

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 5 Volume 13

Lanchester, May 2012

For contact information, see page 2

SUCCESSFUL CARNIVAL in spite of the weather



All the fun of the fair



Good shot at the Coconut Shy



*Jackie Gates and Judith Wilkinson with
scrumptious cakes*



Punch and Judy



*Lanchester Brass Band with the Centurions Bikers in the background
Thanks to Mike Gladstone for the photos*

Report and more pictures next month



Dear Village....

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

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 read with interest and dismay the article regarding 'Lanchester Valley Way Improvements'. As a frequent user of the line, I feel part of its charm is its rural nature. Nature has already provided bluebells, primroses, cow parsley, vetch, clover, wood anemone, creeping buttercup, nettles, dog rose, brambles, wild raspberry, to name just a few, not to mention Dora's Wood. Where would you put an 'orchard' or 'orchards', which implies fruit trees. These no doubt would be vandalised and stripped of any fruit.

Regarding seats, these are not in short supply along the line, as any user could tell you. As to the slide, I think this is a sensible suggestion, and if sunk into the bank/hillside would not be a health and safety issue. There is also the cost involved, which eventually will come out of my Council Tax. I do not want to see creeping urbanisation on the line, and I hope other people feel the same way. Name and address withheld by request

Dear All
Today, May 2nd, will mark 18 months since Henry left us. I've taken the day off to go to places he and I enjoyed together: Malton, the coffee shop in Lanchester, the bike track and local walks near our village. I miss him. (Aren't words hopeless?!! 'miss' seems so lame!) Thank you to all of you. You have supported Gary and I as we've begun to cope

with not having him around and been so generous to us and/or his charity. Some of you have gone an extra mile in donations or activities. It'll help so many others in the longer run. I'm truly grateful.
Henry Dancer Days now holds over £13k and has supported families in Bristol and Middlesex. CLIC Sargent are now sending nominations forward, which is great! I hope we can give people a small smile during the illness of their children.
Yours, with love
Jane Dancer

Dear Village Voice
We would like to congratulate our daughter Jeni Carson on the buying and opening of her new salon still known as Talking Heads, Front Street, next door to her old salon. This took lots of soul searching but it has paid off as the new salon is amazing, with lots more space, very

bright and a very happy work place for Jeni and her long serving staff Michelle, Natalie, Rea and Shannon.
We want to say how very proud we are of her achievements over the 13 years she had the other salon and wish her and her staff many more in their new place of work.
With love from Mum & Dad

Dear Village Voice
I would like to give a big thank you to everyone who makes Lanchester such a friendly and beautiful village to live in. In this last week I have enjoyed amongst other things the wooden carvings and hedging on the new path, receiving my copy of the Lanchester Heritage Walks, attending a packed church when our new vicar the Reverend Rupert Kalus was licensed, attending our WI committee meeting and enjoyed coffee in the Methodist

Church Hall with friends. I plan the events I can attend and wish there were more hours in the day so I could do more of what is available to us in our Village. I would like to give a special thank you to the Parish Council and Partnership and to everyone else who run and help with all the clubs etc which help to make our village a special place to live and a big thank you to everyone at the Village Voice without whom I would not know what was going on and be able to plan my month. These are not easy times we live in but living in Lanchester with all it has to offer and the friendliness of the people who live here make me feel a very fortunate lady.
Ann Carr

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for April 2012 is 50. The draw was made by John Wills.

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THE NEW VICAR'S INAUGURATION

The bell ringers rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which consisted of 5088 changes, rung in 2 hours 37 minutes. Outside it was cold, wet, and miserable in Lanchester but inside the Parish Church it was warmth, joy and happiness as the service of the inauguration of the new vicar of Lanchester was taking place. On April 29th at 6.00pm, the church was filled to capacity with its own church people, members of the Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches, local dignitaries, many clergy from the immediate area and further afield, Mrs Davis and a small choir of children from our EP School, and a large number of the new vicar's former parish of Shildon. There were two special guests, namely the Bishop of Jarrow, or Bishop Mark as he is known in the Diocese of Durham, and the

Archdeacon, Reverend Ian Jagger who had a major role in the appointing of a new vicar. As you know the Reverend Peter Waterhouse retired in July 2011, and the church has had an interregnum. Lanchester is a large parish, and even larger now that St John's Church Burnhope is part of our parish. There is a great deal of work and responsibility in this parish and the post of Parish Priest requires very special qualities in the person appointed. Much painstaking work was put into finding that person and after several months he was found in the person of Reverend Rupert Kalus. The rain outside could not eliminate the warmth of the welcome which Lanchester gave their new vicar. Bishop Mark spoke of his integrity and dedication to preaching the gospel and drawing



Serving the wine and soft drinks after the service

men to Christ. He is also a person who cares a great deal about the people in his care. Pastoral work is very important to him. The congregation of All Saints Parish Church are delighted to have such a man leading them and nurturing their faith. Mention must be made too of the superb buffet which was served after the service in the Chapter House. Our catering team under the direction of Mrs Sara Allison organised this and with contributions from the congregation provided a feast fit for a Queen.
Brenda Craddock




Bishop Mark, the Bishop of Jarrow, congratulates Reverend Rupert Kalus on his appointment as vicar of Lanchester and Burnhope Churches.



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VILLAGE GREEN CELEBRATION OF IMPROVEMENTS



Councillor Ossie Johnson, receives a plaque from Phil Embleton (Network Gas) alongside Veronica and Tony Cleary (Lanchester Wines)

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Following the success of phase one of the improvements, which were completed in May last year, Lanchester Parish Council began work to further enhance the facilities on the village green, a very important part of the village and the community. The work began in February and was completed in April, with a celebration on the Green on Friday 27th at 1.30 pm. Parish Council Chairman Ossie Johnston conducted the ceremony and explained the work which had been carried out to those present, who included representatives from the three schools, the Churches and many Parish Councillors. A

planned Maypole dance on the green by children from the EP school had to be cancelled because of the heavy rain during the previous days, but at least it was fine on the day. The project has been funded by the Parish Council and a grant of £1,305 from Northern Gas Networks and £500 from Lanchester Wine Cellars Ltd. Cllr Johnston welcomed Phil Embleton from Northern Gas Networks and Veronica and Tony Cleary from Lanchester Wine Cellars and thanked them for their generosity. He also welcomed members of the family of Frank Kemp, a former, longstanding Parish Councillor, who

died last year, and thanked them for their kind donation of a seat in memory of Mr Kemp. Other thanks went to those who had undertaken the works, including Andy Purves and his staff for the tree works, Burt Hunter for his fabulous job on the hedge and Simon Banks for his wonderful wood carvings. After thanking those attending, Cllr Johnston invited everyone to refreshments in Park House, which included wine generously donated by Lanchester Wine Cellars and said he hoped that everyone would enjoy the new facilities. They certainly make the green very special.



Mrs Ann Kemp and family at the new seat on the village green commemorating her late husband Frank, a well known village figure and former councillor for 26 years, who died just before Christmas 2011.



Children from the three village schools at the opening of phase 3 of the Lanchester Village Green improvements ceremony.

70th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Long term Lanchester resident, Tony Corry, celebrated his 70th birthday with a surprise party at the Cricket Club organised by eldest granddaughter, Louise Smith. A great disco with 60's, 70's, and modern lively music, karaoke, and buffet were enjoyed by family and friends. Tony has been for many years and still is a member of Lanchester Lions and will continue to work part time for his present employers who manufacture adhesives. Tony is a popular, gregarious character who certainly has 'stickability'. The picture shows Tony and Louise together at the party.



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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8th May 2012

Election of Chair

Cllr Ossie Johnston was unanimously re-elected by Members.

Acceptance of Office

Cllr Johnston signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, thanking Members for a

good year during which the Council had achieved a great deal of which residents were appreciative. He said he hoped the Council would go onwards and upwards, regardless of politics, for the benefit

of the residents of Lanchester.

Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Colin Burton was re-elected unanimously. Members or Representatives of the following Committees were also re-elected:

- * Planning (11 Members)
- * Recreation Facilities (11 Members)
- * Finance, Development and General Purposes (10 Members)
- * Complaints (8 Members)
- * Lanchester Community

- Association (2 Members)
- * Parish Councils (2 Members plus the Clerk)
- * Farming, Wildlife & Environment working group (3 Members plus the Clerk).

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING 8th May 2012

Correspondence

Members received a response from the Woodland Trust, owners of Dora's Wood, to whom the Lead Officer had written after residents complained about horse riding in the wood. The Lead Officer had written to the owners of local stables and also contacted the police. However, the responsibility for the wood lies with the owner and it is up to them to provide preventative measures. Members received a letter from Lanchester Playgroup

and Tiny Tots thanking them for their donation.

Hanging Baskets

The provision and watering of these for the coming year was approved; there is to be no price increase.

Empty Business Premises in Lanchester

This problem was discussed at length and it was agreed that Cllr Alan Myers should approach Derwentside Enterprise with a view to promoting the village for business. Cllr Bob Glass suggested that a picture of Lanchester

be placed in the window of the former travel agent's premises, but the Lead Officer said that planning permission would have to be gained for this, which would take weeks.

Request to sell ice cream within Park House Play Area

This, too, was discussed at length, and it was agreed that there could be problems such as insurance and litter, that it might take business away from shops in the village and the land is leased from the County Council who

would have to give permission. It was decided that the request be refused.

Maintenance Progress Report

The Lead Officer was asked to pass on the thanks and appreciation for the hard work done by Handyman David Maddox.

Annual Training Plan

This includes a meeting in June about Planning changes, to which Lanchester Partnership would be invited.

Insurance Renewal

This was approved. There has been only a small inflationary charge in the premium.

Financial Information

The final budget and end of year accounts, prepared by the Lead Officer, were accepted.

Accounts for Payment

These were approved and it was agreed that letters of thanks should be sent to those involved in Phase 2 of the village green project.

Questions from Members

Cllr Myers said that he had been approached by a resident about horse riders going through the small garden at the corner of Ford Road, causing damage and what could be done about it. The Lead Officer said that this is County Council land and Members agreed that if riders were seen, then they should be asked not to ride there.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 12th June 2012 in the Conference Room, Park House, Lanchester, at 7.15 pm.

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POLICE REPORT

Reporting period: 28/03/12 to 24/04/12
Number of calls for area: 47
Alcohol seizures 0,
Burglaries 0, Bogus callers 0,
Anti-social behaviour 5 (youths drinking alcohol in Dora's Wood and an item of drug paraphernalia seized; damage to bench in Dora's Wood; persons verbally abusive in public house; rowdy youths drinking alcohol in garden of empty property in Lee Hill Court; aggressive male ejected from ambulance and later arrested), Criminal damage 0, Vehicle thefts 2.

Please consider joining a free neighbourhood watch scheme. Co-ordinator is PCSO Vikki Ord at Consett Police Office (ring 101) or contact the beat officers PCSO Gray or PC Henderson. PACT Priority to remain former 6th form college (although there have been no further incidents of crime or anti-social behaviour since last meeting). Various road related requests concerning Newbiggen Lane to be forwarded to Highways Dept via Police Traffic Management Officer.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

Wednesday 9th May was the state opening of Parliament by the Queen. The State Opening marks the formal start of a new parliamentary session and this is only the second state opening during my time in Parliament. The primary purpose of this colourful state occasion is to set out the Government's legislative agenda in the Queen's Speech, but for many it is about the pomp and ceremony. The ceremony brings together the constituent

parts of Parliament - the Monarch, the Lords and the Commons; a symbolic reminder of Parliament's unity.

The Queen arrives at the Sovereign's Entrance, next to the House of Lords and then proceeds through the Royal Gallery to the Chamber of the House of Lords, where she sits on a golden throne to read the speech prepared by the Prime Minister. The Queen's official 'Black Rod' then marches through from the House of Lords to the door of the

House of Commons, where the door is ceremonially slammed in his face and is not opened until he knocks and asked for entrance. This slamming of the door in the face of the Monarch's representative is a symbol of the House of Commons' independence and primacy. This is the bit that many of us see on TV but it is amazing to see in person. It brings home centuries of history that have resulted in the elected representatives of the common people of this country, taking

precedence over the Monarch and the Lords. Members of the House of Commons, led by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition then follow Black Rod and the Commons Speaker to the Lords Chamber and stand behind the Bar of the House of Lords to listen to the Queen's Speech.

Just before all the action we MPs received an email from the Speaker telling us that the side doors to the voting lobbies would be locked to prevent honourable

members from slipping through the voting lobbies to queue jump in the procession. Honestly, some people just have no sense of decorum!

I am always keen to hear from constituents so if you need to contact me on any issue of concern, please write to me at Pat Glass MP, Gledstone House, 26 Newmarket Street, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 5LQ, by email at pat.glass.mp@parliament.uk, or phone my office on 01207 501 782.

FIRE AT THE QUEEN'S HEAD

On Wednesday afternoon, 9th May, car drivers passing through Lanchester found their access to a large part of Front Street blocked. Police were directing traffic away from the area, buses had to be diverted temporarily and it was impossible to get at the car park. Pedestrians who were able to pass round the road-block found the Queen's Head surrounded by firemen with fire engines deployed and the road covered in water. As far as the Village Voice can find out the fire had started in the kitchen as a result of an electrical fault. Fortunately there were no casualties but the entire ground floor is seriously damaged, with smoke-blackened windows visible at the front, and the whole building is closed until

further notice. Bikers arriving for their weekend event found one of their favourite watering holes unavailable and the celebration to be held there unable to go ahead. Crinnion's were able to step in and save the situation but that does not disguise the fact that livelihoods have been lost and a prominent local landmark is unable to provide its usual facilities for the village.



Remains of rubbish cleared from the kitchen area of the Queen's Head



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LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The large number of members and friends who attend the May Meeting on Friday 4th were not disappointed with the talk given by regular, popular speaker and member Arthur Dodds. This time his talk was on the 'History of Mossad', who are responsible for the outside security of Israel, the latest in his series of talks on aerial surveillance.

Accompanied by slides of places and people and beginning with the history of Israel, Mr Dodds fascinated everyone, explaining the covert activities of Mossad behind historic events nearly everyone could remember but did not know exactly what was going on. As Chairman John Thompson said in his vote of thanks, Mr Dodds had drawn together many threads and linked them

all into a whole picture of espionage. Many questions and interesting discussion followed the talk, and Mr Dodds was thanked for his hard work in collecting all the information about Mossad's clandestine activities; it was very much appreciated by all those present.

Next month's meeting will be the annual outdoor meeting, which is to be held on Saturday, 9th June, when members will go by coach to Benwell, where they will visit the temple of Antenociticus, then to Hexham Abbey to look at the Roman stones incorporated within the fabric of St Andrew's and finally at the temple of Mithras at Carrawburgh. There are no meetings in July and August and the next meeting will be on Friday, 7th September, details to be announced later.

WELCOME HOME!

Here is the proof of in Park House in the next steps what I wrote last month - the Miners' will take place later in or conservation. Banner is safely back the month to decide Jill Ramsey



Ossie Johnson with the Lanchester banner which arrived back at Park House on April 12th.

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ART IN THE PARK AT GIBSIDE



Jill Gladstone and Margaret Jopling smile for the camera



Pat Durkin and Olive Simpkins concentrating on their paintings

It's Maytime so the Monday Art group had decided to hold a session alfresco and as it turned out we got some lovely weather. Gibside looked quite different with 'artists' scattered around the grounds, some in groups others by themselves, all intent on capturing 'The

Perfect Picture'. At lunchtime we all congregated in the Potting Shed, Gibside's cafe, for a welcome break of some good homemade food. We shall have to wait for our next art session to see what kind of artistic impressions we managed to capture on the day.

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Gardening in June

June is a lovely month in the garden not only as it is the month when the daylight hours are longest but it is the start of the time to see the fruits of your labours. As the risk of frost has now passed it is a busy time.

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. You can start preparing for the season by sowing winter bedding such as pansy, viola and bellis in trays so that they will be ready for your winter containers and borders.

Vegetable Plot

Plant out leeks sown in

the spring when they are pencil thick and plant out runner beans sown in May. Other tasks this month include planting out the tender crops like outdoor tomatoes, sweetcorn and courgettes; hoeing between rows to remove weed seedlings; and sowing winter brassicas such as cabbage and cauliflower. Mixed salad 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

Hanging baskets are a joy at this time of the year. However, they need carefully preparing and looking after as they can dry out quickly. Although water retaining crystals can help, they should be watered (early morning or evening is best and drench the basket as any excess will run out) daily in warm weather and twice per day when it's hot. Slow release fertiliser plugs work best to feed and remember to dead head as this helps to promote an increase in length of the flowering period.

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LANCHESTER AMATEUR FILMMAKER

I've always wanted to make films, but I had neither the knowledge, equipment, or the people around me to make it happen. Then I decided to get myself a basic camcorder and I wrote a basic script, asking friends and family to be involved. I knew nothing at all about how to do it as I had no training in the subject, but knew it was

something I wanted to do. The short film, RUN! a zombie film focussing on three survivors, represents the journey I took in learning how to work a camera, how to write, direct, and produce a short diy no-budget film. It was filmed in and around Lanchester and Durham. Along the way, other shorts have been filmed

and uploaded to Facebook, and, on 19th May, RUN! will be uploaded too. The page is www.facebook.com/teambeardfilms. After RUN! is finished, I want to continue with

other projects, and get local people involved. I'd like to invite people in the local area who are interested in sound design, writing, or acting, to get in touch through the Team Beard

Films Facebook page (www.facebook.com/teambeardfilms). Nothing is too serious; it's just about having fun and learning! Hope to see you there! Paul Anderson



*The end scene of RUN!,
Paul Anderson's first film*

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MEET THE NEW VICAR OF LANCHESTER

On page 3 in the paper you will have read about the induction of The Reverend Rupert Kalus to Lanchester Parish Church on Sunday 29th April. It was a lovely service for a lovely man.

Reverend Rupert Kalus was born in Harrogate and spent his childhood and growing up years in Harrogate. He trained for the priesthood at St John's College and Durham University, where he met his wife Alyson, and for the last 6 years has been the parish priest of St John's, Shildon. His parishioners there are very sorry indeed to lose him, but we have assured them that we will take good care of him. We welcome him warmly as we do his family. They are his wife Alyson, who is a teacher, Laurie, 16 and Freya 14 who are both staying at their old school in Bishop Auckland because of

important examinations at the end of this term. Robbie 10 has already started attending our EP school in the village. He is also learning how to ring the bells at our church and is attending practices on Friday nights. Reverend Rupert is a warm friendly person who is anxious to get to know his congregation by name as soon as he can and they are looking forward to his leadership and ministry among them. Reverend Rupert comments that his father was Polish - hence his surname. He also describes his hobbies as including reading, walking Sally their dog and driving his children to places they tell him it is important for them to be! Lanchester is a lovely place to live and a big Lanchester welcome is yours - Rupert, Alyson, Laurie, Freya and Robbie. Brenda Craddock

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LMVC PATRONS' EVENING



Victims of their own success or trying to squeeze a quart into a pint pot are two sayings that could apply to the Male Voice Choir Patrons' evening. The choir has doubled in numbers in the last ten years and now comprises over 30 singers. This has resulted in a large number of patrons currently up to 152. While this increase is most welcome, it has resulted in a dilemma. If all the patrons were to come to the evening it would be impossible to accommodate them in the Community Centre main hall. Fortunately they were able to squeeze 116 people into the hall and that proved to be sufficient.

The choir now has a large repertoire of songs that conductor Harry Carr can call on. The Patrons' evening is a night he can dust off some old favourites and give them another airing. Bette Midler's 'The Rose' is always popular with patrons and choir members are always happy to sing love songs to their wives and partners. A few examples will give the flavour of the evening: She, My Heart Will Go On, When I Fall in Love, Unchained

Melody, She Was Beautiful (Cavatina). It fell to Peter Bridgewater to provide a contrast to all this lovey dovey stuff with a fine performance of the humorous Master of the House from Les Miserables. His wife Noreen then enchanted the patrons with her piano solo, Chopin's 'Andante Spianato'. The final soloist was Gordon Knighton resplendent in

union flag waistcoat singing Rose of England. As always Gordon showed his extensive knowledge of the songs he sings with a detailed introduction. The choir finished off their mini-concert with the rousing Anthem from Chess leaving the audience wanting more but happy to join the queue for the excellent buffet.

Lanchester Male Voice Choir, with conductor Harry Carr and accompanist Noreen Bridgewater, entertaining their patrons



Peter Bridgewater singing 'Master of the House' from Les Miserables



Gordon Knighton, suitably attired, singing 'Rose of England'

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NEW SALON FOR JENI

Well we've got there in the end, eventually, we've moved just next door but it has given us a lot more room. I do hope you like it and enjoy the friendly, professional and happy atmosphere that was in the old salon in which I had an amazing 13 years of my life. Taking on these properties has been very hard work and a lot of stress but it has been well worth it and a massive achievement for Jeff and me. Many thanks

to Paul and Marie Moncaster for your patience. I would like to thank a lot of people who have made this salon as beautiful as it is, Dave Crampton (builder), Steven and Mark Hind (electricians), Josh and Gav (JH plumbing), to Jeff and his dad Norman Lammin for all the fantastic finishing touches to the salon, Michelle and Natalie for painting and cleaning. To all the lads who helped knock down and prepare


the building, Andy Allen, David Henderson (joiner), Roy (Plasterer), last but not least to my mum and dad for all the support and encouragement throughout this last year and for looking after the kids all weekend so I could get the work finished and open on Tuesday. I look forward to seeing you in the future in the new 'Talking Heads' unisex salon. Many thanks, Jeni.



The new salon at Talking Heads

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The beginning of the Sponsored Walk organised by Tracey Little (3rd left) of Slimming World

Sunday 22nd April saw about a dozen Slimming World clients including a few dogs, organised and led by Tracey Little, gathered at the iconic bucket near Hownsgill Bridge, huddled together for a photo in pouring rain at the beginning of their sponsored walk. Fortunately, the sun came out for part of the walk which took about 90 minutes along the Lanchester Valley Way, with a convivial ending at the King's Head for a satisfying well deserved drink. The distance was five miles.

Members were walking to raise funds for local charity 'Henry Dancer Days'. This small charity was chosen by the group as being an extremely worthwhile cause. The charity aims to assist in relieving hardship for families who include young people with the illness osteosarcoma from which young Henry sadly lost his brave battle for life in 2010.

Everyone, dogs and all, seemed to enjoy the experience and a total of £337 was raised in Henry's memory.

BEN HUR RALLY - BRING YOUR WELLIES!



Mark Heaviside's 1500 diesel engine machine, lovingly restored over several years

After several days of wet weather, the fields above Lanchester were waterlogged when the first of 500 bikers arrived for the start of the annual Ben Hur Rally. Not deterred by adverse conditions, officials of the Lanchester Centurions Motor Cycle Club, the Chairman Roy Bennington, Treasurer Helene and Secretary Paul Aitchison rolled up their sleeves and organised an army of helpers as tents were erected and visitors from as far afield as Ireland and Scotland were cordially greeted.

A fire at the Queen's Head meant that an important meeting place was missing. Staff at Crinnion's cafe/bistro stepped in, offering a base for planned activities which included a Hog Roast and live bands. Everyone connected with the Rally would like to express their thanks to

Fiona, and the staff, for saving the day!

Live music is an important part of the weekend, and featured groups included Bessie and the Zinc Buckets, the Vibe, Spectrum and Denver Drive. Gary Overs provided the catering, and the bar proved a popular venue, with its range of cask ales including a special 'Ben Hur Ale'. A rock disco was planned, along with a laser show. Saturday saw the Silly Games, and it was hoped that the famous chariot race could take place, despite the poor ground conditions. The Christian Bikers provided a coffee stall, and a quiet area for relaxation, and several stalls sold t-shirts, badges and snacks. The Bike Show Competition was looked forward to, as various 'best bike' in different categories were awarded unusual and imaginative

trophies, made by member Les using scrap material from old machines.

The biking fraternity are extremely generous, and it was hoped that £3,000 would be raised over the weekend, with the Great North Air Ambulance being the major charity to benefit. Donations will also be made to Willow Burn Hospice and to the Lanchester Lions.

Huge thanks are due to local farmer Peter Suddes and his young colleague who worked hard to get trailers, stalls and band equipment onto the site. The friendly support of local residents must also be recognised. Everyone was determined not to let the rain spoil their weekend. A sunny Saturday meant the biker boys and girls had a great time, and they departed on Sunday, after bringing their generosity and good humour to the village once again.



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Saturday
morning.
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CHALLENGE FOR 'HEARING DOGS' CHARITY

Karen Raine from Kiwi Physiotherapy Clinic in the village is planning a solo circumnavigation of the Isle of Gigha in a sea kayak to raise money for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. The 30km distance should take 5-6 hours paddling time. Karen hopes to complete the challenge on the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend, weather

permitting (we are talking about Scotland here!). Karen says, "This is such a terrific, if perhaps little known charity. Their work truly transforms people's lives. Deafness is such an isolating disability. Losing one of your senses can rob you of your confidence and your independence. A Hearing Dog is trained to alert its recipient to

important sounds such as smoke alarms, door bells, alarm clocks, telephones or a baby's cries. Each dog's training is tailored to its recipient's specific needs.

I remember watching a hearing dog demonstration for the first time at a convention I was attending in 2005. I was dumbstruck and I just

couldn't stop smiling. What a fantastic idea! I, like everyone else, knew about Guide Dogs for the Blind, but I had no idea that Hearing Dogs even existed. In this and subsequent conventions recipients of Hearing Dogs told their heart warming stories of their transition from lonely, isolated individuals into confident,

independent people. What a fantastic gift." Anyone wishing to support this challenge can do so either by completing the sponsorship forms available at Kiwi Physiotherapy Clinic on Front Street or at www.justgiving.com/Karen-Raine0. Many thanks.

CHARITY BALL FOR HENRY DANCER DAYS!!

April 20th. The date of a fantastic night: a Ball at Beamish Hall which raised £3,000 for Henry Dancer Days. Marion Marshall and Laura Stephenson worked hard to ensure that all attending had a good time. Henry, who knew both of them, would be so proud of what they have achieved. Bookings are already in for next year's 'do'! Their efforts mean that many children with cancer will enjoy a

better time whilst they are ill.

The room was decorated beautifully, the band were incredible and the floor was filled from song number one. Beamish Hall's food was delicious and Ginger Johnson - guest of honour - ensured that bidding was higher than anyone had hoped at the auction.

The raffle and auction were supported by Lanchester businesses

(Thank you to Ged, Anita, Fiona and Tony, among many others) We are grateful for their contributions to a brilliant total.

Henry Dancer Days has already supported many families in Newcastle, Middlesex and Bristol. We continue to help kids in Henry's position.

A job well done by Laura and Marion and a fabulous evening for all who attended.



Left to right: Laura Stephenson and Marion Marshall (who both created a wonderful night) and Jane Natrass (Henry's Mum)

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LANCHESTER LIONS FIRST BOOK STALL OF 2012



A case of third time lucky as Lanchester Lions Club have their first proper Book Stall of 2012. The first one was cancelled because of inclement weather and the second abandoned due to heavy rain. They hope to have book stalls most Saturday mornings outside SPAR when the weather is suitable. On duty were: (front) 2nd Vice President Tony Corry and Vice President Tommy Robinson with members of the public who are enjoying a browse.

FUNDRAISING RESOURCE FOR CHARITIES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

County Durham Community Foundation and Localgiving.com have launched a new online fundraising tool for charities and community groups in County Durham to help them become more sustainable. Localgiving.com is a website specifically

designed to support small, local charities and community groups by providing easy-to-use online marketing and donation tools. The site helps local groups to promote themselves to local donors by creating their own webpage highlighting their work and their fundraising

activities. A powerful search engine lets donors find the charity they are looking for by breaking the search down by cause and area. Localgiving.com is the only website to enable those charities that are too small to register with the Charity Commission to claim Gift

Aid, thus boosting donations by 25%. It also ensures that charities on the website are checked and vetted, which will give peace of mind to donors who can be sure their money is going to a good cause. A number of groups are already live on Localgiving.com and

taking donations; you can see their pages at localgiving.com/communityfoundation/county-durham. If you would like to find out more about Localgiving.com, or get your own online fundraising page, please visit the website cdcf.org.uk.

HERITAGE WALKS - COLD PIG HILL

At last, after all the wet, we were able to find a fine day to do this 7 mile walk, hoping it would not rain. As I live at that end of the village, we did not quite walk the 7 miles, we joined the Lanchester Valley Walk off Kitswell Lane, walking over the viaduct, which must have been very scary when it was only made of wood. Turning left down the road at Hurbuck, we found this part of the road quite busy but quiet after crossing Newbiggen Lane. The ladder stile on the left, going up Humberhill Lane, was easy to find as it was so high, nearly the height of my friend (5'3"), but we managed to get the dogs

through the gate alongside. There was a convenient water trough there, which was good for the dogs as we had been walking for well over an hour and it had become quite warm. The walk is worth doing if just for the view at the top of Humber Hill - 360 degrees view - fantastic! However, the next stile was 7 rungs high which would have been impossible for the dogs, and maybe some people, but we were able to get the dogs through a gap in the bars of the metal gate. The fields, full of sheep and lambs, were very peaceful. Passing Hollinside Farm, we were able to glance into the beautiful garden then

on to the road, which was busy on a Sunday afternoon and the traffic was very fast. Then we turned into Lanchester Dairies - what a huge business it is, back on to Newbiggen Lane for a short while, again busy with traffic, and into the fields where it says Public Footpath. We could not find the little pig logo which we had followed so far, but we found our way back onto the Valley Walk which led home. We did not do the last little bit which entails going over three more stiles onto Kitswell

Lane as there are often a lot of cars going to Low Meadows and we were rather tired by then. We had been out three hours with a lot of uphill work, but had really enjoyed the walk, as well as the information given on the sheet. Last

year I read 'Wedlock' by Wendy Moore, which told the story of Mary Eleanor Bowes and her marriage to 'Stoney' Bowes, and really enjoyed it, so it was interesting to link up the mention of Colepike Hall. Mavis Datta

STOP PRESS! THE VILLAGE VOICE HAS A NEW READER



Caught red-handed! With her feet up and enjoying a good read despite the wet weather. Have you seen this glamorous lady on one of your walks around the village? If so, please say hello and make her day.



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THURSDAY CLUB OUTING TO HARLOW CARR



Some of the beautiful tulips, worthy of Holland, in a border at Harlow Carr the beauty of which no amount of rain could diminish

It was raining when we left for our day out to Harlow Carr and it was raining when we returned. In between we got a bit wet - having said that, we all had a fantastic day. On the way down we had a coffee stop at the newly refurbished Scotch Corner Hotel, now a Holiday Inn and it was really nice. Harlow Carr is an inspirational RHS garden just outside Harrogate, immaculately

kept with superb planting and spectacular displays which no amount of rain could diminish. It was a veritable feast for the eyes with magnificent displays at every turn. There was a super larger-than-life willow sculpture of two boxing hares, metal bird and flower sculptures among the greenery, humpy bridges over tumbling waterfalls. There was a Victorian garden, a tulip display

worthy of Holland. The glass alpine house had to be seen to be totally appreciated. They have a leaning centre and library, there was a decidedly up-market craft fair in one of the outhouses. Add to this a plant shop, a gift shop, a Betty's restaurant and coffee lounge - lunch and afternoon tea catered for - what more could we want? If you don't mention the weather - it was a perfect day out.

NATIONAL FLOWER ARRANGING DAY

This special day took place on Friday May 4th, with the Lanchester and District Flower Club creating some beautiful floral displays. Some of these were donated around the village, including the library and the Red Cross shop. This day celebrates the beautiful colours of the blooms all around us at this time of the year.

Lanchester and District Flower Club meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month in our Community Centre, and everyone is welcome to come along.

For more details, please contact:-

Helen Tomlinson 503667
Lestrine Kelly 521494
Norma Jenssen 520574



Floral displays in the library, created by Lanchester Flower Club to mark National Flower Arranging Day.



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LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

Mrs Helen Tomlinson our Flower Club Chairperson, welcomed members and visitors to this month's Demonstration. Everyone enjoyed a most interesting and colourful afternoon with Mrs Christine Ogle, when her demonstration theme was "I went shopping". All the arrangements were raffled and winners received a lovely gift of flowers. Christine is not only a National Flower Arranging Society (NFAS) area demonstrator; she also has her own florists and fruit and vegetable shop in Morpeth which has been in business since 1929, a very busy lady.

Names were taken for our Northumberland & Durham Area NFAS members day being held at the Lancastrian Suite Dunston, on 30th May and also for our annual outing to Thornton Hall Gardens, which is two miles west of Darlington, in June.

The club also has the occasional workshop to encourage us all to make our own flower arrangements. So, if you are interested Helen Tomlinson has all the information. Just call her on 503667. The Lanchester Flower Club hold their monthly meetings in Lanchester Community Centre on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 2 pm, and everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. If you would like to come or would like further information, you can call Helen on 503667.



Christine Ogle with some of her lovely arrangements

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THE KNITTED BIBLE EXHIBITION

The Exhibition was held at the Methodist Church from Tuesday 17th April for five days. Many people attended and enjoyed something unique. The Knitted Bible was loaned by St George's United Reformed Church, Hartlepool.

In 2008 when Rev Val Towler MA was the Minister, a scene of the 'Last Supper' was knitted by members of the congregation and friends - that was all that was intended. However, a

seed was sewn. Why not make scenes that covered the bible, from both Old and New Testaments? That is how this magnificent exhibition 'The Knitted Bible' evolved. Many hours of hard work and exceptional knitting skills went into producing the exhibition. Once more the congregation and friends set about the work of knitting hundreds of exhibits depicting well known passages from the Bible. They all arrived

separately in boxes and took about 3 hours to assemble. Logistically it was a well thought out exercise.

The scenes themselves are too many to mention

but included as examples are - those from the Gospels, the Birth of Christ, Easter and the Resurrection, and from the Old Testament, Noah's Ark, Adam and

Eve, Jonah and the Whale and many others.

The entrance was free, with free coffee available, and donations were gladly received to be sent to St George's Church.



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Knitted depictions of Palm Sunday (above) and Noah's Ark (below)



LADIES WHO LUNCH

On our last lunchtime outing it might have been chilly outside, but inside the light, airy, and sunny orangery at the Black Horse at Beamish was lovely, cosy and warm. The orangery was new since our last visit, as were the large bird boxes put out to encourage the red kites or maybe even some owls. The Black Horse has a fantastic setting with superb views which gives a good ambience to the whole place. They have a

special spring menu with 2 courses for £11.95/3 courses for £14.95, or the a la carte. We sampled from both menus. As a starter we tried crispy duck served on watercress, cucumber and mouli salad with a bois boudin sauce, main courses were pork loin medallions with a cider and apple sauce, and mussels served in a Thai coconut sauce with crusty bread. For puddings it was chocolate brownie with chocolate chip ice

cream, apple and rhubarb crumble with custard, vanilla cream and raspberry jam and strawberry ice cream and blueberry and apple gratin served with orange and butter sauce. It was all pronounced to be absolutely fabulous - the Black Horse is definitely keeping its standards high. So, between the food, sun and good feelings we were most certainly in a good place.

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SEARCH DOGS SHOW OFF THEIR SKILLS

On Wednesday May 2nd, Lanchester Boys' Brigade hosted officers from Durham Prison Service, along with some very clever four legged colleagues. The boys were fascinated as the search dogs showed off their abilities in a series of games and activities. Paddy, a black spaniel is an 'active' animal, trained to investigate places rather than people. His handler had hidden an alcoholic drink inside a cupboard within the room, and the watchers saw Paddy run excitedly around, trying to find it, and then freezing on the spot when he had picked up the scent. Drugs and weapons can also be identified by dogs such as Paddy, and their sense is so very acute that they can identify forbidden substances

from outside a cell. Then came a demonstration from Flynn, a black labrador and a 'passive' dog, trained to deal with people rather than searching places. Some of these animals are clever enough to discover hidden mobile phones. Because they are used to people, the dogs are calm and friendly, showing their love of their work by becoming greatly excited when they are involved, and enjoying a reward of play when they complete the task. Once again, a demonstration of another task showed how Flynn could find a substance which was hidden on someone, coming to stand stock still in front of the 'suspect'.

The third type of searchers are 'patrol' dogs, trained to safely stop escapees when their handler directs them to action.

After the dogs had shown off their abilities, Prison Officers Des Behan and Wayne Tilley led a Question and Answer session with the boys. They wanted to know what breed of dog made the best search animal - and how can a dog identify hidden weapons? The answer to that question is that the canine sense of smell is so keen that they can identify traces of oil and cordite which are totally out of the range of human senses. The boys enjoyed the fun activities, learning a lot of interesting facts in the process.



Questions and answers with Flynn and his handler



Paddy shows the boys how it's done

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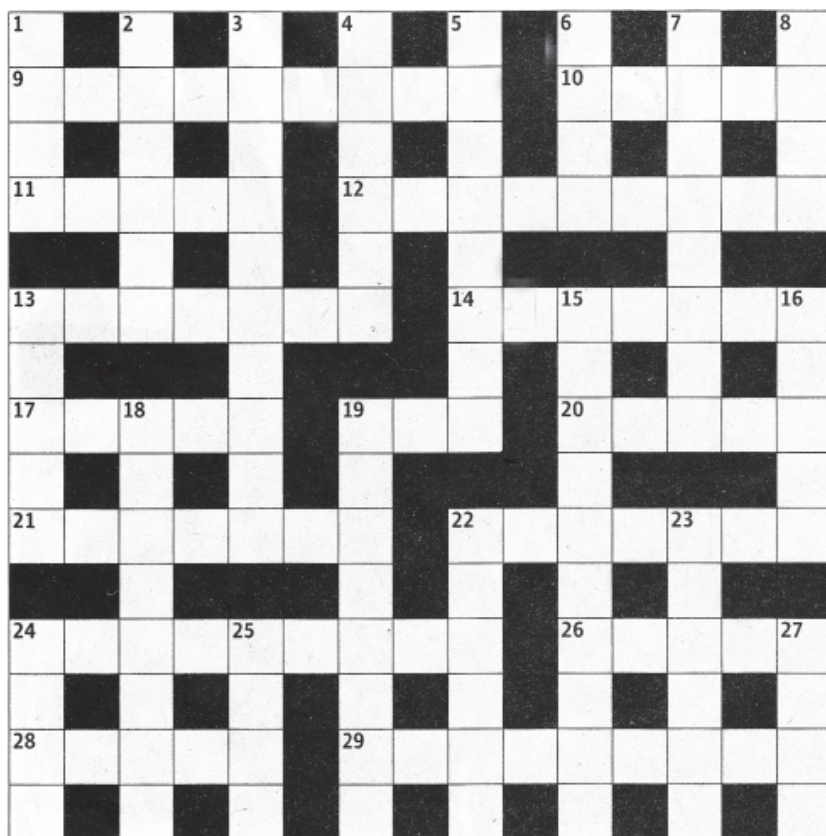
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CROSSWORD 73



ACROSS

- 9,14,4,1. Clear (2,5,2,3,4,2,4,4)
 10. Deep gorge in Abyssinia (5)
 11. Growing medium (5)
 12. Submission (9)
 13. Head of government (7)
 14. See 9
 17. Manual work sounds like a requirement (5)
 19. People carrier (3)
 20. Joint (5)
 21. Analyst (7)
 22. Rich and powerful men (7)
 24. Absorption of one's digit? (9)
 26. These are girded for action (5)
 28. See 8
 29. Amazed by recycled waste and scrap (9)

DOWN

1. See 9
 2. Not a lot of point to sentence analysis (6)
 3. Time when things don't go well (3,4,3)
 4. See 9
 5. Toss base into mineral (8)
 6. People carrier (4)
 7. Volume of numbered songs (4,4)
 8,28. Home of reformed naïf moles? (4,2,3)
 13. Genuine (5)
 15. Cause metal to weaken (10)
 16. Odds of one to one (5)
 18. Naïve individual (4,4)
 19. London arts centre (8)
 22. People carrier (6)
 23. Pointless duo is so nasty (6)
 24. Death from returning disposition (4)
 25. Go under (4)
 27. I ask for deer (4)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 72

ACROSS

1. replete
 5. ashore
 9. badinage
 10. Greens
 12. status symbol
 15. matriarchy
 17. ria
 19. lie detector
 20. moral credo
 22. Peter Sellers
 26. idiocy
 27. See 19
 28. theism
 29. eternal

DOWN

1. ribs
 2. pods
 3. Einstein
 4. ergot
 6. strays
 7. overburden
 8. El Salvador
 11. asthma
 13. small print
 14. streetwise
 16. rooted
 18. Scorsese
 21. fracas
 23. Liege
 24. stun
 25. Aral

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.

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CROSSWORD 72

There were 21 entries in the April crossword competition, though not all were correct.

Congratulations to Ivan Cliff of Humberhill Drive who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

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.

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

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WI

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed members and visitors then Ann Carr read two poems before presenting June Wallis with flowers for her 80th birthday.

Voting took place on the resolution on more funding for midwives which was carried unanimously after discussion by members. Members had enjoyed their April trips to the BBC studios, farm and AGM and a list is out for a Headlem Hall Ladies day on 19th September. Tickets are now available for the June "Royal Jubilee" Garden Party.

The group Fair will be held in October; we have been allocated the accessories

stall and all accessories will be welcomed.

Carol Troy won the raffle and competition winners for your name in any medium were Ann Carr and Maureen Barker.

Our speaker this evening was Heather Munsey on "What's in a Name" about Mary Queen of Scots. Heather who was a Senior Head Teacher at St Andrews and an MA in Further Education has many topics for discussion ranging from A Battlefield Angel to Mystery of the WWII Bomber but the talk she gave us on Mary Queen of Scots was riveting, making us consider whether she was Mary the Martyr or Mary the

Murderess and taking us through her history in Scotland, France and England. This included her marriage in France where her husband died and her Mother-in-law sent her back to Scotland to claim the Scottish throne, her life with Henry whom she had killed but she then fled to England to a life of exile and captivity before her execution for treason. This was a thoroughly interesting talk and Heather really brought Mary and her history to life for us.

Ann Carr gave the vote of thanks before the evening ended with refreshments and a sales table.

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Breda Branscombe, Christine Wilson, Pauline Griggs, Angela Velleman, Jennifer Macdonald, Ann Carr, Suzanne Ward, Shirley Mair, Pat Campbell, Rhoda Joyce and June Wallis enjoying their tour around the BBC studios.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Italian Meatballs

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 6 ozs Pork sausage meat | 1. Divide sausage meat into small pieces and roll into 12 small balls on a floured surface. | 5. Add sugar and salt & pepper - and replace meatballs. Simmer for 20 minutes. |
| 1 tbs oil | 2. Heat oil in a pan, add meat balls and fry until brown - remove from pan. | 6. Cook noodles in boiling water - 10-15 minutes and drain well. |
| 6 ozs onions - peeled and sliced | 3. Add onions to pan and brown also. | 7. Stir noodles into the sauce with the cheese. |
| 2 sticks of celery - sliced | 4. Add celery, pepper, tomato puree, cider or stock and mushrooms. Bring to the boil. | 8. Serve with a green salad. (Ideal for freezing - leave until cold and pack in suitable containers.) |
| ½ green pepper - sliced | | |
| 1 tbs tomato puree | | |
| ¼ pt cider or stock | | |
| 2 ozs mushrooms - sliced | | |
| 1 teaspoon sugar | | |
| salt & pepper | | |
| 4 ozs noodles | | |
| 2 ozs cheese - grated | | |

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

Sunday Music Nights

Never seemingly wanting to be in one place for too long, the Sunday Music Nights have now decamped to The Bar in the Lanchester Social Club, and will be there in future, every week starting around 8.30 pm (NB with the exception of Sunday 3rd June which is the Jubilee weekend).

The atmosphere is very conducive to the kind of music that is played, and the beers are at very reasonable prices too! Everyone is welcome to come along either to listen or join in, whatever genre of music they follow. (It is important however that all non-members are signed in at the door.) For further information please phone me on 529286.

Ian Tute

Country Market

On Saturday 2nd June, 10am - 12 noon, come along to the Country Market in the Community Centre for your fresh produce, cakes, pies, jams, chutneys, eggs, plants, etc, and crafts.

Social Club Entertainment

Saturday 2nd June, Chris James, Clubland Award Winning Vocalist

Sunday 3rd June, Soulville, Clubland's Leading 3 Piece

Saturday 9th June, David Walton, Voted Best Newcomer 2010

Saturday 16th June, Marie Michelle, Legendary Female Vocalist

Saturday 23rd June, Angie, Great Female Singer

Saturday 30th June, Tony Washington, Top Class Vocalist with a Touch of Comedy

Jubilee Big Lunch

Don't forget the Jubilee Big Lunch on Sunday 3rd June at 12.30 pm at Lanchester EPS School, see leaflets for details. Come along and enjoy this whole village event to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Dress code - Jubilee theme - welcomed but not essential. Food and fun for all ages and it's free!!!

PACT meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 27th June at 7.15 pm in the Community Centre.

Paradiso Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday June 3rd in the Main Hall of the Community Centre at 7pm - 9.15pm.

Raffle, Refreshments and a Big Screen Film.

The film being shown is 'THE HELP', based on the best selling novel by Kathryn Stockett. A courageous and inspiring story about very different and extraordinary women in the 1960's American South, who build an unlikely friendship round a secret writing project. The project involves them in breaking society's rules and puts them all at risk. It is a timeless, universal and triumphant story about the ability to change.

Tickets for the Social £2.50 for members and £3.50 for occasional visitors.

Membership is £5 pa and anyone is welcome to join.

Membership is £5 pa and anyone is welcome to join.

Jubilee Brunch

To celebrate the Queen's 60th Jubilee, there will be a buffet lunch held in the Social Club on Thursday 7th June from 11.00-1.00. Everyone is welcome and it is hoped to have as many people as possible there to make it great social get-together. Why not wear some red, white and blue in your outfit or maybe a hat? Best effort will win a prize! There will be a raffle with great prizes and also a tombola. Besides tea and coffee there will be a glass of sherry/wine or soft drink to raise a toast to our Queen. Tickets are £3.00 and are available from Fred the Village Bus Driver, Karin Bravington (520784) or at the door. All profits will go to the Village Bus, which is always a worthy cause. Please come along and join us.

WHAT'S ON?

Open House

Everyone is welcome at Open House on Thursday 7th June in the Chapter House of the Parish Church, when a light lunch is served from 11.30 am - 1.00pm.

Wildlife Group

The usual meeting on 12th June has been cancelled in favour a day out on Saturday 23rd June. Please ring Elaine on 520063 for more details.

Derwentside Byways and Bridleways

12th June, 7.00 pm. Meet at the King's Head, Lanchester.

26th June, 7.00 pm. Meet at the Derwent Walk Inn on the B6309 hill from Medomsley Edge to Ebchester.

Art Exhibition

On Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th June, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm in the small hall of Lanchester Community Centre. Admission free.

Short Circuit Walks

June 9th, 10.30 am, Lanchester/Dere Street Circle, 5 miles. Meet at the Newbiggen Lane car park, NZ164476.

June 23rd, 10.30 am, Morpeth to Mitford, 5.6 miles. Park beyond the Leisure Centre near the river (meter), NZ196859.

WI

Our next meeting will be held on the 11th of June (second Monday) in the small hall of the Community Centre starting at 7 pm.

The speaker is Syd Slawer with a talk called "Between the lines at Wimbledon" and the competition is a decorated tennis ball.

Our Summer outing to Paxton House is booked for 11th July. For those who still have money to pay, the balance or the full £16.50, will be taken at this meeting.

If you would like to come along and spend the evening with us you can be sure of a friendly, interesting time; age does not matter. Our members are in their 30's upwards so why not come as a visitor. You can visit three times before deciding if you wish to join and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Mothers' Union

The meeting on 13th June is our Musical Evening when "Friends Like Us" will entertain us, beginning at 7.30 pm in the Chapter House.

Lanchester and Burnhope Churches Summer Fair

The Fair will be held at the Chapter House on Saturday June 16th 9.30 am - 11.30 am. The theme will be Sunshine and Strawberries. On sale will be cakes and savouries, Jams and Scones, Books, BricaBrac, Toiletries, Bottle Tombola and Plants. The Grand Summer Draw will also take place. Your £1 entrance fee includes a Coffee/Tea and Scones.

Playgroup Street Party

Lanchester Playgroup and Tiny Tots invite you to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee on Tuesday 5th June, 2-4 pm in the Community Centre. Disco, face painting, tea and games. Prizes for best Jubilee inspired outfits. Tickets £3 from the Community Centre. Babies, toddlers and primary school aged children are all welcome.

Alan Madrell Coach Tours



Merseyside, Lancashire & Beatlemania 20th August 5 days £210

This tour includes a guided tour of Liverpool visiting places associated with the Fab Four such as Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields as well as many other places of interest in this fascinating city.

Matlock Bath Illuminations 28th September 3 days £140

Not to be compared or confused with Blackpool Illuminations. Matlock Bath's Illuminations are held along the river bank with beautifully decorated, illuminated boats and entertainment.

DAY TRIPS

Sat 16th June Gretna Green Outlet Centre & Carlisle £12

Wed 4th July Leeds £12

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Thursday Club

The next meeting of the Thursday Club is on June 21st at 7.15 pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre, a Flower Demonstration by the ever popular Wendy Smith. Members are invited to come along wearing a garden flower buttonhole made by their own fair hand - Wendy's favourite will win one of the arrangements.

Flower Club

On Friday 22nd June at 7.00 pm, there will be an Open Meeting in the Community Centre. John Dalton will give a demonstration "Flowers for a Summer Day".

Durham Dramatic Society

24th June - 30th June, City Theatre, Fowlers Yard, Durham.

SEPARATE TABLES by Terence Rattigan

One of Rattigan's best-loved plays, it tells the story of a group of people living in the Hotel Beauregard: their relationships, their troubles, and the inspiring solutions to their problems. They include a young couple starting out on married life; a couple who meet again after a long estrangement; a domineering mother and her daughter; and a fake major, who is caught out in a minor sexual misdemeanour.

Performances start at 2.30 pm on Sunday, 24th June and at 7.30 pm on Monday, 25th June - Saturday, 30th June. Tickets £6.50 (Concessions £5.00 on Sunday and Monday) are available from the Gala Box Office, Millennium Square, Durham. Tel: 0191 332 4041, online: www.galadurham.co.uk.

Brass Band concert

As part of the Durham Brass Festival, a concert is to be held in the Community Centre on Sunday July 15th. A band from Rome in Italy called "The Pink Puffers"! are coming to play with the Lanchester Brass Band. This concert will also be the Band's Patrons' Evening. More details next month.

Tilly Fest 2012

Beer and music festival in aid of the Give Tilly a Hand Appeal, 24th - 26th August at Tow Law Football Ground. Live music with over 30 bands/musicians, a large selection of real ales and ciders, fairground attractions, puppet and animal shows, face painters, cake decoration workshops and much more for all the family.

If you would like to sponsor the event, book a stall, pitch or simply donate a raffle prize, please contact me on 07834762265 or via email tillyfest@yahoo.co.uk. Stephen Robinson

Willow Burn Events

The Big Lunch

Sunday 3rd June, 11 am, St Patrick's Hall, Consett. To celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, an indoor street party with good food, entertainment and a fancy dress competition for kids of all ages. Tickets, priced £7.50/children £5, are available from Claire Ross at the hospice on (01207) 523296.

Jubilee Cocktail Party

Paul Jackson, committed supporter of Willow Burn will be holding a Jubilee Cocktail Party in All Saints Parish Hall on 9th June from 8pm. The ticket price of £10 includes three cocktails, buffet supper, raffle, tombola, quiz and auction. These can be

obtained from Paul on 07957 871106 or from the hospice on (01207) 523295 or pay at the door.

TEA@3

How about organising a TEA@3 to raise funds for the hospice - tel. Sue Fox on (01207) 523295 for information ... or you could pop up to Willow Burn on Wed 13th June from 1.30 to 4 pm, when we hold our own event. Everyone is welcome.

The Lambton Run

This annual event (both 3k for families and 10k for seasoned runners of 17 years and above) will be held in the grounds of the Lambton Estate on 24th June. Entry is £12 for the 10k and £6 for the 3k run. For sponsorship forms tel. Sue Fox on (01207) 523295. Closing date is 1st June.

Summer Fair

Saturday 7th July from 1 pm - 4 pm: All the Fun of the Willow Burn Hospice Summer Fair to be held in the hospice grounds: 50p admission. Cake & Pie Stall, Raffle, Kids Corner, Tombola, Live Music, sale of merchandise, Bric-a-brac, hand-made cards & book stall, plant stall. There is a FREE shuttle bus from Lanchester and return picking up at St Bede's, Kitswell Road ends, and the village centre.

Collection tins

We have a new recruit to pick up our collection tins in Lanchester and Burnhope - his name is Terry Pinnegar, a Lanchester Lad, so I'm sure he'll have no trouble making himself at home in the village and the surrounding area. If anyone would like a collection tin, please let us know on (01207) 523295 - at the minute, they tend to be in shops and pubs, but there's no reason why they shouldn't be in a staff room, factory or office.

BOWLERS WANTED

Oh dear. Lanchester Bowling Club is having a little difficulty in fulfilling its commitments and needs more members (and some better weather would help). Sadly a few of our regular bowlers have had to give up, or restrict their participation, because of health or family commitments. This has left us with a few problems making full teams for all our matches. The poor weather has not helped as people have naturally been reluctant to get cold and wet while practising. The matches in the first week were played in near

freezing conditions (hail fell during one match) and one match had to be cancelled because the green was waterlogged. Not the best start to a bowling season.

Fortunately the sun shone on Saturday 12th May and we got a comfortable win against a newly revitalised White-Head team while enjoying hearing the rock bands playing for the Bikers' Rally. Any potential bowlers would be very welcome and will be given every encouragement. Please ring Ken Raper on 01207 521673.

CRICKET CLUB NEWS

The weather washed out pretty much everything for the first three weeks of the season. At least everyone was affected. The only game played by our three senior teams saw the seconds entertain Lintz in week three and thrash them. The seconds batted out their 45 overs for 174 runs with Paul Burn (48), Darren Wingfield (38) and Lee Murray (39 not out). Lintz mustered just 54 in reply with the wickets shared amongst five bowlers. The under 15s got a game at the third time of asking and in bitterly cold conditions they easily beat

Consett by 9 wickets with Greg Patterson striking 50 not out as they quickly chased down the Consett total of 69.

Off the field, the third net has been added above the clubhouse which will reduce the number of balls flying into Burnside. It was a feat of design, initiative and endurance to get the net up, but hopefully it will improve things for local residents. By the time you get to read this, we will hope that the sun has come out and we've actually played some games of cricket.

RED CROSS



At a recent coffee morning at the Red Cross Shop £52 was raised. Thanks are due to all those who supported the event. Our picture shows a 'customer' chatting about the Bric a brac.

ST GEORGE'S DAY SCOUTS PARADE

There has not been a Scout Group in Lanchester since before the last war.

The nearest Scout Group is in Annfield Plain and boys from the village have usually joined this Group. An attempt was made some years ago to start a Cub Scout Pack but this came to nothing, mainly because of a lack of premises. However, Annfield Plain Scouts do attend the Remembrance service on the Village Green.

St George, as Patron Saint of England, is also Patron Saint of Scouting throughout the world. He is remembered on April 23rd each year and Derwentside Scouts have always held a parade and a service in a church within the District.

This is the first time that this event has been held

in Lanchester. It was Annfield Plain Scouts' turn to host the parade this year and members chose the village for the aforementioned reason. Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and Network assembled on the Village Green at 6.30 pm. They processed from there to All Saints Catholic Church, led by Tom Ashcroft, a senior warranted leader from Dipton Scout Group. All six scout groups from Derwentside attended a service of celebration where they reaffirmed their promise of dedication and acknowledged the Scout Law. The ecumenical service was conducted by Father Lee Barratt.

Much of the above has been sourced from village resident, John Wills, now an Honorary Scouter after 60 years'



The Guard of Honour for Scouts and families to enter the church

warranted service. John is probably the most acclaimed Scouter in the region. Having joined the organisation in his formative years, he

became a leader at the age of eighteen, was District Commissioner for 21 years and now has the role of District Chairman.

He was awarded the Silver Wolf Award in April 2000 - the highest award for services to Scouting of the most exceptional nature.



Derwentside Scouts have always held a parade on St George's Day and this year was no exception and it was held in Lanchester. The picture above shows the Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and Network at the start of their march. They processed from the Village Green to All Saints Catholic Church and were led by Tom Ashcroft, a senior warranted leader from Dipton Scout Group.

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next Village Voice by Tuesday 19th June. The deadline for **adverts** is 17th June.

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