

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 5 Volume 12

Lanchester, May 2011

For contact information, see page 2

## LANCHESTER TO LOSE SUNDAY AND LATE EVENING BUSES



*A No 15 at the stop on Front Street*

Following funding cuts by Durham County Council, Lanchester will be cut off from public transport on Sundays from 29th May 2011. Late evening services on Monday to Saturday have also been cut. Durham County Council has produced a leaflet which claims to reassure customers across the county. It says that customers will see little or no change to service. However, Lanchester does appear to have been unfairly treated; Langley Park for example retains its Sunday service to Durham. The Village Voice has received several letters and emails from concerned residents about these changes (see the correspondence on page 2). If you want to check the services that are planned to close see the Durham County website at [www.durham.gov.uk](http://www.durham.gov.uk) and follow the links to 'transport' and 'bus service changes'.

## THE RETURN OF BEN HUR

Every year, Lanchester hosts an "army" of Centurions, all intent upon having a good time and raising a great deal of money for charity along the way.

The Ben Hur Rally, organised by the Lanchester Centurions Motor Cycle Club, saw 500 bikers from as far away as Scotland and Ireland arrive on the afternoon of May 6th. Soon, a vast

tented city sprang up in the fields above the village, and everyone settled in, looking forward to an enjoyable weekend and meeting up with old friends.

The organisation of such an event is huge, minibuses were arranged to ferry people from the

**Continued  
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*Roy, Helene and Alan welcome bikers to the Rally*

## EGG BOWLING AT PASTE EGG



A cool Easter Monday still brought between 40-50 adults and children to Paste Egg for the Egg Dyeing and Bowling Morning organised by the Wildlife Group.

The day's activities began with 'onion peeling' then it was off hunting for cow parsley, leaves and dandelions for the wrapping, tying and labelling the eggs. It was not an easy job even for the adults!

Burt Hunter soon had the water boiling in the van for inserting the eggs. Whilst waiting for them to harden everyone climbed up Paste Egg bank to join in the hunt for tags around the field placed there earlier by Elaine Williams. The prize for retrieving a tag was a well earned sweet.

**Continued  
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*The last bowl with the eggs when everyone threw together. Leon Muir won.*



## 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

I wonder if Village Voice readers are aware, that following withdrawal of funding from Durham County Council, GoNorthEast are reducing the service on 15/15A Durham to Consett route.

From 29th May 2011 there will be NO bus service between Consett and Durham on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

In addition, the last buses on this route, on weekdays and Saturdays, will leave Durham at 21.05 for Consett, and will leave Consett at 20.27 for Durham.

I feel these changes in a vital public service have not been widely publicised.

Yours sincerely  
Kathleen Bell,  
Greenwell Park

Helen Griffiths has also written by email to voice her concerns. She quotes the services above but adds that the 130 service from Stanley will also be cut on Sunday and the last bus Monday-Saturday will leave Stanley at 20.34 instead of 23.34.

'These cuts hurt Lancastrians a lot more than people from nearby; Stanley and Langley Park will still have evening services to and from Durham. It will disproportionately hurt the poor, elderly and disabled in Lanchester, who often can't drive for medical or financial reasons.

Anyone who doesn't drive and works on Sunday or evenings will have to give up their job or use taxis. Jobs that require Sunday and/or evening work are often low-paid. Anyone who doesn't drive will not be able to visit friends or relatives on a Sunday, adding to the isolation that many elderly and disabled people already face.'

Helen has written to councillors with her objections.

Roy Quinlan of Leehill Court is also very concerned. Below is a summary of an email he sent to GoNorthEast which he also sent to The Village Voice.

'The cuts in funding will see no Sunday service for the 15 Consett to Durham effective 29th May. I am not aware of any consultation prior to this being actioned and I also notice that of all the changes the most drastic appear to affect the 15 service. I suggest the impact of removing this on a Sunday has not been assessed properly.

The people of Lanchester have been discriminated against at a time when there should be an increase in transport services to encourage the collective conservation of our energy resources.

Therefore I would like to know:

1. How the decision to cut evening and Sunday services was made?
2. What public consultation was undertaken before the decision was made?

Roy received the following reply from Go North East:

'Unfortunately service 15, evening and Sunday journeys were paid for by Durham County Council, so were only operated by Go North East under contract. There was no direct consultation on these cuts by Durham County Council other than press releases from them to advise bus users of government cutbacks. It is difficult to compare this service with high frequency commercial services, where no funding is required due to high usage.

I can understand why you feel that Lanchester has been discriminated against by DCC and as such, I do suggest that you raise this with your local councillor.'

Helen Patterson, Customer Service Advisor, Go North East

Roy has since written to local councillors and is awaiting a reply.

## IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

Dear Village Voice

We are members of the National Association of Flower Arrangers and on 6th May 2011 it was Flower Arranger Day. All clubs were asked to display a flower arrangement in a local venue. We would like to thank Pat and Martin Matthews of Home and Country Gifts who kindly allowed us to display our arrangement in their shop window.

Lanchester Flower Club

Dear Village Voice,

I would like to comment on the lack of celebrations in our Village on the occasion of the Royal Wedding. There was little in the way of bunting, flags and street parties. Our friends down south certainly put us to shame! I could not buy bunting anywhere in the Village and the street parties, if any, were not publicised sufficiently. It was advertised on Metro Radio that our Village was famous for places where to 'avoid the Royal Wedding' (The King's Head). How embarrassing!

Yours, Karen Short

[Readers - please see back page - Editors]

### 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 0PB.

To advertise:

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# CELEBRATIONS FOR MRS NOREEN RAFFERTY

Noreen was ninety years old on Tuesday 19th April. She is a very kind gentle, gracious lady, who has many friends and she had invited them to celebrate this birthday with her in the Chapter House of the Parish Church, where the church catering ladies provided refreshments. Noreen is very much a family person and she had already had a special celebration with her children, grand-children and great grandchildren. Noreen was born in Witton Gilbert, the eldest of three children, and her sister still lives there. She was married at Witton Gilbert in 1942 to John Peveller and they had three children, a son and identical twin daughters, Diane and Denise (you have met them in the newsagents). They were all born in Burnhope but

the family moved to Lanchester in 1955. Sadly John died suddenly at the age of 47, just after the twins' 18th birthday. It was a sad and difficult time for Noreen but she always put her family first and their wellbeing was and still is of paramount importance to her. She is justifiably proud of her family. She has 4 grandsons, 1 grand daughter and 6 great grandchildren and they all bring great joy to her. In later years, when the family had all left home Noreen met a friend from her schooldays, namely John Rafferty and they were married in 1970. They shared a time of great love and companionship until John's brave battle with illness came to an end in 1997. Her life today revolves around her family and



*Noreen Rafferty aged 90 with one of her daughters*

they are very supportive of her. Noreen's faith which has always been a part of her life, remains as strong as ever. Congratulations Noreen and Many Happy Returns!  
Brenda Craddock

## MORE LETTERS

Dear Sir  
I would like to express my thanks to the whole community of Lanchester for making the final week of term so special for Lanchester EP School and our twenty seven European visitors. The welcome given to them all by so many of you was really touching and they have all asked me to pass on their heartfelt thanks. They could not quite believe what a beautiful, tidy, attractive, colourful and friendly village it is and just felt a real warmth in the whole of the community. Personally, I am so grateful to many of you for making the week so successful. The King's Head provided their first, wholesome British meal, the Fish and Chip shop enabled us to enjoy a very tasty,

and typically British tradition, the Parish Council were so accommodating in providing electricity on the Village Green, Bill'n'Geoff's donated some delicious ice cream, Burt and Chuck for their patience when teaching the dances, all the villagers who came to watch the Maypole Dancing and last but by no means least, our super parents, children and staff who put on a really splendid concert, ceillidh and traditional English buffet. I certainly hope it is a week that our children will remember for many years to come.  
Jane Davis  
Head Teacher  
Lanchester EP Primary School  
PS Apologies if I have omitted anyone from my list of thanks!

Dear Village Voice  
I would like to thank everyone, both patients and staff, for the many lovely gifts and cards I received on my retirement from Parkhouse Surgery. Most of all I appreciated the kind and sincere words and letters I received from the patients I have come to know over the years. I am now 3 weeks into my retirement and have not as yet had time to sit and take stock as to what to do next. I am doing some nursing bank work at various surgeries and enjoying it very much, and it makes me think I am not quite ready for the scrap heap. Once again a big thank you to everyone for their kindness and generosity which made leaving Parkhouse Surgery a little bit easier.  
Yours faithfully  
Hilary Edwards

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## EGGSTRA SPECIAL EGGS

On the last day of the Easter term the EP School Hall was full of eggs, which were to be entered into the annual 'Decorating an Egg' Competition. Each class had a table of entries and a first prize was given to someone in each class. There was a rich variety of ideas and it must have

been very difficult for the Judges to choose a best one on each table. My favourite was two eggs made to look like William and Catherine on their wedding day - very topical! There were beaming faces when the winners received their chocolate egg prize. The nursery contributed

with an Easter Parade of Easter Bonnets/Hats. They walked round the hall wearing the hats which their parents had helped them to make. They were ingenious in design and the children made excellent models. An Eggstra special Easter for everyone!

Brenda Craddock



*Easter Bonnet parade*



*Here come the Easter Bonnets*

## THE RETURN OF BEN HUR continued from page 1



*Biker friends from Chester le Street*



*"Dream Machines" all in a row*



rally site into the village, First Aid facilities were on hand, a bar with draught beer proved a popular location, there were numerous stalls selling refreshments, tee shirts, badges, and such like items, and litter was dealt with efficiently and effectively.

Live groups included Captain Rock, Spectrum, The Dust Town Dogs, and from Scotland, Clann An Drumma. The Christian Bikers provided a welcome chill out area for quiet talk and relaxation, while Lanchester WMC hosted live music on Saturday, to accompany a Hog Roast. A Rock Disco was held on both nights, and Silly Games took place on Saturday afternoon.

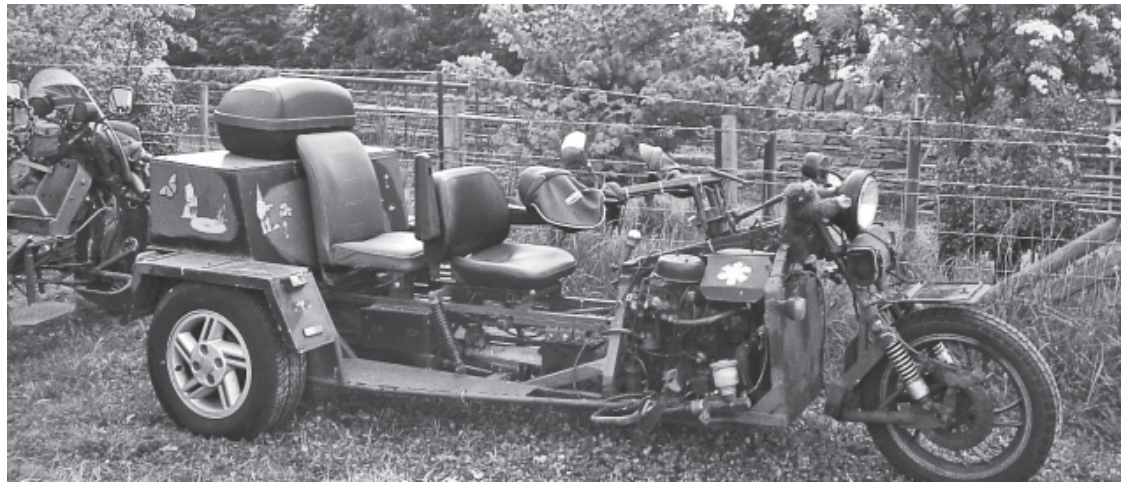
The principal officials that are responsible for arranging the annual event, Roy Bennington, Chairman, Helene, the Treasurer, and Alan Seymore, Secretary and Founder Member, realise that bikers receive negative comments at times, with some having quite a tough outer appearance, but generally these are

gentlemen and women of the road, friendly and generous. To prove the point, £4,300 was the sum raised for charities, with the Heel and Toe children's charity collecting £270 in a bucket collection and £150 contributed to Cash for Kids. The other major good cause to benefit was the Great North Air Ambulance, and the biking fraternity should be congratulated for their generosity.

They bring much money into our community, contribute to charities and bring a spot of colour to Lanchester!



Jackie, Jan and Bev from the Lanchester Centurions fund raising team. £4,300 was raised for charities including the Great North Air Ambulance, Heel and Toe children's charity and Cash for Kids.



A distressed trike, straight from a theatre of conflict - actually it is only two years old!

## COMMUNITY DRAW

The Community Draw is a monthly competition to help the Community Centre. It only costs £1 to enter and winnings could be as much as £50. If you would like to join, call in and see the staff at the Community Centre. In April the winning number in the draw was 67. The draw was made by Pat Wright of the Thursday Art Group.



## Lanchester Community Centre



## Durham International Brass Festival 2011

BEAT 'n' BLOW are Coming To Lanchester Community Centre

Sat. July 2nd 2011 7.30pm

Tickets £5.00

Beat 'n' Blow is a very energetic 9-piece marching band playing acoustic dance music arranged for voices, horns and drums, from Berlin. With a singer, two drummers, two trumpets, tuba, trombone and two saxophones, the band creates a unique sound and live experience that leaves no audience untouched.

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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 10.05.11

## Annual Meeting

All members were re-elected for the coming year.

## Ordinary Meeting

Chairman Cllr Ossie Johnson welcomed members of the public and Inspector Dave Turner and moved on to a later item of the Agenda, namely **Speed Limit on the A691 at St Bede's School** about which those residents at the meeting were very concerned. Claire Lamb read out a letter to the Highways Authority to have the speed limit on the stretch of road outside the school reduced to 30 mph and requested the support of the Parish Council. A petition signed by 1,000 people and letters of support from St Bede's and the RC Primary School were also presented. The Lead Officer read out letters from the Police and the Highways Authority explaining why the speed limit on this section of the road was 40mph; the main reason being that it did not meet the criteria for a 30mph limit. A great deal of discussion and suggestions ensued and it was agreed that this speed limit would be beneficial and that the Council should support the request to Durham County Council. Inspector Turner also agreed to give his support and suggested that the speed limit should be 30mph throughout the whole village section of the A691.

**Police Report.** Inspector Turner gave his monthly report on crime statistics in the Parish (see separate report below), saying that victim satisfaction in his Consett area was the highest in the County at 90%. He also stated that as scrap metal prices are very high, the stealing of metal is on the rise and

that everyone should be on their guard and watch out for anything suspicious, letting the Police know if they suspect anything. Another prolific crime in the area is that of motor insurance claims resulting from faked road traffic accidents. However, Inspector Turner said a large number of arrests are imminent.

**Businesses in Lanchester.** Concern was raised over the number of unoccupied business premises in the village and it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the owner of what had been the Flower Shop to see if the empty premises could be made to look more attractive.

**Correspondence.** Letters of thanks from All Saints Catholic Primary School and Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club for donations and the EP Primary School for the use of the village green for the maypole dancing were read.

Correspondence with residents regarding speeding traffic on Cadger Bank was considered, together with the Lead Officer's reply and her letter to the Highways Authority asking them to get in touch directly with the residents concerned.

A letter from a resident about the Go North East bus service was discussed and it was agreed that a letter of support should be sent. Local Councillor Shadowing Award scheme - this letter was received.

North Pennines AONB. The Spring and Summer newsletter was received. Finchale Training College - an update on the fitness room renovation was received following the Parish Council's donation.

Butterwick House Children's Hospice - an invitation to the Open Day on Wed 15th June was received.

**Area Action Partnership/Parish Council's Committee.** Cllr Burton reported that the last meeting had been an enquiry into the progress of the AAP. Praise had been given to the Parish Council's Committee.

**Lynwood House - Public Consultation Event.** Members were informed of the recent public event and given details of the proposals for the site. At present the interested parties are in negotiation with the County Council to present a business plan and if the scheme progresses further a consultation with residents and highway users will follow.

**Hanging Baskets.** It was agreed to go ahead with the provision and watering of the baskets; this year the cost will be less because there are no baskets to buy.

**Fenhall Banner.** The banner is in fairly good condition and Cllrs Johnson and Burton, together with Mike Gladstone of Lanchester Partnership had been to see it at Redhills. The General Secretary of Durham Miners' Association had agreed that the Parish Council should become custodians of the banner and that it will probably be displayed in the Parish Church or in rotation in all three churches. It was agreed that it should be insured and that a Committee of residents be formed to have the banner conserved and a display case bought.

**Internal Audit 2010/2011.** The Auditors report for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2011 was approved by

Members who wholeheartedly agreed with the Auditor's commendation for the professional manner in which the affairs of the Council have been managed by the Lead Officer and the way in which the records were kept and produced for the audit.

**Chairperson's Announcement.** A provisional date for the launch of the Village Green Project has been set for Thursday 9th June at 2 pm. Posters will be displayed in the village beforehand and a plaque has been bought to affix to one of the seats.

**Questions from Members.** Cllr Myers said he had been contacted by a resident with a request for a litter bin and dog bin between Alderdene and Newbiggin Lane. Cllr Harrison asked if a litter bin could be put in Kitswell Park and about the cutting of the verges in the roads around the village as the grass is now becoming dangerously long, causing a hazard to motorists.

**Date of Next Meeting.** This will take place on Tuesday 14th June 2011 at 7.15 pm in the Conference Room, Park House, Lanchester. It is hoped that the Neighbourhood Warden and the Flood Warden will be present.

## Planning Committee held on 12.04.11

The following planning applications have been **approved** by Durham County Council:

\* Conservatory to rear at Foxhills Crescent

\* Change of use from Police Station to wedding car hire business and extension of existing garage and creation of pitched roof at former Police Station, Millfield.

\* Siting of temporary static caravan for agricultural purposes (retrospective) on land to the west of West Newbiggin Farm, Newbiggin Lane.

\* Replacement of windows in 'house' section and in part of the 'school' section of Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggin Lane.

**Planning applications:** Erection of farm workers dwelling (resubmission) at Greenwell Farm, Lanchester.

Members discussed the resubmitted application and considered that the original concerns and objections still remained. Copies of the Minutes of all Parish Council and Planning meetings are available in the library and at the website [www.lanchesterparish.info](http://www.lanchesterparish.info).

## POLICE REPORT

Reporting period 23/03/11 - 26/04/11.

Number of calls for Lanchester Beat Area 77 Alcohol seizures 0, Dwelling Burglaries 1 attempt (pub in Front Street), Other burglaries 0, Bogus callers 0, Anti-social behaviour 8 (no offences disclosed), Criminal Damage/Thefts of/from motor vehicles/gardens 7 (theft of garden furniture, dog kennels, one car, quad bike, smashed window, scratched car).

Operation Livorno, tackling street drinking continues.

Community Speed Watch outside St Bede's School resumes in May.

Drivers are requested not to park in the Keep Clear areas outside Woodham Court and Croft View - parking tickets will be issued to repeat offenders.



# LANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 14.05.11

This was held in the Lanchester Catholic Church Parish Centre and was attended by about 30 members. Chairman Mike Gladstone welcomed those present and received the 'Trustees' Report and Financial Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011. These were accepted.

Trustee John Gray, who had been a Member from the very beginning of the Partnership and a former Treasurer, has resigned. Mike thanked him, in his absence, for all the help and support he had given. There-election of Trustees Jill Gladstone and Brian Masterman, who resigned by rotation, was considered. Mike paid tribute to their professional expertise and they were unanimously re-elected.

A progress report was given by the leaders of the various working groups. Jill Gladstone, on behalf of the **Working with Young People** Group, said the Youth Club had had a good year, continuing purposefully and cheerfully, averaging around 23 young people each week, 9 of whom were girls. A display mounted in the hall showed the various activities, both indoor and outdoor, in which they were able to participate. PCSO Vanessa Gray sometimes joined in the activities to let the youngsters know she is a friend. Four boys are doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award and some of the girls are doing street dancing. A grant from the AAP will enable them to keep going for another three years. Unfortunately, due to the uncertainties about the future of the library, the proposed internet cafe has not materialised. Jill paid tribute to Simon Kenney



*Maureen Loy describing the work of the Transport Group at Lanchester Partnership's AGM*

and Shane Marsh who assist her at the club and also thanked daughter Sally, husband Mike and Colm Doyle for their help. Maureen Loy gave the report of the **Transport Group**. The highlight of the year had been the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Village Link Bus which had been very successful. She said it is always a struggle to raise the money but somehow they always manage to reach the target. She thanked Karen Bravington who works ceaselessly for this, as well as the users and Councils who also contribute. The AAP has taken on the road safety and speeding problem and the new Gateway scheme for marking the seven roads entering the village with a view to slowing down traffic will commence soon. Speedwatch, where members of the public assist the police, will start again soon. There is concern at the reduction in public transport on Sundays and evenings. Sonny Shepherd from the Green Group began by giving the report prepared by Carolyn Wardle about the Paradise Club. The new MPLC licence, combined with the large, drop-down screen and new sound system has transformed the viewing experience for those members attending

the 'social' in the Community Centre where £2.50 entrance fee gives refreshments, a raffle ticket and the chance to see a film. (Membership costs £5 a year for 8 or 9 monthly films). There is now a wider choice of films and members are asked to suggest films. Average attendance is increasing and is about 30.

Sonny thanked the Trustees for accommodating the work of **Green Group**. It has been a positive year, raising awareness with meetings and talks. The Energy Fair, organised by Steve Bailey and opened by MP Pat Glass, was very successful, being attended by over 150 people. The Energy Group is now looking at ways to produce energy. Dora's Wood 10th Anniversary celebrations went well and the Parish was given 420 trees to plant in the Parish. Some have been planted and the rest are being nursed by Paul and Sonny until later. The Litter Pick was a great Community Event - over one and a half lorry loads of rubbish were collected. The village is now looking better, but the main problem is in the lanes approaching the village as people throw rubbish out of their cars. Sonny thanked Jill Gladstone and her team of organisers.

Kate Wicks has sold over 100 cotton bags with the village green logo on them; profits go to the group. The Orchard Scheme - 25 households have signed up. For £10 a year, members put in some effort and are then able to share the fruit. Sonny said there is still a lot to do and thanked Mike Gladstone for his advice. Rob Latham has taken over the **Planning and Development Group**. He and some of the Trustees and Parish Council had gone through the County Durham Plan and submitted 7 pages of

comment. Another County Council document is now being monitored. The Partnership's views on 50 planning applications had been given. Most had been supported, some had required asking for appropriate conditions and occasionally it was felt necessary to ask for the application to be turned down. On the whole, 80% of applications turned out as the Partnership wished. Rob commented on how useful the Village Design Statement is.

*continued on page 8*

## Alan Madrell Coach Tours



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## LANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP AGM

*continued from page 7*

Christine Lever gave a report on behalf of the **Friends of Longovicium**, whose aims are to encourage the interest in and increase understanding of our local Roman heritage. To this end, the Friends put on displays and Project Manager Rodney Hawkins gave talks in Lanchester and some of the surrounding villages.

Much interest was shown and a large amount of new information was received. A second booklet has been produced this year entitled 'Longovicium: A Roman Town at Lanchester' and is about the civilian settlement outside the fort which was discovered by a geophysical survey. The booklet is now being printed and the Friends are planning to launch it on Saturday 9th July from 10.30 am to 2.30 pm in the Community Centre. The booklet, talks, displays, children's activities, light refreshments and a raffle are all free and everyone is welcome. The event is supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund. Cllr and Trustee Colin Burton spoke about the work done in liaison with the County Council and the Parish Council which had begun after the Village Appraisal in 2008. The Parish Plan followed and last year, the Locality Map which links the outer areas of the Parish with the village. Grants received also enabled the Parish Council to appoint a Development Officer, Sue

Charlton, for 18 months to work on this link. Cllr Burton also spoke of the Lynwood House project which is moving forward and the Fenhall Drift banner. The Parish Council is in negotiation with the Miners' Welfare Association who would like to see it in its home village. Finally, Cllr Burton stated that the Parish Council has a responsibility to help with the problem of the bus service cuts.

Mike thanked the leaders of the Working Groups. He said the Partnership had no serious money worries, that membership had increased and, for the third year running, he was able to say it had been the best year ever! The Action Plan for 2011-2012 was approved.

Pam Bygate told members that Mike had been invited to Windsor Castle last year to meet the Queen and other members of the Royal Family but that he had kept quiet about it. This was in recognition of all he does for the village and Pam thought everyone should know about this invitation. The items discussed under **Any Other Business** were reducing the speed limit outside St Bede's School to 30mph, the reduction in

bus services and land designated by the County Council for possible development, namely a stretch of land above Briardene and the Green School Site. All these subjects produced a great deal of discussion. It was decided that a letter should be sent from the Partnership to the County Council Highways Department suggesting a 20mph speed limit outside St Bede's during pupil arrival and departure times. Concern was shown about development on the two sites mentioned, particularly in respect of the increased amount of traffic on Newbiggen Lane and the A691.

The reduction of bus services will be discussed at the next Trustees' Meeting.

Extending the route of the Lanchester Village Bus was also considered as there have been requests for it to go elsewhere, but this would mean running the bus hourly instead of half-hourly. This was thought to be impracticable and may cause problems for some of the present users. Mike invited everyone to partake of light refreshments, to look at the displays and to enjoy a chat.

## MAKE WAY FOR THE CROSS

On Good Friday evening, Lanchester Methodist Church was full to overflowing. A huge audience gathered to hear the beautiful, yet powerful music of Graham Kendrick. In the busyness of everyday life it was really wonderful to find so many people gathering to mark such an important day. The North West Durham Methodist Circuit choir with more than forty voices, conducted by Harry Carr and

accompanied with a band of accomplished musicians brought alive the passion and resurrection of Christ. Imaginations could picture the scenes in Jerusalem as the words of the songs painted pictures. Altogether a wonderful evening with a powerful message that Jesus is alive! Thank you to Harry, the choir and band for bringing the message of Easter to us! Margaret Coates

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## EASTER EGG COMPETITION

Staff at Peters organised an Easter Egg Competition for children in the village in three age groups. The competition was judged by an

anonymous member of the Village Voice team. Age 3-5 winners were: 1st Lucy Rodrigues; 2nd Francesca Steele and 3rd Nathan Burton. Age 6-8:

1st Daniel Cleghorn; 2nd Lucy Moore; 3rd Abigail Forster. Age 9-11: 1st Daniel Maeston; 2nd Megan Swainston; 3rd Erin Densham.

*The display of the eggs of the children aged 3 to 5 years*



*The display of the eggs of the children aged 6 to 8 years*

## Gardening in June

June is a lovely month in the garden: flowers appearing; crops beginning to bulge; lawns green and fresh coloured. As the risk of frost has now passed, it is a busy month in your garden. It is also the month when daylight hours are the longest and it is time to enjoy the garden.

### Borders

June is the time to plant out summer bedding including petunias, begonias, impatiens, etc and hanging up baskets that you have prepared perhaps using some of these plants. This month your tall growing perennials like delphinium, lupins, phlox, etc, need to be tied to their supports and clematis and other climbers need their new shoots training in the right direction. Also remember to deadhead the flower

spikes of lupins and delphiniums as soon as they fade to persuade the plants to produce more flower heads.

### Vegetable Plot

Now is the time to plant out leeks sown in the spring when they are pencil thick and runner beans sown in May. Other tasks this month include planting out other tender crops like outdoor tomatoes, sweet corn and courgettes; hoeing between rows to remove weed seedlings; and sowing winter brassicas such as cabbage and cauliflower. Another crop to sow directly outside in June is the increasingly popular salad leaves. These mixed leaves can be sown thinly into a pot or window box filled with multi-purpose compost, a grow bag, or well raked soil in a shallow trench. Leaves should be ready

in four weeks and can be harvested starting with the outer leaves when they are 4 to 6 inches long. You should avoid taking the centre tips so that the plants keep growing. This sowing should be repeated each 2 or 3 weeks in the summer to provide a continuous summer crop.

### General

Other jobs for this month include dividing primulas now that they have finished flowering, continuing to lift spring bulbs when the leaves have died down if you require the space, trimming back Clematis Montana after flowering if it is growing too much, and removing the dead flowers of rhododendron and lilac so that energy is not wasted in the production of seed but goes into the production of next year's buds.

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# EGG BOWLING AT PASTE EGG

*continued from page 1*  
It seemed in no time at all it was back to the van for a fabulous rendition of the 'Paste Egg Time Song' by Noel Jackson (vocal and concertina), Mark Jackson and Burt Hunter. This provided a great atmosphere for

retrieving the now dyed eggs and judging the competition by Noel Jackson and Burt Hunter. Kate Mckinnon was adjudged the winner with Olagh Windle and Leon Muir second and third respectively.

Then once again it was more energy released by some now flagging adults and tireless children as they climbed back up Paste Egg for the Egg Bowling. The children were excited, enthusiastic and competitive as Noel and Burt called out the

leading egg, with downcast faces for those bowlers whose eggs got chipped or smashed on landing, and were eliminated. Leon Muir picked up his second honour of the day by coming first with a really long effort.

Before leaving, Noel Jackson thanked Dr Ian Brunt for use of the field. All those from the Wildlife Group who were there deserved thanks too, for the wonderful organisation and effort which they collectively put into the day.



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## LETTER TO PARENTS AT EP SCHOOL FROM POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

To the parents of children at the Lanchester EP School Parents dropping off and picking up their children from the Lanchester EP school are requested to park

their vehicles FREE in the Lanchester Social Club Car Park, Newbiggen Lane, rather than using the car park at the Community Centre which is for the paying

members only. Parents/pupils are requested NOT to use the Community Centre car park as a cut-through, for health and safety reasons. PCSO Vanessa Gray

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE...

I cannot believe that it is my first parliamentary anniversary already. A whole year has gone by since the general election, a year in which we have seen our first peace time coalition in operation. Local elections have been held in our Parish and in our cities. We have had a national referendum and a royal wedding. I have served on the Education Select Committee for a year as well as several Public Bill Committees. I have made great strides in learning the language and customs of Parliament and have set up constituency and parliamentary offices and a schedule of regular surgeries. I would like to tell you about two recent events that were important to me. The 3rd May was the first anniversary of the death of Sapper Daryn Roy from Dipton, who died while serving our country in Afghanistan. My first official duty as the MP for North West Durham was to attend Daryn's funeral, and whilst I did not know Daryn it is clear that he was an excellent soldier, a young man much loved by his family and respected by all his colleagues and the community. This was clear in the huge turnout of his colleagues from the regiment and local people from Dipton at the memorial service held at his graveside on the anniversary of his death.

I also attended a second memorial

service, this time to celebrate our mining heritage and to remember those who died in the pits of the Deerness valley. The long list of those killed included my great-grandfather Andrew Corrigan and his brother, Peter Corrigan. Whilst this was a personal tragedy for my family, it happened in September 1918 at the same time that the rest of the country was dealing with the national tragedy of the First World War that wiped out a generation of young men, including another of my great-grandfathers, Alick Wright and his brother, Jack. Our mining heritage should always be remembered. It provided us with jobs and enriched our communities, making us much of what we are today. However, it also brought us tragedy and there are few families in this area that did not lose someone to King Coal.

Finally, I went camping over the Easter holidays. I slipped in the shower block and have broken my right wrist in three places. Unfortunately I am right handed so dressing, eating etc is a bit of a challenge, although I am getting very good at one fingered, left hand typing. I am always keen to hear from constituents. Please do not hesitate to contact me using the details below on any issues of concern. Best Wishes, Pat Pat Glass MP, 1 Gledstone House, 26 Newmarket Street, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 5LQ Tel: 01207 501 78 Email: pat.glass.mp@parliament.uk

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# DAWKINS, HAWKING AND GOD

A talk by Dr David Wilkinson, who is both an astrophysicist and a theologian, proved to be a very popular event. An appreciative audience listened to him expound difficult scientific concepts in humorous and down to earth terms explaining why he felt no conflict between his Christian faith and the latest scientific theories about the origin of the earth and the universe.

After a short introduction involving video clips of Dara O'Brian making fun of beliefs and practices of Christianity and of Richard Dawkins rejecting a belief in God, Dr Wilkinson gave us a summary of the ideas of Paul Davies who claimed that the more he learned

of scientific theories the more it inclined him towards the idea of God, if not religion.

The main body of his talk was divided into three parts - the Universe, theories on the origin of the Universe and the Big Bang, and finally the latest questions being raised by scientists on the origins of the Universe and the Big Bang. Difficult concepts were illustrated by everyday situations and well known incidents in the Bible. Dr Wilkinson ended by explaining his commitment to Christianity and how he was able to reconcile this with the latest theories and questions being asked about the origin of the Big Bang.

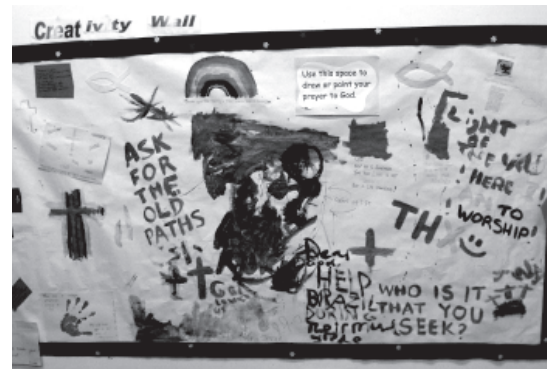


*Dr David Wilkinson who gave the talk organised by Churches Together*

There were many questions asked by members of the audience before Dr Wilkinson was allowed to sit down. Finally the Rev Gavin Hume gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the audience and Churches Together.

## LANCHESTER PRAYER ROOM

In January, the Lanchester Methodist church set up a 24 hour prayer room. People in the church signed up for one hour prayer slots for the whole 24 hours - day and night! We wanted to do this to bring the church together in a prayer event that was different. The event was part of the 24/7 prayer movement, a global project which takes place in prayer rooms. These rooms are designed with different prayer stations - things like a prayer wall to write prayers on, places to worship through painting, music, bible verses to pray about, maps to colour in places to pray for, inspiring film etc. It is designed to inspire creative and interactive prayer, taking into account that not many people find it easy to sit still and pray for an hour! Everyone who used it said their hour flew past. Feedback was really positive; a lady in her 70's



*Prayer tapestry which people could add to as they prayed*

said that it was 'a real blessing, thank you', a teenager said that he 'really appreciated time to pray with his family', a busy prison officer said that 'it was so nice to just have that hour to pray and do nothing else' - he had taken the 2-3 am slot. As such, it was decided to become something the church would like to do regularly, so **the next prayer room will be from noon on Friday 10th June to Sunday 12th June, this time for 48 hours.**

We would like contributions from as many people or groups as

possible about prayers they would like. Please drop prayer requests into the church on 11th June during the Saturday coffee morning. We would also love people to come and drop in and see what it is all about, and spend time in the room. We will be running the prayer room quarterly, and aim to eventually increase the time to a full week of continuous prayer. This will need many people from Lanchester to join in with an aim to bring the whole village together in prayer.



## GOOD FRIDAY



*Good Friday on the village green*

On this special Friday in the Christian Calendar, namely Good Friday, a good number of Lanchester people gathered round the three large wooden crosses which had been placed on our village green.

This short service at 9.30 am has been held for a number of years now and is actually an initiative of 'Churches Together'. Our three clergy are on the

committee of 'Churches Together' and take it in turns to lead the service.

Canon Peter Waterhouse led it this year and centred our thoughts on the Crucifixion of Christ and the sacrifice Christ made for us on the cross. Two appropriate hymns were sung, after which everyone dispersed to attend a longer service in their own church.

Brenda Craddock

## EASTER SATURDAY

'Churches Together' also organised a witness of our Christian Faith to take place on the morning of Easter Saturday.

It took the form of a short service on the village green followed by a procession to the Methodist Church with several men carrying a large wooden cross.

On their arrival at church a group of people from the three churches conducted a short service of readings and hymns, led by Val and Ray Hill. The singing was accompanied by The Worship Band and

singers, a music ensemble from the Methodist Church. The Easter message was also shown in a short drama in mime, on the lawn in front of the church by Ray Hill, Elizabeth Ramage and Ann Martin.

Coffee and hot cross buns were served inside the church and then several members of the 'Churches Together' committee took trays full of hot cross buns out to shoppers and tradespeople in the village. Each hot cross bun was wrapped in a

serviette upon which a message was printed, part of which read: 'Why a cross on a Hot Cross Bun? It is traditionally eaten on Good Friday when Jesus Christ was put to death. The bun's cross reminds us of what Jesus did for all mankind - even you!'

It continued with an invitation to worship at one of the churches at Easter.

There has been very favourable feedback from this occasion and it may become a yearly event. Look out for it next year.

Brenda Craddock



*The walk from the Village Green to the Methodist Church on Easter Saturday*



*The short service in front of the Methodist Church on Easter Saturday*



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## 21 MONTHS IN AND STILL GROWING...

The Mid Durham Area Action Partnership's Annual Report 2010/11 has just been published and provides an update on the projects supported in 2009/10 and highlights

those progressing from 2010/11. Collectively the AAP, its associated elected members and their partners have committed over £700,000 into the mid Durham area during 2010/11, with over 160 different projects benefiting. Here are just some of the highlights...

◆ The AAP has a Public Forum made up of over **250 contacts** which in turn has links to over 100 different organisations and services including Parish Council's and community groups operating in mid Durham.

◆ It has developed **9 major projects** addressing the AAPs key priority themes, committing £150,000 of its Area Budget towards an overall project investment of £434,994 into mid Durham. **£1 of Area Budget invested has attracted a further £1.90 into mid Durham.**

◆ The AAP has **enabled hundreds of local residents** to feed in their views into the County Durham Plan, Durham County Councils Medium Term Financial Plan and consultation on the indoor leisure facilities review.

◆ The AAP has **consulted with over 630 local residents** of all ages to gain their views on what it is like to live in mid Durham. The results have helped structure the work of the AAP for 2011/12.

◆ The **AAP team are working in virtually every village** throughout mid Durham providing support to numerous projects including play areas, bike tracks, community buildings, village surveys, luncheon clubs, youth provision and community gardens.

◆ The **8 Durham County Council elected members** for mid Durham have committed their support to 27 projects via their Neighbourhood Budgets and 64 through their Members Initiative Fund, equating to an overall **investment of £293,069**. Projects supported include parking, traffic control, sports, clubs, community venues, play and youth provision, equipment, trips and events.

◆ **Community Speedwatch** has been used in 9 villages on over 80 occasions with Castleside, Cornsay Colliery and Lanchester receiving the most visits. Where necessary enforcement has been instigated.

◆ Castleside and Lanchester **Gateway schemes** are starting in April and May 2011. Design work is ongoing in Maiden Law and Ushaw Moor alongside other highway works.

◆ Support to the **2 Credit Unions** operating in mid Durham has seen their memberships increase by 243 with 7 new collection points and 14 volunteers.

◆ The **small grants fund** has supported 62 different community groups through £21,865 of Area Budget; these groups have in turn brought in a further £37,323 into mid Durham.

◆ Developed a joint project with Durham AAP to **support community venues**, aiming to increase awareness of the venues, get more people through the doors and in turn increase income.

◆ Supported the development of **7 new playsites** throughout mid Durham.

◆ Worked in partnership to sustain **youth work provision** in Castleside, Lanchester and Burnhope and extend provision in Esh Winning and Langley Park.

For further information on these please contact your AAP team on 01207 529857 or take a more in depth look at our work via our website at [www.durham.gov.uk/mdaap](http://www.durham.gov.uk/mdaap) where you will find our 2010/11 Annual Report.

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## FRIENDS NEEDED

Everybody needs friends and right now your Community Centre needs you. You will not need the Village Voice to tell you that times are hard and inevitably these hard times affect all aspects of the community including the Centre.

Some of you may think the Community Centre belongs to and is funded by the Council. This is not the case; it belongs to the village and is funded by the money it gets from room rental supplemented by any grants or donations it can muster.

Right now some clubs and organisations that rent rooms are suffering themselves and room rentals are down. But all is not gloom and doom; the centre still managed to keep its head above water and make a small trading profit last year, showing it to be a well managed "business". But it is time for the community to rally

around and help where it can.

The centre acts as a focal point for many village activities, catering for all ages from toddlers to the elderly. Even if you do not use the centre now, you may be glad of its facilities in the future so give it some support if you possibly can.

You can become a Friend of the Community Centre by donating £2 (the price of a cup of coffee) each month. This can be done by monthly direct debit or by an annual payment. You can of course donate more and that would be greatly appreciated, but if all villagers became Friends it would go a long way to keeping the Community Centre in the black.

Your donation can help in three ways. Firstly the donation itself, secondly if you are a tax payer the centre can get 28 pence extra for each pound donated, finally if the

centre can show that it has the full support of the local community it is more likely to be given grant assistance. Please pop into the Centre and pick up a Friends leaflet from the foyer, complete it and hand it to the staff who are in attendance during the day or evening while the gym is open. Help your Community Centre and it will help you. That's what friends are for.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are in order for Mary Hall and her staff at New Image Hair Salon. Mary and her colleagues travelled to Middlesbrough on April 17th for the North East Hairdressing Championships. Mary achieved two second prizes and all the other stylists came in the top 6, in various categories. Mary would like to thank her staff for their hard work and

success and all the models who gave their time for the competition.

The Village Voice would like to apologise to New Image for failing to mention last month, as promised, that Emma was returning to work after the birth of her baby daughter Ruby. We also did not mention that the Beauty and Hair Salons are now combined. Sorry to Mary and her Staff and particularly to baby Ruby for the error.

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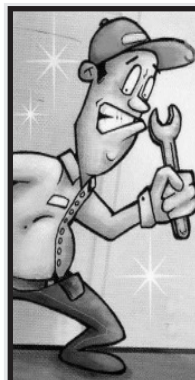
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## LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The May meeting was held on Friday 6th May in the Community Centre, when the speaker was Margaret Hedley with a talk on The Victorian Woman in the Pit Village. Members and friends were introduced by Chairman John Thompson who then introduced Mrs Hedley, who was paying her third visit to the Society and who specialises in family history, mining history and women's history. She gave a fascinating talk describing the life of the pit women (either the wife or daughter of a miner) in an East Durham pit village in 1881. These women, who were illiterate, suffered many hardships, not least the emotional hardship of knowing that if their father, husband or son was killed or badly injured and unable

to go down the mine, they would be homeless and penniless. The talk was accompanied by a plan of a typical pit village and many interesting facts about the life and homes of the mining families. Questions were asked and answered and then Chairman John Thompson thanked Mrs Hedley, saying that it had been a lovely way to end the year of the Society's indoor meetings. The annual outdoor meeting will be on Saturday 25th June, with a visit to the working example of a Wurlitzer organ at Howden le Wear, to which family and friends are invited. Next year's programme will start on 2nd September in the Community Centre, when the subject will be Betty Surtees.



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## DEBUT SINGLE FOR LANCHESTER DUO



*The Cosmic Girls' new single*

The Cosmic Girls' debut single 'The One' was released on May 15th 2011. After popular worldwide television appearances and touring slots as members of acclaimed soul singer Duffy's band, Lanchester's twin sisters Charlotte and Stephanie Walker are ready to forge their own path in the pop landscape. With comparisons being made to pop royalty - artists such as Kylie Minogue, Roisin

Murphy and Goldfrapp - the band are off to a very strong start. Unusually in this musical age, 'The One' was written entirely by Charlotte and Stephanie themselves, setting this duo apart from the pop pack and quashing all stereotypes in the process. Their sound is a mix of pop and electronica, a soundscape of electrifying hooks with infectious melodies and harmonies.

their track 'Leave Town'.

In support of the single, The Cosmic Girls have played live gigs such as North East Unsigned, Durham Christmas Lights, Powerhouse and Stockton Fireworks, supporting X-Factor winner Joe McElderry. They have also performed at Oxford Fashion Week and are set to play Middlesbrough Fashion Week and local Summer Festivals (for more details see their website [www.thecosmicgirls.co.uk](http://www.thecosmicgirls.co.uk)).

The single has already had airplay on Amazing Radio, Spark FM and BBC Oxford and can be downloaded from iTunes/Amazon/We7.

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### AMAZING GRACE!

Grace Stewart-Piercy is 10 years old. She is a Year 5 pupil at Lanchester EP School. Last year she did a sponsored cycle ride for charity. She cycled the Coast to Coast route (approx 145 miles) in three and a half days and raised £2300 for charities. The money was split evenly between The Charlie Bear Appeal and Cancer Research.

This year she has decided that she will do a longer ride. Grace is doing a ride called Coast and Castles. She will be leaving Durham Castle on the morning of Saturday 21st May. The route will take her north to Newcastle, then east to Tynemouth. She is then going to follow the Northumberland coastline, seeing the many castles en route, cross the Scottish border and then continue following the coastline until she

finishes the ride at Edinburgh Castle.

This ride is approximately 200 miles and it is hoped should take 4 to 5 days. Again, she is raising money for two charities, with the money split evenly between Willow Burn Hospice and Cancer Research. Hopefully, with the help of friends, family, and readers, she will raise more than last year.

Anyone wanting to sponsor Grace can do so at <http://www.justgiving.com/GraceWillowBurn> and <http://www.justgiving.com/GraceCancerResearch> depending on which charity you prefer.

Her progress can be followed at <http://on.fb.me/GraceCycle> (case sensitive). This page will be regularly updated with news, photographs and video footage as she travels north.



## VISITOR FROM GOA

Lanchester has again played host to a visiting priest from Goa in what is becoming an annual tradition for All Saints Catholic Church. Father Agnelo who teaches Indian and Western Philosophy in a seminary in Goa, has just spent four weeks enjoying our hospitality and visits to Newcastle United matches. In his farewell message, during the celebration of his last Sunday Mass in the parish, he contrasted the low temperatures with the warmth of his welcome and thanked the people of Lanchester for making him feel at home.

*Our picture, right, shows Fr Agnelo, Canon Spence, and Echo with some of the parishioners from All Saints*



## LIONS BOOK STALL

Lion President Martin Durkin and Secretary, Brian Naylor, took charge of the first Lions Book Stall of 2011. They were pleased and eager to accept a free Hot Cross Bun from David Hughes who was distributing buns freely around the village on behalf of Churches Together who were holding an event at the Methodist Church. The Lions Club will operate the book stall as often as possible, weather permitting and members being available, on most Saturday mornings.



*David Hughes with the tray of Hot Cross Buns, Lion President Martin Durkin and Lions' Secretary, Brian Naylor*

## BOWLING UPDATE

Lanchester Bowling Club has got off to a mixed start to the season. Good wins by the Monday and Tuesday teams against Consett Park and Annfield Plain were sadly followed by two defeats at the hands of much improved teams from Sherburn Park, Consett. The Wednesday team clocked up a win against Chester-le Street but they

and the Saturday team suffered losses against strong teams from Dipton. On the plus side, there is a lot of enthusiasm in the club with all teams well subscribed and some difficult choices to be made by selectors. Club competitions will be starting this month and have also been well supported.



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# A WOODEN BOY GOES TO SCHOOL!



*The talented young cast of Pinocchio*

In 1883 Carlo Collodi wrote his story about Pinocchio, the little wooden doll who longed to become a human boy. Over the years, the book has become a classic, familiar to new generations through



*Gepetto carves his wooden boy*

the Disney film version.

On May 4th, M and M Productions brought their play to All Saints' Primary School. The young audience watched entranced as wood worker Gepetto carved his toys, the old man not realising

that one of his figures was fashioned from a magical piece of wood. Gepetto was lonely, and longed for a son. He put all his love into carving his toys for children to enjoy. That night, the Blue Fairy appeared in his workshop and brought

the puppet Pinocchio to life. She chose a cricket, Jimminy to be his conscience, and told the doll that if he was kind, honest and caring, he would become a mortal child. Pinocchio was kidnapped by "Honest John" a thief and villain. The wooden boy and Jimminy had many adventures and important lessons were learned. There were many opportunities for the students to join in the fun, "high fiving," laughing and of course "giving a little whistle". All the Disney songs were familiar and the young audience obviously loved the performance. Pinocchio's nose grew bigger with every fib he told, but at last he redeemed himself by rescuing Gepetto and Jimminy and was rewarded by the Blue Fairy with the gift of human life. The talented cast of four young people must be commended - one girl played five parts! At the end of the performance, the children were congratulated by actors for their excellent attention and great sense of fun.

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# OPENING OF COMMUNITY BANK



*Left to right sitting: Pat Cudden, Pat Glass MP, Canon Bob Spence; standing: Councillor Richard Young, Brian Cudden and Councillor Ossie Johnson.*

A local branch of the Prince Bishops Community Bank opened in Lanchester Community Centre on Tuesday May 3rd. The opening was attended by local MP Pat Glass, County Councillors Ossie Johnson and Richard Young and Canon Spence. The Prince Bishops Community Bank is a long standing institution in Derwentside and until recently was more widely known as the Derwentside Credit Union. Pat Glass, who became the first member of the

Lanchester Branch, said she was pleased that the Prince Bishops Community Bank was now available locally. She and her husband had been members of the Police Credit Union for many years until his retirement and she was delighted to become a member again. It gave people a convenient way of saving and access to loans without astronomical interest rates. The bank will now be open regularly in the Community Centre computer room (under the stairs) from 10.00 am to

12.00 noon each Tuesday morning. Members old and new are welcome - any resident of County Durham over 16 can become a member although under 18s are not eligible for a loan. Brian and Pat Cudden are there to give information and advice and deal with your transactions. They would welcome new volunteers, who must become members of the bank, so that a regular rota can be arranged. Training will be given. Anyone interested should contact Pat Cudden on 01207 520185.

## CHURCH NOTICES

These sentences actually appeared on church noticeboards or were announced in church services:

Richard Benson and Jenny Carter were married on April 25th in this church. So ends a friendship that began in their schooldays.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm in the Methodist Church Hall. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and the deterioration of some older ones.

Year 12 students will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet on 18th June at 7 pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again", giving obvious pleasure to the audience.

The Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet on Thursday evenings at 7 pm. Please use the back door.

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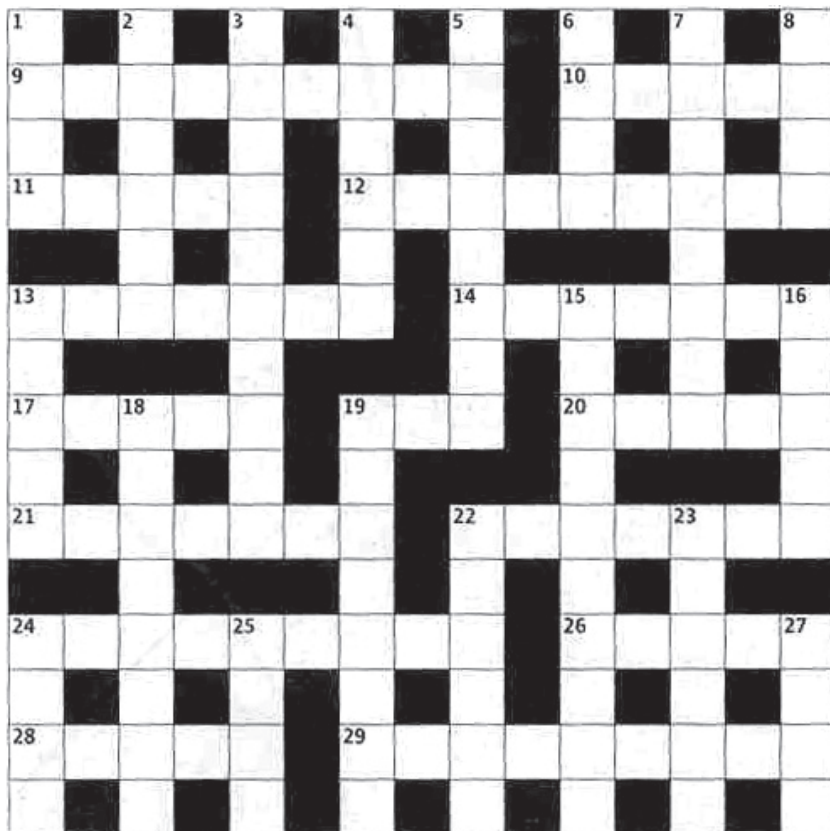
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# CROSSWORD 61



## ACROSS

9. Creature with bad croup in tree (9)
10. Danger from usurper I look like (5)
11. Cat not to be held by the tail (5)
12. Famous (9)
13. Devil (7)
14. Home of the Grand Canyon (7)
17. C a s b a h airwaves used for religion (5)
- 19,22 Revealing (3-7) across
20. Period (5)
21. Played in lively manner (7)
22. see 19 across
24. see 4
26. Take off (5)
28. Confidence trick (5)
29. Weed from loser dung (9)

## DOWN

1. Goes with black, soft, check and on (4)
2. Distressing (6)
3. Rotting (10)
- 4,24 Upright citizen across (6,2,7)
5. Port on the Danube (8)
6. Dress up (4)
7. 01484 perhaps (4,4)
8. Whip unmercifully (4)
13. African state (5)
15. Tool (10)
16. Muslim Supreme Being (5)
18. Alcohol is ticklish problem for comprehensive solution (8)
19. Refined ego set on early culture (5,3)
22. Plaything for a mature woman? (3,3)
23. Extreme (6)
24. Proust for exile (4)
25. Lock-up (4)
27. Lock-up (4)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 60

### ACROSS

1. teeter
4. scorpion
9. flinch
10. crossbow
11. follow your nose
13. breathless
- 14,16. a dab hand
16. see 14
18. idle manner
21. leave well alone
23. energise
24. ignite
25. set aside
26. stasis

### DOWN

1. tiff
2. episode
3. escalate
5. carbon steel
6. rosary
- 7,15. in broad daylight
8. new member
12. well dressed
13. beholders
15. see 7
17. nearest
19. nuncios
20. feigns
22. Tess

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 0PB.

## CROSSWORD 60

There were just 12 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Mr D Bickle of Ford Crescent who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

Test your skill on 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			5					6
	5			2				
		8			3	7		
		4			9			
1			8		7			
		7					5	2
			3			1	8	
3		9			1			
7			4					



## WI NEWS

We were invited to Lanchester Garden Centre for our May meeting by Ian and Polly MacCallum for a talk and demonstration of baskets and tubs.

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed everyone and a fruit basket was presented to Phy Penfold for her eightieth birthday.

What a fun and informative evening we had. Ian asked for two volunteers to make hanging baskets alongside him and our very own "Good Life" Margo (Shirley Mair) and Barbara (Jean Forster) rose to the challenge. Ian gave advice as they worked

on compost, lining, plants and how to plant up. It normally takes Ian 5 minutes to plant a hanging basket; these took a little longer but were lovely. We then enjoyed tea and delicious homemade cakes before a demonstration of planting tubs. This time four ladies were required and Ann Carr, Angela Velleman, Phyllis Reed and Joan Osborne rose to the challenge and planted away.

The ladies who helped proudly took their creations home and three that Ian made were raffled. Winners were Vee Wintrell, Kath Morris and Ann Smith.

The competition winners were Pauline Griggs and Shirley Lamb. At the end of the evening members were able to place orders as well as purchase plants and gifts.

We were amazed at how much work and how many plants were used in making the tubs and baskets; once again a local business on our doorstep supplying a first class service. For those who have not been to the garden centre a trip up for lunch or a snack as well as plants, baskets, tubs and gifts is well worth doing and you will be sure of a warm welcome.



*Shirley Mair, Ian MacCallum and Jean Forster with their finished hanging baskets*

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Deville Mushrooms

Mustard, Olive oil and Worcestershire sauce give these mushrooms a wonderful spicy flavour, creating tasty juices during cooking. (Work time 10-15 minutes. Cook time 8-10 minutes. Serves 4. Good for a meal starter or lunch time snack. 2tbsp wholegrain mustard 2tbsp olive oil 2tbls Worcestershire sauce 2 garlic cloves, crushed 8 large flat mushrooms

1 tsp paprika 140g bag of mixed salad leaves, with ruby chard and watercress French or crusty bread, to serve  
**TAKES MINUTES TO PREPARE**  
1 Preheat the oven to 200C/Gas 6/Fan oven 180C. In a large bowl, mix together the mustard, oil, Worcestershire sauce and garlic, then season with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

2 Add the mushrooms to the mixture and toss well to coat them evenly. (You can do this ahead and let them marinate.) Place them stalk-side up in a roasting tin and sprinkle over the paprika. Bake for 8-10 minutes.  
3 Divide the salad leaves between 4 serving plates. Put two mushrooms on each plate and spoon over the juices. Serve straight away, with French or crusty bread.

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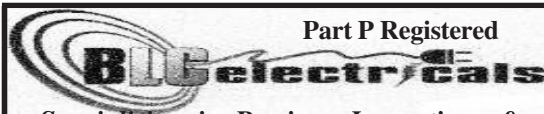
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## ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

## Country Market

The next market will take place in Lanchester Community Centre on Saturday 4th June from 10.00-11.30am. The usual cakes, scones, pies, jams, marmalades, chutneys, crafts and plants will be on sale.

## Open House

All are welcome at the Chapter House on Thursday 2nd June. A sandwich lunch is served between 11.30 am and 1.00 pm.

## Lanchester Social Club Entertainment

Saturday 4th June, PETE McDONALD

Saturday 11th June, LEE PAUL

Saturday 18th June, KAREN LEE

Saturday 25th June, KENNY

## Summer Fayre Parish Church

Lanchester Parish Church will hold their Summer Fayre at the Chapter House on Saturday 4th June 9.30 am - 11.30am. The theme is Sunshine & Strawberries. Cakes and savouries, cards, pictures, plants, books, bric a brac, toiletries and a bottle tombola will feature, along with the Grand Summer Draw. Tea/Coffee, Strawberry and Cheese Scones will be available for only £1.00. Do come and join us.

## Flower Club

On Wednesday 8th June, there will be an outing to Horsley Hall, Weardale, £30 plus bus fare.

On Friday 24th June at an Open Meeting at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre, Mildred Stafford will give a demonstration entitled 'Nature's Woven Mantle'.

## All Saints Summer Fayre

On Saturday 18th June 11.00 am - 1.00 pm, All Saints Catholic Church and Primary School will be holding the annual Summer Fayre in the Parish Centre and school grounds.

Stalls will include BBQ, refreshments, homemade goods, books, lucky bags, Children's, Gift and Bottle Tombolas, face painting, games and many more.

## Music Sessions

The Sunday evening acoustic and electric music session is on the move again and is now taking place at "The Cross Keys", Main Road, Esh. I should like to thank the management of The Black Bull, and especially the appreciative regulars for their support over the last couple of years. As before, performers and audience will be most welcome to join us any Sunday evening from 8.30 pm. Ian Tute

## Mothers' Union

The meeting on 8th June, when we will meet in the Chapter House and go into church for 7.30 pm, is our Musical Evening when members of Lanchester Male Voice Choir will sing for us.

# WHAT'S ON?

## Paradiso Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday June 5th at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. There will be raffle, refreshments and a chance to see a film on the big screen.

## RABBIT-PROOF FENCE

Directed by Phillip Noyce, soundtrack by Peter Gabriel and starring: Kenneth Branagh, Everlyn Sampi, Tianna Sansbury, Laura Monaghan and others.

Based on a true story it is a tale of hope and survival. At a time when it was Australian Government policy to train aboriginal children as domestic workers and integrate them into white society, three make a break for freedom and have to elude the authorities on a dangerous 1,500 mile adventure along the rabbit-proof fence that bisects the continent and will lead them home.

Membership of the club is £5 per annum and each social is £2.50. All are welcome.

## WI

Our next meeting will be held in the small hall of the Community Centre on Monday 6th June starting at 7 pm.

There is a change to the programme as the bread lady is unable to come but we hope to have Barry from Lanchester Dairies and the competition is a sample of a unusual sandwich filling.

Members are reminded that the balance of the Summer trip money is due at this meeting please.

Visitors are always very welcome so why not come along and spend the evening with us; we would really like to see you.

## Wildlife Group

At the next meeting on Tuesday 14th June at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre, the speaker will be Fran Atherton of the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust.

## Junior Wildlife

On 12th June, meet at 9.30 am in the Community Centre car park for a visit to Low Barns.

## Derwentside Byways and Bridleways Walks

7th June, 7.00 pm, from the Shepherd and Shepherdess pub, near the entrance to Beamish Museum.

21st June, 7.00 pm. Meet at the Causey Arch pub car park, on the A6076 Stanley to Sunniside road.

## Short Circuit Walks

June 11th, 10.30 am, a linear walk from Corbridge to Hexham, 4.5 miles. Meet at Bridge End car park NY988640. Return by public transport.

June 18th, 10.30 am, Gilsland, 6 miles. A moderate grade walk with extensive views. Approach from Greenhead (A69), go under the railway and park on the roadside just before the crossing of the River Irthing. NY634664.

## RNID Advice

On Thursday 23rd June, from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon, there will be a Royal National Institute for the Deaf advice session in Lanchester Library.

## PACT Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd June at 7.15 pm in Lanchester Community Centre. All welcome.



## Beginners' Spanish Class

Take part in a relaxed and informal Beginners' Spanish course. Suitable for all.

## No experience necessary

Venue: St Patrick Church Hall, Consett  
Every Wednesday 6-8pm

For more details or to book a place call Emma on 01207 581090 or email fluentfuture@gmail.com  
(One-to-one tuition, After School Clubs & Family Learning also available)

## LANCHESTER SOCIAL CLUB NEW BIGGEN LANE LANCHESTER DH7 0PF



➔ WARM FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE

➔ BINGO THURSDAY NIGHTS

➔ 50/50 DANCING FRIDAY NIGHTS

➔ FREE ENTERTAINMENT EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

## NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Concert room with seating for 180 available for functions to any member of the community

Contact Richard Young or Trish Bennett on 01207 520475 or 01207 528304 for further information



## Punch and Judy Carnival

Looking for somewhere to entertain the children on Saturday 11th June? Then the Lanchester Lions' Carnival is the place for you. Come and join us for a great family afternoon of fun, food and colour. It all starts around 12.30 pm. New this year is 'Llewellyn4Fun' providing professional and fantastic Punch and Judy shows, face painting and balloon art. The Village Green will be bustling with the usual food marquee, side shows and fair ground rides. Front Street will host lots of stalls and a full programme of entertainment including the Brass Band, The Choral and Operatic Society and DJ Glen. Delicious teas will be available in the Methodist Chapel all afternoon. Please note that Front Street will be closed to traffic from the King's Head to the Queen's Head between 12 noon and 5 pm and the service buses will be re-routed. We have been advised that you will have to use the bus stops at St Bede's or along the Durham road near the Woodlands estate for Durham and Consett and the Stanley buses will turn round at St Bede's instead of via the Village Green. Please check the notices at the bus stops on the Village Green. We hope that if you have to travel this will not cause you too much inconvenience. Lanchester Lions

## Lanchester Brass Band

The Annual Patrons' Evening of Lanchester Brass Band will be on Wednesday June 29th in the Methodist Church beginning at 7.30 pm. The concert is open to the public and a warm welcome will be given to everyone. There is a variety of music pieces and your feet will be tapping to most of them. Tickets are available from members of the band at £5 and £6 on the night at the door. Contact Brenda, 01207 520749 or email [steve24c07@aol.com](mailto:steve24c07@aol.com), for further information.

## Durham Dramatic Society

Durham Dramatic Society will be performing *Breaking The Code*, by Hugh Whitmore, at The City Theatre, Fowlers Yard, Durham, between Sunday 19th June and Saturday 25th June. *Breaking The Code* tells the story of Alan Turing (1912-1954), who broke the German military communication codes at Bletchley Park, during the Second World War, and who, after the war, was a pioneer in the development of computers. He was also a victim of the law against homosexuality in 1950s Britain. The play shows Turing's life as a code-breaker, his relationships, and his brush with an unjust law. Performances start at 2.30 pm on Sunday 19th June, and at 7.30 pm on Monday 20th June to Saturday 25th June. Tickets cost £6.00. Concessions, available for performances on Sunday and Monday, cost £4.50. Tickets are available from the Tourist Information Office in Durham, from 2nd June.

## COMING SHORTLY

### LMVC

Lanchester Male Voice Choir will be presenting the Annual Concert on July 1st in the Methodist Church.

### Loft Clearance Sale

Saturday 2nd July from 10 am to 12 noon in the Community Centre. There will be no charge for tables, but 10% donation of sales to the Community Centre. Call 01207 521275 or pop in to book a table. Lanchester Country Market will also be on at the same time, selling cakes, jams and much more. Refreshments will be available.

### Beat n Blow

Presented as part of the Durham Brass Festival on Saturday 2nd July at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Community Centre, 'Beat n Blow' is a very energetic, 9-piece marching band playing dance music arranged for voices, horns and drums. With a singer, two drummers, two trumpets, tuba, trombone and two saxophones, the band creates a unique sound and live experience that leaves no audience untouched. Tickets £5.

### Book Launch

On Saturday July 9th from 10.30 am till 2.30 pm, The Friends of Longovicium, part of the Lanchester Partnership, will be holding an event in the Community Centre to launch the book they have produced about the civilian vicus (settlement) which was situated next to the Roman fort in the village of Lanchester. Members of The Friends of Longovicium (which is the Roman name for Lanchester) will be giving talks about their work at Longovicium and civilian life in the vicus. There will be an exhibition and displays on view within the Centre. It's a family friendly day. There is something for all ages. Light refreshments are also being provided. Free copies of the book will be available to members of the public.

### Gavin Hume and friends in concert

On Saturday 9th July, Gavin Hume, our Methodist Minister who is also a singer/songwriter, is presenting a concert at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Methodist Church introducing his new album of songs 'Beyond all reason'. The album includes a variety of styles, from piano ballads to some more upbeat pop/rock songs. The songs explore spiritual questions and celebrate the love that is 'beyond all reason'. The album will be available on the evening and it can also be downloaded from iTunes or Amazon. Entry to the concert is free, with donations to CLIC Sargent.

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**Mob: 07786248574**



## LADIES WHO LUNCH

Over the last month the weather has been sublime so we decided to go a little further afield for our lunch and the destination chosen was the delightful village of Corbridge, full of excellent eating places, one of which is the Black Bull. Parking is a big problem and unless you're lucky the only option is to head for one of the car parks out from the middle and then walk. The Black Bull is very welcoming both in appearance and

the staff. Add a varied menu with good food and lunch looks set fair. We sampled for a starter grilled field mushrooms with bacon, main courses were a salmon dish, cod and chips, chicken fillet, slow cooked duck legs and a trio of fish cakes. For puddings we tried clotted cream ice cream with toffee sauce, a lemon meringue sundae, apple pie with double cream (one of us was being really naughty) and baked cheesecake, nicely

rounded off with a lovely cup of coffee. We all agreed, an excellent meal which we had thoroughly enjoyed.

The real joy of Corbridge is of course, the fact that the pleasure doesn't end with the meal, you can very nicely add on a little retail therapy in an array of excellent speciality shops. All in all, a splendid afternoon out - we may just have to repeat the experience.

**The Gourmet Girls**



## TENNIS FAMILY FUN DAY



*Watch the ball!*

On Saturday 14th May, Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club held the first of its centenary year events, with a Fun Day organised for all the family.

The weather was kind and although the wind was blustery, this did not stop the event being enjoyed by over 100 adults and children. Dennis Laycock organised games and competitions and lots of medals and prizes were given away. Angela Page supervised the ball machine, enabling participants to practise their ground strokes and appreciate how aerobic the activity is. The Club was grateful to Shotley Bridge Tennis Club for the loan of their ball machine as their own had developed a technical fault.

All parents and children, especially the very young ones, enjoyed the Tennis Factory, kindly on loan from Leisureworks, Stanley. The Tennis Factory involves a

rebound net, a mini net and target hole to hit balls through. The latter was used by the young ones to show off their skill.

The ladies of the social committee produced a veritable feast, with 'sausage sizzle', snacks, biscuits, fruit, ice-cream and beverages, all available free for the visitors.

The club logo has been adapted this year to show the centenary dates and the Club was pleased to offer for sale polo shirts and sweaters, complete with the new logo.

The club would like to thank everyone who helped or contributed to the event. Special thanks to the Parish Council and the Area Action Partnership for helping to fund this event. It proved to be very popular and a great success.

For more details of the club, please call Dennis on 01207 520278.



*Mini tennis*

## ROYAL WEDDING STREET PARTIES



*A good gathering to celebrate the Royal Wedding at Briardene*



*Ashdown Park residents celebrated the Royal Wedding with large numbers in fine style*



*Royal Wedding celebrations held at Oakwood*

## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next Village Voice by 14th June.  
The deadline for **adverts** is 12th June.

Published by Lanchester Publications Ltd, 49 Lintzford Road, Rowlands Gill, NE39 1HG and printed by Durham County Council, Design and Print, Comeleon House, Tanfield Lea Industrial Estate North, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 9NX. Tel: 01207 217167.

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