

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 6 Volume 16

Lanchester, June 2015

For contact information, see page 2

COUNCIL SAYS NO TO STORY HOMES

The meeting regarding the Story Homes Development at Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, was held in the Council Chamber at County Hall on Tuesday 2nd June.

Approximately 20 Lanchester residents, including members of The Campaign for the Protection of Rural Lanchester, met outside the building where they displayed a banner in opposition to Story Homes.

Mr Henry Jones, Planning Officer in charge of the project at the council, presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining all the reasons why the project should not be passed. He followed this by reading a letter from Pat Glass MP presenting



Some of the Lanchester residents who attended a County Hall Planning meeting to protest against the Story Homes project at Newbiggen Lane.

her own many reasons for agreeing with the decision of the council, to prevent the project from going ahead.

A representative from Story Homes gave a very professional speech in favour of the Newbiggen project but it soon became

clear from the reaction of the councillors present that there were inaccuracies in her paper. Councillor Ossie Johnson

made a brief speech putting forward his opinions why the site should not go ahead.

Continued on page 2

SECRET SATLEY



A beautiful, sunny wildlife meadow in Satley, the venue for Lanchester Wildlife Group's recent meeting. See article, page 3.



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 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

As a regular walker on the former railway paths in County Durham, I would like to agree with Mr James' letter in last month's Village Voice. The county has by-laws covering dog fouling on these footpaths. Would it not also be possible for a by-law to be introduced to ensure all cyclists using County multi-use tracks are equipped with bells on their bikes?

P Monaghan

Dear Village Voice

Thank you to all who attended Walter's 70th birthday bash at the farm, even though the guest of honour managed to keep to his usual tradition of being late! In total £1000 was raised, in lieu of presents, for the Great North Air Ambulance.

Chris Emerson

How to contact the Village Voice

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Lanchester Community
Centre, Newbiggen Lane,
Lanchester, DH7 0PB.

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

COUNCIL SAYS NO TO STORY HOMES

Continued from page 1
Councillor Mike Wardle, who has been involved in the Village Plan and Design Statement for many years, contributed with a raft of detail opposing the Story Homes proposal. Elaine Hogg, representing The Campaign for the Protection of Rural Lanchester, reiterated many of the reasons why the project should not proceed which have been well documented in The Village Voice and in the

1557 letters sent to the council opposing the project. There were 7 letters in favour of the project. Operation Valencia, held in the village last year regarding an emergency plan for flooding in the village was mentioned by several speakers and in the letter by Pat Glass MP. When the floor was opened to the county councillors on the planning committee it was clear from the questions asked of Story's that there were flaws and inaccuracies

in their bid for their proposal of 149 houses to be built at the Newbiggen Lane Site. A proposal to negate the project was quickly seconded with the planning committee councillors agreeing unanimously to confirm their opposition. This may be the final decision if Story Homes decide not to appeal. If they do appeal against the decision taken by Durham County Council, the matter will be decided by an inspector.

Christian Aid Week 2015

Very many thanks to all who collected or contributed in any way to the magnificent total of £4,283.96 raised in Lanchester and Burnhope during Christian Aid Week. This exceeded last year's total by over £200!

Judith Brown

Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for May is 72. The draw was made by B Watson of the Gym.

TREE FALL



A huge tree fell outside Mr Ken Graham's home at 2 Valley Grove at about 2.00 pm on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 2nd. The council quickly responded and the remaining tree was cut down within 2 hours.

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SECRET SATLEY

Visited by Lanchester Wildlife Group

A group of adventurous Lanchestrians headed off in search of a wild time on Tuesday evening 9th June. Spurred on by one of the warmest sunny evenings to date, the spy mission to discover 'secret Satley' was a success.

We had inside help; resident and botanical expert David Shimwell introduced us to five fabulous 'Heritage Habitats'. Our first discovery lay through the churchyard, some magnificent 'veteran' Beech trees shading a carpet of Wood Sorrel. These were not the only 'veterans' as on our return route was a copse of very mature Bird Cherry trees. We also encountered an ancient hedgerow probably dating to 1400s. The highlight of discovery was a traditionally managed wild flower meadow - a carpet of buttercups and red clover, with colloquially named 'Queen Anne's Lace' and



Lanchester Wildlife Group members with David Shimwell examining one of the finds from the wild flower meadow in Satley.

grasses known as 'foxtail' and 'crested dog's-tail'. If you would like to join us on a repeat visit to Satley on Tuesday 11th August we will be meeting at the Community Centre at 6.45 pm and sharing cars

to Satley for 7 pm. Please ring Elaine on 520063 if you are able to come. See the 'What's on' page for details of our July meeting.

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CAMPANOLOGISTS



Bell ringers from Whitley Bay, North Shields, Carlisle, Hexham, Ponteland, Stannington and Bedlington met at the Parish Church on Tuesday 19th May to make a peel attempt in celebration of the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe. This lasted from 10.00 am until 1.00 pm. The Parish Church Bell Ringing group rang on St George's Day and May 8th. There is an opportunity for people to learn the ancient art of Campanology by contacting Bell Captain, Olga Walker, at the Parish Church.

LOVE AND SUFFERING



Canon Bob Spence with Professor Karen Kilby.

Professor Karen Kilby, Bede Chair of Catholic Theology at Durham University, gave a fascinating lecture on theological and practical reflection of 'Love and Suffering' prompted some challenging questions from those who attended. This drawing on Hans Urs Von Balthasar and Julian of Norwich, portraying them as representatives of two different instincts within the theological tradition about the relation of Love and Suffering.

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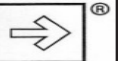
The band practise in the club before the congregation arrive.



Back into the church with the new carpet and the smell of fresh paint.

At the beginning of May a full scale refurbishment of the Methodist premises was started. This included re-carpeting and painting the whole of the downstairs of the chapel. The paintwork was looking very tired and the carpet tiles were the originals that the church purchased second hand from the Gateshead Garden Festival which made them 25 years old. All the work meant that for the first three Sundays in May the chapel would be out of action so alternative venues were sought. The Croft View halls were used for the evening celebration but were not large enough to accommodate the morning services. The Junior Church groups met in some of the leaders' houses. This just left the morning service to find a home for. It was at this point that Richard and Trish from Lanchester Social Club stepped in and offered the church the use of their large hall for the Sunday mornings. Trish and Christina from the club came in early on the Sunday mornings to convert the function room from a bar space to a church hall and the worship group set up a stand-alone sound system each Sunday from 8.30 am ready for the service at 10.15 am. All concerned agreed that it was a great experience and so refreshing to be worshipping in new surroundings. Now that the refurbishment is complete and the church building is back up and running, the members of the church wanted to say a big thank you to everyone from the Social Club who made us so welcome. With this in mind a 'Family Fun Night' is being arranged for Saturday 27th June at 5.30 pm in the club. This includes a meal and games suitable for family members young and old. Tickets are available from Mel Somersall (01207 529153) and all proceeds will be split between the charities that the church supports and a donation to the club as a token of our thanks.

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2015

MidDurhamAreaAction Partnership - Village Forum

Andy Coulthard, the Area Action Partnership co-ordinator, attended the meeting to discuss the village action plans and the work and priorities for the Area Action Partnership. This was one of approximately 50 meetings which will take place across the mid Durham area during June and July.

Minutes

Annual General Meeting on 12th May 2015 - approved.

Ordinary Meeting on 12th May 2015 - approved.

Finance Committee Meeting on 27th May 2015 - approved.

Planning Committee Meeting on 27th May 2015 - approved.

Neighbourhood Warden Report April - this was

discussed and received.

Correspondence

1. **Inside Story** - May newsletter - received.

2. **Clerk Magazine** - May newsletter - received.

3. **Outdoor and Sustainability Education Specialists - Summer Activities**

Permission was given to use Park House Play Area for children's summer activities. These activities would be free to the children.

Neighbourhood Plan

Members were informed that feedback on the questionnaire delivered in January is taking place throughout June with a display of information being sited at 7 locations. Durham County Council have agreed to assist with a Conservation Area Appraisal, and a meeting with them will take place shortly to progress this.

It is still felt that an appraisal for the whole Parish would be worthwhile.

Work will commence shortly on preparing a second questionnaire. A grant has been secured and consultants have been appointed to assist with this process.

Schedule of meetings for 2015/16 - received.

Maintenance of seats - Maiden Law - Members considered and agreed to a request from Greencroft Parish Council to undertake maintenance work on a number of their seats.

Parking Issues

Members agreed to set up a working group to consider this ongoing problem.

Annual Report - the report was approved for distribution.

Financial report - discussed and approved.

Accounts for Payment - approved.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 14th July 2015 at 7.15 pm at Lynwood House.



One of the Neighbourhood Plan displays at the Methodist Church Coffee Morning on Saturday, 6th June. Brian Naylor, a committee member on the planning group, explains some interesting points with Lanchester residents, John and Bernadette Lowes.



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POLICE REPORT

At our PACT meeting held on Tuesday 2nd June, the residents decided to set no PACT priority for Lanchester. However, issues that local beat officers have been addressing recently include speeding, parking, antisocial behaviour and bogus officials.

Speeding continues to be a hot topic across the Durham Constabulary area and as such we have recently had speed surveys carried out on Howden Bank, Cadger Bank and Peth Bank. Once this data is received by Police, it will be fed back at the next PACT meeting. The data will include figures on the volume of speeding vehicles, peak times and what problem solving approaches can be put in place to reduce the speeders. In the meantime local officers and Police volunteers have deployed our laser speed guns and community speedwatch equipment on Durham Road throughout the last 4-6 weeks. As a result 38 drivers have received warning letters and one driver has received a Traffic Offence Report. Over the last few weeks we have received information that several residents have received visitors at their doors selling items as part of a work experience scheme on behalf of

Middlesbrough Probation Service. Enquiries have been carried out which have confirmed that this scheme is bogus. Therefore can we please ask residents if these persons come to your address to sell items, please refuse and contact Police with a description and direction of travel. Police are actively patrolling affected areas to try and identify those involved and deter them from returning. Anyone with information please telephone PCSO Lisa Jackson on 101.

Good news stories this month include a male from Bishop Auckland has been sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment for his involvement in rural crime in our area. As a result, rural crime has dramatically reduced. This month we've also seen two vehicles seized at the roadside, one from a male who was driving whilst disqualified and a second from a female who was found to be driving using only a provisional licence.

The date of the next PACT meeting is Tuesday 7th July at 6.30 pm in Burnhope Primary School. Everyone is welcome. However, in the meantime, if you wish to contact your local beat officers, you can telephone either PC Iain Nelson or PCSO Lisa Jackson via 101.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

Parliament is beginning to get into full swing following the election and the formation of a new Government. It is amusing to watch the new MPs from all parties as they settle in and watch their combination of excitement and confusion. They remind me a lot of me and my colleagues in May 2010 as we went through the same thing 5 years ago. I am still trying to work out who is who amongst the new faces and which party they belong to although there is no mistaking the Scots Nats, many of whom are sporting natty tartan ties and scarves and thistles in their lapels. I cannot help thinking that if we forced them to dress this way they really would have something serious to complain about!

Locally I am delighted that Durham County Council have completely rejected the planning application for development on Newbiggin Lane. The County Council received over 1400 written objections from residents and they listened to those objections and rejected the application. However it is not over yet! The builder has the opportunity to take the plans to an independent appeal and we all need to be geared up to that possibility.

I am also delighted that we are finally seeing super-fast broadband in Lanchester. I know that not everyone in the village can get full access yet I am assured by Digital Durham that it will be fully rolled out across the village by the end of June.

I have moved office in Parliament - the smoothest move I have ever made. My new office is smaller than my old office but full of character and most importantly situated within the Palace just above the Chamber. This really matters when I am getting no younger and the eight minutes of the division bell seem to go faster all the time.

Other than that my time in Parliament is largely focused on my role as Chair of the Labour MPs EU Group, an increasingly important role as we move towards the EU referendum. I am also a member of Andy Burnham's core leadership campaign team and that is going to take up lots of my time between now and September.

Pat Glass MP



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WI CENTENARY AT BEAMISH

Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th May saw Beamish Museum celebrating the WI Centenary plus Empire Day and Durham County WIs were invited to join in.

Lanchester WI ladies paraded both days. Saturday saw 17 WIs, most in period costume, parading with their banners through the town to the pit village with the sun shining down, the band playing and crowds clapping, waving flags and cheering us all on. There were not so many on Sunday but it was still a lovely day and both days ended with the singing of Jerusalem outside the chapel. Lanchester WI did not have a banner so, at very short notice, Jane

Freisner, Jennifer Macdonald, June Wallis, Ann Carr and Jean Forster made the banner we proudly carried at this wonderful celebration. Satley, Witton Gilbert and Annfield Plain were among the other WIs marching with their banners.

WI members were also in the Hetton Band Hall with demonstrations of crafts where we tasted delicious jams and also learned about what the WI did during the Second World War.

This was a wonderful event which showed off the way the Women's Institute has grown and developed over the last 100 years. It is just as relevant now as in 1915 and the banners old and new were wonderful, each with a story to tell.

Satley WI members had a lovely day at Beamish Museum where they carried their banner in the parade to celebrate the WI

Centenary and Empire Day. It was a very proud day for Satley. The June meeting, which was Members' Night, was opened by President, Pat Gibson. Ann Darlington gave us a report after having attended the special WI garden party at



Satley WI members with their banner at the Centenary

Buckingham Palace. Ann had a wonderful and memorable experience.

The evening continued with the entertainment. Kathleen taught us to line dance and members and committee alike joined in, which was most enjoyable. This was followed by a

lovely Faith supper provided by all. Shirley then organised a quiz which rounded off a very entertaining evening. Visitors are warmly welcomed to our meetings in Satley Parish Hall at 7.15 pm (see What's On page for details).



June Wallis, Ann Carr, Jane Friesner, Jean Forster and Jennifer Macdonald with the Lanchester WI Banner.

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LANCHESTER BEER FESTIVAL

Wow! The 2nd Beer Festival hosted by Lanchester Cricket Club over the Spring Bank Holiday went really well and was blessed with fantastic weather on the Saturday. The event opened on the Friday with the sponsors' evening and we were well entertained by State Express 5, with a hot buffet supplied by Crinnions. The good weather brought out a large crowd for the cricket match on the Saturday. Never has a second team match had such support and spectators enjoyed a wide range of beers, ciders and wines while watching. Later the band, the Smoking Spitfires performed. They have their own following and people came from all over the North East to see them

and take part in our event. Businesses in the Village will have profited by their presence, taking up accommodation and feeding them. Saturday was also the main day for the Bubble Appeal and Jill and her supporters were delighted with the £2000 raised for the charity. Sunday saw a change in the weather but it was still a good day, culminating in a great performance by the Pretty Weeds and virtually all of the beer being drunk. The event in 2014 had been very successful and the committee built on this, planning a more ambitious Festival this year. More sponsors had been willing to contribute, huge local interest had been evident and the club hope the

Lanchester Beer Festival will become an annual event. On behalf of the committee, member Darren Wingfield wished to thank everyone who had worked so tirelessly over four days to make the event such a success. He also thanked the sponsors, the members of the club and the general public who had all given their total support. The Bubble Foundation, which is the Festival's 2015 supported charity, is based in the RVI in Newcastle and treats children born with defective immune systems by offering bone marrow transplants and helps fund vital research. Good luck to future Festivals and a big 'Thank You' to all the people who came along.



A happy crowd enjoy the sunshine at the Beer Festival.



*Gaby McConnell and Nicola Wall as they prepare to serve behind the bar.
 (Additional photo on back page)*

CRICKET NEWS

The firsts are sitting third in the league following wins over Consett, Bedlington and Tynedale, despite starting with a defeat against local rivals Annfield Plain. Tynedale set a decent looking score but Lanchester knocked it off with almost nine overs to spare, Greg Halliday top scoring, but well supported by Jonny Green, Teja and Graham Brinton. Bedlington were then trounced following a score of 305, where Greg Patterson scored 66, Teja 58, Greg Halliday 55, Graham Brinton 47 and Kieron Taylor 39. Bedlington were quickly bowled out with Sam Sanderson taking 5-31 and Teja taking 4-13.

Consett were next with Graham Brinton cracking 95 and Greg Halliday scoring a third consecutive 50. Jake Dunford also scored a fifty. The wickets were shared out with two each for Halliday, Teja, Taylor and Sanderson. The final week of the run saw Lanchester entertain leaders Swalwell and they put up a decent show but fell short of Swalwell's total.

The seconds have finally fielded a full strength team and when they did so they easily beat Whickham, bowling them out for 98 and knocking off the total for the loss of three wickets. Mark Dobson, Tony Dumighan and Jonathan

Hames took three wickets each. Mark Small top scored in the match winning chase.

The thirds are having to field an inexperienced side and consequently have lost to Sacriston and Marsden, but it is giving the youngsters the chance to play the longer game and get used to the difference to that of playing in their own age group.

The Junior sides are having a tough season as all our sides are young and wins have been hard to come by but at least we are completing our fixtures. We are still looking for new players of all ages so if anyone is interested, then contact Andy McConnell on 07952546694.

LANCHESTER TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Whether you're 8 or 80 and you've never played before or haven't picked up a bat for years, you're welcome to come to one of our sessions at Lanchester Community Centre for free. All you'll need is a pair of rubber soled shoes or trainers and some comfortable clothes - we've got everything else. A qualified coach is on hand to give advice and you'll find members friendly and welcoming. Sessions run on:

* Friday evenings 7 to 9 pm for 16 and over. Table tennis is a game for all ages. It's a great low impact activity, good for keeping those joints moving and for sharpening reactions. It's not expensive, can be played all year round and it's FUN.

Our Chairman and Level 2 Coach Frank Clark recently held taster sessions for the local primary schools and we'll be offering 2 more sessions starting 6th July for younger players - times and days to be confirmed. For those who want to take the game more

seriously our Team members meet at St Bede's from 5 to 7 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. Team Captain Dave Macallister reports that the club has entered 3 teams in the Northumberland League and hopes to repeat their winning performance in the winter Sunderland League where they got promotion and Dave was Best Player. Their success is a credit to Dave and Team Coach John Cook for the time and effort they have put into bringing on some very promising younger players.

(Photos on back page)

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FUN AND FITNESS WEEK AT THE EP SCHOOL

This is always a week to look forward to in the school curriculum for both children and staff. The weather was fairly good in the week prior to half term and various events happened on most days. Fortunately, there was some intermittent sunshine for some of the outdoor events. On Wednesday

there was a very high cylindrical climbing wall erected which children could enjoy under supervision, with safety harnesses, used to abseil down after climbing as high as they could. This was a great challenge for lots of the participants, however, many did manage to reach the top. Archery was

another skilful sport available. The coach kept the children's feet and hands in the correct position before the arrow was allowed to be released. Authentic bows were used with the usual targets seen in major competitions. Many of the children did very well at hitting the target. Crazy golf set

on plinths covered with green baize was another fun activity mainly for the younger children who seemed to be thoroughly enjoying themselves, eagerly trying to get the ball into the hole. It was a good week with staff encouraging children to keep fit with maximum enjoyment. Children from the

Nursery arrived at the field wearing clothes and hats appropriate for a pirate theme, for their fundraising toddle for Barnardo's. They made a lovely picture as they toddled around the field at the back of the school and through the wooded area which was quite a long walk for them.

(Photo on back page)



Archery target practice by Year 3 pupils.

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FUN AND FITNESS WEEK (Continued)



I hope she has a head for heights!



Year 5 children enjoying the challenge of the climbing wall.



Is he a budding Rory McIlroy?



Reception children trying their hand at crazy golf.

LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

At our meeting on Friday 5th June the speaker was JMichael Taylor who was paying his third visit to the Society. His talk entitled 'Bridges over the Tyne' was, as usual, very interesting and informative. Beginning with a drawing of a Roman bridge on the site of where the Swing Bridge is now situated, Mr Taylor described the history of

each of the bridges as it was built, altered or dismantled. The talk was accompanied by photographs of the bridges, individually and sometimes showing more than one. Some of these photographs were quite spectacular, particularly those showing the Millennium Bridge with the bridges and the quayside at night. Mr Taylor answered a few questions and then was warmly thanked by Chairman John Thompson. The good news for the Society is that there are nominees for the posts of Secretary and Treasurer when Arthur Dodds and Don Mason stand down in October but as yet no-one to replace our Chairman when he leaves at the same time. There are no meetings now until September - see future What's On pages for further details.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

This month we've been out to the Boatside Inn at Warden, a tiny village the other side of Hexham, just off the A69 on the right. It's a very pleasant drive and the Boatside Inn itself is in a lovely setting by the North Tyne.

The place is spacious and we found ourselves a nice table by a window. The staff are very friendly and they have quite an extensive menu with plenty of options for most tastes.

We chose to sample Santorini chicken - breast meat stuffed with feta, spinach, pine nuts and sun blazed tomatoes in a tomato and chorizo sauce served with baby boiled potatoes + seasonal veg, steak and kidney pie with shortcrust pastry served with chips + seasonal veg, sizzling Vietnamese chicken -

diced chicken breast dipped in egg white and stir-fried with spring onion, peppers, garlic + green chillies in a Teriyaki sauce with long grain rice, hot turkey roll with gravy + chips and posh seafood pie - haddock, smoked cod, prawns, smoked salmon and gratinated scallops in a creamy leek, parsley and dill sauce topped with cheesy mash + seasonal veg. These main meal portions were not exactly small so, apart from one of us who opted to have some rum and raisin ice cream, the rest of us were far too full to enjoy the delights of treacle/ginger sponge pud etc.

Although very full, we did find our meal to have been quite delicious and we would definitely visit the Boatside again.

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Simple Summer Sweets

At last, we have warmer, sunnier weather. Here are two traditional desserts, very simple and light and just right for summer!

ETON MESS

This originates from Eton College and was traditionally served after prize-giving ceremonies. Strawberries 450g (1 lb) hulled

Cherry brandy 4-5 tbsp
Double cream 300ml (half pint)

6 small meringues, crushed.

1) Chop the strawberries, reserving a few for decoration and place in a bowl. Sprinkle with the cherry brandy, cover and chill for 2 hours.

2) Whip the cream until it holds soft peaks. Gently fold in the chopped strawberries, juices and most of the crushed

meringues. Spoon into serving dishes and decorate with the reserved strawberries and remaining meringue.

* You can use brandy or kirsch instead of cherry brandy.

* For a healthier version, you can substitute low-fat strawberry yoghurt for the cream and omit the alcohol.

LEMON SYLLABUB

This sweet had its beginnings in the Middle Ages, when supposedly the cow was milked directly into a jug of wine to make a frothy 'flummery' or 'posset'. Serves 4-6

Grated rind and juice of 1 lemon

125 ml sweet white wine

2 tbsp brandy

55g (2oz) caster sugar

300 ml (half pint) double cream

Zest of 1 lemon

Sponge fingers or ratafia biscuits

1) Place the rind and juice of the lemon together with the wine and brandy. Cover and leave to infuse for a few hours, or overnight.

2) Stir in the sugar until it dissolves.

3) Whip the cream in a large bowl using an electric mixer. When it starts to thicken, pour in the liquid, a little at a time, until it is all mixed in. The mixture should be very thick and soft - don't overwhip it.

4) Spoon into small glasses and chill for a few hours - it can be made a day ahead.

5) Decorate with the lemon zest and serve with Sponge fingers or ratafia biscuits.

LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB 'Chocolate Treats'

At our May meeting the committee welcomed Laura from Thornton's Chocolates who gave us a very interesting talk on the beginnings and all the different experiments to achieve such a wonderful choice of chocolates which they sell in their shops today. Everyone agreed how much we all love our very own favourites of Thornton's

Chocolates. She came with goody bags and tasters which went down a treat. She also demonstrated to us how to make beautiful bows; she made it look so easy but we did give it a try. We finished the meeting with a lovely light afternoon tea, sandwiches and cakes, we then had a quiz. We all enjoyed a very interesting and relaxing social afternoon.

LANCHESTER WI

President Jennifer Macdonald opened the June meeting, welcoming the gathering and the 5 visitors who had joined us on such a stormy evening. Some of the committee dressed in period fashion and Jennifer took us back a hundred years to the very first WI meeting. She explained that the movement had started in Canada and that its immediate aims in England must be to support the growing and preserving of food to aid the war effort in 1915. In the longer term, there must come agitation for the academic and social progress of women, for the suffragettes had done such great work in fighting for women to have the vote. Decorum for the WI ladies was stressed, hats should be worn at all times and trousers were to be shunned!

Our present business discussions included a reminder of the planned outings and visits, progress reports on our clubs and teams and news of the Red Cross Lunch for

Ladies. Raffles were won by Ann Horner and Rhoda Joyce and our competition winners were Heather Muir and Jane Friesner.

Our guest speaker was Dr Rebecca Williams Dinsdale, who recalled her own background and life experience to show the importance of overcoming challenge and improving one's life by taking gradual, very small steps. 'Dr Becca's' inspiration was her grandmother, who led an incredible life, dedicated to the care of her family and many others and travelling to China in the early 20th century to work for the spiritual and medical care of the poorest in society. In her 'Lifejoy' teaching, Dr Williams Dinsdale encourages others not to be defined by their circumstances, but by their own character and courage. This was an uplifting and inspiring lecture and in giving the vote of thanks, Vice President Ann Carr paid tribute to the positive effects for us all.



Vice
President
Marie
Murphy and
guest speaker
Dr Rebecca
Williams
Dinsdale.



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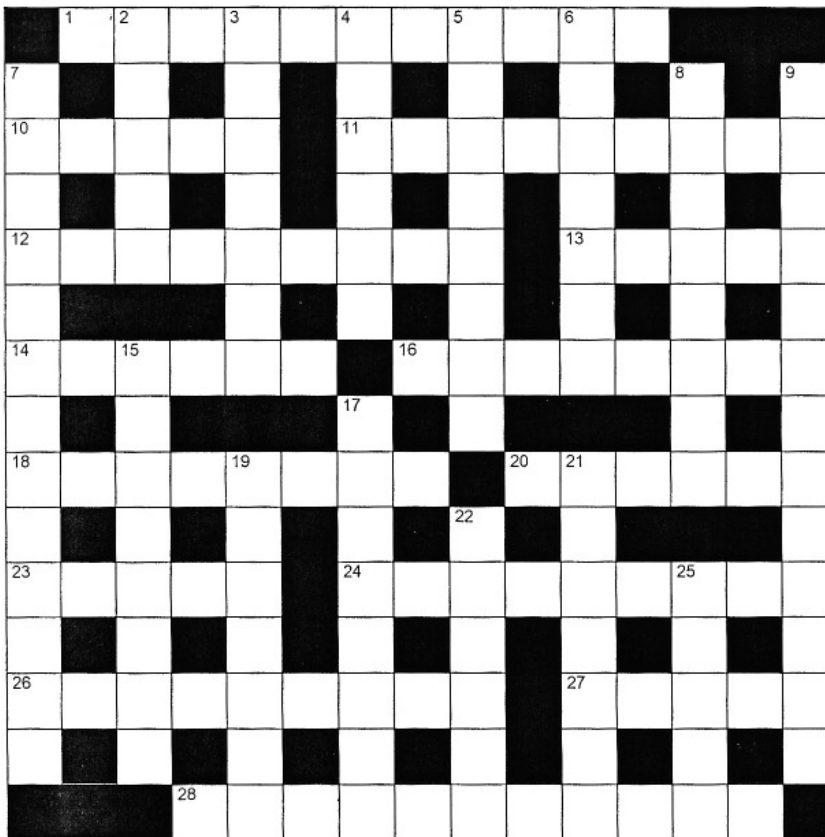
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CROSSWORD 110



ACROSS

1. Collectibles (11)
10. Aghast expression produces urgency (5)
11. Jogger (3,6)
12. Prepare an ambush (3,2,4)
13. Home of the Derby (5)
14. Neat (6)
16. Function of parliament (2,6)
18. Rustic (8)
20. Remains set in stone (6)
23. Aboriginal Canadian perhaps? (5)
24. Giving (9)
26. Vista rich record collector (9)
27. Ploys (5)
28. Insane gnash produces mischief (11)

DOWN

2. Follow (5)
3. Relating to the Deep (7)
4. Set-to (6)
5. Result of lighting the blue touchpaper (8)
6. Encased by the womb (2,5)
7. Oh, I call his pop composed (13)
8. Teeth (8)
9. One who studies unlawful behaviour (13)
15. Facility (8)
17. Holiday (8)
19. Flightless bird (7)
21. Surpass in boasting (7)
22. Lug net (anag) (6)
25. Norwegian playwright (5)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 109

ACROSS

1. ample
4. whitebeam
9. plummet
10. patch up
11. Edith
13. rowan
15. Mae
16. ash
17. zebra
19. birch
21. tonal
23. aisle
24. fir
25. cob
26. larch
28. horde
29. L S Lowry
31. loo roll
33. clear away
34. Kerry

DOWN

1. appletart
2. prudish
3. elm
4. water
5. imp
6. eaten
7. exhumers
8. maple
12. hazel
14. wraps
18. Blair
19. beech
20. horseplay
22. nebulae
24. fervour
25. colic
26. lower
27. holly
30. yew
32. oak

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.

CROSSWORD 109

There were 22 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Margery Bickford of Woodham Court who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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.

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

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DAREDEVIL DEBBIE RAISES FUNDS FOR LANCHESTER NSPCC

On Sunday 17th May Debbie, one of our committee members, very bravely undertook an abseil from the top of the Transporter Bridge in Middlesbrough to raise funds for the NSPCC. Despite it being a windy weekend, the abseil went ahead and although slightly anxious before the event, she completed it very successfully and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Her adventurous activity has raised in the region of £400 for the NSPCC. Thank you Debbie.

The committee has been running our second Fundraising Month of May in and around Lanchester following the success of the event last year. We are still collecting in the last of the donations and will report the final total in the next edition. If you would like to make a

donation there are still green and white NSPCC collection boxes in shops and businesses around the village.

We are also holding a Coffee Morning to raise funds for the NSPCC on Saturday morning 27th June in the Methodist Church from 10.00 am to 12.00 so please call in for a cup of coffee and a biscuit, and help this worthwhile charity raise funds to help children in need in our local area.

NORTH EAST ACCOUNTANCY FIRM HELPS WILLOW BURN

Employees from a leading North East accountancy firm have swapped their pens for paintbrushes to help with essential maintenance work at Willow Burn Hospice. Over 50 staff members from Tait Walker have volunteered their time to help with projects such as rejuvenating the main accommodation building, tidying the garden area and sorting through donated goods at the hospice's warehouse. To date, 20 people from Tait Walker have given up their Friday afternoons to work at the hospice, adding a fresh lick of paint to the outside of the

building as well as carrying out some essential maintenance work to the garden area, painting furniture, cutting the grass and weeding the flowerbeds, all of which has helped create a relaxing environment for patients to enjoy spending time in. The teams also assisted in the sorting of donated goods to the hospice's community shops. This work will continue throughout June and July, with the remaining staff also helping out at the Summer Fair which is due to take place on Saturday 18th July.

Paul Jackson, Trustee at Willow Burn Hospice,

said: "We deliver a positive contribution to the local community through dedicating our time to people when they are most in need of it. With limited funds for redecorating and gardening, we were thrilled when staff from Tait Walker generously donated their time and efforts. We can't thank the team at Tait Walker enough."

In addition to donating the staff time, Tait Walker's Charity Group also covered the costs of the paint and equipment needed to carry out the work, and held a dress down day to raise some much-needed funds.



Two of Tait Walker employees repainting the reception at Willow Burn.



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WHAT'S ON?

Lanchester and Burnhope Churches

Changes of Service Times

From September 1st 2015 the Sunday 10.30 Parish Eucharist at All Saints Parish Church Lanchester will be changed to 10.00 am. The Sunday 9.30 service at St. John's Burnhope will be changed to 9.15am weekly.

Open House

Join us in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 2nd July 11.30 am to 1.00 pm for a light lunch.

PACT meeting

The next PACT meeting will be on Tuesday 7th July at 6.30 pm at Burnhope Primary School. All welcome.

Adult Wildlife Group

The next meeting will be an outdoor visit to Low Barns with Michael Rogers on Tuesday 14th July. Meet at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre car park.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Bishop Middleham Quarry on Sunday 12th July. Meet in Community Centre car park at 9.30 am.

Computers 4 All

For July the team at Computers 4 All at the Community Centre will concentrate on safe email training (Mondays) and how to set up your email programme to do the organising for you (Thursdays).

Windows 10 is released on 29th July and is a free upgrade for a limited period for qualified Windows 7 and Windows 8.1 devices.

Mothers' Union

The meeting on Wednesday 8th July, 7.30pm in the Chapter House, is the AGM which will be followed by strawberries, cream and bubbly.

Lanchester Flower Club

Our next meeting will be in Lanchester Community Centre on Wednesday 22nd July at 2pm. The demonstration theme will be 'Around the World' by Kathleen Gibson. Come and join us, everyone welcome. Please note, there is no meeting in August, the next meeting is September 23rd.

Durham Miners' Gala

Takes place on Saturday 11th July. Remember Lanchester Miners.

Lanchester WI

We meet again on Monday July 6th, usual venue and time, the small hall of the Community Centre at 7.15. We will be entertained by singer and guitarist Will Marx and this evening we celebrate our popular summer event, 'Strawberry Night'. Our competition is 'A Strawberry Tart' and the theme gives a lot of scope for our creative members!

Final reminder of the arrangements for our summer outing on Wednesday July 8th. We leave at 9.30am from the Green School layby and head for the Samye Ling Tibetan temple and monastic community near Carlisle, stopping for coffee on the way. We have time there and a tour of the community. We expect to return to Lanchester in the early evening.

Short Circuit Walks

Venue: Brocolitia and Simonburn
Date: July 4th
OS Ref: NY8601713
NE464DB
Miles: 5

Leader: Ian Hunter
Phone: 01912745723
A mixed walk along country lanes/over farmland and through wooded denes. Fine views of 12th C church, Nunwick Hall and Chipchase Castle, plus some more Northumbrian history. CP off B6318, Military Road, about 3 miles W of Chollerford.

Venue: Newbiggin-by-the-Sea
Date: July 18th
OS Ref: NZ318880
NE646DP

Miles: 5.5
Leader: Bill Wright
Phone: 07947043610
A day at the seaside where there are numerous artworks to distract you but we also go inland to Woodhorn and the museum and The QE Country Park. Meet/park at Maritime Heritage Centre at N side of bay.

Lanchester Social Club

Saturday 4th July, GERRY GARCIA, Sensational Irish Vocal Entertainer
Sunday 5th July
Sunday Night Buskers
Saturday 11th July, DALTON JONES, Top Class Vocalist
Sunday 12th July
Sunday Night Buskers
Saturday 18th July, AD HENRY, Ex Lead Vocalist with Dynamite Days
Sunday 19th July
Sunday Night Buskers.
Saturday 25th July, CHRIS SMALL, Sensational Male Vocalist from Scotland
Sunday 26th July
Sunday Night Buskers.

Satley WI

The next meeting, on July 13th will feature Dr James Atkinson talking about garden birds. The competition will be a photo or a picture of a British bird. Visitors are warmly welcomed to our meetings in Satley Parish Hall at 7.15 pm.

Lanchester Male Voice Choir

The Choir will hold the 47th Annual Concert on Friday June 26th at 7.30 in Lanchester Methodist Church. The Guest Artists will be Northern Brass. This group was unable to attend last year because of being held up by a traffic accident.

The Merry Widow

Lanchester Choral & Operatic Society present a costumed concert performance, with narrator, soloists and orchestra of THE MERRY WIDOW by Franz Lehar, on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th July in Lanchester Methodist Church at 7.15 pm. Tickets £8 including refreshments available from any society member or by contacting Lynnon 01207521458.

Community Centre

The usual coffee morning is on Thursday 9th July from 9.30-11 am.

Kids Summer Films

Children's films will be shown on Thursdays at 2 pm on July 30th and August 6th, 13th and 20th. £2 including refreshments. Popcorn and tea/coffee are available.

Lanchester Library

The library offers Songs and Stories on Thursday afternoons from 2-3 pm. All children under 5 years are welcome. Lanchester Library number is 0300269514.

Vintage Tractor Club

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st July at 7.30 pm in Crinnions.

Country Market

The next market will take place on Saturday 4th July from 10 am to 12 noon in the Methodist Church.

Willow Burn Annual Fair

It's that time of year again, when the sun comes out and the marquee goes up; it's Willow Burn's annual Summer Fair!

Come along for the usual mix of tombolas, homemade goodies, plant stalls and of course the crème de la crème, Willow Burn's raffle. Up for grabs this year is a Kindle Fire, overnight stay at The Ramada and day out at Beamish Museum. There is literally something for everyone, even the kids. We have an array of child based activities on offer to keep them entertained while you bag a bargain. They can Hook a Duck (don't worry they won't be winning any goldfish!), Beat the Goalie and get their picture taken with our special guest, Nelly the Elephant.

We also have our regular compère, Mr Terry Lewins, who will be entertaining the crowds and if you're a regular to our Willow Burn Fairs you'll know Terry helps to make them one to remember.

Holding a Fair like this takes a lot of effort, so we are looking for helpers to set up, clear away and man stalls on the day. If you can help in any way please contact Elaine on 01207 523903.

We would love to see you all down at Willow Burn Hospice on July 18th from 11 am – 2 pm for fun and games in the summer sun.

LANCHESTER BOWLING CLUB UPDATE

As the league season approaches the midpoint we are all hoping to put away our anoraks and thermal underwear and enjoy some shirt sleeve bowling.

Our Monday team continues in its winning ways. Six wins and only one defeat find us only two points adrift of league leaders Dipton, with all to play for. Our Saturday team have had two wins and two defeats since the last Village Voice. Our Wednesday evening team have found their opposition quite challenging, which is a polite way of saying we

are still waiting for our first win. However this does not apply to our Tuesday team, a team including a number of new and developing players. They enjoyed a good win over Annfield Plain.

On Sunday June 14th we played what for some is the highlight of our season, the match against the Bowls Durham Presidents team. This is a team packed with top bowlers including former Presidents and County players. We were narrowly defeated but did win on one rink and drew on another, a good result. (Photo on back page)

SKYDIVING FOR WILLOW BURN

You don't have to live in the North East to support Willow Burn Hospice. Sam Meyrick lives in Surrey and was given a skydive for his 18th birthday. He decided to seek sponsorship of his 'jump' to raise funds for Willow Burn. Sam's Auntie Doreen volunteers there so he has long been aware of the great work it does.

On May 29th Sam jumped out of a small plane 10,000 feet over the Wiltshire countryside (photo on back page). It was a great day, very well organised. Heavy rain stopped just in time, although he did go through a cloud. He

landed with a huge grin and is hoping someone will give him another! He did say that spinning the parachute was scary - like being on the fastest ever roller coaster.

So far over £1200 has been raised for Willow Burn and donations have come from as far afield as Hong Kong.

Well done Sam, we're all proud of you.

Doreen Welch

CHARITY SWIM

I would like to say a big thank you to all of my parents' generous friends who live in Lanchester and Burnhope. On Friday June 12th I participated in the Great North Open Water Swim in Lake Windermere (photo on back page). I completed the 2 miles in 67 minutes and raised £550 for the charity MIND. Your financial backing was much appreciated.

Emma Horne (née Hasler)

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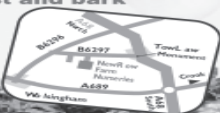
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CHARITY SWIM



Emma Horne who did a 2 mile swim in aid of the charity Mind. See page 19.

EP SCHOOL FUN AND FITNESS



Nursery children dressed as pirates for their fundraising toddle to raise money for Barnardo's. See pages 12 and 13 for story and more pictures.

LANCHESTER BOWLING CLUB



Members of Lanchester Bowling Club with the Bowls Durham Presidents' Team before their annual match. See page 19.

SKYDIVING FOR WILLOW BURN



Sam Meyrick celebrates his 18th birthday by skydiving to raise funds for Willow Burn. See details on page 19.

LANCHESTER TABLE TENNIS



Year 5 EP pupils enjoying a training session.

CLUB TASTER SESSIONS



EP School pupils being instructed by Frank Clarke from the Table Tennis Club. See page 11 for Club update.

LANCHESTER CRICKET CLUB HOSTS SUCCESSFUL BEER FESTIVAL



A large crowd enjoys the sunshine at the Beer Festival. Story and more pictures on page 10.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 21st July.
The deadline for **adverts** is 19th July.

The Village Voice Page 20

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