

the Village Voice

Issue No 8, Volume 23

Lanchester, August 2023



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Lanchester Open Gardens (page 2)



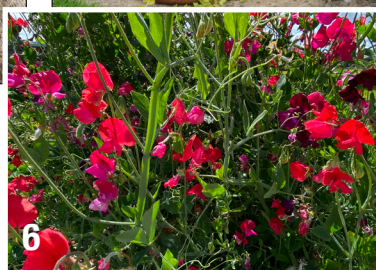
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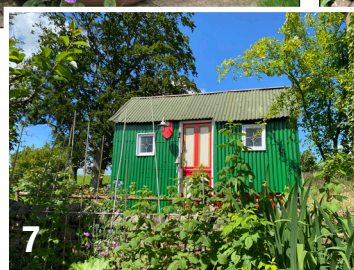
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1. Newfield Hall
2. Newfield Hall, folly
3. Palm trees at Mount View
4. The Old Hall, Hollinside Farm
5. Gardens at Burnside

6. Sweet peas, in full bloom
7. Charming outbuildings at the Old Hall, Hollinside Farm
8. Exhibition in the Goose Barn, the Old Hall, Hollinside Farm
9. Dere Street Stitches
10. Bumper crop of tomatoes

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Lanchester Open Gardens

Saturday 23rd July was Lanchester Open Gardens in aid of Willow Burn Hospice. This was my first time attending the event so I enlisted the company of my sister to join me in what proved to be a gardener's delight!

Early morning blue skies and sunshine promised a glorious day ahead...which was to be the case with the exception of a sudden downpour just after 10am, the story of our summer so far! We started our viewings at the Old Hall, Hollinside, a house dating back to c.1650, and what a spectacular garden this is, a formal knot garden with a central fountain at the front of the house, with stunning views across the Browney Valley. Not only were the gardens beautiful but the architecture of the house and outbuildings, both the interior and exterior, were fascinating, with so many features to marvel at. This was clearly a popular garden with lots of visitors taking their time to chat to the owners, or sit on one of the inviting garden seats in the sunshine, or visit the exhibition by the Dere Street Stitchers, who displayed a beautiful selection of creative stitchery, (located in the Goose Barn). To enhance the whole experience was the charming fairground organ owned by Stuart Wright that played magically at the entrance of the gardens...and this was only our first stop!

Our next stop was Newfield Hall, a 200-year-old walled garden with formal knot box hedging, herbaceous borders containing a variety of plants, lily ponds with a bridge and fabulous views across the valley. We were met by the friendly hosts on arrival and given a helpful map identifying what to look out for... particularly the folly constructed as a project during lockdown! Adjacent to Newfield Hall is Chapel House with its meandering gardens and secluded seating areas to sit and admire the array of diverse flowers and plants.

Back in the village we headed to a garden on Burnside, here we experienced deep garden envy, the richness of the planting and the variety of flowers were a magnet for bees and butterflies, the veg patch was an abundance of home-grown fruit and veg.

The rustle of palm trees welcomed us at our next stop on Mount View, stepping into this garden in the English sunshine we were immediately transported to a more exotic location - is this really Lanchester?! The owners have nurtured this amazing display of well-established palm trees, thriving even during the most severe North East winters...what a delight!

A short walk up Newbiggin Lane and we arrived at the Community Orchard and Margery Flatts Allotments. We were met by enthusiastic allotment keepers, giving us an overview of the site including the location of the "nut walk". We wandered through the beautifully maintained plots, bordered by the apple orchard already laden with fruit.

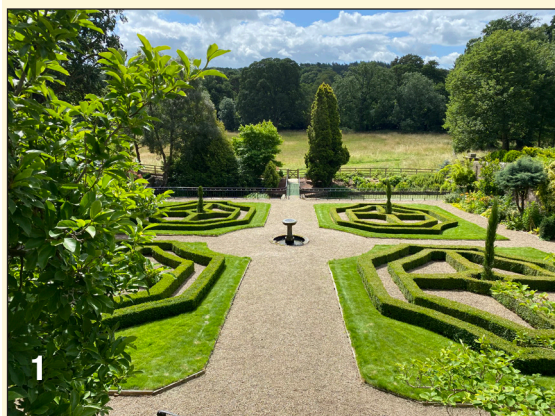
Back in the village and a quiet stroll around Percy Place and the Garths, this lovely mid-Victorian row of brick stone houses reflects each owner's personality and pride in their individual outdoor space.

A short walk over to the allotments on Peth Bank, to once again be inspired, and admire the talents of local gardeners growing a wide variety of fruit, veg and flowers for the home.

This certainly was a day to remember, and one that I heartily recommend, and hopefully next year we will make it to Willow Burn Hospice for the cream tea refreshments that were on offer to all.

Thank you to the organisers, and dedicated gardeners of Lanchester. The event raised £1,100.

Barbara Ridley



1. Newfield Hall.
2. Palm trees, Mount View
3. Stuart Wright with his fairground organ
4. The Old Hall, Hollinside Farm
5. Beautiful Bonsai, at Burnside
6. Secluded seating, The Old Hall
7. Abundant veg patch, Burnside
8. Burst of colour at Burnside
9. Sunflowers identify the Open Gardens venues.



Wildlife notes

Barn Owls

Featuring some more outstanding photographs from local photographer Ian Appleby.

They have lop-sided ears, their face is shaped to collect sound and their feathers aren't waterproof. Why?

To help them hunt successfully in low light. The heart-shaped face collects the tiniest sound, the lop-sided ear openings (just behind the eyes) pinpoint the exact direction of the noise. They 'sneak up' on Field Voles and other small mammals undetected in silent flight, due to their feathers being extremely soft. Soft feathers get soaked by rain, a problem for hunting in wet weather.

Their ghostly flight is most often seen at dawn and dusk, across fields and edges of woodland: areas with long grass. Their long legs can reach prey in the grass. Their talons are not only for catching prey, one talon has a comb to groom the facial disc (small stiff feathers forming the 'heart-shape' surrounding the eyes and beak). The facial disc feathers can be finely adjusted to collect particular sounds and direct them to the ears, hence the carefully applied 'comb'! They have superpower eyesight too, but it's their hearing that permits food finding in total darkness.

They don't 'twit twoo' like Tawny owls, but screech.

Food goes down whole, the indigestible bits are coughed up as an owl pellet. You can dissect the pellets to identify what they've had for tea i.e. find skulls and bones as clues.

<https://www.barnowltrust.org.uk/sitemap/galleries/pellet-analysis/>

They have adapted to using barns to roost and nest. They also use hollow trees and crevices. They've lived alongside humans for thousands of years, eating 'vermin' to help out. They struggle with the loss of traditional barns and the clearance of older trees and woodland reducing their nest sites. You can boost Barn owls by finding a suitable site for a nest box, make sure you have permission and check out The Barn Owl Trust information.

<https://www.barnowltrust.org.uk/barn-owl-nestbox/barn-owl-nestboxes/>

You have a chance of seeing them, especially as the nights draw in, near Malton Nature Reserve field up to Biggen Farm, Knitsley, also along the line towards Knitsley in the area near Low Meadows/ Kitswell Road.



Barn Owls to be spotted near Malton Nature Reserve field up to Biggen Farm, Knitsley, Low Meadows/Kitswell Road.



Lanchester Church Wives

On Saturday 8th July, 16 ladies set off for Carlisle for our annual day-away. Our visit took us first to St. Mary's Church in Wreay Village, just south of Carlisle. A beautiful church, funded and built under the direction of Sarah Losh in the 19th Century.

Our guide, Richard, was excellent, very informative and amusing. In the afternoon we arrived in Carlisle where we split into smaller groups to explore the town. Later, we all met up and dined together before leaving for home. A brilliant day enjoyed by everyone.

Deanna Leyland

Monday Art Group

Lesley Hughes, a member of the Monday Art Group, demonstrated a 'wet on wet' watercolour technique at a group meeting in the Community Centre. Members enjoy a programme of occasional demonstrations by visiting artists and other group members while having time to work on their own projects. Lesley's demonstration was enjoyed by the group who afterwards practised what they had learned to create some vibrant water colours.

Information on the Monday Art Club from Jim Rafferty at: tojimrafferty@yahoo.com
Jim Rafferty

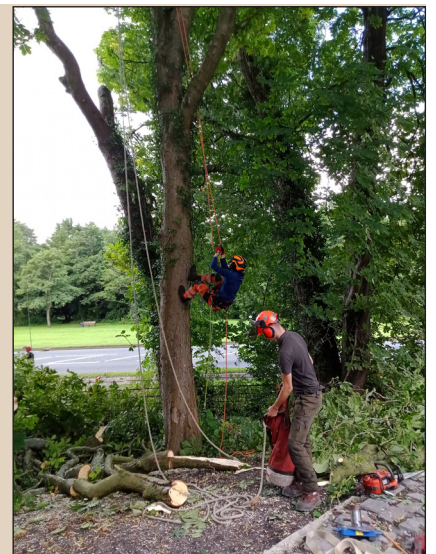


Residents of one part of Lanchester received an unexpected four figure windfall towards the end of July in the People's Postcode lottery.

Those who subscribed with a DH7 0HQ postcode – the West Drive area – were awarded a £1,000 win in one of the fundraising lottery's daily prize draws. Subscriptions to the postcode lottery supports a range of charities across the UK. A minimum of 33 percent of the ticket prices goes to charity.
Neil McKay

Tree Felling

A reader sent in a picture of trees being felled at the Lodge on the bypass. They have been felled since a tree fell over the entrance to the school and bowling club which we published a photo of in our February 2023 edition. A survey was commissioned by the owner of the Lodge and several other trees were identified as dangerous and have been removed.



Lanchester Flower Club CELEBRATING 50 YEARS 1973-2023

Member of the National Association of Flower Arrangers Society

Lanchester Flower club enjoyed a lovely afternoon on Wednesday 26th July still celebrating our 50th Anniversary with the leftover cake and non alcoholic fizz. Our demonstrator was Heather Curry, her theme being "Watch with Mother". As Heather began she told us the demonstration was interactive. Oh my, we thought, what could she mean? We had to guess the particular children's programme her arrangement depicted. Thank goodness we had quite a few members who could remember some of the particular programmes, Andy Pandy, The Wooden Tops, Bill and Ben the Flower Pot Men and many more. I bet some of our readers can recall some of these programmes, it brought back some lovely memories. We all enjoyed a fantastic afternoon; she is full of the most funny anecdotes. Her older brother got a mention along with her mother who comes along with her. Lots of smiles and laughter. Her arrangements were wonderful and as always raffled to the delight of the winners.

The usual tea, coffee, cake and fizz were served and everyone enjoyed a lovely relaxing afternoon.

There will be no meeting during August. Our next meeting will be Wednesday 27th September in Lanchester Community Centre main hall at 1.30 pm. Our demonstrators will be Wendy Smith, her theme will be "Golden Anniversary".

Everyone is welcome, so come and join us.

Lestrine Kelly

Lanchester Local History Society

At our July meeting Fred Crowell from Leadgate shared with us his broad knowledge of the history of the river Tyne and the surrounding land. He had owned a boat repair and build yard at South Shields until he retired to Leadgate. His talk was divided in two. The first being all about the history and the second took us through the processes involved with repairing and rebuilding The Peggy, a Northumberland Coble, and the George Elmy, a lifeboat that sank just outside Seaham harbour with the loss of 5 crew and the 4 fishermen they had just rescued. If you are interested in that story, you can catch a programme about it on YouTube.



Above: this first picture depicts the busy river in the early 20th Century.

Left: this engraving is of Kings Meadow Island which in 1700s was in the middle of the Tyne at Dunston and was big enough for there to be a racecourse holding annual racing events.



Fun, friendly, local screenings: give us a go and join our new season launch party

The new season of the film club kicks off with a party atmosphere on 10th September. As well as showing "Ticket to Paradise", a romantic comedy starring Julia Roberts and George Clooney, there will be a film quiz, exotic refreshments, a raffle and a DVD sale.

All are welcome.

We look forward to seeing our regular visitors again, and to welcome new faces. Come along with friends or on your own. The film club offers convenience and value for money. It's an opportunity to catch up on films you've missed, or would like to see again, socialise and make new friends.

Membership is £5 and runs from September to June offering members a 25% discount on attendance fees.

PROGRAMME

September 10 - Ticket to Paradise

October 8 - She Said

November 12 - The Dig

December 10 - Top Gun Maverick

Films for January to June 2024 to be voted for by members.

Venue: Lanchester Community Centre

second Sunday of the month

7pm for refreshments and raffle

7.30pm Film starts

Annual Membership : £5

Members : £3

Non-members : £4



"Crank up" in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance

Paul Morgan and Maxine Harrison organised a "crank up" and fundraising event in memory of Pearl Suddick from Escomb who died in November 2022 aged 62 years old. This was held at Peter Suddes' farm – West Newbiggin – on 17th and 18th June.

The "crank up" is of stationary engines, rather than tractors. So, there were engines, a steam engine, wagons, and tractors. There were singers, raffles, a tombola, and football cards. The event raised £1,600. £200 was given to Peter and Wendy Suddes to give to a charity of their choice. The other £1,400 was given to the Great North Air Ambulance; the presentation was held at Lanchester Social Club.

The picture shows (l-r) Tracy Jordinson (Pearl's sister-in-law), Gary Suddick (Pearl's husband), Michelle Dack (Pearl's daughter), Ellie McIntyre (from the Great North Air Ambulance) and Maxine Harrison a very good friend and one of the organisers. Tracy and Sue Wood helped to arrange the raffle.

The organisers say that it was a real team effort, and the generosity of the public was amazing.



Pearl Suddick from Escomb

News from All Saints' Parish Church

8th July was a very significant day in All Saints' calendar- it was the day on which our curate, Rev'd Stephen Martin, took to the skies with our pastoral visitor Anne Whiteley, to raise money for Willow Burn and St Cuthbert's hospices. Anne had always wanted to skydive - and this year celebrated her 77th birthday - so Stephen promised to dive with her. As the day approached there was some doubt that the weather would allow the dive to happen, but 8th July dawned bright and clear and by 9am the jump was successfully completed (not without some trepidation on the way up to 15,000 feet...) Stephen said afterwards: 'What a fabulous experience for two amazing charities...' Sponsorship has so far exceeded £4,800, but you can still donate - and it would be fantastic to push the total over the £5,000 mark. If you would like to give, please contact 01207509730, or send a Facebook message to All Saints' FB page.

The skydive was just the beginning of an exciting day. Rev'd Lesley blessed the Morrison Lodges banner before it was paraded at the Big Meeting, after which we gathered in All Saints for the visit of the St Andrew's Roker Operatic Society. They gave us a fabulous concert of music for a summer evening - an eclectic mix of light opera, sacred music, folk songs, and some humorous solos - like the Hippopotamus song, sung by the Rev'd Michael Beck. The acoustics at All Saints showed off the choir to full effect, and we are very much looking forward to a return of the choir next year. 22nd July was the date for our Summer Fair. Sadly, the weather wasn't kind, but a steady stream of people came to church, attracted by Stuart Wright's Gavioli organ. Our strawberry scones went down very well and we raised a much needed £1,098 for church funds (given that our running costs are over £6,000 per month). Please look out for our Christmas Fair and support us if you can!

Finally - two bits of very exciting news. On September 23rd we are welcoming the Rt Rev'd Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham, to All Saints for our Deanery Confirmation service. You may have seen that Bishop Paul, who was one of the King's supporters at the coronation, is to retire in February, so it will be our last chance to see him in Lanchester. If you are interested in exploring faith, and would like to be confirmed by Bishop Paul, please do contact Rev'd Lesley on 01207529166 or by emailing reverendsutherland@gmail.com as soon as possible.

And, from September, our Sunday School will be up and running during our Sunday 10.30 service. With a story, a craft, a song and some play, our Small Saints Sunday Club is fun for children from ages 2-10 and enables parents to enjoy the service while the children have a fabulous time together outside (weather permitting) or in the community room. Please contact Rev'd Lesley for further information - and please do come along!

Rev'd Lesley Sutherland



Top: The skydive by Stephen and Anne.

Top left: The concert by St Andrew's Roker Operatic Society

Above: The fairground organ for the summer fair

Left: Small Saints Sunday club

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Durham Miners' Gala

Amy, Catherine and Alice Bell, from Lanchester, playing for Stanhope Silver Band who marched under Durham Aged Miners Home Association banner, in their 200th year. They were honoured to march it into Durham Cathedral to The Weardale Hymn.



Right: Amy Bell in the foreground playing the trombone.



Left: Catherine and Alice Bell in the foreground playing tenor horns

Vira goes home to Ukraine

After 15 months living in Lanchester, Vira, our Ukrainian guest, has decided to go home. Like many Ukrainians, she misses her family. She will miss the sanctuary and friendliness Lanchester folks have shown her, but she feels now is the time to go home. She says thank you to everyone who has shown her such love and kindness.

Andrea and Mike Stoddard

Andrea Stoddard with Vira (right)





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Tuesday 5th September 2023

The deadline for advertisers is

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Thursday Club outing

On July 20th at 10.45am, expecting mixed weather, the group of 30 happy ladies embarked on one of Weardale's Coaches, with their cheerful driver Alan. We were on route to Trenchers Restaurant which is situated inside the 'old' Spanish City in Whitley Bay.

In no time at all we were through the Tyne Tunnel and approaching Whitley Bay. The heavy rain managed to stop enough for us to wander along to "Trenchers Fish and Chip Restaurant" which opened at 12 noon. We sat at two long tables near the windows and were treated to fish and chips, lemon, mushy peas, tartar sauce, tomato sauce and vinegar salt and pepper. All this was washed down with water, tea, or coffee. The staff did their jobs perfectly and everyone had a wonderful time.

Of course, there was a lot of chattering between the ladies, and the staff were very attentive. All in all it was a lovely experience - and all for £13 per head. (Pensioners do have some perks!)

Some marched off afterwards for a walk along the seafront, others could sit or explore Whitley Bay; arcades of slot machines, ice cream (very good) or more fish and chips, cafes and pubs. We were very lucky with very little rain at this time.

At 2.30pm we were on the coach again on the way to Boundary Mill a shopping outlet, for the second part of the outing. The staff at Boundary Mill were very helpful and friendly (of course) and some ladies had trollies for their purchases. Luckily the coach had room in the boot for their walkers and large purchases. And it poured while we were inside! We managed a cup of tea and a sit down in their cafe.

All returned safely to Lanchester at 6.20pm after a very enjoyable and successful outing.

Jan Vasey

Thursday Club Secretary

Ps. There is no meeting in August



*Right: Trenchers Restaurant
situated inside the 'old'
Spanish City in Whitley Bay.
Below: Happy diners!*



Father Bob's 60 years in the priesthood

More than 200 well-wishers gathered at Ushaw College to celebrate 60 years in the priesthood for Father Bob Spence.

The gathering on Saturday July 15 was a testament to the popularity of the 85 year old who spent 17 years as priest at All Saints RC Church in Lanchester, having been priest at Darlington before that.

Fr Spence, of course, is also well-known for his passion for Newcastle United FC.

"My dad told me never to miss a match and never to miss Mass. It's been invaluable advice all my life," he once said.

He recounted at the gathering another tale concerning the football club when he took some pupils from All Saints RC School to St James's Park ostensibly to meet another former manager Sir Bobby Robson. The late Sir Bobby gathered the wide-eyed youngsters around him, and then called over to someone to come and meet them. To their delight one Alan Shearer, then the club's superstar centre forward, sauntered over to join the group.

He gave thanks to everyone who had influenced and helped him serve the community in which he served. The entire service was conducted by him including the homily. He was of course supported by fellow priests, his family and friends and the Lanchester Deacon Peter Smith.

But it was Fr Spence who was undoubtedly the star of the gathering at Ushaw College.

After the service in the Cuthbert chapel a splendid buffet reception was organised by the wonderful Ushaw ladies, all directed by Margaret and her team. Thanks to the generous support from Lanchester and Darlington parishes and other generous individuals, who wish to remain anonymous.



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By post: The Village Voice,

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Ladies who lunch

We ventured a little further afield last time out - all the way to the Boatside Inn at Warden, 40 minutes away. Having said that, it is a most pleasant journey along the A68 towards Hexham, somewhat busier on the A69 which leads to the slip road down into Warden.

The Boatside Inn itself and staff are warm, welcoming, and very efficient. We were soon seated, provided with menus, drinks on their way and once menu choices had been made, our meals arrived quickly. All good as we were feeling somewhat peckish after the longer journey.

We sampled for a starter smoked mackerel pate served with cucumber pickle and melba toast. Mains were chicken stroganoff cooked in a paprika, mustard and mushroom cream sauce served with steamed rice; Boatside homemade seafood pie with seasonal veg; mince and dumplings with mash and seasonal veg; confit of duck leg seasoned with five spices, garlic and ginger, served on braised red cabbage with sautéed potatoes and an oriental sauce.

Desserts were a unanimous choice of the lemon roulade served with ice cream or cream - you were also given the option of being adventurous and going for custard!!

It was all beautifully presented - some in quirky slanty dishes - and it all tasted delicious.

A most enjoyable lunchtime was had by all, and we look forward to going again.

The Gourmet Girls



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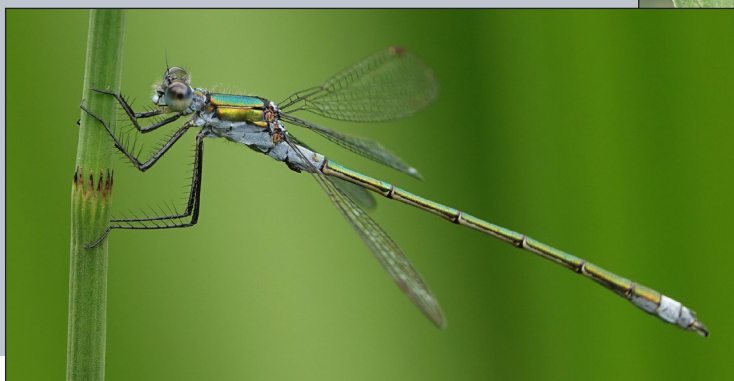
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Lanchester Wildlife Group's latest outing

Lanchester Wildlife Group - Malton Nature Reserve Field trip 16th July

We set out at midday; intrepid adventurers in pursuit of Dragons and Damsels. We were accompanied by Michael Coates, "County Recorder" for magnificent flying machines i.e. dragonflies. The County Recorder for a group of animals or plants keeps track of what species was found where in that 'county'. Michael is responsible for collecting details of where dragonfly species are found in the Vice County of Durham (includes Sunderland, Hartlepool etc). In past issues of VV, we've encouraged you to record animals or plants that you see and recognise online e.g. via irecord (<https://irecord.org>).



Above: Southern Hawker

Above left: two in tandem mating

Left: Emerald male damsel

uk). Your recorded sightings then find their way to the County Recorder for the appropriate group of animals or plants. Aided by warm, sunny conditions we saw five species of dragonfly/damselfly at Malton including the impressive Southern Hawker. Dragonflies are larger than damselflies (dainty damsels). When at rest dragonflies hold their wings flat out from the sides of their bodies, damsels usually hold their wings folded above or near to their bodies. There is a gap between the eyes of damsels, dragons' eyes touch. Watch for them flying along the main path at Malton, hawking for small insects to eat. Hence the name 'Hawker'. They rest hanging from vegetation, sitting on branches along the paths and on vegetation next to and within the ponds. Look closely up and down the plant stems growing in the ponds.

If you see two in tandem they are mating or laying eggs in the pond or on pond vegetation. He clasps the female at the back of the head with the end of his abdomen and she raises hers up to him, they form an upside-down heart shape together.

Useful blog from Michael on DWT's website:

<https://www.durhamwt.com/news/2022-year-two-halves-dragonflies>

Help with ID: <https://british-dragonflies.org.uk/odonata/species-and-identification/>

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Poppy's walks

Good day readers.
My walk for this edition of the Village Voice is on public footpaths and rights of way but beware. Often cattle graze on part of the route and my Humans always make sure we turn and go back rather than walk through a field of cows.

However, presuming the coast is clear I will describe the walk which is a very satisfactory exercise.

As you all should know by now, I am Poppy, a Patterdale terrier who enjoys sharing the walks I lead my Humans on with you dear readers.

This one starts on Station Road, and we follow the railway path past the Station House and along towards, and then across, Newbiggin Lane. We continue along the railway path past Lizard Cottage and carry on for a few hundred yards until we see a couple of public footpath signs – one on the right and one on the left of the railway path. We follow the left-hand sign across a stile and up a fairly steep incline across a field which is sometimes muddy. The views from halfway up the incline back across the valley and over towards Iveston are worth the exertion.

At the top of the hill we look out for cattle and if none are around we continue across another couple of fields and this route brings us out on Newbiggin Lane beside a farm and a few houses. This apparently is Newbiggin. From there we could turn left and head back into Lanchester, but I lead my Humans to the right and then left along a lane which the map says is Yeckhouse Lane. I call it the Dairy lane because it leads us to and through Lanchester Dairy.

There are usually one or two canine companions to chew the fat with in the houses surrounding the dairy. We continue along the green verge alongside the road where I often see highland cattle on the field to my right. I tend to give them a wide berth because they have fearsome looking horns!

Eventually we reach the junction leading onto the main road from Lanchester to Hollinside, Satley and beyond.

From there we turn left, and it is exactly one mile back into Lanchester. We need to walk on the verge for about half the distance then we come to a layby where we cross the road and join a footpath which takes us down Cadger Bank and home.

The walk takes approximately 90 minutes – the same time as a football match lasts – but this is much better exercise in my not so humble opinion.

Community Centre Car Boot Sale

The Community Centre held a car boot sale on Sunday 16th July. The weather was good, but it only raised £288, which was a little disappointing for a village of 3500 people.

The Community Centre is owned by the people of the village and does need supporting. We do not receive any money from the council, the centre exists for the community and has to raise all its funds itself.



Community Centre News
Celebrating our 55th Birthday in 2023



It's the Community Centre's 55th anniversary!! To celebrate on Saturday 23rd September from 12.30 to 3pm we will be open, and there will be demonstrations and exhibitions of all of the wonderful activities that we have on offer.

Most importantly there will be cake!!

The centre continues to attract new clients and groups. The conference room is being booked by companies and training providers who want to take staff away from the office for a day's meeting. A new preschool provider starts in September. The playgroup offers baby massage/yoga/messy play/music and rhyme. Activate Theatre are also extending their bookings, offering more spaces.

Richard Holden MP chose the Community Centre for his summer surgery. He was very impressed by the building and all the facilities we offer. Many residents took the opportunity to talk with him about a host of issues.

We have received great reviews of the venue and the facilities we offer, so if you are looking for a local venue for a family celebration or work event, please get in touch, we look forward to hearing from you.

Your Community Centre is in great shape for its 56th year!

The office is staffed Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-1.15pm. On Tuesday and Thursdays, it's 9am-3pm. If you have any enquiries about any of the activities or clubs available or you want to know more about hiring our brilliant venue, please get in touch on 01207 521275 or drop in and have a chat it will be good to meet you!

To keep up to date with what's going on check out our Information Point; follow us on Facebook 'Lanchester Community Centre' or check out our new website - <https://lanchestercc.co.uk/>



Notes from the House Summer surgery tour

Last week I held part one of my popular annual Summer Surgery Tour, in which I visited towns and villages right across in North West Durham. This includes some of my favourite spots in Lanchester, Esh, Burnhope Quebec and Langley

Park. I have always said North West Durham is one of the most beautiful corners of the country and every year, this tour proves me right.

Over the course of the week, I met hundreds of constituents at over 30 stops, as well as surgery appointments and popping by local businesses. I discussed everything from individual cases to international geopolitics.

There was a huge range of people, places, and topics of conversation. However, the one thing it all had in common was how friendly, appreciative, and welcoming everyone was. Every year, it gives me a unique insight into life in North West Durham and appreciation for the area.

As well as being one of the most enjoyable parts of the job, doing things like this is one of the most important functions of being a Member of Parliament. The only way I am able to

represent the good people of North West Durham is by grasping the local issues that people care about. I will take so much of what was highlighted back with me to Westminster.

It is also important that, no matter how small and isolated the village or town, people feel their MP is there for them. I want to see every part of our area, but also for people to see me. This goes to the very heart of what is important about a democracy. MPs must be visible, familiar and accountable.

I would like to thank everyone who hosted me in their cafes, restaurants and shops, particularly at the Cross Keys, the Quebec Tearoom, Café Montalbano and the Lanchester Community Centre. Most of all though, I would like to thank each and every person who came out to chat with me. Without you, this tour would just not work. Participation is the most important element of a vibrant democracy. Actively participating in weeks like this prove that this is about more than just voting for representatives at the ballot box.

Week 2 will be at the end of August and will be advertised soon. I look forward to seeing even more of you in as many places as I can in Lanchester, the surrounding villages and beyond! Please come along and let me know what is bothering you. Believe me, no issue is too small, no opinion is insignificant.

Richard Holden



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Willow Burn Hospice

Clarty Bairns Success for Young Willow Burn Supporters

On 22 July some of the younger Willow Burn supporters and their families took to Hedley West Farm to take on the mighty Clarty Bairns Challenge.

The Willow Burn Clarty Bairns faced some tough terrain and incredibly challenging obstacles on a 3km assault course at Hedley West Farm, all whilst battling torrential rain, thunder and lightning. The team were absolutely epic and we at the hospice are so thankful to each and every one who climbed over hay bales, climbing walls, walked log and rope bridges, squeezed through tyres, tunnels and cargo nets to raise money for Willow Burn - you are all Hospice Heroes.

So far, the Clarty Bairns have raised over £1,500 with sponsorship still coming in. With thanks to corporate supporters Mer UK and Crescent Homecare for getting their teams involved.



Lanchester Medical Group: Patient Participation Group - July 2023

Willow Burn Hospice

At the June meeting of the group, representatives of Willow Burn Hospice were invited to tell the group about the hospice. Carol Hagri (Head of Clinical Services) and Rachel Todd (Head of Fundraising and Marketing) were guest speakers at the meeting, giving an in-depth and informative talk.

This is the second article (the previous one was in the July edition) which summarises what was discussed at the meeting.

Introducing the Team

At Willow Burn we adopt a multi-disciplined approach, consisting of professionals drawn from different disciplines, working together to provide and evaluate all elements of care to meet individual patients' needs and wishes.

Director and lead- David Barker, supported by a small team of 5 (administration, finance, and fundraising) and a retail team of 4.

Doctors- experienced in hospice care visit on a Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, working alongside the patient's own GP they manage palliative and end-of-life symptoms.

Nurses- 24-hour care is provided by registered nurses experienced in palliative care.

Health Care Assistants- 24-hour care by trained and experienced assistants in palliative care.

Family Support Team- consists of, Coordinator, Adult Counsellor, Children's Counsellor and qualified volunteer counsellors.

Catering Team- providing meals for patients and the Willows Café.

Housekeeping Team- a vital unseen presence that maintains hygiene standards.

Additional professional cover

Willow Burn is a nurse-led hospice which allows flexibility around timing of admissions.

GP with Special Interest visits on Monday and Friday and a Consultant in Palliative Care on Wednesday. Patients' GPs continue to retain medical responsibility and are required to provide prescriptions.

Bereavement counselling

Our Family Support Team provides a range of services to anyone suffering from life limiting illness, their families, and carers.

Support is provided from diagnosis, pre-death, post-death and is ongoing throughout the bereavement process. Support is offered to in-patients and day-care patients within the Helen McArdle Wing, we also accept referrals from hospitals, GPs, and Macmillan Cancer Care.

Our Family Support Coordinator assesses patient and family needs providing emotional, psychological, and spiritual support during in-patient stays, advice and information, signposting to other relevant services and practical assistance. She continues to provide support post bereavement to families who have experienced our services and may refer to in-house counselling six months post bereavement if required.

Tell us about the cafeteria?

Situated beside Willow Burn is "The Willows", a beautiful community café that offers delicious home-cooked food and boasts of gorgeous views across Derwentside, the perfect setting to meet friends; sit inside or outside in the gardens. Onsite parking and payment is cash, chip and pin and contactless. Open Monday to Saturday 10am – 2.30pm Closed Bank Holidays

What is Willow Burn Hospice in most need of?

The 56p we need to raise for every £1 we spend gets harder to achieve; like everyone we are experiencing increased costs, we need our income to meet our costs. Past support has been wonderful with one off donations, regular givers, and fundraisers.

We need more volunteers, particularly in the café and in our Chester-le-Street shop.

We are grateful to everyone who supports us through donations, using our shop and enjoying our café. **Please continue to give us your support.**

WHAT'S ON

All Saints Catholic Church evening talks

"100 Famous Geordies" by Anthony Atkinson at 7pm on Thursday 14th September in the Parish Centre. Tickets £5 (including tea, coffee and nibbles), from Lestrine Kelly (01207 521494). "The Northern Saints" by Greg Ryan on Thursday 26th October at 6:30pm in the Parish Centre for stotties and broth, talk begins at 7:15pm. Tickets £5, from Heraldo Biasi.

Summer Special – Seaside Rock

Summer Special will be taking place again in the last week of the summer holidays at Lanchester Methodist Church. This popular annual event is running from Tuesday August 29th to Saturday September 2nd 9:45am to 12:15pm. There is a family celebration on the Sunday, 10am for a 10.30am start, followed by a picnic and outdoor games, to which all are invited.

It is for children ranging from those about to go into reception all the way up to those about to enter year 7. It only costs £20 for the whole week and bursaries are available. Registration forms are available from Kath at kathfamiliesnwdc@gmail.com.

Community Centre 55th birthday

You are invited to Lanchester Community Centre's 55th birthday on Saturday 23rd September, 12:30 – 3:00. Bring your family and friends for some tea and cake. There will be games, prizes and demonstrations.

Paradiso Film Night

10th September - new season launch party. "Ticket to Paradise" (2022) starring Julia Roberts and George Clooney. A man and his ex-wife race to Bali, Indonesia, to stop their daughter from marrying a seaweed farmer. As they desperately try to sabotage the wedding, the bickering duo soon find themselves rekindling old feelings that once made them happy together. Lanchester Community Centre: 7pm for a quiz, refreshments, raffle and DVD sale. Film starts at 7.30pm. Members: £3, Non-members : £4. Annual membership £5.

Lanchester Library

Library Book Club

On Monday September 25th at 2.30 to 3.30pm, the group will be discussing Trust Me by T.M. Logan, a Sunday Times Bestseller thriller. It sounds intriguing and it is given 4 stars by www.goodreads.com. Will this book divide opinions? We look forward to seeing you there and sharing our views.

Thursday Book Club

On Thursday September 21st from 5.30-6.30, the group will be reviewing Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother by Amy Chua. 'An awe inspiring, often hilarious, and unerringly honest story of one mother's exercise in extreme parenting' (goodreads.com) I hope the group enjoys this novel. If you would like to join this book group, pop into the library and pick up your copy.

Pins and Needles will meet up on September 7th from 10-11.30am. Bring along your wool, thread needles and patterns and share your makes and get advice too. Everyone welcome, enjoy.

Scrabble Group

meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30 pm. Do you enjoy this word

game and want to get on the Triple Word Square? Come along and enjoy the company.

Children's Crafts are available every afternoon and Saturday. Different crafts, ideas and materials are set out in the library for children to be creative, pop along with your children and enjoy.

Musical Memories

Musical Memories celebrates Musical Divas on 6th September at 2pm at Lynwood House, Durham Road, Lanchester. Musical Memories is a fun, friendly and stimulating music group using the ability of music to improve your brain activity, wellbeing and mood. We welcome people living with conditions that affect memory. For further information email lanchesterdfc@gmail.com

Lanchester Methodist

Church Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings are held every Saturday at the Methodist Church between 10 and 12, in aid of the following organisations: August 26th Mental Health Charity September 2nd NO COFFEE MORNING September 9th Donkey Sanctuary September 16th FAB (Friends Across Borders) September 23rd Lisa's Little Uns Charity September 30th Village Bus October 7th Christian Aid

Thursday Club

The next meeting of the Thursday Club will be held in the main hall of the Community Centre on September 21st at 1.30pm. Our speaker will be Glynis Grainger talking about the "Life and times of Calamity Jane".

Lanchester playgroup

Every Tuesday at 1:30 and every Friday at 9:30 at Croft View Halls. Find us on Facebook,

'Lanchester's new playgroup'.

Lanchester Social Club

2nd Sep - Mark Andrews
8th Sep - Abba Live, an international tribute to Abba. Tickets £5 from bar. Doors open 7.30pm, on stage 8.15pm
9th Sep - Jamie Dickinson
16th Sep - Julie Reece
23rd Sep - Claire Page
30th Sep - Darren Batey
All acts are subject to change at short notice. Non-members welcome. *New Opening Times:*
Mon - Thurs 19:00 - 23:00
Fri & Sat 17:00 - 00:20 (doors close at 23:00)
Sun 12:00 - 23:00

Lanchester Partnership

Friends of Longovicium

The Friends will not be having a meeting in August, our summer recess(!), so our next meeting will be on Thursday 28th September at 7.30pm. Unusually it will be held in Hall 2 of the Community Centre, where we will be pleased to welcome Roman reenactor Gordon Henderson, who will be talking on 'What were Roman soldiers like in the forts in County Durham'. We hope that Gordon is also going to help us publicly launch our new website which contains the results of all our work and surveys since 2008, wonderfully illustrated with pictures showing what the fort of Longovicium and its associated civilian settlement may have looked like. All are welcome, donations gratefully received. Further information from Mrs. M Williams tel: 01207520063 or email Rodney at hawkins_15@sky.com.

Wellbeing walk

Every Monday at 1pm on the village green next to the war memorial. Walk lasts up to 90 minutes, all

welcome. To book please visit www.durham.gov.uk/walkdurham or call 03000 262539.

Walking Group

Meets at 10am on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (next dates are 13th and 27th September). Walks are about 5 miles long within a 30 minute radius of Lanchester – lifts provided. For further details please call Helen Thomas on 07712425623 (or email hdbthomas@live.com).

Vintage Tractor Club

Meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm in Lanchester Social Club.

Flower club

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 27th September in Lanchester Community Centre main hall at 1.30 pm, the demonstrator is Wendy Smith, "Golden Anniversary". Please come and join us for a lovely, interesting and relaxing afternoon with old friends and maybe make new friends.

Lunch Club

The next meeting of the lunch club held at Lynwood House will be on 12th September 12.00 pm start. All welcome.

History Society

Local History society will be meeting on Friday September 1st at 7.00pm in the Community Centre for the AGM quickly followed by a talk from Paul Heatherington talking about The Revd John George Gibson of Ebchester. If all goes well at the AGM we will be on track and our October meeting will be Friday 6th, speaker to be confirmed. Please don't be put off by an AGM, come and join us - all welcome.

Wildlife Group

The next meeting will be on 12th September at 7.30pm in Lanchester

Community Centre small hall. Dr Gordon Port (School of Natural & Environmental Science, Newcastle University) will be speaking on "Everything you always wanted to know about slugs and snails, but were afraid to ask".

Patient support group

The Patient Group of Lanchester Medical Centre will be holding a meeting on Wednesday 6th September at 10:30am, in the meeting room. Why not come along, all registered patients are welcome.

Parish Church table top sale

Table Top Sale at 1, Deanery Cottages, Saturday 9th September. Table £7.50. Ring Sue on 07967402479 to book a table. Set up 8.30am on the day. Sale 9.30am-12 noon. Strictly no cars on site. All unsold goods to be removed by 13.00. Tea, coffee, juice and scones available. Do come to grab a bargain.

WI

The next Lanchester WI meeting is on Monday 4th September, in the main hall of the Community Centre at 7.00pm. The speaker is Barbara Galloway who will tell us about when she had tea with the Queen. Visitors are always welcome to come along, meet friends and chat over tea and biscuits. Can members bring any raffle prizes and bottles for the coffee morning to this meeting thank you. There will be a coffee morning in the Community Centre on Friday 15th September, 10.00am to 12.00pm. There will be several stalls including homemade cakes, scarves, jewellery and a raffle and bottle tombola to try your luck. We look forward to seeing you for a chat with tea and cake.

Lanchester Parish Council Notes from the Ordinary Meeting held in Lynwood House on Tuesday 11 June 2023 at 7.00pm

Minutes – Annual Meeting, Ordinary Meeting 13 June – approved

Police Reports – Information on the meeting with PCSO Jonathan Rutherford held on Wednesday 14 June 2023 – received

Correspondence

Letter of thanks, The Lanchester Partnership – received

Clerk & Councils Direct Magazine July – received

Durham County Council – Christmas Lights 2023 – a quote for works to the festive lights on the Village Green was received and approved

Lanchester Cricket Club – The Clerk and Councillor David Friesner to progress with signage for the Cricket Club

Kitswell Park Play Area – The swings to be repaired as soon as possible

Summer Holiday Activities, Park House Play Area – permission granted

Kitswell Park Play Area – Annual Inspection – Councillors were informed that the Annual Inspection for Kitswell Park Play Area had been completed. No major or high-risk problems were raised. However, a few maintenance issues need to be undertaken.

Tree Surveys – Members considered the tree surveys, a site visit with Olivers to go through the surveys to be arranged

Financial report – approved

Accounts for Payment – approved



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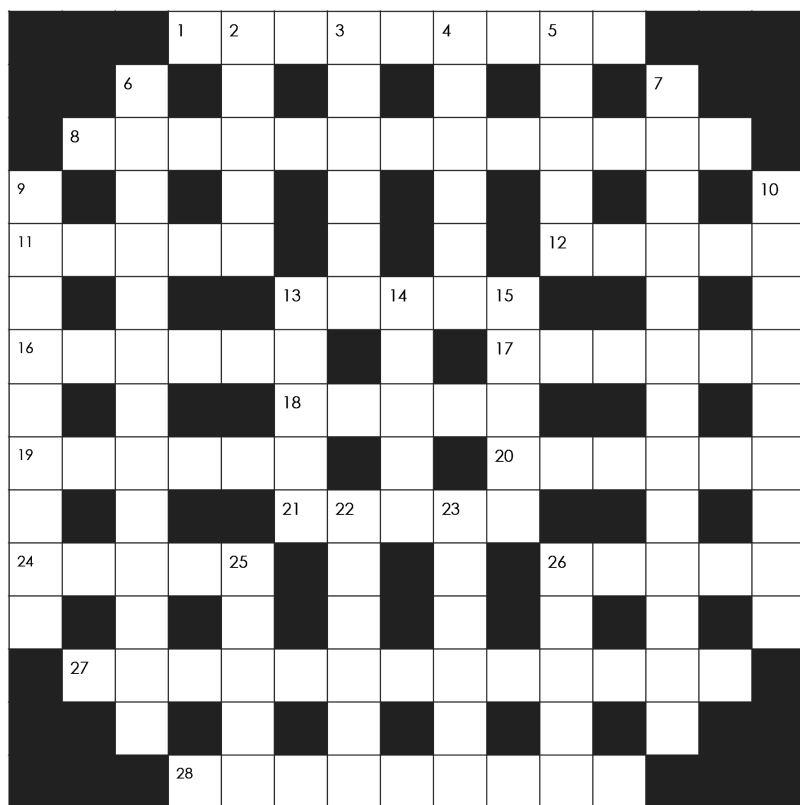
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CLUES CROSSWORD 188



Across

1. Person who studies the natural environment (9)
8. Spennymoor born artist (6,7)
11. Country bordered by China and Pakistan (5)
12. Information presented as a table or graph (5)
13. The most beautiful girl at a ball (5)
16. Type of penguin (6)
17. Financial administrator in a school or college (6)
18. Short name for a device that compresses exhaust gas on a car (5)
19. Present old ideas again with out real change (6)
20. Order of business at a meeting (6)
21. Sailing vessel (5)
24. Site of former Catholic seminary in Durham (5)
26. Outright (5)
27. "Old West Action" hero (Anagram) (5,8)
28. Insect known to cause sleeping sickness (6,3)

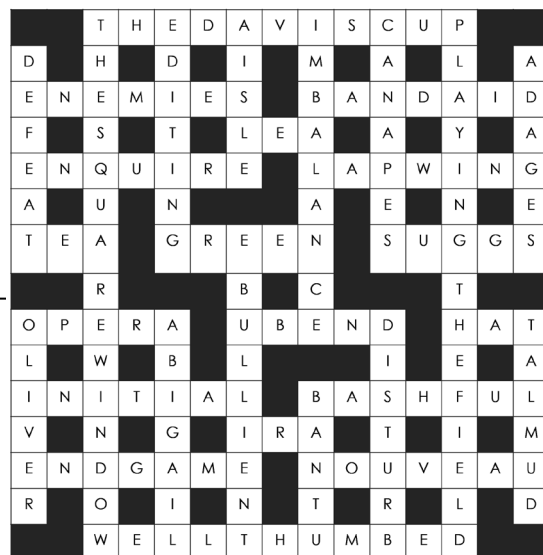
Down

2. Punctuation mark (5)
3. Crescent shaped, like a new moon (6)
4. Worldwide (6)
5. Relating to sound (5)
6. Sausages and batter (4-2-3-4)
7. Killing of prominent figure (13)
9. Type of biscuit (6,3)
10. In a way that lasts forever (9)
13. Basic type of shelter found in remote areas (5)
14. Type of poetry (5)
15. Name given by the Western Allies to a type of small warship used during WW2 (1-4)
22. Regional and distinctive style pronunciation (6)
23. Bother (6)
25. They enable flight (5)
26. Piece of absorbent cloth (5)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send your completed entries for the £10 prize draw by the **7th September** to the Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0HY

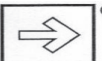


Winner of Crossword 187

Apologies for the late arrival of last month's edition which left little time for you to submit your entries.

We did receive 16 entries, 15 of which were correct. The winner, drawn from the hat, is Marie Burrows.

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Boys' Brigade Camp 7-9 July 2023

Eleven boys and five officers from Company section of the Boys Brigade set out on Friday evening the 7th July for a weekend camp at the Moorhouse Adventure Centre at Durham.

Six tents and three gazebos were erected on the Friday evening before everyone settled down for the night. Saturday morning started with a wash, breakfast then washing and drying the dishes, but it was not long before we went to our first activity, archery. Everyone had several attempts at hitting the bullseye and although not all were successful it was an extremely enjoyable experience. A short rest and then it was on to learn bushcraft and how to start a fire without matches. Qualified instructors led all the courses and at the end all succeeded in starting a fire under strict controls and supervision.

A barbequed lunch of burgers, sausages, kebabs, and salad were enjoyed by all before we were off again. This time we were collecting leaves from several trees on an adventure walk in the general direction of Finchale Priory. Although it rained during the walk we never noticed as we were sheltered by walking through thick woods. Five or six miles later we all arrived back at the campsite for a little rest and a short snack.

We had booked the campsite's roundhouse for the night to toast marshmallows and make popcorn on the campfire. It was a fantastic finish to a glorious day, even though the weather had not been overly kind it had not stopped any of our planned activities. Sunday morning was packing up day and after breakfast everyone helped to take down the tents and pack them away.

Too soon the time to leave had arrived with parents collecting some very tired lads.

A marvelous weekend enjoyed by both boys and leaders.



Lanchester Endowed Parochial School

Our end of term celebrations were once again very special for everyone. Year 6 spent a wonderful week in Northern Ireland visiting Crumlin Road Gaol, The Giants Causeway, Portrush Beach, Belfast Zoo, W5 (an amazing hands-on Science Museum) and a fabulous adventure park with an afternoon in an aqua park too!! They loved every minute of it and were a pleasure to be with.

Meanwhile, Year 5 had 4 days at PGL Caythorpe Park where they tested themselves with activities such as the high ropes, zip wire, climbing, abseiling, archery and raft building. This is always a very popular week away where the children really are taken out of their comfort zone and yet show such resilience and determination. We managed to enjoy a very wet summer fair taking over £1700 with the EduFootyAid football match at the end raising funds for We are Beyond (a youth mental health charity). Lanchester All Stars won 2-0 and we welcomed educators from all over England to play against us. Thanks to the social club for opening up early afterwards too so they could enjoy some refreshments and social time before heading home.

Water Day was also a great success with the children enjoying a day with their super soakers, water pistols and enjoying time on the water slide. It wasn't the best of weather but they still had fun - as did I going round all the classrooms with my super soaker. The squeals from the children as I soaked them rang through the whole building!



The final week of term saw leavers' events taking place. Our Nursery children enjoyed some special tea parties whilst Year 6 led their service to a packed church. Staff shared special memories of the children and they were presented

with memory books and a graduation certificate. Miller Harrison was awarded the very poignant Henry Dancer Award with Summer Newton (Y6) and Oscar Smith (Y2) being awarded the Lanchester Lions Citizenship awards. On the final day, Year 6 led a fun-packed assembly written by Mr Knighton entitled, 'I'm a Teacher, Get Me Out of Here!' Basically, they made fun of the staff, dressed up as staff

members and ridiculed us. I think children, parents and staff were crying with laughter throughout it all. Mrs Startup (retiring after 34 years!) was crowned Queen of the EP before the Senior Leadership Team came on, as you've never seen them before, dressed as Abba, and sang Dancing Queen with specially re-written words, Teaching Queen, about

Mrs Startup. A wonderfully funny and uplifting end to the year for both Year 6 and Mrs Startup.

We wish our Year 6 children the very best for their futures in their new schools but hope they will still keep in touch with us all!

***Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher***

Cricket Club - Cricket Club hall of fame - part 2

Jim Potts

A legendary opening batsman and wicket keeper who in over 30 years amassed over 15,000 runs and claimed over 500 victims behind the stumps. Jim's contributions to the club off the field were immense, a committee member, organising and running many social events, introducing new members and arranging highly successful cricket tours. Without doubt a stalwart of the club.

Gary Martin

Gary has supported the club for over 30 years. So keen to help people at the club, Gary always had time to chat to members and in many instances listen to their problems. A non-playing member, Gary was a great help with social events, making teas and generally kept things ticking along.

Brin Jones

Brin was a very active Club Secretary in the period 1990-2000. He improved much of the Club's administration so that it operated in a businesslike manner. Brin was an active supporter of Junior cricket, encouraging and supporting his son Mark with his cricket especially when the U 13 side travelled to Sherborne for the National Championships. Sue, his wife, actively supported Brin with his numerous tasks.

Ray Clish

Sadly, Ray passed away in 2005 but is still remembered with fondness by members. He was very much supported by his wife Tess and boys Andy, Ian and Paul and his daughter Judith. Ray's gamesmanship and determination was all driven by his desire for the Club to be successful. As a fearless opening bowler, he played in the very first games for the club even whilst on police duty with a radio in his pocket. Ray's greatest achievement was undoubtedly on two occasions leading the Club's U 13 team to the national championships, one of only eight teams to play at the event.

Geoff McConnell

Geoff was a driving force in the creation of the Club, taking on the role of Secretary when it was formed and completing all the work to make the cricket side tick. He physically helped build the Clubhouse and lay the wicket. First team captain for a couple of seasons and a wicket keeper batsman. He scored the very first hundred by a Lanchester player, in the final game of the 1975 season.

Lanchester Bowling Club Hotshots! Part Deux

In my eight years or so playing bowls for Lanchester I'd never come across a hotshot until the one I reported last month. Now, like buses, they're coming thick and fast and ironically against the same opposition - Leadgate. This time, however, in a different format of the game. Triples is the three-person version of the game with each player bowling three woods, so a score of nine on one end is required for a hotshot. This great feat was achieved by Mike Stoddart (skip), Adrian Evans and Jim Dearden. Well done lads - more certificates on the way.

It's been a mixed month for results in all six leagues we play in. Whilst in many of the games individual rinks have picked up points, we haven't been able to convert these good performances into overall wins. Lanchester A remain bottom of division one in the South West Durham League, whilst an 8 - 0 reverse against Consett has meant that Lanchester B remain third in league two. Catching second placed Wolsingham is not beyond the B team, but having played a game more than them makes promotion difficult. Lanchester sit in mid-table in both the Derwentside Triples League (helped by an 8 - 2 win over White-le-Head) and the Rinks League, but languish nearer the bottom of both formats in the North West Durham Leagues. The two points we took off Pelton Fell did stop them going top of the Wednesday evening league though.

In keeping with the mixed set of results, Richard Hall and David Friesner did well to get to the semifinals of the N.W. Durham pairs competition losing only on the last end.

One of the highlights of the month was our annual friendly against Washington Glebe (see photograph). This was our third friendly against them and we'd won the last two. Sadly, on a hot day and playing on a heavy green in Washington, we only won one of the four rinks. A great day was had by all, however, and Glebe were brilliant hosts, treating players and supporters to a fantastic after match tea. Thanks, Washington. We look forward to playing you at Lanchester next year and getting revenge. We have two more long established friendlies to play against Bartley and Wolsingham. Unfortunately, lawn bowls is an outdoor seasonal game and the season is rapidly drawing to an end. We still have league games to play and our own individual competitions to complete. There is still time to get a taster of how to play though. Simply come along to the green at 1.45 on a Thursday and join in the fun. **Bob Cuthbertson**



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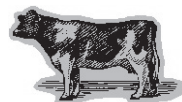
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Cricket News

It doesn't need a genius to tell you there has been little cricket over the past month. It started with a top of the table clash with Sunderland at their place. Lanchester were put in and made 228-7 in a rain interrupted innings that saw the overs reduced. Ethan Connolly made 76 and Greg Patterson 49. Sunderland never attempted to chase down our score and settled for making sure they weren't bowled out to pick up points in a draw. The next three weeks were washed out.

The period ended with a second defeat of the season, both at the hands of Tynedale and well beaten they were. The defeat left Lanchester in second place, six points behind Sunderland. In the completed game at the start of the period, the seconds were well beaten by Castle Eden who made 232-8 declared and Lanchester bowled out for 139. They did play Philadelphia the following week and it looked like a result might be possible until the rain came down again. Lanchester were out for 106 but had the opposition 55-5.

The seconds finished with a winning draw at Tynedale. Greg Halliday played beautifully for 90 and despite 4-23 from Ben Rayner, couldn't quite winkle Tynedale out.

Sundays have been better, and the thirds managed three games, winning two. They beat Shotley when the match was reduced in their innings and they won on run rate, Bailey Allison top scoring on 39. Then they bowled Seaham Park out for 101 and won by 10 wickets thanks to Bailey Allison with 63 and John McGilvray 28. The following week they plucked defeat from the jaws of victory after bowling Castle Eden out for 115, Jack Morris returning to take 3-6 and Marcus Thompson 2-6. Lanchester were themselves bowled out for 108.

Junior Cricket

The 18As beat Hylton and Littletown and lost to Sacriston. They put on a highest ever score of 223-8 at home to Hylton, Josh Cottom and Jack Ledger scoring 66 each. They then dismissed Hylton for 25, Lenny Rushton took 3-6. With players missing against Sacriston they didn't score enough runs despite a magnificent 94 not out by Josh Cottom, scored off just 56 balls. Sacriston passed our score for the loss of just three wickets. Against Littletown, Lanchester scored 185-2 with Charlie McPhail getting 48, Toby Somersall not out with 46, John McGilvray 44. Littletown were never in the hunt and Bailey Allison surprised himself by taking 3.

The 18Bs have had a solitary game where they beat Annfield Plain. Joe Malone took 3-20 as they restricted their opponents to 116-8. James Leary with an unbeaten 52 saw the side to a seven wicket victory.

The under 15s lost to Cup Final opponents Burnopfield and Greenside, before beating Annfield Plain. Burnopfield set a challenging target of 155-5 with Mae Deaville taking 3-32. Lanchester got within 26 runs thanks to a maiden 50 for Hayden Oakes and late flurries from Fergus Foster (35) and Joe Malone (20). At Greenside, Lanchester bowled Greenside out for 97 but were in turn dismissed for 78. Mae Deaville took 4-6 and Ben Taylorson 3-9 but the batters never got going. Lanchester beat Annfield Plain by 8 wickets after restricting them to 116-6. Fergus Foster and 13-year-old Daniel Finlay took two wickets each in the final overs. James Leary was run out one short of his 50 and Joe Malone was unbeaten on 27. The under 13s were well beaten by Leadgate and Consett but had a good win over Burnhope. Jay Rushton stood out against Leadgate making 28 in a low score. Against Burnhope, there were retirements for Daniel Finlay (32), Nathan Watson (30) and Lenny Rushton (30). In Burnhope's reply Finlay Tennant took 3-5 and George Tilley 2-7. **Andrew McConnell**

Tennis Club News

Due to awful weather conditions on Sunday 23rd July, Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club had to postpone the "Tennis a thon" in aid of Dementia UK. (Dementia UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1039404) and Scotland (SC047429)). However, they were able to hold the event the following Sunday.

The event involved club members playing tennis continuously from 11am until 5pm, raising funds for this worthy cause. Information and advice about dementia and Alzheimer's were provided by Helen McCree, who is known to many as the organiser of the "Musical Memories" group at Lynwood House. There was a lot of interest shown, both by players and visitors. The club would like to thank Helen for her support and all who participated or attended the event, and especially those who generously donated to the charity. The pictures show Helen with the information available, and the first group of players ready to start.

(The final amount raised will be in the next issue)

The annual "games night" took place on Friday 28th July. Bagatelle, quoits, putting, and target tennis were just some of the tasks that organiser, Sally Laverick, set for the contestants. After a couple of hours of "intense" competition, the winners were Claire and James Gray, with baby Luca offering great support! The picture shows the winning family deep in concentration on one of the games. Thanks to Sally and all who took part.

As always, if you want any information about the club, please contact Dennis on 07960494442 or email den.lizjane@gmail.com or alternatively follow us on Facebook or check out the club website.

As always, if any further information is required about the club, please don't hesitate to contact Dennis on 07960494442 or email den.lizjane@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook.

Dennis Laycock



Above: Club members taking part in the Tennis-a-thon, from l-r: Patrick, Dennis, James, and Ko.



Above: Information and advice about dementia and Alzheimer's were provided by Helen McCree.

Right: Games night winners, Claire and James Gray, with baby Luca

