

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 6 Volume 10

Lanchester, June 2009

For contact information, see page 2

## CARNIVAL SHINES THROUGH CLOUDS



*Lion President, Ian Murray and wife Heather, dress for the occasion*

There was a gloomy start to the day and the setting up must have led to some misgivings about this year's Lions Village Carnival. Not as many as usual lined Front Street to watch the procession and very little money was collected, but by the time the parade reached the Green, the numbers had swelled considerably. Throughout the afternoon there were intermittent showers between the

sunshine but most of the people seemed to stay. The USA theme was obvious everywhere as stall holders, the staff of Peters and Willowburn, dressed for the occasion. Glenn Coxon on stage continually played Country & Western and the Brass Band also played appropriate numbers as did the Lanchester Choral & Operatic. The Line Dancers, too, accentuated this USA themed Carnival.

There were lots of opportunities to spend money on the many stalls run by Lions and Charities. Towards the end a huge cake decorated with the American flag was auctioned by staff from Willowburn. The cake had been made by Sainsbury's for the hospice which they have adopted as their charity of the year. Ailsa Johnson of Kitswell Road won a competitive auction with a bid of £20. Despite



*Minnie Mouse and the Statue of Liberty, Lynne Thompson and Margaret Tobarty of Willow Burn*

the unsettled weather with a few brollies in view, the Carnival of 2009 was hugely successful, with a lovely village atmosphere. A profit of just over £2000 was made.



*Young Ben Walsh joins the Fire Brigade*



*Playgroup on parade*



*VIP's from Peters in full traditional attire*

**More pictures next month**



## THE VILLAGE VOICE

*IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE*

### LANCHESTER POLICE OFFICE

Please note this new information from PCSO Vanessa Gray. The office in Lanchester at Park House is a satellite office and officers normally work from Consett Police Station. The office is only manned part time and all calls to report incidents, etc should be done via 999 if it's an emergency or via 0345 60 60 365 if it's not an emergency. If the section office is closed, appointments can be made by telephoning 0345 60 60 365 and leaving a message for the beat team covering Lanchester. Times can be negotiated including evening hours. We intend to set up a regular police surgery at the new office - dates/times to be advised. PCSO for Lanchester and Burnhope, Vanessa Gray

### 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.

**Telephone enquiries:** (01207) 520559

#### To advertise:

Contact John Hurran, Advertising Manager, by post at the above address. Telephone: (01207) 520288 Email: villagevoiceadverts@talktalk.net

### LANCHESTER GIRL'S SUCCESS AT CONSETT MUSIC FESTIVAL

Congratulations to Hayley Alice Donnelly of Alderside Crescent Lanchester. Hayley is 15 years old and is a pupil at St Bede's in Lanchester. On the 15th and 16th of May, Hayley was entered into 3 categories in the Consett Music festival by her professional singing tutor Mrs Isobel Varty. Hayley gave an outstanding performance and was placed First in the Girls Under 15 Solo and First in the Girls Under 17 Solo. She was also placed Second in the Junior Modern Musical Light Opera. Hayley is studying for her Grade 3 singing exam under the professional tuition of Mrs Varty and also for her Grade 4 Piano under the professional tuition of Mrs Carolyn Armstrong, having achieved distinctions in all previous grades. Hayley is also an accomplished dancer, dancing with the Jane Robson School of Dancing since she was 3 years old.

Hayley has gained the status of "Young Gifted and Talented" from St Bede's and aspires to study medicine at University. Hayley has total dedication and commitment to any task set for her, both musically and academically. We wish her continued success in all that she does and wish to take this opportunity through the Village Voice to express how very proud we all are of her outstanding achievements. Well done Hayley.



*Hayley proudly poses for the photograph with her trophies*

### NHS WORKSHOPS LOOK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DIABETES

The National Health Service's County Durham workshops in the 'Getting Started' programme provide education and support to young people between the ages of 12 and 17 to cope with the problems associated with Type 1 diabetes. A new programme of five workshops will run between 10 am and 3.30 pm on Sundays from 6th September 2009. The Team is looking for young volunteers in the 18 - 25 age group who have Type 1 diabetes to act as facilitators. Each

workshop is based around activities and games as well as looking at many of the different methods of coping with the diabetes condition. The workshops are held in sports centres across County Durham. Anyone wanting further information, or if you are aged 18-25, have Type 1 diabetes and would like to become a facilitator for the workshops, we would like to hear from you.

Contact the programme co-ordinator Mary Maplesden on phone 07534749660.

### RED CROSS

The total collected house-to-house was £752.75. Thank you to all who gave and also to those who helped to collect.

### COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for May 2009 is 47. The draw was made by Susan Joyce of the Gym.



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# FAREWELL TO JOE

On 22nd May family and friends gathered at the Methodist Church to celebrate the life of Joseph Spraggon who passed away on 14th May aged 91.

Joe had lived in his beloved Lanchester for over 25 years, first with his wife Hilda who passed away in 1988 then with Lillian who he met at a dance in Stanley and married in 1989.

Starting his working life down the mines at the age of 14 where his hard work and study saw him reach the top as a Colliery Manager. He finished his working career at the Coal House in Gateshead aged 59.

Joe always loved a challenge learning to play the organ and piano accordion, he was a regular ballroom dancer and drove his car until he was 90. He even bought and started to work with computers aged 86.

His final challenge came when he had to go into hospital just before his 91st birthday. Sadly this was one challenge too far for Joe and after a short time in North Durham University and Shotley Bridge Hospitals he passed away peacefully in his sleep.

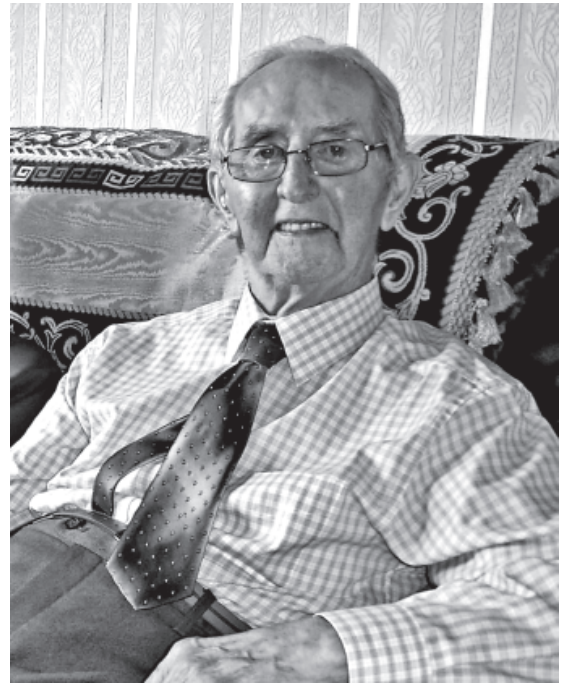
The family would like to thank the Doctors and Staff at Parkhouse Surgery and Shotley Bridge who cared for Joe during his illness

and in his final days giving him comfort and dignity. Thanks also to Norman Alderson Funeral Directors for arranging the proceedings so

beautifully, to Mr Isam Hussain for the lovely poem which was read at the Service and to all who gathered to say farewell. £320.00 was collected in lieu of flowers which has been sent to the British Heart Foundation as was his wish.

Loved and missed always by wife Lillian and Family, daughters Muriel and Carole, sons in law John and Terry and grandsons Peter, David and Paul.

Say Goodnight not Goodbye.



*Joe Spraggon who passed away on 14th May at the age of 91*

## SURPRISE BARBADOS WEDDING

This was certainly a surprise wedding for the bride, Christine Callon. It began a year ago when Steve Darke, her partner for 9 years, suggested a holiday in Barbados to coincide with Christine's birthday. This was all arranged. However, whilst having a romantic dinner on the first night at the Fairmont Royal Pavilion hotel in the exclusive, celebrity inhabited St James area, Steve proposed. As he received the hoped-for answer he explained that he had already arranged the wedding two weeks previously, to take place in a few days time at the hotel. Christine was speechless. Steve had planned it down to the finest detail with dress fittings, nails and hair appointments all arranged. There was a buzz around the hotel as other guests found out. Two days before the wedding, Christine, who has no family at all except her mother, Audrey Merritt, who lives at Easington, mentioned

that it was a pity her Mum was not there and to make sure mobile phones were charged up to make contact. Then, another surprise! Steve told Christine that her Mum and his daughter, 18 year old Holly, were currently in the air on their way to Barbados and Holly would be her bridesmaid.

Christine was even more ecstatic at this news, and Mum and Holly duly arrived the evening before the ceremony.

The wedding was perfect in every way, Christine and Holly looked wonderful as did 77 year old Audrey, who together

with Holly, acted as witnesses, with Audrey giving the bride away.

The wedding took place in the private gardens of the hotel, overlooking the sea, in glorious sunshine. There was a church service led by Rev. Goodridge followed by a close family dinner at the hotel, though other guests did insist on buying them champagne. What an incredible holiday! Christine not only received a fabulous ring from Steve, but both spent time with Audrey and Holly, and Christine came home with a new name, and a husband. The couple will continue to live in the village.



*Christine and Steve on their wedding day*

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## A NEW CIBORIUM FOR LANCHESTER PARISH CHURCH



The Ciborium, which contains the wafers at a Holy Communion Service

On Monday 15th June at the Monday evening Eucharist service a special little ceremony took place. Canon Peter Waterhouse blessed a solid silver ciborium. The latter is a vessel, which holds the wafers for Holy Communion and so is used at every Eucharist or Holy Communion service.

There were 7 special ladies present to witness the ceremony together with other members of the congregation and these ladies make up our catering team who have worked very hard for our church in this capacity for many years. They are shown below.

The actual origin of the team dates back to a Miss Ruth Shotton who lived in the Garths. She asked for people in our church to help her to provide a

special tea for the many people in Lanchester who had been so kind to her during an illness. Mrs. Peggy Atkinson and Mrs Sara Allison needed no persuading to help and soon gathered a group of ladies to help them. Miss Shotton gave a donation and that was the beginning of the fundraising side of the catering section of our church. They were involved in fundraising for the Chapter House, which was added to the church 20 years ago. The Flower Festival, a big fundraiser for the Chapter House, was held together by the Catering Team. Peggy Atkinson and her team worked tirelessly to provide refreshments for three days, which is a tremendous feat in itself. The work carries on today though the number in the

team has reduced over the years through illness and moving away, but the 'magnificent seven' were there on Monday to see the blessing of the ciborium which had been bought with the money they had raised by their catering over the years. They have in the past purchased china, cutlery, table cloths and even a new boiler which has proved invaluable in the kitchen. The ciborium of course is very special and it was in 2007 that they asked our vicar if there was something they could buy for the church. It has been engraved on the vessel that the catering team bought the ciborium which of course will now be used for many, many years to come. It will be part of the history of the church and is a symbol of the commitment of a group of people living out their Christian Faith and being 'Living Stones' of Lanchester Parish Church. We are proud of them! It is to be used for the first time at the Confirmation Service on Monday June 22nd when the Bishop of Durham, Bishop Tom Wright will be in attendance.

Brenda Craddock



The Catering Team today: (left to right) Sara Allison, Angela Lee, Judith Jobling, Ann Sirs, Peggy Atkinson, Ann Kerr (behind), and Jean Densham.



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## ON THE MOVE

### DEBRAMURPHY

Lanchester EP School congratulate and say goodbye to popular Deputy Head, Debra Murphy, after being in post for three years. Debra has been appointed Head of Belmont Church of England School in Durham. Jane Davis and staff will miss the great commitment and dedication shown by her over the last three years, and of course her vivacious personality. Mrs Davis said 'This is a very well deserved appointment and we are all thrilled for Mrs Murphy'. They wish her all the success in the future.

### JANEHOLLIDAY

Jane Holliday has worked at Lanchester EP for 9 years and has seen so many pupils pass through, as most of her service was spent in the Nursery. Her dedication and commitment has been exceptional and she will be greatly missed. Jane has been appointed Foundation Stage Leader at Brandon Primary School. Mrs Davis said, 'this is a management post which is well deserved'. Jane Davis and staff wish her all the success at her new school.

### LESLEYSUDDES

Ian and Lesley Suddes have decided to begin a new life. Ian has always

had a hankering to live in Scotland so he recently sold his farmland at Newbiggen Lane and the farm at Waskerley will also be sold. Lesley is a well known personality around the village, often seen on a horse or driving a 'Chelsea Tractor'!

Lesley is active as an enthusiastic School Governor at Lanchester EP school, and even she dresses up to amuse, and get over a message to the children, with the County Anti Bullying Officer. Lesley is a talented singer who performs locally, and latterly has been involved in setting up Slimming World in the Social Club. The family, plus horses, cattle and sheep will all move to a farm at Dumfries in the summer - quite a logistic exercise.

Slimming World will carry on here and Lesley will start another branch of the organisation in the Dumfries area. The whole family will be very much missed by many people in Lanchester and everyone would like to wish them a happy, successful life in Scotland.

### LUCYKENDALL

Lucy Kendall has worked at All Saints RC Primary for four years. At just 27 years old she has just been appointed Deputy Head of St Patricks Junior

School, Langley Moor. In many ways she was reluctant to leave such a lovely school where she was very happy but the opportunity of a promotion so early in her career was too tempting to resist.

Lucy would like to thank former Head Teacher, Tony Reather, current Head Teacher, Karen McKenna, and Deputy Head Teacher, Claire Jordan, for all the help, encouragement and support, during the last four years. She will miss the staff, children and families very much. Mrs McKenna said 'Lucy is a committed, dedicated teacher whom the school is very sorry to lose but is now realising her potential'.



*Jane Holliday (left) and Debra Murphy, both of whom are leaving Lanchester EP School for pastures new*

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Lesley Suddes in  
typical pose*



*Lucy Kendall who has  
been promoted to  
Deputy Head Teacher  
at St Patrick's School,  
Langley Moor*



# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## 9TH JUNE 2009

**Police Report** for the period 1st - 31st May 2009

Rowdy Nuisance 4,  
Vehicle Nuisance 2,  
Theft 5,  
Burglary 0,  
Vehicle Crime 0,  
Criminal Damage 3.

Incidents of note:

**Vehicle obstruction** is taking place in Newbiggen Lane. A survey has been carried out in Newbiggen Lane

by a Police Traffic Management officer and a Highways engineer. A speed survey is also to be completed. Vehicles parked from No. 6 towards the village are parked legally as this is an official parking bay. Unfortunately there is no footpath adjacent to the parking bay but pedestrians are able to cross the road to the footpath on the other side of the road

providing vehicles are not parked there illegally. Vehicles parked further up Newbiggen Lane are doing so illegally on the footpaths which is on a bend causing problems to the pedestrians and other vehicles. A letter has been delivered to drivers/residents requesting that no parking should take place here and penalty tickets will be issued if

these warnings are not heeded.

**Thefts** include:

- (i) a tumble drier which was removed from outside a property in Lee Hill Court;
- (ii) money had been stolen by an unknown person (the CCTV suggests it was a female) from private bank account via bank card lost or stolen with purse from a bus passenger (passenger advised against storing pin number with the card);
- (iii) three coats were taken from a shop in Station Road by an unknown male who was chased by the complainant on foot. Officers were on the scene within minutes but they found no trace.

**Criminal damage**

refers to the following:

- (i) an upstairs window was smashed by a youth in Percy Place;
- (ii) a picnic table was destroyed by a fire in Malton picnic area;
- (iii) radiators and a washing machine were damaged in a boarded up and unoccupied nursery.

complete the Council's questionnaire.

Concern from a resident about horses in Dora's Wood and horse manure on the line. The riders had been recognised as coming from the nearby riding school and it was agreed to write to the riding school to ask for their co-operation in telling clients not to ride there. The Wood belongs to the Woodland Trust who had put up notices to that effect but the signs had been removed. A copy of the letter would be sent to Durham County Council who had given planning permission for the stables.

Durham County Council's response to the removal of litter bins in the village. The bins will be replaced when money allows.

**Annual Report**

A quotation had been received for £172 incl VAT for the distribution of the Report to the 1,850 households in the parish and it was agreed that this be accepted as it is very reasonable. This will be done before the end of June.

**Area Partnership**

Members were given an update on the Area Action Partnership, including Parish Representation, meeting's cycles and Forum priorities. These were, in this order:-

- i. road safety and highways;
- ii. support for the community and voluntary sector;
- iii. activities for young people;

.....Continued on Page 7

**Correspondence**

The Durham County Council's consultation document on the Council's in-house mental health day service. The Council is keen to support patients staying at home and the document covered an improved care scheme, some changes and future developments. Cllr Jackson agreed to



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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Continued

- iv. support for older people;
- v. community safety and crime;
- vi. clean and green environment;
- vii. public transport; improved health and wellbeing;
- viii. local economy; and
- ix. affordable, decent housing.

## Handyperson progress report

All Members agreed on how excellent a job David is doing for the village and to pass on their good wishes to him.

## Kitswell Park

It was agreed that one

additional green litter bin be provided.

## Kitswell Park Tree Survey

To the rear of the cricket ground, some of the trees on this land were asymmetrical due to past pruning by the Electricity Board for the sake of the safety of their cables but these trees are now untidy and need pruning again. It was agreed that permission be sought from the Forestry Commission for the felling of a sycamore and some elders and that a copy of the Report should be sent to the

Electricity Board and a response would be requested from them. The possibility of grants is to be explored.

## Transfer of Amenity Open Space at Maiden Law to Greencroft Parish Council

Cllr Johnson and Bob Glass signed the necessary document.

## Condition of Roads in Lanchester

It seems that this is a problem that is not unique to Lanchester and Members were asked to come back to the next meeting with areas of concern. The Lead Officer was asked to write to the Post Office in respect of grass being damaged by Post vans when parking to pick up post with a copy sent to the County Council.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING;** 14th of July at 7.15 pm in the Conference Room, Park House, Lanchester. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, the

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## PLANNING MEETING HELD ON 9TH JUNE 2009

Election of Chair: Cllr Stuart Walker was elected as Chair.

Election of Vice Chair: Cllr Mike Wardle was elected. Then the following applications were then considered:-

1. Proposed erection of first floor extension above existing garage at 2 Alderside Crescent, Lanchester. RESOLVED. That there was no objection in principle but that attention be brought to Durham County Council of the relevant sections of the Village Design Statement.
2. Proposed erection of detached double garage at garage site to the west of Croft Cottage, Woodlands Hall, Knitsley. RESOLVED. No objections.
3. Conversion of barn to dwelling with extensions to provide garage etc and including format of

new access at Hamsteels Hall Farm, Hamsteels Lane, Esh.

RESOLVED. No objections provided that details of the finish are kept in line with recommendations in the Village Design Statement.

4. Felling of one conifer tree at Lanchester House, 35 Front Street. It is the policy of the Parish Council that any tree felled should be replaced as this is in a conservation area. RESOLVED. No objection provided the tree is replaced, possibly with a fruit tree in line with the others in the garden.

Strategic Housing Availability Assessment - call for sites. DCC is inviting land owners and developers for information regarding the above. A document will be produced and the Parish Council notified.

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## THEATRE TRIP



*Pam Bygate's informal 'theatre goers group' gather together before their trip to the Little Theatre, Gateshead to see Terence Rattinger's 'Deep Blue Sea'. The original coach did not turn up, so Pam rang the company - Gillinghams - and eventually two arrived and the group made it to the theatre just before the curtain went up!*

## Gardening in July

After all of the hard work of sowing and planting of the previous two months, July can be considered to be partly a 'pottering' month in your garden and I think that it is important to plan to potter. As part of your 'pottering', you can spend a few minutes contemplating your borders to see which colours work together and which clash. Note the results so that you can change things later in the autumn or next spring. Part of my pottering in July involves dead-heading by removing faded flower heads on lupins and roses to encourage blooms later in the year. Additionally tidy-up your bedding, keep on weeding and remember to water pots and plants in need. July is also probably the first of the hedge-trimming months: a tidy hedge can be beneficial to the whole garden. Most hedges, including beech, lavender, berberis, hawthorn and holly need pruning just once per year whereas fast-growing hedges such as privet, box and the dreaded, very vigorous Leyland cypress are likely to need several trims each year.

### Borders

Earwigs can devastate both your dahlia and chrysanthemum buds so it's best to trap them before they do any damage. Put canes among the plants with an upturned pot filled with newspaper or straw on the top of the canes. The earwigs will climb the canes and shelter in the pots so empty them each morning on your patio and destroy any that you find. To ensure a long season for sweet peas snip off faded blooms to stop seed pods from appearing. Feed your bedding plants in pots as they may well have used all of their nutrients by July. You can use weekly feeds of high potash fertiliser or a tomato fertiliser. July is a good time to sow your winter bedding which can include Universal Pansy, Viola and Bellis (Double Daisy). Sown now, they will be ready for transplanting when the summer bedding has finished.

### Vegetable Plot

Keep your vegetable plot well watered to ensure a good yield. Now is the time to use your reserves

of water as I indicated last month. An additional help is to make use of your home-composting (which we should all be doing) as a mulch for your fruit and summer crops to retain moisture. It is not too late to sow carrots, spinach and lettuce to produce crops this year and sowing parsley now will produce a winter crop. You can also sow dwarf French beans and peas for a late crop. It is best to raise young plants in pots prior to planting outside. It is now time to pick autumn and spring sown broad beans. Check pods regularly to monitor the size of the beans and pick before the white scar attaching the bean to the inside of its pod turns brown.

### General

July is a month to enjoy your garden and the labours that you completed earlier in the year. Your watering schedule must continue and water early or late to avoid sun scorch. It is a good month to treat paths and drives with a weedkiller. Whatever the weather, enjoy your gardening.

## TABLE TOP SALE

The Community Centre held their quarterly Table Top Sale on Saturday the 6th of June. Despite the poor weather there was a very good turnout of villagers looking for bargains on the many bric-a-brac stalls from which to choose. In the small hall, coffee and scones were available as well as the tasty home produce, and plant stall organised by Country Markets.

The object of these events is to promote Country Markets, to raise some money for the stallholders, and to keep making a steady flow of income for the Community Centre. The function was extremely successful with a nice friendly atmosphere with plenty of good opportunities for villagers to socialise. The total raised at this function for the Centre was a very satisfying £170.



*'Banana man' Rodney Hawkins with Elaine Williams, working hard on the Friends of Longovicium Table*



*Country Markets with a lovely display of jams and chutney*



## MAGIKATS WORKSHOP



The first students to attend the Maths and English workshops on the opening day at Lanchester Community Centre, proudly displaying their certificates. The Durham Centre for Education has been running MagiKats workshops for four years in Durham and Chester-le-Street and has recently opened in Lanchester.

## MORE PICTURES FROM TABLE TOP SALE



Graham McVeigh and daughter Karen, looking after lots of potential customers on the attractive Elizabeth Flowers table



Arthur Maughan (Chairman) and Ken Gardiner man the successful Community Centre table

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## ALL SAINTS VISIT DURHAM CATHEDRAL



*Members of All Saints School Choir with Mish Kelly*

Pupils at All Saints' Primary School worked very hard on a special singing project during the Spring Term. They began their preparations back in January when they started working with Mish Kelly from the Durham Choristers Outreach Programme. Every fortnight, Mish Kelly would come into school and work with all of the Junior children for an hour and then our school choir for the second hour. The children thoroughly enjoyed these sessions and learnt important vocal and breathing techniques as well as some fun songs to help improve diction and enjoyment of singing! Our choir worked extremely hard during this time, preparing for a very special concert to be held

at Durham Cathedral. They learnt nine songs in total which varied in genre from *Ave Verum* by Mozart, a traditional gospel song called *Wayfaring Stranger*, *For the Beauty of the Earth* by J Rutter and a selection of 'space' songs. Our school choir were to form part of a larger choir with seven other local primary schools and members of the Choristers at Durham Cathedral. Altogether we were to make a 250 strong choir! We all met for a morning and had the chance to have a sneak preview of the magnificent sound we could make together! The day of the concert arrived and all of the choirs met in the morning to put the final touches in place.

In the afternoon, the whole cathedral was buzzing with excitement as parents, families, friends and members of our school communities gathered together to listen to our concert. The hour went very quickly and all of the children did superbly well. The sound we made was magnificent and echoed beautifully around the Cathedral. Even the teachers' choir had the opportunity to sing! Our thanks must go to Mish Kelly for supporting us and teaching us the songs we enjoyed so much. The day was a magnificent success and I'm sure that the wonderful memories of singing in the Cathedral will live with the children forever.

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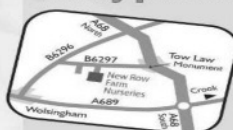
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## FIRE SAFETY AT ALL SAINTS

In the Spring Term, the fire brigade visited Classes 1 and 2 at All Saints Primary School. This was to link to our topic on the Great Fire of London and to learn how fire fighting has changed over the years! The afternoon began with a talk from the fire brigade about safety in our homes and information about how to keep ourselves safe in the event of a fire. We all learnt the emergency number to call if we see a fire and about the

importance of smoke alarms in our homes. The real fun began when we got to go outside and look at the fire engine. We studied every compartment and talked about the special equipment the fire services have to carry around with them. We got to use the powerful hosepipe and even gave a teacher's car a wash! We had a fun afternoon and would like to thank Consett Fire Brigade for taking the time to visit us.



# ALL SAINTS SUMMER FAIR

What a glorious sunny day for All Saints Fair, in complete contrast to last year!

Chair of Governors, Councillor Paul Jackson, opened the event with a warm, brief welcome, thanking all for their support and encouraging everyone to spend their money.

There were many opportunities to spend on bric a brac, raffles, tombolas, cards and books etc. Children particularly enjoyed the treasure hunt and 'search for gold'. On the field children could take penalties against an adult goalkeeper and receive a Newcastle Utd shop item as a prize if they scored. The Coconut Stall and Hook a Duck seemed busy most of the time as was the Treasure Hunt and Ball in the Jar.

A new feature this year was the Nail Stall set next to the Face Painting which enabled the children to have a full makeover.

The school now has a Nature Trail in the grounds and Rangers from Year 6 gave a guided tour on the wild life.

Despite the great weather the Parish Centre was still busy with refreshments.

Maybe the strawberries and cream were a tempting way of avoiding the sun!

The BBQ now established and always busy, attracted many people, among them local renowned musician and composer, from 80's band, Prefab Sprout, who has children at the school. Paddy McAloon has a new recording coming out in September, 'Let's Change the World with Music' on the Sony Label.

This was a fun day, very well organised, with a friendly happy atmosphere which raised in excess of £2000.



Colm Doyle, face painted for the occasion, on the 'Roll a Dice'



Abby Martin has her face beautifully painted by Teacher, Lucy Kendall



Children enjoying the 'Hook a Duck'

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## FATHERS' DAY LUNCH

All Saints RC School put on a Mothering Sunday lunch at the appropriate time which proved so popular that Dads and Grandads were invited to join the children just

prior to Fathers' Day for a similar treat. Lots of men turned up and enjoyed a special meal provided by Taylor Shaw which they thoroughly enjoyed. It was a good

idea for children to think about Fathers' Day and it was a nice opportunity not only to enjoy lunchtime with their children, but also to promote school dinners.



*Dads, Granddads and children tuck into a very tasty Fathers' Day Lunch at All Saints' RC Primary School*

## LIONS MAMMA MIA NIGHT

A very successful Mamma Mia night was held at the Social Club on 16th May with Glenn Thomas in charge of the music. The total raised on the night was £426 which has been placed in the Community Services fund. The Lions club would like to thank all those who supported the event.



*Rosemary and the IKEA girls at the Lions Mamma Mia Night*



*Lions and guests rowing around the Fjords of Lanchester*



## FUN AND FITNESS WEEK

Anyone for; Tennis, Archery, Wheels, Circuit training, Solving problems, Singing playgrounds, Jump Rope Heart, 'Strictly for Street' dancing or Swimming? All these activities were featured in the EP School 'Fun and Fitness Week' from 18th-21st May. The activities had been carefully planned so as to have some academic content and value for the pupils and to be part of their Physical Development. It was very apparent that all the children greatly enjoyed each new activity and challenge. It was such fun, as well as being very beneficial for the pupils. Every year group in the school was involved with the activities, throughout the week. The nursery class played their part too, and on Tuesday, which was 'Wheels Day' the little ones were happily riding bicycles and pushing dolls prams in their playground. I have to say, there was a preponderance of pink but the boys redressed the balance by bringing toy lorries, tractors, cars and real scooters. All the planned activities were led by experienced leaders. Some were from Leisure Works at Consett, some employed by Durham County Council and there were connections with the YMCA at Consett. Three

leaders were Youth Development Workers. The leaders for circuit training and 'Jump rope for Heart' Ashley Parker and Leanne Kemp were from 'Family Initiative Supporting Children's Health' project. There was no doubt that all of the leaders were very competent in their own fields and captured the children's interest and imagination. Angela Page, who works for Durham County Council, did some very good coaching for tennis and the tennis courts behind the Derwentside College premises were also being used for the older year groups.

The Problem Solving Group had to get from A-B using the equipment provided. It was not easy but the pupils rose to the challenge. Mrs S Pybus, a parent, and a trained dance teacher herself, led the year groups in Street Dancing and both boys and girls performed admirably. 'The Singing Playground' activity was very effective. It was led by a lady from the Music service at Durham County Council and involved group work in the playground, after initial training in the classroom learning activity songs and rhymes. Each group chose two leaders who were responsible for their performance in the playground - good



*Tennis coaching*

responsibility skills learnt here.

In addition to all these activities, there was a bike ride of 10 miles for Years 5 and 6, an organised walk to school beginning at Consett at 6.30 am! Happy, smiling, very fit children emerged at the end of the week.

Brenda Craddock



*Archery training in the school grounds*

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## WICKED WITCH BREAKS RECORD FOR WILLOW BURN!!

Once again The Wicked Witch Golf Society's tournament was held in support of Willow Burn Hospice.

The golfing event on 22nd May broke their own record for this event, by raising an amazing £4,200!! The cheque was recently presented to the Willow Burn fundraising and nursing team at the Hospice premises. This annual event which

is organized by Michael Hunt and sponsored by Tates Security Services Ltd of Langley Park is inspired by the hard work and amazing efforts of the nurses, volunteers and staff at Willow Burn Hospice.

Margaret Toberty, Willow Burn's Community Fundraiser, was overwhelmed to receive such a substantial amount and wishes to

thank The Wicked Witch Golf Society & Tates Security Services (and everyone who took part and supported the event) for their ongoing commitment to Willow Burn Hospice.

Anyone who would like to enter a team for this event in 2010 or even learn more about Wicked Witch's work, please call Mr Michael Hunt on 0191 371 2592.



*Left to right, Willow Burn Nurse: Wendy Wilson, Organiser/sponsor Pam Tate (of Tates Security Services), Organiser Laura Tate (daughter of Pam Tate), Willow Burn Community Fundraiser: Margaret Toberty*

## LAUNCH OF "SUMMER OF THE WITCH"

On 26th May the official launch of a new children's book, "Summer of the Witch" took place at Valentino's

Restaurant. Lanchester. Author, Maisie Raine, is pleased to report that the book, which is set in a village surprisingly

similar to Lanchester, is enjoying a good start and has been accepted for sale by local branches of Asda.



*Maisie Raine signing her book at Valentino's Restaurant, Lanchester*



# OXFAM TRAILTREKKER CHALLENGE



*The fabulous 'Blister Boys'*

On Saturday 30th May "The Fabulous Blister Boys" (aka Mark Grimes, Chris Carson, Richard Hume and Jeremy Ince) set out at 8 am on the Oxfam Trailtrekker Challenge. They were one of many teams whose aim was to complete 100km in 24 hours; the circular route began and ended in Skipton. Below is a quote from Richard in the day or so after completing the walk.

"We completed the Trailtrekker (100km walk) on Sunday morning at 11.45 am after walking for 27 hrs and 45 mins solid!!!

What an experience!! It was 27 degrees heat on Saturday and Sunday and the only relief came walking through the night when it dropped to 7 degrees. We were all very good though and took on the right amount of fluids and salt so we survived

(the medics were very busy). Our whole team of 4 completed it which was fantastic as at various points each of us needed the support of the others to continue.

I came 209th out of 637 people. Only 457 people completed it. Most teams were down to three people by the end.

We have now raised about £1800 with online and offline sponsorship. Only £200 to go to reach our pledge. Thanks to all

those who have donated so generously!!

All the best, a very tired and somewhat sore Richard."

The overall total that Oxfam are aiming for is £300,000 and I believe they are well on the way to achieving this.

For details of the challenge, go to [www.oxfam.org.uk/trailtrekker](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/trailtrekker) and to sponsor [www.justgiving.com/blisterboys](http://www.justgiving.com/blisterboys).

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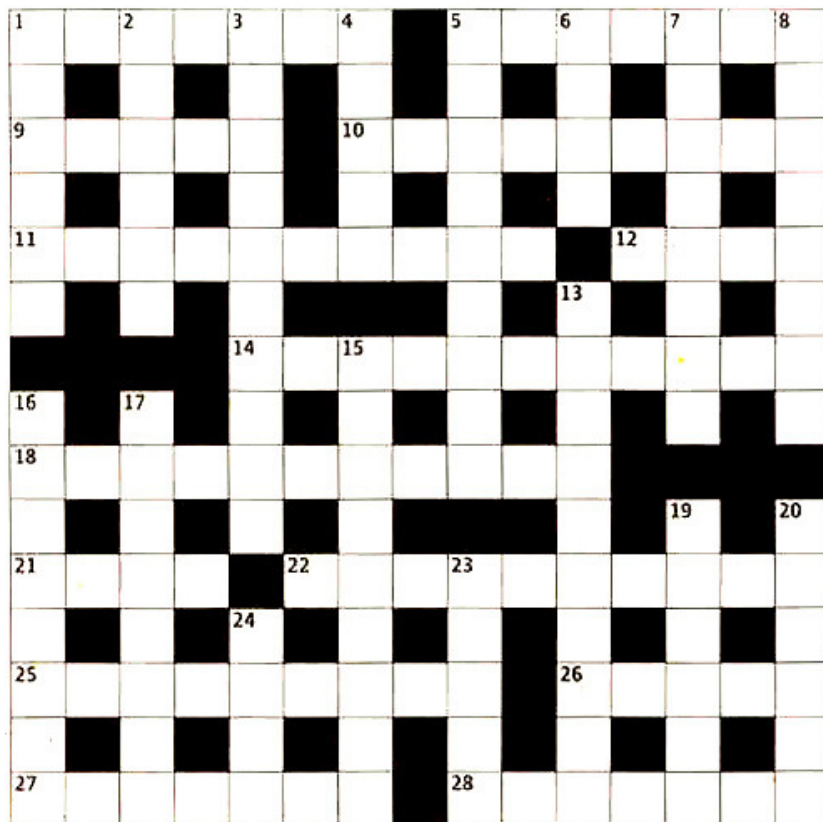
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# CROSSWORD 38



## ACROSS

1. Partner (7)
5. Forbidden (7)
9. Erotica user gives reason (5)
10. Bad kipper requires main coins changed (9)
11. Be careful (4,4,2)
12. Former leader of Yugoslavia (4)
14. Faces bore me, however love one's enemies (7,4)
18. Degree short for their avarice (6,5)
21. Amphibian went for mutation (4)
22. Remade outed gent's small self-esteem (7,3)
25. Engaged in conflict (9)
26. Fillip (5)
27. Tower made to soak the French (7)
28. Poet marked out by his pen's errors (7)

## DOWN

1. Ball game (6)
2. Ball game (6)
3. Re-used release pad found in oyster, maybe (1,4,5)
4. Push in flooded river (5)
5. Stir up teasing it (9)
6. Citrus fruit (4)
7. Ball game (8)
8. Ball game (8)
13. New trace ended in the middle (4,6)
15. Ball game (9)
16. Ball game (8)
17. Capable of being chomped (8)
19. Ball game (6)
20. Ball game (6)
23. Models found in dunes (5)
24. Move from west Epsom (4)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 37

### ACROSS

1. celery
4. Bermuda
9. ruminator
10. meats
11. mates
12. lightning
13. leg-iron
15. tattoo
17. Aegean
19. Knesset
22. attrition
24. tames
26. teams
27. off-centre
28. cleanse
29. stores

### DOWN

1. caramel
2. limit
3. rings true
4. by right
5. remit
6. unanimous
7. assign
8. Stalin
14. Great Dane
16. treatment
18. noisome
19. kung fu
20. tassels
21. Baltic
23. Ibsen
25. meter

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 37

There were 20 entries in last month's crossword competition, though not all were correct.

The winner in the draw was Liz Smith of Ford Road who will receive the £10 prize.

Test your skill on this latest challenge by John Wilson.

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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.

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



## WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed members to our June meeting. Ann Carr then started the meeting by reading a poem by Liz Cowley called Invisible. Members were asked if they would like to put down their names for a NEW AGE KURLING-“HAVE A GO” AFTERNOON at Wed 20th July at Shadforth Village Hall. Some members are going to the Ushaw Dinner on Wed 22nd July details in the County News. WI diaries and calendars can now be ordered.

We are still planning the informal visit to Crook Hall gardens in Durham on Monday 13th July meeting outside the Black Bull to catch the 1 o'clock bus, if the weather is fine. We will go on the 14th if it is raining. If it is still raining on the 14th we would not go. Just turn up if you would like to join.

Winner of the competition for a Fire Prevention Tip was Ann Carr whose tip was always have an escape route planned and make sure everyone knows it and second Maureen Barker with always unplug everything before going to bed.

The speaker this month was Gary Eden, a Fire Service Community Fire Safety Officer in our area, who gives talks aiming to make us all aware of the dangers in our homes as well as visiting people in their homes if needed. His message is “FIRE START WHEN YOUR ATTENTION STOPS”.

Gary identified 5 of the most common ways fires in the home start. (1) Chip Pans, never fill them more than 1/3 full or leave unattended. (2) Open fires and portable heaters, always use a fireguard and keep a 3ft clear space round the fire. (3) Smoking, never smoke in bed, always use an ashtray and keep matches and lighters out

of the reach of children. (4) Candles and tea lights, always use candles in proper holders and do not leave unattended, keep away from draughts and keep out of the reach of pets and children. (5) electrical appliances, 1 plug 1 socket unless using a trailing socket. Always check electric leads are in good condition and make sure correct fuses are used.

“FIRE KILLS”, if a fire starts use your escape route then phone the fire service when you are out. Closing doors helps contain fire. Smoke alarms are very important, always check your batteries and that the alarms are sited in the right places. You can arrange a free Home Fire Safety Check and have smoke alarms fitted anytime of the year by phoning 0191 332 4222 or visiting [www.ddfire.gov.uk](http://www.ddfire.gov.uk).

This was a very interesting and thought provoking talk. I went home and looked at things anew. If other groups would like this talk please use above contacts.

Jennifer McDonald gave the vote of thanks and the evening ended with tea and biscuits.

### WITRIP

On Wednesday 10th June 45 WI members and village friends met at Peters for the Summer trip. We all had wet weather gear with us as the forecast was not good but the sun shone all day so the macs and brollies were not needed.



Edith Pierce, Irene James, Dorothy Cox and June Wallis among the ladies admiring plants at Howick Gardens

Our first stop was the Milkhope Centre on the Blagdon Estate just off the A1, it was a lovely place to have coffee, scones and cakes as well as having a selection of high quality shops (some ladies could not resist).

Afterwards we travelled on to Newbiggin by the Sea where lunch was booked at the Endeavour Cafe and we enjoyed a proper seaside meal of fish, chips, bread and butter or a crab sandwich and salad. After our meal we had time to enjoy a walk along the promenade, some brave ladies could not resist a paddle, others just strolled enjoying an ice cream and admiring the UK's first offshore sculpture called The Couple. There was also time to visit the church and the Heritage Centre before returning to the coach.

We then had a lovely run to our final stop which was Howick Hall Gardens and Arboretum near Alnwick. When we arrived there were 3 volunteers waiting to take us round the gardens in small groups, this added to the enjoyment, our guides had such enthusiasm and knowledge about the history of the gardens as well as the garden plants. Everyone ended up in the tea rooms for yet more tea and another piece of cake. We would all like to thank Jennifer Macdonald and June Wallis for all the hard work and preparation they did.

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## ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

## Lanchester Male Voice Choir Concert

The 41st Annual Concert will take place on Friday, 3rd July at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Methodist Church. Guest artists will be the Albion String Quartet from the Royal Northern College of Music and the local young artiste will be soprano, Kirstie Wright. Tickets are £5.00, Patrons and Concessions £4.00, Children £2.00, and are available from Choir members or ring 01207 520249.

## Country Market

Come along to the Community Centre on Saturday 4th July at 10 am for the usual goodies - cakes, jams, vegetables, etc.

## Lanchester Show

The committee is delighted to be able to put on both cattle and sheep classes, the first since foot and mouth and to welcome the involvement of Durham City Young Farmers with our show on Sunday 5th July. There will also be trade stands, craft marquee, KC dog show, a good variety of pony/horse classes, vintage machinery, a selection of food outlets, appearance of the Braes hounds, bouncy castle and of course a beer tent. The young farmers would like to know if anyone can put up a tug-o-war team. The entrance fee is as last year £3.00 adults, £1.50 children and concessions. The first classes start at 8.30.

We are a small, enthusiastic committee but would welcome any help, any contributions. Please do contact us on 0191 3734565 or email las-sec@tiscali.co.uk

## W I

Our next meeting will be held on 6th July in the small hall of the community centre at 7 pm. This is our annual "Strawberry Supper" and the entertainment this year is the singer Jean Grave. We look forward to seeing all our members at what is always a lovely social evening with good food, conversation and company. There will also be a sales table.

## Mothers' Union

The meeting on 8th July, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, is the AGM followed by Strawberries and Cava wine.

## EP Summer Fair

The EP School will hold its Summer Fair on 11th July, from 11.00 am - 2.00 pm.

## Short Walks

**The Short Circuits:**

11th July, Red Kite Walk, 4.5 miles, start at Winlaton Mill car park (NZ186609) 10.30 am.  
25th July, Snod's Edge, 5 miles, start at Snod's Edge church hall (NZ065526) 10.30 am.

**Acorn Amblers:**

19th July, Stoney Heap. Fairly Hard. Meet at the War Memorial, Iveston, 1.30 pm. For details ring 01207 218871.

**Derwentside Byways and Bridleways:**

7th July, The Croniwell Village Inn (on A694 at Hamsterley), 7.00 pm. For details ring 01207 506890.  
21st July, Moor Cock, Waskerley on Castleside to Stanhope Road, 7.00 pm. For details ring 01207 583429.

## MP Surgery

The next surgery where constituents can raise problems and issues with Hilary Armstrong will be held on Friday 19th July at 6 pm at St Patrick's Community Centre, Victoria Road, Consett.

## Sixth Early Music Festival

Dr Ian Brunt is again presenting a series of 5 concerts at the Parish Church, made possible through support of Rev Canon Peter Waterhouse and the PCC. All proceeds will benefit the Parish.

The first concert is on Saturday 18th July at 7.30 pm, entitled "The Gentlemen of Brook Street", including music celebrating the anniversaries of Handel and Charles Avison of Newcastle and their circle. Trio and solo sonatas and music for harpsichord and organ will be performed by Hexham Collegium Musicum, Brian Stewart (flute), Philip Cull (oboe) and Dr Ian Brunt (harpsichord and organ). Members of the congregation will be there to welcome visitors and the Parish catering team will kindly provide home-made refreshments once again.

Tickets £8 with concessions £5 and those unwaged, under 18 years or full-time students free. Admission at the door or reservations in advance by enclosing an SAE to Dr Ian Brunt, The Lodge, Lanchester, County Durham, DH7 0LF, with cheques made payable to "All Saints Lanchester PCC".

# WHAT'S ON?

## Operatic Society Concert

Lanchester & District Operatic Society are once again preparing for their annual concert which is to be held in the Methodist Church on Friday 17th July at 7.15 pm.

This year they have been very fortunate to have the well known soprano, Rachel Orr, as their guest soloist. The theme of the concert is music from Vienna and includes music written by Schubert, Franz Lehar, Mozart and Strauss with excerpts from the Merry Widow, Lilac Time and the New Moon to name but a few.

Programmes are available from choir members and cost £6.00 including light refreshments. For details ring 01207 521458.

## Lanchester Social Club Entertainment July

Saturday 4th July, Matt Hilton, Great New Vocalist

Saturday 11th July, Sonia Michelle, Sensational Vocalist

Saturday 18th July, Karaoke

Saturday 25th July, Chris James, Clubland Award Winning Vocalist

## Wildlife for Families

Saturday 12th July 10 am - 4.30 pm. Wildlife Pirates at Boulmer Steel, Northumberland. Meet in the Community Centre car park. Rockpooling picnic. Bring bathers, picnic, towels, binoculars for a fun mix of wildlife and pirate games.

## Flower Club

On Wednesday 22nd July at 2 pm, there will be a demonstration entitled "Enthralled by Nature" by Kathleen Marlor of Ryton.

## Coming Shortly

Lanchester Early Music Festival: Future concerts will be held on Saturday 1st August "The Cantor at the Coffee-Shop", Saturday 15th August "A Little Night Music by Moonlight", Saturday 29th August "The Lion of Scotland" and Saturday 12th September "At the Still Centre of the Turning World", all at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Parish Church. North Country Theatre, scripted and produced by Nobby Dimon, will be at the Community Centre on 31st October. Planning ahead? Please try to avoid published dates above.

## OLD LANCHESTER PICTURE



*Old picture of Front Street, supplied by former Lancastrian for many years, Meg Bell. Can anyone put a date to this?*



## BOWLS TEAMS IMPROVE

After a poor start to the season things are looking up for the village bowls teams. The Monday triples team got back to the winning ways of last year with strong wins against South Moor (9-1) and Leadgate (8-2) and now lie third in their league behind Dipton and Sherburn Park (Consett). The Tuesday team have a mid-table position but are on the up following wins over last year's champions Dipton (6-4) and current leaders Annfield Plain (8-2). The

Wednesday night team and Saturday teams have also had some improving results. Sadly that's not to say they have been winning, more that they have not suffered the heavy defeats they did earlier in the season. Club competitions have started with members flocking to play early round matches in mixed weather. I should say a word of gratitude to those members and their spouses who have had to act as scorers when a match is played on a cold wet day.

## LANCHESTER TENNIS CLUB FAMILY FUN DAY

Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club hosted a Family Fun day on Saturday 30th May.

The weather could not have been better. Warm, bright sunshine was in abundance as the courts were prepared for some serious tennis action. The "Tennis Factory", provided by Leisureworks, was set up on No.1 court. This equipment consists of apparatus designed for younger children to become familiar with the game.



*Children and parents enjoying the fun and beautiful weather*

On "centre court", the ever popular ball machine was in action. Throughout the afternoon, the machine was used to propel tennis balls across the net to the queue of waiting players eager to hone their skills. On court No.3, the speed gun was set up to record the fastest serve and during the afternoon speeds were recorded as part of a fun competition. The winner was club member Victor Castro-Quiroga who achieved the speed of 91 miles per hour. At the time, he was using the racket of the club secretary who is claiming some of the glory! A mini tennis-red competition was also held and the winner was Dylan Rodriguez-Graham.

Along with the sausage sizzle and refreshments, the tennis club was able to serve up a smashing day of fun. Thanks to everyone who was able to help on the day. Following a winter season at Shotley and Benfieldside tennis club, Lanchester hosted a friendly match between the two clubs on Saturday 13th June. Once again the weather was fine and a good afternoon's play was followed by a strawberry tea. Coaching is continuing on Monday nights at the club and if anyone would like further information about the tennis club in the village, please contact the secretary on 01207 520278.

## LANCHESTER CRICKET CLUB

It's been a great start to the season for all the senior teams and the under 18's, with three of the teams sitting top of their division, unbeaten in all competition.

The first team are currently second after winning five of their first six games before losing their most recent match to leaders, Chopwell. Opener Paul Underwood made two unbeaten centuries and a half century in his first three league innings in helping his side to victories. Twenty year old New Zealander, Andrew De Boorder has taken time to settle and has made a highest score of 93 not out. Andrew is working well with the youngsters in the club in helping them to develop their skills.

The second team have won eleven and tied one of their twelve fixtures so far and sit 15 points clear at the top of their division. Captain Steve Murray will have been delighted by the way that everyone in the team has contributed in different games. The side have reached one cup semi final and have two quarter final ties to look forward to. The third string are also unbeaten and it is

noteworthy that the side is a genuine third team, with a policy of not picking players who were selected on the Saturday, allowing more people to contribute to the team. Jonathan Hames scored a club record 156 against Whitley Bay in one of the victories. The Under 18s have a 100% record in their league and are strong favourites to secure the league title, having several players who are in and around the first team this year. The 15s, 13s and 11s have all enjoyed victories so far and

it is hoped that they will continue to improve as the season goes on and all will be aspiring to join 11 year old Greg Patterson who is in the County squad for his age.

The club would like to thank the Parish Council for its support in securing the nice new electronic scoreboard and the club are just waiting for the money from the ECB to erect the new outdoor practice nets. All in all things are looking good on and off the field for the club.



*The new electronic scoreboard*

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## TENNIS WEATHER FOR TENNIS FUN



*The competition presentation at the Family Fun Day at Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club on 30th May*

For full story, see page 19

## LANCHESTER CHILDMINDING GROUP ANNUAL PICNIC



The children, registered childminders, grandparents and friends of

Lanchester Childminding Group celebrated National Childminding Week with their annual picnic. Once again it was raining, so the celebrations were held in the Playgroup room. Following the

picnic, games were played and great fun was had by all ages while playing the parachute game. To promote this year's theme of "Home from home", the children made a colourful banner which they decorated with their hand prints, and is now proudly displayed in the large

hall of the Community Centre. Gillian Nichol

## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by 21st July.

The deadline for **adverts** is 19th July.

## ALL SAINTS SUMMER FAIR



*Local musician Paddy McAloon with Head Teacher Karen McKenna at the Summer Fair*  
Full story and more pictures, page 11

## FIRE SAFETY FUN



*Class 2 at All Saints Primary School enjoy a safety lesson by Consett fire brigade.*

For full story, see page 10.

## FUN AND FITNESS WEEK



*Boys at the EP School 'street dancing'*  
Full story and more pictures, page 13

Published by Lanchester Publications Ltd, 49 Lintzford Road, Rowlands Gill, NE39 1HG and printed by InPrint, Unit 2C, Hownsgill Park, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 7NU.

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