

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 11 Volume 14

Lanchester, November 2013

For contact information, see page 2

CENTURIONS HALLOWEEN PARTY



Members of the Centurions who love getting dressed up for the occasion.

The Centurions held a Halloween Party at their regular meeting place, The Black Bull. They chose this venue to show their appreciation to the landlord and provide some extra business. New Chairman, Les Ward, along with Roy Bennison, were seated at the corner of the bar to greet just over 100 people who attended.

It was a lively night with music provided by the Kim Era Rock Band. The evening raised

£443.70 for The Great North Air Ambulance which will be presented in due course.

The Centurions understand that the noise level may have been high and apologise profusely to any villagers who live in close proximity to The Black Bull who may have been disturbed by the music during the evening.

Look inside for more Halloween events and pictures.

CHAMPION GUYMAKERS FOR BONFIRE NIGHT



Champion Guymakers Amy Turner and Oliver Liddle with Pat Glass MP and the winning Guy.



The Bonfire is lit by Cricket Club member Darren Wingfield.

Stories and more pictures on pages 4 and 5.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

November 10th was a bright though cold morning when a good crowd of Lanchester people gathered round the War Memorial on the village green. There were people from all three of our churches and Reverend Rupert Kalus and Reverend Gavin Hume were in attendance, as were the Parish church choir and lay Readers.

Canon Spence was away in Rome. Lanchester Brass Band accompanied the singing of the hymns and Mark Draper played 'The Last Post' on his cornet. It is always a poignant occasion because it evokes many memories.

Full story and more pictures on page 6.



The Procession approaching the War Memorial.



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

We would like to thank everyone who braved the appalling weather to come and see our attempts to make a bit more of a night of the bonfire and fireworks event. We must apologise to those people who turned up at the advertised time for the main event to find that it had already happened. We had to bring forward the lighting up, as we feared the bonfire and fireworks may be too damp to work. As it happens some fireworks did fail. We would like to thank all of those brilliant volunteers who made the night possible and to our partners who still provided their services. Kind regards
The Committee
Lanchester Cricket Club

Dear Village Voice
I am writing this letter having just returned from the Remembrance Day service at the war memorial. I have always attended church at 10.30 am on Remembrance Sunday but this is my first time attending the parade at 9.30am at the war memorial. With two small children I decided that it was important for them to become aware of the sacrifice made for them. I have to say how moved I was by this poignant and respectful act of remembrance. The service was extremely well organised and well attended by the local community. I was shocked to discover how many men from the local community died in the First World War, as I had been previously unaware of the devastating loss of life in our small village from this conflict. I would encourage others to consider attending this service next year, especially as 2014 will mark 100 years since the start of the First World War.
Sonia Filmer
Ashdown Grove

Dear Village Voice
Recently I travelled to Lanchester the home of my great grandfather John Buckham who built Alderdene House in the 1880s, operated the nearby Buckham sawmill and lived his entire life in Lanchester. My visit was most rewarding and I wish to convey my gratitude to the following who were so friendly and generous with their time: Lesley Anderson and Monica Murfin for sending family information and providing contacts; the Richardsons of Linden Lodge, the early home of my great uncle; Jenny Morris of Alderdene House for graciously welcoming me into her home; Michael and Susan Leithrow of The Country Store which was owned by my great uncle in the 1920s; The King's Head staff; the congregations of the Methodist Church (where my great aunt Florence was married) and of All Saints Church (where my great great grandmother was baptized); Rachel and Carol in the library; Mary Murray and her friend Dorothy; Bill and Anne McNeill, and John Milburn for his

genealogical expertise. All these, plus others, contributed to a delightful visit to Lanchester where I learned so much about the village and its history resulting in a truly memorable experience. One question still lingers: would anyone know where Hill Crest in Lanchester is located? My aunt was born there in 1909. If you happen to possess any information regarding my Buckham family or any families who intermarried with the Buckhams such as the Cookes, Davisons, Dodds, Garroways, Heads, Leybournes, Richardsons, Rogers, Rukins, Storeys, Taylors, Waltons, Whinneys or Wilsons, I would greatly appreciate hearing from you at #107-595 Yates Road, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, V1V 1P8 or email marjorie_buckham@telus.net
Sincerely, Marjorie Buckham

Dear Village Voice
The elves and I are very busy getting ready for Christmas and everybody here at The North Pole hopes that the boys and girls of Lanchester are being very good!

For many years the Lanchester Lions made sure that all of the letters that the children in Lanchester wrote to me were delivered in time for Christmas to my Grotto at the North Pole; however my elves tell me that sadly they can no longer do this. This news made me and Mrs Claus very unhappy and we were very worried that we wouldn't know what presents to deliver to Lanchester on Christmas Eve. We thought very hard about what we could do and then came up with the brilliant idea of asking the ladies at Lanchester Playgroup to help us. They said yes straightaway and we were delighted that we would know what to leave under everybody's tree. There will be a post box outside Lanchester News from Friday 29th November with the last collection on Sunday 15th December. So boys and girls get your pencils sharpened and your writing paper out and tell me what you would like for Christmas! I very much look forward to reading all of your lovely letters.
Mr S Claus, Santa's Grotto,
1 Christmas Cottage, The North Pole, SAN TA 1

How to contact the Village Voice

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90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

On 11th November, Mary Dew who has lived in the village for more than 50 years celebrated her 90th birthday. A family dinner was held for her at Crinnions on Saturday night to which 23 members of her family came. There were her daughters Lyn and Aileen plus her son Ian, four of her grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

TRICK OR TREAT



Lauren, Katie, Michael and Xavier - a frightening sight at anyone's door. Worth a treat.



These little ones had such loud voices, scary faces and eager hands for some sweets, Catherine, Alice and Matthew, with Mum, Amy, joining in and keeping an eye on them.



Rebecca, Daniel and James wearing some great gear and make up for Halloween.



Mary Dew, celebrating her 90th birthday with nine of her great grandchildren

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BONFIRE NIGHT

CHAMPION GUYMAKERS

Children from the EP School, All Saints School and Burnhope Primary created 16 guys for the guy making competition for Bonfire Night organised by the Cricket Club. Pat Glass MP was unable to speak as she had lost her voice so husband Bob did the honours with some appropriate kind words to the children who were present. All the guys were very well made and were a lovely spectacle lined up outside the club in the rain. The winner was a super entrant remarkably like Guy Fawkes himself, made by Amy Turner and Oliver Liddle of Class 3, All Saints School. The children were presented with a huge trophy courtesy of the Cricket Club and presented by Pat Glass.

BONFIRE NIGHT

It was all change this year as the Cricket Club took over the running of the Bonfire Night after the sad demise of the Lions Club. It was held on Saturday,



The crowd enjoying the warmth of the fire

2nd November at Kitswell Park with a suggested donation of £1 for entry. It was good to see Lanchester Brass Band taking part after a gap of so many years.

It began at the new time of 5.30pm with a march to the field by the band. Within minutes of arriving at the venue the first of the intermittent torrential showers began. These continued throughout the evening and did spoil the occasion.

On the field was a mini funfair. It included a Tea

Cup Ride, Roundabout, and Bouncy Castle, with The Manhattan Sweet Shop and other stalls selling safe lights and torches. Traditional light sticks were on sale in Kitswell Road. Crinnions, who supported the function were busy selling a variety of food including Hot Dogs, Beef burgers and a Hog Roast.

The rain came down and the band played on, quite brilliantly, with a fine repertoire of music. Conditions underfoot were very muddy and eventually

after an emergency meeting of the committee it was decided to light the Bonfire at 7.15 pm. Club member, Darren Wingfield, carried out this important task. It was nice to see the 'Champion Guy Fawkes' on top, surrounded by all the other Guys. The Fireworks Display was brought forward to 7.40 pm as people were leaving the field in droves. The spectacular display organised by Reaction Fireworks, Greencroft lasted for some 15 minutes.

Whilst this was going on two indie rock bands, Motion Tourist and The Hazels played inside the Cricket Club until about 9.30 pm. The sounds emanating from the club were loud but obviously enjoyed by those who stayed to listen to their favourite music from local talented bands. The time changes ie lighting the fire and the display were unfortunate, as some people completely missed the event but the Committee was in a no win situation as people were leaving so quickly.

Burnhope Partnership put on a shuttle bus mainly to alleviate parking congestion but despite this the crowd was probably the lowest in years, almost certainly because of the appalling conditions.

The Cricket Club organised the function very well with excellent layout, with an open lorry for the three bands, plus adequate space for the funfair and stalls. Although the organisers will never be able to control the weather they will no doubt learn from this year and adjustments they could make if they decide to put on this massive event again.



The Lanchester Brass Band march to the field

MORE BONFIRE NIGHT PHOTOS



The Hazels entertain inside the Clubhouse



Children having fun on the Roundabout while parents take photos



The Manhattan Sweet Shop

LANCHESTER PHARMACY TO REMAIN ON FRONT STREET

Lanchester Pharmacy has decided not to move to the new development at Lynwood House. In a previous article it stated they were moving with Park House surgery to the new development, but after consultation with many customers they have decided to stay in their current location. The majority of the people consulted said where they are situated at the moment is more convenient. However they will still be offering a collection and free delivery service of prescriptions from the surgery when it moves.

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REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Continued from page 1
There is no higher thing that a man can do for his fellow man, than to lay down his life for him, and that is what the soldiers of two World Wars and Stuart Laing from the Falklands War did for us. The list of soldiers from Lanchester who lost their lives is very long and it is very moving when their names are read out. We owe our freedom today to these brave selfless men. Numerous wreaths were taken up to the memorial including those of our village

Boy's Brigade and members of the Scout's Association, based in Conssett. The band played soft appropriate music while people dispersed, mainly to their own churches for morning service. There was much to reflect upon!
We are a village, proud of the men and women from Lanchester who made the sacrifice of their lives for us and it is good to have the opportunity to thank and remember them every year on the village green with pride.
Brenda Craddock



Lanchester Brass Band.

BURNHOPE SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

What a change from last year. No rain, no fog, no snow. At long last we had sunshine. Maybe Rev Peter Sinclair had something to do with that, for Peter and his wife have just returned from a holiday in Malta, leaving Malta airport in 32 degrees of heat to arrive

at Newcastle with 3 degrees. Peter, did you bring Malta sunshine with you?
I would like to thank Rev Sinclair for taking this year's service, Mrs D Park, Mrs D Emmerson and Mrs M Goodman who also took part and the organist Mrs V Collins.

Thanks also to all who attended the short service at the War Memorial and the laying of wreaths and to Mr David Collingwood for letting the Royal British Legion keep the standard at Burnhope School. The collection at church was £48.40. Stan Collins



The Service at the War Memorial, conducted by Peter Jackson, Rev Rupert Kalus and Rev Gavin Hume.



*Wreaths were laid at the War Memorial on behalf of the following: Boys Brigade; Red Cross; 2nd Annfield Plain Scouts; Durham County Council; Durham Lieutenancy; Pat Glass MP; Lanchester Parish Council; WI; The Partnership; Churches Together (a cross of poppies).
Thirteen small crosses were also inserted next to the War memorial along with one large poppy set into the earth.*

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

Remembrance week, culminating in Remembrance Sunday is always a very special week in Parliament, coming as we are into the 11th year at war in Afghanistan and so soon after the debate on whether or not Britain should be involved in bombing Syria. There were events all week in Parliament connected with remembrance. One of the biggest events took place right opposite us in the garden of Westminster Abbey where there are laid out hundreds of thousands of crosses to commemorate our soldiers who died not only in two world wars but in the many conflicts that Britain has taken part in since 1914.

An exhibition of First World War pictures and poetry took place in the Upper Committee Lobby, some of which I had seen before, and the Parliamentary Choir held a concert in the atrium of Portcullis House to mark 11th November. Parliament, like everywhere else in the country came to a halt for two minutes on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. As we approach the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War we all understand the significance of these commemorations but for those of you, like me, who lost family members during these wars, it is particularly poignant. And it is not just those who lost their lives overseas that we

remember. There are very many young men who returned from war but died of their wounds here in this country and are buried in graveyards all over Britain, and in North West Durham. I have been working with the young people who are part of my North West Durham Schools Forum to identify these graves (now complete) and to make sure that these young men and their graves form part not only of the local schools curriculum in the run up to 2014 but in our local c o m m e m o r a t i o n services as well. If anyone would like to have details of commonwealth war graves in North West Durham they can be found on my website. Pat Glass MP

A HANDRAIL FOR 'THE CUT'

'The Cut' to the uninitiated is the footpath leading from Newbiggen Lane up through The Close and into Alderside Crescent. While the weather is good it is an extremely convenient and easy access path to the village; during winter it can become totally hazardous to life and limb. About 4 weeks ago it occurred to me that something ought to be done. The first port of call was to Andy Coulthard, Co-ordinator of Mid Durham AAP who works out of Park House. When I said I was thinking of a petition he suggested taking it down to the Community Centre on

October 12th where a forum event was to take place with our local councillors in attendance. We had 2 days - Brenda Gibson, Claire Haddon, Anne Martin, Norma Polley, Joyce Thomas, Harry Turnbull and myself were off and our petition was ready for the meeting. If you didn't get to sign the petition we do apologise but it is obviously difficult catching everybody in so short a time.

Our petition was duly handed in, we were assured it would be urgently looked into and I am very happy to announce that it has been successful - an order has

gone out and our handrail should become a reality in the next few weeks. So - a big THANK YOU to everyone who signed, to the willing folks who went out in all weathers to collect the signatures, to Andy Coulthard for his help and encouragement and to our 2 lovely councillors Ossia Johnson and Richie Young for allotting money out of their Highways Grant for our handrail.

No more slip sliding down 'the Cut' for Aldersiders this Winter; we'll be able to arrive on Newbiggen Lane with our dignity intact. Olive Simpkins

UPBEAT REPORT BY CHAIRMAN AT VILLAGE VOICE AGM

At the AGM of the Village Voice on Sunday 17th November, Brian Oram presented the Annual Report for the last twelve months together with a forecast for the year ahead.

The newspaper had been delivered to all households in Lanchester and some of the surrounding areas by approximately 40 volunteers.

The organisation of the delivery system was completed by Mike Stoddart who received thanks for his hard and diligent work as were all of the volunteers who go out in all weathers to deliver their allocation of papers.

During the year monthly issues of the paper had been either 20 or 24 pages and he thanked all of the contributors.

Organisations and members of the public had been encouraged to

send in their news and he thanked everyone for their contributions. He also thanked Sally Laverick for sending Council Reports and Chris Boundey of St Bede's School for some excellent photos.

The newspaper is wholly funded by advertisement revenue from businesses in the local community and, increasingly, from the surrounding areas. The Chairman thanked all advertisers for their continued support.

The paper's production depends wholly on volunteer efforts from local people. The co-operative pays for the printing of the paper and other expenses for council members, but no one receives any remuneration for their efforts.

The co-operative continued its sponsorship of the

Lanchester Brass Band at £1,500.

The forecast for 2013/14 anticipated continuance of the paper at 20/24 pages and advertising is expected to take up to 20% of the space.

There are now 65 advertisers. Brian congratulated John Hurran, Advertising Manager, for all his hard work and success in providing the funding.

Efficiency of accounting had been achieved by encouraging advertisers to bank with the paper electronically and by Paypal which makes savings in costs.

Treasurer, Ken Todd has been able to reduce bad debts to zero and he was thanked for this and for the clarity of his financial reports. These aspects have led to an increased turnover and it is expected that a similar profit will be made in the coming year.

COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for October 2013 is 22. The draw was made by Mrs D Maltby.

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Ordinary Meeting 12th November 2013

County Durham Plan
Mike Allum, Spatial Policy Manager from Durham County Council attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the latest draft of the County Durham Plan. Approximately 40 members of the community attended the

meeting to listen to the presentation and provide feedback. This is the last draft of the plan before it is submitted to the Secretary of State for approval. At that point an inspector will consider the plan and all the evidence and consultation feedback received.

It was confirmed that the Cadger Bank housing site included in previous plans has been removed from this latest and final draft. Residents were encouraged to write and forward their comments to the County Council on this latest draft as part of the consultation process. The inspector in considering the plan will have copies of all correspondence received during this final consultation period.

Minutes

Ordinary meeting held on 15th October - approved.
Police Report - for the period 25th September - 23rd October was discussed.

The Neighbourhood Warden report for September was received.

Correspondence

Durham Rural Community Council -

Autumn Meeting - Invite received.

Lanchester Cricket Club - Firework and Bonfire event - information from the Club on the event was received.

Durham County Council - Review of the Statement of Licensing Act 2003 policy was received.

Local Councils Explained publication was received.

Ford Road - A response from Durham County Council on the reported concerns of the narrow carriageway and pavement was received.

Area Action Partnership & Parish Councils

Committee - Members received an update on recent meetings.

Quality Councils Scheme

Members discussed the draft proposals for the revised Quality Councils Scheme.

Newsletter

The draft newsletter was approved for distribution.

Financial report - discussed and received.

Accounts for Payment - approved.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 10th December at 7.15 pm.

CADGER BANK DEVELOPMENT

Around 40 people attended the Parish Council Meeting on 12th November, where this development was the first item on the agenda. Cllr Ossie Johnson, Chairman, introduced Mike Allum, Durham County Council Spatial Policy Manager and Zoe Thurlaway, Spatial Policy Officer. Mr Allum explained that the proposed development had been removed from the County Plan after representations from the Parish Council, Lanchester Partnership and residents, on the grounds that the site could be of archaeological interest. The County Strategy, which basically remains the same, will go before the Planning Inspectorate of the Secretary of State next April, and although the Cadger Bank Development is no longer in the County Plan, Mr Allum explained that the developer could still apply for planning permission by forwarding information as to why it should go ahead. Questions were then put

to Mr Allum with regard to flooding and traffic problems which are of great concern to residents should the development take place. It was also suggested that if the site is of archaeological interest, then it might be possible to work with the developer who could make it into a heritage site, with fewer houses and improved infrastructure, which would be of benefit to the village. Mr Allum stated that it would be up to the developer to do any excavation work and he urged residents, whatever their views, to make them known to the County Council, by writing individually to County Hall by 6th December. All views will then form part of the information sent to the Inspectorate. Cllr Johnson thanked Mr Allum and Ms Thurlaway for attending and for his presentation and also thanked everyone for coming and showing interest in the Parish Council, inviting everyone to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

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POLICE REPORT

Over the September-October period we received 49 calls to the area compared to 62 over the same period last year. 13 of the 49 calls were of an anti-social behaviour (ASB) nature of which 8 involved neighbour disputes. The remaining ASB reports related to youths causing a nuisance across the village. Issues of ASB are slowly increasing due to the darker evenings therefore local officers are actively visiting known

offenders and will be issuing ASB Contracts with 7 pm curfews for those youths who are persistent offenders as well as increasing police presence in hotspot locations.

During the last month we have received 2 reports of burglaries at a local school and hospice whereby unknown persons have attended overnight and forced entry and stolen garden equipment and plant equipment. The current PACT priority is

Willow Burn Hospice due to building work currently taking place on site. To prevent incidents taking place Police are actively patrolling the grounds during hours of darkness to identify any suspicious vehicles or persons on site.

To try and combat crime and disorder in Lanchester we are encouraging members of the community to start a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in their area (see below).

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Neighbourhood Watch participation has increased over recent years and is going from strength to strength locally.

Did you know? Setting up and being part of an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme could entitle you to a reduction in your home insurance premium? It's also a great way to promote community spirit and get to know your neighbours. Neighbourhood Watch is a community led scheme, supported by local police

teams and Community Liaison Officers.

Neighbourhood Watch is about empowering local people to take pride in where they live, promote reporting information to police and other agencies and also work together to come up with initiatives to make our communities safer and more pleasant places to live and work. You can set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme by contacting your local Community Liaison Officer and signing up as a

Co-ordinator. Your Neighbourhood Team can provide you with information packs to provide to scheme members. This pack includes key information which is specific to where you live or work, window stickers and other seasonal crime prevention information. For more information please contact PCSO Vikki Ord, Consett Police Office 0191 3752455 or email: victoria.ord@durham.pnn.police.uk

FARMWATCH OPERATION

On Wednesday 6th November Durham Constabulary and their colleagues from Northumbria, North Yorkshire and Cumbria, joined a Farm Watch operation which covered a large part of Northern England. This is the fourth major operation of the year. Nearly 130 volunteers took part, supported by over 100 Police Officers and PCSOs from across the four force areas. Also taking part in the operation were representatives from Trading Standards, the Forestry Commission, the Environment Agency and Officers

from Fire and Rescue. During the operation many vehicles were stopped and a number of individuals were spoken to and searched. The four Forces taking part in the operation reported that their areas had been quiet. In the Durham area a vehicle was stopped and searched, fuel drums and a hose were found by officers and the driver was arrested for Going Equipped for Theft. Farm Watch began in the Durham force area over 20 years ago and continues to go from strength to strength. The amount of volunteers taking part

continues to increase. Supt Smith from Durham Constabulary said "The operation was another great success with over 230 Officers and volunteers taking part. Durham Constabulary is committed to ensuring that rural areas remain a safe place to live and are not seen as a soft touch by travelling criminals". If you would like to take a more active role or would like to sign up to your local Farmwatch scheme please contact your Community Liaison Officer Vikki Ord by calling 0191 3752455 or via email: victoria.ord@durham.pnn.police.uk

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DURHAM COMMISSIONER SUPPORTS CCTV SCHOOL PARKING INITIATIVE

Ron Hogg, Durham Police and Crime Commissioner, has given his support to a new initiative aimed at using CCTV (closed circuit television) cameras to reduce parking problems around schools. Several councils in England are believed to be testing a new system to catch parents or

guardians who park illegally when dropping off children during the school run. Mr Hogg said: "Our children have a right to arrive at school and be collected safely, without the added danger of being knocked over due to illegal parking or speeding near schools. This is an area of real

concern which I am addressing as part of my campaign to tackle road safety issues across County Durham. I would ask all drivers in the vicinity of schools at these key times to take

additional caution and to reduce their speed. It is also important to park with care and consideration." Commenting on the CCTV initiative, Mr Hogg said: "I am in full support of this approach. I look

forward to seeing whether or not this encourages people to park further away from school instead of inconsiderately blocking footpaths, or illegally parking on double yellow lines".

WINTER NIGHTS

Officers from your local Neighbourhood Policing Team are carrying out an ongoing operation in Consett throughout December and the very busy Christmas period. There will be high visibility patrols by officers around the town, supporting local retail and licenced premises aiming to deter, prevent and detect shoplifting and other related crimes which

commonly increase during this period. It will also provide an opportunity for engagement with members of the public who can discuss any concerns they may have. During this time, you may like to pop and see us on board our local multi agency (MARC) vehicle (weather permitting) which will be parked up by Morrisons,

B&Q and Tesco throughout December. On board there will be demonstrations of cheap and effective Crime Prevention devices which are available for use in your home. We will also be looking to sign up new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators for the area. If you are interested in finding out more, call in and see us.

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Village Green or the Parish Church? Well according to Google maps. Ask for directions from Lanchester and you will, for some obscure reason, be given

directions from Deanery View. Can anyone shed any light on why Google thinks the centre of Lanchester is situated in this cul-de-sac to the east of the village?

TALKING HEADS AT HALLOWEEN



Jeni's harem of horrors dressing up for fun at Halloween

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LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

When the Chairman of the Lanchester Local History Society, John Thompson, introduced the November speaker, Arthur Dodds, he described him as a stalwart member. Arthur has entertained members for many years with his talks and at this meeting, on 1st November, we had an extremely interesting evening. The subject was the history of the Central Intelligence Agency, following Arthur's previous talks on spies and espionage.

Although not exactly local history, on that

particular day it was very topical, as the News was full of accusations of international spying. In addition, many of the Society's members could remember incidents and people in history which were covered during the illustrated talk. John thanked Arthur for his hard work in the research which had been done and congratulated him on how well-rehearsed and illustrated the talk had been.

After the talk, mention was made of the Battle of Brunanburh which took place in 937 which

is now thought to have taken place on the site of Longovicium. John said that Dr Breeze, who has suggested this, will be working with members of the Society to gather more information.

Our next meeting is the Annual Dinner at the King's Head, and as we do not get together in January, our next meeting will be on Friday, 7th February, when the speaker will be J Michael Taylor on 'Northumberland Railways' (Brunel in Stephenson's back yard).

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TAIZÉ WORSHIP AT THE PARISH CHURCH

For a number of years now, there has been an annual Taizé Worship service in All Saints Parish Church. Miss Margaret Walters has a special interest in this kind of

worship and it is she who organises it and patiently teaches the chants to a small choir of adults. The choir leads the service but the congregation is invited to join in all the

chants and responses. The origins of the service can be found in the small village of Taizé in central France. This village has become one of the world's most important sites of

Christian pilgrimage. The Taizé community is an ecumenical monastic order with a strong devotion to peace and justice through prayer and meditation. The 100 strong community of Roman Catholic and Protestant monks is drawn from 30 countries across the world. It was founded in 1940 by Roger Louis Schutz-Marsauche known as Brother Roger, who died in 2005 aged 90. Thousands of people flock to this small village of Taizé in central France to share in the community's way of life. Prayer and silence are at the heart of the Taizé experience. Taizé has developed a unique style of worship in the singing of distinctive and much repeated prayer chants, during candlelit prayer services. All these

aspects were in evidence at the service in the Parish Church on Sunday, November 10th. The hushed church and the dimness of it, being lit only by candle-light, the stillness and the silence were so calming and peaceful. The chants were accompanied by Margaret on the piano and three instrumentalists, Wendy Hughes playing flute, Ray Hill playing guitar and Sue Hill on violin. They all enhanced the singing and sense of peace which pervaded the service. The singing of the chants were interspersed with Bible readings, prayers and short silences. There was a great sense of God's presence and a peace within. It was this that the congregation took with them as they left the church. Brenda Craddock



The talented Music Group who performed at the Taizé Service in the Parish Church on Sunday 10th November were, left to right: Wendy Hughes; Margaret Walters; Sue Hill and Ray Hill.

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LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

The Chairperson welcomed all to the September meeting and we were pleasantly surprised as we had an improved attendance which was good to see. The meeting was a little different from our usual. Three members of the club entertained by doing a very interesting flower demonstration of their choice; all arrangements were raffled. A big thank you for all their hard work in preparing this on the club's behalf to Norma Jessen, Cathy Smith and Helen Tomlinson. We then had two very different quizzes which everyone seemed to enjoy, ending with a friendly social tea and biscuits. The meeting was so well received that I am sure we will try to arrange another meeting on these lines in future. Our next meeting will be

after the Xmas and New Year festivities, on Wednesday 22nd January 2014 at 2 pm in Lanchester Community Centre, when there will be a slide show and talk by Jan Gibbon on 'World Show Highlights'. Everyone welcome.



Flower Arranging Musketeers: Helen Tomlinson, Norma Jessen and Cathy Smith

Gardening in December

December is really all about Christmas festivities and not about gardening. But an occasional foray into the garden will remind you that new life is on its way. Also, Father Christmas might well bring plants that need looking after or bulbs that need planting and these will remind you that there is soil out there.

In the Borders

This month is a good time to prune both climbing roses (by cutting away older flowered shoots by two thirds their length) and Acers if needed as, if done any later, they will bleed sap. Faded hydrangea flowers need to be left on the plant to protect the new buds from frosts and cold winds. If you haven't already done so you need to move tubs

and containers to sheltered areas of the garden. Also harvest holly with berries for making Christmas decorations and if this is done at the start of the month place the stems in a bucket of water and leave them in a dark shed or garage until needed.

General

If you are buying a fresh Christmas tree, cut an inch off the base of the trunk and stand the tree outside in a bucket of water for at least 24 hours before bringing it into the house. Find a spot away from radiators and keep it in a reservoir of water. If you buy a poinsettia do not let it get cold carrying it home and place it away from draughts at home. Choose a room for the plant that has less variation in temperature. It will be best

in a sunny position and water it little and often. Poinsettia need good light rather than warmth to ensure stocky growth. Bring prepared hyacinths indoors when leaves and flower buds are about an inch tall. Plant amaryllis bulbs by soaking the roots in lukewarm water for about an hour. Then cover the base of an 8 inch (20cm) pot with multi-purpose compost to cover the drainage hole and feed the roots into the pot, spreading them out onto the compost and fill in around them with more compost. Aim to bury the bottom half of the bulb. Water it well and allow the water to drain out. Stand the pot in a well lit position and keep the compost moist, but not water-logged.

Talking
Heads



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ART GROUP EXHIBITION



Pam Lovett, Thelma Lovett, Mary Charlton and Eileen Brown admiring the works of Ruby Moorhouse at the Art Exhibition.

The Art Group is now in its 31st year and still going well. The exhibition held on the weekend of 19th October in the Community Centre was superb. The works are exhibited so well that it gives a professional feel to the occasion. As everyone knows art is subjective, but the standard presented by members seems to improve year on year. In fact, finding descriptive superlatives for many of the presentations is difficult. The styles differ so much and the materials used are varied, so it was fascinating perusing the 36 magnificent plinths in what is usually a crowded hall.

Numbers were down considerably on the Saturday attendance last year but there was a late rush of viewers on Sunday afternoon. This may have helped move some of the lovely refreshments and perhaps restored the financial situation to a break even point. Membership is currently around the 40 mark so most members did enter the exhibition. Two areas were designated for extra works over the maximum eight on each plinth as well as the area for prints. This was a relaxing visit for those who are interested. It is certainly worth more than the mere 50p entrance fee that is charged. Long may this talented group flourish.



The fine works of Jim Railton exhibited at the Art Exhibition.



The fabulous work of Gordon Reeve on view at the Art Exhibition.



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COMMUNITY CENTRE CRAFT FAIR

Despite a bad day for weather there were plenty of people about to support the Craft Fair at the Community Centre. Sourcing participants by Facebook is obviously a winning formula as both halls were full of a great variety of tables. It was all certainly well organised and a credit to the centre staff involved for making it an interesting diversified occasion.

The space available prohibits mentioning every stall but the quality of crafts in general, gifts and homemade produce, was excellent. The Dining Room was very busy with some fine refreshments available. Something different this year were some wonderful wood carvings by local man Malcolm Allison, and new on the UK market

an excellent range of decorated candle covers made from plastic but looked like glass. It was good to see Broom House Farm exhibiting their produce, and the bakery from Blackhill whose owner was second in the region in the TV British Bake Off series. Most tables seemed to be busy with the Community Centre raising £458 for their funds.



A crowd of people showing interest in a varied row of craft stalls



The best of bread which appears to be gaining much interest!



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CONCERT FOR WILLOW BURN

On Friday November 15th, in the Roman Catholic Church, Consett Salvation Army Band presented an 'Evening of Music' in aid of Willow Burn Hospice.

In his introduction, Canon Spence, who had only returned from Rome that afternoon, spoke of how much he had been looking

forward to the evening with this band of critical acclaim. It was made even more special, because it was for Derwentside Hospice, which is so very dear to everyone in this area. He spoke of the huge amount of money which still has to be raised to build the new hospice. There are three phases and he was pleased to tell us that Phase 1, which has cost £1,000,000, is now almost completed.

Canon Spence reminded us that the Salvation Army came to Consett in 1878 and the band was formed in 1879.



Consett Salvation Army Band entertaining in the grand surroundings of All Saints' Roman Catholic Church.

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Throughout the years since then the band has built up a tremendous reputation and their performance that evening was proof of that. It is worth noting that General William Booth, who founded the Salvation Army, used the Consett Salvation Army Brass Band in several of his Northern campaigns. The conductor, Mr Jeff Baker, led the programme of excellence and reminded us that the Band play for the Glory of God and this was evident in the choice of readings, pieces played, and in the two hymns which the audience were asked to sing. Several band members played solos on their specific instruments: Philip Baker played trombone, Christian Marklew played Euphonium. There was also a vocal solo from a member of the Salvation Army Youth Choir, Emma Harrison who sang very charmingly 'On My Own' from Les Misérables. The Band played Benediction to end their programme, which was a blessing for everyone and made a very fitting ending to what had been a splendid evening and one which will be remembered for a very long time. Thank you Consett Salvation Army Brass Band. Brenda Craddock

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Consett Salvation Army Band which was formed in 1879 and has a tremendous reputation.

FOOL'S GOLD - MUSIC IN THE LIBRARY

Fool's Gold consists of an acoustic duo, the husband and wife team of Steve and Carol Robson. They perform original and traditional songs, setting them within their historic context and illustrating aspects of North East social and political events.

Between them Carol and Steve play several instruments, including guitars, ukuleles, flute, piccolo and whistles. Many of their songs are stories set to music, and form vivid pictures in the listener's head. Fool's Gold play at a number of venues - village halls, Community Centres and folk clubs, and on October 31st, they brought their songs to a large and appreciative audience in the village library.

In a relaxed, friendly atmosphere, came a wide

variety of beautiful songs, from the haunting 'Water of Tyne' to a ghostly song taken from Walter de la Mare's poem 'The Listeners' - perfect for Halloween! Memories of unrest in Londonderry's pits, blackleg workers and evictions were well remembered in song, along with the 'Broken Token' describing the time when young men setting off on a long journey gave their lovers a broken token, keeping the other part for themselves, to be reunited on their return. Local characters from long ago were celebrated in song - 'Sawdust Jack', 'Coffee Johnny' and 'Tommy on the Bridge.' There was a song about the Jarrow Crusade of 1936, when men from Jarrow and their MP, 'Red Ellen' Wilkinson



Carol and Steven Robson are Fool's Gold and brought their folk music to an appreciative audience in Lanchester Library.

took their protest for jobs to London. They received much popular support along the way, but Parliament only offered them £1, enough for their return rail ticket. The sadness of

war was expressed in 'Far Greater Thing' and the legend of the 'Wise Old Men of Gotham' was retold - with a twist. The story describes the men of Gotham attempting to rake the moon from a

pond, where they saw its reflection. In fact this was a cover story, they were recovering barrels of gin which they had hidden in the pond earlier, away from the excise men!

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SOUP 'N' ROLL LUNCH

A 'Souper' Time was had by all in the Chapter House of Lanchester Parish Church on Wednesday October 16th. The vegetables that were donated for the Harvest Festival Service were all gathered together to make a rich variety of soups and then tickets were sold for a Soup Lunch with a lovely bread roll and butter if you so wished. Miss Margaret Walters was the chief organiser and 'soupervisor' (sorry) and she did a great job stirring the contents of 10 slow ovens and keeping the soups piping hot. At least 50 people attended and there was a lovely feeling of friendship and fellowship. The soups really were delicious and there were many requests for seconds. The flavours available included leek and potato, parsnip lemon and ginger, tomato, root vegetables and others. There was just enough left for the 'souper' helpers and waitresses and they finished every drop. It was a 'souper' occasion. Margaret Brown had organised an excellent raffle, which added to the fun and happy atmosphere. The total raised was £325 which was divided between 'Food for You' at Consett and the People's Kitchen there. There was food for thought too as the soup was eaten and each of us reflected how fortunate we are to always have enough to eat and never go hungry!

Brenda Craddock



Brenda Craddock with her winning smile and best apron serves the guests with their super soup and gorgeous bread roll and butter for an appetising lunch.



The patrons not only enjoying their soup and rolls (and there also appears to be cups of tea as well!) but also enjoying the ambience of the Chapter House.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS SUPPORT CHILDREN IN NEED



Year 1 children at the EP School with their teacher, Miss Sarah Jackson, all of the children enjoying wearing their pyjamas for 'Children in Need' day.



All Saints Year 6 children about to make cakes to raise money for 'Children in Need'. Class teacher/Deputy Head, Mrs Conlin, paid for the ingredients so that the profit would be larger. They will be selling the cakes for 20p and CIN bracelets for a donation of £1 or over. They all enjoyed wearing pyjamas.

CHRISTIAN AID FUNDRAISER

A coffee morning with a few stalls was held at the Methodist Church on Saturday 26th October. It was well attended and £315 was raised for this really very worthy cause.



Left to right: Joan Hills (visitor), Nan Brown and Pauline Myers on the Cake Table enjoying a chat at the Christian Aid Coffee Morning.

KING'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

The King's Head held their usual annual Halloween Party for children on 30th October between 2.00pm and 4.00 pm. It was well attended with music, dancing and various other activities which included 'Apple Bobbin', all of

which seemed to be thoroughly enjoyed by all. There were some super costumes on parade as well.



Everyone enjoying the 'Apple Bobbin'



Left to right: Chloe with Oskar, Anna, and Mason-Brook, all looking after the scary looking individual at the back.

LANCHESTER WI CELEBRATION

Monday 4th November was the 88th Birthday of our group and we celebrated in style with an Away Day at Horsley Hall in Weardale.

The day began with blue skies and sunshine and a picturesque drive to the beautiful location where we were warmly greeted by Liz, the proprietor.

We enjoyed coffee and scones in the Great Hall whilst Liz regaled us with

the history of the hall. Initially a manor farm for the Prince Bishops and then through the years it went through periods of both wealth and then neglect and disrepair following the fortunes and uses of the various owners.

We then had a cookery demonstration by Liz based on the lunch menu. Whilst our tumms started to rumble in anticipation

we were given lots of tips on how to chop, shop, cook and serve our food. After the food demo there was a retail opportunity to see/buy goods made by her helpers - cards, Christmas wrappers and ties, oil paintings and pictures made from buttons being some of the items on display.

Following our delicious lunch Marjorie, a sugar craft expert, showed us

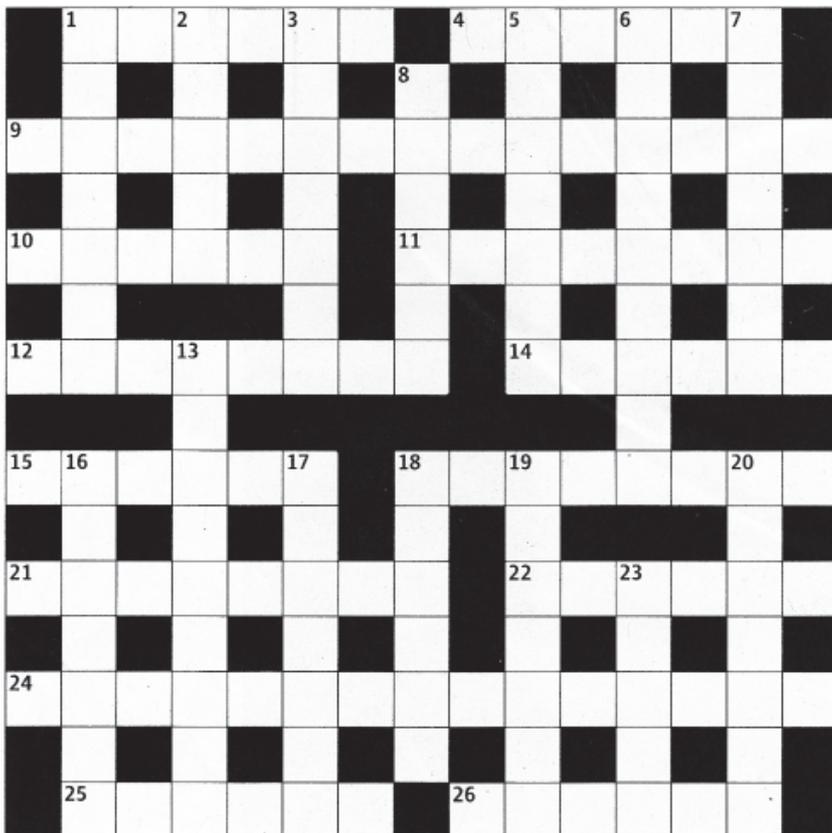
how to prepare petals and leaves then put together a spray which could be used to decorate a Christmas cake. On display were some of the beautiful sprays that she had made which were exquisite.

Then it was our turn!!! We were however spoilt as the petals and leaves were already prepared. All we had to do was put the pieces together! Amidst

much hilarity with fiddling and twiddling and sticky fingers we each ended up with something resembling a spray for our cakes.

Feeling very proud of our efforts and having had an altogether wonderful day out, we enjoyed a last cuppa before heading off into the sunset and home. With many thanks to Liz and her team for making our day so special.

CROSSWORD 91



ACROSS

1. Option (6)
4. Rub on rough surface (6)
9. Not 26 (5,2,3,5)
10. Viewpoint (6)
11. Citizens of Valparaiso? (8)
12. Backslider reflected about circuits within (8)
14. Slum (6)
15. Vessel is a farce (6)
18. Conserve (8)
21. Worshipper (8)
22. Crumple (6)
24. Hypocrisy (6,9)
25. Fears (6)
26. Succulent (6)

DOWN

1. Laugh (7)
2. Musical instrument (5)
3. Bowl shaped holes (7)
5. Moth flies from cold gin (7)
6. Amen to ten that make amends (9)
7. Gone for ever (7)
8. Assent (6)
13. On hand (9)
16. Robot seen in Rodin ad. (7)
17. The home of "plates of meat" = feet etc. (4,3)
18. Deserves (6)
19. Enrage (7)
20. Someone in the know! (7)
23. Antelope from the Mosel and Rhine area (5)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 90

ACROSS

1. Serbia
4. closure
9. fall short
10. imbue
11. resin
12. freelance
13. nuclear
15. debris
17. Athena
19. manager
22. cacophony
24. humus
26. layer
27. oil tanker
28. demeans
29. skirls

DOWN

1. saffron
2. rules
3. insincere
4. cut dead
5. oriel
6. unbending
7. eleven
8. coffer
14. cataclysm
16. benchmark
18. amorous
19. mayfly
20. resorts
21. scaled
23. parka
25. maker

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 0HY.

CROSSWORD 90

There were 22 entries in last month's crossword competition.

Congratulations to Mr E G French of Oakwood who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

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SUDOKU

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

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

WACKY HAIR DAY

Continued from back page Mark, who is a Newcastle fan, had his hair sprayed with red and white colouring while his eyes were covered. A mirror was soon produced! As might be expected he was not a happy man. However, he took it well with lots of laughter and cheers from the pupils. Could it get better? Not for teachers David Mordue and Martin Urwin who underwent waxing of their legs

carried out by Jackie, everyone's great delight from Aura. One cried out in agony more than the other but perhaps that should remain safely within the walls of the school. Suffice to say it was the much larger man of the two!

Would these personal challenges by teachers ever end? No, on came the bearded wonders Deputy Head Chris Boddy, Mr Bailey and Mr Johnson who all lost their facial hair within a few minutes, much to

everyone's great delight but theirs.

The morning ended with presentations of flowers to Jeni and Michelle (Talking Heads) and Jackie from Aura, by Ben, Abby and Michael, children of the late Kelly Kasher. Money raised in her memory was divided between University Hospital Durham Chemotherapy Unit and the school fund. The total raised was in the region of £1400.

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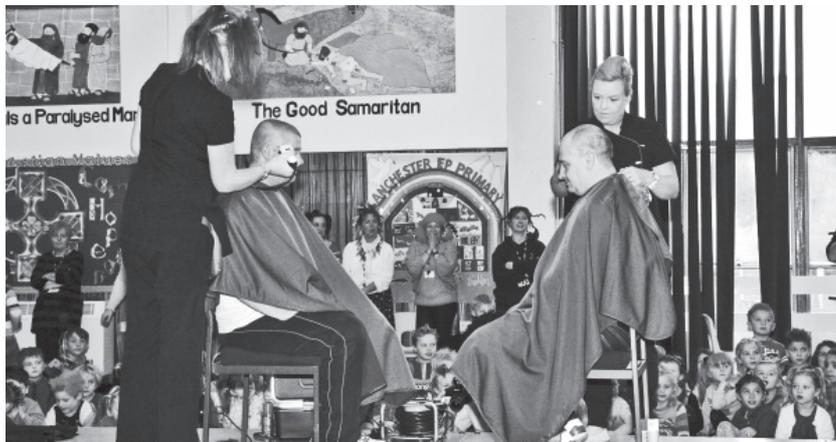
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Teachers Peter Taylor left, and Mark Stephenson, have their hair shaved off in aid of charity, by Jeni and Michelle from Talking Heads, at the Wacky Hair Day in the EP School. Thanks to Fiona Baxendale for the photos.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Last-Minute Christmas Mince-meat Cake

This is a wonderful cake for the busy person who meant either to make or buy a cake and never got around to it. It is very quick and easy, yet has a marvellous flavour and a good moist texture.

1lb (450 g) good quality mincemeat
8 oz (225 g) whole wheat flour
3 level tsp baking powder
5 oz (150 g) dark brown sugar
5 oz (150 g) softened butter or soft margarine
6 oz (175 g) mixed dried fruit
2 oz (50 g) walnuts, chopped

The grated zest of one small orange

The grated zest of one small lemon
3 eggs
4 oz (110 g) whole blanched almonds (only if you are not going to ice the cake)

You will need an 8 inch (20 cm) round cake tin, greased, and the base and sides lined with greaseproof paper.

Pre-heat the oven to gas mark 3, 325F (170C)

1. Place all of the ingredients (except the almonds) in a large mixing bowl. There is no need to beat the eggs, just break them in; but it is a good idea to sift the flour to give it an airing, then you can tip in the bits left in the sieve afterwards.

2. If you have an electric hand whisk, just switch on and beat everything together thoroughly. If not, a wooden spoon will do, but it takes longer.

3. Spoon the mixture evenly into the tin, level off the surface and, if you are using them, arrange the almonds in circles over the top.

4. Bake the cake for about one hour 20 minutes, or until the centre springs back when lightly touched. Then let it cool in the tin for 30 minutes before turning it out to finish cooling on a wire rack.

5. If you want to, and you have time, you can 'feed' it with brandy but it tastes good anyway.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU

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

WHAT'S ON?

Red Cross Raffle

Come along to the Red Cross shop and get your tickets for our Christmas Raffle. Prizes include a hamper, sweets, vouchers for local businesses including Deanos, Aura, Talking Heads, Chemist, Hanley & Swinbank, Crinnions, South Causey Arch and Consett Gym. I would like to thank everyone who continually donates prizes every year as this is a really very good fundraiser for the Red Cross shop. Thank you. Tracey Dobson

Sunday Music Sessions

On Sunday evenings a few mates meet and musically muse at the Club. We enjoy ourselves with singing, playing and banter. The club members always give us a warm and friendly reception and the beer is good. What more could we possibly need? You - that's who! Please join us any week, around 8.30.

Junior/Family Wildlife

On Sunday 1st December, there will be a visit to Malton. Meet there at 10 am in the car park.

Sunday Bridge

Come and enjoy a relaxed afternoon playing Bridge in the Community Centre on 1st December at 2.00 pm. Only £3. Everyone welcome.

Open House

Everyone is welcome at the Open House in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 5th December, 11.30 am to 1.00 pm for a light lunch.

The Village Voice Page 22

WI

On December 2nd we celebrate Christmas with a Faith Supper generously provided by the members. The Lanchester Male Voice Choir will entertain and join us in our feasting. There is also a Chinese Raffle which usually brings much laughter to the party - an excellent start to the Festive Season. Would members please arrive at the usual time of 7 for 7.15 pm in the Small Hall of the Community Centre.

Christmas Concert

Lanchester Brass Band are presenting a Christmas Concert in Lanchester Parish Church on Wednesday, December 4th at 7.30 pm. The tickets are £5 and all proceeds are for charity - namely 'The Children's Society', founded 1881.

The programme includes singing items by Rebecca Davis, members of the EP school choir, and an Oboe solo by Freya Kalus. There will also be some audience participation. Please come and get into the Christmas spirit. We would love to see you! Christmas begins here! Tickets available from any member of the Band. Queries to Secretary Pete Bradshaw (0191 386 0357, pete@bradshaw32.plus.com) or locally Brenda Craddock (01207 520749, steve24c07@aol.com).

Wildlife Group

The meeting on Tuesday 10th December at 7.30 pm in the small hall of the Community Centre will be the AGM followed by a social.

Aladdin

The next production by Ramsay's Theatre Nightmares will be held in St Bede's School Hall on Wednesday, 4th December. It is an original version of 'Aladdin' written by members of the drama group and will feature singing, dancing and many appalling jokes! It promises to be an evening to remember ... Curtains will open at 7.00 pm. Tickets will cost £4.00 for adults and £2.50 for concessions. Tickets can be bought on the evening or in advance by contacting us via the following email address: jramsay@stbedes.durham.sch.uk

Country Market

This will take place on Saturday 7th December, from 10 am to 12 noon in the Community Centre. Get there early for your fresh produce and your Christmas gifts.

'The Lost World'

North Country Theatre's latest production will be at the Lanchester Community Centre on Saturday 7th December at 7.30 pm. Tickets £9 from the centre, 01207 521275, or the village newsagent. Don't miss 'madcap balloon rides and a pterodactyl loose in London'!

Carol Service

Echo the guide dog would like to invite you to a Christmas Carol Service in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind, on Saturday 7th December at 1.30 pm in All Saints RC Church. After the service there will be Tea, Coffee, Mince Pies and a Raffle; everybody is welcome. Please come and support Echo and his friends.

Social Club Entertainment

Saturday 7th December, AMY SAXON, Top Girl Singer
Saturday 14th December, GANORMARIE, Superb Vocalist
Saturday 21st December, BILL DARREN, Stylish Male Vocalist
Saturday 28th December, GARY JAMES, Top Vocalist

Paradiso Club Christmas Special

The next Paradiso Social will be a pre-Christmas festive special on Sunday December 8th in the Main Hall of the Community Centre starting very promptly at 6.30 pm.

We will be showing the British epic romantic, historical musical, 'LES MISERABLES.'

This film is based on the hit show version of Victor Hugo's novel set among the deserving poor in 19th century France and leading up to the anti monarchist Paris uprising of 1832. It stars Ann Hathaway, Hugh Jackman, Amanda Seyfried and Russell Crowe. There will be a raffle, mince pies, wine and refreshments during an interval as it is a long film.

All are welcome. Entry £2.50 for members and £3.50 for other visitors, £2 Children.

Table Top Sale

Don't forget this event which is organised to raise funds for the Village Bus and will be held on 5th December from 11 am to 1 pm in Lanchester Social Club. Tickets £3, which include a finger buffet and tea/coffee, are available from Fred, the bus driver, or at the door. The bus will drop off and pick up at the Club.

Mothers' Union

The meeting on Wednesday 11th December is the Advent Evening, a service of Advent readings and hymns followed by refreshments, meeting in the Chapter House and then into church for a 7.30 pm start.

Short Circuit Walks

On Saturday 14th December at 10.30 am, a chance to see the world's oldest railway bridge before circling south to Beamish Hall. 5 miles.

Look out for trains on the Tanfield Railway. Meet in the car park, NZ205562.

Concert - in aid of Philippines Typhoon Appeal

A concert will be held at All Saints Parish Church on Thursday 19th December at 7.00 pm, featuring the Church Music Group, East Stanley Primary School Choir, Fools Gold and more. No tickets but please make generous donations to this very worthwhile appeal. Everyone is welcome.

Celebration of Christmas

The Lanchester Male Voice Choir accompanied by The Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society invite you to their Celebration of Christmas on Monday 23rd December at 7.30 pm in the Parish Church of All Saints, Lanchester. There will be a collection in aid of a local charity.

LATEST FROM THE CRICKET CLUB

Saturday 9th November was the joint senior and junior presentation night at the club. The following awards were presented:

The **Junior awards** were as follows:-

Under 11s:-

Batting - Ben Rayner, Bowling - Thomas Butler, Fielding - Charlie McPhail, Most Improved - Luke Crow and James Kime.

Under 13s:-

Batting, Bowling, Player of the Year - Arran Halliday, Bowling - Jacob Rayner

Under 15s:-

Batting - Connor Hunt, Bowling - Arran Halliday, Fielding - David Killeen, **Player of the Year** - Connor Hunt

Under 18s:-

Batting - Lee Murray, Bowling - Arran Halliday, Fielding - Nathan Somersall, **Player of Year** - Jack Ramshaw

Overall Most Improved Player - Francis Guthrie

The **Senior awards** were as follows:-

First team :-

Batting - Paul Underwood, Bowling - Kevin Dixon jnr, Fielding - Stu McPhail, **Player of the Year** - Kieron Taylor, Clubman - Mark Ramshaw

Second Team :-

Batting - Paul Burn, Bowling - Mattie Callaghan, Fielding - Ian Steward, **Player of the Year** - Mattie Callaghan. Special award to Jack Ramshaw for his hat trick v Annfield Plain.

Third Team :-

Batting - Cameron Metcalf for his hundred v Annfield Plain, Bowling - Chris Tully for 4 wickets in 5 balls v Boldon, Fielding - Michael Butler for his game changing run out v Burnmoor, **Player of the Year** - Andy McConnell.

There were six centuries scored :- Paul Underwood 124 not out and 107 not out, Paul Burn 121 not out and 106 not out, Cameron Metcalfe 137 not out, Andy McConnell 112 not out.

LANCHESTER VETERANS WIN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Two Lanchester golfers, namely Frank Clarke and David Cairns have achieved a remarkable double by winning the Consett Seniors Open Tournament in successive years, 2012 and 2013. This is a competition for pairs and is open to any golfer over the age of 55 years. On each occasion more than 160 golfers from all over the north east of England took part. Frank, 67 and David 77, were both competing against much younger golfers. David is the oldest player to have won the tournament.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

We've been back to the Beamish Park Hotel - a favourite spot which is always warm and welcoming, in a lovely location overlooking some beautiful autumnal views from its huge floor to ceiling windows. There are always fresh flowers on the tables and lovely arrangements dotted around the hotel - a most pleasant place to be. They had a November special offer of lunch consisting of a main course

from a set menu with glass of wine for £10. We all ate from the main lunch menu and sampled Tempura battered N Sea cod, minted mushy peas and chips, plum breast of chicken with button mushrooms dolcelatte and soft green peppercorn sauce, a garlic sautéed prawn omelette, a Beamish Park chicken club sandwich with fries and deep fried goats cheese with summer fruit chutney on a hazlenut crostini. For pud it was

chocolate torte with cream for just two of us while the rest indulged in lattes, capuccinos and chocs. We did feel that the menu seemed to be aimed more towards light bites than main meals - having said that the light bites were pretty substantial. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their meal and as usual at the Beamish Park it was a good lunch time occasion.

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BOWLS PRESENTATION EVENING



Trophy winners at the Lanchester Bowling Club's annual presentation dinner held the King's Head. Left to right, Joe Newton, Christine Monaghan, Liz Smith (who won the most improved player trophy), Anne Hurran, Paul Monaghan, Dick Christon and Stan Easten with Ken Raper, Secretary of the Club and 2013 President of Bowls Durham who presented the trophies.

EP THRILLER

After The Wacky Hair Day in the morning (see below) the whole of the EP school performed 'Thriller' in the yard after school in the afternoon under the guidance of Dance Teacher, Mr Johnson. The yard was filled with appreciative parents about to collect their children after school.



WACKY HAIR DAY

What a great morning attended, this fabulous Wacky Hairshow.

Parents, staff and pupils created a tremendous atmosphere for this super charity event. The music was loud and lively as the morning began with children from each year group strutting their stuff on the catwalk sporting some amazing hair

styles. To loud cheers from pupils, some of the staff did exactly the same. Next came the serious business of haircutting. Jeni and Michelle from Talking Heads shaved the heads of teachers, Peter Taylor and Mark Stephenson with Head

Teacher, Jane Davis making the first sweep of the electric shaver accompanied by loud cheers from the onlookers. Both men, when completely bald, were sprayed with highly coloured paints to cover their modesty.

Continued on page 21.



Two happy smiling faces thoroughly enjoying parading on stage with their freaky hairstyles, at the Wacky Hair Day at the EP School.

EARLY DEADLINE

Please send any articles for the next Village Voice by Tuesday 10th December.

The deadline for adverts is 8th December.

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