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# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 6 Volume 8

Lanchester, July 2007

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## FORTIETH BIRTHDAY CARNIVAL



*Lions Chairman Mike Stoddart with Councillor and Mrs Johnson at the head of the procession*



*Brian Oram presides over the duck fishery*

The Lions' Carnival, which falls in their fortieth year, followed its well-trying and successful pattern, with a procession led by Lions' President Mike Stoddart and Councillor and Mrs Johnston, serenaded by the Lanchester Brass Band and including a waggon loaded with playgroupies, the Lady Lions represented in their absence by piles of

brightly-wrapped presents, the Willowburn fundraisers, Lanchester Partnership and a fine fleet of MacDonald's vintage cars. On the green a dwindling army of Lions and helpers manned the variety of stalls we have come to expect at the Carnival, augmented by a roundabout and battery of caged bouncy mini-

castles which must have made a fortune. Entertainment in the Elddis lorry included the Brass Band, the Operatic Society, 'The Gents' and the Mary Carr extravaganza, while the Durham Rams Morris team performed nearby. The Fire Brigade attracted and entertained lots of youngsters by enrolling them as (temporary) firemen.

Lady Lions served ice cream and hot dogs on the Green as well as some delicious cakes in the Methodist Church, where cream-cake devourers were serenaded by the Operatic Society. Charities such as Macmillan's, Red Cross, and Liver North had stalls, as of course, did the Lions. Lanchester Partnership displayed news of their various projects in their

marquee and offered children's games. By the way Lucy Lovett won the free lucky birthday competition with April 10th. As a result of their hard day's work the Lions grossed £3,500 and made £1,900 net profit from the Carnival to help to dispense for their charitable works. *More pictures of the events appear on pages 10 and 11*



*Lanchester Brass Band inspire the parade*



*The Playgroup float taking part in the parade*



# Dear Village....

## THE VILLAGE VOICE

## IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

The views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the newspaper, the editor or persons working for the newspaper. The editor retains the right to cut or otherwise amend any letter published. Letters must contain your name, address and telephone no., all of which may be withheld at your request.

Sir  
I would like to bring to your attention the dreadful state of the grass cutting in Lanchester cemetery and the appalling lack of standards. For many years I have cut the grass around my own family's plot and indeed that of a young man killed while serving in the Falklands war. Does anyone in authority care or have any respect for our loved ones who lie in this place? It appears not!

Only last year I approached Derwentside District Council, i.e. Alex Watson, with regard to erecting tree guards around the trees which I had planted in the early 90's. The trees were being damaged by the grass cutters, headstones are also being affected by the operators of these machines. Thank you to Councillor Watson for implementing the tree guards. There is currently an ongoing discussion about draining this land and I don't want the excuse that it is private contractors that manage this site because it was the same when the DSO managed it. The remit from the

council for any contractor should be that this land should be looked after with some dignity and leave it in a respectable state. That begs the question what price respect? I am saddened for the families who do not have the facilities to cut their loved ones plots and have to endure this atrocious mess.  
Denise Bullivant

*Mr Mark Fish, of Sones Landscaping, contracted to Derwentside District to cut the grass in the cemetery, states that the work is done well. The contract does not include removing cut grass.*  
Ed.

## LANCHESTER DENTAL PRACTICE

Our local Primary Care Trust has now been amalgamated with others in a County Durham Trust, but one member of the Derwentside PCT, Jim Owens, has continued to press for NHS dental provision in Lanchester. Following a local tendering process, the Lanchester NHS contract was won by another local

provider. There has been a delay in opening the service as the provider wished to undertake extensive renovation to the premises to improve access to the surgery. Unfortunately there is no specific opening date for the surgery at the moment. Meanwhile private treatment is available.

## NEW ARRIVAL

Ron and Jen Irwin of Croft View, Lanchester and Matthew and Elizabeth Hollows (formerly of Ford Street) wish to announce the safe arrival of their first

grandchild, Catriona Elizabeth, born 2nd of May, weighing 7lb 9oz - a little daughter for proud parents Chris and Elizabeth, now living in Caithness, Scotland



*The picture on the left shows the 'dreadful state' of the newly-cut grass at the Kitswell Road cemetery*



*Catriona all dressed-up and wide awake*

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## LOST

A set of a house and a car key were lost in mid-May during a walk along the railway path, returning via the cricket ground and Victoria Terrace. Please contact The Village Voice if you have found some.

**G.M.C. Joinery**  
 Contact:- Gerard  
 Tel: 0191 3731627  
 Mobile: 07929845293



## 'VOICE' GOES TO THAILAND

The Village Voice is regularly posted to several exiles who like to have news of their native village, but a record is soon to be set. Former Lancastrian Noel Brannigan, who now

has his home in Thailand, is expecting a visit from a friend and asked for provisions from home: some Rington's tea-bags, Oxo cubes, a bottle of Sarson's vinegar, 3 pairs

of size 11 socks, and – the last 12 editions of the Village Voice. Naturally the latter were provided from the The Village Voice archive and are now on their way.

# CONGRATULATIONS ARTHUR MAUGHAN MBE

The Chairman of the Lanchester Community Centre, Mr. Arthur Maughan, who lives in Burnside, has been awarded the MBE in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List. This was given to him for his services to the community in Lanchester.

Arthur said 'I am delighted and honoured to have been given the award of an MBE and I would like to thank those who have taken the time to nominate me. I would also like to thank all those special people who have helped me along the way in the past, and those who work alongside me at present. Without their support, and that of

my wife, I could not have achieved anything on my own.'

Arthur has lived in the village for forty two years.

He retired nineteen years ago from Northumbrian Water, where he was Computer Services Manager. Since then he has spent most of his time involved in community work. His other hobby is golf, and he has been a member at Consett Golf Club for forty six years. He was Captain in 1984 and is currently Chairman of Past Captains.

Arthur was a Magistrate for thirteen years and

eventually became Chairman of Derwentside and North Durham Magistrate Courts.

He has also been a prominent member of Lanchester Lions Club of which he is a Charter Member. He has now served for forty years with this organisation, many times holding senior positions within the club, including the position of President twice. He became Deputy District Governor in 1986.

However, one of Arthur's finest achievements has been with his involvement with the Community Centre for 16 years. He led the team which raised the sum



Arthur Maughan who was awarded an MBE in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List

of £300,000 over the three year period between 1992 and 1995, the year that he became Chairman. It was during that year that the Community Centre was re-built.

Arthur is looking forward very much to the next stage of the development at the Community Centre, which is scheduled to begin very soon.

## HAPPY EVENT AT LIZARDS

Wildlife has profited from the lakes at Lizards Farm, designed primarily to provide fishing for the trout they are stocked with. Now swans have set up home for a second year by the attractive lakes, and have produced seven cygnets.



Mother takes good care of her cygnets as father looks on

The new arrivals are welcomed by owner Peter Robinson, who also hosts three families of coots and an oystercatcher, and has observed little grebes, a kingfisher, several Canada geese, some mallards and unfortunately a heron with a taste for trout. Nearby

fallow land is popular with curlews, whose distinctive call is frequently heard.

## CARDS FOR SICK CHILDREN APPEAL

Ian Andrew would like to thank the Village Voice readers who have contacted him to buy notelets in order to help the Sunday Post Sick Children's appeal which was in last month's edition of

the paper (Page 5 of Issue No. 5).

Ian drew and printed the notelets that he discussed to support his son Jamie's charity work involved in four Scottish Children's Hospitals.

He has now sent a total of £28 to the appeal, and he has only one pack of north-east sketches and six of Scottish scenes left. These are available by ringing 520664.

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# DIAMOND WEDDING CELEBRATION JEAN AND TOMMY WRIGHT



*Jean and Tommy Wright cutting their Diamond Wedding cake*

Jean and Tommy were married at St Ives Church, Leadgate on May 17th 1947, two years after the end of the war. The weather was absolutely beautiful and the heat wave lasted for two weeks. This followed one of the coldest winters for many years. They met when they were 18 years of age. Jean was working in the main office at Conssett Iron Company where Tommy was an apprentice electrician. Over the next two years they gradually got to know and like each other and were married at the age of 22 after a two year courtship. At this time clothes coupons were still in use and some foods were in short supply, but somehow they had a lovely wedding day and everything went very well.

Their family have been the mainstay of their life. They have two daughters and a son - Pauline, Susan and Colin - and seven grandchildren who are all young adults and doing well: Annabel (Cambridge), Charlotte and Stephanie (Lanchester), Richard and Peter (Sedgefield), and Aimee and Samantha (Anstruther, Scotland). Jean and Tommy have always taken great pride in helping with the children as they grew up. Sometimes they wonder where the years have gone!

On moving to Lanchester Jean and Tommy became members of Lanchester Methodist Church and they have played an active part in the life of the church over the years. Tom was a steward for 5 years and Jean a dedicated member of the Women's Fellowship for some 20 years. Jean and Tommy celebrated their Diamond Wedding with their family. It was a superb day! If they could have only one wish it would be to be spared so that they can spend a few more years together.

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## AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY BOX STOLEN

Some low life character has called into Crinnions Delicatessen and has stolen the Air Ambulance Charity Box. This beggars belief. What is the world coming to!

## HONEST CALCULATION

Overheard in the stationer's: "Paul, how many times have I told you to stop playing with that calculator?" "29 times, Mam."

# MOTHERS' UNION CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

At 2.00 pm on Wednesday the 6th of June, Lanchester Mothers' Union held its Centenary Celebrations in All Saints Church with a Eucharist Service led by Canon Peter Waterhouse. On arrival at the church, the 130 Members and visitors were greeted by the scent of lilies from the beautiful flower arrangements in the entrance and in the church itself. These arrangements, done by the church flower arrangers, were in blue, yellow and white, representing the Mothers' Union colours of blue, silver and gold. We were also treated to stirring organ music, played by church organist Brian Scoins, as well as churchwardens to show us to our seats. The theme of the

service was care and love for all people, as is the aim of Mothers' Union. This was reflected in the Readings, read by former Mothers' Union Leaders Mrs Ann Kemp and Mrs Muriel Tomlinson and the Gospel, read by the Diocesan Chaplain, Rev Gary Birchall. Mrs Kathy Webster, Diocesan President, also gave an interesting talk mentioning the work of Mothers' Union abroad as well as at home during the 130 years since Mothers' Union was started by Mary Sumner in her own home, bringing together mothers from all walks of life. Before Communion was taken, Canon Waterhouse rededicated the MU banner, which has been cleaned and restored. The banner

is probably very old, as it is red and gold, these colours being used before the present colours were adopted. At the end of the service, a celebration cake was cut by Mrs Webster and All Saints Mothers' Union leader Mrs Margaret Brown, who had worked extremely hard to organise this lovely service. She had also made the delicious cake, beautifully decorated in MU colours by Mrs Betty Reed. The cake was only the 'icing' on a wonderful spread of savouries and cakes, provided by Members. This lovely service will long be remembered, particularly so because a special cover has been embroidered by Mrs Ann Hunter for use on the table at MU monthly meetings to commemorate this special occasion.



The Mothers Union Banner after rededication by the vicar: L to R Canon Peter Waterhouse, MU Leader Mrs Margaret Brown, Diocese President Mrs Kathy Webster and Diocese Chaplain Rev. Gary Birchall.

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## LANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP AGM

The annual general meeting of the Partnership was held on Saturday 19th May, and was in All Saints Parish Centre for the first time.

During the year Ruth Wilson had resigned as a Trustee of the Partnership. The meeting recorded its grateful thanks to her for her untiring work over many years with the youth club.

Colin Burton was elected to join the Trustees and Jill Gladstone, John Gray and Dorothy Maskery, resigning by rotation, were re-elected.

It was reported that the Village Link Bus had been kept on the road thanks to generous donations; bus users were fund-raising and making voluntary payments for travel on it. It was hoped to form a Transport Users Group. There had been no success in making Ford Road safer for motorists and pedestrians. Car parking congestion was being discussed.

The Youth Club had restarted and hoped to reach out to young people in the village. A report on "Working with Young People in Lanchester" had been completed to final draft and was available for consultation and comment. The Film Club was thriving. Development was being monitored to prevent the special character of Lanchester being lost.

The Friends of Longovicium had produced a walk leaflet and an education pack and a book was nearing completion.

Work on the Parish Plan continued, with another Litter Pick, production of the DIAL information leaflet (which had been distributed in the village by Parish Councillors), the continued use of the Village Design Statement, improvements in the village centre, continued study of Lynwood House's future, the work of the Farming, Environment and Wildlife group and

improvement to Kitswell Road play area with the separation of football and cricket areas and the possibility of the cricket club linking with other sports.

MP Hilary Armstrong, who had taken time, along with four Councillors, to attend the meeting, congratulated the Partnership on its work to make things happen in Lanchester.

### LINK BUS COFFEE MORNING

The Village Link Bus helps people get out of their homes and into the village for their everyday necessities, to meet friends, and so on. Money has to be raised for the service because Durham County Council refuses to pay anything.

A coffee morning that was held in All Saints Parish Centre raised £150 for it. The bus users are very grateful to the Catholic Church and to all who gave their support.

## LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

After Apologies for Absence had been received, a Police Report was given by PC Glen Cutts. The main problem recently had been a spate of car vandalism - more than 10 cars had been scratched. The police are concerned not only about the damage but also about the articles which must be carried in order to inflict such damage. The police are therefore continuing their stop and search policy in the trouble hot spots and there had been three alcohol seizures in the Play Park. A break-in in Newbiggen Lane sawmill resulted in the loss of garden equipment. Shed alarms are available free from the Community Safety Officer, Brian Donkin, at Stanley or from Sergeant Ray Husband in Lanchester.

Youths had been seen congregating in and around the back of the Lanchester Arms with minor fires and drinking. PC Cutts asked if it would be possible for the tree in the play park to be cut down as it obscures the view of the camera and to improve the lighting as this could have prevented 2 incidents of criminal damage. Broken glass in the park could cause injury to children and PC Cutts asked if the appropriate authority could attend to this; he was told that this had already been done.

A male rider was stopped on an off-road bike on the mineral line; if this rider is caught again within 12 months he will be prosecuted.

Cllr Wardle asked if police still hold keys for alarmed property; PC Cutts replied that this would be looked into. Cllr Wardle also asked if people can still inform the police when they are leaving their property empty, e.g. when on holiday, and PC Cutts said that this could still be done. Cllr Johnson asked if the CCTV had been looked

at in relation to the broken windows of the Queen's Head and the Bank on the other side of the road. Some of this had been seen. Cllr Glass stated that there had been some car scratching at Malton.

### County Council Report by Cllr Tom Forster

A survey had been carried out of alcohol misuse by young people in the County. 23% of all young people questioned had drunk alcohol. The Council is concerned as to where the young people are getting the alcohol and discussing moves to stop this.

The Council is starting its Budget programme for the next 10 months. It has received a windfall from the Airport but the Chairman has not yet decided how this will be spent.

A complaint over a burst tyre due to a water gully on Peth Bank and the fall of someone in Newbiggen Lane are being dealt with. Dropped kerbs for accessibility of motor scooters are being considered. The problem of mobile advertisements on the side of roads are causing concern for road safety and Cllr Forster was asked to take this back to District and County level; it seems that Gateshead Authority has experience in this. A pothole outside a house in Ormsby Hill and the entrance to Deanery View were also brought to Cllr Forster's notice.

**Public Participation.** Mike Gladstone spoke about the Parish Plan for Youth Activity and the needs of the young people in the village. A copy of the report "Working with Young People in Lanchester" was given to each member of the Parish Council with the request that Members look at the proposals and then invite Mr Gladstone back to discuss them with any

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### LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF P L A N N I N G COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 12th JUNE 2007

1. Proposed erection of lobby and smoking shelter to rear at Lanchester Social Club, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester. Supported.
2. Proposed demolition of existing garage and car showroom and erection of 10 dwellings (resubmission) at former Witbank Garage, Lanchester. Opposed.
3. Change of use of land at Ragpath Farm, Lanchester, for the storage of 10 caravans in shed. Opposed on grounds of the effect on character of village and wildlife.
4. Barclays Bank proposed fascia sign and 1 projecting sign. Opposed. Members would prefer the Bank to return to the previous dimensions of a sign.

# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - CONTINUED

comments or criticisms. Cllr Johnson said that it was the responsibility of Members to read this so that a full and meaningful discussion could take place.

**Minutes of the AGM** and Monthly Business Meeting held on Tuesday 15th May 2007 were passed.

**Matters Arising.** Letter of Complaint. A Meeting of the Appeals Committee will be held on 27th June 2007. Derwentside Play Partnership. £220,000 has been received from the Lottery Fund. The Council is to develop both a play strategy and a play partnership of private and public members to discuss a draft play strategy with aims, objectives and principles. The areas of need would be discussed and Cllr Mrs Gray would put forward the priorities for Lanchester, particularly the over 11 children. Key areas across Derwentside and also local areas would be looked at. Members then discussed the possibility of a successful outcome for Lanchester in the play provision and various ideas for leisure activities were discussed. Also mentioned was the extension of school opening hours and use of the cricket club facilities.

## Chairperson's Announcements

Cllr Johnson showed Members a framed commendation the twin bin scheme had been awarded by the District Council for improving the environment. He wanted to say 'Thank you' to village residents and hope they will keep up the use of the twin bins. A new copy of the Code of Conduct for Councillors was now available and given to members.

**Vehicle Traffic Calming Signs** A change in funding for this, e.g. for the electricity and maintenance, meant that this could not go ahead

until further details are known.

**Quarterly Report on Staff Supervision.** Day to day activities included clearing of litter in the play park which was littered with paper again 2 hours later, dealing with lost keys and children's clothing, reporting damage to police, damaged fencing, looking at the bus shelter with a view to repair, cutting back trees, new seats were all seen to. The cost of replacing the stolen garden equipment would be £550 and a quotation would be sought for insurance purposes. A shed alarm would also be acquired. Cllr Glass stated that no doubt the thieves would be back once the stolen property had been replaced and asked if the branches of the trees obscuring the camera could be lopped for security reasons as not the whole of the play park area could be seen. He offered to go personally to see what is visible to the camera.

**Proposed Short Explanatory Paragraph** of Parish Council's annual income and expenditure, for publication in the Village Voice. This, together with a reference to the procedure used by the District Council in reaching the amount to be levied on each Band 'D' property in the area, is not yet ready and is postponed to the next meeting.

**Members Questions.** The matter of loaded lorries passing through the village was discussed. Registration numbers would be taken and the County Council asked to send letters to those involved to express the concern of the village. The broken paving stones in the village and the fact that some had been replaced with tarmac was mentioned. The combined effect of these little things with the broken windows

previously mentioned and the state of the Lanchester Arms was detrimental to the village and is very worrying as this can lead to graffiti, etc. It was suggested that the Clerk should write to the Highways Dept of the County Council about the state of the footpaths.

The under-12's roundabout has been taken out of use due to the state of the surface surrounding it which had been condemned by the District Safety Inspector. Quotations will be taken for the repair of this which will probably be in the region of £800; it was agreed this should be paid for but that the repair must be guaranteed. As the present Auditor is not well, it was agreed that the Internal Accounts should be audited by a competent, independent auditor; some names were put forward. Cllr Wardle stated that there was some delay in the Locality Map and that a further grant would have to be sought because of the necessity of more work on Draft 6.

Cllr Jackson asked if hanging baskets, parking in the village and the Business Plan for the next 4 years could be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

**Questions from the Public** A village resident, who has been here for four years, present at the meeting asked if the condition of the dentist's surgery could be added to the list of areas of concern in the village. It was agreed that the condition of the village centre would also be on the Agenda for next month's meeting.

**Date and Time of Next Meeting.** This is to be held on Tuesday, 10th July at 7.00pm in the Conference Room at Park House.

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# FORMER RUSSELL CLOSE GARAGE SITE

Yet again, Philip Wilks has applied for permission to build 10 houses on this site. You know the history: In 2002, with Dunelm Castle Homes, he applied for permission to build houses there. We held public meetings at which you, the residents of Lanchester, told us very clearly that you were opposed to the application. The Partnership and the Parish Council then objected to it, The District Council turned it down, and an appeal was withdrawn. Philip Wilks then made Dave Donnelly move out of the garage building and has since allowed it to fall into disrepair. Late last year he submitted another application. The Partnership and the Parish Council felt strongly that the reasons for refusing the 2002 application were still valid, but in case your opinions had changed they held another public meeting. Your overwhelming view was again against the proposal. Wilks withdrew that application, but has now resubmitted it. **Please write:** The Partnership and the Parish Council are

writing letters of objection. Whether you support the application or oppose it please write soon to:

The Head of Planning Services, Derwentside District Council, Civic Centre, Medomsley Road, Consent. DH8SJA quoting "Application No. FC/1/2007/0468/DMFP".

We have put notes reminding you of some of the points below.

### **Please come to the Development Control meeting:**

We do not yet know when the application will be decided. As soon as we do we will put up notices in the village asking as many as possible of you to come to the meeting, which will be in the Civic Centre, Consett.

### **Arguments in favour of the proposal:**

1. It will tidy up a mess.
2. The village needs more 4-bedroom and 2½ bedroom houses.

### **Arguments against the proposal:**

1. The site is outside the limit of development for Lanchester defined in the approved local plan.
- Policy HO7 provides that

"No new housing development will be approved outside the development limit".

2. The village does not need more 4-bedroom and 2½ bedroom houses.

3. The site is within the countryside surrounding Lanchester which provides the setting for the village and an open outlook from it - where housing development is not normally approved.

Policy EN6 - designates the area as one of High Landscape Value where particular attention should be paid to its landscape qualities.

4. The site also lies within the Lanchester conservation area the purpose of which is to preserve its character and appearance.

Policies EN13 & 16 - the openness of the hillside was clearly the reason for the Conservation Area extending across the by-pass and including the open hillside.

5. The by-pass forms an effective limit to the village north of the green.

Whilst small housing sites (up to 0.4 hectares)

are permissible within Lanchester, Policy HO5 requires that they should fit well with the existing pattern and form of development, should not extend beyond the existing built up area, and taken with other sites (Bishop's Meadow) should not exceed the limit.

6. The site is within the Derwent-Brownney wildlife corridor.

Policy EN23 aims to maintain and enhance it and it requires compensatory measures where development impinges upon it. The development and Bishop's Meadow make no such provision.

7. General Issue Section 54A of the T&CP Act 1990 requires that applications for planning shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Development Plan unless there are compelling reasons to suggest otherwise. Government advice does not override this legislative requirement. Lanchester Partnership Ltd

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## **LANCHESTER NSPCC COMMITTEE** **CELEBRATES 45 YEARS**

There is a small, but faithful, group of members of the Lanchester NSPCC Committee who still continue to raise funds for the Children's charity at least 45 years after the group was formed. A founder member, Pat Wills, is still an active member of the committee which at present has 7 members including her daughter Chris. They would be delighted to welcome new people and could really do with some young

blood to continue the work they do to support the charity. Meetings are quite informal and there are only about 5 a year, usually on a Monday evening.

The Committee would also welcome occasional supporters of the charity. Any one who felt unable to make a regular commitment could show support by taking a collecting box into their home or business, baking a cake for an event, providing a raffle prize, selling

tickets or any other form of occasional help as required. Forthcoming events include a Coffee Morning on July 25th and a village Street Collection on September 22th as well as some individual sponsored events.

If you feel that you can help this worthwhile charity in any way or would just like to have a word about what they do please speak to any of the members or contact Pat on 520249 or Chris on 520175.

# ‘WE ARE THE PREMIER CHAMPIONS ‘

On Saturday 15th June at 5am, 26 Dancers from Karen Stewart Dance & Performing Arts Academy made their journey to the famous Winter Gardens, Blackpool to compete in the Premier Medallist Competitions held by the UKA and totalled a mass of 66 Trophies, 23 of which were 1st places, and now hold Premier Champion Titles. The remainder were of 2nd, 3rd and 4th places. The pupils danced in 4 categories; Rock n Roll, Solos, Pairs and Slowdance in groups 5 years to 14 years. Karen has a double helping of pride, as her daughter Kay McEnaney recently qualified as a Professional Dance Teacher and actually

trained 24 of the dancers. “I never dreamt Kay would take to teaching like she has. The kids love her, and it showed today. I feel there’s going to be a power struggle” laughs Karen, although quickly tells us that Kay’s dream is to become a member of the Guardia Civil. “I’m not sure there are many dancing police in Spain but Kay’s always been headstrong so she’ll probably be the first one, but for now she’s furthering her Education here and teaching dance in her spare time.

Will Kay take over KSDA? “Oh No, I’m KSDA, when I decide to retire and Kay feels arresting drunk holidaymakers isn’t what she wants, she can



The dancers with their serried ranks of trophies

always take over with her own identity, there’s only one Karen Stewart, although watching Kay teach she does remind me of the way I used to be. Kay chips in “Whatever, you could

always work for me, mam” and with that both mother and daughter laugh agreeing that their dancers have done fantastically. And next for KSDA? “Leeds Comp, but mum’s in charge of all the dancers so I’ve

given her strict instructions not to interfere with anyone’s routines as I’m going to Spain for 3 months”, says Kay looking straight at her Mum. Of course I’ll interfere, that’s what Mums do! Well done KSDA.

## THANK YOU DOESN’T SEEM ENOUGH!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our table top sale and auction in any way! The event was a huge success, raising in excess of £1400. I just want to thank all the people who donated items to both the auction and the sale, to all the

stall-holders, to all the people who helped making things for the lunches and all those who served in the kitchen on the day. The money raised will make a huge difference to the children in the hospice and I cannot thank everyone enough for the

support Lanchester has shown to this project since my first article in September last year. We leave for South Africa on 30th July and will keep you informed on our project when we return. Thank you again for all your support. Anne Crinson



Auctioneer David Hughes hard at work

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# MORE FORTIETH BIRTHDAY CARNIVAL PICTURES



*The Willowburn fund-raising team, Lisa and Angela, join the procession*



*John Hurran watches as a young man goes for a prize*



*Lanchester's finest music makers, the Gents*



*Mike Stoddart watches a future NU star at work*



*Oakwood Stables provided pony riding at the Carnival. Here we see Ben ready for his ride.*



*A frog hopping expert is tutored by Alan Kelly*



*Brian Naylor challenges customers to roll a ball*



*Macdonalds' stable of racy cars*

# EVEN MORE FORTIETH BIRTHDAY CARNIVAL PICTURES



*The most popular stall on The Green – put a ping-pong ball in the jam-jar, get a goldfish*



*Members of Lanchester Partnership join the parade*



*Martin and Jane Durkin preside at the hoop-la stall*



*Tommy Robinson and John Richards man the book-stall*



*The Durham Rams Morris men*



*The Mary Carr Experience with some recruits*



*Members of the Operatic Society serenade the cake fanciers in the Methodist Church*



*This Marilyn Monroe is no lady*

## POETRY EVENING

An evening of poetry from a wide area group which meets on was organised on June 18th by Lanchester poet Isam Hussain. The poets invited were all contributors to the North-East Poetry Journal, which Isam edits and prints, and 15 from a wide area group which meets on the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the Community Centre, but taking turns to read a poem. The Poetry Journal was first published in September 2003 to showcase the work of members of the poetry



Contributors to The NE Poetry Journal meet in Lanchester

## DISAPPOINTMENT FOR BBC BUS

The BBC Radio Newcastle Bus appeared as arranged outside New Image at lunch time on Monday 11th June for the Jane Hankin 1.00- 4.00pm show. Unfortunately, there were several serious technical problems which could not be overcome in time for the show to go out, so the presenter went back to base and broadcast the programme from the studio. However, several people turned up and were met by the Engineer, who explained the difficulties and indicated that another date would be arranged.



John and Irene Oliver from Durham with BBC Engineer Peter Dodds

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## WI NEWS

Members brought along a varied collection of hedgehog items for the competition at 4th June meeting. The speaker, Mrs Chris McLaren (tel: 0191 4886420), spoke enthusiastically about her hobby which became an obsession rescuing over 300 hedgehogs per year with the help of 10 fosterers and several money raisers. Hoglets, born blind and without prickles, need feeding every 2 hours until they are able to eat (at 3 months old) cat food, chicken legs, raw mince, worms, slugs, sweet biscuits, nuts and dried fruit. Their skin changes from pink to grey with a few white bristly spines sprouting within a few hours of birth, and the eyes opening at 3 weeks. Old hedgehogs can be recognised by their ginger prickles, wrinkles and black age spots; the life expectancy is up to 10 years. Fortunately hedgehog fleas are host specific! Members were given a list of hedgehog hazards and how to prevent them e.g. avoiding slug pellets and tying up bin bags, and were also given instructions on how to construct hedgehog homes. There was a wide selection of hedgehog-decorated items for sale. June Wallis read a poem entitled 'The Ultimate Kitchen Garden'. Members were asked to complete a survey for 'Comfort Creme' and were given free samples, with a money off coupon, so that they could 'feel indulged' and 'wrap in luxury every day.'

## EDUCATION PACK LAUNCH

A new education pack based on facts about Lanchester Roman Fort was launched at Lanchester EP School on Thursday June 7th. The education pack included background information on Lanchester Roman Fort, lesson plans and resources such as a geophysical survey of the Fort, role play cards and internet links.

Children from The EP school, All Saints, Consett Sports College and the Grove came together to try out the activities included in the pack, as well as meeting members of the Roman re-enactment group Roma Antiqua to learn about everyday life from a centurion and a Roman lady.

They looked at illustrated pottery, geography, the Roman fort layout, tombstone inscriptions and Roman engineering. The children took a keen interest in all their activities, with constructing Roman bridges or aqueducts the possible favourite. Teachers from various schools in the authority were also invited to see the pack in action and take a free pack back to their schools.

The event was organised by Christine Corker of Groundwork West Durham and Darlington and developed by Christine with colleagues Anna Wills and Bill Oxbrough, Lester Crawford of the

Derwentside Education and Training Forum, Sarah Gouldsbrough of County Durham Museums Service and Geoff Clack of the

Engineering Employers Federation.

The education pack is part of Derwentside District Council's 'Looking for Romans' initiative, part of the

Mineral Valleys project. It is supported by funds from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Leader+ and Derwentside District.



*Straight from the equus' mouth - members of Roma Antiqua recount their lives to pupils at the Education Pack launch*

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# THURSDAY CLUB FUNDRAISER IN AID OF WILLOWBURN

Storm clouds over Lanchester did nothing to deter the folks who came along to the Thursday Club garden party. Held on Wednesday 13th in the Community Centre, the Main Hall was in the guise of a lovely garden courtesy of Lanchester Nurseries, who also gave prize vouchers for our hat competitions. In no time at all a packed throng were enjoying a luscious cream tea while being serenaded by the lovely Pam Bygate on keyboards. There was a huge raffle, tombola stall and a fabulous display of needlecraft put on by Elaine's girls, for everyone to enjoy. The Thursday club would like to thank everyone who helped in any way towards the success of the afternoon, particularly, Asda, Lanchester Dairies, Sainsburys, Spar and Tesco who all generously donated the goods which provided such a super tea. The homemade scones were, of course, courtesy of the Thursday club ladies. A special thank you must go to Maving Taylor for plants, table flowers and photography. The afternoon was a lovely, joyous occasion which resulted in £500 being raised for our local hospice, Willowburn.



*Have I won on the tombola?* Photo Maving Taylor



*Eric Downs wins the Quirky Hat competition* Photo Maving Taylor

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## ROMAN WALK

The leaflet describing a walk around our Roman Fort was officially launched on 24th May. The walk started along the Railway Walk before climbing to Middle Houses Farm and descending into the Browney Valley for a picnic, returning via Ford Road. The leaflet was produced by local group, the Friends of Longovicium with considerable help from Groundwork West Durham & Darlington, and with the cooperation of Durham County Council and funding from the Mineral Valleys Project, Leader+ and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Copies are available free from Lanchester library and Community Centre.



*Leader Brian Page points out the line of Dere Street up to Esp Green*

# OPEN ALL DAY

Mel and Sue Somersall, backed by their army of willing workers, held another all-day marathon in the Methodist Church

on June 15th. Coffee, tea and lunches were laid on at appropriate times and in spite of some heavy rain the customers poured in. As Sue says, 'It turned into a very "Sunny" day because of all the lovely people who came to support it. Our heartfelt

thanks to all who baked, donated and BRAVED the awful weather!

Just to let you know that £1054.55 was raised for the Orphanage in Liberia'.



Mel's willing kitchen helpers: Mary O, Margaret, Mary S, Glenys and Judith



Mel and Eddie set about a chicken

## SPICE COMES TO TOWN

The Community Centre was the venue for a special afternoon session for young people organised by the SPICE team, part of Derwentside DC, on Thursday 31st. 'Ellie' the SPICE bus was available with computer facilities, and indoors there were arts and crafts activities, including the ingenious use of a handful of birdseed and two balloons to make a juggling ball, as well as snacks for the participants.



Laura gets some help to abseil down the wall

Consett YMCA had also sent a team to offer wall-climbing, which involved a plastic 'wall' firmly attached to a scaffolding frame. This was erected in the car park, and youngsters of all shapes and sizes gave this a try. A safety harness made sure they couldn't fall.



Part of the arts and crafts at the SPICE event

SPICE exists to 'encourage young people to play an active role in citizenship by becoming involved in community issues, local democracy and use of ICT.' Dave and Bill are keen to develop activities with children, and can be reached on 01207 502680.

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## FUN AND FITNESS WEEK

The last week before half-term was an active one for pupils of Lanchester EP School, with an opportunity to try any amount of different sports. It all started on Monday with circus skills, then a quite unconnected staff rounders match at lunchtime.

Year 6 had a trip to Durham to try their hand at ten-pin bowling.

This was followed by a Wheels Day, when pupils brought bikes, skateboards, anything with wheels. Years 5 and 6 were joined by pupils of Burnhope School for a

cycle ride. A sponsored penalties and netball event was held to raise funds for Creativity Week (reported last month).

On Wednesday all the children, together with guests from All Saints and Burnhope schools, enjoyed a fun and games day organised by the staff and volunteers from Nike. There were a variety of ball games including football, netball, hockey, tennis and a very energetic game involving a ball and a large tarpaulin. There was a short agility course, a sack race, an egg and plastic orange race (eggs not

being in fashion), passing a hoop round a circle of children, and various tests of agility. At intervals they all changed activities. Exhausting but fun!

Thursday was dance day, with professional tutors providing an introduction to dance with emphasis on the spiritual aspect. This was sponsored by 'Fred's Foundation Unit' for Barnardo's.

A keen game of rounders between staff and pupils rounded off the week nicely. This is the second year of Fun and Fitness Week and it has become a very popular event.



Youngsters get an introduction to dance



This game consists of throwing the ball from one side to the other of the 'tarpaulin' - or vice versa of course



Just watch this  
thing go!  
Experimental proof  
that six feet are  
better than two.

## CHARITY ABSEIL



David Rees beginning his descent

An abseil from the Tyne Bridge took place on Sunday 10th June on behalf of NCH Action for Children and David Rees of Deanery View Lanchester took part. Each participant was given a target to raise £75 for the charity. David reports that although he had only a few working days to organise this event on return from a visit to France, he exceeded the target.

David would like to thank all who contributed. The event was organised by Linda McDonald NCH's regional fundraiser NE, who can be contacted at [linda.mcdonald@nch.org.uk](mailto:linda.mcdonald@nch.org.uk)

## USHAW COLLEGE TRIP



On Saturday 2nd June, Lanchester Local History group enjoy a fascinating guided tour of Ushaw College with the Director of Estates, Peter Seed (right)

## WHISKY HELPS CHARITIES

The orphanage at Pattaya in Thailand holds auction sales of articles brought by visitors to the country, and Lancastrian John Ingham wanted to help. His idea was to put a bottle of House of Commons whisky, which is exclusive to the Mother of Parliaments, into the auction, and asked for help from Neil Fleming. As well as being the new

Chairman of Lanchester Parish Council, Mr Fleming works for MP Hilary Armstrong and was able not only to secure a bottle of the amber liquid but to have it signed by Tony Blair. Finding that no auction was imminent, John conducted his own and secured a bid of £300 for the bottle, which will be shared between the

orphanage and the charity 'Bikes for Kids'. He then delivered the prize personally while on holiday in Thailand.

## LADIES WHO LUNCH

Arriving for the first time at the 7 Stars at Shincliffe we were ushered into a comfy seating area while they got a table for 8 ready. What a delightful surprise when we found ourselves in an almost private wood-panelled alcove just off the main dining area, seated at a highly polished oval rosewood dining table set to perfection with linen napkins and beautiful roses.

From an innovative and select menu we chose Confit of Duck with celeriac puree and braised red cabbage, grilled goat's cheese with warm new potato, beetroot and chard salad, braised beef with parsley mash, creamed cabbage, and bacon, haddock and cod

fishcakes with fennel and orange salad. To follow from a menu of home-made desserts we chose chocolate and almond torte with caramel and vanilla ice cream, coffee iced parfait, plum and polenta cake and mascarpone and honey mousse. Quiet, unobtrusive bluesey music added to the calming ambiance of a lovely occasion. All our meals were beautifully presented, cooked to perfection, and quite delicious. We were still talking after time and the waitress who had served us came in to say goodbye - it had been nice to see us - come back and see us again soon.

We surely will.

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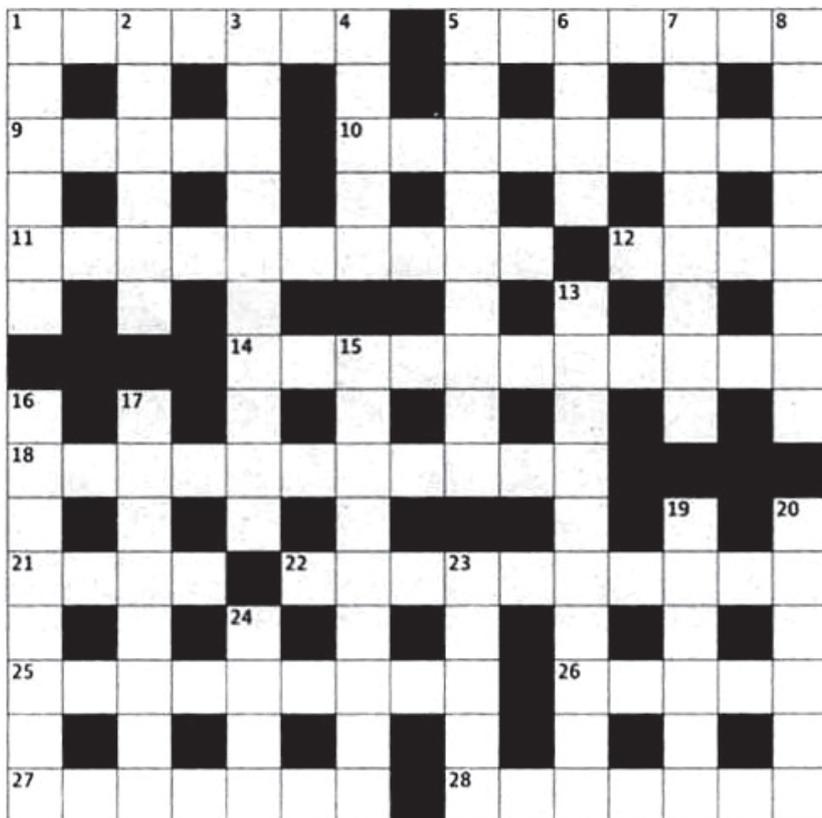


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# CROSSWORD 14



## ACROSS

1. Excellent model (7)
5. See 9
- 9,5. Sculptures, source of Anglo-Greek discord (5,9)
10. Cane lever of significance (9)
11. Trusted lady friend (10)
12. Rats for Russian ruler (4)
14. The sport of kings (5,6)
18. Place for provisions (7,4)
21. Inactive (4)
22. Ever-present (10)
25. I agree changes after men make animal collection (9)
26. Low point (5)
27. Time off (4-3)
28. Theft (7)

## DOWN

1. Penetrate (6)
2. Proxy ruler (6)
3. Wild West pioneer (10)
4. Girl in minor makeover (5)
5. Baby gnashers (4,5)
6. Wander about (4)
7. Viking transporter (8)
8. Cheapest berths afloat (8)
13. Demonstrator (10)
15. Blown as a sign of contempt! (9)
16. Twinkling (8)
17. Flat region of central Scotland (8)
19. Draw aimlessly (6)
20. Fish eating raptor (6)
23. Suppress (5)
24. Old (4)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

## CROSSWORD 13

There were 12 entrants for crossword 13, and the winning name from the Scrabble-bag is Mrs A. Lee, of The Garths.

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 13

### ACROSS

1. affable
5. corsair
9. The Black and Tans
10. Asdic
11. lease-lend
12. tympanist
14. terms
15. Sofia
16. arrowroot
18. represent
21. hotel
22. President Mugabe
23. Schnaps
24. needles

### DOWN

1. attract
2. Freedom of speech
3. Balaclava
4. excel
5. character
6. ridge
7. amateur football
8. resides
13. imageless
14. town house
15. stripes
17. tellers
19. erica
20. Titan

## BRIDGE

by Pont Viewer

### Fourth Suit Forcing

#### WEST

S A Q 10 4 2  
H A Q 10 5  
D K 10  
C 9 8

#### EAST

S 6 5  
H K 3 2  
D Q J 8  
C A Q J 3 2

Sometimes the responder will have enough points for a game but is not sure how to bid because of misfits. The fourth suit forcing can be the answer. West is dealer. Non-vulnerable. The bidding is as follows:-

1S—2C—2H—3D—3NT  
East's 3D bid shows an opening hand and asks West to describe his/her hand further. Replace K of diamonds by K of spades in West's hand. West bids 4S and a game is reached.

## BRCS AWARDS FORUM

This year's Red Cross awards forum was held in Stockton. A mini-bus with 12 members from Campsett, Stanley and Lanchester attended and had a very good evening. Members of Lanchester Red Cross, who received their badges for the year's services were:

10 years: Susan Snowdon, Ann Horner;  
15 years: Jessie Goodall, Ann Suddes, Pat Campbell, Freda Smith, May Maycock and Ann Scott;  
30 years: Angela Lee.  
Congratulations to them for all the hard work they put into the Red Cross. Brenda Gibson

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# ALL THE FUN OF THE HAIR



*The finalists in the Wacky Hair competition*

Lanchester EP School must have had its noisiest day ever for their Wacky Hair Day, as everyone chanted the name of their favourites as they paraded on stage.

Organisers of this crazy competition were six Year 6 girls led by compere Robyn Place, who held the show together very well despite a failing microphone.

The atmosphere was electric as the various classes paraded on the catwalk in twos. Some of the girls looked like models, others were shy and could not get off quick enough, whilst some of the boys really made the most of it by swaggering along and blowing kisses to the audience. One or two clashes on the catwalk only added to the entertainment.

Friendly village rivals Jenny Carson of Talking Heads and Mary Carr of New Image were the judges and they generously provided a cup and medals.

Whilst the judges were deciding the 20 finalists, there was further exciting

entertainment when brave teacher, Peter Taylor, volunteered to have all his hair cut off. He quickly removed his Ruud Gullit wig and sat on the stage awaiting his fate. It took three to do it for him. Jane Davis, Head Teacher, seemed delighted to begin, with some confident strokes of the electric razor. However, the job was finished professionally by Jenny and Mary to the resounding cheers of all the pupils.

Then came the finals. About 20 finalists from the Infants and Juniors took to the catwalk. Then the results came through to more cheering. Infant winners were, 1st Casey Coxon, 2nd Grace Steward Piercy, 3rd Jessy Smith. For the juniors 1st was Natalia, 2nd Bethany Knowles and 3rd was Matthew Atkinson.

Really, the whole school were winners. Everyone took part, including auxiliary staff and teachers who all paraded on stage. Mark Stephenson seemed to grow rather too fond of his long blond wig and

Peter Taylor seemed happy with his new hairless style. As Mrs Davis said in her thank you speech to the organisers,

it was a day to remember for the rest of their lives. Proceeds totalling approximately £425 will go to the Madeline McCann

appeal, of which £185 was raised by the now shaven headed Peter Taylor. The appeal was chosen by year six children.

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## LMVC Annual Concert

Lanchester Male Voice Choir will hold its 39th Annual Concert in the Lanchester Methodist Church at 7.15pm on Friday July 6th. Our guest artists will be Lowry Brass, a brass quintet from the Royal Northern College of Music. Our local Young Artist will be David Edwards from the village who will be showing his expertise on the cello. Tickets are available from choir members or from John Wills, tel: 01207 520249.

## Country Market

The monthly market will be held in the Community Centre on Saturday 7th July, starting at 10am. Be there early to get the best pies, cakes, vegetables, eggs, jams, crafts etc, and a cup of coffee.

## Wildlife Group

Members will be assembling at 7pm on 10th July at Malton to study the wildlife of the Nature Reserve.

## Creative Writers

The writing group is closed for the summer, and considering whether to meet in the evening in future. If anyone would like to join the group to develop their writing skills in an evening meeting, please ring 521427.

## Goodbye Mr Reather

On Monday 16th July All Saints' Catholic School will attend Mass in the church at 6.00pm. This is followed by a gathering in the school to say "Goodbye" to Headmaster Tony Reather who is retiring. Anyone who would like to join in on this occasion to wish him well is welcome to do so. Any queries to Mrs Varnes on 520435.

## Flower Club

The July meeting is on Wednesday 25th at 2pm, when Pam Greenhill of Ryton will give a demonstration entitled "Down My Garden Path."

## Bombon (El Perro)

The Film Club has so far presented some predictable hits and unknown French and Italian films which turned out to be fantastic. Now for South America! The club meets on Sunday July 15th at 7.30pm.

Patagonia is a rough land, and for 52-year-old Juan Villegas, it's even rougher. A mechanic who's just lost his job, Juan tries to make ends meet by selling hand-made knives. No one wants them, but Juan isn't bitter and never loses his calm. When he repairs a young woman's car one day, he is given a most unusual gift: a beautiful Dogo Argentino, a game hound of noble pedigree called "Bombón." Man and dog carefully eye each other, each creature weighing the pros and cons of a possible long-term relationship. But Bombón is good-natured and willing, and Juan unquestioningly welcomes the dog into his life. More yet: Bombón begins to change his new master's life.

Swept into the world of exuberant dog trainer Walter, Juan is talked into entering Bombón into a local dog show, where Bombón comes in third! For Juan Villegas, it's a first step in a promising new career as exhibitor – and the start of a beautiful friendship.

Winner of 'The Prize of the International Critics' at the San Sebastian International Film Festival 2004. (kinocinema.net)

## Lanchester Partnership

The next meetings are on Monday 9th July in the Small Hall of the Community Centre. The Youth meeting is at 6.30pm, Environment and Transport at 7.30pm. New members welcome.

# WHAT'S ON?

## Lanchester Early Music Festival

The fourth festival at Lanchester C of E Parish Church comprises five chamber music concerts with music from the Baroque and early classical periods, interspersed with readings from journals and letters of the period.

Once again Dr Brunt has assembled nationally and internationally distinguished artists, promising an exciting and first-class season of music. The first of the series, on Saturday July 14th at 7.30pm, is entitled *Membra Jesu Nostri*, featuring cantatas and music by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707) celebrating his 300th Anniversary.

The programme is presented by The Chapter House Clerks of Durham, Director Andrew Fowler, with Durham Baroque (Mieko Kanno and Claire Nesbitt, violins, Greg Pullen, viola da gamba) and Dr Ian Brunt (harpsichord & organ).

Tickets are £8, concessions £5, under-18s and full-time students free, including interval refreshments. Tickets at the door or by sending an sae to Dr Ian Brunt, The Lodge, Lanchester DH7 0LF, cheques payable to All Saints Lanchester P.C.C.

## Villa Real Fair

Villa Real School in Consett holds a fair on Saturday 14th July from 1 - 4 pm. There will be refreshments, cake stall, games, a grand raffle, face painting and children's temporary tattoos, rainforest tombola, lots of stalls, a ducking stool, fire engine, climbing tower, zip wire and climbing wall. All proceeds will go to the children at Villa Real School.

## Lanchester Local History Society

A private visit to the Museum of Antiquities at Newcastle University has been arranged for Friday evening, 6th July. The visit will be hosted by Ms Allison Lindsay-Jones, Director of the Museum, and, in addition to the normal exhibits, will also include photographic and additional evidence of the Roman site at Lanchester.

This special visit (not to be missed), will last about 90 minutes. There is a small charge of £3.50 per head. Members to meet at the car park of the Community Centre at 5.45 pm (car sharing). Parking is available near the University.

## Lanchester Social Club

Entertainment continues for members and associates at the Social Club with dancing every Friday from 7 to 11 at a cost of £1.

Free Saturday night entertainment in the Bar Lounge sees three singers making their debut, starting with teenage sensation Cindy Lee on the 7th July, young heart-throb Dan James on the 14th, Nigel's karaoke on the 21st and another class act, Cindy Marie, on the 28th.

## Library Redecoration

Lanchester Library will be closed for week commencing Monday 2nd July for re-decoration. It will reopen on Monday 9th July.

Books can be renewed by ringing Consett Library on 01207 503606, or online at [www.durham.gov.uk/libraryonline](http://www.durham.gov.uk/libraryonline).

## Lanchester Lions GRAND SUMMER



B.B.Q.



Saturday 14th July 7.00pm

Community Centre Lanchester

Tickets £6.50



Tickets available from the  
Community Centre,  
Post Office or ring  
01207 529775

## Lanchester Agricultural Show

Lanchester Agricultural Society 55th Annual Show will be held on Saturday and Sunday 7th and 8th July 2007 at Newhouses Farm, Lanchester.

This year will see an enhanced vintage machinery section, a ploughing demonstration by Beamish Museum Horseman Peter Brassett and a competitive demonstration of ploughing by vintage tractors using both trailed and semi-mounted ploughs.

The craft tent has attracted a variety of participants and this will be complemented by trade stands offering a range of goods for sale. A diverse mix of food vans should cater for all tastes.

Both Saturday and Sunday will see a light-hearted competition for family pets with classes for example - dogs most like their owner, waggiest tails, saddest eyes, veterans 7 years or over, best 6 legs, junior handlers. Competitors can enter on the day. On Saturday there will be a

### Short Walks

The Byways & Bridleways group offers Tuesday evening walks starting at 7pm, starting on 10th July from the Hat and Feather, Medomsley crossroads (information 506890) and on 24th July at the Crown & Cross Swords Hotel, Shotley Bridge (info 505477).

Acorn Amblers are planning a coastal walk on Sunday 22nd July: for details ring 524803.

### WI Meeting

On the 2nd July in the Small Hall of the Community Centre at 7pm, members will enjoy a Strawberry Supper, music from the Manse Singers, and an Auction (members bring items if possible). Visitors welcome, £1 at the door.

welcome return for the Kennel Club competition. Saturday will also see a grand parade of the vintage machinery and all prize winners.

Unaffiliated jumping on both days will be organised and run by Oakwood Stables, Lanchester. There will of course be the full range of in-hand and ridden pony and horse classes. Of particular interest will be the retrained race horse classes - a first for Lanchester.

Energetic children are looked after by a number of suitable attractions and the scarecrow competition should further appeal to participants and onlookers. Again ferret racing in the very capable hands of Sid's Ferret Welfare will be making a popular return and how could you not try some scrumptious ice cream from Swales Yorkshire Dales Ice Cream?

Admission is £3 adults, £2 concessions and children. All enquiries to the Secretaries-01913734565.

### Short walks in NW Durham

Those in search of a little gentle exercise may find the above publication useful. It is available, price £5, from Lanchester library or by ringing the author on 521427. Proceeds go to Lanchester Partnership

### MP Surgery

Our MP, Hilary Armstrong, will be available to meet constituents on Saturday July 7th at Citizen's House, Consett, starting at 11am.

### Willowburn Summer Fair

This will take place on Saturday, July 21st from 2.00-4.00pm. Attractions will include stalls and a fire engine.

## Music To Lift The Spirit

Lanchester & District Choral & Amateur Operatic Society is once again preparing for its annual summer concert. This year the music of Vivaldi (Gloria), Mozart (Coronation Mass) and Mendelssohn (42nd Psalm) are being sung. We have been very fortunate to obtain the services of Soloists, Susan Jordan (Soprano) Kathleen Ireland (Contralto) Andrew Fowler (tenor) and Michael Gardner (Bass). David Hughes, the conductor and Musical Director and Lilian Dixon, organist, are both working very hard with the choir to make this a memorable evening, and the title MUSIC TO LIFT THE SPIRIT is an apt description for the chosen music.

The concert will be performed in Lanchester Methodist Church, on Friday 13th July at 7.15 pm. Programmes cost £5.00, (this includes light refreshments) obtainable from members of the society or by ringing 01207 521458.

## Trombone Poetry at the Library

Paul Taylor is a top jazz trombonist who is also a poet inspired by Charles Darwin, Joseph Conrad et al. Paul has lectured at Goldsmiths College, chairs an arts network and writes book reviews. He's appeared on Radio 3. He's also found the time to perform at Lanchester Library on Wednesday July 11th at 7.30pm, whence music/poetry lovers can obtain tickets priced £4.50, concessions £3.

## Lions Barbecue

Lanchester Lions are holding a BBQ at the Community Centre on July 14th. Tickets priced £6.50 are available from Lions, the Community Centre and Post Office.

## Entry Change

Contractors will arrive at the Community Centre on 23rd July to begin the new extension, and will be hard at work till 31st October.

Access to this end of the Centre will be through the side door on Newbiggen Lane, which is currently an emergency exit.

Watch out for wet paint too, as the main and small hall are to be painted a delightful 'sunrise' colour on 26th/27th, as is the exterior woodwork.

## Poetry Group

Poets and poetry fanciers meet at 7.30pm in the Community Centre computer room on Monday 2nd July to read and discuss poems of their choice.

## Junior Wildlife Group

The group for young persons interested in wildlife meets on Saturday 7th July at Malton car park at 10am.

## Coming Shortly

The Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes is from 3rd to 10th August.

The Walsingham Pilgrimage will be from 14th-16th September 2007.

The Leeds Library Players will perform The Wind in the Willows on 4th October in the Community Centre.

North Country Theatre will present The Electrical Wizard of the North on 8th November.

Lanchester Cricket Club presents a Sporting Dinner on December 14th with world boxing champion Ricky Hatton.

Organisers, please try to avoid listed events dates Planning ahead? Let me know when and where. Ring 521427.

Derwentside Veterans Bowls League positions after 5 matches:

Triples	
1	Dipton 36
2	Sherburn Park 30
3	Consett B 26
4	Consett A 24
4	View Lane 24
6	Leadgate 21
7	South Moor 19
8	Lanchester 18
9	Burnopfield 2

Rinks	
1	Dipton 44
2	Leadgate 42
3	Sherburn Park 27
4	Annfield Plain 25
4	Consett 25
6	South Moor 19
7	Lanchester 11
8	View Lane 7

## PILATES CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS

*New Pilates classes for beginners starting at:*

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on

**Mon 2nd & Thurs 5th July, 2-3pm**

**Limited places available please phone**

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to book your place

# LANCHESTER'S BIG BROTHER FAVOURITE

Lanchester lad Liam McGough entered Channel 4's reality television programme 'Big Brother' on 15th June, watched by his father Joseph and brother Dominic. Liam was employed by Oliver's Tree Services Ltd as a tree surgeon, where he held the position of team leader. Andy Thompson, the contract manager from the company, passed on his good wishes to Liam and said that all members of staff were fully behind him. 'Liam is a very likable and a popular lad within the company and actually won our employee of the year for last year'. The well-liked Liam is

also known for his good humour and outgoing personality, and should do well in the Big Brother House. For those unfamiliar with 'Big Brother', it is a popular entertainment where more than a dozen egomaniacs are put in a shed together. Firstly the participants arrive by car, pass through crowds of screaming dervishes, climb some stairs, enter the shed, go down some stairs and are mobbed by a posse of bimbettes. They then hang about for weeks, doing odd jobs and irritating each other. The first to be ejected from the shed was a motormouth called



*Liam's image on the Big Brother web-site*

Shabnam, who told token adult Davina that Liam was her favourite. Let's hope he survives after this dubious tribute.

## LATEST NEWS:

Liam was chosen to win £100,000 by three housemates who were nominated for eviction. They had one minute to pick a winner. Liam broke down in tears when he heard he had won.

# BOWLS NEWS

There is not much good news to put into this bowls report; the results speak for themselves. On top of that there have been times when the club has struggled to make a team and has been forced to cancel games or play with less than a full side. On the plus side there have been some close games that could have gone either way and it is possible to enjoy a match even when you lose. Some of the club's new members have received their initiation into the league teams and have said they enjoyed the experience so we hope for good things from them in future. If you want to give bowls a try you will find the bowling green very

active most afternoons as members are currently playing in club tournaments. Come along with a pair of flat shoes and you can have a game for the miserly sum of £1 (bowls provided). The results are as follows: Veterans Triples Monday View Lane Away 5-5, South Moor Home 10-0, Sherburn Park Away 2-8 Veterans Rinks Tuesday Dipton 0-10 (unable to raise a team), Sherburn Park 5-5 (rained off), Leadgate Away 2-8 Wednesday Fixtures Burnopfield Away 0-6, Chester-le-Street Home 5-1, South Moor Home 2-4 Saturday Fixtures Consett Home 2-8, Dipton Away 4-6, Annfield Plain 0-10 (unable to raise a team). League positions, p 21

# TRY FIVE FUN RUN

For once it was a pleasant day at Berry Edge, Consett, for the Derwentside Schools Fun Run. Allison Curbishley, who ran in the 400m Olympics at Sydney, opened the event with a fine speech which had all the children cheering and waving. About 2500

pupils took part from 23 primary schools and they created a wonderful atmosphere with their sheer enthusiasm. Both Lanchester schools attended and the 'warm up' was held outside the marquee this year as the weather was so good, and a very lively DJ soon had

each consecutive year group dancing to current pop music. It was a splendid sight to see so many youngsters enthusiastically running around the course, with some, naturally, taking it more seriously than others. All Saints School took all their pupils to the event and the EP School a very

large number. Although it was strictly a fun run with staggered starts, Matthew Lovett, Jacob Lloyd and Michael Ledger finished at the head of their respective year groups for the latter school. After the run each participant received: a

medal; a sports bag; a tee shirt; some swim vouchers; leaflets about the Louisa Centre and a bottle of water. The logistics of organising such an event were massive but staff at Derwentside carried this out admirably.



*Lanchester EP School pupils preparing for the run*



*All Saints School getting ready for the run*

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## NEXT DEADLINE

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

Published by Lanchester Publications Ltd, 57 Alderside Crescent, Lanchester, DH7 0PZ and printed by The Community Newspaper Support Association (a non profit-making company with charitable aims), 27 Main Street, Shildon, Co Durham, DL4 1AL. The views expressed in this periodical are not necessarily those of the publishers. Whilst all efforts are made to check the authenticity and accuracy of all articles submitted for publication, occasionally something is bound to be printed incorrectly. Please let us know and we will endeavour to correct the mistake.