

## POLICE APPEAL

The police are appealing for information about unruly behaviour by some young people, who are responsible for disturbance and criminal damage in the village.

Recently, a wooden seat has been burnt to the ground near the Newbiggen Lane car park and a dog-waste bin destroyed.

Those responsible are known but evidence is needed to bring them to justice. It is especially disturbing that some public-spirited citizens who did frequently report unruly behaviour have been threatened and their house windows and car damaged. The perpetrators cannot be allowed to get away with this. Ring 0845 60 60 365 if you can help.

## LIAM COMES HOME

Big Brother celebrity Liam McGough, 23, came home from his many engagements and spent some time with the Village Voice. As his father said earlier 'with Liam what you see is what you get' and one could not meet a nicer, more genuine young man who has been a credit to Lanchester and the North East.

Home loving Liam even missed the TV programme 'What Happened Next' in order to rush back to Lanchester to see his family and visit his mother in hospital. And that says a lot about him.

Since then his life has been non-stop travelling for photo shoots with magazines and newspapers and making personal appearances with hardly time to rest. Recently he has been in Cleethorpes and Leeds

nightclubs making appearances and has commented on Sunderland v Reading on Asian Network Radio. He has also been a guest on the Chris Moyles Radio 1 show and has travelled to Wales and Manchester in his new whirlwind lifestyle. On 26th October he will play for an All Stars football team on Sky One. There are about thirty more commitments to undertake in the near future which will keep him busy for the next couple of months.

Why did he go on Big Brother? Well, it seems it was for the challenge of beating thousands of other applicants for the opportunity and he probably won the place through his personality and sense of humour. Who were his real friends - Brian, the Twins, Carol



Lanchester's own Big Brother celebrity - LIAM

and Ziggy. He keeps in close contact with these by phone every day and

has already been out to dinner with them. They have a pact to look out for each other. What will he do with the money? As he said on the programme and nothing has changed - he will use most of it to benefit his family. Will he continue in show business? Only time will tell but Liam intends to make the most of his opportunities and maybe one day have his own tree surgery company. This has been a wonderful adventure for him, he enjoyed every minute of it and is taking to fame with his feet very much on the ground.

*Continued on page 4*

*Continued on page 5*

## QUEEN'S HEAD OPENS

A huge amount of money, thought and experience had gone into the refurbishment and the re-opening of the Queen's Head on Friday evening, the 14th of September. Other small groups of



New owners of the Queen's Head- Richard and Sue Chwieseni

people were invited to taste the new atmosphere on two nights prior to this official opening.

The décor is superb with bespoke carpets, leather and dark oak chairs and tables with fascinating real trees in the corners of each room which spread across the ceilings. These have been shot blasted to remove the bark, have been treated with chemicals to repel insects, and have been made fire retardant. Four large gas

(log) fires also adorn the rooms giving a warm feeling to the atmosphere. There are also four large televisions in situ for those who want to see sport, etc.

The designers are Regal Interiors from Newcastle run by Ray Golden who has worked with the new owners, Richard and Sue Chwieseni.

Richard began business in 1993 and over the next few years built up a group

## PARTNERSHIP NEWS

Plans to create **safer routes to school**, using the Social Club car park as a dropping off place, were proceeding well. Under the scheme, All Saints' pupils will go to school under adult supervision in the form of a 'walking bus', using a new gate to be created onto the Valley Walk.

A grant from the County Durham Foundation had enabled Consett YMCA to arrange **youth activities** such as climbing and kayaking during the summer holidays and up to half term. Anyone knowing youngsters who would like to take part should ring Les Robson on 07747002536.

The **village bus** continues to do well with much increased usage, with donations coming in which will make it easier

to get grants for next year, if the County Council does not take over the running of the service.

Discussions about a **Village Web Site** were being steered by Richard Eysers, and a meeting on September 21st would lay the foundations for a public presentation on Open Day (29th September). The Partnership would certainly be involved.

### Planning

The Partnership had commented on the proposed activities at Burnhopeside Hall, welcoming the use of the land but asking for limits on noisy activities i.e. quad bikes and clay pigeon shooting.

The **caravan parking** at Ragpathside Farm was opposed, as was an agricultural building at some distance from Black House Farm.

## THE VILLAGE VOICE

*IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE*

## WELCOME - REV GAVIN HUME

A Circuit welcome service was held on Sunday the 2nd of September, at Lanchester Methodist Church for the Rev. Gavin Hume and his family. Gavin replaces the recently retired Mary Lloyd. Also welcomed was Joy Sykes, the Circuit's new lay worker with special responsibility for children and families.

The service began with a short address by Rev Keith Jump, followed by hymns sung enthusiastically by a huge congregation with various readings and prayers. The praise band played with much skill and gusto and the choir performed so melodiously with some

wonderful harmony. Rev. Leo Osborn was the main preacher and gave a compelling address with some very sound advice for the new incumbents and members of the church, but also laced with some extremely clever humour.

Towards the end both Gavin and Joy were inducted into their respective roles and gave short speeches to the congregation. Gavin is very obviously a Middlesbrough Football fan, (he wore their club tie for the occasion), and likened himself to Gareth Southgate, their young and somewhat inexperienced football manager, as he began his

new role as the Superintendent in the Stanley Circuit. As Joy and Gavin stepped aside, Dick Hunter, Warden of the Parish Church and Father Andrew,

representing All Saints' Catholic Church, delivered welcome speeches. No doubt there will be some great banter between Lanchester's ecumenical clergy as they all support different local teams!

After the service there was a lovely buffet provided by members of the church which everyone enjoyed. It also was an opportunity for the congregation to meet Joy Sykes, Gavin and his wife Tracey, with their two boys Jack and Cameron.

## TO CONTACT THE VILLAGE VOICE

### By email:

lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk (please include Village Voice in the Subject line to ensure the email is opened)

### By post:

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

**Telephone enquiries:** (01207) 520559

### To advertise:

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## LOST

A black leather wallet, size 4"x 4" folded, was lost at about 10.20 am on Friday 14th September between Barclays Bank and Nat West Bank in Front Street, Lanchester. It contained £365.46 in cash, two Barclays cards, one Post Office card and a phone top up card. The owner immediately reported it to the police. A substantial reward will be given to the finder if they hand it in, intact, to either Barclays Bank or the Post Office in Front Street, Lanchester.

## WANTED

A Village Voice distributor to deliver to the new estate at the top of Kitswell Road. If you are interested, please contact Mike Stoddart on 01207520291.



*Left to Right - Rev Keith Jump who gave a short address, Rev Gavin Hume, Joy Sykes - the Circuit's new lay worker and Rev Leo Osborn, the main preacher at the welcome service.*

## LANCHESTER PUBLICATIONS LTD

(Publishers of THE VILLAGE VOICE)

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Twenty one days' notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of Lanchester Publications Ltd to be held at 7.00 pm on Sunday 18th November 2007 in the Dining Room of the Community Centre, Lanchester. All members of the public are welcome to attend.



# ELSIE CUTHBERT - 30 YEARS AS CARETAKER OF LANCHESTER METHODIST CHURCH

On August 23rd, 86 members, friends and relatives gathered in the reception area of the church where they were entertained by Pam Bygate on the piano. Eric Skipsey, the Master of Ceremonies, invited the guests to follow Elsie and family for refreshments. An excellent buffet had been prepared and tea was served at the table.

The ceremony began with duets from Pam Bygate on violin accompanied by Elsie's sister, Lilian Dixon, at the piano. Mel Somersall introduced a humorous sketch showing how the dress fashion of a caretaker had changed over the years. Lilian had prepared a version of 'This is your Life' and told of Elsie's childhood and early life and of her involvement in many aspects of the life of the church. Norma Riley spoke of her lifelong friendship with Elsie and more tributes were paid by members of the sections with which she has been associated. Lilian explained how, after

her marriage to Brian Cuthbert, Elsie had followed in the tradition of the Cuthbert Family and taken over the duties of caretaker at the chapel from her Mother in Law who in turn had followed in the footsteps of her late husband.

As her story unfolded she called upon Mel who talked of his experiences in the kitchen at the church and how he was encouraged to leave the kitchen as he found it, right down to the removal of cooking smells. Kenneth Mankin, a recent minister of the church and who represented former ministers, told of how the church was always clean, tidy and warm for services and praised Elsie for the way in which she kindly welcomed visitors on the occasions of numerous christenings, weddings (125) and especially funerals (330). John Wills, as a property steward, spoke about how her work of organising the day-to-day working of the church such as heating, lighting and cleaning were carried

out. He praised her for the efficient way in which she worked with him to organise heating schedules and equipment maintenance. He had been asked to say a few words and found several that described Elsie beginning with *accommodating and capable to supportive*

and *sympathetic*. He concluded by wishing Elsie and husband Brian a very happy retirement. Mary Murray and Sue Ward, on behalf of the church, presented Elsie with a silver chain necklace as a token of thanks for the work she has done over 30 years.

Elsie responded by expressing her surprise and delight at the tributes and the present she had received. She said she had always felt that she was taking care of the church rather than being a caretaker. She offered her support to the new caretaker, Denise Blackburn.



*Some of Elsie's friends and relatives enjoying the excellent buffet in the reception area of the church*



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*Elsie Cuthbert*

*Flowers arranged by Maureen Clarkson*

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## QUEEN'S HEAD OPENS - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of establishments which included: The Bay Horse at Wolsingham; Bar 56 at Crook; the New Inn at Willington; The Railway at Spennymoor; and McKennas at Esh Winning, which has now changed its name. After he received an offer he could not refuse in 2005, Richard sold the group and began a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of freedom to travel. He and Sue actually went around the world no less than three times.

He was due to travel again this September but in the meantime was given the opportunity to purchase the Queen's Head, Lanchester, and the King's Head at Crook, and there are other premises in the pipeline. Richard obviously enjoys business and sees this as a new challenge and a

good way to invest his experience and money.

At the Queen's there will be a Manager, Paul Stevenson, plenty of staff who will run this fine pub/restaurant plus Denise Allan who will supervise all establishments and will appear from time to time. Customers will be able to enjoy the ales etc from Newcastle Breweries and there will be covers for 90 people. Traditional home cooked fayre will be offered as well as chef's specials during the evenings and lunchtimes. For those who want something lighter to eat, sandwiches and jacket potatoes etc will always be available. There is also a 'state of the art' coffee machine which provides excellent ground coffees. Lots of invitations were given out to people in the village and associates of

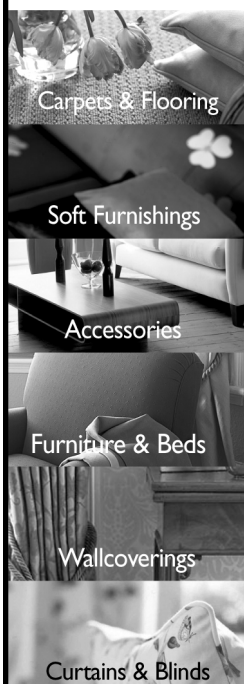
the proprietors, for the Wednesday evening. People were met with champagne and canapés which were available for most of the night. Remarks such as

'unbelievable change', 'will attract good clientele', 'excellent comfort', 'very plush', 'modern décor' 'something completely different for the village' were some of the

favourable comments made during the evening. It certainly looks as if the Queen's Head is in good hands once more to serve the people of Lanchester and surrounding areas.



*The staff of the Queen's Head with Paul Stevenson, Manager, at the back*



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## NEW FACES AT ALL SAINTS' RC SCHOOL

As in every autumn term, there are changes at All Saints' RC School. The 6th year have already moved on to St Bede's, and another batch of shining new faces have joined the reception class and learned the rules, with the aid of their 6th year mentors who will watch over them for the whole year and of course the support of their teacher, Mrs Mary Douglas. There are new hands

on the helm too, with Deputy Head Mrs Karen McKenna becoming Head Teacher after the retirement of Tony Reather. This meant that a new Deputy was needed, and Mrs Claire Jordan has taken up this post. Mrs Jordan lives at Houghton-le-Spring and has come to Lanchester from a school at Chester le Street. Some pupils may expect her to accompany their

singing on guitar, as Mr Reather did, but her instrument is the flute. She is also an accomplished singer and regularly appears in musicals.

Children keen to learn a musical instrument this year will be able to come to the Thursday after-school lessons in guitar, violin, brass and 'samba drumming', all of which sound like fun to do. The after-school art and chess sessions are continuing.



All Saints' reception class are seen here with Head Teacher Karen McKenna, class teacher Mary Douglas and Deputy Head Claire Jordan

## LIAM COMES HOME - CONT'D

Who is Liam? His background may help people understand why he is the sound personable man that he is. He grew up in Lanchester with a very ordinary background. He attended the EP School during the time that Malcolm Webb was the Head Teacher. Then it was on to St Bede's College where

coincidentally, former Big Brother winner Anthony Hutton from Consett, was a couple of years ahead of him. He played for Lanchester Cricket Club, is a big football fan and has led what can only be described as a normal lifestyle with his local pals. Finally what would Liam do to enhance his career?

Nothing outrageous or anything that would embarrass his family but anything within reason that would further his media attention, certainly in the near future. One gets the impression, that at the moment he quite likes the feeling of his feet not touching the ground, despite being able to sleep for England.

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# MEETING OF LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2007

## Police Report

This report covered two months, during which there had been 120 calls. There had been 6 burglaries (for which 2 arrests had been made). There were also 6 thefts, and the importance of not leaving valuable items on view in cars was stressed. 9 vehicle collisions had taken place. 17 reports of suspicious persons had been reported. There were a number of reports of road obstruction, mostly in Front Street and in particular around the Post Office. Anti-social behaviour is beginning to start again after a couple of quiet weeks. After the recent burning of the seat and other damage near the car park in Newbiggen Lane, the Police are anxious that reports are made to them if anything anti-social is seen. Drugs

gear has been found. The CCTV has picked up some of the trouble makers - 4 or 5 young men in the village have been arrested and released on bail. However it is a matter of building up evidence so again, a request to report anything suspicious. Under-cover officers have been out in the streets, but there have been instances of assault and anti-social behaviour which have not been reported and this makes the police job more difficult.

**Matters Arising:** Condition of Paths in Village. The area Engineers made a site visit and in their opinion damage to flagstones was caused by vehicles and by public utilities not replacing them correctly. The areas would benefit from bollards to prevent parking on pavements and

they would put together a scheme for the next year if finances would permit. Mr Wilcox plans to return in about February with plans of what can be done. Mention was made of the state of the footpaths in the surrounding estates, which are inspected annually; only potholes over 20mm deep are repaired immediately. Mr Wilcox said that in autumn problems were prioritised.

County Councillor Mr Tom Forster then gave his report on matters of mutual interest to the Parish and County Councils. He stated that a great deal of attention had been given to the proposed Unitary Local Government, which will, of course, affect Parish Councils. A transitional period will take place, with elections in May 2008 and then probable Parish elections in 2009 with a view to bringing all elections in line by 2013. However, the result of the Judicial Review in High Court, taking place next week, is awaited before arrangements are finalised.

The County Council is setting up a working group to look at the Care Homes in the County. These will be finalised by December. A brochure is to be produced of the Homes, which will include Lynwood House. **Public Participation.** Mr Dick Parry, Senior Rugby

Coach, asked about the chances of Kitswell Road Recreation area being available for use by the 50 children who were members of his club. They have joined forces with the cricket club who are opening their facilities to them. It was agreed that this should be an item on next month's Agenda.

A **resident** of the village spoke about how she and her husband had become targets of young people, having suffered damage to their car and house and even threats and assault. A **retailer** who owns two shops in Front Street asked about the Council's Parking Plan and if this included limited parking in front of shops; a reply was given that this was impossible to enforce. However, the Partnership is holding another Car Parking Meeting next month and this will be discussed as well as parking on double yellow lines and school parking.

**Parish Council Business Plan.** A report has been compiled by Cllrs C Burton and M Wardle stating what has been achieved, what is being pursued and new issues, including Unitary Authority. A special meeting of the new working committee is to be held on Tuesday, 23rd October, at 7pm.

**Committee Reports.** Minutes of the Recreation Committee and Planning Committee were approved.

**Siting of Public Seat on Cadger Bank.** Suggested site is beside the old milestone. A quotation has been received for this work but it was agreed that others should be taken and that invitations to sponsor the seat from either a village business or individual be found if possible.

## Acquisition Of Land - Kitswell Road Play Area.

Everything is going ahead **Lanchester Lions Club.** It was agreed that the annual Bonfire Night and fireworks display should take place at Kitswell Road Play Area on Saturday 3rd November 2007. A donation of £400 was approved.

**Christmas Lights.** Date - Saturday, 1st December. As well as asking two children from each of the village primary schools to perform the ceremony, the local celebrity Liam McGough should also be asked. Village Voice workers and partners would also be invited to join them and the Parish Councillors afterwards. Lanchester Brass Band would be asked to play carols and a donation of £50 made to them.

**Rodent Problem.** A request has been received from the District Council to put boxes near Station Road to solve this problem. It was agreed that this should be done at their expense.

**Proposed Stanley Town Council.** Possible reduction in precepts elsewhere in Derwentside. Further discussion to take place next month.

**Quality Parish Councils.** It was agreed that Mrs L Swinbank, Regional Development Officer, North East N.A.L.C. visit to address Members at the October meeting with regard to this subject.

**Village Map.** An unveiling ceremony is to be arranged by Lanchester Pathfinders but the date has yet to be fixed.

**Next Meeting.** Tuesday, 9th October, 2007 at 7pm in the Conference Room, Park House.

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## LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING ON THURSDAY 30TH AUGUST 2007

Members of the Lanchester Parish Council met on 30th August and considered the following **Planning Applications:-**

1. A proposed change of the use of land and gardens to create activities a centre for walking and cycling, the siting of a marquee for weddings, conferences, corporate entertainment and outdoor activities, and the creation of an additional parking area at Burnhopeside Hall, Durham Road, Lanchester. **RESOLVED**. That the Development and Control Committee of the District Council ensure that full account be taken of the Local District Plan, dated January 1997, with particular reference to

Wildlife Corridors and Outdoor Sports which may cause nuisance. That in addition to the above, a more detailed plan of the specific location of all proposed activities be made available to enable members to make a meaningful decision on the overall application.

2. The proposed erection of a first floor extension to side of 25 Broadoak Drive, Lanchester (resubmission). **RESOLVED** that subject to the strict conformation with related District Policy and the Village Design Statement.

### DECISIONS OF DISTRICT COUNCIL:-

1. The erection of a

first floor side extension and single storey extension at No. 1 Foxwood Court, Lanchester. **GRANTED**.

2. The erection of one dwelling (resubmission) at West Grange, Cadger Bank, Lanchester. **GRANTED**.

3. The erection of a lobby and smoking shelter to the rear at Lanchester Social Club, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester. **GRANTED**.

4. A Loft conversion with roof lights to the rear at 22 Victoria Terrace, Lanchester. **GRANTED**.

5. Creation of covered external drinking areas at King's Head Hotel,

Lanchester. **GRANTED**.

### LOCATION OF DONATED PUBLIC SEAT.

Cllr Johnson reminded Members of a recent proposal by a local resident to donate a public seat to be sited near the dentist's surgery in Front Street with a suitable memorial plaque thereon, in memory of her late husband Mr Austin Rogan. Mrs Rogan had donated the sum of £400 towards the cost. Members were unanimous in expressing their most sincere thanks to Mrs Rogan for her very generous donation and instruct the Clerk to write a letter of appreciation to her.

## PLANS PASSED - DERWENTSIDE CONTROL COMMITTEE

On the 13th of September 2007 the Derwentside Control Committee met to consider:

(i) the construction of an isolated agricultural building at The Beeches, Black House Farm; and  
(ii) the change of the use of Hurworth Lodge at Manor House Farm (former home of the Cap a Pie theatre group) to residential accommodation. Both of these applications were approved by the Control Committee at the meeting.

## LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING ON TUESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2007

The Parish Council met to consider the following planning applications:-

1. The proposed erection of on additional dwelling at the former Council Depot and land to the west of Kitswell Road, Lanchester. Concern was expressed about the increased volume of domestic traffic and increased density of housing in this area as well as the removal of the only remaining open space on this site.

2. The proposed felling of one larch tree, crown lifting and pruning of various other trees at Greystones, Ford Road, Lanchester. Generally the felling of any tree is opposed unless it is

dangerous. However, a site visit is to be made by the Tree Officer of Derwentside District Council before a decision is made. The Planning Officer is to take note of page 11 of the Village Design Statement.

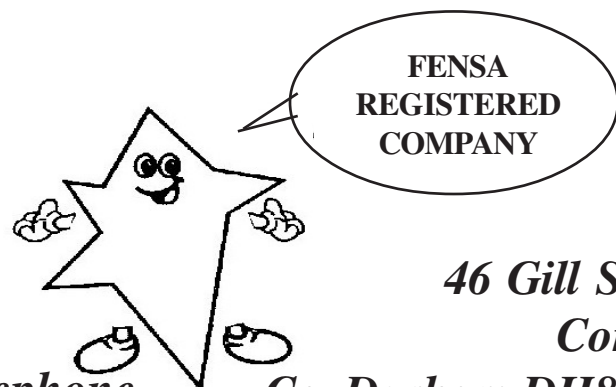
3. Proposed removal of window and door to rear, erection of single storey extension to rear at Westlands Dental Surgery, Front Street, Lanchester. **RESOLVED** as long as the appropriate building guide lines as set out in the Village Design Statement are strictly adhered to.

4. Conservatory to rear of dwelling house at 17 Leehill Court, Lanchester. **RESOLVED**.

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Year 11 pupils from St Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College got their GCSE results on the 23rd of August and an astonishing 84 per cent passed five or more subjects with grades A\* to C. This puts St Bede's top of the schools in Durham County.

Headteacher Maureen Bates came to St Bede's in September 2002 when the current Year 11 pupils were in their first year, so she was particularly delighted with the results. She said: "What a day! It's fantastic. The results are the best ever in the school's history, and in order to do that each student had to get their personal best. The

students have worked incredibly hard and the staff have pulled out all the stops. The results have been great across the board, so it's not just about A\* to Cs. Nationally it's all about league tables, but at St Bede's it's about individuals achieving their personal best.

St Bede's is a very happy school, so we've got everything in our favour to achieve such results. The school has built up some really excellent relationships between children, between the staff and the students, and we've had massive support from the parents, the Governors, Partner Primaries, the Diocese and Durham County Council. We work in several close partnerships, and today we see the results of that teamwork."

St Bede's continues to improve year on year; the figure is eight per cent up on last year's record total of 76 per cent. Of the 232 pupils in the year group, seven students achieved straight A\* and A grades. They were Rachael Bainbridge, Sarah Diamond, Catherine Forster, Jonathan Quinlan, Emma

Reddington, Katy Simpson and Ruth Wilks. Sarah Diamond, from Blackhill, got seven A\* grades and five grade As, and was also in the top five per cent in the country for Applied Science. She is planning to come back to the Sixth Form at St Bede's to study Maths, English, Biology and French and hopes to go on to study zoology at University. She said: "I'm absolutely chuffed! It was better than I expected. I was hoping I would pass, but I was over the moon when I got all As. It's been stressful waiting for the results and I was very nervous this morning, so I'm going to relax with my friends for the rest of the day."

The St Bede's pupils got their results at All Saints' Primary School in Lanchester because of the building work at their own school. St Bede's are expecting 165 pupils, including 12 pupils from other schools, to come back to the new Sixth Form building which is due to open for the start of the new term.

For more information, contact Maria Matthews at St Bede's on (01207) 520 242.

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## HEALTHY LIVING

### What's hidden in our food?

What's wrong with the modern diet? Or more accurately what's right with it? Whatever we have been led to believe over the past 30 years, we have actually reduced the amount of calories and fat in our diets, so why are obesity, heart related diseases, diabetes and hormonal-related cancers on the increase? It all has to do with what food manufacturers are putting in our food products and it's these that are contributing to our ill-health. Here are some shocking examples of what is in our food. Refined sugar is added to almost everything from fruit yogurts to pasta sauces. On average we can consume up to 100g a day, when our bodies struggle to cope with a teaspoon.

Excess sugar is stored as fat, it's that simple. Refined flour is total rubbish for our body. It makes products such as bread, cakes, pizza and many more. It is also added to cooking sauces to add thickness. During the refining process flour loses 98% of its nutrients and because of this our bodies struggle to determine the difference between this and refined sugar.

Dairy: in some countries cows are injected with oestrogen hormones to increase the amount of milk they can produce. Nature intended cows to produce 16 pints a day; with these hormones they can now produce up to 98 pints a day. What does this say for the quality of our dairy products?

Hydrogenated fat is a killer. This fat is used by fast food chains,

restaurants and many more eating establishments. If your food is cooked in these fats then you shouldn't be eating it. This fat contributes to obesity, heart disease and the build up of LDL (bad) cholesterol in body. Don't be afraid to ask what cooking oils these places use. You want to hear sunflower oil or olive oil.

Those are the facts. Try this, if any product you have has over 5g of sugar in it then bin it. To make all these changes at once can become very difficult, so reduce the amount of sugar in your diet at first. To stop sugar cravings eat more complex carbohydrates such as brown or basmati rice, oats, rye, pulses, green vegetables, peppers, tomatoes, cherries, pears, grapefruit, oranges. David Wilkinson

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### KETCHUP

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup to come out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. "It's the vicar, Mummy," the child said. Then she added, "Mummy can't come to the phone at the moment. She's hitting the bottle."

### DRESS-UP

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his evening suit, she warned, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit." "And why not, darling?" "You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning."



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# THE LEEK SHOW

Now known as the Lanchester Social Club Leek and Horticultural Show, this was held during the weekend beginning Saturday 8th September. Sadly, it wasn't particularly well attended due to lack of prior publicity but those who did go must have enjoyed seeing the fruits of much hard work by the club members and some entries from some of the general public.

The centre of the hall was laid out in only what can be described as a beautiful festival of flowers - a sight in itself worth seeing. The perimeter was laid out with leeks of course,

cauliflowers, enormous dressed onions, peas, long carrots, marrows, etc. There seemed to be almost enough vegetables to feed the village.

Reigning champion Vince Pickersgill once again won the Tetley Cup for the most points in the show but he modestly declined to be photographed and pushed forward his protégé, Billy Brunton of Annfield Plain, who came second, and certainly gave Vince a run for his money. In third place was Kenny Goldsmith who also auctioned the produce on the Sunday evening. The judge was

Malcolm Richardson from Ebchester. The overall results were as follows:

## Leeks

1st Prize

Norman Stevenson Cup

B Brunton

2nd Prize

H.B. Maycock Cup

T Barrass

3rd Prize

Victor Dillon Cup

D Hall

Best Leek in the Show

B Brunton

Vegetables

3 Varieties of Vegetables

O H Thompson Cup

T Barrass

3 Onions from seed

Federation Shield

B Brunton

Heaviest Onion

Lanchester CIU Cup

D Hall

Pair of Marrows

Jim Dixon Cup B Brunton

Flowers

Vase of Flowers

Iveson Rose Bowl

B Brunton

5 Chrysanthemums

Britannia Building Society

V Pickersgill

Best Dahlia

Allan Whittle Trophy

A Swinburne

3 Gladioli

James Halpin Trophy

N Holmes

Best Exhibit in Show

Lanchester Club Shield

D Hall

Most Points in Show

Tetley Cup

1st Vince Pickersgill

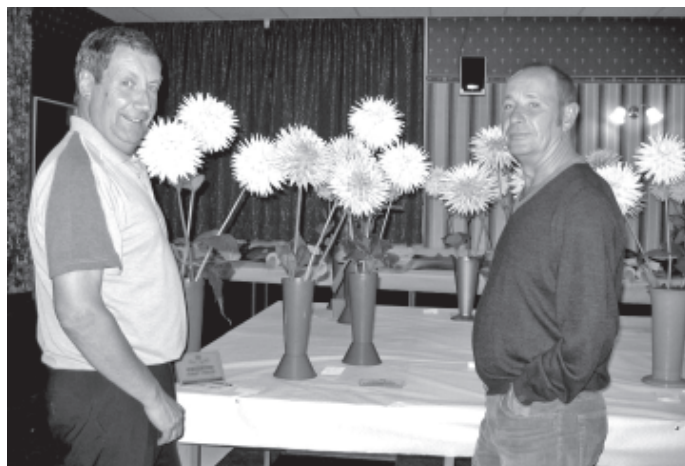
2nd Billy Brunton

3rd Kenny Goldsmith

New members are encouraged to join the Leek Club which now only has about a dozen participating members. The public are also invited to submit exhibits and there are plenty of good gardeners in Lanchester and district whom may enjoy the challenge and the experience. Good results can be obtained by non members as proved by Geoff Bushby of Esh Winning, and Alan Swinburne of Shotley Bridge who both picked up top prizes for Dahlias with the latter winning the Allan Whittle Trophy.



Billy Brunton and Kenny Goldsmith proudly show off their giant leeks and super flowers



Geoff Bushby and Alan Swinburne alongside their beautiful dahlias



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# CUSTOMS HOUSE ORCHESTRA

A packed auditorium at Lanchester Methodist Church gave a well deserved, rousing reception to the newly established Customs House Concert Orchestra on Saturday, 1st September, at 7.30pm.

In this preview performance, the 32-piece orchestra delighted the audience with the range and quality of its music in a programme delightfully compered by the sixth incarnation of Dr Who (aka actor Colin Baker), who shared "Show Biz" trivia and career reminiscences with the audience throughout the evening. It was a particularly appropriate venue as both Conductor George Hastings and trumpeter Alex Lewis are Lanchester residents.

Directed by Conductor George Hastings and led by Bransby Roberts, the Orchestra's evening of much loved and well-remembered music began with Andrew Lloyd Weber's "Phantom of the

Opera", followed by "Fools Rush In", after which the Theme from Dr. Who introduced Colin Baker for the first of his contributions. The first half of the concert entranced the audience with "Masquerade", during which the audience was treated to a variety of virtuoso vignettes, the themes to "Out of Africa" and "The Avengers" and a selection of TV Theme Tunes. (Hands up if you remember "Bergerac", "Dallas", "Dynasty", "Knott's Landing", "Whicker's World")

The final item before the interval provided the audience with a special treat. Bindy Baker, Colin's daughter, currently in rehearsal for High School Musical, sang "Colors of the Wind" from the film "Pocahontas". It was a performance of strength and maturity, loudly applauded by the audience and it was a proud father who later informed the audience

that this had been her first public solo performance.

The second half began with a "Fred Astaire Selection" and was followed by the theme from "Hetty Wainthrop", which featured Lanchestrian Alex Lewis on cornet. The theme from "Once Upon a Time in America" preceded a real treat for the audience, as the orchestra played the full seven minute version of the haunting "McArthur Park". A selection of music to highlight the genius of Burt Bacharach led into the finale as the theme to the film "Rocky" brought a superb evening to an end amid prolonged and thunderous applause from an audience reluctant to let this excellent orchestra go.

The Customs House Concert Orchestra has its official launch on October 31st at the Custom House, South Shields. Tickets are available from the Custom House Box Office - 0191 4541234.



(l to r) Leader Bransby Roberts, Bindy Baker, Colin Baker, and Lanchestrians Alex Lewis and Conductor George Hastings



# LANCHESTER EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

These days there are plenty of opportunities for hearing Bach's chamber music on recordings (both on instruments current in this period and on their modern equivalents), but it is somewhat rare and refreshing to hear a 'hands-on' live performance of this repertoire as offered on 1st September by the *Hexham Collegium Musicum* in Lanchester Parish Church as part of the fourth Lanchester Early Music Festival. The latter is the brain-child of Dr Ian Brunt whose immense knowledge and enthusiasm for the cause is worthy of the highest commendation, and whose efforts are already bearing results as shown by the large and most appreciative audience present for this recent concert. His voluminous and well researched programme notes too provided rich pickings for any informed reader. Ian has recently restored a fine copy of an early 18th century English harpsichord with striking

carrying power, on which he played the basso continuo parts and which held its own admirably when pitted against the strong tones of the modern flute and oboe played by his brilliant professional colleagues Brian Stewart and Philip Cull to give a well balanced ensemble in which all the parts were clearly heard - a prime requirement for the great Bach's contrapuntal glories. And glories they indeed proved to be in the hands of this well attuned group, every subtle nuance of phrasing being given its due, and correct baroque ornamentation supplied. Perhaps the tempi were a trifle too steady in some of the faster movements (especially in the first Trio in G major but this was a good fault, in view of some of the breakneck speeds adopted today by thoughtless younger players. In the first Trio - the more familiar one originally for two transverse flutes - the group achieved a really

lively effect greeted by prolonged applause from a delighted audience. But perhaps the finest moment came in the slow movements, indeed reducing this listener to sheer wonderment at such beauty.

The concert began with a rarity - *Piece d'Orgue* and probably dating from Bach's early years in either Arnstadt or Weimar. This was performed by Ian in magisterial style on the fine organ of All Saints, as was Bach's arrangement of his patron Prince Johann Ernst's delightful Violin Concerto written in his teens before his early death at 19.

The glowing quality of Brian's flute came over particularly well in the Solo Flute Sonata in E Flat with obbligato harpsichord - the serene Siciliano especially suiting it, while Philip's both lyrical and brilliant oboe tones were shown off in Albinoni's unusual but extremely effective Oboe Sonata - the *Burlesque* movement's quirky rhythms proving a

particular delight. Ian's well chosen readings, underpinned by a dry wit, provided a welcome frame for the programme and some delicious home made

refreshments provided by the kind ladies of the village made the evening even more enjoyable. All in all a concert to be remembered. Layton Ring



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## FAMILY DISCO IN AID OF LIBERIA

Saturday night, 15th September, at the Social Club, was a rip roaring success for the Family Disco in aid of Mel and Sue's Mission work to Liberia.

People were waiting at the doors for the 6.30 pm start and within half an hour the room was jam-packed. Glen Coxon made the night with his Disco and played some great party games with the children who enjoyed it immensely. Before the end of the night, which over ran by about an hour, lots of parents and even grandparents were up on the floor dancing the night away. Glen certainly knows how to make a party go! The food was Pie and Mushy Peas served by

Mel and Eddie Hughes, and the children received an excellent goody bag served by Sue.

The pies and peas were donated by David South of Tindale & Stanton along with cakes and sausage rolls for the children.

Some people made donations but did not attend the event. They missed a good time, but nevertheless, Mel and Sue are delighted and grateful for their contributions along with those from Tindale and Stanton and the services of Glen Coxon, and of course thanks are given to all those who attended. A total of £434.25 was raised for the cause.



*The Pie men - Mel and Eddie Hughes deserve a pint*



*The Music Man*

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## SURPRISE PARTY



Jackie Gates, who recently retired from the Post Office, (see last issue), is surrounded by friends at a surprise retirement party given by former Post Mistress Pauline Gill and her husband Keith, at the old Post Office premises which have been beautifully renovated.



## MUSIC FOR A SUMMER'S EVENING

A concert by some of Lanchester's foremost young musicians was held in All Saints' RC Church in aid of the Kampala Music School in Uganda. One of the musicians, David Edwards, spent a year at the school in 2005/6 teaching talented poor musicians, aided by sponsorship from All Saints' Parish.

The concert, introduced by Michael Quigley, opened with an aria from Henry Purcell's Dido and Aeneas sung by Sarah Kelly and accompanied by David Edwards on cello and Stuart Murray at the piano. Sarah's pure, clear sound seems to be produced without effort. Three of Marie Harrison's piano pupils performed beautifully before this large audience. Thomas Souter played two short pieces, Bethany James played an Allegretto by Turk and was joined by Marie for the lively 'Irish washer-woman'. Michael Kelly had mastered two difficult pieces, one from the 'computer Zanarkard', the second part of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody.

Stuart and David then played 'La Folia', a series of variations on a folk tune whose faster passages allowed both players to show their

skills, and Sarah sang Ave Maria, which we learned was the setting of a song in Walter Scott's 'Lady of the Lake', a piece eminently suited to Sarah's voice and the venue, and accompanied by Stuart at the organ.

After an interval during which David's parents Kate and Henry kindly provided refreshments, Stuart continued at the organ in duet with David's cello in Mozart's Ave Verum. They then reverted to piano and cello to accompany Sarah's rendering of the recitative aria from Handel's opera Rinaldo. Though this was sung in Italian, an English translation full of anguish and weeping was provided. The sound was fine, anyway.

The prelude from Bach's cello suite in G major, mainly consisting of arpeggiated chords, gave David a chance to show his mastery of the instrument, and finally Stuart changed to violin to join David in Rigaudon, a lively French baroque dance which was beautifully and skilfully rendered.

As a result of donations at the concert and subsequently, about £400 will be sent to the charity.



*David Edwards, Sarah Kelly and Stewart Murray*



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*Marie Harrison's pupils, Thomas Souter, Michael Kelly and Bethany James*

## NEW KITCHEN FOR WILLOW BURN

After months of hard work, Willow Burn Hospice has raised enough funds to refurbish its run-down kitchen and banish ready-made meals from the menu. To mark this achievement, restaurateur and celebrated local chef Terry Laybourne MBE opened the new kitchen this week. Willow Burn Hospice was founded in 1989 and the kitchen facilities had become unworkable as both staff and patient expectations increased. As a result, it was

struggling to provide the high quality nutritious meals for patients, which it saw as a vital part of its work, and had been forced to use bland chill cooked meals.

Terry, owner of the acclaimed Café 21 brand and the region's first Michelin starred chef, said: 'I was honoured to be invited to open the Willow Burn Hospice kitchen as the centre has, and will in years to come, touch the hearts of so many families in need. I am a great advocate of good food and freshly prepared meals so I am

thrilled to see the hospice bid farewell to the sordid ready meal and embrace real food'.

Helen Mills, Chief Executive of Willow Burn Hospice, commented: 'Securing funding for the new kitchen has been a

major triumph for us so we wanted to mark the occasion and Terry agreeing to attend the ceremony was the icing on the cake.

Now we shall be able to offer individually prepared meals to tempt

the appetites of those in our care. We are also planning to emulate Terry's philosophy of locally sourced seasonal produce and use fresh vegetables produced by our gardening group wherever possible'.



*Top chef, Terry Laybourne, Helen Mills, Chief Executive of Willow Burn Hospice and Carol Burdess, Catering Manager from Hartlepool, in conversation over a cup of tea*

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## LANCHESTER METHODIST CHURCH WELCOMES PASTOR FROM CUBA

Subject to obtaining visas, Lanchester Methodist Church is very excited about the impending visit of Pastor Onay Lopez from Cuba.

Our church in Lanchester has agreed to link with Consolacion del Sur Methodist Church in Cuba and through this we have invited Pastor Onay to our church.

Pastor Onay Lopez is 31 years old and arrived in the City of Consolacion del Sur in 2001. He ministers to his fast-growing congregation from his own home as well as house groups around his circuit. Pastor Onay is visiting as a tourist and to meet friends working in the British Methodist

Church. He will arrive in Lanchester on 19th October and stay here until 29th October.

If anyone in the village would like to come to any of the organised events with Pastor Onay, or is bilingual in Spanish/English and would like to help out at events/meals as a translator, could you please contact one of the following:

Reverend Gavin Hume  
01207 520604

Heather Morton  
01207 521053

Eric Skipsey  
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In the meantime pray with us for visas to be agreed, and for the growth of God's churches in Cuba, the UK and the rest of the world!

Heather Morton



*Pastor Onay Lopez*

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## WI NEWS

On 16th August 15 members enjoyed a visit to Beamish Regional Resource Centre which holds collections of regional, national and international importance. The Centre was designed and built with state-of-the-art roller racking system, ensuring collections are accessible and stored in optimum environmentally controlled conditions. As the racks were wound back members chatted and reminisced whilst looking at collections of social, rural and industrial life, and the museum staff were happy to give further information. The Centre is still looking for personal life histories but does not need any more flat irons! The 90 minute visit seemed to be over very

quickly. There was no time to use the computer database as members then continued to Beamish Cottage Gardens which specialises in hardy perennials and grasses. Members strolled around the colourful display areas, the butterfly garden, the wildflower garden and courtyard garden and enjoyed refreshments in the tea room.

At the September meeting members were reminded about the Coffee Morning on Wednesday, 3rd October in aid of the appeal for Grace House Children's Hospice which is planned to be built in Sunderland. At the moment there are around 1,200 families in the North East who have a child that is not expected to live to

adulthood. At present the North East has the lowest number of hospice beds (12) for children in the whole country. Mr David Hughes, author and artist from Houghton-le-Spring, has donated a beautiful print to the raffle; he is also bringing examples of his work to sell in aid of the charity in addition to the usual varied Sales Table. Jean Forster read out an amusing holiday postcard entitled 'No Nursing Home For Me!' which extolled the virtues of permanent cruising in preference to paying for a nursing home! Members and 4 visitors had fun making 2 Christmas cards with the help of Lesley Jerred, and the competition for a 'Favourite Card' was won by Lilian Downs.



*Admiring the flowers at Beamish Cottage Garden*



*WI card making workshop*

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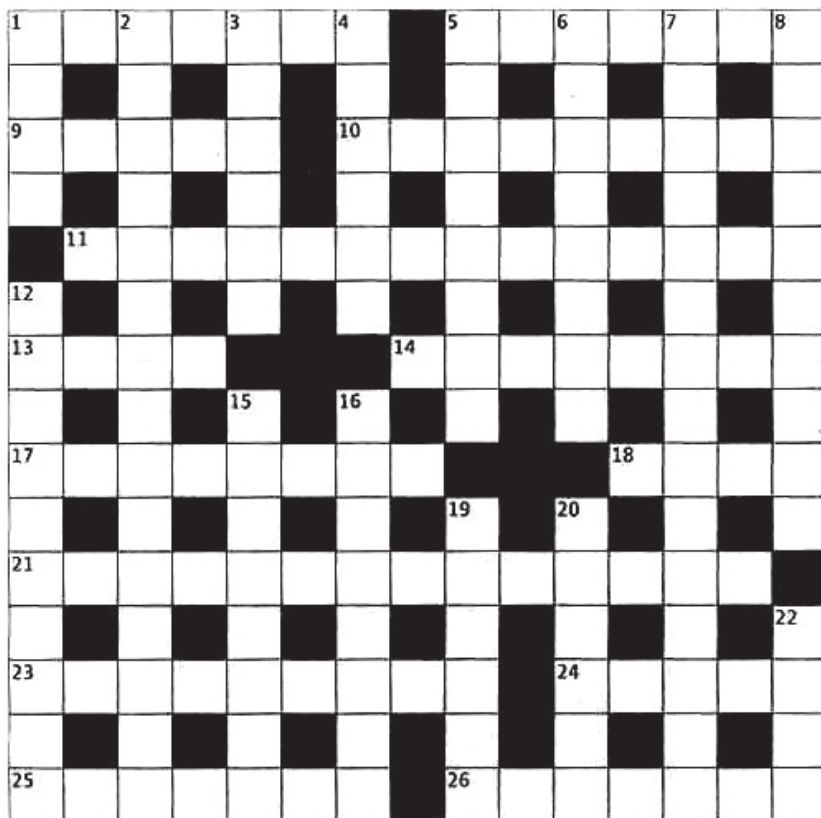
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# CROSSWORD 17



## ACROSS

1. Looking out for number one (7)
5. Could be dripping (4,3)
9. Hand protector (5)
- 10,26. Bear trusts in goat flavouring (9,7)
11. Unconditional forgiveness (8,6)
13. Unwelcome guests in public exhibition (4)
14. Arrest in sieve (8)
17. Destitute (2,6)
18. Lamb carriers (4)
21. Face saving experience? (7,7)
23. Ordeal (9)
24. Stroll (5)
25. Small round vessel (7)
26. See 10

## DOWN

1. Wiseman's herb? (4)
2. John Osborne's first play (4,4,2,5)
3. Coldest part of the fridge (6)
4. I shut a gap (6)
5. Long loaf (8)
6. Move off slowly in Guinea seaways race (4,4)
7. Guilty under Law of Beans (5,10)
8. Rubbish surrounds smashed car in accident (5,5)
12. Uncontrollable fear (5,5)
15. EC radio interference is over the moon (8)
16. Waste away (8)
19. Excellent (6)
20. Horrified (6)
22. Apoidea (4)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your entries to The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0JQ.

## CROSSWORD 16

There were 9 correct entries for last month's competition and the winner in the draw is Helen Hedley of Fenhall Park who will receive the £10 prize.

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 16

### ACROSS

1. practice
5. Custer
9. irritant
10. Adonis
11. nitrogen
12. truism
14. stenciller
18. avaricious
22. Jersey
23. agitator
24. Raglan
25. anaconda
26. mantis
27. feast-day

### DOWN

1. pliant
2. aerate
3. tattoo
4. concentric
6. underpin
7. tangible
8. rosemary
13. insurgence
15. marjoram
16. tarragon
17. literati
19. stocks
20. stoned
21. dreary

## GREAT SUPPORT FOR VILLAGE BUS

The Village Link Bus, which helps elderly residents to stay in their own homes, is going from strength to strength. In the 2 years from February 2005 to February 2007 the number of passengers trebled, showing the popularity of the service and the need for it. The County Council helps by providing management, but cannot find any money to pay for the bus and driver, which costs £1,000 a month. This amount has to be found by the passengers and village residents. Amazingly, thanks to the strong team spirit that has built up, they are succeeding - the village really is pulling together. A voluntary donation of £5 a month is collected from each passenger by Karin Bravington, and Lynn Cassidy organises frequent raffles. Gifts for these have been made by Jed's Hardware, the Gift Shop, Valentino's, Lilydale Pets, the Chemists and Davidsons, and the first prize for the Christmas

raffle will be a meal for two donated by the King's Head. Since the end of March there have been collections in New Image, the Chemists and the Catholic Parish Centre. Pam Bygate passed around a hat during the Little Theatre trip that she organises, the Partnership obtained £2,000 from the Sir James Knott Trust and an anonymous Lanchester donor has given £1,400. That all amounts to over £4,800 in 5 months, which is terrific! There is a little money in reserve, so if we can continue to raise money at this rate then we should be able to keep the bus running. The passengers would like to say a sincere thank you to everyone who has contributed and, they hope, will go on doing so. They are now able to look ahead more cheerfully. Any donation or gift for fund raising will be gratefully accepted. Please contact Karin on 520784 or Fred (the driver) on the bus.

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## NEW BEAVER COLONY



2nd Annfield Plain Scouts have been operating successfully and continuously since 1931. Now 76 years later we find that owing to the recent new and exciting introduction of a new section in the Group we now have vacancies for younger members.

We are starting a new Beaver Colony to cater for the 6 to 8 year old age range. The Cub Scouts cater for children from 8 years old and continue until they reach the age of approximately 10½. The Scout Section then takes over providing continuity and a much more challenging programme until they reach the age of 14 years. Thereafter young people may go on to join the Derwentside

District Explorer Scout Unit or the Young Leaders Section.

All sections take part in a wide variety of activities and outdoor pursuits such as camping, climbing, water activities and hill walking. The aim is to encourage members to be self-sufficient and, as they grow, enable them to take a responsible role in society. This aim is achieved through a progressive and ability balanced badge system, and most importantly having lots of fun along the way.

The days of shorts and wide brimmed hats are long gone and the modern uniform consists of sweatshirts and activity trousers (although the group neckerchief and numerous camping expeditions live on).

We are an active Group that believes in providing a well balanced and exciting programme using our qualified, experienced

and extremely motivated team of leaders.

Meetings are presently on Friday evenings - Beavers from 5.00 to 6.00pm; Cub Scouts from 6.00 till 7.30pm; Scouts from 7.30 till 9.00pm. Weekly subscriptions are still only £2 per week, which is exceptional value in today's environment.

There are limited places available owing to resources and the maximum numbers set for each section so please, if your son is interested, even if he not quite old enough, register him with the group as a matter of urgency so as to avoid disappointment. If you wish to talk or arrange to visit then please contact us and we will be only too happy to answer any questions that you may have.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Bryan Johnson 01207 236425

Group Scout Leader

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT OTTERS

At the September meeting Terry Coult spoke about otters, but with the emphasis on society's attitude to these attractive creatures. Attractive, that is unless you're a trout, roach or smaller fish figuring in the otters' menu.

Evidence from mesolithic times shows that otters were part of the human diet, along with aurochs, bear etc. Under the Act for the Preservation of Grain in 1566 church wardens could pay bounty on vermin, which included foxes, martens, badgers and otters, and in the 18th century an otter's head was worth 8d (3.3p) on the River Browney.

Otter hunting began in the north-east about 1750 and continued until made illegal in 1978. An otter

killed at Sockburn in 1843 was 5 feet 9.5 inches long, and allegedly 331 pounds weight, though they might have missed out the decimal point. This information comes from the informative diaries of Newton Wynne Apperley, secretary to Lord Londonderry, whose duties seem to have mainly been to go hunting.

Later, the effect of lead mining on the Wear and Derwent in the 19th century was to kill off the otters, while there were plenty on the Tees.

Otter-hunting ceased because of the two world wars, but in 1952 good hunting was reported at Darlington, Newcastle, Alnwick and Berwick. However, the use of organochlorine pesticides

in intensive farming reduced the otter population drastically, while escaped mink competed for fish.

Later with reduced pollution, both fish and otters began to return to our rivers, aided by habitat creation, otter underpasses and artificial holts, though road kill, development and recreational use of rivers makes life difficult.



Terry Coult

## WHAT'S ON (continued)

### Lions Bonfire Night

*continued from page 21*

is built to safety standards from pallets. Those who attend are requested not to bring their own fireworks to the site including sparklers. In crowded, dark conditions even these can be a problem for toddlers and small children who could easily walk or run into them. The Lions hope that the whole village will support the event and have an enjoyable, incident-free evening.

### Masquerade Ball

Willow Burn Hospice invites you to our 3rd Charity Ball on 8th November, where we will host a magical evening at Derwent Manor Hotel. Tickets at £45.00 or tables at £450 can be booked. You will receive a delightful 4 course meal, live entertainment and late bar. Overnight stays can also be organised. For more information and bookings contact 01207 523294.

### Coming Shortly

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

Willow Burn Hospice will be holding their annual Christmas Fair on 24th November in the EP School from 10 am to 12 noon.

Lanchester Methodist Church has a Christmas Market from 7th-9th December.

Lanchester Cricket Club presents a Sporting Dinner on December 14th with world boxing champion Ricky Hatton. Celebration of Christmas at the C of E Parish Church on 17th December.

Organisers, please try to avoid listed events dates.

Planning ahead? Let me know when and where. Ring 520559.

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## Partnership Open Day

This annual event will be held in the Community Centre from 10am till noon on Saturday 29th September, and will feature the work of several village groups, including Centurions, the Model Boat Club, the Wildlife Group, Lace Makers, the Pathfinders footpath group, Friends of Longovicium and the Parish Council. The event will be opened by Tony Reather. Refreshments will be available, and entertainment will be provided by the Brass Band and the Tae Kwando team.

There is no charge for entry, and everybody is welcome.

## Goan Evening

Saturday 29th September in All Saints' Catholic Church Parish Centre. Visit Goa in the comfort of the Parish Centre in the company of Father Andrew. Powerpoint presentation, music, question and answer session. Light refreshments. Entrance free. Donations towards Father Andrew's parish in Arambol, Goa. All welcome.

## Jungle Tales

There will be a story time and craft session in Lanchester library on Monday 1st October for pre-school children. This is part of Bookstart Week. It is free, and runs from 2 till 3pm.

## Willow Burn AGM

The AGM for Willow Burn Hospice will take place at the All Saints' Church Parish Centre, Kitswell Road, Lanchester, at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 2nd October, 2007. All are welcome.

## Poetry Reading

Lanchester library hosts local writer, magazine editor and performance poet Steve Urwin next month. The 37 year old poet was born and still lives in Consett. His poems have been published in a variety of magazines and his book 'Hypnomanic' is to be published this autumn. He teaches creative writing for New College, Durham and runs workshops for Waddington Street Writers in Durham. He will be at Lanchester at 12 noon on Thursday 4th October.

## History Group

The meeting on Friday October 5th is the Annual General Meeting, which is also members' evening. Members are asked to come prepared to make a short presentation on a subject close to their hearts.

## Lanchester Social Club

Free entertainment on Saturday nights for members and associates: October 6th Andy Max October 13th Katherine Stone October 20th Karaoke October 27th Heather

## Mothers' Union

The speaker at the meeting on October 10th, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, will be Margaret Walters with an audio/visual presentation entitled "Prepare the Way for the Lord".

## Film Club

The film to be shown was not certain at time of writing, but the club meets on Sunday 28th October at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre. As the film *The History Boys*, which many members favoured, was not available in September, it may well be the October choice.

# WHAT'S ON?

## WI

Lanchester WI will hold its AGM at 7pm on 1st October in the Small Hall of the Community Centre and there will also be a Harvest Stall. The Coffee Morning, 9 am-11.30am, on Wednesday, 3rd October in the Community Centre Lounge is in aid of the children's hospice appeal for Grace House at Sunderland. The 50p tickets may be purchased at the door by members and non-members. The Raffle will include a print of an original painting by David Hughes, artist and author, who will be bringing along some of his work. Donations will be gratefully received for the Raffle and Sales Table. A visit is planned to Satley WI on 8th October to listen to Ian Robinson (Radio Newcastle), the £3 tickets are for members only. Members may also purchase £15 tickets (includes coffee and lunch, materials extra) for a 'Christmas Creations' demonstration and workshop (sweets, beadwork and bread dough flowers) on Saturday, 17th November at DCFWI.

## Cream Tea for Willow Burn

Lanchester Lions Ladies are holding a Strawberry Cream Tea at the Community Centre, on Thursday 11th October, from 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm. Tickets are £1 from any Lions or Ladies member, or you may pay at the door. Please support what will be a very enjoyable afternoon, for a worthwhile cause.

## Wine at 9

Join us for an evening of wine tasting and fundraising for Willow Burn Hospice. Our successful Wine at 9 is back on October 12th at All Saints' Parish Centre at 8pm. With the wonderful support of Lanchester Wine Club we will be offering wine tasting, quiz and raffle. Tickets are only £10 and include all refreshments. Contact 01207 523294 to book.

## Country Market

In October the market, normally held in the Community Centre on the first Saturday, will be on the 13th. The usual panoply of pies, cakes, jams, vegetables, eggs, crafts and other goodies will be available from 10am.

## MP's Surgery

Our Member of Parliament, Hilary Armstrong, will be available to speak to constituents on Saturday 13th October at Citizens' House, Consett starting at 11am.

## Sunday Bridge Returns

Following last winter's successful Bridge afternoons, Brenda and Liz have agreed to organise them again. So if you are a Bridge player and would like to spend a Sunday afternoon in the company of other players at the same time helping to raise money for the Community Centre, please contact Brenda on 01207 520204 or Liz on 01207 521682. The dates are Sunday 14th October, Sunday 11th November and Sunday 9th December all starting at 2.00 pm. Everybody is welcome so give Liz or Brenda a ring; tickets £3.00 each.

## The Library Theatre Touring Company

presents

## *The Wind in the Willows*

by Kenneth Grahame



**Thursday 4th October at 7.00pm**

**in the Community Centre**

**Tickets: Children £2, Adults £3**

**Tickets available from the Community Centre  
and the Village Newsagent**

***A show for all the family***

***Wind in the Willows, the Musical***



## Friends of Longovicium

Following the September get-together to celebrate the publication of the Longovicium booklet and thank those who contributed to it, the next meeting of the Friends will be on Thursday 18th October in the Community Centre, starting at 7 pm. The main business of the evening will be to discuss what projects to tackle in the immediate future. New members welcome.

## Art Exhibition

Lanchester Art Group stages its annual exhibition on the weekend on the 20th and 21st October. It is expected that about 40 members of the group will be exhibiting up to ten paintings, with a total of about 350 in watercolour, oils, acrylic, pastel or a mixture of one or more. An additional challenge has been made to members to produce portraits, which will not be for sale. Doors are open from 10am till 5pm on both days, and refreshments will be available. Most of the works shown are for sale - a chance perhaps to buy an early Christmas present?

## Autumn Fair

Why not visit Lanchester Methodist Church on 20th October for your cup of coffee/tea, buy your cakes, jams, Christmas wrapping paper, and other goodies. You may even wish to stay for lunch. Coffee/teas will be served from 9.30am - 11.30am as every Saturday, lunches will be on sale from 11.45am until 1.30pm. Admittance is a 'smile' (it's free) so come and join us.

## Flower Club

The club's event in October is a Coffee Morning in aid of Willow Burn Hospice, including a raffle and bring and buy sale. It starts in the Community Centre on 24th October at 10 am.

## Remember '67

Lanchester Lions Club are holding a theme night, Remember '67, celebrating 40 years of Lions in the village, with music from the 60's onwards.

Great local band 'The Gents' will be there along with a disco. The supper will be Pies and Peas.

This super night will take place at the Social Club on Saturday 27th October, 2007, priced at £5.00 per head. Tickets are available from any Lions member or Alan Kelly on 521494. Please support this excellent event as the profits will help fund the Lions' Christmas activities.

## Shopping Trip to York

Whether it's picking up those last minute items or doing all of your Christmas shopping in a day we have the trip for you on 3rd November. Leaving Willow Burn Hospice at 8am we will transport you in comfort to York, after hours of shopping we will nip over to the McArthur Glen outlet shopping centre. On the drive back put your feet up and relax that those presents have all been organised. To book a seat on the bus please contact us on 01207 523294 £10 per seat.

## Views of North-West Durham

Artist and photographer Ken Coates will present a slide-show and talk in Lanchester library on Thursday 11th October, starting at 7.30 pm.

## Lions Village Bonfire Night

Lanchester Lions' Bonfire and Firework Display will be held as usual at Kitswell Park on Saturday November 3rd. The fire will be lit at 6.30 pm prompt, followed by a spectacular display of fireworks costing in the region of £2000.

Hot dogs, coffee, crisps and orange juice will be

available from the Lions Ladies at very reasonable prices. Light sticks priced at £1 each will be sold at various points in the village including the entrance to the field. As usual there is no set charge, but Lions would be delighted to receive donations at the gate where members will be

rattling their buckets. With safety a paramount concern it will not be possible to accept household or garden rubbish for the fire which

*continued on page 19*

**MORE  
WHAT'S ON  
PAGE 19**

*The Lanchester Brass Band presents*

# Doing It Yourself!

## October 6th 2007

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10.30-2.30

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# WALK FOR WILLOW BURN

Walkers assembled at the Brown Horse, High Stoop on Bank Holiday Monday, where they were the guests of the licencees before beginning their 6-mile walk to Lanchester at 11 am. Without ceremony the first group streamed along the Tow Law road, turning left past the coke ovens at Inkerman to the 'half-way house' respite at the Black Horse, Cornsay, then down into Lanchester to replenish their forces thanks to mine host at the Black Bull and Crinnions. The annual event is organised by Paul Smith, who has personal reasons to be thankful for our local Hospice, with the support

of his son, also Paul. The walk has won growing support each year and now makes a major contribution to the charity, which we hope to detail in a future edition.

Organiser Paul Smith writes: - Once again on behalf of Willow Burn Hospice I would like to thank everyone who took part in the sponsored walk on Bank Holiday Monday. This is our tenth walk, and we had more walkers than ever, so we are hoping to break last year's record of £4500. Since the walk, a large donation of £500 has been received from Wavin UK.

We would like to thank Eileen, Les and their staff

for the refreshments provided at the Brown Horse, Tow Law and also Gary and Jane at the Black Horse, Cornsay and Paul and his staff at the Black Bull, Lanchester.

Once again we have to thank Paul and Fiona Crinnion for providing the excellent buffet and Mary Hall for her steak pies. We are also grateful to the drivers who transported

the walkers to Tow Law - Steve O'Donnell from Castleside who did two trips and my back-up team from Willow Burn, Angela, Liza and Julia. Thanks again.



*The walkers assemble at the Brown Horse*

## YOUTH CLUB REOPENS

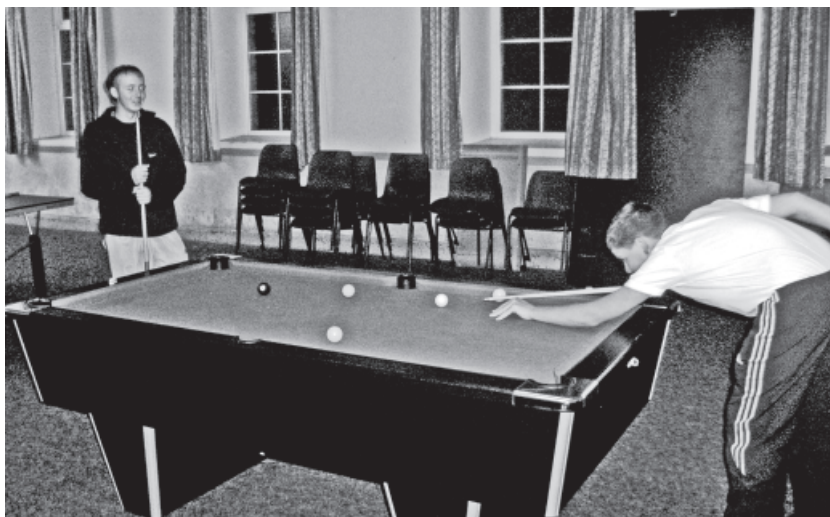
On Monday September 17th Lanchester Youth Club made a new start at Croft View, following a successful meeting of volunteer helpers the previous week. The club will run on Monday nights from 7.30

till 9pm. Though there were only 5 young people there on the first night, it is hoped that membership will build up as the dark nights come in.

The club is under the auspices of Lanchester Partnership, and Jill and

Mick Gladstone were there on the first night, together with Helen McCree and Dominic McGough.

Entry to the club, which offers a range of activities, is only 50p and refreshments are available.



*Members enjoying a game of pool at the Youth Club*

## BOWLS REPORT

As the outdoor bowls season is drawing to a close with some of the best weather of the summer it is sad to see the bowls leagues did not extend into September. However Ken Raper has organised some enjoyable jumbles competitions to keep us amused. In these competitions players are randomly matched together and novice and experienced players alike get a shot at playing "skip". The encouraging thing about the jumbles is that they have been well supported and some of the less experienced players are getting valuable competition experience. The final placings in the veterans league have been posted and the club finished a respectable fourth in the triples league

but not so well in the rinks. The finals of the club competitions are now in progress - results will be announced next month. The AGM is on Thursday 18th October at 7 pm.

### Veterans Triples League Final Positions

1	Sherburn Park	117
2	Leadgate	105
3	Dipton	103
4	Lanchester	81
5	Consett A	79
6	Consett B	66
7	South Moor	62
8	View Lane	56
9	Burnopfield	51

### Veterans Rinks League Final Positions

1	Dipton	100
2	Consett Park	94
3	Leadgate	79
4	Sherburn Park	70
5	Annfield Plain	66
6	South Moor	61
7	Lanchester	49
8	View Lane	41

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## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by 16th October.

The deadline for **adverts** is 14th October.

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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.