

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 10 Volume 15

Lanchester, October 2014

For contact information, see page 2

COAST TO COAST FOR VINTAGE TRACTORS



Tractors on the headland at St Bees



Enjoying the beach with the tractors

We at Lanchester Vintage Tractor Club drove our fabulous machines all the way from coast to coast, successfully raising money for our favourite charity The Great North Air Ambulance. We started off at Seaham then onto Twiced Brewed, then Silloth and Whitehaven and St Bees. After spending a day in Keswick we then carried on to

Penrith, Hartside, through Alston, Stanhope and Wolsingham, then home. Mr Ian Suddes has kindly given us a donation of £428.30p for our charity. Macmillan Cancer Care has also benefited. Our total so far is £1330.30p with more to come.

LANCHESTER BRASS BAND PATRONS' CONCERT



The Lanchester Brass Band in all their splendour

The concert took place at the Methodist Church on Wednesday 15th October. Despite a fairly low attendance the band performed with their usual enthusiasm and professionalism. The concert began with a lively 'Barnard Castle' by Goff Richard, conducted by young Assistant Conductor, James Draper. This beginning set the

scene for some wonderful entertainment which followed. The variation of musical pieces showed off the talent of not only the band but also the various soloists and quartet, who contributed so much to this wonderful evening. The music ranged from classical, shows, films, spiritual and pop. There was something for everyone.

The first half contained a theme of war and peace with particular reference to the 100th Anniversary of World War One. 'Lest we Forget' - Dave Collins was particularly emotional as Philip Carter, who introduced the concert, narrated some moving words, whilst two cornet players rendered the Last Post, with the band playing softly in the background.

This was followed by Fantasia Ordo Ab Chao (out of chaos comes order) by James Burton, which was resounding. The second half continued with superb musical entertainment which included marching music from the Salvation Army, a North East Folk Tune and other well known songs from shows and the pop world. Unfortunately,

space prohibits mention of the soloists and the quartet but suffice to say they all played superbly and gave tremendous enjoyment to an appreciative audience. One name which has to be mentioned is that of Conductor, Lewis Wilkinson. He is pure, animated entertainment. Lewis has a good sense of humour, and has an excellent rapport with each member of the band and audience. He is a talented musician, writer and lyricist, and certainly gets the best out of his musicians.

Just before the end the Annual Awards were presented, before the finale of 'Singing in the Rain', dedicated to band stalwart, Brenda Craddock, who was unable to appear. An encore was demanded and it was fitting that 'Local Hero' was played with such skill and gusto. This was great for Newcastle fans in the audience - sorry Sunderland!



Dear Village....

The views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the newspaper, the editor or persons working for the newspaper. The editor retains the right to cut or 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

Firstly, on behalf of the Lanchester Brass Band and its Patrons, I would like to thank all those who attended this year's Patrons' Concert. The band thoroughly appreciate the support given to this concert.

Together with my band colleagues, I was very pleased to witness the appreciation shown when the band committee made the traditional awards to certain band members 'for recognised contributions to the band'. Whilst I congratulate all the recipients, I wish to make a particular mention of the band's 2nd Tenor Horn player, Dennis D'Ugo, who was given the Ron Clarkson award.

I know full well that Dennis won't mind me stating that I took him on, in his 68th year, for his first ever music and playing tuition session in

January 2013. Before then he had no knowledge whatsoever in reading music. After the first 6 months attending the tuition sessions, much to his delight and humble surprise, the committee took Dennis on as a full member of the band. Dennis was "so thrilled" and "deliriously pleased" (using his words) in having reached his long-term ambition of becoming an active member of a brass band. The band offers these opportunities to anyone, whether with past musical knowledge, or from scratch (like Dennis), and at whatever age (like Dennis). It's never too late!

Susan Hayton, Principal Tenor Horn, Lanchester

Community Draw

The winning number in the Community Draw for September 2014 was 70. The draw was made by Rose of the Community Centre.

Dear Village Voice

I would like to thank all those who wished me well as I left Lanchester Medical Centre (formerly Park House Surgery) at the end of September. It has been a pleasure to work in Lanchester for the last 11 years. The village is a beautiful place to work and I have benefited from tremendous support from so many patients over the years. I was so pleased to be able to move into the new surgery building before I left. It is a brilliant new property and should serve the patients for many years. I would like to wish all the staff at the surgery and all the patients all the best for the future as I start the next chapter of my life.

Kate Bidwell

Dear Village Voice

My mother (Betty Calland) and I would like to thank everyone who came and supported our Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 26th September. We raised a staggering £312.50. Big thanks again.

Ann Rowe and Betty Calland

THE VILLAGE VOICE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

Dear Village Voice

I want to thank all those people who came to my assistance when I fell outside the library. They cared for me as I lay on the ground until the ambulance arrived, and Brenda accompanied me to A & E where I was soon diagnosed with a broken hip and prepared for surgery next day. Since then I have been overwhelmed by cards, gifts and visits, and am now thankful to be home again.

Yours sincerely, Mary Moralee

Dear Village Voice

I think it is time Lanchester became a 20 mph zone. There are too many cars passing through and driving at speed.

As a village we are behind the times in terms of traffic lights, Zebra crossings or speed bumps. Our local councillors don't want to know. They claim the police have done several checks and there is no speeding in Lanchester. Believe that if you wish. Perhaps we need to start a campaign or petition.

Gary Smith

Christmas Gets Earlier Every Year!

Must be a sign of getting old, but Christmas celebrations seem to start earlier every year!

The King's Head hosted 'Christmas in September'

complete with tinsel, decorations, festive food, and a visit from Santa. David Grogan supervised the proceedings and kept the elves working hard.



Early Christmas celebrations at the King's Head

How to contact the Village Voice

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MRS MINTO 100 NOT OUT



Hilda Minto with her special telegram

It was pure delight to meet Mrs Minto and members of her family on the day she was 100 years old. She is a lovely, kind, gentle lady who has brought up 7 children, 4 sons and 3 daughters, and it was a pleasure to meet them too. They held 'Open House' on the special day for their mother so that as many people as possible could give birthday greetings to this remarkable lady. Their hospitality was first class and it was obvious that Hilda was enjoying her birthday enormously. She is still in good health and has a smile for everyone. Hilda was born at Bargate on October 8th 1914 and was 4 years old before she saw her father who was away fighting in the war. She moved to Malton Colliery with her parents Mark and Doris Whitton, where her father worked

down the pit. She met her husband Billy who was also a miner, at Malton Colliery. She had 6 of her children while living at Malton, Doris, Ena and Irene, George, Billy, and John, but her fourth son Gordon was born in Lanchester when she and Billy moved there in 1954. She has lived in the same house in Alderdene for 60 years. Sadly Hilda's husband died in 1981 but Hilda has been a devoted mother and dedicated her life to her family. She takes great pride in them and her grandchildren and

great grandchildren and their pride in her and love for her is very evident today.

Not a great many of us live long enough to receive a telegram from the Queen but Hilda is the proud owner of such a telegram. She talked about the many changes she has seen throughout her long life and feels they have not always been good, but certainly the love which Hilda has for all her family and the love which all her family have for her will never change.

Brenda Craddock

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NEW MINISTER

Lanchester Methodist Church has a new minister. He is Stuart Earl, who arrived at the start of September from Cullercoats in North Tyneside, with his wife Claire. They have two daughters who both live down south - Ami (24) is a Paediatric Nurse at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London, and Naomi (22) is working for the Bible Society HQ in Swindon. Claire works part-time in North Tyneside still, going into primary schools to lead assemblies and make links between schools and churches, and they both hope to work with the Methodist folk and the other Christian churches in the village to strengthen church/

school links here too. In the last 13 years Stuart has had a few adventures, including being the acting Chair of the whole Methodist District, doing a charity skydive, becoming an 'octochamp' on Channel 4's Countdown, having three novels published, visiting Nepal to meet mission partners working there, and taking a church group to build a classroom in an AIDS orphan village in Uganda.

Lanchester will no doubt provide lots of interesting adventures too, so please say Hello when you see him around. You may even meet him early morning as he does a daily prayer walk - often wearing a Batman jumper!




Stuart and Claire Earl have arrived in Lanchester

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LANCHESTER MEDICAL CENTRE OPENS



On Thursday 18th September Lanchester Medical Centre (formerly Park House Surgery) held an open day to show off its new premises at Lynwood House.

Councillor Ossie Johnson opened the proceedings with a few formal words. Many residents attended the open day and were given a tour of the fabulous new medical facilities.

Our picture, left, shows staff of Lanchester Medical Centre with Councillor Ossie Johnson at the official opening of the centre

DURHAM NOT ALONE MACMILLAN

The above named group with many others gathered in the Methodist Church on Friday morning, 26th September, to raise money for MacMillan, on their Big Coffee Morning raising about £100.



Phyllis Reed (centre) and friends working to raise funds for Macmillan at their coffee morning

Lanchester Community Centre

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Visitors enjoying the coffee, cakes and ambience of the coffee morning. The total raised from this super convivial event was in excess of £600.

LAY READER RETIRES

Sunday 19th at All Saints' Parish Church was a special day for Mr Stephen Burt. He has held the post of Lay Reader in the Church of England for 56 years, and he reached the great age of 90 on October 18th. The definition of a Lay Reader is 'A preaching and teaching ministry from a lay perspective' ('lay' meaning the person in the pew). Throughout 56 years Stephen has shown dedication to his responsibilities. He has served under 4 clergy at All Saints who have greatly valued his support and his tremendous commitment but at 90 years he has decided to relinquish his post, although he has said that

he is not completely retiring from church duties as he will still assist in the worship and day to day life of our church. Mr Burt preached his last sermon on 19th October and thanked from the pulpit all the people who had helped him in so many ways, not least our present vicar, Reverend Rupert Kalus. The latter also thanked Stephen for his unfailing loyalty to him and his great reliability. He had been particularly supportive as he, Reverend Kalus, was settling into his new parish.

Rupert presented Stephen a token of our Church's respect, affection and appreciation. The token

was in the form of two items made in wood, a stool and a portable book stand, both of which had been skilfully created by Malcolm Allison. Stephen also referred to his wife Margaret who has always been a tower of strength to him during the long years of his ministry. Margaret was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

Stephen then invited the congregation to have coffee in the Chapter House with a piece of his birthday cake. Almost everyone took up the invitation. The cake was delicious! We wish Stephen good health and happiness in his 'retirement'.

Brenda Craddock



Margaret and Stephen Burt

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

A well attended Coffee Morning was held at The Methodist Church on

Saturday 18th October. There was an opportunity buy cakes, bric a brac, and

plants to augment the fundraising. The total raised to date is £150.



Delightful ladies, Dulcie and Nan, selling some mouthwatering cakes.

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LANCHESTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

We are halfway to recovery after losing our main client last year although it is too early to predict whether we can fully recover by the end of this year. We are going to give it our best shot.

Indications are that our Room Rentals will be at least £5,000 down on last year but there is a chance that this will be offset by the donations that have been received from those of you who care about the future of the Community Centre. I am grateful for this support and it is appreciated by the volunteers who give up their time to make our Community Centre one of the best in the Country. That's a strong statement but

don't underestimate what you have in Lanchester. Please, if you can afford to do so, help us out by making a donation, or becoming a Member or by entering our Community Draw.

We could overcome our problems quite easily by increasing the Room Rental rates significantly but we don't want to do this, as it would put some of our weaker Groups in difficulty. We much prefer to keep rates low and rely on fundraising, donations, grants and contributions from the stronger Groups to cover the cost of running the Community Centre. This approach may not last forever but it has worked for the past twenty years.

There have been major changes in our staff this year with our Manager, John Wilson, retiring and Alison Boyd taking his place. Our Caretaker for many years, Maurice Swift, has semi-retired and he will work on two days a week to assist Richard Downs, our new Caretaker. Jackie Anderson has taken over from Richard as Clerical Assistant and she will also help in the Exercise Centre. I would like to thank those that have left for their excellent work in the past and welcome the new staff who are already making a significant contribution to the Community Centre.

ARTHUR MAUGHAN,
MBE, CHAIRMAN

CARETAKER MAURICE RETIREES



Maurice at his retirement tea

The Community Association held a well attended retirement tea in the Community Centre dining room for Maurice Swift, where he was presented with gifts of a new Berghaus coat and jumper, which were bought from the £160 that was donated.

Maurice has been caretaker at the Community Centre since 1999 and has done a wonderful job, becoming very well known and very well thought of, and has always been there to help out. Maurice will return part time to do a 2 day week and Richard Downs will take on the main role of caretaker.



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THANK YOU TO IAN REECE

Ian Reece joined The Village Voice some 9 years ago. Our Editor, Christine Monaghan, knew Ian through his wife, Margery, whom she had worked with. Ian was brought in to assist Christine compile the paper for publication so thus was born what we refer to as our Editorial Team.

During those years the paper grew with more news and advertising. Some issues were 28 pages which put a tremendous amount of work onto this team. Also during that time, Ian took on the very responsible role of Company Secretary and took over the

Gardening column, while Margery wrote the Recipe column.

Ian's contribution to our meetings was enormous. He is a gentleman who has always said his piece but has never shown any animosity to anyone. In fact he would have done anything to keep the peace should it ever have been necessary. His work both on the editorial side and the other roles was extremely diligent.

Ian has now come to a stage in his life where he feels it is time to retire. This decision unfortunately is irrevocable. Ian wishes to spend more time in his lovely garden at

Hamsterley Mill where he lives. He did at one time live in our village so he had the experience of knowing the sort of things that would be good to publish in the paper. Ian did not want any fuss on his retirement. He may be upset to see this article, but Ian was so important to the Village Voice we thought it would be appropriate not only as a thank you from ourselves who run the paper, but from you our readers as well. Thank you Ian for your long and valued service.

The Village Voice Management Team and our Readers

BUMPER CROPS AT MARGERY FLATTS ALLOTMENTS

Allotmenters at Margery Flatts have had a superb season and continue to harvest their magnificent crops of fruit and

vegetables. If you feel like trying your hand at growing your own, there are still some plots available. For information

on the Allotments, or if you wish to view a potential site, please contact Bob Russell on 01207521335.



A fine selection of vegetables and salad crops, ready for harvesting



Some beautiful apples grown on the Margery Flatts allotments

'SURPRISES'

The Lanchester Flower Club Meeting was held on Wednesday 24th September in Lanchester Community Centre. There was a good attendance to the first meeting after our summer break. The Demonstrator was Karl Brunton and her theme was 'Surprises'. All the many arrangements

were raffled at the end of the demonstration to the delight of all the winners. Everyone then enjoyed tea/coffee and a biscuit and plenty of chatter. We are to hold the second of our Open Evening Meetings on Friday 28th November in Lanchester Community Centre

starting at 7 pm. The demonstration is 'Fantastically Festive' by Linda Fraser. The tickets will be £6, light refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome. If you need tickets please contact Helen Tomlinson on 01207 503667 or Norma Jenssen on 01027 520574.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

This month we have had two important parliamentary by-elections. Important because we are now only 7 months from a General Election and important because of the UKIP surge that was seen in both. By-elections are always an opportunity for the electorate to register protest between General Elections but this close to May 2015 I don't think we can dismiss the outcomes so easily and because I think that

politicians should be truthful I wanted to be up front about where I stand on the issues that came out of both of these by-elections.

It is clear that voters are concerned about immigration but I think it is important to get the whole issue into perspective. The UK is the 6th richest country in the world. It has got rich and stayed rich on immigration. Over generations immigrants have come to this

country, worked for it, fought for it and even died for it. My family were Irish immigrants and so were many of yours. So whilst I do agree that we need to have clear policies on immigration that attracts skills and innovation that we lack and that contribute to our economy, I also believe that we need strong border controls that prevent those who have no right to be here from getting here and staying here. I don't believe that we can turn our back on the rest of the world, nor do I believe it would be in the country's interests to do so.

I am also concerned about all the negative, one-sided propaganda that is generated about the EU and its impact on our lives. I support our membership of the EU for many economic reasons not least the many hundreds of thousands of NE jobs that depend on our membership. I am also keenly aware that before the EU was formed we, in Europe, committed genocide on one another every 30 years or so. Fifty million people died in the 2nd World War, most of them were civilians. Less than 30 years before that

there was the carnage of the 1st World War where my family and almost every other family in the NE were bereaved. Before that Crimea, the Franco-Russian Wars, the Franco-German Wars, Trafalgar, Waterloo and on and on and on. The EU is not perfect, it needs reform and despite it we still have wars and people still get killed, but since its inception there are far fewer of our young men, our fathers, husbands, sons and daughters killed in wars in Europe.

Pat Glass MP

David Harris

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POLICE REPORT

This month our priorities have been rural crime and anti-social behaviour. Over recent months we have seen frequent rural crime taking place in and around Lanchester and extra resources are being provided during peak times. We therefore ask that if you see any suspicious vehicles or persons loitering in our rural areas please telephone us on 101 with a description of the person/vehicle and any registration numbers so that we can actively target potential offenders and vehicles in order to deter further crime.

We have received a slight increase in the number of youth nuisance incidents especially in the area of Lee Hill Court, Brook

View and Front Street. Local officers are patrolling these hotspot areas to deter further problems and improve public confidence. A number of local youths have already been identified and will be receiving home visits and potentially curfews as part of Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts. Until 13th July 2015 Consett Front Office will be open Monday to Friday 10.30am-4.30pm. When the office is closed you will still be able to speak to Police via an intercom system or by telephoning 101 or 999 in an emergency.

The area of Peth Bank has received significant attention recently regarding parking matters. Now that Lynwood House is

open, the volume of parked vehicles has reduced. Durham County Council has installed white Keep Clear lines at the junction of Deneside and Durham Road to help deter drivers from parking too close to this busy junction. Local officers will continue to monitor the parking issues and if problems continue then we may look at further road markings.

At the beginning of October we received a new beat officer to the Lanchester and Burnhope ward, PC 2058 Iain Nelson. He will be working with PCSO 6780 Lisa Jackson to assist with all community related issues. If you would like to speak to either Iain or Lisa please telephone 101 or email lisa.jackson@durham.pnn.police.uk.

The date of the next PACT meeting is Tuesday 4th November at 6.30 pm in Burnhope Primary School. Anyone with any problems or concerns, please come along.

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LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the meeting held on 14th October 2014

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting on 9th September 2014 - approved.

Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting on 24th September 2014 - approved.

Correspondence

Durham County Council - Removal of BT telephone box at Hurbuck Cottages - members asked for confirmation that residents had been informed.

The Clerk Magazine - received.

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine - received.

Local Councils - Autumn magazine - received.

Inside Story - newsletter - received.

Area Action Partnership (AAP)/Parish Councils Committee (PCC)

Members were informed that the future of the PCC had been discussed at a recent meeting and it had been decided to continue with bi-monthly meetings.

Lanchester Bowling Green

Members were aware of the decision of Durham County Council to cease maintaining the bowling greens in the county from 2015. Members considered correspondence from the bowling club outlining the impact this would have. Members of the Bowling Club attended the meeting and spoke. It was acknowledged that the Parish Councils grant scheme would only be able to offer small financial amounts. The Parish Council confirmed their support for the future success of the club. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Durham County Council and that letters of support are provided to

the club to assist with funding applications.

Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

The minutes of the recent meeting were approved and it was agreed that the Chair of the Parish Council signs the Service Level Agreement with the County Council.

Lanchester Cricket Club

Members were informed that following approval from Sport England a contractor had been appointed to undertake the grant funded refurbishment works to the changing facilities. Members asked for further information from the cricket club on an additional project to improve the club house.

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service Consultation

Members considered the consultation and formed a response.

Cessation of Smoking in Playgrounds

Members considered the consultation and formed a response.

Durham County Council - Public Access for Planning Website

Information was distributed to Members regarding the use of the new planning website.

Village Green Bus Shelter

Members discussed the possible use of anti-climb paint to discourage youths climbing onto the roof of the shelter. Further advice is to be sought.

Maintenance Progress Report

- received.

Financial report

- discussed and approved. Accounts for Payment - approved. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th November 2014 at 7.15pm at Lynwood House.

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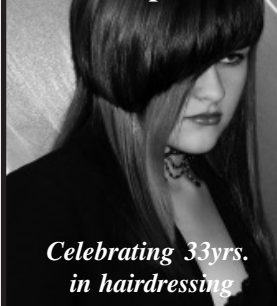
* NHS Medicines Use Review

* NHS New Medicine Service

The dispensary is closed between 13.00-14.00 therefore collection of prescriptions are unavailable at this time.

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A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY

Once again North Country Theatre attracted a good audience to the Community Centre for their thought provoking play 'A Month in the Country'.

The centenary of the Great War provoked Nobby Dimon to revive a previous adaptation from the novel by J L Carr. The play is not directly about the war but more the aftermath of war and how it affects lives.

The main character Birkin is estranged from his wife and falls in love with the vicar's wife who is tightly bound by her marriage vows to a dour and troubled man.

It could be said that nothing really happens in the play and yet so much does happen but goes unsaid. The pace is deliberately slow; a very

brave piece of direction that places a great burden on the acting ability of the cast. Is it fair to single out

one actor from this fine group? No it is not, but I am going to be unfair and praise the superb performance of Ashley Tucker who played two contrasting roles, one younger than herself and one older. This can be a difficult challenge for an actor but she pulled it off superbly, mainly by facial expressions

and with minimal movement.

A number of subplots fill the piece: the slow reveal of a mediaeval painting in

the church; the recovery of a body buried outside of the consecrated grounds; the decorated army officer court-

martialled for sleeping with his batman. This play leaves the audience with more questions than answers.



North Country Theatre regulars, Mark Cronfield (centre) with Thomas Frere and Nobby Dimon who also adapted and directed the play.

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COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDRAISING MUSIC NIGHT

What a night we had on 20th September when the first Folk Music evening took place, which proved to be a delight, that exceeded all my hopes.

The room was full to capacity, and the atmosphere was electric, in more ways than one! The best possible audience (Lanchester Folk) were arguably treated to some of the greatest entertainment in that particular genre.

First on after my intro, was Colin Tipping doing an amusing set on banjo and guitar. This was followed by Martin Joyce with a wealth of hilarious poetry, complete with boomerang! Then followed an amazing set from Martin Matthews and his band, with fast and furious Irish musical wizardry coupled with great songs - just brilliant. One member had travelled from North Yorkshire especially to perform! After a break, raffle, and my intros we were treated to a set from the Association President, Dr Ian Brunt on the wonderful Northumberland pipes, followed by Pete Thompson, who performed with great aplomb and humour on his Martin guitar.

Jack Burness and Andy 'Oddsocks' Hogg provided the next set. I particularly enjoyed the song 'Better



Ian Tute, who played, sang, and introduced his fellow entertainers

Weather' which is brilliantly conceived. The Sunderland Trio 'Pipe Dream', comprising Pat and John Haswell and Peter Arkle, completed a great evening. Pat has a very strong voice and their mixture of songs from John Denver, the Seekers, and Lindisfarne went down a storm. Even as we neared the hour of 11 pm the audience seemed to want more! The band had CDs and donated all sales to the night's appeal.

I am delighted to report that the ticket sales, raffle and CD sales resulted in a superb total for the evening of over £800! This will help our Community Centre, which has been squeezed financially and this money will contribute towards plugging the gap.

As importantly, Lanchester residents met, had a good evening's

entertainment, and then with great camaraderie, kindly worked together to help clear the room at the end of the night.

Can I thank most warmly our audience, the performers, Jack Burness for doing the sound, and the following local businesses for providing raffle prizes - Lanchester Hardware, The King's Head, Talking Heads, Lilydale Pet Supplies, Parkway Garage, Country Crafts, SPA, Amadeus, Lanchester Social Club and Fastfit Langley Ltd. Finally, I particularly wish to thank my wonderful wife Di for all her help and support.

Ian Tute

NB Please watch for the next Concert, in the Spring, and meanwhile please join my friends and me any Sunday evening in the bar of Lanchester Club for a singaround.



Martin Matthews and Friends who entertained with such great informality, and a great deal of skill!

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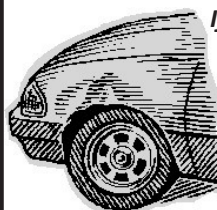
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LANCHESTER ART GROUP EXHIBITION

Earliest records show that the group's first meeting was held in the Green School in May 1982! The membership was seven and the subscription was 15p per week. On 20th July 1995 they moved to the Community Centre and the subscription was raised to 75p per week. How things have changed! Membership is now around the forty mark and this year at the Annual Exhibition, held on 18th/19th October, there were 36 entrants, making a wonderful display of art works.

There were three new participants this year: Pamela Fry, who prefers to work in acrylics; Rhoda

Keelty who began painting 4 years ago and also started with acrylics but now paints in watercolours, with flowers her favourite subject; and John Hudson, who has retired to the village, currently painting in watercolours but exploring other media.

As usual the exhibition was of a very high standard with some outstanding paintings in oils, ink line drawing and those media already mentioned.

Soon after the opening, crowds thronged the hall and there were some very early purchases of paintings.

The refreshment hall looked set to be busy and there was some lovely food on offer to go with



Lesley Anderson (Exhibitor right) with Jennifer Gill and Marion Clapham from Durham

the teas and coffees. Many people from all over the area visit the exhibition and for most of the two days it is fairly busy. For

those who have never been it really is a 'must visit' to see the sheer talent of local artists who cover all types of subjects in

their magnificent works of art, with the opportunity to buy that special original painting at a reasonable cost.

VINTAGE TEA PARTY FOR MACMILLAN

A very successful Tea Party was held at Lanchester Community Centre for Macmillan and so far has raised the magnificent sum of £1400. Thanks to Lloyds Bank for price matching £500 of this. Thanks also to village businesses for their support in donating some very generous raffle prizes.

The vintage theme was enjoyed by all who attended and the afternoon was a huge success. A wide variety of teas, coffee and cakes, biscuits and scones were served.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this worthy cause.



Some delicious cakes were on offer at the Tea Party



A group of ladies enjoying their afternoon tea

BEAMISH TROPHY TRIAL

This ever popular event in the Vintage Motorcycle Calendar is now in its 42nd year. On Sunday 21st September, the weather was cool and cloudy, but fortunately no rain. The route was 120 miles around the Northern Dales of Durham, Northumberland and Cumbria.

About 170 riders entered and 140 made it to the start. They came from many parts of the UK including Essex, Norfolk, and Inverness, with one from France and another from Ireland. The oldest participant was 79 and the youngest about 20. A few women rode in the event but the vast majority were men. The oldest motorcycle was built in 1921! Marcus Allard from Twickenham completed the course riding with his left arm as the other had been paralysed from an accident. This journey must have been difficult but he was such an enthusiast that nothing fazed him. He was riding a Francis Barnett 1953 model.

The starting place was the now well established New Board Inn, at Esh. This year there was a marquee for the evening dinner and presentation night. Riders headed off from 'The Board' at 9.00-9.30 am in the direction of the A68 via Cornsay, towards Corbridge, then on to the quiet roads taking in Muggleswick, Edmundbyers, Stanhope and Alston. Lunch was taken at Allenheads where there was a compulsory stop. On the route which was well marshalled, were various tests and questions with several 'off road' areas to ride through. Points could be gained to achieve some of the many traditional trophies available. The return route passed



Ian Hewitson, from Pity Me, astride his Triumph Tiger Cub 1961

through Tow Law, Castleside, Consett and Lanchester with most riders back at base between 4.00 and 5.00 pm. It was a great day out for motorcycle enthusiasts. The variety of these vintage motorcycles was immense and it was a pleasure just to look at them and admire the superb condition they were in, with obvious TLC from their owners.



A fabulous display of vintage motorcycles which had just finished the course

LANCHESTER LADS WIN PRESTIGIOUS PRIZE



Left to right: George, Joe, Jane, Harry and Cameron

Four young men from our village have won a Newcastle Building Society 'Cornerstone of the Community' Award for their tireless fund raising for Henry Dancer Days.

The annual awards recognise people who go the extra mile to help others. Harry Carson, George Grimes, Cameron Hume and Joe Hume were nominated by Henry's Mum Jane. The lads were Henry's best pals and have helped to raise money for the charity

which now supports over 100 families of children with cancer and is setting up projects in the Great North Children's Hospital in Newcastle (the RVI) to distract kids from their treatment.

Jane said, "I feel so lucky to know these boys. Since we lost Henry, they, and their families, have been amazingly supportive of Gary and me. I know he'd be so proud and grateful. Our charity was runner-up in the same category but I couldn't be happier to come second!"

LAST RECOMMENDED CHRISTMAS POSTING DATES

International Economy (formerly Surface Mail)

4th Nov Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece, Iceland, Malta, Turkey

18th Nov Western Europe

International Standard (formerly Airmail)

28th Nov Operational HM Forces Mail

3rd Dec Asia, Far East (including Japan), New Zealand

4th Dec Australia

5th Dec Africa, Caribbean, Central and South America, Middle East

8th Dec Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece

9th Dec Canada, Poland

12th Dec USA, Static HM Forces Mail

13th Dec Western Europe (excluding Greece, Poland)

UK

18th Dec 2nd Class

20th Dec 1st Class

22nd Dec Parcelforce Worldwide express48

23rd Dec Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed, Parcelforce Worldwide express24

LANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP CEILIDH

What a great Ceilidh it was in the social club on Saturday 18th October. The Lanchester Partnership Ceilidh is an annual event which is always highly enjoyable. The Moorcock Ceilidh Band provided the music with Burt Hunter as the caller. All the dances had a good number of people on the floor, which is

always a good thing. It was a faith supper and there was a great choice of food, which was enjoyed very much by everyone. The tombola stall was always busy and the raffle had some superb prizes which produced lovely happy faces. A big thank you to Jill and Mick Gladstone who always put so much work into

everything they organise and who always do everything so well and for the good of others. They never want thanks but they have got it this time and I know they would like to thank all the people who helped them to make the evening so happy and enjoyable. Why don't you come next year?

Brenda Craddock



The Moorcock Ceilidh Band with the Lanchester Banner in the background



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'THE GATHERING' FOR THE BUS

Our 3rd 'gathering' held on October 7th was another warm and welcoming village lunch in the Community Centre in aid of the village bus. All the usual helpers were working again with the addition of Judith Brown helping Mel in the kitchen. Raffle ladies this time were Norma Rodham, Margaret

Turner, Angela Breeze and Noreen Breen who did an excellent job. Thanks must go to Jed at the Hardware, Crinnions, Westlands and Emmertons the greengrocer for their contributions to our raffle prizes.

The Christmas gathering will take place on Tuesday December

9th at 12 noon for 12.30 pm. Tickets are available from Maureen Barker, Karin Bravington, Jill Gladstone, Marie Harrison, Rhoda Joyce, Olive Simpkins and Sue Somersall priced at £8. At this gathering the raffle will be in aid of Willow Burn.



Guests enjoying 'the Gathering' at the Community Centre

FRED AND THE BUS

You may not realise it, but the Lanchester Village Link Bus is very unusual, if not unique.

It is like an ordinary bus service in that it has a bus route and a timetable, but there the similarity ends: * it is not commissioned by a local authority; it is commissioned by the village Partnership (with help from the County Council);

* the money needed to run it is raised locally; * it is operated by a small taxi company, Prophet Private Hire;

* for over 10 years (apart from holiday cover) it has had only one driver - the remarkable Fred Prophet; * it is more of a social service than a bus service, because the support that Fred provides allows elderly and infirm villagers to go on living in their own homes.

Fred knows all of his regular passengers and often helps them with shopping and in other

ways. Some years ago one of them was not waiting for the bus at her usual time so Fred asked a neighbour to investigate. The lady was found to be very ill, the emergency services were called, she was rushed into hospital and in time made a complete recovery. There have been similar incidents with other passengers, so she and some others now have Fred's mobile phone number and some of them have given him spare house keys.

The service is paid for in many ways, including bus fares, donations from passengers and others, fund raising events like the lunch-time 'gatherings' run by Olive Simpkins and Mel Somersall, and grants from funding agencies such as the Community Health Revenue Fund. We are massively grateful to them all. This autumn the



Partnership and Fred are going to review the bus route and times. If you would like it to run along the road where you live please tell Fred, or ring Mike Gladstone on 01207 528 114, or email Mike.Gladstone@dsl.pipex.com.

The service was set up primarily to help elderly residents, but others are very welcome and find it useful - for example one of the regulars is a mum with 3 young children. If more passengers used the bus that would increase the income from fares and improve passenger numbers, which in turn would make it easier to obtain funding. So please give it a try, and enjoy the ride.

WI NEWS

President Jennifer Macdonald welcomed everyone before Maisie Raine made us laugh with notes left in milk bottles (in the days of the milkman).

There was an update on four trees we bought in Willow Burn Wood before moving on to the reports by Treasurer Angela Velleman who thanked her helpers and secretary June Wallis reporting on a very full year with membership up to 57.

Jennifer Macdonald gave her President's Address and thanked all the committee and the members especially the members who run the clubs within our WI. Eileen Curnow thanked the committee members. WIA Sue Fox

conducted the election of the president and we were delighted that Jennifer agreed to be president for another year.

Sue then explained her role as a WIA setting up new WIs and being there to give advice and support to all WIs before giving a talk on resolutions and how they influenced society. In almost 100 years of campaigning we have moved from 1921 contrasting resolutions of Women Jurors and No Feathers in Hats when birds of Paradise were nearly hunted to extinction to 1964 cervical cancer tests and today organ donation. This was a very interesting talk on how the WI has had and

continues to have an influence on society.

Competition winners for the year were Jennifer Macdonald and Jill Gladstone. Thank you everyone who entered the competitions, we look forward to seeing your entries next year. Raffle winners were Jessie Goodall and Liz Burdon. Jennifer gave the vote of thanks and the meeting ended with refreshments and Feely bags which were great fun.

A big thank you to everyone who helped with and supported our coffee morning, it was a very lively morning full of talk and laughter.



WIA Sue Fox presenting competition winner of the year Jennifer Macdonald with the Nancy Walker cup.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

A Winter Warmer - Curried Parsnip and Carrot Soup

October, and the days are growing shorter and cooler. Time for comfort food, casseroles, jacket potatoes and warming home made soups ...

Serves 4-6

Butter 25g (1oz)

Onion 1 large, peeled and roughly chopped
Parsnips 450g (1lb), peeled and roughly chopped

Carrots 450g (1lb), peeled and roughly chopped

Curry powder 1-3 tsp
Chopped tomatoes 400g can

Vegetable or chicken stock 2 litres (3½ pints)
Cream, and chopped coriander to garnish - optional

Naan bread to serve or bread of choice - optional

METHOD

1) Melt the butter in a very large saucepan, add onion and cook gently

over a low heat for 5 minutes, until softened but not browned.

2) Add chopped parsnips, carrots and curry powder and mix well. Then add the tomatoes and stock.

3) Bring the soup up to boil and then reduce the heat, cover and cook gently for 1 hour, or until vegetables are softened, stirring occasionally.

4) Allow soup to cool, then purée in batches, in a food processor. Re-heat, or pour into plastic containers, in measured amounts, cover and freeze.

5) When serving, reheat gently, season to taste and pour into warmed bowls. Garnish with a swirl of cream and coriander and serve with naan bread.



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THURSDAY CLUB COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 25th September was our second coffee morning this year, in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance, and despite many other fund raising events going on in the

same week we were very well supported indeed. The dining room was full to capacity and three more tables were placed in the conservatory to accommodate everyone.

It was a very lively morning. Our thanks to Crinnions, Susan at the Gift Shop and Lilydale Pet Supplies for their generous raffle prizes and Christine Emmerson for the 2 lovely cakes; to Margaret and Richard for

setting up the chairs, tables and table cloths for us - a great help. Finally our thanks to all of you who supported the event - buying tickets, giving donations and spending on the tombola and raffle. We raised £315 on

Thursday and added to the March amount the total for the two events is £643. We could not have done it without you all. Thank you. We hope to see you all at our next Coffee Morning on 12th March 2015.



Extra tables were needed in the conservatory of the Community Centre for the coffee morning



A very lively dining room for the Thursday Club coffee morning

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THURSDAY CLUB MEETING

At our September meeting we, once again, welcomed Kathleen and Harry Gilbert and were taken on

a journey into the Hidden Kingdom of Bhutan which nestles in the Himalayas between their powerful neighbours India and China. The scenery was breathtaking - the talk informative, full of humour and surprises. Kathleen and

Harry never disappoint. At our next meeting, on 16th October, Tina Fuller will be taking us through Elizabethan Times. Outing to Lumley Castle 26th November. The coach will leave at 11.00 am from opposite Copelands Bakers.

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LADIES WHO LUNCH

Our last outing was to the Punch Bowl at Edmundbyers, a lovely run out from Lanchester taking you by Derwent Reservoir. At lunch time they just use the bar area but, because we have to accommodate a wheelchair which didn't fit with their tables very well, they opened up the dining room specially for us, which was most obliging of them. An extensive range of meals and light bites are written up on three blackboards which are positioned up on the walls of the bar.

We sampled for starters a Blue cheese and pear salad with a raspberry dressing (a really tangy, tasty choice). Mains were Sea Bass with seasonal vegs, Venison with braised red cabbage and a port jus, and a Crabs salad. Puds were Mixed berry meringue and Sticky chocolate pecan cake and ice cream. All followed by really good lattes. We found all the food to be excellent, the staff were very obliging and attentive. All in all - a good lunch time was had by all.

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CROFT VIEW FAIR

This was an Autumn Fair with a difference. It was a late start to accommodate the wonderful song and dance group of young children - Activate Theatre Group, who performed their song and dance routines mainly from shows, to a very high standard, enjoyed by a very appreciative audience. There must have been about 30 children in this group with several helpers/trainers. The upper hall contained a huge variety of stalls. A new addition this year was a table manned by local historian, John Gall, who brought along various historical items, some to be identified by visitors. John was kept very busy. There were several homemade

produce tables, a photographer, face painter who also sold self made cards, books, jams and preserves, scarves, toiletries - the list goes on.

It was all very interesting and good that those who use the hall on a regular basis organise some of the stalls to raise money for Croft View. Lanchester Brass Band who also use the hall to practise played in their own inimitable style for about half an hour towards the end, rounding off a very successful day which to date has raised in the region of £300.

Right, Lesley Lee and Kathleen Morris purchasing some delicious home produce



Activate Theatre Group, who danced and sang so well




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ART EXHIBITION AT RED CROSS SHOP



Visitor to the exhibition, Emma Leckenby, alongside a magnificent portrayal named 'In the Beginning' which was produced with acrylic on canvas.

Local artist, Alan Williams, held an exhibition of his works at the Red Cross Shop between Monday 29th September and Saturday 1st November. Many people attended during that period and passed interesting, complimentary comments.

Alan held a similar exhibition a few years ago with similar success. Eleven paintings were on view with most having a religious theme. Two others explored rocks and there was a single

production of acrylic on board, pencil on board, acrylic on canvas and pastel on board. Prices for sale varied from £5.00 to the use of oil on canvas, £75.00.



'The Last Supper'

PRISONERS ABROAD

When the totally unexpected news comes through that a loved one has been arrested and locked up in another country, it's a terrible shock. Most people wouldn't know what to do. It's made worse by not speaking the language or understanding the legal system. Relatives in the UK are fearful for their loved one and don't know who to turn to.

A small charity was set up by families and friends to cater for the needs of British people in just such circumstances. It is the only organisation in this country which has such a function and it relies on charitable giving. It is totally non political, and its mission is to meet practical and emotional needs, and ensure that individuals and their families survive overseas imprisonment with dignity and hope. Prisoners Abroad now helps 1588 British prisoners in 94 countries and is in

touch with 1898 family members at home. Help includes vitamins to supplement a poor diet and in some cases a basic food and clean water allowance. Medical help can also be obtained in exceptional circumstances.

Provision of books and magazines and writing materials all help the time to pass by, and maintain links with home, giving a message that someone cares and prisoners are not forgotten.

The organisation exists to bring hope and practical support to a small group of individuals living in conditions of desperate need.

If you feel you would like to help or find out more please come along to our coffee morning (and cake stall) on Saturday 22nd November at Lanchester Methodist Church or go online at www.prisonersabroad.org.uk.

Catherine Mulvie

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion stand shoulder to shoulder with all who serve, we base our foundations on the 4 Pillars: welfare, comradeship, remembrance and representation.

As the Nation's leading Armed Forces charity, the Legion spends £1.6 million per week, last year we spent £84 million, providing social, emotional and financial care and support to serving personnel, veterans their dependents and carers. Approximately 9.5 million

people in the North East are eligible for the Legion's support and we are proud to service those in need today and for the rest of their lives. The Legion is a campaigning force to be reckoned with. We work tirelessly to promote the interests of the Armed Forces community through high profile lobbying of government and other policymakers. Our voice is heard at the highest levels and successfully influences new legislation and policies - helping to provide a fairer deal for

the whole Armed Forces community.

We are also the National Custodian of Remembrance, ensuring that the sacrifices made on behalf of the Nation are honoured and remembered and this is most poignantly demonstrated through the Two Minutes' silence.

Your local Branch: Consett and District Branch The Royal British Legion provides immediate welfare support to local serving personnel and veterans, their dependents and

carers. The Branch has gone from strength to strength, having seen 24 new members, 1 youth member and 2 honorary youth members in the past 12 months and organised or attended no less than 33 fundraising/Legion in the Community events. As we approach the time of year when Remembrance is most prominent, we invite residents of Lanchester to find out more about the work we do by coming along to an information evening or inviting us to come and

speak to you at one of your organisations or groups. We meet the first Wednesday of every month at the Freemasons Arms, Front Street, Consett at 6.30 pm. We also have a Facebook page.

Our Branch Chairman, George McKay 07754827784 or Branch Secretary, Michelle Meek, 01207 528562 would welcome any enquiries you may have regarding becoming a member or finding out more about the valuable work we do within the local community.

FIT AND FIRM



Surrounded by her class, Sarah Hodgson presents a cheque for £321 to Margaret Laycock from Lanchester Community Centre.

Sarah Hodgson runs this fast moving fitness class at the Community Centre on Wednesday mornings. Not only does she provide this excellent service but she raises money for charity

at the same time. At the moment she works in Langley Park Miners Institute, Quebec Village Hall and Lanchester Community Centre. She has been doing this for just over two years and

on the second anniversary she arranged a money raising party with disco with raffle, also supported by local businesses. Since then she has raised £964, not including an

additional donation to Butterwick Hospice. She makes herself known through social media, takes collections at Christmas, and has organised a Mayhem Obstacle event - all ways

of making money for her chosen charities. Mothers are welcome to bring their children to the classes. For more information you can reach Sarah on 07969 092258.

JOIN MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE FUNDRAISING GROUP

Join a local fundraising group just in time to join in the festive fun!

Yes, we are already starting to talk about Christmas! Marie Curie Cancer Care are looking for a secretary and people to join the Fundraising Group in Consett and Stanley just in time for all of their exciting Christmas events. Can you bake mince pies? Or do you just enjoy eating them with a well-deserved cuppa after some festive collecting? Either way the group would love to hear from you.

The Group raises funds for the Newcastle

Hospice and home nursing service Marie Curie Nurses provide in the local area. Fundraising groups are a great way to meet people and get involved with the community. They can also be a lot of fun. Meetings will be held in October and November at Consett Fire Station who are generously supporting the group by offering a free meeting venue and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to join the group. The meetings will let residents find out



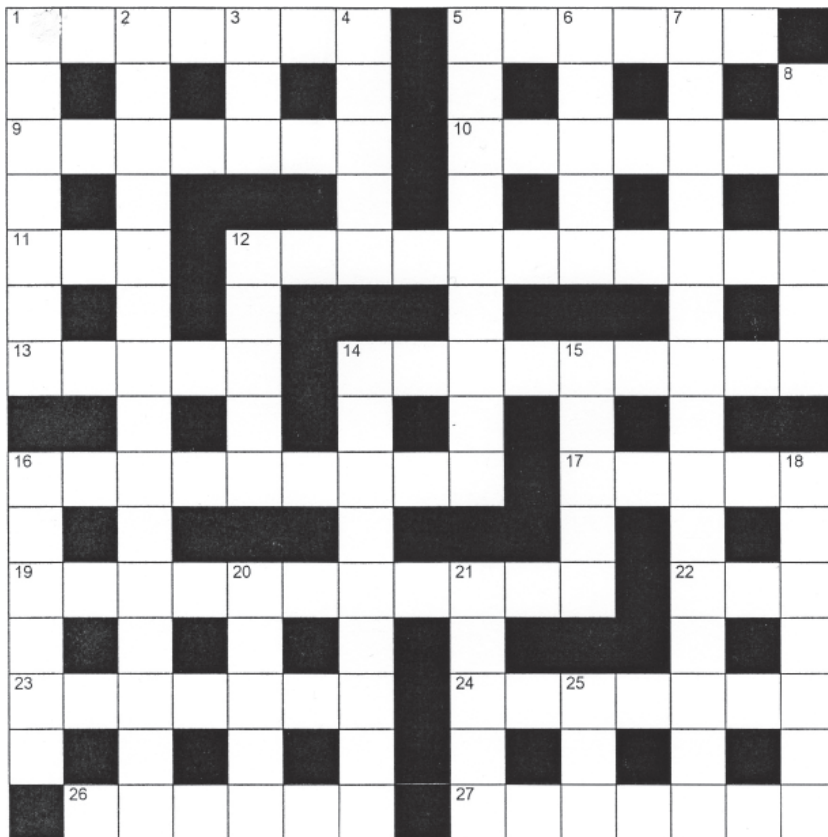
Members of the group with their 'Join Us' posters

more about the group and their plans for the festive season and into next year. Everyone is

welcome. To find out more about the group meetings and other ways to support the

charity, please contact Katie on 0191 219 1205 or email katie.searles@mariecurie.org.uk.

CROSSWORD 102



ACROSS

1. Wonder (7)
5. Prompt (6)
9. Performed from memory (7)
10. Mini VAT change for disease preventer (7)
11. Vessel (3)
12. Not seen (11)
13. Plant with a spike of white flowers (5)
14. Declare crated pie (9)
16. Man resets useless experiment (5-4)
17. Squad (5)
19. Sixteenth century German agrarian conflict (8,3)
22. See 3.
23. See 3.
24. Unbeliever (7)
26. Representation (6)
27. Allow (7)

DOWN

1. Planet (7)
2. Granny ate critic is a winner ? (6,9)
- 3,22, 25,23. Tennessee Williams play (3,2,1,3,3,4)
4. Provide (5)
5. Retaining wall (9)
6. Approximately 1.094 yards (5)
7. Coin collector (15)
8. Tense (2,4)
12. Mountain range dividing Europe from Asia (5)
14. Abundant (9)
15. Bury (5)
16. Capital city formerly Lourenco Marques (6)
18. Talk childish (7)
20. Highly destructive weapon (1-4)
21. Move in and out (5)
25. See 3.

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.

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MOT Testing

CROSSWORD 101

There were 16 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Mrs Margaret Taylor of Brookview who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

ACROSS

8. mass
9. ape
10. emetic
11. cry off
12. pretence
13. affluent society
15. a far cry
17. welsher
20. revise and update
23. importer
25. limpet
26. genial
27. apt
28. nook

DOWN

- 1,22. hair of the dog
2. US dollar
3. half-hearted talk
4. respite
5. heterosexuality
6. Yemeni
7. zinc
14. tie
16. fee
18. sediment
19. entreat
21. ironic
22. See 1.
24. meek

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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.

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

FREYA'S SWANSONG

You may remember my articles about taking Freya to Crufts, where she always did very well. Last year she became a Champion at last and then went on to become Champion of Champions (and also Champion Veteran) at the Elkhound Club Contest of Champions this year.

As she is now nine, I feel she cannot do better than this, so the Elkhound Association of Scotland Championship



Freya performing with Mavis

Show in Kilmarnock on 18th October will be her last show. At the three previous shows, she has done various obedience exercises (the breed is not known for its obedience), but she has tried very hard, does her best and has raised over £1,800 for the charity Hounds for Heroes, thanks to the generosity of friends, residents and businesses in Lanchester This buys and trains assistance dogs for someone injured in the Services. I believe it costs

around £22,000 per dog, so Freya has barely provided a paw, and I aim to try and reach £2,000 this, her last 'performance'. I have taught her to do what is known in the dog world as 'heelwork to music', that is a sort of dancing. She will do about 60 seconds of The Gay Gordons to Scotland the Brave - I hope. If anyone is interested in contributing to this very worthy cause, please contact me on 01207 528814. Mavis Datta

LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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WHAT'S ON?

Taize Worship

This service will take place at the Parish Church at 6.00 pm on Sunday 9th November. All are welcome.

Sunday Bridge

Come and enjoy a relaxed afternoon playing Bridge in the Community Centre on 2nd November at 2.00 pm. Only £3. Everyone welcome.

PACT meeting

The next PACT meeting will be on Tuesday 4th November at 6.30 pm at Burnhope Primary School. All welcome.

Steps Charity Christmas Fair

on 15th November at St John's Church Hall, Snods Edge from 10 am to 3 pm. Our aim is to raise awareness and much needed funds for a charity helping children with lower limb deficiencies. Refreshments and light lunches available on the day. Please come along and share our day.

Short Circuit Walks

8th November, Kirkharle. An easy going walk where Capability Brown 'cut his teeth'. Mainly farmland with views over Kirkwhelpington and the south. Interesting workshops on site. Car park at courtyard. From the A696 turn onto B6342 and follow signs. NZ013822. 22nd November, Hexham and Warden Hill

Along the riverbank to Watersmeet and on to Bridge End then up to Warden, the site of an Iron Age settlement. Meet and park at Tyne Green. Turn off A69 for Hexham then right at roundabout after crossing river. NY935648.

Shopping Trip To York

Places are still available on Rosemary Naylor's shopping trip to York on Saturday 8th November leaving Lanchester at 9.00 am and returning at approximately 9.00 pm. Proceeds will help towards the renovation of Croft View Halls which are used for Boys Brigade, Anchor Boys, Guides, Brownies, Rainbows and many other activities. If you would like tickets for this trip, the cost is £14 which includes a free draw to win money for your shopping and a tip for the driver. Please contact Rosemary on 520087 or mobile 07803106615.

Vintage Tractor Club

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th November at 7.30 pm in Crinnions.

Open House

Everyone is welcome in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 6th November 11.30 am to 1.00 pm for a light lunch.

Village Voice AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Lanchester Publications Ltd (Village Voice) will be held at 7.00 pm on Sunday 16th November 2014 in the Dining Room of the Community Centre. All members of the public are welcome.

History Society

The speaker on Friday 7th November will be Philip Taylor, JP, whose talk will be entitled 'The work of a Magistrate'. The meeting will be held in the Community Centre at 7 pm. Everyone welcome

Flower Club

Our OPEN MEETING on Friday 28th November at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre will have a demonstration by Linda Fraser, 'Fantastically Festive'. Come and join us.

Community Centre Coffee Morning

The Community Centre will be holding a coffee morning on Thursday 13th November from 9.30 - 11.00 am.

Remembrance Service

A Service at the War Memorial on the Village Green will be held on Sunday 9th November at 9.30 am. Representatives of the three churches and other organisations in the village will attend along with the Lanchester Brass Band.

Parish Church Fair

This will be held on Saturday November 29th at the Community Centre from 10 am until 12. There will be a huge variety of stalls with many containing homemade produce. In addition there will be gifts, toiletries, a tombola and huge raffle. Refreshments will also be available. This is an ideal time and place for those early Christmas shoppers! Entry is free.

World War I Exhibition

After services at the All Saints Parish Church on Sunday November 9th, there will be a small exhibition in the Chapter House of World War I memorabilia. All are welcome.

Country Market

The next market will take place on Saturday 1st November from 10 am to 12 noon in the Methodist Church.

WI

On Monday 3rd November members will meet at the bowling green layby for our Birthday outing. The coach will leave at 9.30 taking us to the Lord Crewe Arms at Blanchland for coffee before carrying on to Corbridge for lunch at the Angel then time for shopping. We look forward to seeing everyone on this lovely day out together.

Paradiso Social Club

The November Paradiso Club Social will be held on Sunday November 9th at 7 pm in the Main Hall of the Community Centre.

There will be the usual refreshments; wine, soft drinks and nibbles from 7 until 7.30 pm and the raffle prizes will be drawn. There will then be a screening of the film 'CALVARY'.

Brendan Gleeson stars as Father James, a catholic priest who is constantly saddened by the spiteful and confrontational inhabitants of his small country town. One day his life is threatened during confessions but he shrugs off the altercation and continues with his pastoral work. Gradually, the sinister and troubling undercurrents he has tried to ignore start to make themselves felt. The film is described 'as darkly powerful as it is darkly funny'.

Entry - £2.50 for members £3.50 for visitors, £2 young persons.

Entry ticket covers all aspects of the Social, refreshments, film and raffle. All are welcome.

Playgroup Fair

A Christmas Fair will be held by the Playgroup at the Methodist Church on Saturday, 15th November, from 10 am-12. Lots of stalls, refreshments etc. Everyone welcome.

Mothers' Union

The November meeting is on Wednesday 12th, 7.30 pm in the Chapter House when Doreen Sams will give a talk entitled 'I Remember When ... Childhood Through Fashion'.

Prisoners Abroad

A Coffee Morning in aid of Prisoners Abroad will be held in Lanchester Methodist Church on November 22nd at 10 am - 12 noon. See relevant article on page 18.

Willow Burn Events

YORK SHOPPING TRIP

Saturday 8th November Visiting McArthur Glen Shopping Centre and York City Centre, our annual shopping trip is perfect for shopaholics, girls day out or just a get together. There are pick ups in Consett, Stanley and Lanchester, and tickets are £15 each. This is a popular trip so please book well in advance as seats are limited.

Sponsored by Stanley Travel.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 22nd November St Bede's School, 11 am - 1 pm.

Christmas cards and handicrafts, a beautiful variety of handmade goodies, home baked pies and cakes, children's activities and lots more. With background entertainment and lots of Christmas cheer, it will be a fantastic festive fair. The Christmas raffle will also be drawn at 12.45 pm on the day.

For further information or to book any of the above events, please contact Crystal Booth on 01207 523900 or email: cbooth@willowburnhospice.org.uk.

Singers Needed for Concert

Lanchester Parish Church Music will perform a concert along with East Stanley School Choir on Thursday, 18th December, in the Parish Church at 7.00 pm. The money raised will be shared between the NSPCC and Christian Aid. We would still like a few more tenors and bass singers (on 27th November, 4th, 11th and 18th December). Anyone is welcome to join us - we practise on a Thursday at 7.00 pm. Please contact Janet Jackson 01207 521250 if you are willing to help us.

Lanchester Youth Club

The youth club is open on Monday evenings from 7.00pm to 9.00pm at Croft View Hall. The club's facilities include pool tables, football, other ball games, table tennis, computers, crafts and group discussions. Several youngsters are working for their Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Keiron Jewitt, who is heading for gold, has achieved a BEAL certificate so he can help to supervise expeditions. The youth club is run by the Lanchester Partnership and led very ably by Laura Wilkinson and Ruth Blakey (who are County Council STEPS workers) assisted by Simon Kennington and Craig McCann. Loyal members attend regularly but new members, especially girls, are invited to come along. The cost is 50p per evening, for fun and friendship. Come along and try it.

Adult Wildlife Group

November 11th. 'Green Polices for the 21st Century', Jonathan Elmer.

Lanchester Sings

A new musical event is being organised in the village in the run up to Christmas entitled 'Lanchester Sings'. It is an evening of Christmas music and carols and is being held in the Methodist Church at 7 o'clock on Friday 12th December.

The performers will be Libby Paxton, a teenage soprano from Durham, Drama Tree, a children's choir from Chester-le-Street and an ensemble of the Lanchester Brass band who will perform individually and also encourage the audience to join them in singing well known songs and carols.

Tickets are £6 and will be available from the Red Cross Shop from November 1st. Mr Bill Gelson, from Durham who has organised a number of fundraising concert events at the Gala in Durham, has organised this concert, with help from members of our local Red Cross. All proceeds from the evening will be used to fund the Red Cross and their work of caring for people in crisis.

Social Club

Saturday 1st November, JOE HARRIOT, Superb Male Vocalist.

Saturday 8th November, BOBBY "B", Top Class Male Singer.

Saturday 15th November, DALTON JONES, Top Class Vocalist.

Saturday 22nd November, GAYNOR MARIE, Superb Vocalist.

Saturday 29th November, JEFF WRIGHT, First Class Vocal Entertainer.

Junior/Family Wildlife Group

November 23rd. walk towards Hurbuck. Meet in the Community Centre Car Park at 10 am.

LANCHESTER TABLE TENNIS CLUB UPDATE

The club is nearing its fifth anniversary since its inception in November 2009 in the Community Centre. Along the way we were awarded 'Best Sports Club' in North West Durham in 2012 in the annual Leisureworks competition. We recently had the pleasure of a visit by the Commonwealth Gold Medal mixed pairs winners Paul and Joanne Drinkhall. The club is run on a voluntary basis offering opportunities for both social/leisure and more competitive games leading to team competition in both the Sunderland and the Northumberland Leagues. This season we have entered two teams who have played four fixtures already. Currently we have our 'drop in' and exercise sessions in the

Community Centre on Wednesdays and Fridays from 7pm to 9pm although the evening begins at 6 pm to 7 pm with sessions for beginners and improvers - mainly primary school children. The club has grown, running sessions in St Bede's also which are aimed at developing players up to and including our representative team players. The sessions at the school take place from 5 pm - 7 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. We are now recognised by Table Tennis England as a Premier Club and local sports development bodies direct clients to the club to encourage them to maintain a more healthy lifestyle through the medium of table tennis.

Both local primaries visited the club at Easter time for 'taster sessions' and there remains an open invitation for any pupils to attend our junior sessions. Anyone interested in 'giving it a go' only needs to turn up in appropriate footwear and comfortable clothing. Something new being offered to the community are the individually booked sessions through the Community Centre staff or by ringing 01207 521275. Ours is a non profit organisation and fees/subscriptions are directed towards maintaining good levels of equipment which are all provided free to members and visitors. Costs are £2.00/hour juvenile and pensioners, £2.50/hour adults. We look forward to seeing you. F Clarke (Chairman)

LANCHESTER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

October's speaker was Dr Robert McManners OBE, who, as Chairman of the Bishop Auckland Civic Society, led the successful campaign to prevent the Church Commissioners from selling off the famous Zurbaran paintings in Auckland Castle, as well as the regeneration of the castle itself. He is equally devoted to the artistry of miners and his talk at the meeting, entitled 'Shafts of Light' was fascinating. Illustrated by many paintings, he gave his

audience a true insight into the life and work of the miners, often pointing out deeper meanings in the expression of life under and above ground than I, personally, would ever have thought of. Many of the paintings were very moving, and I was pleased to be able to buy a copy of his book, 'Shafts of Light' afterwards so that I can study them and learn more about the artists later. Dr McManners was introduced and thanked by President John Gall and also thanked by Chairman

John Thompson, who asked how many members would like to attend the Christmas Dinner in December. As not many members were very keen, and the venue was undecided, it was agreed that a decision should be made at the November meeting. This is to be a talk by Philip Taylor, JP, who will describe 'The Work of a Magistrate'. This should be very interesting and everyone is welcome. 7 pm in the Community Centre on Friday, 7th November.

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CRICKET CLUB PRESENTATIONS

September saw the club's presentation night and was well attended by juniors and seniors with awards to the following:-

Under 18s	Player of year	Arran Halliday
	Batting	Greg Patterson
	Bowling	Greg Patterson
	Catches	Lee Murray
Under 15s	Player of year	Chris Tully
	Batting	Chris Tully
	Bowling	Chris Tully
	Catches	David Barnett
Under 13s	Player of year	Mattie Butler
	Batting	Mattie Butler
	Bowling	Simon Kine
	Fielding	Charlie McPhail
Under 11s	Player of year	Jack Morris
	Batting	Ben Raynor
	Bowling	Charlie McPhail
	Fielding	Thomas Butler
	Most Improved	Josh Cottom
Most Improved Junior		David Selby
Overall Junior personality		Greg Patterson
Firsts	Player of year	Greg Halliday
	Batting	Greg Halliday
	Bowling	Liam Dixon
	Catches	Liam Dixon
Seconds	Player of year	Not awarded
	Batting	Neil Graham
	Bowling	Tony Dumighan
	Catches	Tony Dumighan
Thirds	Player of year	Connor Hunt
	Batting	Mark Small
	Bowling	Jack Ramshaw
	Catches	Chris Tully



The cup winning 3rd Team: back row left to right: Tim Kennington, Cameron Metcalfe, David Selby, Andy McConnell (captain), Stu Beaumont, Jack Ramshaw, Connor Hunt, Simon Kennington (scorer), front row: Chris Tully, Michael Butler, Jonathon Dodds, David Killeen, Francis Guthrie (12th man).



The victorious under 9s: Stu McPhail (coach), Jack Cottom, Ben Raynor, Jack Morris, front row: Sam Small, Ethan Connelly, Charlie McPhail, Toby Somersall, Jake Toase.

CONSETT AFC WELCOMES YOUNG PLAYERS FROM OZ



Lads who took part in the football experience at Consett on 8th October, including some from Lanchester and St Bede's.

Consett AFC welcomed football facility at Consett. Mark Lee and his Pro Mark Lee, a former Consett Football Training players AFC player and and parents to their new Lanchester St Bede's

Student, lives in Perth Australia where he runs a Football Academy.

Once a year he brings young footballers to the UK for special training and to experience football at local and national level. Frank Bell, David Pyke and the Consett AFC staff highlighted the community spirit of the Consett AF Club and made everyone feel so welcome. Marks said "I am extremely proud tonight and thrilled with how we have been welcomed by all at the club. The Lads from Perth have had the opportunity of playing

against some local lads, some of which come from my old school, St Bede's. We have had a fantastic tour and spent time at clubs such as Sunderland, Newcastle United, Fulham, Sheffield United and Reading but tonight has been one of the major highlights. Everyone in the Consett area should be extremely proud of how far the club has progressed in recent years and we hope to give the Perth boys a similar experience on our next tour".

NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 18th November. The deadline for **adverts** is 16th November.

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