miles. Meet in the car park at south end of Tyne bridge, NY988640.

June 29th, Stannington, 5.7 miles. Park at roadside, opposite Ridley Arms, NZ214795.

All walks start at 10.30 am.

WI

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 3rd June in the small hall of the Community Centre starting at 7 pm. Our speaker is Lesley Holburn on Precious stones and the competition a trinket box. Visitors are always very welcome. June Wallis is holding a Garden Party for WI members on Wednesday 12th June, tickets will be available at this meeting at £3 each and include tea and raffle with the proceeds going to Willow Burn. The theme is pink!!! Seats are still available to both members and non members to our summer outing to Helmsley and Nunnington Hall on Wednesday 26th June at a cost of £13.75 for National Trust members and £20 for non-members leaving Lanchester from the lay-by on the bypass at 8.30. If you are interested please contact June on 520477.

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Mothers' Union

The June meeting is on Wednesday 5th, (please note a week earlier than usual), 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, and is the Musical Evening, when George Hetherington will be the speaker for the evening.

Breathe Easy

There will be no meeting on June 13th. Instead, we will be supporting the Obstructive Sleep Apnoea campaign in Durham market on Thursday 6th June. Please come along, support, and learn about this common breathing problem.

There will be an outing on Thursday July 11th. For more details phone Jill Gladstone on 528 114.

Open House

Light Lunch at the Open House, in the Chapter House of the Parish Church welcomes everyone. June 6th, 11.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Oliver

The ever popular musical Oliver is to be performed at the Empire Palace in Consett from 10th to 15th June. The show, with a large cast and 12 piece orchestra promises to surpass even last year's production. A young and vigorous cast will transport you to Victorian England where love and life easily exist together. The cast includes principal stars and a guest newly graduated from the American Academy for Dramatic Arts in New York. Tickets are available from the Empire Box Office 01207 218171 and there are Monday reductions, family ticket bargains and a pair of tickets with £2 off. You may also enjoy the licensed bar before the show and at the interval.

Derwentside Byways

Walks on alternate Tuesday evenings, starting at 7.00 pm.

11th June, meet at the King's Head, Shotley Bridge, A694.

25th June, meet in the car park 50m off A695, B6309 junction to Ebchester, grid ref NZ051611.

Wildlife Group

On Tuesday 11th June please meet at the Community Centre car park for a walk towards Hurbuck. On 25th June please meet at Waskerley Village at 7.00 pm hopefully to see butterflies.

Churches Together

Annual Speaker, The Bishop of Jarrow, The Rt Rev Mark Bryant, will present 'Over the Rainbow' at the Methodist Church on Thursday June 13th at 7.30 pm. Everyone is warmly welcome. Talk, discussion and refreshments. Do come along for a convivial informative evening.

Golden Jubilee Events

at All Saints Catholic Church. Please come along and enjoy one or all of the last remaining events.

Saturday 16th June, Paintings and Photographs by Martin Matthews - Exhibition in the Parish Centre. Details of opening times will be advertised locally.

Mid June (date to be confirmed), Golden Jubilee Football Tournament for local schools at the Morrison Busty. Details will be advertised locally.

Refreshments available. Saturday 29th 2.00 pm. Annual Concert of Music Pupils of Mrs Marie Harrison. Concert in the church followed by

refreshments in the Parish Centre.

Saturday 6th/Sunday 7th July, Festival of Flowers and Music. Church open 10 o'clock till 4 o'clock both days. Music by guest pianists and organists each day. Mozart's Mass in C will be sung during the Sunday Mass 10.00 am. Refreshments available in the church.

Thursday Club

The next meeting of the Thursday Club will be on June 20th when we will be hearing all about 'Mediaeval Ghosts' from Dr Jo Bath, 7.15 pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre - look forward to seeing you there.

Durham Dramatic Society

The next production will be Private Lives, by Noel Coward, from 23rd to 29th June, in The City Theatre, Fowlers Yard, Durham City. DH1 3RA. Performances start at 2.30 pm on Sunday 23rd June; and at 7.30 pm from Monday 24th June to Saturday 29th June.

Tickets cost £6.50 (concessions at £5.50 are available on Sunday and Monday only) and are available from the Gala Box Office, Millennium Place, Durham. Tel 0191 332 4041. One of Noel Coward's wittiest and most popular comedies, Private Lives begins when Sybil and Elyot arrive at an hotel in France for their honeymoon. However, Amanda, Elyot's first wife, happens to have taken the adjoining suite with her new husband, Victor. "Battle Royal" ensues.

PACT Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th June at 7.15 pm in the Community Centre. All welcome.

Summer Fair

Lanchester and Burnhope Churches Summer Fair will take place at the Chapter House on Saturday June 29th from 9.30 am - 11.30 am.

There will be the Grand Summer Draw and plenty of stalls including tombola, cakes, savouries, plants and toiletries. The theme is sunshine and strawberries. Tea/Coffee/Strawberry and Cheese Scones are included in the £1 entrance fee and will be set out on the tables. All are welcome. Please come along for a lovely social occasion.

Memorial Unveiling

On Sunday 30th June at 2.30 pm, Satley Local History Society will be unveiling a headstone for J W Fawcett, pre-eminent local historian and naturalist, in the churchyard of St Cuthbert's, Satley. All are welcome followed by an informal gathering in the Punch Bowl Inn, where there will be further information on J W Fawcett and the society. He grew up in Satley in the 1870s, but travelled widely to make a name as a scholar, naturalist, historian, linguist and author of many books and articles. He was also involved with the British Intelligence Service, being with Lord Kitchener when he re-entered Khartoum. Locally he compiled registers for Satley, Lanchester and Muggleswick as well as documenting many local histories and families. In his later years he returned to Satley, researching to the end. He died, aged 80, in 1942.

County Durham Community Foundation and other supporters of the society have been able to erect this memorial. We hope you can join us.

Choral Society goes up in the world!

At least we will be 'Climbing Every Mountain' as this summer's show will bring you 'The Best of Rodgers and Hammerstein'. Remember those songs from Sound of Music which you saw about 20 times (sometimes in costume!) and what about King and I, Carousel, South Pacific and Oklahoma? Well you can hear them all again as we present a fully costumed show with live band, and of course you'll get the chance to join in with the singing. This

extravaganza plays at the Methodist Church on Thursday and Friday 19th and 20th July and tickets can be booked through 520172, 521458, or any society member.

Junior/Family Wildlife

On Sunday 23rd June, meet at Malton picnic site at 10 am.

Flower Club

On Friday 28th June at 7.00pm in the Community Centre, we have an Open Meeting, when Kathleen Marlor of Crawcrook will give a demonstration entitled 'Celebrations'.

A TASTE OF GREECE FOR LANCHESTER

Easter is one of the most important sacred events in the Greek Orthodox calendar. Its date changes annually, and this year, Easter Sunday fell on May 5th. The festive day was celebrated by staff and customers of 'Yannis', Lanchester's Greek restaurant. Traditional food was on the menu, and superbly cooked by Mr and Mrs Skotidakis, who run the restaurant. Slow roasted lamb and goat are eaten at this time, and sweet Easter breads were baked for the diners. Eggs, an ancient symbol of new life were served, as

a reminder of the Resurrection of Jesus. Traditionally, these are dyed red, to represent the blood of Christ and children take it in turns to hit their eggs together, to see which one is the hardest and the champion.

The delicious Easter food was accompanied by authentic Greek music, played by students, and this added to the festive atmosphere. The celebration was a great success, with families and people of all ages enjoying their taste of another culture.



Peter Skotidakis and his parents brought a traditional Greek Easter to Lanchester. Musicians played for the diners.

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- ➔ WARM FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE
- ➔ BINGO THURSDAY NIGHTS
- ➔ 50/50 DANCING FRIDAY NIGHTS
- ➔ ENTERTAINMENT EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Concert room with seating for 180 available for functions to any member of the community

Contact Richard Young or Trish Bennett on 01207 520475 or 01207 528304 for further information

A GREAT MEMORABLE DAY FOR SAM, NEWCASTLE FAN

This is the professional photo that was taken, framed and presented to Sam at the end of a fabulous day as mascot for Newcastle at the derby match in April. He is at the very end of the right hand side, directly in front of Newcastle captain, Yohan Cabaye. He had a fantastic day and was extremely well looked after by the club. As an avid Newcastle fan it was like a dream come true for him! His dad, Nick and brother Thomas also accompanied him, which made their day too! I (Sam's mum) was allowed to share the pre-match experience with them but unfortunately I couldn't stay for the actual match

which was a blessing really considering they were beaten by our favourite arch rivals! What made the day extra special for Sam was that he was taken into the dressing room and met all the team. They all kindly signed his strip for him. He was also able to choose whom he wanted to walk out with and chose his favourite, the captain, Yohan Cabaye. He was even lucky enough to have a pre-match kick about with him. It was truly an amazing day despite the score! Sam may not have been lucky for the team securing a win but he indeed feels very lucky to have had such a memorable experience!



Sam Wilson, on the right hand side of the photo, poses proudly in front of his favourite player, Newcastle United captain, Yohan Cabaye.

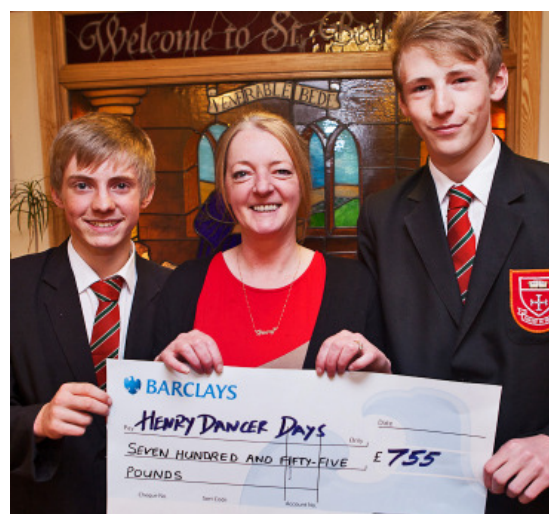
C2C FOR HENRY DANCER DAYS

On 12th April Joseph Hume and George Grimes started the C2C cycle ride from Whitehaven to Sunderland. They were joined by their dads Richard and Mark and finished the ride in two and a half days arriving in Sunderland at 5.30 pm on the 14th. The ride was to raise money for the Henry Dancer Days charity set up by their friend Henry's family in his memory to give help for children with bone cancer.

The first day was a pleasant ride up to Keswick from Whitehaven and most of it was undertaken in surprisingly sunny conditions. That was until the forest trail at Whinlatter was reached where the heavens opened in what can only be described as a monsoon style rain storm. Undaunted the lads and their dads flew down the steep pass and cruised into Keswick where they

booked in to the excellent Youth Hostel with its even more excellent drying room and hot showers. The Saturday saw a few running repairs to the bikes and a long day of climbing culminating in the intimidating Hartside pass. The long sweep downhill to Alston was somewhat marred by the strong headwind. Once again a stay in the Youth Hostel and a hearty meal by the log fire in the local pub restored strength and spirits.

The last day started with hot porridge whilst watching the red squirrels playing in the trees that were swaying in the strong wind. A tough day followed riding into rain and wind over the tops before getting to the Parkhead Station



George Grimes (left) and Joe Hume, present a cheque for £755 to Henry's Mum, Jane Nattress, in a ceremony at St Bede's School.

Café to meet friends and family and Henry's mum. From there the two boys headed off for the last 30 miles to Sunderland whilst the dads accompanied the boys' brothers and one of

Henry's other friends Cameron Hume down to Lanchester.

The final amount raised was £755 and the boys would like to thank all who sponsored them.



George Grimes (left) and Joe Hume take a rest after reaching Sunderland in two and half days raising money for Henry Dancer Days Charity.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any articles for the next Village Voice by Tuesday 18th June. The deadline for adverts is 16th June.

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