

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 8 Volume 10

Lanchester, August 2009

For contact information, see page 2

DISCOVERY ZOO

On August the 11th, Lanchester Village was invaded by some very strange creatures!

An excited group of children enjoyed a presentation given by Discovery Zoo. The event took place in the Lanchester Library and several of the youngsters remembered a previous visit and were looking forward to seeing the 'creepies' again.

Ranger Paul described the voyage of Captain James Cook aboard his ship, the 'Endeavour'. We followed the path of his journey on a globe, learning about the lands discovered and the strange creatures brought back to Britain by Captain Cook and the scientist Joseph Banks.

History, geography and biology combined in the



Paul the Ranger showing a corn snake and letting the children have a touch. All of the creatures that were shown were like those brought back from Australia by Captain Cook

session, with a rat, millipede and a snake among the animals introduced. Favourites were Rosie the tarantula and Sponge Bob the tree frog. The youngsters enjoyed touching and

stroking the creatures, with the braver members of the group allowing them to travel up and down their arms. Everyone agreed it was an exciting morning, and we learned a lot!

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR?

Lanchester has entered the annual County Durham 'Calor Village of the Year' competition.

A small working party of Parish Council and Partnership members put together our application with help from other organisations, and the judges put us on their short-list. They then came on the 6th of August to see the village.

They were taken in Fred Prophet's bus for a quick tour, from the bike track to Park House via the Community Centre, during which our three active churches, Front Street and the village green were highlighted. The judges particularly liked the involvement of young people in the development of the bike track and the contribution being made to the village life by the Community Centre.

On returning to Park House they were given Lanchester gooseberries, strawberries and ice cream, saw a display of the work that the village supports in Liberia and were told about the village bus by one of its regular passengers. They then talked with the working party about what they had seen and asked a lot of searching questions. So what will happen next? By the time you read this article the judges should have announced which village has won. If we win, in addition to feeling proud, we should gain some more tangible benefits (including easier access to funding for further improvements) and we will be invited to compete to become the North of England Village of the Year.

So, keep your fingers crossed!

MID WEEK WALK

The second of hopefully many 'mid week walks' organised by Ian Andrew and Eric Skipsey, of the Methodist Church, took place on Wednesday, the 12th of August, in glorious weather. This venture was taken up by fourteen hardy people who travelled to Salters Gate, from where they walked to Tunstall Reservoir and back, with a coffee break organised by Colin and Jean Burrows, who carried all the rucksacks for the walkers. The circular route was about 5 miles.

Ian Andrew produces a brief history of interesting places on the walks as well as a hand drawn map, whilst Eric sticks to the authentic ordinance survey version to make sure that nobody gets lost, and they take the shortest route. Future walks will generally take place on a Wednesday, fortnightly, with the occasional one on a Thursday.

Villagers are invited to join in and more information may be received by calling Eric Skipsey on 521099.



The mid week walkers ready for the off - to Salters Gate



Dear Village....

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

Dear Village Voice

My father and his siblings, Sadie, Ronald and Stanley Holder, lived at Lee Hill Cottage Homes and Medomsley Edge Cottage Homes from 1939-50 and have mixed memories of life at both homes. Sadly, both Stan and Sadie had/have Alzheimers - Stan has since passed away - but my dad, Ron, and his brother Walter who was sent away as a baby, are very keen to find as many others as possible with memories/photos etc. With the help of a web page (www.mattfisherdesigns.co.uk/cottagehomes), we have recently found around 12/15 others who lived in

the homes in the 30's to 50's and we are planning a get together on 26th September, meeting in Lanchester village for a walk around followed by lunch in the Kings Head and then moving on to Medomsley Edge to walk down memory lane there.

We would welcome anyone with any memories of the homes - those who may have lived there, worked there, or perhaps mixed with the children from the homes at school, to join us.

Or if you have any information/photos of the homes, we would also love to hear from you! It would be a shame if the 'history' of it all dies with those who lived there. My dad, incidentally, has very happy memories of life in Lanchester, which is lovely to know as many people don't have very happy memories of life in 'care' in those days. Further information is available from: Trish Fisher: Phone 01642 492122, or Email: trishfisher@sky.com

Many thanks

Trish Fisher, 16 St Johns Grove, Redcar, TS102DS

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

FRED TO THE RESCUE

Mrs Mann, of Burnhopeside Avenue, contacted the Village Voice to express her thanks to Fred, the driver of the Village Bus, and also to emphasise the great service it is to the people of Lanchester.

Fred is a man who cares for and observes his passengers. It must have seemed unusual for Mrs Mann not to be at the 'stop' when the bus arrived one day recently, so Fred knocked at the door and did not receive a reply. On his next run to the estate he noticed the blinds had not been opened so he knocked again, opened the door and found Mrs Mann very unwell and disorientated. Fred



Fred and the Village Bus

immediately called Karen Bravington, fundraiser for the bus, who lives near by, who contacted Mrs Mann's daughter. She called an ambulance and Mrs Mann was taken to hospital. Happily she has now recovered.

There have been many stories over the years of the kindness, helpfulness and caring concern of

Fred to his passengers, and this is one way of letting him know how valuable the service is and how much he is appreciated by his passengers, who have some good laughs and generally a good social time, while travelling back and forth to the centre of the village from the various outlying estates.

LANCHESTER DRIVER

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All the signs, all the paint, are very clear to see,
I pay my tax and drive my car as I'm sure you will agree,
I should not have to walk, no matter how far it be.
I'll park my car wherever I want no matter how irresponsibly.
'Cause, I live in Lanchester and all those signs mean nothing to me.
Author's name withheld on request*

TO CONTACT THE VILLAGE VOICE

By email:

lanchestervillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk (please include Village Voice in the Subject line).

By post:

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

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COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for July is 90. The draw was made by Mr A Williams of the Gym.

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A TRIBUTE TO MARTIN HINNIGAN

Martin Hinnigan was born on 24th August 1961 in Lanchester, to Joe and Edna Hinnigan. He was their fifth child, closely preceded by his twin sister Mary. His other brothers and sister were Ken, John, David and Ann. Martin lived in Consett with his wife Jakie. He had two children, Leanne and Christopher, and two step children, Kim and Brian. Martin had just been made a Granddad - one of the finest moments

of his life. Paige was born one month before he died. One of Martin's dreams as a boy was to drive articulated trucks. This, sadly, was to mean he paid the ultimate price. While driving near Leeds, Martin was involved in a motorway accident. Martin was pronounced dead at 0224 hours on 2nd July. Martin was a gentle giant with a heart and smile to match and will be missed by all who knew him. It has been very hard for

the family to come to terms with this tragic situation. Shortly after Martin's death, the husband of his sister, Ann, died, closely followed by Susan, the wife of his brother, David - all within a month. Mary would like to thank all clients and friends, especially her staff for all the understanding, support and well wishes for herself and family, which have been shown by so many caring people. Thank you, Mary (New Image)

Martin who died on 2nd July following a motorway accident near Leeds whilst driving an articulated lorry.



POLICE OFFICER GAINS TOP MARKS

Inspector David McKinney has achieved a first class honours degree in leadership, management and organisation after combining the demands of working shifts as a critical incident manager at police headquarters in Ponteland with studying in his own time. Now, following this success at Gateshead College, he's hoping to take the next step on the path to career progression when he embarks on a masters in major and critical incident psychology at Liverpool University - the only course of its type in the UK. This is being sponsored by Northumbria Police. Inspector McKinney, who lives in Lanchester with his wife and four children, has been a police officer for 27 years, originally joining Durham Constabulary before transferring to the Northumbria Force in 1985. He's worked his way up from police constable to inspector and now has a key role as a critical incident manager in the Communications Department. He manages

the initial response to a range of serious incidents, including suspicious deaths, public disorder and high risk missing people. Although enjoying the challenge, he wanted to sharpen his ability to think more strategically to help him improve in the role. Inspector McKinney said: "It's never too late to learn new skills and I wanted to do just that so that I could do my job better and improve as a manager". He said that he is looking forward to starting the

masters degree qualification in incident psychology which, together with the knowledge gained on the degree course, equips me well for the next stage in my career. Mary Lindsay, assistant principal adult and higher education at Gateshead College, offered her congratulations to Inspector McKinney. "He is another terrific example of someone who has returned to education in order to take their career forward in a new direction."



Inspector David McKinney who lives in Lanchester and who has been successful with a first class honours degree as an adult student at Gateshead College

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LANCHESTER EP SCHOOL FAIR

The sun shone brightly for the EP School Fair which drew a very large crowd of supporters.

There were many attractions enjoyed by the children with the Bouncy Castle and Slide featuring among those well used. All the sales stalls, football, mini coconut, and tombolas were busy and the face painters never seemed to have a break. Refreshments inside the

school included coffee, scones etc and a hot dog stall, with a Beefburger BBQ on the field. All had plenty of hungry customers.

A new stall was run by Eco Rangers (children), who gave guided tours around the Nature Trail and Vegetable Garden. Two of the major fun attractions were 'Soak the Teacher' - this year with water guns. Several teachers got a real

soaking. Another new attraction which drew large crowds, watching and participating, was the Water Slide. Enthusiastic, sporting teachers also took part in this and seemed to actually enjoy it! The day ended with a hard fought Dads v Lads football match.

This was a well organised thoroughly enjoyable Summer Fair which raised £1294 for the school fund.



This young lad has style as he shoots towards goal



Children enjoying the big colourful slide



The Bouncy Castle - always a great attraction



Teacher, Mark Stephenson gets a real soaking by water gun from a pupil with a good aim!



Head Teacher, game as ever to take part in the fun, seems to enjoy the Water Slide

FOLLOWING IN FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS



*Helen
proudly
poses for the
photo with
her
certificate*

Helen Quayle has recently been successful in completing her professional examinations and now she has been elected to be a member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Helen, who was formerly a member of Lanchester EP Junior School, went on to successfully complete a BSc at Manchester Metropolitan University and has also completed her further professional RICS studies at the University of Reading. She is following in her father's footsteps at Nicholson and Weston in Lanchester and is responsible for residential sales and lettings as well as other matters.

Her father, David Quayle, has worked at Nicholson and Weston, the Estate Agents and Valuers in Lanchester for over 28 years. It is not an entirely family run affair at Nicholson and Weston's as the firm has also recently recruited a Graduate Surveyor so that they can cope with their ever increasing workload.

Gardening in September

We are now into Autumn but this does not mean that we have to shut our gardens down for winter. This is the time for autumn flowers, swelling fruits, berries to be collected and attractive seed heads to enjoy.

Borders

Chrysanthemums are on sale in September in full flower. Use them to fill gaps in your borders or to replace tired summer bedding. These are perennials so cut them down once they have flowered and they will produce new shoots in the spring to bloom next autumn. Summer bedding plants are great value so continue dead heading petunias, cosmos, pelargoniums, fuchsias and other bedding to encourage flowering until the first frosts. September is the time for planting spring bulbs. Consider planting crocus, fritillarias, muscari and other dwarf bulbs in lawns at this time. Also, September is the time for planting prepared hyacinth for Christmas flowering. I plant mine in their pots and bury them in the garden for lifting and bringing inside in the middle of November.

Fruit and Vegetables

September is the time to pick early apples and pears. Give your strawberry plants a good 'haircut' by trimming the foliage and any unwanted runners. Cut away fruited

canes from raspberries and other cane fruits. I also stake my Brussels Sprouts at this time as they are getting heavy and will break if they blow over. Clear away old crops and put them onto the compost heap (but burn potato stems in case they have been affected by blight).

Lawns

By now most lawns will have a few bare patches and this is the month when you can really give them a worthwhile facelift to make them strong for the spring. First give a scarifying treatment - raking out all the dead grass and other debris. There may well be bare patches which need repairing. Sow seed over them either this month or next or replace by turf. Any thin patches can be helped by forking to lift the grass and sowing new seed over the forked areas. Most important in September is to apply an autumn fertilizer. Remember, caring for lawns in the autumn will pay dividends next year.

General

The composting cycle will be starting in earnest soon so make sure that you have sufficient storage facilities for leaves, stems and the refuse that your garden will be generating. Either buy additional bins or make your own from old wooden pallets.

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Endgame - Sarah, David and Guy - exciting memorable music

A gig was held recently at the Social Club to raise money for refurbishment of the kitchen at the Methodist Church.

The organisers of the evening were Sarah Tyler and David Hay, who along with Guy Millen and Chris Johnson, all of 'Endgame', provided most of the entertainment for the evening. These talented musicians produced an interesting, memorable variation of their own rock, indie, soul, and blues numbers. Sarah sang lead vocals and played guitar, David played lead guitar and

Guy played bass with Chris on drums and vocals. This was lively, varied, pulsating music, which encouraged both adults and children to dance. Sarah and David also play in the 'Worship Band' at church.

The evening began with a young group, 'The Two of Us' with Liam and Robbie on guitars who gave an excellent rendition of some well known numbers.

The evening was well supported, mainly by church members, and the excellent sum of £300 was raised.

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The audience enjoying the music

OLD PICTURES OF LANCHESTER



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ST BEDE'S CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE SUCCESS

Café Scientifique is an organisation run across the country "by the students, for the students" and recently the students of St Bede's have been awarded the title, *Best Café in the North East*. Members of the St Bede's team travelled down to the Royal Institution of Great Britain in London where they met with representatives from Harrogate High School, Stockport Grammar School, Thomas Tallis school and many others from across the country. The aim of the Cafés is to provide pupils with the opportunity to hear from postgraduate students and lecturers from local institutions speak about scientific topics that are either in the media or of a particular interest to them. Recent topics have covered: Global Warming, Monsters of the Deep, and "From Size Zero to Obesity Epidemic: weighty issues in the public eye".

St Bede's are proud to have run this scheme for the past 3 years and the current Café Scientifique Organisers, drawn mainly from the Sixth Form, include: Jonathan Norman, Anna Costello, Hannah Prime, Heather Keanen, Conner Brown and Jessica Petrie. As well as being in charge of obtaining the speakers these students also design advertising materials and promote the Cafés throughout the school community.

Jonathan, Jessica, Heather and Miss Summers, a teacher at St Bede's, represented the school at the national celebration of Cafés Scientifique in London on 9th July where they were awarded the title: *Best in the North East*. On top of this achievement,



Jonathan Norman was also asked to be directly involved in the proceedings and he had the opportunity to Chair the speech by Baroness Sarah Greenfield, Neuroscientist and President of the Royal Institution of Great Britain. Jonathan was a credit to the school and described as a "great advocate for the audience".

In addition, there was a discussion led by Mary Arber, the Project Director of Café Scientifique, on the different ways to host the Cafés, which inspired the students to use different methods within their own school communities. It certainly gave the St Bede's representatives food for thought, neatly coinciding with a provision of chocolate cake.

All in all, the students of St Bede's involved in this project have done outstandingly well and we hope that this success encourages even more students to get involved and discover their passion for science. Claire Hogarth

Heather Keanen, Jonathan Norman and Jessica Petrie as representatives from St Bede's at the Royal Institution of Great Britain

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LANCHESTER EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

The second concert in the Lanchester Early Music Festival "The Cantor at the Coffee-Shop" was dedicated to the works of J S Bach.

An audience of around sixty people attended, some having travelled from as far as Nottingham to hear the performance. The concert saw the welcome return of Michael Smith (ex Organist of All Saints Lanchester). The main part of the concert was given on replica instruments, Michael Smith on a fine single

manual harpsichord and Dr Brunt on a replica of the "Golden Taskin" a Double manual French instrument.

The concert opened with a sympathetic interpretation of the Bach's Chorale prelude "Schmucke dich, O liebe Seele" (BWV 654) with Michael Smith showing the very expressive capabilities of the organ in All Saints.

The first Harpsichord Concerto presented in duet form was the A Major (BWV 1055) which fully came to life as a sunny

work influenced by baroque dance forms.

The slow movement, Largo, stood out, being an Italianate Siciliano in a minor key with the first harpsichord rhapsodizing over the gentle rocking accompaniment.

Next followed the Adagio from the Concerto for Two Harpsichords in C major (BWV 1061), with its characteristic sparse opening counterpoint weaving to and fro, almost suspending time with its delicate passage.

The Concerto in F Minor (BWV 1056) followed but

this time the dance influences had grown darker and the only relief being the famous Largo section being performed with stopped strings before plunging into a hectic Presto finale.

The second half of the concert began with Dr Brunt on the Organ performing the short but intimate Chorale prelude on "Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier" (BWV 731).

Another slow movement, this time from the Concerto for Two Harpsichords in C minor (BWV 1060) characterized by its spacious contrapuntal writing.

The final work was perhaps the highlight and also the most complex, the "Great" Concerto in D Minor (BWV 1052). The work started immediately with angular motifs developing into a series of driving ostinatos expertly played by the duo managing to capture the drama and tension of the music which seemed to want to fall into chaos.

There was little relief in the following Adagio with its relentless bass line full of wide leaps and chromatic turns, Dr Brunt providing the solo soliloquy over the insistent ostinato of the

second harpsichord. The duo managed to expertly convey the tragedy and hopelessness of the movement coming to rest in bare octaves exhausted before the final movement.

The allegro begins at almost break-neck speed and develops the rhythmic motifs that pulses throughout the whole work creating the uneasy momentum of the music, Dr Brunt pausing in the brief Adagio cadenza section with the audience hanging on every note until returning to the Allegro for a short recapitulation and abrupt conclusion.

The quality of the performance throughout the evening was very high and it required a great deal of skill and technique to perform the Harpsichord concertos but also a high degree of sensitivity and musicality to convey the deep emotions present in the works of Bach.

It is a rare privilege to hear Harpsichord duets but even more so when performed to such a high degree of artistic excellence, such as provided by the Lanchester Collegium Musicum.

Neil Benzie



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Dr Brunt and Michael Smith

LANCHESTER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2



David Malkin, Dr Brunt and Glenis Malkin

The third Concert in the Lanchester Early Music (Saturday 15th August) provided the welcome return of Glenis and David Malkin on 'Cellos forming the Hallgate Ensemble with Dr Brunt performing on the Harpsichord and Organ. The Concert began with an excerpt from Handel's Organ Concerto in B flat Op7 No 6, Dr Brunt again using Handel's Organ Concertos to frame the opening of each half of the concert.

The first work of the evening for 'Cello was the Sonata in G minor by Handel. The two 'Cellists, almost acting as soloists in a Concerto against the insistent chiming of the Harpsichord.

Next followed a Telemann Sonata in D Major, this time featuring Glenis as the solo 'Cellist and David and Dr Brunt functioning as the accompaniment.

Dr Brunt performed the short Sonata in D major for Harpsichord by Domenico Scarlatti before playing three Sonatas in D minor, C minor and C major respectively by Alessandro Scarlatti with Glenis Malkin as 'Cello soloist.

The first half of the concert concluded with David Malkin performing the Sonata in D major by Stephen Paxton. The music, although written for Georgian drawing rooms alluded to Scottish folk music with its setting of the air "The Bush aboon Traquair" and the final Allegro being very similar in style and figuration to a Scots Reel tune.

The second half opened with Handel's Voluntary VI in C with Dr Brunt at the organ. One of the readings after this opening piece concentrated on the story of the nightingale and the 'Cellist Beatrice Harrison who recorded her 'Cello in her garden with the accompaniment of a Nightingale.

Two Sonatas by Willem de Fesch followed; Sonata in C major, Op 8 No 4 and D minor, Op 8 No 3. Both Sonatas showed the influence of older baroque dance music and harked back to the style of suites but both were melodic and fresh. Of particular interest was the Minuet in the C major and the Siciliano from the D minor with its gently rocking basso continuo and flowing melody on the 'Cello soloist.

The concert ended with the famous Concerto in G minor for two 'Cellos by Vivaldi. The first movement opened dramatically with rapid figurations on each 'Cello eventually settling on a pulsing rhythm echoed by the Harpsichord until returning to the dramatic opening motifs. The Adagio allowed the two 'Cellos to show a more lyrical side with more melodic development and the themes shared between the 'Cellos. The final Allegro again showed drama with its hectic flurry of semiquaver passages for both 'Cellos bringing the concert to an exciting and electric finish.

Throughout the concert Glenis and David gave a highly polished performance. It was clear who was playing at any one time as, despite being Mother and Son, they have a different style of playing and complement each other.

It was a pleasure to hear them performing together with Dr Brunt at the festival and hopefully they will appear as this ensemble again in future concerts.

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ST BEDE'S STUDENTS CELEBRATE



*Students from St Bede Sixth Form College celebrate their A/S level Results:
Left to right: Matthew Clarke; Dyllan Pickervance-Clarke; Emily Oram;
Adam Wilkinson; Sean Lydon*

WHAT A KISS!

Martin Lacey, a friend of renowned local photographer, Eric Burns, has sent Eric his new hard back book called 'My Life with the Lions'. In it is a full page picture taken by Eric in 1978 of Martin

kissing the lion at Lanchester Lions Carnival. In those days the event was held next to the Witbank Garage on the bypass. Martin, who was Curator of Stanley Zoo at the time, kindly came

along free of charge to the Carnival with his big cats. He is now part owner and Ringmaster of 'The Great British Circus' and still trains big cats at his home near Lincoln. Courtesy Eric Burns



Martin Lacey giving one of the Lions a kiss at the Lanchester Lions Carnival in 1978. Photo: Eric Burns

LIONS' BUS TRIPS



Senior Citizens wait at Burnhope in winter conditions for their trip to Whitby, courtesy of Lanchester Lions Club



Senior citizens from Langley Park boarding the bus for Whitby courtesy of Lanchester Lions Club

LADIES WHO LUNCH

Six at the Baltic, a restaurant stating itself to be 'passionate about food', was the destination for our latest gastronomic experience and it didn't disappoint. But first, the iconic building itself, with its top storey floor to ceiling glass walled restaurant making you feel part of the vibrant, pulsing heart of Newcastle and the Quayside. A veritable feast for the eyes from the coffee area with its views over the Sage and Tyne bridges through the restaurant itself and down to the Ladies (not always worth a mention - but these definitely were) you feel yourself to be stepping right outside the building only to find that its another fantastic view down river over the Tyne. Alongside the à la carte they have a set menu with starters and puds priced at £4, main course at £10 and for the most part we ate off the set menu. We sampled for starters duck spring rolls with plum sauce and best Shetland

mussels with cider, spring onions and cream. Main course was pan fried sea bass, niçoise salad and baby herbs, free range chicken supreme with fondant potato, wild mushroom and madeira jus, courgette and fennel blinis with a 3 tomato fondue and roast parsnip and almond strudel with butternut squash. Puds were honey pannacotta with roast cinnamon plums, classic crème brûlée with hazelnut shortbread, gooseberry crumble with crème anglais and strawberry and white chocolate cheesecake. The food was different and outstanding - we really enjoyed the meal.

There was no need for the usual piped music; the general noise gave a real buzz to the place, a super ambience, add on the very attentive staff and you get an altogether delightful dining experience with a difference.

What a treat.

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BUNGEE JUMPING AT THE KINGS



Staff member, Superwoman Angie Dodds, appearing calm before the jump



Adam takes to the air

It was a big day for the Kings Head. For weeks customers and staff had been looking forward to the great day. It was a struggle to get the crane into the car park but this was eventually achieved just as there was a shower and a few

gusts of wind, which must have been a bit disconcerting for the participants.

Then the sun came out, the atmosphere was lively with loud music playing, many enjoying a busy BBQ, small children on a bouncy castle as the would be jumpers quickly lined up to pay their dues and register.

Angie Dodds, one of five staff from the Kings who were taking part was first to get ready, not without some trepidation. Each person was weighed and strapped up before deciding which of the jumps to do, ie body, legs,

or in tandem. Cage rides were available for children and at least two were brave enough to take the ride to an enormous height.

Angie Dodds dressed as Superwoman went first. As she was helped to the ground she looked shocked and cuddled her little girl who was crying. She said, 'That was scary - never again'. Yet within the hour she was brave enough to do a second jump with her little girl now also very brave, in the cage beside her. Adam Farquhar, Assistant Manager of the Kings, also completed two jumps.

In all, twenty courageous people took the plunge, literally.

The beneficiaries were those charities who will receive the sponsorship money from the twenty daredevils who took part. They each chose their own favourite charities and several thousands of pounds must have been raised. Amongst them, were: Alzheimer's Society, The Stroke Association, Cancer Research, Diabetes UK and Willow Burn Hospice. It was a well supported super afternoon which brought something different to the village.

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Brave participants line up quickly to pay and register

BURNHOPE VINTAGE VEHICLE RALLY

For anyone remotely interested in cars this is a must see event! This year, the 24th occasion of the rally there were 94 entrants with only two or three vehicles alike, and some of them are extremely rare, but in excellent condition. In the first rally all those years ago there were only 12 vehicles and in fact it was a 'side show' as part of the Burnhope Jubilee Miners Gala. Reasonable weather greeted the drivers as

they set off from Burnhope, down to Lanchester and on to Cornsay Colliery. From there they went to Weardale passing through many towns and villages until their lunchtime stop at Killhope Lead Mining Centre, a distance of 48 miles. The afternoon saw them heading for Brampton, Allendale, Edmundbyers, Shotley Bridge and back to Burnhope via Leadgate, a run of 57 miles.

Enthusiasts came from all over the North of England, but the furthest participant drove all the way from Buckinghamshire in an Austin DL Saloon 1932 for the pleasure of taking part in what is now a very established event in the vintage motoring calendar. At the end of the day results and presentations of trophies were awarded for the various categories of vehicles.



A rare 1933 Lanchester Coupe owned and driven by Danny Steanson, Gateshead



A 1932 Alvis TL 12/60 Tourer, owned and driven by Terry Poppelwell, Whitley Bay

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LANCHESTER EP SPORTS DAY

Heavy clouds threatened all afternoon but the sun kept shining, on what was a wonderful Sports Day. It was obvious that all the children enjoyed themselves to the full. The first half of the afternoon was devoted to non competitive events.

Children divided into house groups and moved from station to station on completion of each event. There were 12 stations of different sports/games, and on completion of each one the 'runner' took the score to base. The games varied so much,

from throwing skills, a type of croquet, obstacle races, skipping races, sack races, and so on. There was something for everyone to enjoy.

This was followed by competitive races, both straight running, and with skipping ropes, 60 or 100 metres depending on age. This was really exciting and pleased those children with a competitive edge. The 'Mum's race' did not happen - they were a bit shy! The men on the other

hand were eager to run, very competitive, and turned out in large numbers. There was some pushing between 2nd and 3rd and Mr Bedingfield nipped in to win by a whisker. The 'Tug of War' was overwhelmingly won by a large number of female staff against 3 male staff, much to the delight of the children and other spectators who cheered loudly.

Finally it was time for presentations. Romans House just managed to

pip the Normans to carry off the cup and each child who won a race received a lovely trophy. In her closing speech Mrs Davis announced that £1500 had been raised in May in memory of the late Mr Paul Smith, father of Liam. She also thanked teacher, Mark Stephenson, for all the work he had put into organising the day. By this time all the children were tired and thirsty and received a welcome lollipop before going home.

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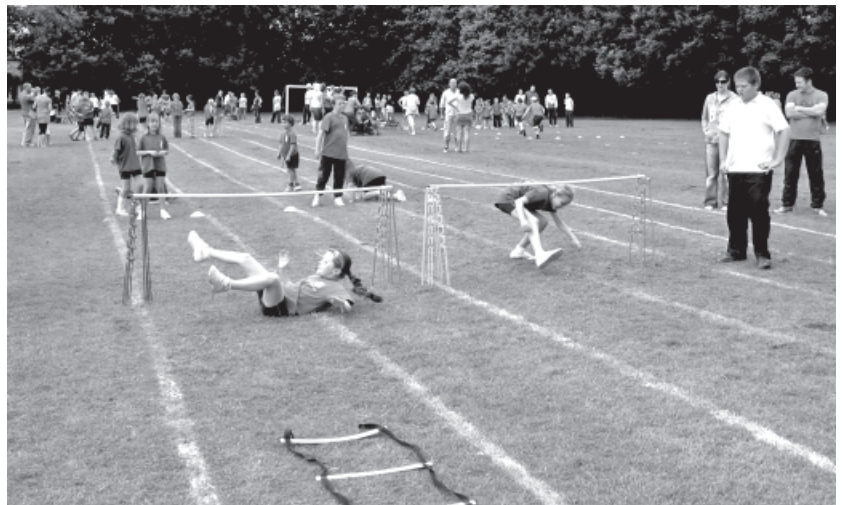
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The Obstacle race caused some tumbles



A highly competitive skipping race



Women's 'Tug o' War' team win handsomely

NURSERY SPORTS DAY AT THE EP SCHOOL

Tuesday, July 14th was Sports Day at the EP School for the nursery children and reception classes. As always at this school, everything was highly organised and it was a lovely occasion. There was a good number of parents present to support the children and encourage them to 'Win the race' although everyone was a winner and at the end of the games all the children were presented with a certificate of achievement and a very welcome ice-lolly. The sun shone all the time but drinks of water were available if the children got too hot. There were five game activities which were operated in a rotation system and Mrs Davis, in her best 'Tannoy' voice, drew parents' attention to the look of concentration and earnestness on the faces of the children. There was an egg and spoon race, a running relay, a dressing up relay, a fill the bucket with water race and a rope, hoop and beanbag race. All the pupils were very proud of their efforts and a very amiable atmosphere pervaded the whole event. Brenda Craddock



Egg and Spoon relay race



Fill the bucket with water relay race

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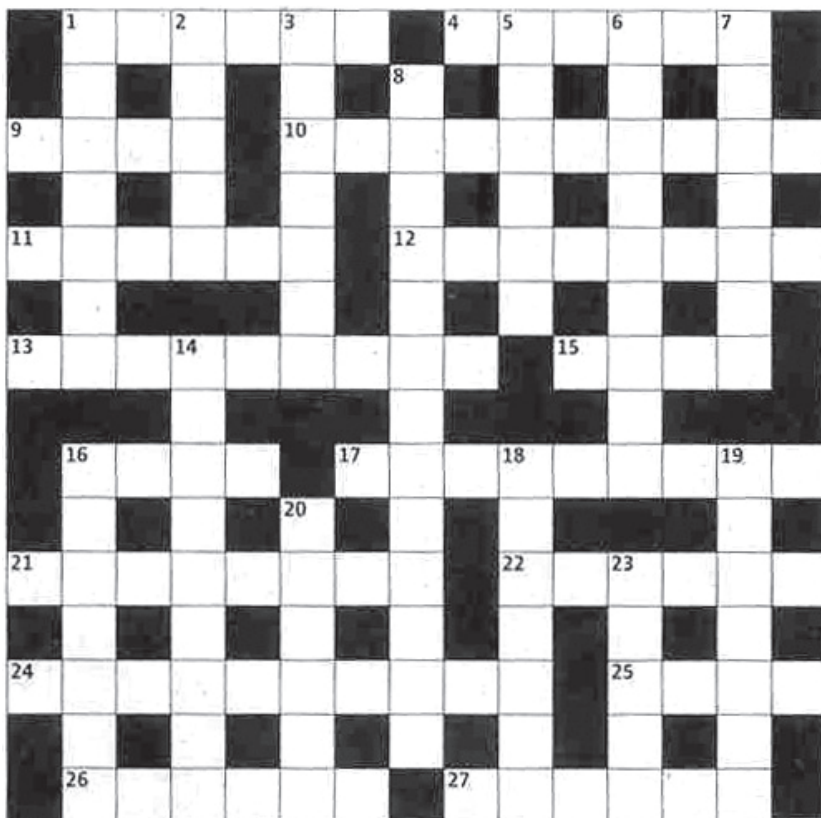
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CROSSWORD 40



ACROSS

1. Rainy day resolution? (2,4)
4. Vegetable (6)
9. Vegetable (4)
10. Vegetable (6,4)
11. Vegetable (6)
12. Admires (8)
13. Settle day change and postpone examination (5,4)
15. Movie (4)
16. Compassion (4)
17. Vegetable (9)
21. Vegetable (8)
22. Vegetable (6)
24. A rodent flu produces dread (6,4)
25. Vegetable (4)
26. Choose from top references (6)
27. Vegetable (6)

DOWN

1. Refreshment sounds like it is something to drink and eat in one (7)
2. Trees are guide (5)
3. Soaking (4,3)
5. Nervous (6)
6. NE bog link to worthy ruler (5,4)
7. Spectre (7)
8. Untried stunt I reform for those combined by duty (2,5,6)
14. Vegetable (9)
16. Vegetable (7)
18. Shops (7)
19. NT stone kept back (3,4)
20. Pasta usually found in soup (6)
23. Tradesman covered in lentil eruption (5)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 39

ACROSS

9. gladiator
10. u-turn
11. cut dead
12. swollen
13. noisy
14. avalanche
16. ethnic cleansing
19. narration
21. gulag
22. confuse
23. synonym
24. solar
25. Edwardian

DOWN

1. Age Concern
2. last sigh
3. misery
4. stud
5. crustacean
6. autobahn
7. public
8. in on
14. Archimedes
15. engagement
17. in a hurry
18. Illinois
20. rankle
21. gentry
22. cask
23. sawn

Name _____

Address _____

Please send your entries (by deadline date on back page) to The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0JQ.

CROSSWORD 39

There were just 13 entries in last month's crossword competition. The first all-correct entry in the draw was Helen Taylorson of Broadoak Drive who will receive the £10 prize. Maybe you could be a winner in John Wilson's latest challenge.

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SUDOKU

There is just one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. See next month for answers.

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

CRICKET PROMOTIONS IN SIGHT

The first and seconds continue to lead the way in their divisions with only four games remaining at the time of writing this. The firsts won three league games but then lost to challengers Chopwell who had slipped to a recent defeat. Unfortunately the weather did the team no favours and after a break, they were left with little time to make a reasonable score and Chopwell easily overcame it to return to top spot. Lanchester sit second just five points behind.

Paul Underwood continues to lead the way with an average over 100, whilst professional Andy De Boorder is our leading wicket taker including the

match v Seaton Burn where he took seven wickets and had over 60 not out to secure victory.

The seconds are well on course to secure the league title having won their four games, whilst again, nearest rivals Morpeth slipped up at Whickham leaving Lanchester clear at the top. The two sides meet on 29th August and Lanchester will be hoping they can survive several absences due to holidays. Captain Steve Murray has a good squad to choose from and he has had to rotate the side all season to keep all the players happy. 'No matter who I have brought in, the players have put in 100% which has seen us maintain our unbeaten

league record so far. However we've won nothing yet.'

Both teams are in several cup competitions and are hopeful of at least reaching a final each.

The thirds have suffered a couple of losses in recent weeks but do have a cup semi final to Felling to look forward to. The team sits in a promotion position at present with three games to go.

Interest has been so keen that the club has been able to field a fourth team on a couple of occasions to meet demands for friendlies.

The club itself is available for functions at a very reasonable rate and supply food and entertainment if requested.

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RE-VAMP FOR RED CROSS SHOP



Some of the friendly, happy staff who work at the Red Cross Shop, Susan Snowdon, Diana Snowdon and Pat Campbell at the counter attending a customer with another in the background.

There has been a complete re-vamp of the local Red Cross Shop recently which makes it an attractive shop to complete those bargain purchases and give to a worthwhile charity at the same time.

The books have been moved to a better location and placed in alphabetical order for easier selection.

Curtains and bedding are now at a better height and most of the garments are now colour coded which makes easy access to matching clothes of your choice. There is now more space for bric a brac in a spacious glass cabinet, for displaying good quality items. The makeover has given the shop a much

more open feeling and the frequently changing, themed window displays, are particularly eye catching.

Do come and pay us a visit to see the changeover and find some good quality items at great prices.

Brenda Gibson - Voluntary Shop Manager

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

Lanchester History Society

Metallurgy - The science of extraction, working, and properties of metals and alloys, and how this science fits into the study of archaeology, is to be the subject of the next talk following the summer break.

The talk will be given by Mr Eddie Birch, a retired metallurgist from Sheffield, and a long time friend of John Thompson. Mr Birch is a member of the Metallurgy Society of Great Britain, whose members have designed and published a national reference manual on metallurgy.

Mr Birch will be speaking at the Community Centre on Friday, 4th September at the usual time of 7.30 pm. Sounds like an interesting evening!

Table Top Sale

The Community Centre is holding its next Table Top Sale on Saturday 5th September from 10 am until 12 noon.

Lanchester Social Club Entertainment

Saturday, 5th September, JOHN SANDERSON, Fabulous Vocalist
Saturday, 12th September, DIXON J SCOTT, Superb Vocalist
Saturday, 19th September, KARAOKE
Saturday, 26th September, JON ROWE, The Entertainer

WI

Our next meeting will be held in the small hall of the Community Centre on 7th September at 7 pm where the speaker will be Mrs Brenda Beveridge on her holiday in Vietnam and Cambodia and the competition a holiday picture.

Visitors are always very welcome, admission £1.

Lanchester Film Programme

'Slumdog Millionaire', to be screened on 6th September, 7.30pm, main hall, Community Centre. This story of a young man from the slums of Mumbai who appears on the Indian version of 'Who wants to be a Millionaire' becomes a gripping drama, in exceeding expectations he invites the suspicions of the game show host and law enforcement officers. An entertaining, powerful film, bursting with colourful energy, superb cinematography, gritty realism and a strong narrative. It packs a big emotional punch.

FULL PROGRAMME 2009 - 2010

September 6th Slumdog Millionaire
October 4th The Duchess
November 1st The Pope's Toilet
December 6th I've Loved You So Long
January 10th The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas
February 7th Welcome To The Sticks
March 7th Revolutionary Road
April 11th Looking For Eric
May 9th Transsiberian
Films are shown at 7.30 pm in the main hall of the Community Centre. This is your local cinema, open to all.
Membership £10 per annum and £2 entry per film. Non-members welcome any time, entry £3.50.

Mothers' Union

The September meeting is on the 9th, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, when Biddy Heywood will speak about Mothers' Union work in Burma.

MP Surgery

MP Hilary Armstrong will hold her next advice surgery on Saturday 12th September at 11 am in St Patrick's, Consett.

AutumnAction! Conservation

Come and help maintain Lanchester's much prized Valley Walk!

Volunteers are invited to join the Durham Countryside Ranger on Sunday, September 6th, 10 am - 2.30pm.

Meet at the railway bridge on the way to Hurbuck 9.45 am. The project planned is grassland management for the orchids and involves mowing and raking off. All equipment is provided, no prior experience is necessary. Strong gloves and shoes recommended. Even an hour of your time could make a difference. If you plan to come for the whole time, bring a packed lunch.

Further info from:
Deborah.ferguson@durham.gov.uk
Michael@horsley.me.uk
carolynwardle@yahoo.co.uk
and tel. 521 622.

Lanchester Wildlife Group

On Tuesday 8th September at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre, there will be a talk on The Burnhill Nature Site Saltergate by Russell Bell, the Project Co-ordinator and also land owner.

Junior Wildlife

Once Noel and Elaine have sorted their diaries, Noel will contact those on his list with the next meetings.

Flower Club

On Wednesday 23rd September at 2 pm in the Community Centre, the Flower Club will welcome Wendy Smith of Durham who will give a demonstration entitled "Faraway Places". Everyone is welcome.

Short Circuits walks

5th September - East Rainton, 5 miles easy. Meet St. Cuthbert's Church East Rainton, NZ335477 10.30am.
19th September - Rothbury Terraces 5 miles. Meet Rothbury main car park NU057015. Coin meters in operation. 10.30am

WHAT'S ON?

Brass Band Open Day

The Lanchester Brass Band is holding an open day to attract new players on Saturday 12th September from 11 am until 3 pm, place to be announced at www.lanchesterbrassband.org.uk and on posters to be published nearer to the time.

We are keen to hear from novice and experienced players and can provide tuition through our training band. Subscription to the band is £2 per calendar month and includes instrument and uniform loan.

Bobbins Lace Making

Upstairs in Lanchester Community Centre (stair lift available).

Monday and Friday evenings 7 pm - 9 pm.

A self-help group with guidance if needed. Starting Monday 7th September and Friday 11th September.

Cost to be confirmed at first meeting.

Needlecraft

Upstairs in Lanchester Community Centre (stair lift available).

Wednesday afternoons 1 pm - 3pm.

A self-help group with help and guidance if needed.

Starting Wednesday 9th September.

Cost £1.50 per afternoon, which includes tea/coffee and lots of chat.

The above 2 groups are organised by Elaine. Messages can be left at the Community Centre on 01207 521275 if you need more information.

Lanchester Male Voice Choir

The choir resumes rehearsals after the summer break on 7th September.

New members are always welcome at 7.30 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre.

For information please contact John Wills on 520249 or Harry Carr on 520676.

The next concert is for the NSPCC and will be on 14th November in the Methodist Church.

Bridge lessons

One hour sessions are starting in the Community Centre in September on Thursdays 6.30 - 7.30 pm.

Some of the people already showing an interest are beginners, some just need some polishing up and some need a few reminders of how to make the most of the cards dealt.

We aim to help the current bridge club, held on Tuesday evenings 6.45 - 9.30pm, to have a few more members and to keep the momentum going, and most importantly, to have fun playing cards.

If you would like more information ring Jan Vasey on 01207 521948.

Computers for All

Do you need help using your computer programs? Would you like to use a computer, get on the Internet, send emails, edit digital photographs?

We are open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30 - 11.30 am and Tuesdays from 3.30 - 4.30 pm in Lanchester Community Centre. If you have a laptop, bring it along and we will help you make the most of it.

No need to book; just call in. Our service is free and help is always available.

Must-See Free Film

The Age of Stupid is coming to Lanchester, the environmental film of the year, showing in your own community centre on Sunday 11th October 3.00 pm and 7.30 pm.

This drama-documentary stars a man, played by Oscar-nominated actor Pete Postlethwaite, living alone in the future world of 2055 looking at old footage from 2008 wistfully and with nostalgia. The film is set in the future but features true stories of several people's lives in the present. The film has received rave reviews internationally and is currently rated amongst the top 3 films in America.

Lanchester Partnership is proud to arrange the showing of this film in our village as the message it carries is so vital to our future

wellbeing as individuals, a community and of course globally. Put the date in your diary and invite friends, neighbours and relatives along.

Climate change issues and its potential effects are now constantly in the news. Where do you stand? What do you think we should be doing? Come along and be informed. Join the discussion and be part of the solution.

The film lasts 90mins and is rated as a 12A. We hope to run a short discussion immediately after the film but if you can't stay a further meeting will be held on Monday 12th October 7.30 pm Lanchester Community Centre for anyone interested in taking more action. For more information contact Paul and Sonny Shepherd Tel:01207520759.

Early Music Festival

The final concert in the series will be on Saturday 12th September at 7.30pm in Lanchester Parish Church. Greg Pullen (violin cello) and Dr Ian Brunt (harpsichord and organ) will present 'At the Still Centre of the Turning World', the unaccompanied suites for violin cello by Johann Sebastian Bach with the sonata for viola da gamba and music for organ.

Tickets (including refreshments) £8 with concessions £5 and those unwaged, under 18 years or full-time students free.

Coming Shortly

North Country Theatre's 'Home on the Range', written and directed by Nobby Dimon, will be at the Community Centre on 31st October. From Wensleydale to the Wild West, an epic tale of struggle, endurance and buffalo droppings!

WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed members and visitors to the August meeting. Ann Carr gave the reading which was a letter from a 98 year old lady to her bank Manager which he sent to the Times. The record of the last meeting was read by June Wallis before Jennifer read out a invitation by Satley WI inviting members to their birthday night on Monday 12th October. There was also a request from Barclays Bank asking for support for a duck race at Alnwick Gardens on Sunday 23rd August, ducks are £2 each and can be bought at Barclays Bank by anyone. Proceeds will go to the Grace House Children's Hospice.

Jennifer asked members if they would like to go to Northallerton for the birthday meal in November, this was agreed and there is a list for members and a menu from the restaurant "The Café" from which members can choose their meal. The full cost of £19 or £5 deposit can be paid at the September meeting. Last orders for calendars will be taken at the September meeting and members were asked for colourful items for the DCFWI Fair on the 17th October where our stall is a Rainbow Stall; contributions can be brought to the next two meetings.

Ann Carr won the raffle and Pat Cotrell was first in the competition for a Derwentside View with Maureen Barker second. The speaker was Mrs Dorothy Varty who is a volunteer at Gibside and secretary of the Friends of Gibside. Mrs Varty gave a very interesting and informative talk on the development of Gibside from when it was built in the 12th century



Mrs Dorothy Varty judging the competition

right through to how it went into decline after the 2nd World War when all the treasures and anything of worth were moved to Scotland. Even the roof was taken off so rates did not have to be paid, only the 1760 Chapel was in good repair and is now very popular for weddings. The family handed what was left of the estate to the National Trust in 1995 who have spent all the time since then buying back the land that was sold off and restoring what they can of the buildings and gardens. The walled garden is being restored to a 1850 garden and there is a tea room and shop as well as wonderful walks. We also had slides which showed the state of the buildings before restoration was started.

On 13th July 12 members used their bus passes to visit Crook Hall Gardens in Durham. Not only did they enjoy the gardens but they also had a delicious home made cream tea.

Wednesday 22nd July saw three members making their way to Ushaw College for a dinner hosted by the DCFWI. After a delicious meal they were entertained by Stephen Lee Garden who was the winner of "New Faces" in 1988.

Wednesday 29th July saw 5 members trying something completely different (with no eating involved). They did Kurling at Shadforth with 15 other ladies from other WIs; it was a fun afternoon with new skills learnt and new friends made.

HAVE YOUR SAY

County Durham Local Involvement Network (LiNK) is looking for new and existing members to become involved in the work it is carrying out. Some of the issues considered to date are:

- Dementia/Alzheimer Services
- Talking Therapies
- Alcohol
- Domiciliary Care
- County Durham Carers Strategy
- Older Peoples Mental Health Strategy

The LiNK brings together local people, groups and organisations and obtains their views on services, which it feeds back to those responsible for developing, commissioning and delivering them. It has the power to directly influence local health and social care services and relies on the input of its network members.



The LiNK will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday 22nd October at Consett Civic Centre. If you are interested in attending or

would like further information, please contact the LiNK team on 01325 327 431 or go to www.linkcountydurham.co.uk



A LiNK group working together

MARIE CURIE CRICKET

Lanchester Cricket Club held their annual cricket festival in aid of Marie Curie on 16th August. Six teams were divided into two groups and played each other at cricket to novice rules (some participants had never played cricket before).

The cricket club fielded a female and male novices team, with a side from Police HQ, Durham Fire Station, Ryton Juniors and Lanchester Dairies. The day started in magnificent fashion when a mum on the ladies team bowled her son on

the men's team with the very first ball of the game. The ladies lost both games but provided great entertainment with their sterling efforts. The Fire team were very strong and beat both the women's and men's club sides comfortably to

progress to the final. In the other group Ryton beat the Dairies whilst the Police beat Ryton and the Dairies to reach the final. The Fire Team batted first and set a tough target of 96. The Police team did well but fell short of the required

total, leaving the firemen to lift the trophy. By the end of play thanks to the efforts of Robbie Selby on the Barbie and the sale of raffle tickets and teas, the club had raised over £700, with the night's entertainment just beginning.



Robbie Selby running the all day BBQ with Ed and Ray Partridge eagerly awaiting their beefburgers



Some of the younger Lanchester players with a Ryton lad
More cricket news, page 17

SCHOOLS OUT FOR TENNIS!



Members of staff from St Bede's School ready to play their annual tennis tournament

On Thursday 25th June, pupils at St Bede's School in Lanchester were wondering why a number of their teachers were nervous and itching to end the day's lessons.

The answer, of course, was the annual Teachers' Tennis Tournament held at Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club.

Organised by Tony McNamee, twelve of the school's finest gathered at the club to contest three tournaments - Ladies' doubles, Men's doubles and Mixed doubles. The weather was fine and sunny and the courts were ready for action as the

teachers changed their school "uniform" for tennis whites.

After some fierce but friendly competition, the winners were as follows: Ladies' doubles - Marie Claire Collins and Jennifer Brindley

Men's doubles - Paul Diston and Tony McNamee (cries of "fix" were heard in the clubhouse!)

Mixed doubles - Marie Claire Collins (again) and David Henderson

The prizes and post-match refreshments were kindly provided by the school, who would like to thank the club for hosting the event.

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NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by 15th September.

The deadline for **adverts** is 13th September.

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