

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 2 Volume 18

Lanchester, February 2017

For contact information, see page 2

'SLOW TO 20' OUTSIDE ST BEDE'S

As a parent of 3 children who attend St Bede's, my biggest worry for them is crossing the very busy A691 safely at the start and end of their school day, especially on dark mornings.

Prior to my eldest starting St Bede's in 2010, and with the help of others along the way, we've tried to make this journey as safe as possible for the benefit of every child who walks to and from St Bede's. As parents we are encouraged to

let our children walk for their fitness and independence, as well as to relieve congestion outside the school.

I first approached Durham County Council about the possibility of Crossing Patrol Officers back in 2010. I was informed St Bede's had already met the criteria, however due to budget cuts no funding was available. A group of concerned parents and residents then tried a different angle by

asking nearly 1000 residents if they had any objections about the speed limit being reduced from 40 mph to 30 mph. 99% of residents agreed the road was unsafe for anyone to cross at peak times, never mind children.

After an incident outside the school involving the crossing cage roughly 2.5 years ago, I again spoke to the Council regarding the need of Crossing Patrols outside St Bede's and at the

bottom of Maiden Law Bank. The council arranged for each area to be surveyed and each area overwhelmingly exceeded the necessary criteria. In time the signage and barriers were installed and the valuable Crossing Patrol Officers recruited. Finally, last summer the Consett & Stanley Advertiser published an article regarding the 'Slow to 20' Scheme which was being extended to another 33

schools in our county. I contacted them regarding this scheme several times and was advised that their selection process would be held in December.

Having waited patiently, it is official!! St Bede's has been selected as one of those 33 schools. Good things do come to those who wait! We now just have to wait and see how long the council takes to make necessary changes.
Clare Lamb

THE BRIDGES

Durham County Council's head of education, Caroline O'Neill, said: "The Bridges, which provides therapeutic short term programmes for secondary age pupils from mainstream schools, is now based in the Lanchester Green building. None of the children have been



The building known locally as the Green School is now the base for 'The Bridges'.

permanently excluded from school and in fact the student body is almost identical to the former Green School, just with a different curriculum. Staff work closely with Durham secondary schools to ensure that the young people are successfully reintegrated back into their respective schools."

EXTENSION TO LANCHESTER EP PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am sure that many of you will be aware of the extension that has just started at the EP School. I thought it might be useful to make you aware of the planned works and as a result, the upheaval to the village.

Due to our ever-increasing numbers (325 in the main school and 78 in the Nursery), we are now over capacity and have struggled to find space to accommodate the needs of all our children for a few years now. We are desperately

in need of additional classrooms and the Local Authority agreed last summer to fund an extension of two new classrooms for the school. The work on these classrooms started on Monday 13th February and will be finished in time for the new school year in September. The classrooms are being built at the front of the school, along with new offices and a bigger main entrance.

The front yard of the school will be out of

bounds as this will be the building area and all children will enter and exit the school from the rear. Our youngest children will enter through the door accessed from the Infant car park at the side of the school and the older children will enter through the field gate. All visitors will gain entrance through the temporary offices located in the small rooms accessed through the Infant car park.

You will be aware by now that three-way traffic lights are necessary

outside the front of the school with no parking on Front Street opposite the school during this time. I realise that this will inevitably cause quite some disruption to you all in the village, especially those living near the school and for this I do apologise but the end result will make it all worthwhile. Better facilities for our children, more accommodation in school and a building that fulfils the needs of our children. I do hope you can bear with us during

this time. The plans and temporary access areas are displayed in the school, please feel free to call in and inspect them. If you would like to contact me about any of this work, please feel free to email j.davis@lanchester.net and I am more than happy to try to answer any of your questions. Thank you all for your continued support of our children and school.

Mrs Jane Davis, Head Teacher, Lanchester EP Primary School.

THE VILLAGE VOICE



STILL NO REPORTERS!

In the last two issues we have appealed for people to come forward to help our reporting team. Sadly we have had no response. When the Village Voice

was set up in 2000 there were two principal reporters, Malcolm McKenzie who has sadly passed away and Brian Oram.

Brian, after all these years of service to the village,

now feels he needs to wind down his involvement. We do have reporters who help the paper but we desperately need more people to support them. The level of involvement is variable; all reporters are volunteers so the amount of time they spend is in their own hands. Ideally we would like a few new reporters to keep the publication going. If no one responds, there is a real risk the Village Voice will have to close.

If you would like to see the paper continue and would like to know more, please come and have a chat (without making a commitment). Email lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk or phone 513411.

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

MASTERMIND SEMI-FINALIST

Tony Richardson 52, Cream (band). He just missed the final by a few points. Tony has enjoyed pub quizzes in the local area for many years and captained the Newcastle University Quiz Team. He is currently teaching in Nepal.



Tony Richardson, facing questions in the famous black Mastermind chair.

How to contact the Village Voice

To advertise, email: voiceadverts@gmail.com or telephone Lynda on 07851 775297.

General and news enquiries, 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,
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THE VILLAGE VOICE IN AUSTRALIA



"I'm currently travelling in Australia and my parents have sent me this! So happy to get an update on the village and people I love and miss." Sadie Densham
It's great to see that Lanchester has a world wide newspaper.

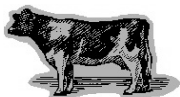
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100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Irene Hunter, formerly of West Drive until 6 months ago, celebrated her 100th birthday at Hollie Hill Care Home, Stanley. Many people will remember Irene as the Post Lady as far back as the 1960s. The care home organised a

lovely celebration with a magnificent cake and entertainment. Children from Burnside School arrived with cards and sang Happy Birthday to her. Irene had a wonderful day.

Featured in the photograph are: back row, left to right, Lynn McDonald, Carole Morcum, Heather Thakker, Colin Tipping, Colin Morcum; front row, Genie Tipping and Irene Hunter.

MRS HEATHER MAY MURRAY

On behalf of all the family may we thank many of you for joining us at Heather's memorial service on 13th December. Sad as the circumstances were, we drew great comfort from the number of friends, relatives, village friends and former colleagues who attended and it was a pleasure to see the church overflowing. So many people have been very supportive to all of us throughout Heather's illness and we know this will continue as we move forward. We are grateful for the professional services of Cooperative Funeral

Care and lastly acknowledge the outstanding amount of donations made totalling £1500 which have been passed to the Phoenix Unit (Haematology Dept) at Sunderland Royal Hospital. Thank you for your generosity. It is clear from all the cards of sympathy, many of which contained personal comments and thoughts reflecting Heather, that she touched many people and we know we have lost a very special wife, mother and grandmother who will forever be cherished. Lindsay Carling (daughter)



Ian Murray and daughter Lindsay presenting the cheque for £1500 to the staff at the Pheonix Unit in Sunderland Hospital where Heather had her treatments.

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th February 2017

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting 10th January, Planning Meeting 10th January, Finance Meeting 25th January - approved.

Police Report - The Police report was read out. The priority this month has been burglaries and attempted burglaries in the rural areas. The Police have attended a meeting with the cricket club to discuss arrangements for the beer festival in May. On Saturday 18th February there will be a PACT meeting on Front Street at 10 am.

Correspondence

1. Letter of thanks - Lanchester Choral &

Operatic Society - received.

2. County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority - consultation.

Agreed that a response is sent supporting the proposals.

3. Letter - Durham County Council - road closure - received.

4. Lanchester Allotments Association - membership list - received.

5. The Pensions Regulator - information received.

6. Clerk Magazine - January 2017 - received.

7. Clerk & Councils Direct - January 2017 - received.

Neighbourhood Plan

Mike Wardle provided members with an update. A workshop has been arranged for March 7th to consider the edge of settlement and mapping of heritage assets. This session will be facilitated by Shaun Hanson.

The Heritage Audit event is arranged for Saturday 18th March at 2pm at Lynwood House. Richard Cowen, Chair of CPRE North and John Gall, local resident have both agreed to speak at the event. The event will provide the opportunity for the community to view the Heritage Audit and to receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was agreed to print 1000 copies of the Heritage Audit report.

War Memorial Working Group

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th January were approved. Members were informed that work continues on producing an accurate and full list of names for inclusion on the war memorial. A news article has appeared in the Village Voice, Parish Council newsletter, Parish Council notice board and the North East War Memorials Project website. Prices and designs for the work on

the war memorial had been received from three companies. It was agreed that further designs are pursued.

Grassed Area - Lanchester Valley Railway Path - between Station Road and Newbiggen Lane

Members considered the licence agreement entered into with the County Council which had allowed the Parish Council to undertake a number of cuts to the above grassed area which is owned by Durham County Council.

It was agreed that a licence agreement be entered into with the County Council for 2017 to continue to cut the grass in this area.

Grass Cutting 2017

Members were informed that following a meeting with the contractor the price for grass cutting for 2017 had been agreed.

Financial report - discussed and approved.

Accounts for Payment - approved.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 7.15 pm at Lynwood House.

LANCHESTER COMMUNITY HERITAGE AUDIT

The Heritage Audit has now been completed. A community mapping exercise early in 2016 identified over 200 heritage assets in the Parish. The North of England Civic Trust assisted volunteers in producing the audit which involved surveying and recording the heritage assets. These included significant buildings, archaeological sites, industrial remains, key views and evidence of military activity over the years. Twenty volunteers were involved in the

surveying and recording which took over 6 months to complete.

The Parish Council would like to present the Heritage Audit to the community and therefore extend an invitation to you to attend an event on Saturday 18th March at Lynwood House between 2 pm - 4 pm. Following speeches at 2 pm you will be able to view the document whilst enjoying light refreshments.

In addition the event will provide information on progress with the Neighbourhood Plan.

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ANNUAL LITTER-PICK 2017

Usually the Lanchester Partnership would be holding its annual litter-pick on the last Saturday of March - before the spring growth conceals the litter. But this year, thanks to the efforts of the many residents who pick up litter regularly, to the Parish and County Councils and to the generally greater awareness of the dangers and unsightliness of litter, there is not much litter in the village, so we

have decided that we do not need a formal litter-pick this March.

However, if you know of any areas where the litter is bad please could you clear it or ring the number below.

And please would you all be aware of your own locality and, with friends or family, do a small litter-pick to keep your own patch clear. Altogether it will make a big difference.

Thank you

Mike Gladstone 528 114

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

This month has been severely disrupted for me. Walking to work in London I slipped on ice and broke my wrist, arm and thumb. I not only broke several bones, I managed to shunt everything forward crushing bones in my wrist together. Even I could see on the x-ray that everything in my wrist was not meant to be crushed together like that. I knew instantly that it was a severe injury because the pain was immediate and excruciating (I have broken limbs before and the pain was nowhere as severe) and my wrist just hung there!

What did surprise me, but should not, was the kindness of strangers. I fell on the embankment outside Lambeth Palace and two nurses walking to work at St Thomas's picked me up. A man who

runs a little pavement café on the embankment rushed over, helped pick me up, sat me down and gave me a bottle of water. Once I felt able to move Lois, one of the nurses, walked with me to A&E at St Thomas's, checked me in and refused to leave me, even though it made her late for work, until my London flatmate, Barbara, turned up to take over.

After x-rays, a local anaesthetic and much pushing and pulling, it was decided that my wrist needed at least one metal plate inserting and I opted to come home to Durham University Hospital for the surgery. We hear so much just now about crisis in our NHS, about under-funding and under capacity in A&E, but my experience is that

whatever the overall pressures, the people working in the NHS are professional, caring and rise to the challenges we present them with. From the receptionist at St Thomas's, who was so patient with me, right through to the skills of the Surgeon at UHND, everyone I met was a credit to the NHS. It brought home to me how we all, and me in particular, have to rise to the challenge in making sure that this fantastic public service not only has the resources to do the job we ask of them, but remains a public service!

It seems that I have good healing bones and skin and barring a really neat 4 inch scar I will be back to full working order very soon.


Pat Glass MP

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LANCHESTER PLAYGROUP AGM

Lanchester Playgroup held its AGM on Thursday 9th February 2017 at Lanchester Community Centre.

Angie Proctor was re-elected Chair of the Committee, Julia Curry was re-elected Treasurer and Marion Park was elected as Secretary. Two additional committee members, Pat Barker and Rachel Donnelly, were also elected.

The future of Playgroup was debated and it was agreed that Playgroup should not close without one last effort to generate the income required to keep it open. The committee will monitor the finances closely and review at the end of March when the insurance renewal is due. It was agreed that various sources of funding are to be explored and applied for if appropriate.

The Committee is grateful to Lanchester Community Association for the offer of the Community Centre Main Hall to hold a fundraising quiz which is to take place on Saturday 11th March at 8pm. We are hopeful that this will be well supported and will provide much needed income. Tickets are now available from Playgroup. This follows on from the success of the previous

quiz night which was held at Lanchester Social Club in October when £370 was raised for Playgroup with thanks to Judith Coulson, the Quizmaster, and the following local businesses for supporting and providing raffle prizes; Hall Hill Farm, Talking Heads, Lilydale Pet Supplies, Lanchester Hardware, Country Homes and Stores; Rapau, Henry Dancer Days, Hanley and Swinbank, NMW

Handyman and Lingotots. Thank you everyone for your generosity. If anyone is able to suggest possible funding sources, wishes to donate a prize for the raffle at the quiz night in March (thanks to those who have already pledged your support) or provide sponsorship to Playgroup to keep it running beyond Easter, please contact a member of the Playgroup staff or a member of the committee.

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ST BEDE'S - NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE CHAMPION

St Bede's Catholic School & Sixth Form College has been named a 'champion school' by the National Citizen Service (NCS) thanks to its commitment to the youth programme.

To achieve champion status, NCS asks that schools meet a number of key criteria in supporting the North East NCS team

showcase the government-backed programme to young people aged 15-17.

NCS is a unique programme focused around fun and discovery, plus 30 hours committed to a community project that benefits both young people and society. Participants build skills for work and life, while

taking on new challenges and adventures, making new friends, and contributing to their community.

The next NCS programme runs over the summer holidays, with 16 and 17 year olds eligible to take part. Government backing means places cost just £50 or less; young people in receipt of free school meals are eligible for a bursary.

The NCS summer experience includes a week of adventure at an outdoor centre in the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales or Scottish borders where teens will meet new people and enjoy adventure, fun and freedom. They will then spend another week developing life skills like confidence, leadership and communication while staying in a uni-style environment.

They'll then work with their NCS team to deliver their own community project - making a lasting impact on the local area. As well as helping to boost confidence and develop skills, NCS also helps to boost CVs and is

recognised by UCAS, who encourage the scheme to be listed on personal statements. To express an interest or to sign up, students or parents should call 0191 247 4020 or visit NCSNORTHEAST.co.uk.

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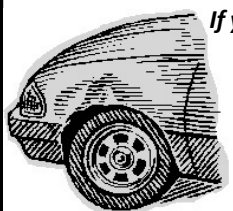
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SATLEY WI

Our President Linda Horn welcomed the members along with our speaker Heidi Maddison.

The business began by discussing a meeting to be held in Lanchester Community Centre by the County Trustees to 'Celebrate the Centenary' of Durham WI, only 4 members from each WI to attend.

On March 28th is the AGM at Bishop Auckland, tickets £6.

The outing to see 'Carousel' at the Gala Theatre, Durham, on 22nd March was finalised and tickets given out.

Our Christmas meal at Chapters Derwentside College on January 24th was a success and enjoyed by all.

The Darts Team Heats will be on Saturday March 18th at Witton Gilbert. Satley has entered a team again this year.

Our outing to Kirkharle and Wallington Hall will be on May 23rd. Kirkharle was the home of Capability Brown, renowned gardener at Hampton Court and other stately homes.

Linda then introduced our speaker, Heidi, who gave a very interesting talk about her business, 'Heidi Maddison Upholstery'. She

described how her business progressed to a shop, 'The Hayloft' at Barnard Castle. Heidi brought along a number of exhibits, a pair of dining chairs, one finished and one to demonstrate how it was done and the material used to arrive at a beautiful finish. There were also lamp shades and cushions as well as a button back headboard

she was busy with. Heidi lives in Frosterley and has her workshop there. A most interesting and enjoyable evening, followed by tea, biscuits and socialising.

The raffle was won by Ann Suddes. The competition, a home made pin cushion was won by Kathleen Snowdon, second Brenda Patchcock and third, Jean Portwood.

LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

The club's first meeting of the year was a belated Xmas outing. We all enjoyed a lovely meal at Chapters Restaurant Derwentside College on Wednesday 25th January. There was a good attendance and all the young students did a sterling job. We will most certainly be returning in the future.

We have a full programme ahead of us

so if you are interested in a quiet relaxing Wednesday afternoon please join us. We are in Lanchester Community Centre on Wednesday 22nd March at 2 pm.

Please contact Helen Tomlinson on 01027 503667, Norma Jenssen on 01027 520574 or Lestrine Kelly on 01027 521494 should you need any further information.

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12 million people have respiratory problems, 5.2 million have cardiovascular disease

and 2.5 million have a cancer condition. Lungs are special and are often overlooked.

Your nearest group meets on the second Thursday of each month at Lanchester Community Centre from 2.00 pm until


4.00 pm. If you are affected, or are a carer or relative, you will be most welcome to come along.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday March 9th, when we will have a DVD on 'Singing for Health'. For information ring Jill Gladstone on 528 114.

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CUPPA, LUNCH & COMPANY



Four happy ladies enjoying their lunch.

The first Cuppa, Lunch and Company held at Lynwood House on 14th February was a great success. The purpose of the day is to enable the lonely or elderly to get out of the house and have company and a couple of hours to chat and have a bite to eat.

There was fantastic support from Hanley & Swinbank who provided scones, cream and jam, lots of volunteers who baked fairy cakes and cakes and Ann Hayes made her delicious corned beef pie. The Spar was very kind

and provided milk, sugar and coffee and Age UK attended and provided heat packs for information on how to keep warm and some cosy socks. There were volunteer drivers who gave lifts to and from Lynwood and volunteers who came to help make tea and have a chat. There was music and a free raffle ticket was given to everyone that attended. It is wonderful to see how so many people can come together to make

life that little bit more enjoyable for others through the kindness of their hearts, so thank you everyone who donated food and gave their spare time and support. Hopefully the momentum will remain and it can be held every month as planned, the next one will be 14th March. If you would like attend or give support next month please call 07969454815.

Jo Allison



A good turnout for Cuppa & Company

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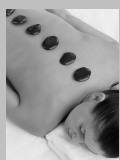
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LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

'The Pit Village'

Bill Saunders' talk on the Pit Village was enjoyed by a full room of the History Society members and visitors in February. This local history can be seen easily at Beamish Museum and nearby local villages since it is literally on our doorstep.

Bill covered the history of mining together with myths and legends of this industry. Bill, the son of a miner, described the harsh living conditions of a mining village and its community.

Bill's presentation included diagrams and old photographs of bell pits, drift mines and he defined pit terminology, eg, a colliery is a

collections of pits and a chauldron is a wagon holding 53 cwt of coal. With the advent of larger pits and collieries, transport was radically changed with steam power from the wagonways to railways which can be seen today in the 15 railway paths in the Durham area. Causey Arch Bridge, designed in 1725 by Ralph Wood, was the longest single span bridge of its kind at the time.

Stanley and Ashington were the two main mining centres in the North East. Pit villages emerged in the 1830-40s and were built around the coal measures. Typical elements would be

terraced housing, a school, a Methodist chapel, the Institute, not forgetting the band etc. The Miners' Institute was a place for miners to learn and relax with billiard tables, libraries and lectures.

Other pursuits included rearing canaries, racing pigeons and gardening. Women's downtime included making clippy mats and quilts which continues to this day.

Today our landscape is a very different place, and a lot of our traditions have evolved from our distinct mining heritage. Visit Beamish or research this history on www.dmm.org.uk.

LANCHESTER BRASS BAND SUCCESS



Lanchester Brass Band took part in 'The Festival of Brass 2017' at East Durham University College, Peterlee, on Sunday February 5th. There were 5 entries, from different bands in Co Durham. Lanchester Brass Band was placed second in the contest. Everyone was delighted of course, especially the new Conductor, Mr Gareth Sykes, who said he was very proud of the band and thanked them for all their hard work. In turn the band thanked Gareth, for all his hard work and commitment to the band.

The next contest is 'The Area Brass Band Competition 2017' which is held in the Gala Theatre on March 12th.

Brenda Craddock

Some of the Band with the trophy, left to right:

Amanda Hatton (2nd Tenor Horn); Susan Hayton (Solo Tenor Horn); Tom Yates (2nd Solo Cornet); Sally Haywood (1st Tenor Horn); Dave Overton (3rd Solo Cornet); Dennis D'Ugo (3rd Cornet); Gareth Sykes (Conductor); Lesley Wilkinson (2nd Trombone).

LANCHESTER WI

'Northern Quilts and Quilters'



Rosy Allan and her book describing the ancient craft of quilting.

President Marie Murphy welcomed members and 4 visitors on a bitterly cold February evening. There were many items for our information - a reminder that annual subscriptions are now due, notice of the Annual Council Meeting on March 28th at Bishop Auckland, Heart Research UK appeal and information regarding ways we can support the Community Centre were all items to be noted. Planned outings included tours of Durham Cathedral and Town Hall, visit to Shipley Art Gallery, a lunch in aid of St Cuthbert's Hospice and DCFWI Centenary events. The competition was for a patchwork or quilted item made by a member and Jane Friesner and Jean

Forster were winners. Raffle prizes were won by Lynne Hodgson and Breda Branscombe. Thanks were offered to tea hostesses for the evening, Judith Collins and Christine Gibson. Our speaker, Rosy Allan talked about Northern Quilts and Quilters, not only giving a very interesting account of the history of quilting, but placing the art into the context of North East social history and heritage. Quilting seems to have originally been used as padding under the mail of fighting men, before becoming popular as a fashionable decoration on female garments. In several parts of Britain, local patterns and styles of quilts evolved and in the farming and mining communities of the

North East, the 'Durham Quilts' became prized possessions in many homes. Traditional designs marked family weddings and other important events, drawing women together to create these beautiful works, and the craft of quilting was eventually taken across the ocean to America, developing into its own native style. Quilting clubs were widespread in our region, providing an important source of income for many households during hard times. Rosy has interviewed many quilters, links in a chain stretching back in time; her interest and passion for the craft made it come alive for us. Ann Carr thanked her warmly for her most interesting account.

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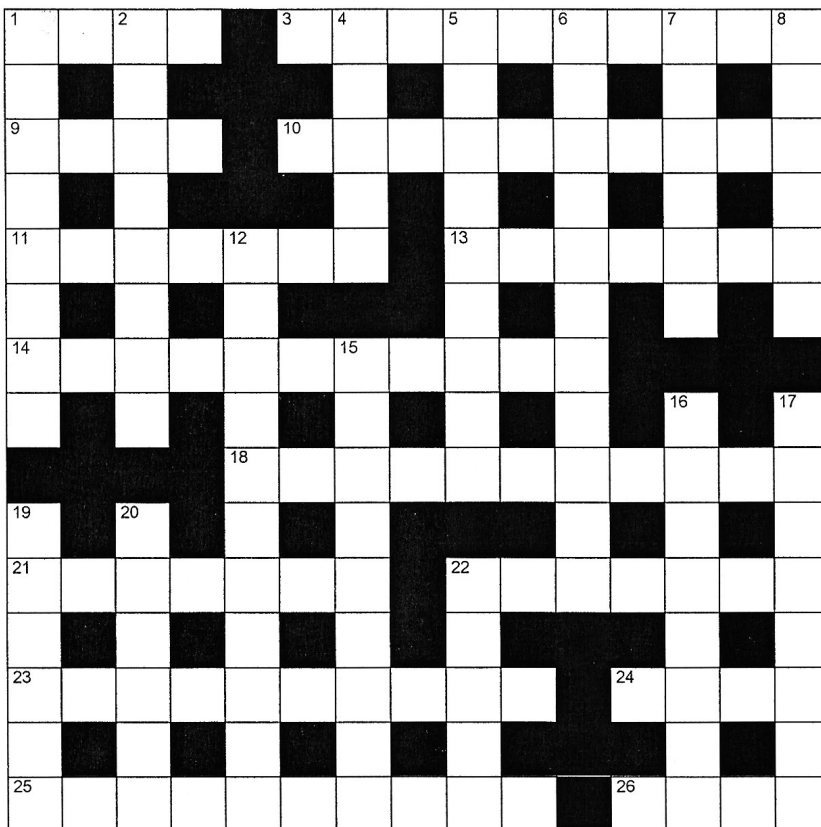
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CROSSWORD 130



ACROSS

1. Mongolian shelter (4)
3. Dull (10)
9. Man of learning (4)
10. Emancipating (10)
11. Left-wing philosophy (7)
13. Oh! a pain causes voice loss (7)
14. King Canute's party trick? (4,7)
18. Taking things to their limit (11)
21. Weeping (7)
22. Suffer from exposure to too much heat (7)
23. Imputed to a bible scar (10)
24. Came, tops! (4)
25. To be performed briskly (10)
26. Goes with good, bad, and agent (4)

DOWN

1. US national park (8)
2. Not quite haute couture! (3-5)
4. Shame (5)
5. A toe viper is in force (9)
6. Her yoga line produces mouth wash (4,7)
7. Bulbs with a pungent smell and taste (6)
8. Gesture (6)
12. Gone in fifth is likely to occur soon (2,3,6)
15. Strike back (9)
16. Can't tele change to flexible organ? (8)
17. They use purrs for a takeover (8)
19. Canadian capital (6)
20. Scallywag (6)
22. Goes with second, decision and pea (5)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 129

ACROSS

1. schism
5. temerity
9. paranoia
10. supple
11. manual
12. parkland
14. sugar snap pea
17. domesticated
20. explorer
22. rip-off
23. Psalms
25. flowered
26. espousal
27. seared

DOWN

2. cravat
3. in a nutshell
4. moonlight
5. trapper
6. miser
7. rap
8. talented
13. lepidoptera
15. notorious
16. coexists
18. careful
19. effete
21. roses
24. Leo

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 129

There was a good response to last month's crossword competition, 23 entries. Congratulations to Mr T Smith of Woodham Court who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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.

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

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THURSDAY CLUB



Lesley and Kate portraying 2 scheming 'wallflowers'.

Once again we started off the New Year with fun, laughter and exercising our 'little grey cells' and of course eating. The colourful and appetising buffet, provided by Crinnions, was superb. Some of us enjoyed seconds and even took home 'doggie' bags. However we all remembered to leave enough room for dessert. A selection of 8 were on offer, again from Mr M and Mr S, and we were spoilt for choice. Our little grey cells were put to work with a picture quiz and a topical questionnaire. Some answers we knew, some we should have known and the rest - well we hadn't a clue - good fun.



Pam and Sylvia are 2 shoplifters chatting after having had a good day!

Laughter was created by our own 'T C Players' with 2 short play readings. The first was with Pam and Sylvia discussing what they had 'acquired' on their shopping trip. A couple of hiccups and ad-libs added to the entertainment. The

second saw Leslie and Kate wondering how they could get a male partner for their Ballroom Dancing afternoons. Naughty but hilarious. Well done girls. We had an Ab-Fab afternoon of friendship, fun and feasting.



Happy New Year to everyone from the Thursday Club ladies.

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WHAT'S ON?

Vintage Tractor Club

Meet on Wednesday 1st March at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Social Club.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Methodist Church, Friday March 3rd, 2.00 - 3.00pm. All welcome. For more information, 01207520749 or steve24c07@aol.com

Sunday Bridge

Come along to the Community Centre on 5th March at 2.00 pm. The entrance fee is £3.00 and all profits to the Community Centre.

Thursday Club

Our next meeting will be on 16th March at 7.15pm in the Community Centre Small Hall. There will be a Table Top Treasure Hunt kindly organised by Sam Simpkins and, as it is our 37th Birthday, we will end the evening with tea/coffee and cake. Please bring anything suitable for either the Coffee Morning raffle or tombola tables.

Coffee Morning

On Thursday 30th March from 10.00am to 11.30am in aid of The Great North Air Ambulance. Tea/coffee with either a scone or a slice of cake. Tickets only £1.00 or pay at the door. Raffle, tombola and jewellery tables. We hope you can all join us again.

Lanchester Playgroup

Wednesday 1st March - Surestart will be joining Playgroup for Storytime. Fundraising Event - Quiz Night at 8pm on Saturday 11th March in the Community Centre Main Hall. Tickets available from Playgroup at £8 per person which includes a buffet supper. Please bring your own drinks.

Community Centre

Coffee Morning

The Community Centre will be holding a coffee morning on Thursday 9th March from 9.30-11.00 am.

Lacemaking

In the upstairs room of the Community Centre, on Mondays and Fridays 7.00 - 9.00pm.

Needlecraft

continues on Wednesdays 1.00-3.00 pm

Baby Group

Meet Wednesdays and Fridays in the dining room between 9.15 and 11.00am. Birth to 2 years, £1.80.

Heritage Audit

Please come along and see the Heritage Audit document and photographs at Lynwood House on Saturday 18th March 2pm - 4pm. Everyone welcome.

If you would like further information about the Lanchester Community Heritage Audit or the Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan please contact the Parish Council on 01207520146.

Willow Burn Spring Fair

Come to our Spring Fair at St Bede's, Lanchester on Saturday 8th April, 12 - 3 pm, Entrance 50p.

Enjoy a day filled with fun and games for all the family. Buy from our hand selected stalls, show us your best duck waddle and win some amazing prizes! Enter your decorated Easter egg into our competition and win a prize! For more information call: 01207523900 or visit our website: www.willow-burn.co.uk.

Musical Minis

Musical Minis class takes place in the Small Hall at Lanchester Community Centre between 10 and 11am every Tuesday.

Cuppa, Lunch and Company for the over 70s

Free Cuppa, Lunch and Company age 70+.

Do you have neighbours or family who would like a cup of tea, lunch and company out of the house for 2 hours a month?

Our next meeting is on Tuesday March 14th, 12 noon to 2 pm in Lynwood House.

You will have a driver to collect you and bring you home (all drivers are DBS checked).

We do need an idea on numbers attending. Please phone to say if you would like to come and if you need a lift there and back. Call Jo on: 07969454815.

Flower Club

The next meeting will be on Wednesday March 22nd at 2 pm in Lanchester Community Centre. Our guest will be Lucie Smith-Richmond whose subject is 'Flotsam and Jetsam'.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Sunday 19th March to go to Gainford Spa. Meet 9.30 am in Community Centre car park.

Local History Society

Subject: Open Treasure at Durham Cathedral
Speaker: Marie-Therese Mayne

Date: March 3rd

Time: 7pm

Venue: Lanchester Community Centre

We will learn more about the incredible collections in the new exhibition space in the Monk's Dormitory, Great Kitchen and Collections Gallery now open at the Cathedral.

For more information about the History Society contact marianmorrison@btinternet.com

Library Book Club

On Monday 27th March at 2.30 to 3.30 pm, the group will be discussing 'The Soldier's Wife' by Joanna Trollope. This is her 20th book about a modern military wife. If you have read this book why don't you come along or pick up your copy of the novel from the library. We look forward to seeing you then.

Thursday Book Club

On Thursday 23rd March from 5.30-6.30, the group will be reviewing 'Gold' by Chris Cleave, who is also a columnist for The Guardian newspaper. This was a Richard & Judy Book Club read in Spring 2013. It is set in the world of elite track cycling and it follows the ambitions of three very different cyclists with Olympic dreams. If you would like to join this new group, pick up the book at the library and we will see you there.

Lanchester WI

Our next meeting will take place on Monday March 6th in the Community Centre, beginning at 7.15 pm. We expect a great evening of North Eastern music, songs and stories from Steve and Carol Robson. The competition is to submit a Geordie ditty or poem, so that gives us a lot to think about! Ladies are reminded to keep up to date with news by consulting details of future events and outings which are posted on our Information Table. Make sure you don't miss any news, especially in this year, when we celebrate the centenary of our DCFWI. You're also invited to become more involved in the WI, by volunteering as tea hostesses, or donating raffle prizes, offering readings etc. It's your WI!

Last Night of the Proms

Lanchester and District Choral and Amateur Operatic Society present 'Last Night of the Proms' in Lanchester Methodist Church on Friday 24th March 2017 at 7.15 pm. Tickets £8 from choir members, at the door or call 01207521458.

The programme will include Coronation music, folk songs of the British Isles, sea shanties and, of course, that great sequence of music which traditionally brings the Last Night to a rousing finale.

The concert will be conducted by David Hughes and feature accompanist Bill Gray and popular soloist Elizabeth Woods.

Please note change of date for this event.

Project Poppies

'Lest We Forget'

The next workshop and update for the Project Poppies will be held at Croft View Halls on Saturday 11th March 2017 from 2-4pm. Anyone and everyone is welcome to come along and make poppies in the bottom hall or paint some in the top hall that have already been made. Tuition will be given for anyone who would like it and tea and coffee will be available free during the afternoon. Please bring an old rolling pin or a 1" paint brush or both. We currently have 220 poppies finished and stored and 180 awaiting painting.

Lanchester Library

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

Paradiso Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday March 12th at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. There will be the usual Raffle, Refreshments and a Film.

The film we will be screening is 'Le Gloire de Mon Père' - a French film set in early 20th century Provence where an urbanite family would holiday deep in the French countryside. The film is told through the narrator Marcel, the young boy, who retells his experiences in discovering the wonders of nature. All are welcome. Entry: £2.50 members, £3.50 occasional visitors, £2 young persons.

Lanchester Writers

Lanchester Writers meet in Lanchester Library every Tuesday 2 - 4 pm during school term time. New members are welcome.

Lanchester Partnership's Ceilidh

Saturday 18th November 2017. It is a long way off but the months go past quickly.

The 'Windy Gyle Band' is booked and so is the Social Club, so please put the date on your calendar and tell your friends. It is always a great night.

Jill Gladstone 528 114

Wildlife Group

The next meeting will be on 14th March, the subject will be 'Land of Oak & Iron' (Heritage Lottery Funded Project within the Derwent Valley) with Kath Marshall Ivens. Meet in the Community Centre Dining Room at 7.30 pm.

Joint Concert

Lanchester Brass Band and The Argus Singers are again giving a joint concert on Saturday 1st April 2017 at 7pm in Lanchester Methodist Church. Tickets £6 available from 07482 749713 or 07900930016.

You are assured of a very enjoyable evening and we look forward to seeing you.

Satley WI

The next meeting will be on March 13th in Satley Parish Hall at 7.15 pm. Mr Ian McArdle will give a talk on 'Tunnels running under Newcastle' and the competition will be something 'old'. Visitors are always welcome.

Lent Lunches

Churches Together in Lanchester and Burnhope Lent Lunches will be held at the Methodist Church on Tuesdays March 7th, 21st, 28th and April 4th. Please bring lunch to share between 11.30 am until 12 midday, tea and coffee will be provided. Between 12.00 and 1.00 pm we will be following the York course, RECEIVING CHRIST. Everyone is warmly welcome.

Mothers' Union

The March meeting is on Wednesday 8th, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House when Shirley and Alan Anderson will speak to us about the Lazarus Home for Girls.

Open House

Join us in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 2nd March, 11.30 am until 1.00 pm.

BEER FESTIVAL 2017

There's lots of hard work going on to get the fourth beer and cider festival organised. We've secured Evans Halshaw Durham as programme sponsor for this year, whilst Olivers Tree Services from Langley Park and Premier Kitchens and Gary Hall Windows and Conservatories from Consett, have confirmed their continued support for the event. There are still plenty of opportunities available as we hope to be able to increase the number of beers and ciders to fifty this time around. So if anyone is interested, please get in touch Lanchestercc@outlook.com. Prices have been set at £9 if you buy your ticket in advance and £10 on the day. That's actually the same price as last year but we've added your

first two drinks tokens to the entry price. Drinks tokens will remain at £1.50 each and 7 for £10. We have confirmed that the two charities that we will support in the event this time round are both local in Willow Burn Hospice and Henry Dancer Days.

We're in talks with various bands as we look to finalise the entertainment over the three days and we should be able to announce the line up next month.

We are in discussions with local Police to try and ensure that the event goes off without causing too much disruption. Inevitably there will be some, but we will do everything we can to minimise the problems.

Don't forget to keep up to date by checking out the Lanchester Beer Festival website.

CRICKET NEWS

Indoor nets are underway with a good turnout particularly for the junior section. A reminder that they are on Sundays at Fyndoune College, Sacriston from 2-4 and each session costs £2.50. Under 11s should attend 2-3 and 12-15s attend 3-4. We'd be delighted to see new players or anyone

just wanting to try the game for the first time. Seniors and those over 15 can attend on a Wednesday night between 8 and 9 at the same venue. Off the field, we have had the kitchen fully refitted and it looks great, thanks to Morgan Gray Properties from Stanley. We were able to achieve this thanks to

money from the Beer Festival, a small amount of grant money and member donations. It means we can offer even more where people are looking to use the facilities for social functions. During the close season, we have supported Teaching Assistants by hosting their meetings, as well as other social

functions. Our own next social highlight will be Friday 17th March, to celebrate St Patrick's Day. There is a cover charge of £4 but there is a lot going on with a local band playing Irish tunes, food and a quiz. Show your colours by wearing green or a shamrock or a leprechaun.

Advertising in THE VILLAGE VOICE



Advertising your business in the Village Voice could not be easier, just give us a ring and we will do the rest. We offer a free design service to prepare a unique advert promoting your business in 2700 homes in and around Lanchester. The cost starts at £15 per month for a credit card size advert.

You can advertise for one month or every month, it's up to you.

**Just contact Lynda Dougan on 07851 775297
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TALK LIKE TIGERS

Lanchester's Charlotte and Stephanie are Talk Like Tigers, an emerging electro pop band. The twins are singers, songwriters and musicians.

Their music is brand new and is full of the harmonies that only siblings can produce, harmonies which have taken the twin sisters around the world touring as Duffy's backing singers. They soaked up everything they could on their travels and did as much as possible including jamming with the Killers on a grand piano! Their travels have certainly influenced their writing and inspired the band to create something truly different.

Talk Like Tigers have played notable festival and headliner gigs, including Generator's Evolution Emerging Festival and Northern Electric Festival. They



Lanchester sisters Charlotte and Stephanie who are 'Talk Like Tigers' an electro pop band, posing in one of their publicity pictures.

have also supported BBC Animalistic and Gunning, to record a BBC live 6 Music favourites, have attracted the session. Recently, they Samaris. Their self attention of BBC have been played on the released singles, Introducing leading them Huw Stephens show on

BBC Radio 1 and their latest single 'It Isn't Over' is getting great reviews. The band was awarded a Ubeat Music Award for the best Electronic Act of the Year 2016 and performed live at the award show in the O₂ Academy Newcastle, which will be broadcast on television.

To celebrate the release of their debut EP, Talk Like Tigers will be playing a special show on Saturday 4th March at the newly refurbished Think Tank? Underground at The Head of Steam on Neville Street in Newcastle. It's an all female line up to celebrate women in music. Come and join Lanchester's Talk Like Tigers and special guests for a party! Get your tickets now at www.talkliketigers.com, where you can also listen to Talk Like Tigers' music and watch their unique music videos!

LANCHESTER GIRL AT THEATRE ROYAL

Mae Deaville, aged 9 of Ashdown Grove, has been dancing with the Scottish Ballet in Hansel and Gretel which ran from 1st-4th February at the Theatre Royal in Newcastle. She is in Year 4 at Lanchester EP School and is one of only 16 children selected from the north east to perform in this magical production. She was also in the Leah Bell pantomime Sleeping Beauty at the Consett Empire throughout December and has been with the Pauline Cook School of Dance since she was 2.



Mae Deaville with her Hansel and Gretel programme.

LINE DANCING IN LANCHESTER



The new Line Dancing class at Croft View has proved very popular with over 40 dancers each week. Here the new dancers are learning the Cowboy Charleston.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 21st March.
The deadline for **adverts** is Friday 17th March.