

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 10 Volume 12

Lanchester, October 2011

For contact information, see page 2

## IMPORTANT PUBLIC MEETINGS CALLED FOR LANCHESTER

Friday 28th October at 6.30 pm in the  
Main Hall of St Bede's School

Public Meeting to discuss the loss of  
evening and weekend bus services

For details, see Pat Glass' article  
'A Message from the House' on page 3.

Monday 14th November at 7.30 pm  
in the Social Club

Public Meeting to discuss County  
Council Plans for housing development  
in Lanchester

For details, see the article on page 6.

## BOYS' BRIGADE SUCCESS

Lanchester Junior section Boys' Brigade won the North West Durham Battalion Westwater Trophy as the best company during 2010/2011. Competed for in various quiz and scripture quiz competitions such as 5-a-side football, olympiad games, sports, badges, Lanchester cross country, unihoc, general knowledge boys could represent the company in some of the competitions and it was down to their commitment that we achieved this success. The leaders were delighted that the boys' hard work was rewarded with this award and are hoping for the same in 2011/2012.



*Lanchester Boys' Brigade members with the Westwater Trophy*



## 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

In late July of this year I contacted the Highways' Department of Derwentside District Council and requested that they look at providing a pedestrian crossing on Station Road, particularly for residents having to cross what is a very busy road to get to Park House Surgery and the children's play area.

I received a reply on September 6th stating that the council was not able to provide this mainly for the following reasons:

a) Not enough traffic or pedestrian use.

*I would imagine by the date that the survey took place during the school holidays when*

*the traffic is always lighter.*

b) Consideration had to be given to motorists parking in the designated parking areas.

*However nobody should be parked outside of those areas between 8am-6pm as there is a "No Waiting" sign and yellow lines on both sides of the road. The police have recently asked motorists not to park there so the road is now less congested and visibility is improved.*

c) No record of "personal injury" during the last 4-10 years.

*It would seem that there would have to be an accident before the council would even consider providing a crossing. Whatever happened to accident prevention!*

I am aware that the council has limited resources but I would have thought that road safety would be a priority. Perhaps if the area behind Park House is ever developed as a residential site there may be an increase in traffic and pedestrians along

Station Road and we may then have better luck.

If anyone would like to see the full report they can contact me at the address below and I would be pleased to supply them with a copy. Joan Waugh, Cumbræes, Ford Crescent, Lanchester, DH7 0SW

Dear Village Voice

Many thanks to Brian Oram for the article about speed indicators. Having tried for 4 years to get one, through different channels.

This indicator is in the wrong place, it should be installed on the grass verge before the bus stop, so everyone can see. What a waste of tax payers' money, as this is the second installation on Durham Road.

Dorothy Caile, Durham Road, Lanchester

## COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for September is 101. The draw was made by Stephanie Dinning of the Playgroup.

## IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

### HELP THE HEROES

Friday 14th was 'Help for Heroes Day' and as you will know from a previous Village Voice, Tony Morland in the newsagents supports this charity and has raised a considerable amount of money for them through the collecting tin in his shop. That is why Tony

put up several posters in the shop and a big red bucket to catch any coinage coming its way. Look out for it when you are next in the shop and perhaps put something in it for this very worthy cause. Thank you because I know you will! Brenda Craddock



Tony Morland behind his collecting bucket

### LIBRARY COFFEE MORNING

The event in the Library in aid of MacMillan raised £63.80. Thanks to all who contributed to this appeal.

### 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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## JOHN GEDDES - FORMER LANCESTRIAN

John now 91 and partially sighted, is a very interesting man who has written a book about his boyhood memories of living in Lanchester. This can be found in the local library.

He requested an interview with the Village Voice as he thought that our readers may be interested in some historical information about the village and also to talk about a couple of things that were on his mind recently.

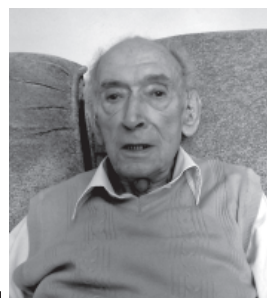
He was born at 8 Ford Street, on 27th July 1920. He went to the Parochial Church School in 1925 and was baptised by Rev L Heatherington at All Saints Parish Church. He moved to Snook Acres Farm, Witton Gilbert in November 1932, where he still lives happily today with his wife, Jean.

John's father worked at Burnhope Colliery until the general strike of 1926 when so many people were out of work. He decided to open the first Fish Shop in Lanchester in the same premises where it is today. The tenancy for the shop was secured from Mrs Brydson, a local property owner during that era. However there was a problem which has always remained in John's mind. There was difficulty in installing the new range. It transpired that the chimney was blocked by a crucifix, plus skull and crossbones!

The crucifix was later given to two sisters named Lynch who lived in Durham, on condition that it was passed on to Minsteracres. However, that never happened and

no trace of it has ever been found since.

John has spent most of his life in farming, first in Lanchester at Manor House Farm which his father rented from Harry Nicholson, and then on to the aforementioned Snook Acres. During the war years John spent 6 years in the RAF Regiment as a Ground Gunner before returning to his former life. Although still happily residing at Witton Gilbert his heart firmly remains where he grew up and spent his boyhood years - Lanchester.



*John Geddes, 91, farmer, author, raconteur*

### Memories of Lanchester Boyhood



by  
**J.C. GEDDES**

*John Geddes, aged 12, on the cover of his book which can be found in Lanchester Library*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE...

Following representations from many bus service users in Lanchester and Burnhope, I have now arranged a public meeting to discuss the impact of the recent bus service reductions to these communities and to look at positive and constructive ways to improve the current situation. This will take place on Friday 28th October 2011 at 6.30 pm in the Main Hall of St Bede's School in Lanchester. All those who have been affected are invited to join this meeting, which will be chaired by myself and attended by local Parish and County Councillors, representatives from Durham County Council, the local AAP, the Managing Director of Go North East Mr Peter Huntley and other community groups, such

as the Lanchester Lions and Lanchester Partnership. For any queries regarding this meeting please contact my constituency office on 01207 501782.

Finally, I would like to say a big congratulations to two local businesses. Firstly to Crinnions who have re-opened following extension and refurbishment with a fabulous new shop and bistro in the village and secondly to Hall Hill Farm who recently scooped a gold award for Best Small Visitor Attraction in the North East Tourism Awards 2011.

If you need to contact me on any issue of concern, then please write to me at Pat Glass MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, or email me at pat.glass.mp@parliament.uk, or phone my office on 01207 501 782.

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## CONGRATULATIONS ISABEL

The Bells of All Saints Parish Church, beckoning people to worship on Sunday October 2nd, had special 'appeal' because one of the bell ringers was celebrating a very special birthday. Miss Isabel Appleton was 80 years old that day. Isabel is a lovely lady, gentle and self effacing, who was born in Lanchester and has lived all her life in the village. She is a well loved and respected member of the parish church where she has worshipped all her life. She was baptised there and has known five vicars throughout her long life, namely Reverend Hetherington, Reverend Eric Knowles, Reverend Wright, Reverend George Beckwith, Reverend

Frank Chase, and last but not least Canon Peter Waterhouse - a very impressive list!

Isabel has been an enthusiastic bell ringer since 1961, and has served the church in other ways too. There was once a 'Girls' Friendly Society' in the church which Isabel attended in her youth, and she later took up the leadership of it. Within the last decade she has been a member of 'The Shared Ministry Development Team' which takes an active part in the ministry of the church.

Isabel had a special party for this special birthday in the Social Club on Saturday October 15th to which all her friends and

family were invited. She had a wonderful night and was very pleased to welcome Canon and Mrs Waterhouse to her very successful party. Everyone, without exception, had a great time. There was dancing and disco and of course a super supper.

Guests were asked to give, instead of presents, a donation towards the running of the Village Link Bus. £550 was raised through this generous gesture and many people will benefit from it, as the bus is very popular and very well used. Isabel says she has had a very happy life and we all wish her happiness for many years to come.

Brenda Craddock



Isabel Appleton celebrated her 80th birthday at the Social Club on Saturday, October 15th, raising money for the village bus in lieu of presents. She is seen here with brother, David, cutting the cake.

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# CONGRATULATIONS NANCY ON YOUR 90th BIRTHDAY



*Nancy Walker cuts her cake on her 90th birthday held at the Chapter House with many of her friends. They enjoyed a superb buffet courtesy of the Church Ladies Catering group. Money was donated in lieu of presents to the H P Thompson Tower Fund for the upkeep of bells at Lanchester Parish Church.*

Nancy Walker is a very well known, very well respected and loved lady in the village community and in the church family of All Saints' Parish Church. She was married to Arthur in Consett Parish Church by Vicar Briggs in 1945 and was very happily married for 51 years until Arthur sadly died 15 years ago. They had a son, Alan, born in 1948 and when they moved to the village in 1965, they became regular worshippers at Lanchester Parish Church. Alan became a bell-ringer and took over as Tower Captain from Harry Thompson when he died. Alan was Tower Captain for 21 years until his sudden death 10 years ago. Alan and his

wife Olga had two daughters and Olga is the present Tower Captain.

Nancy joined the Women's Institute in 1949 and has been a dedicated member for 61 years. This long commitment she has also given to the Mothers' Union at the Parish Church, having been a member of that organisation for 53 years. At the present time Nancy runs a Whist Club in the Community Centre. She is a very public spirited person who has always enjoyed getting out and meeting people. She is a lively and interesting person, who has a great number of friends. This was very evident on Thursday October 13th, when she

held 'Open House' in the Chapter House of the Parish Church. Olga and her daughters had made a very interesting display of photographs, and the excellent buffet was provided by Sara Allison and her catering team.

A very happy atmosphere prevailed and Nancy had a wonderful time which she says she will never forget. She did not want presents but donations could be given for the Harry Thompson Tower Fund and £450 was raised. Nancy thanks everyone for all their kindness and generosity.

Congratulations Nancy and every good wish for many more happy birthdays.

Brenda Craddock

## MARGARET AND RONNIE GRAHAM'S 50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

There was gentle music from a harp being played in the beautiful, romantic setting of the candlelit Monboucher room at Beamish Hall Country House Hotel as Margaret and Ronnie

Graham celebrated their Golden Wedding among family and friends. Married by the Rev Doidge at Greencroft Methodist Church on October 14th 1961, there had been celebrations

exactly 50 years on, at an 'At Home' held at 64 Alderside Crescent where the couple have lived since retiring from their working life on the farm at Holmside Hall. It had been a weekend

full of celebrations with a whole host of folks coming together and wishing a much loved village couple every future happiness. They had expressly asked for 'no presents please -

just a donation to Willow Burn would be appreciated' and a wonderful amount of £700 was collected to be given to the hospice. A very special occasion all round.



*Margaret and Ronnie Graham celebrate their Golden Wedding in style*



### **CROSS KEYS ESH VILLAGE**



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## COUNTY COUNCIL PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT IN LANCHESTER

### Tell the planners what you think

In the June edition of the Villiage Voice the Lanchester Partnership drew attention to possible housing sites in Lanchester which were referred to in Planning Policy documents being prepared by the County Council to guide development over the

next 20 years. Now that the holiday period is over the partnership is to hold a public meeting to discuss the implications of Housing Land Availability in the village. The purpose of the Meeting is threefold:

- ♦ to clarify the County Council's thoughts/ ideas on Housing

Land Availability in Lanchester, the changing policy context for the ideas and the status of the ideas;

- ♦ to identify any issues which are of concern arising from the above, including the Village Development Limit;
- ♦ to make clear to our Councillors and Planning Officers what you, the residents of Lanchester, think.

The meeting is to be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 14th November in the Social Club and all members of the public are urged to attend. It is hoped that Officers of the County Council's Planning Team and members of the Parish Council will be present and our local MP Pat Glass has been invited. Please come along so we can make residents' views clear to the County Council planners.




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## MAKING MONEY WHILE THE SUN SHINES

In early October 2010 the Lanchester Partnership Green Group organised the Energy Fair which amongst other things showed residents the financial and the green benefits of having photo-voltaic (PV) cells installed on their roofs. These cells generate electricity when the sun shines, and in the intervening 12 months at least 8 properties in Lanchester have had them fitted. On Thursday 6th October the Green Group organised a talk in the Social Club about them.

Dave Smith, who had his installation completed in April this year, gave an excellent presentation on how the cells work and how much electricity the cells could produce. He explained how the electricity supply companies pay the house owner for the electricity generated. Dave also talked about how long it took to install the cells and the research he did before committing. Mike Gladstone briefly explained how quickly his PV installation had been

installed and how the actual output seemed to be exactly in line with the predictions. Paul Shepherd then talked about the issues he had with fitting PV cells onto a slate roof and Richard Young explained how the supplier to the Social Club had installed cells on a flat roof.

Richard then opened the door to the room where the system is connected to the national grid to show the audience this part of the installation. Dave, Mike and Paul invited members of the audience to visit their homes to see their installations.

35 people attended the meeting and for those who had been thinking about installing PV cells it was really useful to hear at first hand other people's experiences. Given the interest it seems likely that over the next 12 months even more PV cells will be appearing in our village, all helping to reduce the carbon footprint of Lanchester.



## ART GROUP EXHIBITION

The annual art Group Exhibition was held at the Community Centre on Saturday/Sunday 15th/16th October. It has come a long way since the first recorded meeting at the Green School in May 1982, when the membership was 7 people and the subscription was 15p per week! In July 1995 the group moved to the Community Centre where they have remained ever since with a current membership of about 40. Thirty five of those submitted art works at the exhibition this year. The attendance was excellent on both days and there were plenty of refreshments in the small hall where people could relax and discuss their favourite works. Describing the show is difficult. There were so many different styles on view so there was something for everyone to admire. The standard seems to get better each year and superlatives to describe it become even more of a problem. Suffice to say perhaps that anyone who did not attend missed a wonderful opportunity of seeing the works of such talented local people, most of whom live in the village or certainly very near.



*June Wallis and Jennifer Macdonald studying the works of Harry Carr*



*Sydney and Dorothy Emerson of Leadgate looking at the works of Marian Harkness*



*The works of Brian Stafford*

## LANCHESTER LACEMAKERS



*To celebrate National Lacemaking Day on 10th September, the Lanchester Group demonstrated the intricate art of Bobbin Lacemaking in the Library. The Lace Group, led by Elaine Williams, meets on Monday and Friday evenings in the Community Centre to practise their Bobbin Lacemaking skills.*

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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 11th October 2011

**Correspondence.** County Durham Association of Local Councils AGM. It was agreed that Cllr Burton would attend and that he should vote.

**Letter from Residents.** A letter sent to Durham County Council regarding the speed of traffic along Newbiggen Lane was received.

**2013 Preview of Parliamentary constituencies in England.** Under the proposals Northwest Durham would include Haltwhistle and surrounding area, Allendale, Weardale,

Teesdale, Consett, Lanchester and Esh Winning, but would no longer include Dipton and Burnopfield. Members considered the information received. They are also holding 36 public meetings and welcome written and oral feedback.

**Durham County Council Community Building Review.** A consultation is to take place from 19th November.

**County Durham Association of Local Councils - Small/medium Councils**

**Forum.** Members agreed to support the formation of such a group (there is already a group for large Councils).

**How to Respond to Planning Applications.** Members received an 8-step guide booklet.

**Durham County Council - problems accessing planning applications.** The Lead Officer read out a response from the Council which stated that there had been problems with the Derwentside computer system but that these had now been resolved. However, Cllr Glass said that he had been unable to access the planning applications site the previous day and Cllr Wardle said that recently he had been unsuccessful on one occasion and that the site is not easy to use. The Lead Officer will write to them again.

**LINK** - the latest newsletter was received. **Action Area Partnership/Parish Councils Committee.** Cllr Burton and Cllr Mrs Gray intend to attend the PCC meeting to be held on Saturday 15th October.

**Lynwood Development.** Cllr Wardle reported that the Community Interest Company has been formerly registered at Companies House and the first Board Meeting has been arranged. Three local people with great experience have become involved. Derwentside Homes have received a grant and Durham County Council has agreed to allow variation of the scheme should anyone have to pull out. Unfortunately the architects who have been working on the scheme since its inception have gone into Administration so the CIC is having to advertise for architects to take over the next stage of development which will delay looking for funding. In the meantime they request a loan of up to £3,000 from the Parish Council to pay for design work. This was agreed.

**'The Heads Up' website.** This is the new Mid-Durham website which will be launched in the New Year. It will provide all types of information, such as important telephone numbers and contacts, What's On, etc and will be linked with the Parish Council website and those of the Lanchester Partnership and Community Centre. The address will be mid-durham.org.uk.

**Maintenance Report.** This was received by Members. The Lead Officer said she was trying very hard to find chains which were compatible with the swings in the play area which had been removed due to wear.

**Christmas Lights.** Proposals for the annual switch-on event, to take place on the Village Green at 6 pm on Saturday, 26th November were approved, local MP and resident Pat Glass to be

asked to perform the ceremony together with 2 children from each of the Primary schools.

**Village Green.** Proposals for Phase 2 of the development of the Village Green, which includes planting more trees, wild flowers, bulbs and artwork were shown to Members and agreed.

**Community Flood Engagement Public Event.** A report of this event, held in the Community Centre on 26th September, was given. Cllr Johnson said that after the last flash flood he had found two drains still blocked but they have now been dealt with. He urges everyone to keep a look-out for blocked drains and to contact the Highways Action people at County Hall on 0191 3706000.

**Helping Councils Serve People and Places Better.** Members received information on a training course attended by Cllr Mrs Cook. She suggested that although the County Council is on Facebook and Twitter, it is mainly only the younger generation who communicate through these and she suggested that the Parish Council might have a coffee morning when people could use the Village Bus if necessary, to meet and talk to Councillors. The Lead Officer said she is about to prepare a schedule of surgery times and rota and this could possibly include a daytime surgery.

**Chairperson's Announcements.** Cllr Johnson informed Members of a meeting which has been arranged by MP Pat Glass about the reduction of services in public transport, to be held on Friday 28th

continued on next page

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## PARISH COUNCIL continued

October, at 6.30 pm in the Main Hall at St Bede's School.

Lanchester Partnership is also holding a public meeting on the subject of the County Durham Strategy for proposed development in the County. It will be held in the Social Club on Monday 14th November at 7.30 pm.

It is hoped that Members will be able to attend to support residents.

**Date of Next Meeting.** Monday 8th November at 7.15 pm in the Conference Room, Park House, preceded by a surgery conducted by Cllr Stuart Walker at 6.30 pm.

### POLICE REPORT

Reporting period: 24/08/11 to 27/09/11

Number of calls: 59

Alcohol seizures 0,  
Dwelling Burglaries 0,  
Burglary (other) 1

(attempted theft from an outbuilding), Anti-social behaviour/motorcycle incidents 10, Criminal Damage, thefts of/from motor vehicles/gardens 1 (large section of stone wall stolen from outside of a dwelling).

### PACT Priority

The attendees at the recent PACT meeting 28/09/11 have requested the priority remain Ford Road and Cadger Bank speeding vehicles.

## NEW ALLOTMENTS FOR LANCHESTER

This winter could see the beginning of a great new project in Lanchester. The Community Orchard is beginning to set down roots at Shepherd's Barns, Margery Flatts, Newbiggen Lane and now we are also taking names for anyone wanting an allotment. Plots are being marked out over the next few months so ring or email now if you want the chance to grow your own fruit and

vegetables next spring. At the moment there are few facilities on the allocated land but there is fertile soil, water on tap and a mound of rotting compost ready for willing workers to work their magic. The plan is to collect a comprehensive list of all those wishing to rent a plot - most plots will be 100 square metres but plots can be halved or worked jointly with a friend and will cost £1/week. We

already have details of those on the waiting list for the existing Lanchester Allotments but new people may wish to come forward. Then we'll call a meeting when details can be given, agreements signed, plots chosen and a committee formed to deal with the administration.

Interested? Then call Paul Shepherd 01207 520759 or email with your contact details to: paulandsonny@globalnet.co.uk.

## Gardening in November

This month isn't exactly awash with colour. November is the time for fireworks in the gloom, an explosion of vermillion leaves and a multitude of berries. The lovely coloured leaves of autumn have now fallen to the ground resulting in millions of them that need raking-up to make a beautiful soil-conditioner in a year or two's time.

### Borders

Jobs for this month in your borders are those of tidying after summer and preparing for winter. So, finish cutting down late flowering perennials such as phlox to ground level and cover perennial plants with a mulch of compost or other organic material to

stop frost penetrating the soil. Check pots and bowls of bulbs being forced for Christmas ensuring that they don't dry out or become waterlogged and move them to a light, cool position when leaves reach about an inch in height. It is a good time to plant violas and wallflowers to provide some good winter colour.

### Fruit and Vegetables

Jobs in the vegetable plot for this month include cutting down autumn-fruiting raspberries to ground height and continuing to harvest kale, cabbage, spinach and Jerusalem artichokes and the first of the Brussels sprouts.

### General

The final bounty of the

year lies in the form of fallen leaves. Don't just throw them away or burn them, but turn them into an excellent, rich soil conditioner. Collect them either by hand or by sucking them up or by mowing and shredding them. The easiest way to compost leaves is to leave them in the corner of the garden to rot down, but it's better to build a leaf bin out of four strong posts and chicken wire. For smaller quantities, chop up damp leaves, pack them firmly into old compost bags and fold over the top to retain moisture. The resultant leaf mould will be of benefit to most areas of the garden.

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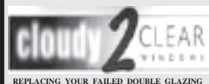
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# BARCLAYS BANK INVITED LANCHESTER TO THE 'WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING'!



*Barclays' Manager John Bennett, and colleagues Kim and Tracey share a coffee with MP Pat Glass and visitors to the 'Big Coffee Morning'*

Cancer is one of the cruellest of illnesses, yet advances being made in the fight against the disease mean more people are living with cancer, and needing a wide range of support

services. The Macmillan organisation offers a network of help, their nurses provide vital care, finance specialists help with money worries, trained advisers offer information and advice when needed, and campaigners work hard to improve cancer care everywhere.

This year marks the centenary of the Macmillan nursing service, and sees a huge fund raising effort across the country. Friday 30th September was the official date for the 'Biggest Coffee Morning Ever,' across Britain. In Lanchester, staff of our local branch of Barclays Bank rolled up their sleeves and busied themselves baking scones and cakes and brewing tea and coffee for their customers.

Local resident Maureen Barker and Gemma Simpson from the bank led the brigade of bakers, and local MP Pat Glass arrived to offer her support to the venture. Barclays pledged to match the sum raised in

branches across the country, and in Lanchester, there was enormous public support, with the bank even providing a delivery service of coffee and cakes to village businesses and shops!

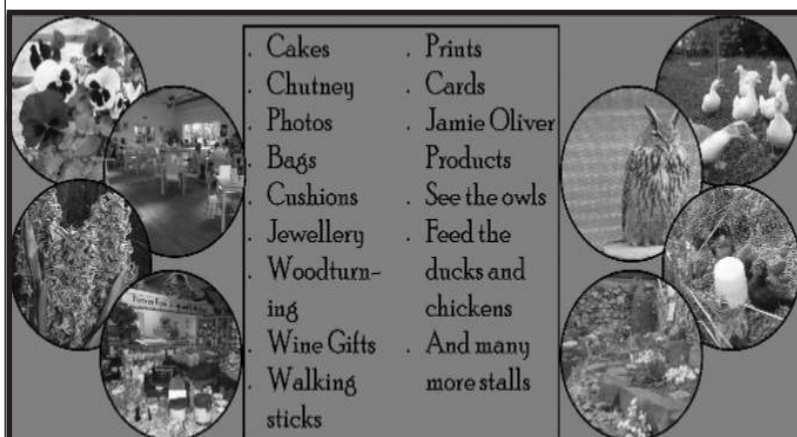
The event was a huge success, with Lanchester and Chester-Le-Street branches raising £580, and £24,464 raised across our region. Nationwide, Barclays staff made the magnificent sum of over £500,000, and this amount will be match funded by the Barclays organisation.

In a time when many banks receive a negative image, Barclays should be commended for their commitment to local causes, and support of the wider community. Their staff are encouraged to become involved in fundraising with up to three events each year match funded for each individual. Well done to the coffee drinkers of Lanchester!

# Lanchester Garden Centre Craft & Gift Fayre

**Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th November**

**Sat 9 - 5 & Sun 10 - 4**



**On Saturday morning, Morris an accordion player will be entertaining.**

**Winter bedding, Xmas wreaths, wooden sculptures, sledges and snow shovels will be on sale.**

**For more information on the Craft & Gift Fayre or the Garden Centre please visit our Facebook page or contact us on 01207 521206**



# LANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP CEILIDH



*The Steel Strings Band gets everyone on the dance floor*

A bright and cheerful scene greeted the near 100 people who came to the Social Club for the ceilidh on 24th September. The hall had been decorated with balloons, greenery and bright cloths on the tables and as the band, the Steel Strings, was already playing, the mood was set for an enjoyable evening. Dancing soon got underway, with the excellent caller giving instructions for the sometimes quite complicated movements, and the dance floor was full all the time.

The supper break came at 9 o'clock and lasted about an hour; everyone had brought their own food to share, and there was such an abundant, delicious array of both savouries and sweets that it took some time to get through it. The bar was busy with people needing to quench their thirst and during the break the raffle was drawn. Many generous prizes had been donated, together with a large number of tombola prizes,

so a lot of money was raised. Dancing continued until 11 o'clock, finishing with the traditional, energetic Strip the Willow and Cumberland Square Eight, but still the dance floor was crowded.

Thanks are given to the Social Club for allowing the use of the hall, the committee of workers who organised everything, the donors of the tombola prizes and the very

generous raffle prizes. Thanks also to everyone who came and brought such lovely food and particularly to Barclays Bank which will match any profit made - which means the profit of around £650 will be doubled to around £1,300 - a truly wonderful result

Enquiries have already been made about another ceilidh and tickets asked for - so WATCH THIS SPACE!



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## A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS

Two hundred students, teachers, university lecturers and business leaders gathered at Hardwick Hall on Wednesday the 21st September for a glittering night of celebration. It was The Catholic Partnership's Oscars' Night - an evening which has become the most important night on our Partnership Schools' calendar.

Tension was high as the gathered guests listened carefully to the nominations and then held their breath as the golden envelopes were ripped open.

St Bede's students were among the lucky few honoured with a gold statue. Autumn Craggs triumphed in the highly competitive 'Promotional Package' category - her Music video, magazine advert and CD cover drew

great praise from the judges. Rebecca Lambert's magazine pages were highly commended. Both categories had attracted over 20 nominations.

The school was represented at the awards by Sam Donnelly (Year 8), Joseph Crinnion, Marie Hoggart, Hannah Taylor and Rebecca Lambert (Year 13), Mrs Chapman-Jones (Subject Leader of Media) and Mr and Mrs Donnelly.



*Some of the 'Lucky Few' who received awards at the ceremony*

## LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting took place in the Community Centre on Friday the 7th of October and was attended by about a dozen people. The Meeting began with the annual report by the Chairman, John Thompson, who said that it had been a very healthy year for the Society, with an average of about 30 people at each meeting. This had been helped by the reporting and advertising of meetings in the Village Voice. He thanked Secretary Kevin Leary for providing an interesting programme and went on to suggest that in future the meetings should be less formal, with no apologies or Minutes.

After much discussion, this was agreed. The Secretary's report was then given, followed by the report of the Treasurer, Don Mason, who stated that the Society's bank balance was healthy and that the increase in the annual subscription had enabled the Society to match the speaker's fees of other societies which had been raised due to increasing travel costs. The Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and President John Gall were all willing to stand again and were unanimously re-elected. It was agreed that a Council was no longer necessary and was disbanded. Member Eric Musgrove then gave an interesting talk which linked his

career as a mining engineer both before and after the nationalisation of the coal industry with tracing his family tree on his father's side. Some of them had been miners, including his grandfather who had been fatally injured. He was thanked by the Chairman who informed Members that the speaker next month would be Mike Richardson, a regular visitor to the Society, with one of his very popular Powerpoint shows. This one is entitled 'Durham in the 1960's in colour'. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting and if you know Durham, have a good dose of nostalgia.

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# LANCHESTER STUDENT SLASHES MATHS RECORD



*William Butcher with his certificate for winning the Mental Arithmetic Challenge*

A student at the MagiKats Tuition Centre in Lanchester has broken a record for mental arithmetic at the biannual challenge event.

William Butcher (pictured) aged 10 smashed the previously held record by correctly answering a staggering 336 out of 340 problems in 40 minutes.

The former record holder was Ben Prentice at Chester-le-Street. Ben, then aged 9, achieved 265 out of 265 in 40 minutes in 2009.

Lorraine Stephens, the MagiKats Principal congratulated William saying: "Since this record had been held for so long I was beginning to wonder if it would ever be beaten. However, we've had an extraordinary week with Ben's record being topped first by Laura Selverajah aged 10 on Tuesday in Durham, and then by Thomas Owens aged 13 at the Wednesday

Chester-le-Street workshop before William's outstanding effort on Thursday."

"We've had a very exciting few days at MagiKats and I would like to congratulate all of the students who took part but especially William on a tremendous score."

If you want to know more about MagiKats Maths and English Tuition please call 0191 378 2762.

## GARDEN OPEN DAY FOR WILLOW BURN

Local people came together on Saturday 24th September in the name of charity. The event, which took place in the magnificent gardens and home of one Maureen Bennett, attracted many from the area, all coming together to raise money for a cause close to their hearts.

But it wasn't just the beautiful surroundings that lured so many, an elegant banquet also played its part. Although the weather stayed cool, this didn't stop many of the guests enjoying themselves, all whilst holding a glass and polite conversation. A freshly prepared whole salmon lay as a grand centrepiece to the

festivities, prepared by our very own Crinnions of Lanchester.

This is just one of a long list of charities Mrs Bennett has been involved with over the years and as a member of the Consett Rotary Club, whose principal charity is Willow Burn, she plays an important role in the community.

Never standing still for more than a few seconds, she played the part of the perfect hostess while always having time for her guests. For Mrs Bennett, Willow Burn has always been a charity close to her own heart. After the death of her husband 7 years ago and a close friend, Mrs Bennett believes that Willow Burn must be

supported if it is to continue to offer the impressive standard of help to the sick and needy.

"I would just like to thank everybody who has supported me and for all the support I've received for the day and the continued support I get from them all." With the food and wine being particularly well received, Mrs Bennett was eager to thank Crinnions and the Lanchester Wine Sellers for their help in making the day a success.

The event has raised substantial funds for the Hospice in the past and this year was no exception; over £820 was raised.

Matthew Johnson



*Members of the Rotary Club with Maureen and President Brian Stobbs*

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## LUCKY WINNER



Assistant Head of St Bede School & Sixth Form College, Jim Allen, bought a raffle ticket at All Saints RC Primary Fair in the summer. His winning ticket entitled him to have a 20"x16" framed portrait of his family. The prize was donated by Fiona Baxendale, professional photographer, and owner of 'Images of Life' in Front Street, Lanchester.

## PINK PARTY

This was a brilliant way to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness! Jan Grigg, of Briardene, decided to hold a house party with everyone wearing some item of clothing that was pink. Some wore odd items that were pink while others were completely attired in pink. It was certainly a bright occasion - and that was not just the colour! The food was fabulous and there were many ways of raising money with a treasure hunt, tombolas, a raffle, retro sweet hampers and silly games. This, coupled with copious amounts of alcohol available made it a very lively party which went on until 3 am, by which time everyone was spent up.



Just a few of the guests at Jan Grigg's party to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness during October, the chosen month by the charity.

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## HOUNDS FOR HEROES - A DOG'S ASSISTANCE



*Freya's sponsored 'Down'*

On Saturday the 15th of October, Freya and I were taken to Hurlford, near Kilmarnock, by Freya's mother's owner, Georgina, to attend the Norwegian Elkhound Association of Scotland Championship Show. After a delayed and eventful journey, we arrived at the venue to find Freya's class already in the ring, and she performed very well under the circumstances, being placed third. The Finnish judge placed Freya second at first then changed his mind as he said she was not hard-fit enough; poor Freya, she is six years old now and in spite of eating very little and having a lot of exercise, she is not as trim as she was. Seems it runs in the family!

However, she was still the Star of the Show. After the judging and prize-giving had finished, she did a 10-minute, sponsored 'Down Stay-athon', that is she lay on her mat in the middle of the floor for ten minutes without moving. Everyone was moving about, buying and eating lunch, the other dogs barked, people went in and out, but Freya did not move. Through this she has raised about £500 for the Charity 'Hounds for Heroes' which buys and trains Assistance dogs for wounded servicemen, policemen or firemen (or women, of course). My grateful thanks to everyone who sponsored Freya and if anyone would still like to give to this charity, please contact me on 01207 528814.

Mavis Datta

## OLYMPICS IN LANCHESTER

The Community events cannot be shown as the hall has regular bookings but there is plenty of free time when televised events can be seen. A small team has been appointed to coordinate the event and once the final arrangements have been made they will let everybody know what is going on. Also to mark the Olympics, the Fitness Centre is to introduce an Olympic Year Special membership scheme, to supplement the existing schemes. Users of the gym will be able to choose to become Bronze, Silver or Gold members if they wish to attend at week-ends only from £14.99 per month, week-ends and afternoons from £19.99 per month and anytime from £24.99 per month, plus a one-off administration charge. This is a limited offer available now but may be withdrawn at any time, so call in at the gym to see if this offer suits your lifestyle and your pocket.

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# THURSDAY CLUB CRIME DETECTION AGENCY

Not all was as it seemed on the evening of September 22nd, down in the Small Hall of the Community Centre. The Thursday Club were gathered together for a Murder, Mystery Evening with Roz Southey, a published author of crime fiction. Everyone was organised into teams of 4 and then Roz set the scene with a timetable of events leading up to the crime. The teams were then given a list of clues, suspects and statements from the suspects from which they had to work out who the murderer was



Three of the evening's prize winners, Janet, Betty and Shirley

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and why the crime had happened.

There was an hour given to solving the case with Roz going around the room giving indications and pointers as to how teams could progress with their investigations. It proved to be a very

entertaining and intriguing evening, with everyone totally engrossed - the 'little grey cells' were completely exercised during the course of the investigations.

The winning team consisting of Janet Tulip, Betty Taylor, Dulcie Welsh and Shirley Lamb were presented with a set of crime novels, one for each member of the team. Roz had also brought along some of her own crime novels which were for sale. It had been a thoroughly good

evening which everyone enjoyed, mentally taxing and good for a total brain workout for golden oldies.

In November the Thursday Club is off to Wynyard Halls 'Blooms and Bubbly' for their pre-Christmas outing - the final payment of £5 for the bus needs to be in by November 1st and can be given to Liz at Playgroup. Also, deposits of £5 are now being collected towards the New Year Extravaganza on Jan 17th.



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## TOKEN APPEAL

Lanchester Cricket Club are asking you to pass on any unwanted Evening Chronicle Wish tokens to the club. Last year the club collected the vouchers and raised £227 in the process. This money was used to buy cricket clothing for members of the junior section. This year it is intended using the money to pay for coaching for the junior members. The club has four junior teams for under 18s, 15s, 13s and 11s and always needs new funds to keep the teams going.

Last year saw three of the sides finish mid table but key to that was that they were able to fulfil all their fixtures whereas some clubs are struggling with numbers. New members are always welcome. The under 13s won a cup competition at Shotley Bridge at the very end of the season. Any assistance that you can provide to help them along would be gratefully received. The tokens can be handed in to the club or posted to Dawn Tully, 36 The Grange, Tanfield Lea, DH9 9UN.



# STEVEN SPROAT - A TALENTED LANCHESTER LAD

Steven Sproat is a singer songwriter guitarist and probably the best known Ukulele personality in the United Kingdom. He was brought up in Lanchester and went to the EP School and Greencroft Secondary School in the 1970s. He used to perform in numerous concerts for

the Lions, Lanchester Club, The Black Bull, and similar local establishments. With 4 albums behind him, his music has been played on Radio 2 (by Jeremy Vine and Aled Jones) and he has performed at many of the famous venues including Ronnie Scott's in London, the

Edinburgh Festival, The Mean Fiddler, Cheltenham Jazz Festival as well as appearances in New York and Dublin. He is author of bestselling books 'Absolute Beginners Ukulele' series and 'Starting Ukulele' (Music Sales/Wise Worldwide) with a 4th book to be released

later in 2011. His ukelounge DVD has sold thousands worldwide. He will be a guest on BBC Radio 2 Aled Jones (Good Morning Sunday) on Sunday November 6th and will also have a brief

appearance with Frank Skinner in a documentary about George Formby on the 27th of October at 9pm on BBC 4 TV. His 'FullCircle' CD is available on [www.ukelounge.com](http://www.ukelounge.com) and i-Tunes.



*Steven Sproat, singer, songwriter, guitarist and ukulele player, who went to school in Lanchester, poses for a photograph with his ukelele*

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## LADIES WHO LUNCH

On a particularly cold day last month we decided to try out 'The Miners Arms', at Medomsley. It was warm, friendly, comfortable and we were greeted with a real coal fire leaping in the grate - a wonderful welcoming sight. We settled ourselves in and surveyed the very varied menu, a 2 course lunch special for £8.95. Our choices were lambs liver with onion and bacon, oven baked duck breast with sesame seared crust

and a plum and ginger sauce, leek and sausage casserole and paella with crusty bread. For puds we sampled lemon meringue, strawberry pavlova, apple crumble and rhubarb and apple pie. The puds were all homemade and absolutely delicious. Reactions to the main courses were mixed, some were excellent and others not so well enjoyed. So, a pleasant friendly place, close to home - you may like to give it a try.

**The Gourmet Girls**

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Monday October 10th with 14 guests and almost as many volunteers. Both guests and helpers had a great night as you can see from the photographs. The club is looking forward

to welcoming new members from all over Lanchester. Transport can be provided. If anyone would like more information you are invited to phone 520783 or 520696. See you on Monday!

to welcoming new members from all over Lanchester. Transport can be provided. If anyone would like more information you are invited to phone 520783 or 520696. See you on Monday!

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*Guests and volunteers appear to be enjoying themselves*



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*The refreshments do not put a stop to the conversation*

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### WINTER ADVICE

Unfortunately winter is coming and if it is anything like last year we could be in for some cold weather. If you have a condensing boiler and the condense pipe runs outside, be aware that in some of the extreme weather conditions and temperatures these could freeze up and causing boiler failure. Try to keep this pipe clear from any

ice build up. Alternatively break the pipe internally and terminate it into a bucket until the temperature improves, the bucket may need to be emptied every couple of days. If you feel you may have this problem and need advice for your specific boiler contact me for further help. Lanchester Plumbing and Heating Ltd.



## WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed members and visitors to our AGM. Ann Carr read a poem.

The records and correspondence were read before Slimmers World consultant Tracy Little shared her tips with us on healthy eating. June Wallis gave the financial statement thanking Pat Campbell and Breda Branscombe for their help before giving the secretary's presentation.

The president's address was given by Jennifer who thanked the committee for their hard work and support with a special thank you to Pat and Breda who are retiring.

Jennifer will keep on arranging our mini trips but needs someone to take over the organising of the summer and birthday outings, please come forward if you can help.

Eileen Curnow gave a vote of thanks to Jennifer and

the committee for all their hard work.

Members signed a card which will be presented to Nancy Walker with flowers for her 90th Birthday.

WIA Tina Bickerdike was speechless when presented with the Grow a fiver cheque (grown over 23 times).

The winner of the raffle was Betty Walton, the winners of the competitions for the year were first Shirley Lamb who was presented with

the Nancy Walker cup and a voucher, second Jennifer Macdonald who received a voucher.

Our WI adviser Tina Bickerdike oversaw the elections and members were delighted that Jennifer was willing to be our President again.

Tina and trainee WIA Sue Fox then both gave an

address, Jennifer gave a vote of thanks followed by refreshments.

A big thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make our Autumn Coffee Morning such a friendly successful event.

Members have this month enjoyed events at Consett and Spennymoor.



*Heather Muir, Ann Carr, Maureen Barker, Barbara Sproat, Jean Forster and Shirley Lamb ready to man the stalls at the WI coffee morning.*

## DAVISON'S



**Christmas outfits  
for the party  
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stock**



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## PARKING OUTSIDE THE BANK



*The car drove straight onto the pavement at speed without any attempt to find a parking space. The young women in the car went to the 'Hole in the Wall'. As they drove off they gave the Village Voice photographer the 'V' sign. It's hoped they feel proud of themselves.*

## Three Horseshoes Maiden Law



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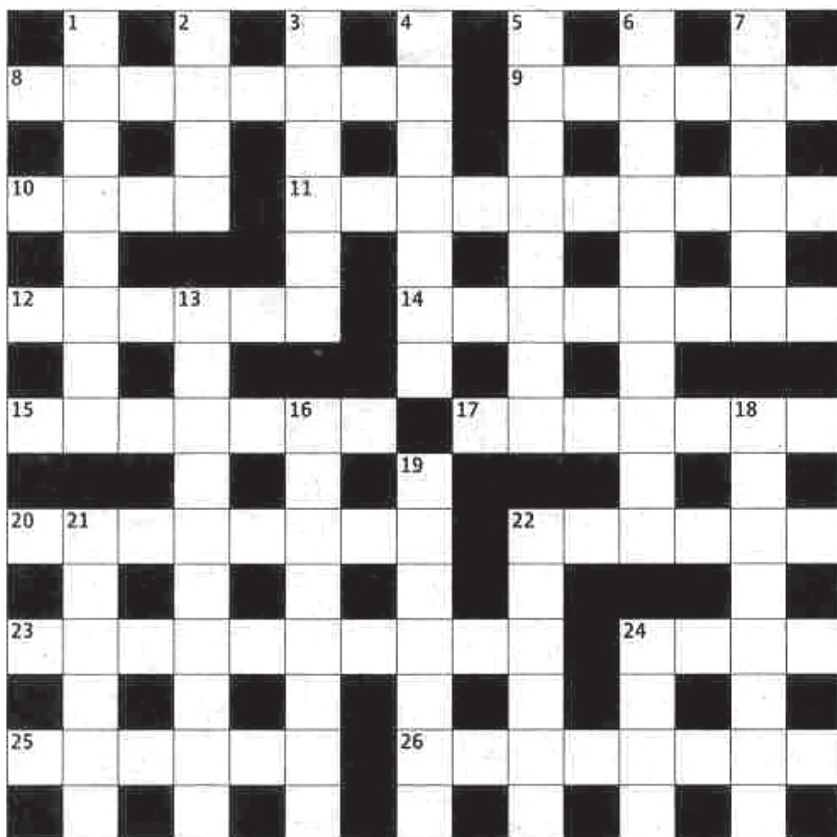
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# CROSSWORD 66



## ACROSS

8. Tramp (8)
9. Flexible (6)
10. Money maker (4)
11. Eel's pectin is source of deadly disease (10)
12. Slight (6)
14. Rite of passage for evil spirit? (8)
15. Fun (7)
17. Ace sank indirectly (7)
20. Sycophant (6-2)
22. Metal protection (6)
23. French designated dish (4,2,4)
24. Hide (4)
25. Puzzle (6)
26. Conclusive proof (4,4)

## DOWN

1. Boldness (6-2)
2. Rib found in ancient Alba, Italy (4)
3. Depose (6)
4. Trek (7)
5. Tropic as fruit bearer (8)
6. Perfectly (4,1,5)
7. Skills (6)
13. Got no alibi? change duty (10)
16. Twisting (8)
18. Rude (8)
19. Someone from Luanda? (7)
21. Shop stewards' cry in the bad old days? (3,3)
22. In possession of 7 (6)
24. Places (4)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 65

### ACROSS

1. reserve
5. pedalos
9. Gibraltar
10. lager
11. lair
12. intoxicant
14. recess
15. ageless
16. cottage
18. oblige
20. all the rage
21. maul
24. glare
25. on a bender
26. re-elect
27. average

### DOWN

1. regal
2. sublime
3. roan
4. eat one's heart out
5. persona non grata
6. Delhi Belly
7. luggage
8. stratus
13. decathlete
16. clanger
17. tillage
19. grandpa/grandma
22. large
23. cede

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 65

There were just 13 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Mrs M Taylor of Brook View who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

Test your skill with John Wilson's latest challenge.

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



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## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Toad in the Hole with Red Onions and Thyme Batter (serves 4)

1 red onion, cut into wedges, layers separated  
8 thick low fat pork sausages  
1 tsp olive oil  
(For the batter)  
100g/4oz plain flour  
1 egg  
300ml/half pint milk  
2 tsp wholegrain mustard  
1 tsp fresh thyme leaves  
Steamed carrots and cabbage to serve

1. Preheat the oven to 200C/Gas 6/fan oven 180C. Tip the onions into a small shallow non-stick tin (about 23x30cm/9x12in). Arrange the sausages on top of the onions, then add the oil and roast for 20mins.

2. While they are roasting, make the batter. Sift the flour into a bowl, drop the egg in to the centre and beat in the milk a little at a time until it makes a smooth batter. Stir in the mustard and thyme and season.

3. Pour the batter quickly into the tin and return to the oven for 40 minutes until the batter is risen and golden. Serve with the steamed carrots and cabbage.

## GREAT NORTH RUN

June Taylor works in our newsagents and has lived in Lanchester since 1969. She has participated in 'The Great North Run' twice before and this year made her personal best time. She decided to raise money for 'LIVER NORTH' and this she did very satisfactorily. She raised in excess of £300. Well done June!

This is a relatively small charity, although a vital one and is based at Freeman Road Hospital in Newcastle. Whatever liver disease you may have 'Liver North' will support you. The charity is run entirely by unpaid volunteers and all of their services are absolutely free to liver patients, carers and families in the Northern Region.

A new Transplant Centre is being built at Freeman Hospital and Liver North is directing all the money it raises at the moment to this exciting and life-saving project. Liver North is a regional adult liver patient support group and our region includes Northumberland and the Scottish Borders, Tyne and Wear, Durham, Cumbria and the East Riding of Yorkshire. Mr John Bedlington who lives at Beamish is the chairman of the above mentioned region and works very hard and gives very generously of his time to raise money for the charity.

He is one of the many, many people, who dedicate their time and efforts to benefit

humanity and we owe all of them a big debt. On interviewing any of the runners in the 'Great North Run' you soon find that they each have a story to tell and do a fantastic job in brightening the lives of many people. We should be proud that in Lanchester we have many people who unselfishly give their time and energies to many great causes and we should be proud of them. June is one of a number of our villagers who ran the course on that day and we thank them all.

More information about LIVER NORTH can be found at [www.livernorth.org.uk](http://www.livernorth.org.uk)  
Brenda Craddock

See picture page 24

## ABI GIBSON GOLD FOR BRITAIN

Abi Gibson recently travelled to GOL in Norway for the annual International Dance Championships with her Mum, Paula, and Dance teacher Karen Stewart. Being the only dancer from the UK, Abi did her country proud by winning the 'Showdance Championship Event'. Abi did not rest at this but went on to win two more sections in the supporting events. You would think after all this that Abi would take time out, but

no, she attended classes at the famous 'Studio 1 Studios' in Oslo to improve and gain more experience. On her return to the UK she travelled to Blackpool on October 1st where she won the UK's Premier Championships. Speaking to Karen it is obvious that Abi has made a name for herself on the European Circuit. Every competition is hard, but to go to another country with no support is tough. Abi was nervous but didn't show it on the

day. She knew what she was up against and showed true professionalism. As for Blackpool, all of the Academy achieved fantastic results from tots to teens. "Am I proud? Yes, all the time", says a smiling Karen Stewart. Could you be the next Abi? Classes are held every Wednesday in Lanchester Community Centre. For more information please ring 007711730661.

See picture page 24

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## ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

## Longovicium display

In Lanchester Library from Saturday 29th October to Saturday 12th November there will be a display of photographs of Longovicium, the Roman Fort at Lanchester, and research into the vicus/civilian settlement. The photographs will show a plan of the vicus as found by Geophysical Survey, showing Dere Street, the main Roman road from York to Corbridge and beyond, and the extensive Roman settlement, there will also be photographs of finds not necessarily from Longovicium, but of items that would or could have been used in Longovicium. There will be some of the Friends in the Library on Saturday to talk to anyone and to sell our cards, printed from the front cover of our latest free booklet. The cover of the book is by local artist Miss D Cole and is an impression of how the Vicus may have looked.

## Get Online Week

Computers for All at the Community Centre is one of many centres taking part in national Get Online Week, from Monday 31st October.

Using a computer to access the internet is easier than you may think. Whether you want to find a bargain, keep in touch with friends and relatives, build your family tree or keep up with your children or grandchildren, the internet really does have something for everyone. We are open on Monday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 - 11.30 am. No appointments are necessary; just drop in. What's more, it's completely free.

If you can't make Get Online Week, call in any Monday or Thursday morning and we'll help you get started online.

The Village Voice Page 22

## ShocFlood

All Saints Catholic Primary School is starting an exciting new project called 'ShocFlood' (School Hubs of Community Flood Risk Reduction) through which pupils will learn how to prepare for and minimise the risk of flooding.

On 2nd November, All Saints will be having an Environment Day where pupils will work with visiting Environment Agency staff to learn some simple steps they can take to be prepared for flooding and how flood risk is minimised.

During the day, a group of Environment Agency volunteers will be getting stuck into the Alderdene Beck to remove litter and overgrowing vegetation that is restricting water flow in the channel.

If you would like to get involved and meet some of the Environment Agency staff, please call Michael Rogers at Durham Wildlife Trust on 0191 584 3112 or email [mrogers@durhamwt.co.uk](mailto:mrogers@durhamwt.co.uk).

## Open House

Everyone is welcome at 'Open House' on Thursday 3rd November. A light (and delicious) sandwich lunch is served from 11.30 am to 1.00 pm in the Chapter House of the Parish Church. Why not try it and bring a friend!

## History Society

The next meeting will take place in the Community Centre on Friday 4th November, at 7.30 pm when the speaker will be the ever-popular Mike Richardson of Durham, showing slides of Durham in the 1960's in colour. Everyone is welcome.

## PACT Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 23rd November at 7.15 pm in Lanchester Community Centre. All welcome.

## Lions Bonfire Night

This year Bonfire Night will take place on 5th November, at Kitswell Park, with the Bonfire being lit at 6.30 pm. Light sticks at £1.00 each will be available on route to the park and at the entrances to the field.

The fireworks have cost in the region of £2000 so a spectacular display should please all those who attend. Refreshments in the form of hotdogs etc will be provided by Lions' Ladies at very reasonable prices.

In holding an event of this magnitude there are bound to be safety issues. It is requested that sparklers and other fireworks are not brought to the field and lit, as they cause danger to the very young and vulnerable, in pitch black surroundings. People are also asked to keep well away from the embers of the fire at the end of the display as they could be in danger of being hurt from exploding fireworks.

The Red Cross will be in attendance but everyone hopes they will be redundant on the night. Parking will be available at the following places: St Bede's School, the Community Centre and the King's Head. Donations may be given at those places for Lions welfare undertakings. Parking in village designated parking areas should also be available.

It is especially requested that visitors to the event park responsibly and do not inconvenience residents. It is also requested that people do not park on the verges on the bypass and other inappropriate places. Last year this caused considerable damage, as well as inconvenience to those who had to be towed off the verges.

# WHAT'S ON?

The Lions hope that Bonfire Night will be a huge success and accident free. All your generous donations will be gratefully received and you may be assured will be used for good causes.

## Country Market

The next market will be on Saturday 5th November from 10.00 - 11.30 am. The usual cakes, scones, pies, jams, crafts and plants will be on sale. Refreshments also available.

## Social Club Entertainment

**Saturday 5th November,**

CHRIS JAMES, Clubland Award Winning Vocalist

**Saturday 12th November,** FIDDLIN FANTASTIC, Award Winning Duo

**Saturday 19th November,** JOSHUA STEVENS, Vocal and Guitar

**Saturday 26th November,** KATY D, Great Young Singer

## Sunday Bridge

Come along to the Community Centre (small hall) on Sunday 6th November at 2.00 pm to play Bridge with a friendly group of people and at the same time help the Community Centre raise some much needed funds. Cost of entry £3, including refreshments.

## Paradiso Club Social

Refreshments, a Raffle and a Big Screen Film

The next Social is on Sunday November 6th, in the Main Hall of the Community Centre 7 pm - 9.15 pm. Anyone is welcome to join: Membership £5 per annum. Entry to each Social - members £2.50, occasional guest visitors £3.50. The entry fee covers everything. Screening that night will be the film 'Tamara

Drewe', directed by Stephen Frears and starring Gemma Arterton, Tamsin Greig and Bill Camp.

This entertaining humorous film is faithfully based on Posy Simmonds' country comic strip; a gently satirical reflection on British life and character in changing times, with tales of ego, lust and revenge.....!! Do come.

## Sunday Music Sessions

We are now cosily ensconced in the restaurant of the Cross Keys at Esh Village (NB not used for food on Sunday evenings) and meet every week at 8.30 pm for a good sing song. There are the stalwarts of Loud Dave, Steve, Tom, Kevin, Geoff, Jim, and various troubadours who happen to drop in.

There are usually real ales on tap, and roast potatoes at half time. So if you are free on a Sunday evening why not top off your weekend with a visit.

Hope to see you soon.

Ian Tute

## Red Cross Christmas Fair

The Red Cross Christmas Fair will be held at their premises on Monday 7th November until Saturday 12th November inclusive. The shop will be open usual times except for Monday 7th when they will open at 9.00 am and stay open until 8.00 pm that evening, with Mince Pies and Ginger Wine available. There will also be a raffle. Please come and support the Red Cross and at the same time get those bargains you have been looking for at Christmas.



## WI

Monday 7th November sees us celebrating our 86th birthday with an outing which will be departing from Peter's at 9.30. We are stopping for coffee at Langley Castle where we will have a short talk about the castle before enjoying lunch at the Boathouse Inn Warden. After lunch we will visit Hexham for about an hour and leave for home at 4.30. Our birthday outing is always varied and enjoyable and a big thank you to Jennifer Macdonald and June Wallis for all the work they have done arranging this.

## Wildlife Group

On Tuesday 8th November at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre, Bob Wilkins will give a talk on Badgers.

## Junior Wildlife

On 20th November, there will be a visit to Saltholme, the RSPB reserve at Teesside. Meet at 9.30 am in the Community Centre car park. If you are not a RSPB member, there is a small charge.

## Mothers' Union

At our meeting on Wednesday 9th November, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House, Sian Thomas will speak on the work of the Cyrenians.

## Indoor Bowls Club

The Methodist Indoor Bowls Club meets every Friday at Croft View between 1.30 and 3.30. There is an interval for refreshments. All this for just £1.00. The club is mixed and the current numbers are about 14. This is an invitation to anyone who would like to come along and have a convivial afternoon playing and socialising during the forthcoming winter months. You will be made very welcome. Guy Lawson on 521293.

## Table Top Sale

To raise funds for the Village Link Bus, a sale will be held in the Social Club on Thursday 10th November from 11.00 am - 1.00 pm. There will be stalls with nearly new (and new) items, books, toys, etc for sale and also a tombola and raffle with prizes donated by local people and businesses. Entrance is £1.50 which includes tea/coffee and a 'sweet' buffet (cakes, biscuits, etc). Tickets are available from Fred (Village Bus driver), Karin Bravington, tel 520784, or at the door. The Village Bus will pick up and drop off en route.

Why not come along, have a browse at the stalls and then relax with a cup of tea/coffee while chatting with your friends.

## Hedge Laying

The Lanchester Locality Map Project invites you to a talk on hedge laying by National Hedge Laying Society's trainer Mr Derrick Hale at Broom House Farm on Friday 11th November at 7 pm. The talk will be accompanied by a pie and pea supper and is free to all, however booking is essential.

Derrick has also agreed to follow his talk the next day (Saturday 12th, 9 am until 2 pm) with a hedge laying demonstration which will also take place at Broom House Farm (along the entrance road from Burnhope). If you would like to take part in the demonstration then please let Sue know as places are limited (via email sue.charlton@lanchesterparish.info or by phone on 07585 001 355). If you would just like to see the work in progress then feel free to drop by any time and have a look. You could always follow this with lunch at the farm!

## Willow Burn Fundraising Events

### Friday Night is Music Night

Friday 11th November at 7 pm at Elvet Church, Elvet, Durham. Featuring North East Solo Singers Academy and Durham County Wind Band. Tickets £7.50/children & students £2.50.

### Annual York Shopping Trip

Saturday 12th November Pick-ups 8.15 am from Consett and Lanchester. Pick-ups in York at 5.45 pm. Tickets £15

### Christmas Fair

Saturday 19th November St Bede's School, 11 - 2. Pick up some bargain Christmas gifts, see a very special 'visitor', catch up with Willow Burn staff and volunteers, whilst meeting with friends and family over tea and cakes!

### Charity Variety Night

at the Empire Theatre, Consett, 7 pm. Tickets £5 from the Empire on (01207) 218171.

Tickets for all of the above events can be obtained from Willow Burn Hospice; 9-5 pm Monday-Friday. Call (01207) 523295/523296 for further details or to reserve your seat in advance.

## Autumn Fair

Lanchester and Burnhope Autumn Fair will take place on Saturday, November 26th at 10.30 am - 1.00 pm at the Community Centre. Admission is free and refreshments are priced at £1.00. Attractions include: a Grand raffle, Tombolas, Home Made Cakes and Savouries, Jams Preserves and Ginger Wine, Hand Crafted Goods, Cards and Pictures, Christmas Decorations, Jewellery and Toiletries. Please come and enjoy a busy, friendly atmosphere and find those Christmas bargains you have been looking for.

## Short Circuit Walks

**12th November,** Newbiggin by the Sea, 5.5 miles. Meet at the Maritime Heritage Centre to the north of the village, NZ318880.

**26th November,** Kirkharle, 5 miles. Meet at Kirkharle Courtyard, NZ013822 about 7 miles NW of Belsay.

## Taize Worship

Taize worship will take place at Lanchester Parish Church at 6.00 pm on Sunday 13th November. All are welcome.

Practices in the Church from 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm on Thursdays. If you enjoy singing do come along. No experience needed.

## 70's & 80's Disco

Saturday 19th November at Lanchester Social Club tickets £2 each. All Proceeds to Willow Burn Hospice! A reunion for anyone who enjoyed Saturday Nights in the 70's & 80's at Lanchester Community Centre or anyone who remembers Flares or Shoulder Pads and has danced around a handbag! Fancy Dress Optional! For more information and tickets please contact Sue on 01207 520570.

## Lanchester Valley Conservation Volunteers

The next meeting is on Sunday 20th November. We will be joining Durham County Council Ranger Service to do some scrub removal along the Lanchester Valley Walk. No experience is needed as full training is given, so if you are 14 or 114 and would like to meet new people, get a little fitter or help protect local wildlife please get in touch. You can contact Sue via email sue.charlton@lanchesterparish.info or by phone on 07585 001 355.

## Croft View Halls Celebration

An open day will be held on Saturday 19th November at Croft View Halls from 11 am to 4 pm to give everyone in Lanchester and the surrounding areas the opportunity to view the wonderful facilities that are available for hire and to celebrate the changes that have so far been completed. Entry is free and several of the organisations that use the halls will have stalls, there will be refreshments available all day as well as a bouncy castle, a street dance demonstration, a zumba dance class and the Lanchester Brass Band will play. Some of these activities will have a time slot and these times will be highlighted in the posters that will be on show in the village nearer the time. Please come along and support this local community facility and bring all your friends.

## Flower Club

On Friday 25th November there will be an Open Meeting at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre when John Thexton will give a demonstration 'Holly and the Ivy'.

## Christmas Fayre

at Satley Village Hall will be held on Saturday 3rd December, from 10 am until 12 noon. Tables may be booked for £5 to sell your Christmas related wares. For further details please get in contact with Karen Hodgson telephone 01388 730091.

## New Year's Eve Ceilidh

This popular event will be held again in Lanchester Community Centre. Contact Elaine Williams on 01207 520063 for information or to book.

## TENNIS CENTENARY DINNER CLOSES SUCCESSFUL SEASON



*Members of the committee from left to right: Heather Murray, Joyce Dixon, Sally Laverick, Anne Hurran, Jane Laycock, Pam Graham and Rosemary Fawcett.*

Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club rounded off a very successful centenary year with a dinner dance at the South Causey Inn, Beamish on Friday the 30th of September. Over seventy members, past members and friends, enjoyed this special evening to celebrate the club's 100 year history.

The welcome was given by President Rosemary Fawcett and, following an excellent meal, Honorary Life Member Brian Masterman presented a short and amusing history of the club. Music was provided by local entertainer Glen Coxon who presented an appropriate and

thoroughly enjoyable selection of songs. The evening was enhanced by several past members who had left the area, returning to recall old memories and learn about the club's recent successes. The social committee (in the photo above) were thanked for all their hard

work throughout the season, not only organising the dinner, but other special events including the Fun Day, the Strawberry Tea, Barbeque, Timeline and catering for the surprise visit of Tony Blair. They were each presented with a bouquet of flowers.

The club was also pleased to end the season by having their Mixed Veterans Team win their group section and the Lady Veterans coming second in their group. It is hoped the successes will continue with the winter matches, which have just commenced.

## GREAT NORTH RUN



*June Taylor displaying her Great North Run medal*

## ABI GIBSON GOLD FOR BRITAIN



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*Abi Gibson holds her International Dance Championship trophy along with Karen Stewart, her Dance Teacher*

## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next Village Voice by 15th November. The deadline for **adverts** is 13th November.

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